Press release

El-Sisi Opens 20th Cairo ICT 2016

- **El-Sisi underscores the state continued support to the ICT sector**
- **ICT sector is a key pillar in the development of society in collaboration with other sectors**
- **El-Sisi inaugurates the two new technology parks in Borg El Arab and Assiut**
- **ICT Minister: the sector employs more than half a million employees, exports total $1.6 billion, its contribution to the public treasury reaches 3.2%**

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President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi inaugurated, today, the 20th edition of Cairo ICT 2016, held under his auspices at Cairo International Convention and Exhibition Center (CICC) in Nasr City on November 27 - 30.

The opening ceremony was attended by the Prime Minister Sherif Ismail, the ICT Minister Yasser ElKady and the Ministers of Defense; Military Production; Interior; Finance; Health; Trade and Industry; Housing, Utilities and Urban Development; Local Development; Planning, Follow-up and Administrative Reform; International Cooperation; Social Solidarity; and Electricity and Renewable Energy. This is in addition to the Chairman of the General Authority for Suez Canal Economic Zone and a number of senior officials, academics, business leaders and media officials.

El-Sisi opened the new two Technology Parks of Borg Al Arab in Alexandria, New Assiut via a video conference. He hailed this achievement that has been made on the land of Egypt in less than a year. In addition, he launched the interactive learning platform (future

technology pioneers), which aims to qualify young people to meet the technological challenges and provide them with training on the latest techniques in modern technological disciplines. The President requested officials to start implementing the city of knowledge (300 feddans) at the new Administrative Capital.

Moreover, El-Sisi called upon establishing two new technology parks over the next year in different governorates. He also underlined maintaining the state support to the ICT sector, as it represents hope for Egypt's youth and the real development mechanism, which all other sectors relies upon.

The ICT Minister gave a detailed explanation on major initiatives that have been launched over the past year, including the launch of the Fourth Generation (4G) mobile services, the completion of launching two technology parks in Borg Al Arab and Assiut in less than a year, where their occupancy reached more than 75% currently. This is in addition to launching the knowledge portal, activating electronics manufacturing initiative, and the future scientists' initiative, as well as other achievements over the past year.

ElKady also pointed out to future plans of the sector, which focus on attracting more investments, opening new markets for the ICT industry and exports, and training more young calibers to meet domestic and international market demands. He also added that the ICT sector in Egypt employs more than half a million employees and engineers. Last year export value was estimated at $ 1.6 billion from software and electronics; its contribution to the public treasury for this year reached 3.2%.

The Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT) participated in this year's conference through the Information Technology Industry Development Agency (ITIDA), with an official pavilion featuring many government agencies and companies. Participating entities are highlighting the most prominent initiatives, strategies and products that they were able to provide to serve the Egyptian IT sector and local and global markets. The pavilions are exhibiting the latest developments regarding the project of

disseminating new technology parks, smart cities, and activities for the development of Egyptian skills and talents. This is in addition to the innovative applications that innovators and entrepreneurs were able to implement.

The pavilion also exhibits the new official portal of the electronics industry in Egypt, related to the presidential initiative for the electronics industry under the name "Egypt manufactures electronics". It also exhibits detailed presentations of the national project of disseminating technology parks, smart cities and the city of knowledge at the new Administrative Capital. This is in addition to the presentations of the companies that have pumped investment in technology parks, and other presentations concerning efforts of implanting technology and improving citizen services and innovation initiatives in those parks.

The pavilion also showcases efforts and initiatives of the sector concerned with human resources and skills development; such as, the presidential initiative for e-learning "Egypt's future scientists" initiative, aimed at training 16 thousand university students annually. The initiative includes 24 specialized training programs in the areas of artificial intelligence, data analysis, software development, embedded systems and the Internet of Things (IoT), cloud computing and information security. This is in addition to other training programs in strategic planning and entrepreneurship, which major training platforms implemented and adopted its accreditation such as Cousera, Edx and Udacity.

Moreover, Egypt Post, the National Telecom Regulatory Authority (NTRA), Telecom Egypt (TE), the Information Technology Institute (ITI) and the National Telecommunication Institute (NTI) are actively participating in the Conference.

ITI is exhibiting a number of important and useful technological applications designed by ITI trainees and graduates. The Technology Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center (TIEC) is participating in the Conference, exhibiting a number of innovative youth projects which were awarded in a number of international competitions, such as innovation and

entrepreneurship initiatives and programs. During the conference, the pilot version of the new website in English and Arabic will be announced, which is targeted to work as a main pillar for the sector where all industry services will be available.

The IT projects sector presented several projects this year, within the framework of implementing IT projects policies, serving all institutions and authorities in the country and raising all the services provided to citizens. A number of projects implemented by the sector in collaboration with a number of ministries, agencies and organs of the state, such as health, tourism, justice, justice, housing and others, have been showcased as well.

Cairo ICT is one of the world's major events in the Middle East and North Africa region, covering several areas, including telecommunications, information technology, electronics, mobile applications, integrated systems, satellite and broadcasting, hardware, software, security, Internet, mobile phone services and other relevant sectors.

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About ITIDA:

The Information Technology Industry Development Agency (ITIDA) is a governmental entity affiliated to Egypt's Ministry of Communications and Information Technology. It is responsible for growing and developing Egypt's position as a leading global outsourcing

location by attracting foreign direct investment to the industry and maximizing the exports of IT services and applications.

Located in the heart of the modern business environment at Smart Village, the six hundred acre business park on the outskirts of Cairo, ITIDA is a self-sustainable entity that drives the IT industry in Egypt and raises awareness among the Egyptian people of the benefits and use of ICT to advance socio-economic welfare of the whole community.