

Proposed Amendments to the Constitution

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In the Name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

Preamble

We, the masses of the Egyptian people, whose power and will were inspired by the past and drew the features of its path to the future to forever enhance equity, freedom, justice, work, equality, and human dignity;

We, the masses of the Egyptian people, out of faith that every citizen has the right to live on the land of this motherland in security and safety, and that every citizen has the right to a today and a tomorrow;

We, the masses of the Egyptian people, out of faith that we are part and parcel of the Arab and Muslim nations, and taking pride in belonging to the African and Asian continents;

We, the masses of the Egyptian people, believing that democracy is a path, a future, and a way of life, believing in political multiplicity and peaceful rotation of power; affirming the right of the people to make their own future, and that they are the source of power, and believing that freedom, human dignity and social justice are a right to every citizen;

Declare our adherence to the following principles:

First: The principle of equality which is the basis of justice, freedom and social justice, as well as the maintenance of citizen rights and freedoms against forms of restriction prejudicing them or restricting their exercise.

Second: The rule of law is the basis and pillar of citizen freedom and the legitimacy of the state's authority for laws not to prejudice rights and freedoms, the acknowledgment of which is deemed an initial step for the establishment of the state of law in democratic states, and a main guarantee to maintain the right, dignity, and freedom of man.

Third: The national unity of all of the people of this motherland is a key goal for the rulers and the ruled equally. It is a pillar of the modern Egyptian state and its path to development and progress protected by the values of tolerance, reasonability, and moderation. Among its pillars is accomplishment by partnership where every citizen protects and completes the other. The motherland is owned by all with no discrimination, exclusion, mediation, or favoritism.

Fourth: Provide security and safety to all citizens. There can be no justice without protection, no economy without security, and no development without community stability where security is lacking.

Fifth: Defending the motherland is an honor and a duty. Our armed forces are the protective shield of this country defending the borders and national security of the state.

Sixth: Belief in justice and an independent judiciary as a tool to achieve it. Justice is not self-achieved. No man may achieve justice for himself so that power does not overbear right and so that no citizen may be denied what he justly deserves. Achieving justice and equity is not exclusive to one generation, but must be achieved across generations to protect the rights of children and grandchildren.

Seventh: Freedom of expression and interaction of the resulting opinions through which everyone voices the thoughts in their heads. Instead of whispering their thoughts secretly, they voice them out loud.

Eighth: Knowledge and work are values that have sublime goals, honorable purposes, and high targets.

Ninth: Faith in Arab unity is a goal and a purpose for our people.

Tenth: Achieving fair peace across the world is a goal and a demand.

Eleventh: Belief in the importance of living in a healthy sound environment is a goal on an environmentally fragile planet, under an ongoing loss of biological riches and biological diversity, and under aggravating water problems.

We, the masses of the Egyptian people, out of belief in God Almighty and his heavenly messages, in recognition of the rights of the country due on us, and in awareness of our national and human responsibilities, declare our acceptance of this Constitution, affirming our determination to uphold it, commit to its principles, and defend and respect it by all state citizens and public authorities.

Constitution of the Arab Republic of Egypt

Part One: The State

Article 1: Nature of the Republic, of the Egyptian people¹

The Arab Republic of Egypt is a sovereign state, united and indivisible, where nothing is dispensable, and its system is democratic and is based on citizenship.

The Egyptian people are part of the Arab and Muslim nations.

Article 2: Religion, language and source of legislation

Islam is the religion of the state and Arabic is its official language. The principles of Islamic Sharia are the principle source of legislation.

Article 3: Christian and Jewish religious affairs

The principles of the laws of Egyptian Christians and Jews are the main source of legislation regulating matters pertaining to personal status, religious affairs, and nomination of spiritual leaders.

Article 4: Al-Azhar

Al-Azhar is an encompassing independent Islamic institution, with exclusive competence over its own affairs. It is responsible for preaching Islam, theology, and the Arabic language. Al-Azhar's Grand Sheikh is independent and cannot be dismissed. The method of appointing the Grand Sheikh from among the members of the Council of Senior Scholars is to be determined by law.

The foregoing is regulated by law.

Article 5: Sovereignty

Sovereignty belongs exclusively to the people who are the source of power. The people exercise and protect sovereignty, and safeguard their national unity as provided in this Constitution.

Article 6: Political system

The political system is based on multi-party pluralism, the peaceful transfer of power, and the separation and balance of powers and within a frame of the basic components and principles of the Egyptian society as provided in this Constitution.

¹ Titles for each article have been included by International IDEA in this translation solely for ease of reference. The article titles are not to be attributed to the drafters and should not be used to inform interpretation. Chapter and section titles were translated from the original text.

Article 7: Egyptian nationality

Egyptian nationality is regulated by law.

Part Two: Basic Components of Society

Chapter One: Social and Moral Components

Article 8: Social justice and solidarity

Society is based on the principle of social solidarity.

The state commits to providing the means to achieve justice, and social support and solidarity between members of society. The foregoing is within the limits of the law.

Article 9: Equal opportunity

The state ensures equal opportunity for all citizens without discrimination.

Article 10: Family as the basis of society

Family is the basis of society and is based on religion, morality, and patriotism.

The state protects the genuine character of the Egyptian family, its cohesion and stability, and the consolidation of its moral values.

Article 11: Motherhood and Childhood

The state ensures protection and care for motherhood and childhood, the reconciliation between the duties of a woman toward her family and her work in the society, and a status equal to man in political, social, cultural, and economic areas of life without prejudice to the principles of Islamic Sharia.

The state provides special care and protection to breadwinning and divorced women as well as widows.

Article 12: Right to work, forced labour

Work is a right, a duty, and an honor guaranteed by the state.

There can be no forced labor except in accordance with the law and with the purpose of performing a public service against a fair wage.

Article 13: State employment

Public posts are a right to every citizen and an assignment to those undertaking them in service of the people. The state ensures their rights, protection, and undertaking their duties to serve the interests of

the people. They may not be dismissed unless by a disciplinary method and except in those situations set out by law.

Article 14: Right to strike

Striking peacefully is a right which is organized by law.

Article 15: Martyrs and wounded of the revolution

The state commits to honoring the martyrs, caring for the wounded of the revolution, war veterans, and the disappeared, as well as their wives and children. They are prioritized in employment opportunities in accordance with the law.

Article 16: Social security services

The state provides social security services.

All citizens who have no access to the health insurance system have the right to social security, if they are unable to support themselves and their families in case of incapacity, unemployment or old age, such that they are guaranteed a decent standard of living.

The state ensures funds for security and pension.

The state works to provide appropriate pensions to junior farmers, agricultural workers and informal labor in accordance with the law.

The state guarantees the funds of insurance and pensions.

Article 17: Health care

The state commits to providing health care to every citizen and allocates a sufficient percentage of the state budget for that purpose.

The state guarantees the provision of health care services to all citizens and for free for indigents.

In cases of emergency or danger to the life of a person, no human may be denied any form of medical treatment.

All health facilities are subject to the supervision and monitoring of the state in accordance with the law.

Article 18: Education

Every citizen has the right to education in accordance with quality criteria. Education is obligatory in the primary stage and is free throughout its stages in all state educational institutions. The state works to extend that obligation to other stages.

The state supervises all types of education and commits to allocating a sufficient percentage of the state budget for it.

All educational institutions, public and private, local and otherwise abide by the state's educational plans and objectives, with a view to creating a link between education and the needs of society and production.

Article 19: Academic independence

Universities, scientific and linguistic academies, and research centers are independent. The state provides them with a sufficient percentage of the state budget.

Article 20: Arabic language, religious education and national history

The Arabic language, religious education, and national history are core subjects of pre-university education.

Universities are committed to teaching morals and ethics relating to various disciplines.

Article 21: The eradication of illiteracy

The state commits to developing a comprehensive plan to eradicate illiteracy for males and females in all age groups. The state will implement this plan with society's participation.

Article 22: Civil titles

The institution of civil titles is prohibited.

Chapter Two: Economic Components

Article 23: The national economy

The national economy is based on developing economic activities and encouraging investment in accordance with a comprehensive development plan. The plan works to increase national income, achieve social justice and fair distribution, raise the standard of living, eliminate poverty and unemployment, increase job opportunities and production, maintain the rights of workers, and guarantee all types of property, its effective contribution in the implementation of the development plan and achieving its objectives. The development plan works to bridge the gaps between incomes by setting a minimum wage and pension to ensure a decent life for citizens, and setting a maximum wage in state agencies, public sector companies, and public business sector with no exceptions except as provided by law.

Article 24: Agriculture, industry and tourism

Agriculture, industry, tourism, and activities of relevance are basic components of the national economy. The state commits to protecting and developing them, and the law regulates their contribution to the development plan.

Article 25: Natural resources

Mineral riches and natural resources belong to the people, who have the right to their revenues. The state commits to preserving such resources, to their sound exploitation, and to take into consideration the rights of future generations.

It is prohibited to dispose of state property, or to grant the right to privilege to exploit such property, or to grant a concession to a public utility, except as permitted by law and for a specified period.

The law sets the provisions of disposing of state property, and the rules and procedures regulating that.

Article 26: The Nile

The state commits to protecting the Nile River, water resources, its beaches, seas, waterways, lakes, and natural reserves, to conserving them, and to removing any encroachments upon them. The use of such resources is organized by law.

Article 27: Monuments

The state commits to protecting and maintaining monuments, and to working to retrieve the ones taken.

Article 28: Public and private ownership

The state protects ownership, which is of three types:

Public ownership, private ownership, and cooperative ownership.

Article 29: Public property

Public property is inviolable and may not be touched. It is the duty of every citizen to protect it in accordance with the law.

Article 30: Private ownership

Private property is protected and performs a social function in service of the national economy without deviation or abuse. The right to inherit property is guaranteed. Private property may not be sequestered except in cases specified by law, and with a court order. Ownership of property may not be confiscated except for the public good and with just compensation.

Article 31: Cooperative property

The state cares for cooperative property, and the law guarantees its protection and support, and ensures its independence.

Article 32: Social justice

Social justice is the foundation of taxation and other public costs. Tax payment is a duty in accordance with the law.

Public taxes cannot be established, modified, or cancelled except by law. There can be no exemptions except in cases prescribed by law.

It is prohibited to require anyone to pay additional taxes or fees except within the limits of the law.

Article 33: Savings

Saving is a national duty that is protected and encouraged by the state. The state safeguards savings in accordance with the law.

Article 34: Nationalisation

Nationalization is not allowed except for the public interest, based on a law and against fair compensation.

Article 35: Confiscation of property

Public confiscation of property is prohibited.

Private confiscation is prohibited except based on a court judgment.

Article 36: Workers' share in management

Workers will share in the management and profits of enterprises. They are committed to the development of production, to the implementation of the plan in their production units in accordance with the law. Protection of the means of production is a national duty.

Workers' representatives may constitute 50 percent of the members of the boards of directors of public sector units, and may constitute 50 percent of the members of the boards of directors of the public business sector. The law guarantees that small farmers and small craftsmen's representatives should constitute no less than 80 per cent of the boards of directors of agricultural and industrial cooperatives.

Part Three: Public Rights, Freedoms, and Duties

Article 37: Human dignity

Dignity is a right to every human being. It is inviolable and the state commits to its respect and protection.

Article 38: Equality in public rights and duties

Citizens are equal before the law. They have equal public rights and duties without discrimination between them based on sex, gender, origin, language, religion, belief, or any other reason.

Article 39: Personal freedom

Personal freedom is a natural right. It is safeguarded and inviolable. Except in case of flagrante delicto, no person may be arrested, searched, detained, or prevented from exercising his freedoms except under a justified court order that will require an investigation.

Any person whose freedom has been restricted for these reasons must be informed of his rights in writing within 12 hours, and be presented to the investigating authority within 24 hours from the time in which his freedom was restricted. He can only be interrogated in the presence of his lawyer. In case of he does not have a lawyer, he is provided with a lawyer in accordance with the law.

All persons whose freedoms have been restricted, and others, have the right to appeal to the courts against the measure of arrest. The matter must be decided within a week. If the matter is not decided within a week, release becomes imperative.

The law organizes the rules of temporary detention, its duration and its causes, and the cases in which an individual is entitled to compensation from the state for having been temporarily detained, or for a sentence that was carried out pursuant to a final court ruling that has been annulled.

Article 40: Due process

Any person arrested, detained or whose freedom is restricted in any way, is treated in a manner that preserves his dignity. He may not be tortured, nor may he be intimidated, compelled, or physically or morally harmed. Individuals can only be detained or arrested in places that are humanely and hygienically suitable which the state is committed to provide and are subject to judicial supervision.

Any statement proved to have been made by a person under any of the aforementioned forms of duress, or pursuant to a threat, is considered invalid and cannot be relied upon.

Article 41: Supervision of prisons

Prison is subject to judicial supervision. Anything that violates human dignity or a person's health is prohibited in prison.

The law organizes the provisions of the rehabilitation of convicts and facilitates for them a dignified life after their release.

Article 42: Sanctity of correspondence

The private life of citizens is inviolable.

Postal correspondence wires, electronic correspondence, telephone calls and other means of communication are inviolable and their secrecy is guaranteed. They may not be confiscated, examined or monitored except by a justified judicial warrant, for a limited period of time and in situations that are set out by law.

Article 43: Inviolability of homes

Homes are inviolable. With the exception of cases of immediate danger and distress, they may not be entered, searched or monitored, except by a justified judicial warrant which specifies the place, timing and purpose, and in cases and in the manner defined by law. Any person who is located within a home is alerted before the home is entered or searched and must be shown the warrant issued for that matter.

Article 44: Right to safety

A safe life is a right to every human being. The state commits to providing safety and quiescence to its citizens and all residents on its territories.

Article 45: Inviolability of the human body

The human body is inviolable, and trafficking in human organs is prohibited.

No person may be subjected to any medical or scientific experiment without free, documented consent, and in accordance with the established foundations of medical science, and in the manner organized by law.

Article 46: Freedom of movement

Freedom of movement, residence and immigration is guaranteed.

No citizen may be deported from or prevented from returning to the country.

No citizen may be prevented from leaving the country, nor placed under house arrest, nor prevented from residing anywhere, except by virtue of a justified judicial warrant, for a limited period of time and in the cases defined by law.

Article 47: Freedom of belief

Freedom of belief is inviolable.

The state guarantees the freedom to practice religious rites and to establish places of worship for divine religions. This is as organized by law.

Article 48: Freedom of thought

Freedom of thought and opinion is guaranteed.

Every individual has the right to express an opinion and to disseminate it verbally, in writing or through illustration, or by any other means of publication and expression.

Article 49: Freedom of research and creativity

Freedom of scientific research and literary, artistic and cultural creativity is guaranteed by the state. The state advances science, the arts and literature. The state sponsors creators and inventors, protects their creations and innovations, and works to apply them for the benefit of society.

The state commits to preserve the cultural, civilization and national heritage. The state works to promote cultural services.

Article 50: Access to information

Access to information, data, statistics and documents, its disclosure from their different sources and transparent circulation is a right guaranteed by the state to all citizens, on the condition that this does not violate the sanctity of private life or the rights of others, and that it does not conflict with national security.

The law organizes the rules for filling and archiving public documents, and the means to access information.

Article 51: Freedom of the press

The freedom of the press, printing, publication and mass media is guaranteed. The media performs its duties freely, neutrally, and independently in the context of society's main components, values and traditions, and in the context of the preservation of rights, freedoms and public duties, of the respect for the sanctity of the private lives of citizens and the requirements of national security. The prohibition, closure or confiscation of media outlets is prohibited except with a court order.

It is prohibited to monitor whatever media outlets publish. An exception is permitted in the case of limited censorship that may be imposed when a state of emergency is declared or in times of war.

Article 52: Freedom of publication

Freedom to publish and own newspapers of all kinds is guaranteed subject to notification for every natural or moral Egyptian person in the manner organized by law.

The law organizes the establishment of radio stations, television broadcasting, digital media, and others.

Article 53: Freedom of assembly

Citizens have the right to organize public meetings, processions and peaceful demonstrations. They must be unarmed and must provide notification as regulated by the law.

The right to private assembly is guaranteed to citizens provided that they are quiet and unarmed without the need to prior notification. Security personnel may not attend, inspect, or eavesdrop on such meetings.

Article 54: Freedom to establish political parties

Citizens have the right to establish political parties subject to notification as organized by law. No political activity may be exercised on religious basis, and no political parties may be established on religious basis. No activity may be exercised and no party may be established based on discrimination because of sex or origin. No activity that is hostile to the order of society, that is secret, of military or paramilitary nature, may be exercised.

Political parties may only be dissolved by a court ruling.

Article 55: Right to establish associations

Citizens have the right to establish associations on a democratic basis, subject to notification. Such associations have legal personality and may operate freely.

Associations or their boards of directors may not be dissolved without a court order, in the manner prescribed by law.

Article 56: Right to form syndicates

The right to form syndicates and unions on a democratic basis is guaranteed by law. They have legal personality, operate freely, and participate in the service of the community, in raising the standard of efficiency among their members, in defending their rights and holding them accountable, and in protecting their funds.

Syndicates or their boards may not be dissolved other than through a court order.

Article 57: Trade unions

The law organizes professional trade unions and their management on a democratic basis, determines its assets, and the manner in which its members are to be held accountable for their conduct, which should be in accordance with professional codes of ethics. One trade union is allowed per profession.

Authorities may not disband the boards of trade unions, and may not place them under sequestration except with a court order.

Article 58: Environment

Every individual has the right to a sound healthy environment and its protection is a national duty. The state commits to taking the necessary measures to protect the environment, not to harm it, and protect the rights of future generations to it.

Article 59: Housing, clean water and nutrition

Adequate housing, clean water and healthy food are rights guaranteed by the state to citizens. The state commits to adopting a national housing plan, which is based on social justice, the promotion of independent initiatives and housing cooperatives, and the regulation of the use of national territory for the purposes of construction, in accordance with the public interest and with the rights of future generations.

Article 60: Rights of the child

Every child, from the moment of birth, has the right to a proper name, family care, basic nutrition, shelter, health services, and religious, emotional and cognitive development.

The state commits to caring and protecting the child. The state also guarantees the rights of disabled children, and their rehabilitation and integration into society.

Child labor is prohibited before passing the age of compulsory education.

A child may not be detained except for a limited period, and he must be provided with legal assistance, and be detained in an appropriate location away from places of adult detention.

Article 61: Rights of youth

The state guarantees care for youth and the disabled, their rehabilitation, and their spiritual, moral, cultural, educational, physical, psychological, social and economic development. The state offers them job opportunities, and provides them with a conducive environment to develop their different skills and abilities, and to enable them to engage in active political participation.

The state adopts programs sufficient to develop the social culture of the disabled and prepares public utilities to be in line with their needs.

Article 62: Right to address public authorities

Every individual has the right to address public authorities in writing and under his own signature. Addressing public authorities should not be in the name of groups, with the exception of legal persons.

Article 63: Duty to safeguard national security

Safeguarding national security, defending the motherland and protecting its soil is an honor and a sacred duty. Conscription is obligatory in accordance with the law.

Article 64: Citizen participation in public life

Citizen participation in public life is a national duty. Every citizen has the right to vote, run for elections, and express opinions in referenda. The law organizes the direct application of these rights. Exemptions from this duty may be made in certain cases specified by law.

The state is responsible for the inclusion of the name of every citizen who satisfies the conditions to vote in a voters' database and must do so automatically in accordance with the law. The state also commits to auditing this database periodically.

The state ensures the validity, impartiality and integrity of referenda and elections.

Article 65: Egyptians living abroad

The state safeguards the interests of Egyptians living abroad, protects them and guarantees their rights and freedom, assists them to perform their public duties toward the Egyptian state and society, and encourages their contribution to the development of the nation.

The law regulates their participation in elections and referenda in a manner that suits their situation without being restricted by the provisions of voting, counting, and announcement of results, which are set out in this Constitution. The foregoing takes place without prejudice to the guarantees ensuring the integrity and neutrality of the electoral process or referendum.

Article 66: Exploitation and human trafficking

All forms of oppression, forced exploitation of human beings, sex trafficking, and other forms of human trafficking are prohibited.

The law criminalizes these acts and specifies the penalties inflicted when any of them is committed.

Article 67: Asylum

The state grants asylum to all foreigners who are persecuted for defending the interests of people, human rights, peace or justice.

Extradition of political refugees is prohibited in accordance with the law.

Article 68: Limitations clause

The rights and freedoms inherent in the citizen's person cannot be suspended or detracted from.

No law may regulate the exercise of these rights or freedoms in a way that constrains their origin and essence.

Part Four: Rule of Law

Article 69: Rule of law

The rule of law is the basis for governance in the state.

The state is subject to law, and the independence and immunity of judges are two basic guarantees to safeguard rights and freedoms.

Article 70: Punishment

Penalty is personalized. There can be no crime or penalty except by virtue of the law. No penalty can be imposed except by virtue of a court decision. Penalties are inflicted only for acts committed after promulgation of the relevant law.

Article 71: Due process

A defendant is innocent until proven guilty in a legal and fair trial, in which he is granted the right of defending himself.

Every person accused of a felony must have a lawyer to defend him. The law determines the minor offenses for which a defense lawyer is also required.

The state provides protection for victims of crime, witnesses, defendants and informants where necessary.

Article 72: Right to litigate

The right to litigation is inalienable and guaranteed for all.

The state commits to making judicial institutions accessible and to encouraging a rapid decision making process.

It is prohibited to isolate any act or administrative decision from judicial oversight.

No person can be tried except before his natural judge. Exceptional courts are prohibited.

Article 73: Right to defense

The right to defense in person or by proxy is guaranteed.

The law guarantees for indigents the means to resort to the courts and to defend their rights.

Article 74: Violation of personal freedom

Any violation of the personal freedom or the sanctity of the private life of citizens, and any other rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution and law is a crime for which there is no statute of limitation. The state guarantees fair compensation to the victim of such encroachment.

The National Council for Human Rights may inform the Public Prosecution of any violation of these rights. All the foregoing takes place as set out by law.

Article 75: Implementation of court decisions

Court decisions are issued and implemented in the name of the people. Refraining from implementing them or obstructing their implementation by competent public civil servants is a crime punishable by law. The injured party has the right to lodge a direct criminal action before the competent court.

Part Five: System of Government

Chapter One: Legislative Authority (People's Assembly)

Article 76: Legislative power

The People's Assembly holds legislative power, and is responsible for approving the state's general policy, the general plan for economic and social development and the annual state budget law. It exercises oversight over the executive branch's work. All the foregoing takes place as set out by the Constitution.

The law specifies the way of developing the general plan of economic and social development and presenting it to the Assembly.

Article 77: Composition

The People's Assembly is composed of no less than four hundred and fifty members elected by direct, secret public balloting.

A candidate for the membership of the Assembly must be an Egyptian citizen, enjoying civil and political rights, a holder of at least a certificate of basic education, and no younger than 25 years old at the time of candidacy.

Other requirements of nomination, the electoral system, and the division of electoral districts are defined by law, taking into account a fair representation of population and governorates and equal representation of voters.

Article 78: Prohibition on double membership

Except for extraordinary cases identified by law, a member of the People's Assembly devotes himself to the tasks of membership and his post is kept in accordance with the law.

The law identifies the cases where a People's Assembly membership cannot be combined with another post or any other business.

Article 79: Oath

Prior to the start of his tenure, a member of the People's Assembly takes the following oath: "I swear by Almighty God to loyally uphold the republican system, to respect the Constitution and the law, to fully

look after the interests of the people, and to safeguard the independence and territorial integrity of the motherland.”

Article 80: Remuneration

Member’s remuneration is determined by law. In case remuneration is modified, the modification does not come into effect until the legislative term following the one when it was adopted begins.

Article 81: Term

The term of membership is five calendar years, commencing from the date of its first session.

Elections for a new Assembly are held during the 60 days preceding the end of term for the previous Assembly.

Article 82: Decisions on the validity of membership

The Court of Cassation has jurisdiction over the validity of membership of members of the People’s Assembly. Challenges are submitted to the Court within a period not exceeding 30 days from date on which the final election results are announced. A verdict must be passed within 60 days from the date on which the challenge is filed.

Where a membership is deemed invalid, it becomes void from the date on which the verdict is reported to the Assembly.

Article 83: Vacancy

If a People’s Assembly member’s seat becomes vacant six months before the end of his term, the vacant position must be filled in accordance with the law within 60 days from the date on which the vacancy is first reported by the Assembly.

The new member’s term is complementary to that of his predecessor.

Article 84: Property and financial regulations

No People’s Assembly member may, throughout his tenure, whether in person or through an intermediary, purchase or rent any piece of state property, or any artificial persons, public sector companies, or the public business sector. Nor is he allowed to lease or sell to or barter with the state any part of his own property, nor conclude a contract with the state as vendors, suppliers, contractors or others.

A member must submit a financial disclosure upon taking office, upon leaving it and at the end of every year.

If, in relation to his membership, he should receive cash or in-kind gifts, such gifts are transferred to the state treasury.

The foregoing is organized by law.

Article 85: Revocation of membership

The membership of any member may only be revoked if a member has lost trust, status or any of the conditions for membership on the basis of which he was elected, or if the duties of membership have been violated.

The decision to revoke membership is issued by a majority of two-thirds the members of the People's Assembly.

Article 86: Resignation

The People's Assembly accepts the resignation of its members, which must be submitted in writing, and to be accepted must not be submitted after the Assembly has started measure of revoking membership against the resigning member.

Article 87: Members' opinions

A People's Assembly member cannot be held accountable for any opinions relating to his work in the Assembly or its committees.

Article 88: Immunity

It is prohibited, except in cases of flagrante delicto, to take criminal action, according to articles of felonies and minor offenses, against a member without prior permission from the People's Assembly. If not in session, permission must be granted by the People's Assembly's Bureau, and the Assembly must be notified of the decision as soon as it is in session.

In all cases, if a request for permission to take legal action against a member does not receive a response within 30 days, the permission is to be considered granted.

Article 89: Seat of parliament

The seat of the People's Assembly is in Cairo.

However, in exceptional circumstances, the Assembly may hold meetings elsewhere, at the request of the President of the Republic or one-third of the Assembly's members.

Any meetings of the Assembly that do not conform with the foregoing are invalid, including any decisions that may have been passed.

Article 90: Convocation by the President of the Republic

The President of the Republic convokes the People's Assembly for its ordinary annual session before the first Thursday of October. If such convocation is not made, the Assembly is required by the Constitution to meet on that day.

The ordinary session continues for at least eight months. The President of the Republic brings the annual session to a close with the approval of the Assembly only after the state's general budget has been adopted.

Article 91: Extraordinary sessions

It is possible for the People's Assembly to be called to an extraordinary meeting to look into an urgent matter based on a request by the President of the Republic, or upon a request signed by at least 10 members from the Assembly.

Article 92: Election of speaker and deputy speakers

The People's Assembly elects, in the first meeting of its regular annual session, a speaker and two deputy speakers for the full legislative term. If either seat becomes vacant, the Assembly elects a replacement, whose term will last until the end of his predecessor's. The Assembly's rules of procedure set out the rules and procedures of election.

If the speaker, deputies, or one of them holds a partisan post, he has to relinquish it upon his election. If any of them fails to abide by this commitment or violates the provisions of the Constitution, one third of the Assembly members may request to withdraw confidence from him. A decision of confidence withdrawal is issued by a majority of two thirds of the members of the Assembly.

If on account of a temporary obstacle, the Speaker of the Assembly is rendered unable to carry out his functions, or to assume the position of the President of the Republic on temporary basis, the longest-serving of the two deputies assumes the position of the Assembly Speaker for that duration.

Article 93: Rules of procedure

The People's Assembly establishes its own rules of procedure regulating its work, the manner of practicing its functions, and maintaining order in it. The rules of procedure are issued by virtue of a law.

Article 94: Internal order

The People's Assembly maintains its internal order, a responsibility assumed by the Speaker of the Assembly.

Article 95: Public and in camera sessions

The sessions of the People's Assembly are held in public.

The Assembly may hold a closed session based on a request by the President of the Republic, the Speaker of the Assembly, or at least 20 of its members. The Assembly will decide whether the debate on the question takes place in a public or a closed session.

Article 96: Quorum and required majority

The meetings of the Assembly and the resolutions it passes are not considered valid unless attended by the majority of its members.

In cases other than those requiring a special majority, resolutions are adopted based on an absolute majority of the members present. In case of a tie of vote, the matter in deliberation is considered rejected.

Article 97: Right to propose laws

The President of the Republic, the government, and every member of the People's Assembly has the right to propose laws.

Every bill is referred to a specialized committee of the Assembly to study and submit a report about it. As for the bills presented by members of the Assembly, they cannot be referred to that committee before being studied by a special committee to express an opinion on whether the Assembly should look into them, and after the Assembly approves such.

Any bill proposed by a member but rejected by the Assembly may not be presented again during the same legislative term.

Article 98: Presidential veto

The President of the Republic has the right to issue or object to laws.

If the President of the Republic objects to a draft law approved by the People's Assembly, it must be referred back to the Assembly within 30 days of its receipt. If the draft law is not referred back to the Assembly within this period, it is considered a law and is issued.

If it is referred back to the Assembly within the right period, and is approved again by a majority of two-thirds of its members, it is considered a law and is issued.

If it is not approved by the Assembly, it may not be presented in the same session before four months have passed from the date of the decision.

Article 99: Budget law

The state budget includes all of its revenue and expenditure without exception. The draft budget is submitted to the People's Assembly at least 90 days before the beginning of the fiscal year. It is not considered in effect unless approved thereby, and it is put to vote on a chapter-by-chapter basis.

The Assembly may modify the expenditures in the draft budget law, except those proposed to honor a specific state liability.

Should the modification result in an increase in total expenditure, the Assembly agrees with the government on means to secure revenue resources to achieve a balance between them. The budget is issued in a law, which may include modification in any existing law to the extent necessary to realize such balance.

In all cases, the budget law may not include any text that incurs new burdens on citizens.

The specifics of the fiscal year, the method of budget preparation, the provisions of the budgets of institutions, public bodies, and their accounts are defined by law.

The approval of the People's Assembly is necessary for the transfer of any funds from one chapter of the budget to another, as well as for any expenditure not included therein or in excess of its estimates. The approval is issued in a law.

Article 100: Final account of the state budget

The final account of the state budget is submitted to the People's Assembly within a period not exceeding 6 months from the end of the fiscal year. The annual report of the Central Auditing Organization and the latter's observations on the final account must be attached.

The final account of the state budget is put to vote on a chapter-by-chapter basis and is issued by law.

The Assembly has the right to request from the Central Auditing Organization any additional data or pertinent reports.

Article 101: Collection and disbursement of public funds

The basic rules for collection of public funds and the procedure for their disbursement are regulated by the law.

Article 102: Approval for contracting loans

The executive authority may not contract a loan, obtain a fund, or commit itself to a project entailing expenditure from the state treasury for a subsequent period, except with the approval of the People's Assembly.

Article 103: Salaries, pensions, indemnities, subsidies and bonuses

The rules governing salaries, pensions, indemnities, subsidies, and bonuses taken from the state treasury are regulated by law, so are the cases for exception from such rules, and the authorities in charge of their application.

Article 104: Questions to the prime minister, to ministers or their deputies

Every member of the People's Assembly may submit questions to the Prime Minister, to one of his deputies, to a minister, or their deputies who is in relation to any matter that falls under their mandate. It is obligatory to respond.

The member may withdraw his question at any time. A question cannot become an interrogation in the same session.

Article 105: Interrogations to the prime minister, to ministers or their deputies

Every member of the People's Assembly may address interrogations to the Prime Minister, to the Prime Minister's deputies, to ministers, or to their deputies in relation to urgent matters of public importance.

Debate on an interrogation takes place at least seven days after its submission, except in cases of urgency as decided by the Assembly and with the government's consent.

Article 106: No confidence

The People's Assembly may decide to withdraw its confidence from the Prime Minister, a deputy of the Prime Minister, ministers, or their deputies.

A motion of no confidence may be submitted only after an interrogation, upon proposal by one-tenth of the members of the People's Assembly. The Assembly should reach a decision within seven days from the date of debating the motion. A withdrawal of confidence requires a majority of the People's Assembly's members to be successful.

In all cases, a no confidence motion may not be passed in connection with an issue that had already been decided upon in the same juridical term.

If the Assembly decides to withdraw confidence from the Prime Minister, one of his deputies, a minister, or their deputies and the government announced its solidarity with him before the vote, then that government is obliged to offer its resignation. If the no confidence resolution concerns a certain member of the government, that member is obliged to resign from his office.

Article 107: Requesting a discussion of a public issue

Any 20 members of the People's Assembly at least may request the discussion of a public issue to obtain clarification on the government's policy on that same issue.

Article 108: Proposition to the Prime Minister

Any member of the People's Assembly may propose to the Prime Minister, one of his deputies, any minister, or their deputies the discussion of a public issue.

Article 109: Requesting a briefing of a statement from the government

Every member of the People's Assembly may request an urgent briefing or a statement from the Prime Minister, the Prime Minister's deputies, any minister, or his deputies in relation to urgent matters of public importance.

Article 110: Special investigative committees

The People's Assembly may form a special committee or entrust one of its existing committees to examine the activities of any administrative department or institution or public enterprise, for the purpose of fact-finding regarding a specific issue and informing the People's Assembly of the actual financial, administrative or economic status, or for conducting investigations into a past activity; the Assembly decides on the appropriate course of action.

In order to carry out its mission, such a committee would be entitled to collect the evidence it deems necessary and to summon individuals for interviews. All executive and administrative bodies respond to demands by the committee and put under its disposal all the documents, evidence, or anything otherwise required.

Article 111: Government attendance of parliamentary sessions

The Prime Minister, his deputies, ministers and their deputies may attend the sessions of either the People's Assembly or of any of their committees. Their attendance is obligatory if requested by the Assembly. They may be assisted by high-ranking officials of their choice.

They are to be heard whenever they request to speak. They answer questions pertaining to issues that are in discussion, but cannot vote when votes are taken.

Article 112: Dissolution

The President of the Republic may not dissolve the People's Assembly except by a causative decision and following a public referendum. The People's Assembly may not be dissolved for the same cause for which the previous Assembly was dissolved.

To dissolve the People's Assembly, the President must issue a decision to suspend parliamentary sessions and hold a referendum within no more than 20 days. If voters agree by a valid majority on the dissolution, the President of the Republic issues the decision of dissolution. The President calls for early parliamentary elections to take place within no more than 30 days from the date of the decision issuance. The new Assembly convenes within the 10 days following the completion of elections.

Article 113: Written proposals to the parliament

Citizens may submit written proposals to the People's Assembly regarding public issues. Citizens may also submit complaints to the People's Assembly to be referred to the relevant ministers. Based on the Assembly's request, the minister may provide a clarification, and the citizen who issued the complaint is informed of the result.

Chapter Two: Executive Authority

Section 1: The President of the Republic

Article 114: Mandate

The President of the Republic is the head of state and chief of the executive branch of government. He defends the interests of the people, safeguards the independence and territorial integrity of the motherland, and carries out his responsibilities in the manner prescribed in the Constitution.

Article 115: Term

The President of the Republic is elected for a period of four calendar years, commencing on the day the his predecessor's term ends. The President may only be reelected once.

The process of the presidential election begins at least 120 days before the end of the presidential term. The result is to be announced at least 30 days before the end of term.

The President of the Republic may not hold any partisan position for the duration of the presidency.

Article 116: Eligibility

A presidential candidate must be Egyptian born to Egyptian parents, must never have carried, no other citizenship, neither of this parents must have carried any other citizenship. He must have civil and political rights, cannot be married to a non-Egyptian, and at the time of nomination cannot be younger than 40 Gregorian years. Other requirements for candidacy are set out by law.

Article 117: Conditions for nomination

A prerequisite for nomination to the presidency is a recommendation by at least 20 elected members of the People's Assembly, or endorsements from at least 20,000 citizens who have the right to vote, in at least 10 governorates, with a minimum of 1,000 endorsements from each governorate.

In all cases, no one can endorse more than one candidate. This is organized by law.

Article 118: Method of election

The President of the Republic is elected by direct secret ballot, with an absolute majority of valid votes. The procedures for electing the President of the Republic are regulated by law.

Article 119: Oath

Before assuming the presidential position, the President of the Republic takes the following oath before the People's Assembly: "I swear by Almighty God to loyally uphold the republican system, to respect the

Constitution and the law, to fully look after the interests of the people and to safeguard the independence and territorial integrity of the motherland.”

In case the People’s Assembly is dissolved, the oath is to be taken before the Supreme Constitutional Court.

Article 120: Finances

The President of the Republic’s finances are stipulated by law. The President cannot receive any other salary or remuneration. No modification to the salary may come into effect during the presidential term. The president may not engage throughout the presidential term, whether in person or through an intermediary, in an independent profession or business, nor is the President allowed to buy or rent state property, nor lease or sell to or barter with the state any part of their own property, nor conclude a contract with the state as vendor, supplier, contractor or other.

The President must submit a financial disclosure upon taking office, upon leaving it, and at the end of each year. The disclosure is to be published in the Official Gazette.

Throughout the presidential term, the President of the Republic may not award himself any orders, badges or medals.

If, in relation to the presidential post, the President receives, in person or through an intermediary, cash or in-kind gifts, such gifts are transferred to the state treasury.

Article 121: Government formation

The President of the Republic nominates the Prime Minister, who is assigned by the President the task of forming a government and presenting its program to the People’s Assembly within 30 days. If the government is not granted confidence, the President appoints another Prime Minister from the party that holds a plurality seats in the People’s Assembly. If his government does not obtain confidence within a similar period, the People’s Assembly appoints a Prime Minister who is assigned by the President the task of forming a government, provided said government obtains parliamentary confidence within a similar period. Otherwise, the President of the Republic dissolves the People’s Assembly and calls for the elections of a new People’s Assembly within 60 days from the date the dissolution is announced.

In all cases, the sum of the periods set forth in this Article should not exceed 90 days.

In the case the People’s Assembly is dissolved, the Prime Minister presents the government and its program to the new People’s Assembly at its first session.

Article 122: Agency through government

The President of the Republic exercises presidential authority via the Prime Minister, his deputies and ministers, except those authorities related to defense, national security and foreign policy, and the authorities set out in Articles 97, 121, 126, 127, 128 and 147 of the Constitution.

Article 123: Delegation of authority

The President of the Republic may delegate part of his mandate to the Prime Minister, to his deputies, to ministers or governors. This will be organized by law.

Article 124: Power to call government meetings

The President of the Republic may call for government meetings to discuss important matters, and presides over such meetings.

Article 125: Statement on the state's general policy

The President of the Republic delivers a statement on the state's general policy before the People's Assembly at the opening of its regular annual session.

The President may make other statements or convey other messages to the Assembly.

Article 126: Foreign relations

The President of the Republic represents the state in foreign relations and concludes treaties and ratifies them after the approval of the People's Assembly. Such treaties have the force of law after ratification and publication, according to the provisions of the Constitution.

With regards to any treaty of peace and alliance, and all treaties related to the rights of sovereignty, voters must be called for a referendum, and they are not to be ratified before the approval of a valid majority of the participants in the referendum is obtained.

In all cases, no treaty which is contrary to the provisions of the Constitution or which leads to reducing the state territories can be approved.

Article 127: Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces

The President of the Republic is the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces. The President cannot declare war, or send the armed forces outside state territory, except after consultation with the National Defense Council and the approval of the People's Assembly with a two-thirds majority of its members.

Article 128: Appointment of civil and military personnel

The President of the Republic appoints civil and military personnel and dismisses them, appoints diplomatic representatives and removes them, and confirms political representatives of foreign countries and organizations. This is organized by law.

Article 129: State of emergency

The President of the Republic declares, after consultation with the government, a state of emergency in the manner regulated by law. Such proclamation must be submitted to People's Assembly within the following seven days to consider it.

If the declaration takes place when the People's Assembly is not in regular session, a session is called immediately to consider the declaration. In case the People's Assembly is dissolved, the matter is submitted to the new Assembly in its first session.

In all cases, the declaration of a state of emergency must be approved by a majority of members of the People's Assembly. The declaration is for a specified period not exceeding three months, which can only be extended by another similar period upon the approval of two-thirds of the Assembly members.

The People's Assembly cannot be dissolved while a state of emergency is in place.

Article 130: Pardon and amnesty

The President of the Republic may issue a pardon or mitigate a sentence.

General amnesty may only be granted in a law, which is ratified by a majority of members of the People's Assembly.

Article 131: Decree power

In the absence of the People's Assembly, and where there is a requirement for urgent measures that cannot be delayed, the President of the Republic may issue decrees that have the force of law.

These decrees are then presented to the People's Assembly within 15 days from the start of their issuance if the Assembly is in place, or in its first session if it is dissolved or its sessions are suspended. If such decrees are not presented to the Assembly or if they are presented but not approved, their legality is revoked retroactively, unless the Assembly affirms their validity for the previous period, or chooses to settle the consequent effects.

Article 132: Referenda

The President of the Republic may call for a referendum on important issues relating to the supreme interests of the state without prejudice to the provisions of the Constitution.

If the call for a referendum relates to more than one issue, the people must vote on each individual issue.

Article 133: Resignation

For the President of the Republic to resign, a letter of resignation must be presented to the People's Assembly.

Article 134: Treason

A charge of violation of the Constitution, high treason or any other felony against the President of the Republic is to be based on a motion signed by at least one-third of the members of the People's Assembly. An impeachment is to be issued only by a two-thirds majority of the members of the People's Assembly and after an investigation to be carried out by the Prosecutor General.

As soon as an impeachment decision has been issued, the President of the Republic ceases all work; this is treated as a temporary obstacle preventing the President from carrying out presidential duties until a verdict is reached.

The President of the Republic is tried before a special court headed by the president of the Supreme Judicial Council, the longest-serving deputies of the president of the Supreme Constitutional Court and of the State Council, and the two longest-serving presidents of the Court of Appeals; the prosecution to be carried out before such court by the Prosecutor General. If any of the foregoing individuals are prevented from leaving their positions, they are replaced by order of seniority. The court verdicts are irrevocable and not subject to challenge.

The law organizes the investigation and the trial procedures. In the case of conviction, the President of the Republic is relieved of his post, without prejudice to other penalties.

Article 135: Incapacity

If on account of a temporary obstacle, the President of the Republic is rendered unable to carry out the presidential functions, the Prime Minister acts in his place.

If the Presidential office becomes vacant, due to resignation, death, permanent inability to work or any other reason, the People's Assembly announces the vacancy and notifies the National Elections Commission. The Speaker of the People's Assembly temporarily assumes the presidential authorities.

In case the People's Assembly is dissolved, the General Assembly of the Supreme Constitutional Court and its chairman replace the People's Assembly and its Speaker.

In all cases, a new president must be elected during a period not exceeding 120 days from the date the office became vacant. The presidential term, in which case, commences as of the date the result of elections is announced.

The person acting in place of the President is not allowed to run for office, request any amendment to the Constitution, dissolve the Parliament or dismiss the government.

Article 136: Vacancy

If the vacancy of the presidential office occurs at the same time that a referendum or the election of the People's Assembly is being held, the presidential elections are given priority. The existing parliament continues in place until the completion of the presidential elections.

Section Two: The Government

Article 137: Composition

The government is the supreme executive and administrative organization of the state and it consists of the Prime Minister, the Prime Minister's deputies, the ministers, and their deputies.

The Prime Minister heads the government, oversees its work, and directs it in the performance of its functions.

Article 138: Conditions of membership

A person appointed to the position of Prime Minister or any other position in the government must be an Egyptian citizen, enjoying civil and political rights, over the age of 30, not having carried the citizenship, neither himself nor any of his parents, of any other country, and not married to a non-Egyptian.

It is prohibited to hold a position in the government in addition to membership in either the People's Assembly. If a member of the Assembly is appointed to the government, his place in the Assembly is vacated as of the date of this appointment.

Article 139: Oath

Before assuming their duties, the Prime Minister and members of government take the following oath before the President of the Republic: "I swear by Almighty God to loyally uphold the republican system, to respect the Constitution and the law, to fully look after the interests of the people and to safeguard the independence and territorial integrity of the motherland."

Article 140: Finances

The finances of the Prime Minister and of members of government are stipulated by law. They cannot receive any other salary or remuneration, nor engage throughout the term of their posts, whether in person or through an intermediary, in independent professions or business. Nor are they allowed to buy or rent state property, nor lease or sell to or barter with the state any part of their own property, nor conclude a contract with the state as vendors, suppliers, contractors or others.

The Prime Minister and members of government must submit a financial disclosure upon taking office, upon leaving it and at the end of each year. The disclosure is to be published in the Official Gazette.

If, in relation to their posts, they should receive cash or in-kind gifts, such gifts are transferred to the state treasury. The foregoing is organized by law.

Article 141: Mandate

The government exercises the following functions in particular:

1. Collaborate with the President of the Republic in laying down the state's public policy and overseeing its implementation.
2. Direct, coordinate and follow up on the work of the ministries and their affiliated public bodies and organizations.
3. Prepare draft laws and decrees.
4. Issue administrative decisions in accordance with the law, and monitor their implementation.
5. Prepare the draft annual state budget law.
6. Prepare the draft development plan of the state.
7. Contract and grant loans in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.
8. Implement laws, maintain state security and protect the rights of the citizens and the interests of the state.

Article 142: General policy of individual ministers

The Minister draws up his ministry's general policy, supervises its implementation and offers guidance and control, in the framework of the state's public policy.

Article 143: Statements before parliament

A government member may make a statement before the People's Assembly, or one of its committees, concerning any matters within their mandate.

The Assembly or the committee may discuss such a statement and convey its position regarding it.

Article 144: Issuance of regulations

The Prime Minister issues necessary regulations for the enforcement of laws, in such a manner that does not involve any disruption, modification, or exemption from their enforcement, and has the right to vest others with the authority to issue them, unless the law designates who should issue the necessary regulations for its own implementation.

Article 145: Issuance of regulations on public services

The Prime Minister issues the regulations necessary for the creation and organization of public utilities and interests upon the approval of the cabinet of ministers.

Article 146: Disciplinary regulations

The Prime Minister issues disciplinary regulations upon the approval of the cabinet of ministers.

Article 147: Accusations against the government

The President of the Republic and the People's Assembly, based on a motion signed by at least one-fifth of its members, have the right to accuse the Prime Minister or any of the members of the government concerning crimes committed during their term of office or in relation to their work. Charges are brought with the approval of a majority of the members of the People's Assembly after an investigation conducted by the Prosecutor General.

An accused member of government is relieved of their post until a verdict is reached. The end of their term of service does not preclude the start or resumption of prosecution.

The law organizes the procedures of the investigation and trial.

Article 148: Resignation

If the Prime Minister offers his resignation, the letter of resignation must be presented to the President of the Republic. If a minister offers his resignation, it must be presented to the Prime Minister.

Section Three: The Local Administration

Article 149: Local administrative units

The state is divided into local administrative units that have legal personality. They incorporate governorates, cities and villages. Other administrative units that have legal personality may be established, if the public interest requires it.

The law ensures supporting decentralization, and organizes empowering administrative units in providing local services that reinvigorates them and improves their administration.

Article 150: Technical, administrative and financial assistance from the state

The state guarantees that it will satisfy the local units' needs in terms of technical, administrative and financial assistance, and ensures the equitable distribution of facilities, services and resources, and works to bring development levels and living standards in these units to a common standard. This will be organized by law.

Article 151: Local taxes and fees

Local units' income includes original and additional taxes and fees of a local nature. The unit follows the same rules and procedures in the collection of public funds as followed by the state.

No fees may be imposed on the transportation of goods or individuals across governorates.

The foregoing is regulated by law.

Article 152: Selection of governors, mandate

The law regulates the manner in which governors and heads of other local administrative units are selected, and defines their mandate.

Article 153: Election of local councils

Every local unit elects a local council by direct, secret ballot for a term of four years. A candidate must be no younger than 21 years old. The law regulates other conditions for nomination, procedures of election, mandate of these councils, their financial sources, guarantees of their members, their independence and their role in developing and implementing the development plan and in monitoring the activity's different aspects.

Article 154: Local council decisions

Local council decisions that are issued within the council's mandate are final. They are not subject to interference from the executive authority, except to prevent the council from overstepping limits, or causing damage to public interest or the interests of other local councils.

Any dispute over the jurisdiction of a local council is dealt with as a matter of urgency by the General Assembly of the Legal Opinion and Legislation Departments of the State Council. The foregoing is organized by law.

Article 155: Budget and final accounts

Every local council is in charge of its own budget and final accounts, in the manner organized by law.

Article 156: Dissolution of local councils

It is prohibited to dissolve local councils as part of a comprehensive administrative procedure.

The procedure to dissolve and reelect local councils is organized by law.

Chapter Three: The Judiciary

Section One: General Provisions

Article 157: Judicial independence

The judiciary is independent. It is vested in courts of justice of different types and degrees, which issue their judgments in accordance with the law. Its powers are defined by law. Interference in judicial affairs or in proceedings is a crime to which no statute of limitations may be applied.

Article 158: Independence in the administration of judicial affairs, veto

All judicial bodies administer their own affairs. Each has an independent budget, which is incorporated in the state budget as a single figure, and is consulted on the draft laws governing its affairs. It is approved by two-thirds of the members of the People's Assembly.

Article 159: The independence of judges

Judges are independent, cannot be dismissed, are subject to no other authority but the law, and are equal in rights and duties. The conditions and procedures for their appointment, secondment, delegation and retirement are regulated by the law. All the foregoing takes place in a manner that preserves the independence of the judiciary.

Article 160: Public sessions

Court sessions are public, unless, for reasons of public order or morals, the court deems them confidential. In all cases, the verdict is given in an open session.

Section Two: The Courts and Public Prosecution

Article 161: Mandate

The judiciary adjudicates all disputes and crimes except for matters that are to be decided by another judicial body. Only the judiciary settles any disputes relating to the affairs of its members.

Article 162: Public prosecution

The public prosecution is an integral part of the judiciary. It is responsible for investigating, pressing charges and following up in all criminal cases except what is exempted by law. The law establishes the public prosecution's other competencies.

Public prosecution is carried out by a Prosecutor General who is appointed by the President of the Republic, upon the approval of the Supreme Judicial Council from among the Deputies to the President of the Court of Cassation, the Presidents of the Court of Appeals and Assistant Prosecutor Generals, for

a period of four years, or for the period remaining until retirement age, whichever comes first, and only once during a judge's career.

Section Three: The State Council

Article 163: Mandate

The State Council is an independent judicial body that exclusively undertakes adjudicating in administrative disputes, lawsuits, disciplinary appeals, and disputes pertaining to the implementation of its decisions. It also adjudicates in legal issues to be determined by law, reviews and drafts bills and resolutions of legislative character, and reviews contracts to which the state or any public entity is a party. Other competencies are to be determined by law.

Section Four: The Supreme Constitutional Court

Article 164: Mandate and procedures

The Supreme Constitutional Court is an independent judicial body. It is based in Cairo.

It is exclusively competent to decide on the constitutionality of laws and regulations, interprets texts of the Constitution and legislative texts, and adjudicates in disputes pertaining to the affairs of its members and to the implementation of its rulings and decisions.

The law defines the Court's other competencies and regulates the procedures that are to be followed before the Court.

Article 165: Composition

The Court is made up of a president and a sufficient number of vice-presidents.

The President of the Court is appointed by decree from the President of the Republic to be selected from among the longest-serving vice-presidents of the court, upon the approval of the general assembly of the Court.

The Court's Vice-President is appointed by decree from the President of the Republic, upon the approval of the Court's general assembly.

The Commissioners Authority of the Supreme Constitutional Court is composed of a president and a sufficient number of presidents in the authority, advisors and assistant advisors. They are entitled to all of the listed securities, benefits, rights and duties.

The foregoing takes place in the manner defined by the law.

Article 166: Publication of decisions in the Official Gazette

The Official Gazette publishes verdicts issued on constitutional lawsuits and decisions interpreting texts of the Constitution and legislative texts.

The effects of a decision on the unconstitutionality of a legislative text are organized by law.

Section Five: Judicial Bodies

Article 167: The Association of State Affairs

The Association of State Affairs is an independent judicial body. It undertakes the legal representation of the state in disputes to which the state is party. It may propose settling of disputes at any stage of litigation in accordance with the law. Its other competencies are defined by law.

Its members share immunities, securities, rights and duties assigned to other members of the judiciary.

Article 168: The Administrative Prosecution

The Administrative Prosecution is an independent judicial body. It investigates financial and administrative irregularities, raises proceedings and disciplinary appeals in accordance with the law. Other competencies are defined by law.

Its members share immunities, securities, rights and duties assigned to other members of the judiciary.

Section Six: The Legal Profession

Article 169: Independence

The legal profession is a liberal profession and a cornerstone of justice. It is practiced by lawyers independently and is safeguarded by guarantees that protect them and enable them to carry out their work, in the manner regulated by law.

Chapter Four: The Armed Forces and Police

Section One: The Armed Forces

Article 170: Mandate

The armed forces belong to the people. Their duty is to protect the country, and preserve its security and territories. The state is exclusively mandated to establish armed forces. No individual, entity, organization or group is allowed to create military or para-military structures, groups or organizations.

The armed forces have a Supreme Council as regulated by law.

Article 171: Minister of defense

The Minister of Defense is the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces, appointed from among its officers upon the approval of the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces.

Article 172: Public mobilization

The law regulates public mobilization and defines the conditions of service, promotion and retirement in the armed forces.

The judicial committees for officers and personnel of the armed forces are exclusively competent for adjudicating in all administrative disputes pertaining to decisions affecting them. The law regulates the rules and procedures of challenging the decisions of these committees.

Section Two: The National Defense Council

Article 173: Composition and mandate

A National Defense Council is established, presided over by the President of the Republic and including in its membership the Prime Minister, the Speaker of the People's Assembly, the Minister of Defense, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Interior, the Chief of the General Intelligence Service, the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces, the Commanders of the Navy, the Air Forces and Air Defense, the Chief of Operations for the armed forces and the Head of Military Intelligence.

The Council is responsible for looking into matters pertaining to the methods of ensuring the safety and security of the country, for discussing the armed forces' budget, which is incorporate as a single figure in the state budget. Its opinion must be sought in relation to draft laws on the armed forces.

Its other competencies are defined by law.

The President of the Republic may invite whoever is seen as having relevant expertise to attend the Council's meetings without having their votes counted.

Section Three: The Military Judiciary

Article 174: Mandate and trial of civilians

The Military Judiciary is an independent judiciary that adjudicates exclusively in all crimes related to the armed forces, its officers and personnel.

Civilians cannot stand trial before military courts except for crimes that harm the armed forces, which represent a direct assault against the armed forces. The law defines such crimes and determines the other competencies of the Military Judiciary.

Members of the Military Judiciary are autonomous and cannot be dismissed. They share the immunities, securities, rights and duties stipulated for members of other judiciaries.

Section Four: The National Security Council

Article 175: Composition and mandate

The National Security Council is established. It is presided over by the President of the Republic and includes in its membership the Prime Minister, the Speaker of the People's Assembly, the Minister of Defense, the Minister of Interior, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Justice, the Minister of Health, the Chief of the General Intelligence Services, and the Heads of the Committees of Defense and National Security in the People's Assembly.

The Council adopts strategies for establishing security in the country; faces disasters and crises of all kinds and takes necessary measures to contain them; and identifies sources of threat to Egyptian national security, whether at home or abroad, and undertakes necessary actions to address them on the official and popular levels.

The Council invites whoever is seen as being of relevant expertise to attend its meetings without having their votes counted.

Other competencies and regulations are defined by law.

Section Five: The Police

Article 176: Mandate

The police force is a statutory civil body with the President of the Republic as its Supreme Chief. It performs its duty in the service of the people, its loyalty being to the Constitution and the law, and its responsibilities to preserve order, public security and morality, and to implement laws and regulations, all as regulated by law.

Chapter Five: National Elections Commission

Article 177: Mandate

The National Elections Commission is exclusively responsible for managing referenda and presidential, parliamentary and local elections, which includes the preparation of a database of voters, input on the division of constituencies, control over electoral funding and expenditure, electoral campaigns and other procedures, up to the announcements of results.

The foregoing is regulated by law.

Article 178: Composition

The National Elections Commission is administered by a board made up of 10 members selected equally from among the deputies of the head of the Court of Cassation, the heads of the Courts of Appeal, the deputy head of the State Council, the State Affairs and Administrative Prosecution, who are to be selected by a presidential decree and upon the approval of the Supreme Judicial Council and special councils of applying judicial bodies depending on the circumstances. The Commission's presidency belongs to its longest-serving member from the Court of Cassation, provided that he is devoted for exclusive work at the Commission.

The Commission may refer to public figures or specialists deemed to have relevant expertise in the field of elections.

The Commission has an executive body. The law determines its composition, the order of work at the Commission, and the rights, securities and duties of its members to realize neutrality and independence for them.

Article 179: Balloting, counting and dispute resolution

Voting and counting of votes in referenda and elections run by the Commission is administered by its affiliated members under the overall supervision of the Board.

As an exceptional measure, the Commission delegates the overseeing of voting and counting of votes in elections and referenda to take place in the 10 years following the date on which this Constitution comes to effect to members of the judiciary in the manner set out in the law.

The law regulates the procedures for filing a challenge against the Commission's decisions before the State Council courts, and adjudication in it in accordance with specific dates without prejudice to the progress of the electoral process and referenda, or the announcement of their final results.

Chapter Six: The National Media Council and the National Commission for Press and Media

Article 180: National Media Council

The National Media Council is an independent entity, which is responsible for regulating the affairs of radio, television, and printed and digital press, among others.

The Council ensures the freedom of media in all its forms, guarantees its independence and neutrality, safeguards its plurality, fights monopoly, and establishes controls and regulations ensuring the commitment of media to adhere to professional and ethical standards, to preserve the Arabic language, and to observe the values and traditions of society.

The law determines the composition of the Council, regulates its work, and stipulates the conditions of employment of its staff.

The Council is to be consulted on bills and regulations related to its field of operation.

Article 181: National Press and Media Association

The National Press and Media Association is independent, manages state-owned press and media institutions, and undertakes the development of them and their assets, and ensures their independence, neutrality and their adherence to sensible professional, administrative and economic standards.

A law will be issued to compose the association and its board, to regulate its work and stipulate the conditions of employment of its staff.

It is to be consulted about bills and regulations pertaining to its field of operation.

Chapter Seven: Independent Bodies and Regulatory Agencies

Article 182: General

Independent bodies and regulatory agencies are identified by law.

These bodies and agencies have legal personality, and are consulted about draft laws and regulations that relate to their fields of operation.

Among these bodies and agencies are the Central Bank, the Central Auditing Organization, the Administrative Control Agency, the National Council for Human Rights, the National Council for Women and the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood.

Article 183: Establishment of an independence agency

For the establishment of each independent body or regulatory agency, a law is issued defining its competencies, regulating its work and stipulating the necessary securities to enable its personnel to carry out that work and the rest of their conditions of employments to ensure their neutrality and independence.

The President of the Republic appoints the heads of independent bodies and regulatory agencies upon the approval of the People's Assembly, for a period of four years, renewable once. They cannot be dismissed except with the consent of a majority of the Assembly's members; the same prohibitions apply to them that apply to ministers.

Article 184: Public reports

Independent bodies and regulatory agencies present annual reports to the President of the Republic and the People's Assembly within 30 days from the date on which they are issued.

The People's Assembly considers such reports and takes appropriate action within a period not exceeding six months from the date of receipt. The reports are presented for public opinion.

Regulatory agencies notify the appropriate investigative authorities of any evidence of violations or crime they may discover. The foregoing is regulated by law.

Part Six: General and Transitional Provisions

Chapter One: General Provisions

Article 185: Capital

Cairo is the capital of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Article 186: Flag

The national flag of the Arab Republic of Egypt is made of three colors: black, white, and red with the eagle of Saladin in golden yellow. The emblem, decorations, insignia, seal and the national anthem are defined by law.

Article 187: Legal continuity

Provisions stipulated by laws and regulations prior to the proclamation of this Constitution remain valid and in force. They may not be amended or repealed except in accordance with the regulations and procedures prescribed in the Constitution.

Article 188: Publication in the Official Gazette

Laws are published in the Official Gazette within 15 days from the date of their issuance, to be effective 30 days from the day following the date of publication, unless the law specifies a different date.

Provisions of the laws apply only from the date of their enforcement and have no retroactive effect. However, with the approval of a two-thirds majority of the members of the People's Assembly, provisions to the contrary may be made in articles pertaining to non-criminal and non-tax-related matters

Article 189: Amendment

The amendment of one or more of the Constitution's provisions may be requested by the President of the Republic or one-fifth of the members of the People's Assembly. The request specifies the articles to be amended and the reasons for the amendments.

In all cases, the People's Assembly will debate the request within 30 days from the date of its receipt. The Assembly issues its decision to accept the request in whole or in part by a majority of its members.

If the request is rejected, the same amendments may not be requested again before the next legislative term.

If the amendment request is approved by the Assembly, it discusses the text of the articles to be amended within 60 days from the date of approval. If approved by a two-thirds majority of the Assembly's members, the amendment is put to public referendum within 30 days from the date of approval. The amendment is effective from the date on which the referendum's result and the approval of a valid majority of the participants in the referendum are announced.

In all cases, texts pertaining to the principles of freedom and equality stipulated in this Constitution may not be amended, unless the amendment brings guarantees.

Chapter Two: Transitional Provisions

Article 190: Supervision of first parliamentary and presidential elections

The High Electoral Committee and the Presidential Election Committee, existing at the time of this Constitution, undertake the full supervision of the first parliamentary and presidential elections

following the date it came into effect. The funds of the two committees are transferred to the National Electoral Commission, as soon as the latter is formed.

Article 191: Single member district electoral system

The People's Assembly and local council elections following the effective date of the Constitution will be held according to the single-member district electoral system.

Article 192: Timeframe

Procedures for the election of the first People's Assembly begin within no less than 30 days and no more than 60 days of this Constitution coming into effect. The first legislative term is held within 10 days from the date of announcing the final result of the elections.

Procedures for the presidential elections begin within no more than a week from the date of the first session of the People's Assembly.

Article 193: Presidential term

The presidential term following the adoption of this Constitution begins as of the date of the final result of the elections is announced.

Article 194: Interim president

The Interim President of the Republic continues to exercise the presidential powers stipulated in the Constitution until the elected President of the Republic takes the constitutional oath.

Article 195: Temporary incapacity

If on account of a temporary obstacle, the Interim President of the Republic is rendered unable to exercise his powers, the Prime Minister acts in his place.

If the Interim Presidential office becomes vacant, due to resignation, death, permanent inability to work or any other reason, the longest-serving Vice-President of the Supreme Constitutional Court replaces him.

Article 196: Employees of the Shoura Council

The employees of the Shoura Council who are still serving on the date of the adoption of this Constitution are transferred to the People's Assembly while keeping the same degrees and seniorities they occupied on that date. Their salaries, allowances, remunerations, and the rest of their financial rights granted to them in person are kept. All funds of the Shoura Council are transferred to the People's Assembly.

Article 197: Constitutional Declarations dated 6 July 2013 and 8 July 2013

The Constitutional Declarations issued on 6 July 2013 and on 8 July 2013 are hereby repealed. Their consequent effects remain in force.

Article 198: Entry into force

This Constitution comes into effect the day on which the people approve it in a referendum with a valid majority of participants.

* * *

Arab Republic of Egypt Presidential Decree No. 489 of the Year 2013

The Interim President of the Republic:

- Upon reviewing the Constitutional Declaration issued on 8 July 2013,
- And the nominations made by the Supreme Constitutional Court, the Supreme Judicial Council, the State Council and the Supreme Council of Universities,

Decided:

Article 1: The experts committee stipulated in article 28 of the abovementioned Constitutional Declaration will be composed of:

1. Counselor/ Mohamed Abdel Aziz El-Shenawy – Vice President of the Supreme Constitutional Court.
2. Counselor/ Mohamed Khairy Taha El-Naggar – Vice President of the Supreme Constitutional Court.
3. Counselor/ Hassan El-Sayed Mohamed Bassyoni – President of the Cairo Court of Appeal.
4. Counselor/ Mohamed Eid Mohamed Mahgoub – Vice President of the Court of Cassation.
5. Counselor/ Essam Eddin Abdel Aziz Gad El-Haq – Senior Vice President of the State Council and Chairman of the General Assembly of the Departments of Legal Opinions and Legislations.
6. Counselor/ Magdy Hussein El-Agaty – Vice President of the State Council and Chairman of the Legislation Department.
7. Professor/ Fathy Fekry Mohamed – Tenured Professor at the Faculty of Law – Cairo University.
8. Professor/ Hamdy Ali Ali Omar – Dean of the Faculty of Law – Zagazig University.
9. Professor/ Salah Eddin Fawzy – Tenured Professor at the Faculty of Law – Mansoura University.
10. Professor/ Ali Abdel Aal Sayed Ahmed – Tenured Professor at the Faculty of Law – Ain Shams University.

Counselor/ Ali Awad Mohamed, who is Advisor of Constitutional Affairs to the President of the Republic, shall be appointed as a rapporteur of the committee.

The committee may use whoever it deems fit to undertake its work.

Article 2: The committee convenes at the Shoura Council, and a technical secretariat at the Shoura Council's General Secretariat is formed to assist the committee in its work and in the implementation of its decisions.

Article 3: The committee reviews the texts of the suspended 2012 Constitution to introduce the amendments it deems appropriate. In this regard, it may request any suggestions from different bodies.

Article 4: After studying all suggestions, the committee develops the draft amendments it deems should be introduced to the 2012 Constitution, provided that it concludes its work within 30 days from the date

of the issuance of the decree in preparation for presenting the amendments to the committee constituted in accordance with the provision of article 29 of the Constitutional Declaration.

Article 5: This decree is to be published in the Official Gazette, and the competent bodies are to implement it.

(Adly Mansour)

Issued At the Presidency of the Republic on the 12th of Ramadan 1434 H, corresponding to the 21st of July 2013

President of the Advisors' Authority of the Cabinet of Ministers
Counselor/ El-Sayed Mohamed El-Sayed El-Tahan

Signatures of the Members of the Experts Committee to Amend the 2012 Constitution

Organization	Supreme Constitutional Court		Court of Appeal	Court of Cassation	State Council		Egyptian Universities			
Title	Counselor	Counselor	Counselor – Prof.	Counselor	Counselor	Counselor	Prof. – Dr.	Prof. – Dr.	Prof. Dr.	Prof. Dr.
Name	Moahmed Abdel Aziz El-Shenawy	Mohamed Khairy Taha El-Naggar	Hassan El-Sayed Mohamed Bassyouni	Mohamed Eid Mohamed Mahgoub	Essam Eddin Abdel Aziz Gad El-Haq	Magdy Hussein El-Agaty	Fathy Fekry Mohamed	Hamdy Ali Ali Omar	Salah Eddin Fawzy	Ali Abdel Aal Sayed Ahmed
Position	Vice President of the Supreme Constitutional Court	Vice President of the Supreme Constitutional Court	President of the Cairo Court of Appeal	Vice President of the Court of Cassation	Senior Vice President of the State Council and Chairman of the General Assembly of the Departments of Legal Opinion and Legislation	Vice President of the State Council and Chairman of the Department of Legislation	Tenured Professor at the Faculty of Law – Cairo University	Dean of the Faculty of Law – Zagazig University	Tenured Professor at the Faculty of Law – Mansoura University	Tenured Professor at the Faculty of Law – Ain Shams University
Signatures	[signature]	[signature]	[signature]	[signature]	[signature]	[signature]	[signature]	[signature]	[signature]	[signature]

Committee Rapporteur
 Counselor/ Ali Awad Mohamed
 Constitutional Affairs Advisor to the President