Workshop on Compliance with the Paris Principles Governing the Work of National Human Rights Institutions

In cooperation with the Danish Institute for Human Rights and the National Human Rights Council of Morocco

17-18 March 2025

Introduction:

As part of Egypt's strategic direction toward the promotion and protection of human rights, the National Council for Human Rights organized a specialized workshop in cooperation with the Danish Institute for Human Rights and the National Human Rights Council of Morocco. The workshop was held on March 17–18, 2025, at the Council's headquarters. The workshop aimed to support efforts to align with the Paris Principles and to strengthen the role of national institutions in protecting fundamental rights and freedoms, in line with the objectives of Egypt's Vision 2030.

Participants:

The workshop was attended by a distinguished group of experts and specialists, headed by Ambassador Moushira Khattab, President of the National Council for Human Rights, with the participation of Ambassador Mahmoud Karem, Vice President, Ambassador Fahmy Fayed, Secretary-General, Mr. Mohamed Anwar El-Sadat, Dr. Hany Ibrahim, the workshop coordinator, Dr. Ayman Zohry, Dr. Walaa Gad El-Karim, Dr. Nevine Mosaad, Dr. Noha Bakr, and Dr. Hoda Ragheb, all members of the Council. From the Danish Institute for Human Rights, Ms. Anelle Christiansen, Senior Advisor at the Institute, and Mr. Diaa Shakoura, Advisor at the Institute. Mr. Khaled Ramli, Director of International Cooperation at the Moroccan National Human Rights Council, also participated, along with a number of other council members and specialized staff.

Main themes:

- Enhancing compliance with the Paris Principles and international standards>
- Developing institutional mechanisms for monitoring and follow-up.
- Strengthening cooperation with international and regional mechanisms.
- Improving the quality of reports submitted to the United Nations.
- Promoting institutional transparency and credibility.

Recommendations:

First: Developing Institutional Work Mechanisms:

- Developing an Integrated System for Preparing International Reports.
- Documenting activities and field visits accurately and transparently.
- Improving communication and community awareness systems.

Second: Expanding Partnerships and Cooperation:

- Activating cooperation with civil society organizations and international institutions.
- Exchanging experiences with similar institutions at the regional and international levels.
- Developing coordination mechanisms with government entities.

Third: Legislative Reform:

- Reviewing laws to ensure their alignment with the Paris Principles.
- Strengthening the Council's role in the ratification of international conventions.

Expected Outcomes:

- Enhancing the National Council for Human Rights' standing on the international stage.
- Improving the quality of reports submitted to international mechanisms.
- Increasing the effectiveness of monitoring and follow-up mechanisms.
- Strengthening international confidence in the performance of the National Council for Human Rights.
- Contributing to the improvement of Egypt's ranking in international indicators.

Conclusion

The recommendations issued by this workshop represent a comprehensive roadmap for enhancing the effectiveness of the National Council for Human Rights' performance and ensuring the sustainability of its "A" status in international accreditation of national human rights institutions. The workshop also reflects Egypt's commitment to supporting and developing human rights protection mechanisms within its broader national vision. The Council intends to follow up on the implementation of these recommendations in coordination with the relevant stakeholders, drawing on the full official support of the state—contributing to the achievement of its goals and to strengthening Egypt's international standing in this vital field.