



Partnership Network International

PNI for Human rights & Sustainable development

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Universal Periodic Review working Group - 34th Session (UPR)

EGYPT

Wednesday 13 November 2019 : 9h-12h30

QUESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

suggested by Partnership Network International (PNI). (*Report n°3*), "The Egyptian Coalition for Human Rights and Sustainable Development" (*Report n°1*) and "The Egyptian Coalition for Women's Political Participation" (*Report n°2*).



Objective 1 of the Sustainable Development Goals

(SDGs), a key factor for social peace, is associated with the implementation of measures aimed at strengthening resilience (*Target 3*), such as *the establishment of social security, access to housing, water, a clean environment and employment and services*. (See UPR Report n°1 attached).

People living in poverty are primarily affected by economic and political crises, natural disasters and violence, loss of biodiversity and systemic services.

At the heart of the current problematic of sustainable development of Egypt:

- *Ensuring that people who have been able to escape poverty do not fall back;*
- *Achieving effective levels of resilience*
- *Improving the standard of living for all citizens and the most vulnerable in particular: women, children and young people, people in disability situation...*

Reducing poverty and achieving effective levels of resilience is of paramount importance to the country.

It is imperative to make public policies with more vigor and determination for human reasons and social stability (Targets 1a & 1b):

- *Reduce exposure to vulnerability (Target 5);*
- *Guarantee the same rights and access to basic resources and services (Target 4).*

Between urban and rural areas, between cities and slums and rural areas, the Delta region (Lower Egypt) and Nile valley (Upper Egypt) but also and especially between, for and by all Egyptian citizens.

Great and commendable changes have been observed since Egypt's last UPR in November 2014.

However, in the current context of the causes, effects and urgency of climate change combined with the scarcity of water resources (in one of the world's most water-scarce countries), demographic growth and the socio-economic development of the country, **Egypt's water needs are continuing to increase, with ever more speed and amplitude.**

If we add to this: the housing crisis, the recurrent lack of sanitation and clean environment, the lack of access to basic services, especially in new residential areas, the very low value of social security pensions in relation to the high inflation observed in the Egyptian market, the still great precariousness and vulnerability of a large part of the population ... **Egypt is under pressure.**

Adaptation to change in all its forms and the question of sustainable development remains a real problem.

A new development model is an urgent and necessary obligation to break the vicious circle of vulnerability and achieve sustainable levels of development. *A model that would open horizons of hope and prospects for sustainable socio-economic development; a model guided by the spirit of inclusion, equity and solidarity.*

Representatives of civil society and especially women's, youth (18-29 years old) and people with disabilities (7 are currently parliamentary) and associations have an important role to play.

A lever of development linking all the components of Egyptian society, they continue to campaign for initiatives that bring hope to contemporary issues: actions to make tangible and celebrate. They must be protected and encouraged by appropriate laws, policies and programs.

Voice of civil society: Their ability to express the needs and priorities of the Egyptian population in all its diversity is essential to consolidate Egypt's development and adapt to changes, particularly in terms of access to care services, training, job creation, health issues, clean and healthy environment.

- *Extend social protection measures;*
- *Guarantee all citizens access to adequate water and sanitation, decent housing and universal access to education and basic services;*
- *Prevent the discharge of wastewater into streets and water sources and address sanitation, municipal, industrial and environmental waste issues;*
- *Amend the law to guarantee the freedom of associations and to provide them with effective working condition in light of the challenges facing Egypt;*
- *Ensuring the representation and active participation of women, youth and persons in disability situation in decision-making processes at local and national levels.*



GENEVA

