

Egypt Ready to Transfer Experience in ICTs to Iraq, ICT Minister Says

Iraq, 31 January 2018



The Minister of Communications and Information Technology Yasser Elkady has met with the Iraqi Minister of Communications Hassan Kazem Al-Rashed, on the sidelines of a visit paid by a high-level Egyptian delegation to Iraq, headed by the Assistant to the President of the Republic for Strategic and National Projects Ibrahim Mahlab, where Elkady ascertained that Egypt is ready to transfer its experience in the ICT field to Iraq.

During the meeting, Elkady reviewed the strategy of the Egyptian ICT sector, aiming to achieve the state's plan to move towards the digital society. He highlighted the key developments in the sector and the achievements made during the last three years in the field of telecommunication infrastructure development, network development, the Fourth Generation (4G) services launch and the Fifth Generation (5G) experiments to improve communication and Internet services provided to citizens. This is in addition to developing the electronics industry to develop local industries and increase exports.

In addition, Elkady reviewed the state's plan to implant technology and support young professional calibers through deploying technology parks in various governorates of Egypt. This is in addition to establishing technology innovation clusters and developing

programs to support creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship among young people. He also referred to Egypt's key achievements made in securing data and confronting cyber crimes.

The ICT Minister expressed the readiness of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT) to provide all kinds of support, including expertise and consultations, through organizing training courses for Iraqi calibers in the ICT field.

For his part, Al-Rashed highlighted the deep ties between the two brotherly countries, which span long periods of time, hailing the Egyptian experience and the successes achieved at all levels. He also referred to the recent incidents that Iraq witnessed and their consequences, including the destruction of most of the infrastructure of all sectors, including the communications sector.

The Iraqi Minister stated that Iraq was not keeping up with the evolution of the communications system, since the eighties of the previous century. However, with the efforts of ICT specialists, a network has been secured to deliver optical cable service to all parts of Iraq. In addition, the country owns a national integrated network and can be a key conduit serves as a transit as in Egypt, providing strategic security and enhanced financial resources.

At the end of the meeting, ElKady invited the Iraqi Minister to visit Egypt to learn about the programs, plans, projects and services provided by MCIT.

The meeting was attended by representatives of the National Telecom Regulatory Authority (NTRA), Telecom Egypt (TE) and Silicon Waha.

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