

**Speech of
H.E. Dr. Hassan Younes
Minister of Electricity and Energy
(Egypt)**

**Conference Of Founding
The
International Renewable Energy
Agency
(IRENA)**

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Excellencies,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Most of the population in Egypt is concentrated around Nile River on an area of about 7% of the total area, the grid is extended providing over 99% of the population with electric energy services.

Presently, Egypt's energy mix includes 10.2% from renewable energy mostly from hydro energy. We have 370 MW operative wind farms based on nearly 30% local manufactured components, 180 MW wind energy projects are in different phases of implementation. Another 720 MW is in the pipeline. Besides, 140 MW solar thermal power project is in the phase of construction to be connected to the grid in 2010.

Egypt has adopted an ambitious strategy, targeting to reach 20% of renewable energy by 2020, with the share of the private investments and enhancement of the relevant local industrial capabilities. Realizing such aim will be out of two approaches. The 1st one is based on the competitive bidding, the 2nd phase will be on "feed-in-tariff" basis.

The Regulatory Agency established in the year 2000, a new electricity act which includes articles supporting renewable energy and energy efficiency will be introduced to the Parliament in this session.

A new Agency for Energy Efficiency, is currently under study.

- Coordination with other regional and international organizations to avoid any duplication of efforts.
- Make use of the existing Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in Cairo.
- Supporting Developing Countries to Improve Regulatory Frameworks, Capacity Building, Provide Practical Advice and Enhance Local Industrial Capabilities through Technology Transfer.

Finally, I am sure that the International Renewable Energy Agency will lead to a new horizon of cooperation and become one of the main driving force in promoting a rapid transition towards the widespread and sustainable use of renewable energy on a global scale.

Thank You