

**Meeting with Netherlands Mena Business Council
on Tuesday the 2nd of April 2024, EBA Premises**

EBA has held a meeting with Netherlands Mena Business council the meeting was attended by Mr. Salim Rabbani, Chairman of the council, Mrs. Marian Rejinen, Executive Director of the Council and Dr. Mohamed Youssef, Executive Director of EBA and Mrs. Dalia Youssef, Division Director of International Relations & Membership Affairs at EBA.

- Dr. Mohamed Youssef started the meeting by welcoming the cooperation with the Mena council and gave an overview on the Egyptian economy and how Egypt is an attractive destination for investment.
- Mrs. Dalia gave a brief introduction on the international relations department activities with special focus on activities with Netherlands.
- Mr. Salim gave introduction on Netherlands Mena Business council being an independent business council and having 1500 Dutch companies that are active in the Mena region, it is considered the main council related to the Mena region in the Netherlands, they have on their board Ministry of foreign affairs, Ministry of education and ministry of economic affairs as non active members

Brief About some of the council's activities:

- Organize Mena trade dinners.
- Have Arab ambassador meeting.
- Organize meeting with Dutch organizations.
- Country events
- Paid incoming delegations
- Mr. Salim said that "we need together to inform the Dutch business communities about the recent activities that Egypt is undergoing to convince them why Dutch companies should be active in Egypt."
- The discussions also involved the main sectors of cooperation (energy – logistics - agriculture)
- Dr. Mohamed has proposed to sign a business council agreement between EBA and Netherlands Mena Business council supported by the two embassies in both countries.

At the end of the meeting, it was agreed on the following activities:

1. To have a follow-up meeting on 23 of April, 15:00 o'clock to discuss the potentials fields of cooperation.
2. EBA shall send a draft business council agreement to be revised by the Dutch counterpart.
3. Organize a road show in Netherlands including government representatives, private sector representative and an international audit firm and Dutch company that has a success story in Egypt with the purpose of highlighting the recent developments taking place in Egypt.
4. Mr. Salim shall organize a courtesy visit to Egypt next June.
5. Organize a delegation from Netherlands to Egypt at the end of September, 2024 or in the beginning of October,2024.