



## **BLUMBERG GRAIN STATEMENT REGARDING PROJECTS IN EGYPT**

This week, with the invaluable assistance of Egyptian Defense Attaché, Major General Khaled Shawky, Phase 1 of our Shouna Development Project was closed out with final payments settled.

We now move on to Phase 2 of the Shouna Development Project which will fulfill President Sisi's vision for a state of the art food security network for Egypt's farmers.

Phase 2, is currently comprised of 300 additional new Shouna, replacing the country's antiquated and deteriorated storage facilities, located close to Egyptian farmers, providing accessible storage, which is critical to the farmers and to reducing post-harvest losses.

This project underscores Egypt's commitment to stronger commercial ties between Egypt and the US.

We are looking to joint venture this project with the Army, and specifically the Army Engineering Authority, who, under the strong leadership of Major General Kamel Al Wazir, provide excellent civil engineering and superb logistics needed for such a megaproject.

We also know, and believe in, the importance of the US-Egypt relationship. Our Chairman, Philip Blumberg, is a strong supporter of President Sisi and the stability he brings to Egypt and this important region.

Egypt is one of the most critical countries in the fight against terrorism and a crucial ally of the US.

It's important to understand, Egypt faces terrorist armies on its border with Libya and in the Sinai. Moreover, these terrorist groups have a presence well inside Egypt, and they are determined to destabilize the country and government.

In that regard, maintaining US aid levels and growing our support and cooperation is vitally important. We support Egypt's continuing as a major recipient of US aid.

We also know the Sisi Administration, who initiated our food security projects in Egypt during a 4 hour meeting between President Sisi and Chairman Philip Blumberg in Cairo, is committed to modernizing the country's infrastructure with bold projects to address Egypt's economic development.

As an example, President Sisi made support of Egyptian farmers a priority and utilizing American food security technology a key to that support.

With Phase 1 and 2 completed, this project will provide badly needed infrastructure to Egyptian farmers, create new jobs in Egypt, and save Egypt over US\$ 551 million annually.

We also know the friendship between President Trump and President Sisi is strong, and President Sisi appreciates how important it is to President Trump and Congress to safeguard the 2400 US jobs supported by our project.

Furthermore, with the commencement of Phase 2, we will begin development of an industrial refrigeration manufacturing plant to serve Egypt and for export throughout Africa and the Middle East. This project will create substantial new jobs in Egypt and increase the country's exports and GDP.

The stability President Sisi and the Egyptian Army bring to Egypt inspire our willingness to invest in the country.