

President El Sisi Meets Japan's Minister of Foreign Affairs

Today, President Abdel Fattah El Sisi met with Japan's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Tarō Kōno. The meeting was also attended by Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry and Japan's Ambassador to Egypt.

Foreign Minister Kōno extended his condolences to the President for the victims of yesterday's terrorist attack in northern Sinai. He expressed Japan's condemnation of this abhorrent act and stressed that the people of Japan stand by Egypt in its efforts to wipe out and uproot terrorism.

President El Sisi underscored the steadfast and historic relations that bind Egypt and Japan and noted that the Egyptian people have a great respect and appreciation for the people of Japan. The President confirmed that he looks forward to further advancing cooperation between the two countries across all fields, particularly following the visit to Cairo by Japan's Prime Minister in 2015 and his visit to Japan in 2016. President El Sisi noted that the visits demonstrate that the two countries realize the importance of their bilateral relations which are based on a long history of joint cooperation.

Japan's Foreign Minister emphasized that his country values its longstanding relations with Egypt and added that the Japanese people appreciate the ancient Egyptian civilization. Mr. Kōno stressed Japan's commitment to strengthening the partnership with Egypt in various fields. He commended the ongoing cooperation between the two sides in the area of improving education as well as Egypt's interest to establish numerous Japanese schools. President El Sisi valued the ongoing cooperation with Japan in the field of improving education. He underscored keenness on benefiting from the Japanese model in this regard which is based on highlighting the moral aspect and building the teamwork spirit in young people. This is in addition to instilling the values of accuracy, perfection and discipline and optimizing the role of the teacher who represents a model and figure for the students.

President El Sisi thanked Japan's foreign minister for his country's support in a range of fields, particularly in the construction of Egypt's Grand Museum which will highlight Egypt's ancient civilization and its impact on human civilization. He noted that it will be one of the world's largest museums for antiquities.

President El Sisi emphasized Egypt's keenness on promoting economic and trade cooperation with Japan. He reviewed the economic reform measures applied by the government, mega national projects currently being implemented as well as various measures adopted to create an environment conducive to investment and to provide investment opportunities. President El Sisi said he hopes for Japanese companies to boost their investment in Egypt. Mr. Kōno confirmed the Japanese companies' interest to expand their business in Egypt in a range of areas, and confirmed that Egypt represents a promising market which offers various opportunities to Japanese investors.

The meeting touched on a range of regional and international issues of mutual interest, including the situation in the Middle East, the North Korean crisis and cooperation in combating terrorism. This is in addition to ways to enhance the ongoing coordination and consultation between Egypt and Japan within international organizations and fora with regard to various issues of mutual concern.