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EuropeAid

The European Commission to provide a further €192 million to Egypt under the 2010 ENPI Annual Action Programme

Today, the European Commission decided to allocate (€192 million) to seven new and ongoing cooperation programmes to support the Egyptian authorities' efforts to improve the life of its citizens through reforms and investments in key services. €152 million will be committed in 2010 with a further €40 million for early 2011

Announcing the decision which comes on the eve of his visit to Egypt, Commissioner Füle said:

"I am now on my way to Cairo to discuss with several Ministers, including Prime Minister HE Dr Ahmed Nazif, how we can strengthen our partnership further. While in Cairo I will be signing several Financing Agreements and discuss how we can effectively implement the new support announced today to ensure the quality of life for Egyptian citizens continues to improve."

Under this 2010 decision the EU will provide €80 million to support water sector reforms, with a further €40 million foreseen in 2011. This programme aims to strengthen institutional structures and promote more efficient use of water resources, while protecting public health and the environment.

The European Commission is cooperating with other EU donors and the Egyptian government, to contribute €20 million to a €300 million, 200MW Wind Farm project on the West Bank of the Gulf of Suez, to produce clean renewable energy, limiting greenhouse gas and other emissions.

An additional €20 million to the ongoing Research, Development and Innovation programme will help to facilitate Egypt's move towards a knowledge-based economy, while a €10 million Justice Reform Programme to strengthen capacity will also target the juvenile justice system and the fight against trafficking in human beings.

€9 million is provided to support the efficiency, effectiveness, accountability and transparency of public administration in the areas of policy formation, public finances, performance measurement and decentralisation.

The successful 'twinning' programme benefits from a further €10 million and a €3 million cultural programme, to widen access to cultural activities across the country, completes the package.

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