

Press Release – 6 November 2012

The signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Danish Foreign Ministry



On this day, Tuesday, November 6, 2012, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed between The International Labour Organization, represented by its Cairo office Director Dr. Yousef Qaryouti, and the Danish Foreign Ministry, represented by its MENA Department Advisor, Mr. Jakob Rogild Jakobsen. The signing of this agreement took place within the framework of the advancement of youth employment opportunities programme, which is implemented by the International Labour Organization in cooperation with the Egyptian Ministry of Manpower and Migration. The scope of the MOU reflects expanding the geographical capacity of the “Decent Jobs for Egypt’s Young People” project to two new governorates.

Under this agreement, the Danish government will finance the activities of the first phase of the project in the amount of \$ 1.6 million USD; which is to be implemented during the next year, 2013. Subsequently, the Danish Government expressed the intention to possibly fund the second phase of the project in the amount of \$ 4.4 million USD.

In a related context, Dr. Youssef Qaryouti stated that the ILO Office in Cairo is currently implementing the advancement of youth employment opportunities programme in Egypt through the "Decent Jobs for Egypt’s Young People" project in each of the following governorates: Port Said, Minya, and the Red Sea through the support and funding from the Canadian International Development Agency with \$ 10 million USD. In addition to that, the project is being implemented in Aswan through the support and funding of the Australian government in the amount of \$ 3 million Australian dollars. Qaryouti also added that the expansion of the geographic scope of the program to include two new governorates will take place in accordance to the memorandum of understanding signed with the Danish government; the two new governorates will be identified at a later time. Overall, these new ventures contribute to the reduction of high unemployment rates among young people.