

President El Sisi Participates in Trilateral Summit

Today, President Abdel Fattah El Sisi participated in a trilateral summit held in Addis Ababa with the President of Sudan, Omar al-Bashir, and the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, Hailemariam Desalegn.

The summit reviewed developments of ongoing negotiations within the framework of the trilateral national committee on the Renaissance Dam and ways to overcome the obstacles that it faces, particularly studies issued by the consultancy office. The three leaders affirmed that they share a single vision with regard to the dam based on the Declaration of Principles signed in Khartoum and based on upholding the principle of not harming any of the three countries' interests.

The summit agreed to convene a meeting that includes the ministers of foreign affairs and irrigation of the three countries and the trilateral national committee and submit the final reports within a month, with solutions to the pending technical issues, so as to ensure the full implementation of the terms of the Declaration of Principles and to not negatively affect Egypt's and Sudan's water interests. It was also agreed to exchange national studies and technical information among the three countries.

President El Sisi affirmed the importance of maintaining a positive spirit during the negotiations as well as preserving common interests. He called on all concerned officials from the three countries engaged in negotiations to implement the leaders' directives and to complete their work within the designated time-frame.

Prime Minister Desalegn affirmed during the talks that the farmers in Egypt and Sudan will not be negatively affected by the dam. He affirmed that not harming the interest of the peoples of the three countries is the basis for negotiations. The Sudanese President expressed his country's determination to work within the framework of the trilateral national committee in order to reach a consensus on all the pending technical issues. He affirmed in this regard that the three countries are bound by common interests and a single destiny.

The summit touched on the overall aspects of relations among the three countries and ways to enhance cooperation and to continue consultation and coordination on various issues of common interest. It was agreed to effectuate the joint investment fund among the three countries to finance infrastructure projects.