

Arab Republic of Egypt

Date of Independence:	1922 (end of British protectorate)
Capital:	Cairo
Population:	Approximately 49 million
Head of State:	His Excellency Muhammad Hosni Mubarak
Economy:	50% of economy based on agriculture, principally cotton. Industrial sector represents 29% of GNP.

Canada/Egypt Relations: Our relations with Egypt have developed rapidly over the past ten years. This growth reflects the Canadian government's desire to support the moderate policies of President Mubarak and confirms Canada's increasing interest in the Arab world. It was this interest that led it to participate in the Multinational Force and Observers in the Sinai. In 1984, Canadian exports to Egypt totalled \$287 million; imports were \$60 million. The Egypt-Canada Business Council was created in 1981. Co-operation between the two countries, which dates back to 1976, focusses on three key sectors: agriculture, energy and human resources development. Over the next five years, CIDA will contribute about \$25 million annually through its bilateral co-operation program.

His Excellency Hosni Mubarak: Mr Mubarak was born in 1928. After graduating from the Military Academy, he became a pilot and was an instructor at the Air Academy from 1952 to 1958. In 1967, he was appointed Director-General of the Air Academy, and served as the Air Force Chief of Staff from July 1969 to 1972. As Commander-in-Chief of the Air Force, Mr Mubarak distinguished himself during the war of October 1973. He became Vice-President in April 1975 and President in October 1981, following the assassination of Mr Sadat.