**UK - Egypt Joint Statement**

1. The British Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, Dominic Raab, and Minister for Foreign Affairs for the Arab Republic of Egypt, Sameh Hassan Shoukry, have agreed the text of the UK-Egypt Association Agreement.
2. The UK-Egypt Association Agreement (“Agreement”) replicates the effects of the EU-Egypt Association Agreement, both the trade related aspects and the comprehensive political and cooperation provisions. This is to ensure continuity in the trading and wider bilateral relationship between the Arab Republic of Egypt (“Egypt”) and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (“UK”) when the UK ceases to be bound by the EU-Egypt Association Agreement. The Agreement does not otherwise affect any bilateral agreements between the UK and Egypt currently in force in any fields.
3. By signing the UK-Egypt Association Agreement, Egypt and the UK have ensured certainty for Egyptian and British consumers, businesses and investors. In addition, the two countries have emphasised the strong bilateral and trading relationships that exist between them and their willingness to enhance their partnership in a framework of mutual respect and trust.
4. The world of trade has evolved since the EU-Egypt Association Agreement entered into force in 2004. Bilateral trade between Egypt and the UK is already worth over £3 billion. The Agreement provides a platform from which to deepen the trade and investment relationship between the UK’s and Egypt’s complementary economies, paving the way for greater partnerships in key sectors, from agriculture to energy, and technology to services.
5. The UK and Egypt reiterate that the aim of cooperation regarding investments and the promotion of investments under the Agreement is to increase the flow of capital, expertise and technology to Egypt. Further, the UK and Egypt appreciate that the list of possible methods of investment cooperation in Article 46 is non-exhaustive and Egypt aspires to modernise the UK-Egypt bilateral investment treaty in response to developments in the field.
6. The UK and Egypt reaffirm their ambition to develop their growing trading relationship further. There are multiple mechanisms contained in the Agreement which will allow the UK and Egypt to enhance their overall trading relationship, as well as commitments to consider further liberalisation and provision for Ministerial meetings. For instance, the Agreement incorporates time bound review provisions on trade in agricultural, fisheries and processed agricultural products with the aim of establishing greater liberalisation. In addition, the parties can examine the possibility of further facilitating trade on such goods, on a product-by-product basis, including on vital agricultural products such as strawberries from the entry into force of the Agreement. Both sides seek to enhance joint cooperation between the customs authorities with a view to eliminating practices harmful to legitimate trade, especially with regard to exchanging proof of origin submitted for granting preferential treatment.
7. The UK and Egypt recognise that the Agreement covers energy cooperation, which can be discussed by the relevant subcommittee, and that Egypt holds important opportunities for British investors and firms, especially in the energy sector where UK leadership and expertise will be particularly valuable. The transition to sustainable energy to address climate change will form an important part of this cooperation.
8. The UK and Egypt understand that the Association Council or Committee, established under the Agreement, should work towards the ambition of strengthening the UK-Egypt partnership.
9. The Agreement constitutes an important framework for ensuring continuous preferential access to both markets. Both the UK and Egypt recognise that facilitating further market access, including via a separate agreement on air services, will support their joint commitment to a strengthened UK-Egypt partnership.