

**Statement delivered by H.E. Ahmed Samir Saleh**  
**Minister of Trade and Industry of Egypt**  
**at the Sixth Summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence**  
**Building Measures in Asia (CICA)**

*13 October 2022*

*Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan*

Dear Excellencies,  
Esteemed Heads of State,  
Prime Ministers,  
Ministers, and representatives of CICA member states,  
Observer states and organizations,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of His Excellency Abdelfattah El Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, allow me at the outset to thank the government of Kazakhstan for organizing and hosting the 6th Summit of The Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia “CICA” on the 30th anniversary of the CICA process.

It would be remiss of me not to commend the role of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the establishment of CICA, upon the initiative of H.E Nursultan Nazarbayev, the First President of Kazakhstan, who proposed establishing CICA on the 5th of October 1992. Egypt highly appreciates the active engagement and commitment of Kazakhstan for the past 30 years, in creating an environment of confidence among Member States which has contributed to make CICA what it is today.

I also wish to seize this opportunity to express Egypt's appreciation for the efforts made by Kazakhstan during its CICA chairmanship during the period 2020-2022 despite the exceptional circumstances that everyone around the world is facing, especially in light of the challenges arising from the pandemic and other international and regional crises.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Egypt firmly believes that ensuring peace and security in Asia is not only indispensable for the stability in Asia but also for both our regional and Global stability. Hence – cognizant of the crucial role of CICA in this regard- Egypt was one of the founding members of this organization.

Moreover, CICA as a multilateral mechanism provides the proper framework to enhance our cooperation, and harness our collective efforts to address the myriad transboundary challenges our countries are grappling with, in particular in the 5 CICA dimensions

In accordance with our commitment to the 5 CICA dimensions, I wish to confirm that Egypt will spare no effort in contributing to CICA's objectives to promote peace, security and stability in Asia, and to eradicate the menace of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as to promote trade and economic cooperation for the prosperity and stability in Asia.

Egypt believes in the future of CICA as an important contributor to International Security, and in that regard we welcome the launching of a structured, inclusive, transparent negotiations process of gradual, incremental and consensus-based transformation of CICA into a regional International organization through further institutionalization and strengthening the capacity of CICA.

We wish to reiterate Egypt's commitment to CICA's activities and programs, based on the principles of sovereign equality and respect for the rights inherent in sovereignty; refraining from the threat or use of force; territorial integrity; peaceful settlement of disputes; non-interference in internal affairs of Member States; human rights and fundamental freedoms, disarmament and arms control; economic, social and cultural cooperation.

In line with Egypt's commitment to CICA's activities, Egypt nominated H.E. Mohamed ElOraby, Former Foreign Minister of Egypt to the Council of Eminent Persons, which we look forward to its launch soon. As well as nominating Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies to the CICA Think Tank Forum.

Egypt is looking forward to include our shared commitment to stick to previously agreed upon language, positions and principles, especially with regards to the peace process in the Middle East, as this issue remains at the forefront of Egyptian, Palestinian and many other Arab and Islamic Countries' Foreign Policies.

Egypt also welcomes enhanced cooperation between CICA and the different regional organizations, namely the Arab league and the African Union, among others.

Egypt also welcomes and supports granting the CICA Member State status to Kuwait during this Summit.

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In conclusion, I would like to express my appreciation to the government of Kazakhstan for organizing this important summit, and to extend my thanks to everyone here today and commend our shared commitment to CICA and its objectives.

I hereby wish the Republic of Kazakhstan a successful chairmanship 2020-2022, and also the Kazakh extended chairmanship through 2022-2024 which only proves the CICA member states' trust and support to Kazakhstan's efforts.

Thank you for your attention.