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**President El Sisi Meets Russian President Putin on the Sidelines of BRICS Summit in China**

Today, President Abel Fattah El Sisi met with Russian President Vladimir Putin on the sidelines of BRICS Summit in China's Xiamen.

President Putin underscored the importance his country accords to strengthening the close relations with Egypt across all fields, particularly economic and trade ties. He commended the increase in trade relations between the two countries by 14% as well as their ongoing engagement to further advance relations. President Putin valued the existing coordination between Egypt and Russia with regard to a range of regional and international issues of mutual concern. He lauded Egypt's positive role in conflicts in the Middle East as well as its commitment to reaching political solutions to these conflicts.

President El Sisi emphasized Egypt's keenness on enhancing its important relations with Russia and on forging closer cooperation at various levels. He commended the ongoing cooperation between the two countries across numerous areas as well as the joint projects which they will start implementing, including the establishment of the Russian Industrial Zone in East Port Saed and the construction of the Dabaa nuclear power plant for energy production. President El Sisi extended an invitation to President Putin to attend a celebration to mark the laying of the foundation stone for the Dabaa power plant. President Putin welcomed the invitation and they agreed to set a date for the visit.

The two Presidents addressed a range of issues pertaining to bilateral relations, including the resumption of Russian flights to Egypt. President Putin commended efforts exerted by the Egyptian authorities to secure airports, and hoped for the resumption of flights by Russian airlines soon, following the conclusion of the ongoing consultations between the two sides at the technical level. President El Sisi and President Putin reviewed a number of regional and international issues, notably the ongoing conflicts in the Middle East. They agreed on the importance of reaching political solutions to these conflicts so as to contribute to restoring security and stability to the region's countries and preserve their unity, territorial integrity and sovereignty.

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