

President El Sisi Meets the Presidents of Cyprus, Brazil, Romania and Serbia

On the sidelines of the 72nd Session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA 72) today, President Abdel Fattah El Sisi met with the Presidents of Cyprus, Brazil, Romania and Serbia.

In his meeting with President of Cyprus, Nicos Anastasiades, President El Sisi underscored the historic and steadfast relations between the two countries, and commend Cyprus' positions in support of Egypt in various regional and international fora. The President welcomed the ongoing cooperation between the two countries across various areas, notably in the energy sector, and emphasized the need to step up cooperation at both the bilateral level and through the trilateral cooperation mechanism between Egypt, Greece and Cyprus. He also stressed the need to continue to implement joint projects that were agreed upon within the framework of the trilateral cooperation mechanism so as to make this mechanism a model of cooperation to be emulated by Mediterranean countries.

President Anastasiades confirmed the special nature and strength of the Egyptian-Cypriot relations. He welcomed the remarkable progress in their cooperation over the past years in addition to the tangible steps achieved within the trilateral cooperation mechanism. President Anastasiades said he hopes his country hosts the trilateral summit next November. The President of Cyprus also commended Egypt's positions in support of the Cypriot issue in line with the relevant UN resolutions and asserted that his country stands by Egypt and supports it in various international fora and organizations.

The meeting addressed ways to enhance bilateral cooperation in various areas. It also touched on regional developments and ways to reach political settlements to crises in the Middle East.

President El Sisi also met with the President of Brazil Michel Temer. The President affirmed that Egypt values the outstanding relations that it shares with Brazil and lauded Brazil's model for development as well as its economic progress. The President stated that Egypt looks forward to enhancing bilateral ties across various fields and effectuating frameworks for cooperation, particularly at the levels of trade and economy, as well as maximizing benefit from both countries' potential.

President Temer lauded Egypt's progress in terms of reinforcing stability and economic reform and expressed his appreciation for the strong relations between the two countries. He affirmed the importance of advancing cooperation in various domains and welcomed strengthening trade and economic ties, noting wide prospects for cooperation in these two sectors.

President El Sisi and President Temer welcomed finalizing procedures of ratification of the free trade agreement signed between Egypt and the Mercosur, which includes Brazil, so as to promote trade between Egypt and the Mercosur

member states. The two presidents also discussed the possibility of benefiting from Egypt's location as an access point for Brazilian products into the Arab region and Africa, in light of the free trade agreements that Egypt shares with these regions. They also affirmed their keenness on continuing coordination at international fora, especially on issues of mutual concern, including countering terrorism, peace-keeping operations and Security Council reform. This is in addition to enhancing joint cooperation within the South-South cooperation framework and Group of 77.

President Temer extended an invitation to President El Sisi to visit Brazil, which the President welcomed and looked forward to visiting soon.

President El Sisi held another meeting with the President of Romania, Klaus Iohannis.

The President lauded the strong bilateral relations and the outstanding level of political coordination between the two countries, as they mark 111 years of establishing diplomatic relations this year. The President also lauded Romania's positive stances towards Egypt and looked forward to strengthening cooperation between the two countries in all fields, notably in light of convening the joint committee in Bucharest last July and signing a number of important agreements to promote trade and investment.

President Iohannis commended Egypt's progress at the levels of stability and development, noting its key role in the Middle East and in combating terrorism. He expressed Romania's interest in consulting and coordinating with Egypt on regional and international issues of mutual interest. He also lauded the distinct Egyptian-Romanian relations and expressed Romania's keenness on enhancing cooperation with Egypt, given the two countries' huge economic potential.

The meeting touched on a number of regional and international issues. The President reviewed Egypt's vision on developments pertaining to the crises in the Middle East and Egypt's role in resolving them. The President affirmed the importance of concerted efforts by the international community to politically resolve these crises in a way that preserves their sovereignty and unity, supports their national institutions, puts an end to the humanitarian plight of their peoples and protects their resources.

Also today, President El Sisi held a meeting with President of Serbia Aleksandar Vučić.

President El Sisi congratulated President Vučić on his election victory and on assuming his post last April. He looked forward to cooperating with him in the next period so as to enhance the outstanding and historic relations between the two countries. President El Sisi highlighted Egypt's interest to further advance cooperation with Serbia in various areas, notably at the economic and trade levels. He stressed the importance of convening the joint committee for economic, scientific and technical cooperation at the earliest opportunity so as to explore ways to strengthen cooperation across various sectors.

President Vučić stated that his country holds high regard for its historic relations with Egypt and looked forward to furthering them in the coming period in all areas, so as to give a strong impetus to and restore the momentum in bilateral relations. He confirmed the need to reinvigorate the existing frameworks of cooperation and welcomed the convening of the joint committee at the earliest opportunity. The President of Serbia commended the remarkable progress Egypt has achieved during the past period on the path of economic reform and pointed out the huge potential available to effectuate cooperation between the two countries in various fields.

President El Sisi extended an invitation to the Serbian President to visit Egypt during the coming period. President Vučić welcomed the invitation and invited President El Sisi to visit Belgrade so as to push forward bilateral relations.