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The Environment and Social Responsibility

Society is facing many environmental challenges, including the depletion of natural resources, pollution, climate change, destruction of habitats, loss of species, the collapse of whole ecosystems and the degradation of urban and rural human settlements. As the world population grows and consumption increases, these changes are increasing threats to human security and the health and well being of society. There is a need to identify options to reduce and eliminate unsustainable volumes and patterns of production and consumption and to ensure that the resource consumption per person becomes sustainable. Environmental matters at the local, regional and global level are interconnected. Addressing them requires a comprehensive, systematic and collective approach.

Environmental responsibility is a precondition for the survival and prosperity of human beings. It is therefore an important aspect of social responsibility. Environmental matters are closely linked to other social responsibility core subjects and issues. Environmental education and capacity building is fundamental in promoting the development of sustainable

societies and lifestyles.

Relevant technical tools, such as standards from the ISO 14000 series of standards, can be used as an overall framework to assist an organization in addressing environmental issues in a systematic manner and should be considered when evaluating environmental performance, quantifying and reporting greenhouse gas emissions, and in life cycle assessment, design for the environment, environmental labeling and environmental communication.

It is noteworthy that the decisions and activities of organizations invariably have an impact on the environment no matter where the organizations are located. These impacts may be associated with the organization's use of resources, the location of the activities of the organization, the generation of pollution and wastes, and the impacts of the organization's activities on natural habitats. To reduce their environmental impacts, organizations should adopt an integrated approach that takes into consideration the direct and indirect economic, social, health and environmental implications of their decisions and activities.

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Ethical Responsibility and Building Organizational Value System

In the context of Sustainable Development and according to the International Standard ISO 26000 "Guidance on social responsibility", the organization should behave in an ethical manner at all times. The organization's behavior should be based on the ethics of honesty, fairness and integrity in respect of people, environment and society at large as well as respect of the interests of all its stakeholders and of the rule of law.

All organizations are invited to enhance ethical behavior through:

- Establishing a Good Governance structure that assures ethical practices inside the organization and its interactions with other organizations.
- Declaring the organization's values and principles which are consistent with its vision and mission and demonstrating leadership of its top management in commitment to these values and principles.
- Setting the code of ethics and good practices expected from its personnel.



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- Empowering compliance with the code of ethics and best practices.
 - Avoiding any potential conflict of interests that may lead to misconduct and resolving all conflicts of interest that may arise.
 - Establishing monitoring and control mechanisms that prevent and detect any deviation from the code of ethics.
 - Establishing a fair and transparent reporting system for any deviations from the code of ethics to avoid fear or revenge.
- Setting up organizational value system and building a knowledge management system are considered the most challenges to sustainable development. All organizations, whether governmental, private, media or civil society are required to apply the principles of social responsibility and comply with a code of ethics so as to be able to contribute to a sustainable and comprehensive development to which all Egyptians are looking forward.



Mrs. Asmaa Abdel Mohsen
ISO 26000 National Expert

Bases of SR Integration throughout the organizations

We will continue in this article the third and fourth phases for implementing SR in the organizations in accordance with the principle of «Deming» in Total Quality Management as follows:

* Phase III: Check

- The effective performance related to SR depends upon careful control, evaluation, review activities that are carried out and progress being made and achieve specific objectives and resources used, and other efforts exerted by the organization.
- The continuous control process or SR activities review targets mainly to ensure that activities are implemented as planned.
- Planning should be done to measure the achievement of targeted results in terms of SR related activities and operational plans integrated with corporate objectives through agreeing upon the relevant KPIs and identifying the body/ individuals responsible for measurement process.

- Periodic reporting on the results of measurement should be submitted to all interested parties, with the necessity of writing down the recommendations on deviations justification and their inclusion of such reports.

* Phase IV: Act

- The organization should consider the ways through which it can improve its SR performance and should use the results of audits to help achieve continuous improvement in the organization's SR.
- Such improvements can include modifying targets to reflect the changeable circumstances or ambition for more achievements and the scope of SR activities and programs can be expanded to take advantage of newly identified opportunities.
- To encourage the achievement of targets, some organizations insert the process of achieving specific goals of SR in the annual or periodic review of the performance of the governing body (if any) and top management.

- The organization should get benefit from the results of audit, review and measurement for re-distributing activities, at the level of operational plans, resources and responsibilities (amendment on plans) in order to ensure the achievement of desired results previously approved.
- Therefore, it is highly recommended to set up a governance structure that helps promote ethical behavior within the organization and in its interaction with others, establish control mechanisms to monitor the organization's SR performance and mechanisms to facilitate reporting on the results of measurement on a regular basis as well as recognize and address the situations where local laws and regulations are absent or that are in conflict with ethical behavior, set goals and develop policies, programs and plans, integrate SR in the daily practices and effective management, follow-up, evaluation and continual improvement of performance.

EOS Participates in a Conference on Total Quality in the Oil, Gas and Petrochemicals Sector



EOS has participated in the conference held at the headquarters of hospitality of Ain Shams University during the period 20-22 October 2015 entitled "Total Quality in the Oil, Gas and Petrochemical Sector". The program included presentations of some national experts from EOS staff in the areas of energy and environmental management and social responsibility (SR). Dr. Hasnaa Hatem, International Projects Coordinator, has delivered a presentation to introduce energy management systems that mean systematic interest in energy in order to continuously improve the performance of the organization and to maintain progress achieved. This system is based on the approach of "Plan-Do-Check - Act" in the framework of continual improvement. Also, the elements of energy safety and constraints facing the application of energy management

systems. The presentation has also included determination of the requirements and key concepts and energy management systems application cycle to support all the efforts currently exerted by the State to save energy in all its forms in Egypt and to provide solutions and alternatives that would achieve the optimal rationalization of energy.

In addition, Eng. Hussein Ahmed, Technical Secretary of the NMC on Environmental Management Systems, made a presentation on "Environmental Quality Management in the Oil, Gas and Petrochemical Sector" which stipulated that the environmental aspect is one of the SD pillars, pointing out that in the last three decades awareness of the importance of environmental issues and problems has become pivotal in the oil, gas and petrochemical industry. Also, he indicated the importance

of identifying and engaging stakeholders that contributes to this goal, in addition to the importance of acquaintance with national laws and international agreements that aim to minimize any adverse effects on the environment. Mrs. Asmaa Abdel Mohsen, a national expert in SR and sustainable development, has made a presentation on "Quality Management in SR" through which she tackled the foundations of SR application in total quality management of organizations which is based on the following four phases: Plan-Do-Check-Act, stressing the necessity of the organizations' benefit from the results of audit, review and measurement for re-allocating activities at the operational plans level and re-distributing resources and responsibilities to ensure the achievement of desired pre-approved results.

CIB Wins the Most Socially Responsible Bank Award in North Africa

The Commercial International Bank - Egypt (CIB) has won the most socially responsible bank award in North Africa for 2015 organized by "African Banker" magazine.

This award is given to the African Bank which proves the superiority of its SR practices through its policies and various projects. The CIB-Egypt has deserved to win this prestigious international award after receiving the most votes of organizers of the 3rd annual celebration for the North African banking awards.

The bank declared in its statement that this award emphasizes the leading role of the bank as a major contributor to the development of Egyptian society as well as the effectiveness of the support of the CIB Foundation and its continuous efforts to provide high quality health services all over the country.



The Egyptian Ministry of Planning Launches a Contest for Governmental Creativity in the State's Administrative System



وزارة التخطيط والمتابعة والإصلاح الإداري
مبادرة إبداع



The Egyptian Ministry of Planning, Follow-up and Administrative Reform has launched the governmental creativity contest in the State's administrative system aiming to encouraging employees to innovate and implement solutions for administrative problems and obstacles facing the administrative system, developing work, discovering and motivating qualified employees especially middle levels as well as displaying different experiences to get benefit from them in the development of work systems and procedures in the administrative system and link of innovations with the State's development plans and vision for the administrative system reform.

The contest aims also to find the best proposals to improve work cycles in the State's administrative system for achieving the following results: reducing the time for providing a service, improving the service level provided to customers, satisfying the citizens and customers and mitigating the burden on staff along with upgrading efficiency.

Applicants for such a contest shall be a team comprising 3 persons at least from the State's administrative system employees and the subject of creativity shall be in line with the contest fields.



It is worth mentioning that this contest comes within the administrative reform plan which intends to build and develop employees' capacities in different units of administrative system. The human element has become the most important pillar of development and the strong basis upon which all the development efforts are based and succeed in order to access an efficient and effective administrative system characterized by professionalism, transparency and justice, provides services with quality, subject to accountability, targets citizen's satisfaction and contributes strongly to the State's development goals.

Banque Misr Complies with UN CSR Criteria



Banque Misr has applied sustainability criteria in all its transactions as being the first public bank in the Egyptian market that adjusts its dealings with the UN criteria for citizenship (CSR).

This adjustment has been achieved due to the permanent endeavour of Banque Misr with its rank as a leading financial institution in Egypt highly interested in SR and abides by the ten principles of the UN Global Compact stipulating non-discrimination and equity, child labour, health and safety standards and healthy, safe environment, corporate governance and anti-corruption.

Banque Misr continues its work to support the community through active participation in many social activities and initiatives and to achieve the best for society at large in areas e.g. health, environment and others related to human rights.

UAE Launches Environmental Excellence Program for Institutions› Rating

The Ministry of Environment and Water has launched the «UAE Program for Environmental Excellence» on sustainable environmental management through which the institutions are classified and evaluated, whether governmental or private, in accordance with national environmental criteria, taking into account the best global practices and norms. The participation door will be open in the second quarter of next year. The program was introduced through the approach of the UAE government to adopt the five-star system in all services of all bodies in the State. It includes specific criteria, each of which has different environmental axes and programs. The first criterion is the UAE's strategy for green development including green energy, green investment, green life and green technologies. The second criterion is the environmental legislations and practices including the environment and sustainable development,



emergency plans to address environmental disasters along with environmental and social initiatives. The third criterion is the global environmental indicators including ISO 14001 certificates and initiatives that raise the State's environmental performance index. The fourth criterion is the national indicators including the ratio of treated waste to the total produced waste, the ratio of clean

energy contribution, reduction of waste generation density and air quality index. It is noteworthy that the institutions will be classified according to the five-star criterion so as to obtain a certificate of the UAE Program for Environmental Excellence and based on the results of evaluation the institution is granted a number of stars starting from one star up to five stars as maximum

World Bank Praises SD Projects in Morocco

The world Bank considered that Morocco is among the few countries that has managed, during the last decades, to achieve a balance between the economic development and protection of environment and natural

by Paris that Morocco was able to develop and implement strategies taking into account the environment in various sectors and making a balance between the needs of the economy and development and preserving the natural environment when the natural resources of many countries are drained and face challenges due to climate change. The Bank praised the strategy of Morocco that committed to achieving growth that takes into account the environmental dimension that

resources through the adoption of clean energy programs and agricultural scheme, rationalization of water use in food production, protection of coasts and fish stocks and control of industrial pollution. The Bank has pointed out in a report issued in Washington in conjunction with the World Summit on Climate Change hosted

qualified the bank to host the next session of climate change discussions. Morocco spends about \$ 11 billion on clean energy projects including 5 solar energy plants and similar wind farms producing 42% of its need for electricity by 2020 and saving about 2.5 million tons of oil, and about 3.7 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions.



Environment Agency in Abu Dhabi Issues a Guide on Waste Management

The Environment Agency in Abu Dhabi has issued a number of policies for waste management along with a guide on its classification in collaboration with the Center of Waste Management «Recycling». Such policies have included waste's planning, classification, licensing and implementation, waste collection, separation, transport and traceability, re-use and recycling of waste, resources recovery and treatment and disposal of waste residues, with the purpose of achieving the environmental vision goals 2030 for Abu Dhabi Emirate.

The Environment Agency seeks, through applying these policies, to reduce the environmental and health risks resulting from irrational management of waste, implementing strict requirements for granting licenses for environmental services providers, controlling their operations and contributing to economic development through recycling and reuse of waste and recycled products.

Jordanian Ministry of Environment Launches Green Pharmacy Campaign

«Green Pharmacy» Campaign has been launched by the Jordanian Ministry of Environment in collaboration with the Pharmacists Syndicate, Good Practice Organization of Pharmacy, General Organization for Food and Medicine and civil society organizations under the slogan of «Pharmacist as a Partner in Environment Protection», on the occasion of the World Pharmacists Day and the Arab Environment Day.

The campaign aims to introducing ways of safe disposal of damaged and expired medicines in homes, encouraging individuals to return pharmaceutical waste to pharmacies and reducing the risk of throwing drugs with household garbage or in sewage systems.

The campaign will receive medicines and medical supplies from the citizens so that the Ministry of Environment will be responsible for their disposal in the environmentally and healthy safe ways.

UN Adopts Sustainable Development Plan 2030

United Nations member states have endorsed an ambitious plan for sustainable development over the next 15 years, which would cost billions of dollars annually, during the UN General Assembly meetings held in last September. It includes 17

points, the most important of which are poverty eradication, access to education and health, strengthening women role and light against global warming.

It is worth mentioning that the document of «SD goals» identifies 17 tasks to be achieved over the next 15 years. The main

tasks are represented in the eradication of poverty and hunger, protection of health and provision of good education. The other objectives include rehabilitation of water facilities and sewage, provision of safe and modern energy sources, helping to achieve sustainable economic growth, provision of decent work opportunities, ensuring gender equity, setting up effective models for production and consumption, taking urgent steps to address climate change, protecting and using sea resources efficiently, repairing the wild ecosystems, helping to establish a peaceful and open societies and promoting the means to achieve SD.

The new document will replace the «Millennium Development Goals» adopted by UN in 2000 for 15 years that identified 8 missions, among of which are eradication of poverty



and hunger, provision of education, reduction of child mortality, improvement of maternal health and combating HIV and malaria. The final report on the achievement of «Millennium Development Goals» has noted that the number of the world's population living with an income level not exceeding \$ 1.25 per day decreased from 1.9 billion in 1990 to 836 million in 2015. In addition, more than 6 million people infected with malaria have been recovered, and deaths from tuberculosis have been reduced by 45% beside the provision of education to 43 million children.

India Imposes Pollution Charges on Trucks for Environment Protection

The Indian Capital New Delhi, which is considered one of the most polluted cities in the world, has imposed charges on all trucks and commercial vehicles to reduce pollution and improve air quality in the city. The Indian Institute for Environment and Science has mentioned that the number of commercial vehicles and trucks passing through New Delhi is about 50,000, pointing out that this number causes about the third of pollution percentage in the city while the industrial factories and workshops cause the remaining two thirds. The Supreme Court of India has

approved a pilot plan for four months imposing a \$ 11 tax on light commercial vehicles, and \$ 20 on large and medium trucks so as to access the city. A study, conducted by the World Health Organization (WHO) last year included 1600 cities around the world, has revealed that New Delhi is one of the highest cities in air pollution ratio where the average annual concentration of particles is of the highest percentages in the world. These particles, which are airborne particles in the air and known as 2.5 pm, cause diseases e.g. bronchitis, lung cancer



and heart diseases as they settle in the lungs and can move into bloodstream



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Relationship between SR & Environment, Desertification and Land Degradation

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Protection of the environment and its conservation has become one of the most important characteristics of the new international system, where the environmental standards occupy a privileged position in various international conventions and conforming to and applying these standards has become among the most important exporting conditions for many global markets. However, a lot of institutions, especially in developing countries, still do not pay a great attention to environmental management systems and all related to protection of environment and its resources. This is despite the fact that taking into account the social and environmental aspects by businesses is a key pillar to increase their competitiveness and maximize their profitability through their contribution to the elimination of pollution and development of environmental performance.

In light of increasing environmental interests, ISO has initiated to issue an International Standard (ISO 26000) "Guidance on social responsibility" that tackles in one of its 7 core subjects environment and its related issues including prevention of pollution, sustainable use of resources, adaptation and mitigation of climate change and protection and reform of natural environment. If we dealt with the relationship between the organization and the environment, we will find that the organizations' decisions and activities always have an impact on the environment. Also, the rela-

tionship between SR and environment is embodied that the society faces numerous environmental challenges among of them are depletion of natural resources, pollution, climate change, destruction of natural environment, collapse of entire ecosystems as well as deterioration of the settlements in rural and urban areas. With the population increase in the world and the increasing consumption, these issues have become with a growing impact on the health and welfare of society.

The environmental responsibility is an important aspect of SR as environmental issues are closely related to the core subjects and issues of SR. It also requires knowledge of the significance of education as the environmental education is a prerequisite to strengthening communities' development and sustainable ways of life. In addition, the requirements of ISO 14000 series of standards should be considered and the implementation of processes of environmental performance assessment, measurement of gas emissions of global warming, reporting, life cycle assessment and design of environment and labelling. The issue of desertification and degradation of agricultural land is one of the challenges facing us today, as desertification means that the land is subjected to degradation and lack of suitability for agricultural production. Desertification highly affects the economic status of the country, as it leads to loss of agricultural crops and

increase of their prices. It also creates a suitable environment for forest fires and wind activity, which increase the pressure on the most important earth resources i.e. water.

Cases of desertification and the degree of their severity differ from an area to another depending on the different type of relationship between natural environment and human.

There are four degrees of desertification cases according to the UN classification for desertification i.e. light, moderate, severe and very severe.

Due to the significance of desertification issue and endeavor to reduce it and to maintain agricultural lands, the national anti-desertification committee at EOS has issued a number of Egyptian Standards i.e.:

ES 6657/2008 "Management of Combating Desertification and Land Degradation - Terms and Definitions".

ES 7581/2013 "Environmental management - Combating Desertification Monitoring and Evaluation of Desertification - Guidelines and Requirements".

ES 7708-1/2014 "Environmental Management - Indicators of Desertification and Land Degradation - Part 1: Individual Indicators".

From this perspective, the organizations should consider the social and environmental aspects in their activities because they contribute to a great extent to reduce cost, increase the competence of employees as well as improve their reputation and increase their ability to access new markets.

Environmental Responsibility of EEAA in the Context of SD

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Because the national goal of Egypt is to accelerate progress in the field of SD which is achieved through the increase of economic growth rates while easing the pressure on the environment and natural resources and ensuring fair distribution of wealth among different categories of society, the vision of ministry of Environment for the SD goals has been identified to set the environmental dimension as a key axis in all development and economic sectors to achieve security of resources, support fairness of their use and optimum utilization and investment of natural resources and ensure the rights of future generations as well as diversify the sources of production and economic activities, supporting competitiveness, providing new jobs, eliminating poverty, achieving social justice and creating a safe, clean environment for the Egyptian citizen.

To achieve SD, the Ministry of Environment developed the general framework of SD Strategy in 2006 along with the green economy report as a mechanism for SD as well as integrated environmental and social considerations into sectoral policies e.g. agricultural, industrial and social policies etc. At the institutional level, the Ministry has established a unit for SD aiming to cooperate with all national bodies, governmental and non-governmental, to achieve SD mechanisms and capacity building.

In addition, environmental monitoring programs of air and water pollutants have been created along with programs for reducing industrial drainage on the Nile River and a national program for the safe use of treated waste water in forest cultivation beside many of the solid waste management and recycle projects (municipal and agricultural), the programs and projects to protect and improve industrial environment and the environmental training and awareness programs to all segments of local community .

As facing climate change risks is the goal no. 13 of SD goals, and based on what has been agreed up on in Paris conference on climate change in Dec. 2015 in respect of a new framework to address climate change, the Ministry of Environment, through its chairmanship of the Egyptian delegation in negotiations, has sought to achieve the maximum possible benefit to Egypt in the field of climate change and reducing risks and emissions. At the domestic level, the Ministry has set targets related to climate change coming from its plan to national contribution that has been submitted to the UN in Nov. 2015 without prejudice to development ambitions in Egypt.

Highlights. on Some Sectoral Topics in the Field of Energy

We will continue in this article what we started in the last two issues regarding the importance of good management of energy as an important tool for sustainable development in Egypt as well as presenting future vision of energy sector in Egypt in line with Sustainable Development Strategy: Egypt vision 2030. We will present hereinafter some sectoral issues in the field of energy:

A-Industry:

Development plan should include an expanded program to increase energy efficiency in manufacturing industries which are the most consuming industries for energy (12% of the total energy consumption), taking into account to start with industries which intensively consume energy i.e. steel, rolling mill, cement and aluminum industries, to adopt the concept of green industry, merge methods of cleaner production in industrial policies and develop the opportunities for re-use of solid and liquid waste in industry especially cement as an alternative fuel for burning in furnaces, for solving the problem of waste, ensuring other alternative, cheap energy, improving maintenance, operation and periodic follow-up procedures for thermal and electric equipment used for this purpose and creating a suitable environment, so that the private sector can invest in this field.

B-Transport - Increasing energy efficiency in the sector by:

A) Improvement of traffic management by:

- 1- Developing and promoting mass transit inside cities, including public transport buses along with continuation to expand in metro networks, execute projects for extending railway networks between governorates, with the trend to electrification.
- 2- Setting up legislative controls to regulate cars ownership, limiting the import of vehicles polluting the environment, as well as setting and enforcing strict laws for passing cars in streets, and allocating specific paths for passing trucks.
- 3- Applying the requirements in the Construction Code for the establishment of garages in all new buildings.

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B) Expanding the use of natural gas in vehicles:

- 1- Adopting national program for transforming vehicles which work with benzene to work with natural gas, including transforming 50% of taxis and 20% of vans till 2022/2023.
- 2- Developing specifications of liquid fuel, especially eliminating lead from benzene, and installing appropriate controlling equipment for emissions.
- 3- Adopting and developing programs for maintenance, rehabilitation and inspection of vehicles with clear criteria for permissible emissions limits.

C) Green systems in construction sector:

Housing sector is the third largest energy consuming sector, its consumption of the total final energy has reached 18.8% in 2010/2011, and of electricity has reached 42%. Therefore, the following systems should be considered:

- 1-Green architecture: Considering to include the criteria and requirements in construction laws that allow the deployment of green architecture techniques to reduce thermal loads for buildings and provide the suitable environment inside to decrease energy consumption in air conditioning.
- 2- Improving lighting efficiency:
Continuing promotion programs for using lighting units of high efficiency and setting incentives to local industry for producing, and disseminating the use of those lamps to achieve wide spread.
- 3- Solar heaters for water:
Adopting national programs for spreading the use of solar heaters for water in Egypt, along with setting incentives to support local industry in the field.
- 4- Energy efficiency of domestic appliances:
Issuing standards and necessary adoption methods to encourage the dissemination of the use of high efficiency devices and their promotion as well as raising public awareness in the field.