



Arab Republic of Egypt
House of Representatives
General Secretariat

Speech of
Dr. Hanafy Gebaly
Speaker of the Egyptian House of Representatives

On

**“Harnessing science, technology and innovation (STI) for a
more peaceful and sustainable future”**

Before

The 149th IPU Assembly and Related Meetings
(Geneva, Switzerland, 13-17 October 2024)

Hon. Ms. Tulia Ackson, President of the IPU,

Hon. Mr. Martin Chungong, Secretary-General of the IPU,

Hon. Speakers of Parliaments and Heads of Parliamentary Delegations,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, let me express my great pride for being present among you today within the context of the meetings of our esteemed union, which throughout history has constituted a long-standing and prestigious parliamentary forum for exchanging views and promoting global parliamentary consultation.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I believe you would agree with me that the IPU, since its establishment as the oldest global organization, has been committed to addressing all the global challenges that our world has faced, and has been very keen to play its role in fostering global peace and security and promoting the values of dialogue and democracy, as well as enhancing global parliamentary consultation to convey the pressing concerns of our peoples. The Egyptian Inter-Parliamentary Group, which celebrates this year the 100th anniversary of its accession to the IPU, bears witness to the tireless efforts and the significant role of our prestigious organization in seriously and bravely dealing with global issues.

In this context, the Egyptian Parliament renews the pledge it made when it joined our esteemed union a hundred years ago to continue to play its pioneering role by contributing to strengthening the mechanisms of serious global parliamentary dialogue. The Egyptian Inter-Parliamentary Group is also keen to celebrate that anniversary, which is a clear manifestation of the well-established Egyptian parliamentary life and diplomacy at the multilateral level, in coordination with the IPU.

The Egyptian Parliament will always keep its pledge, and as we were in the past the standard bearer of independence for our brotherly Arab and African peoples, we will continue to shoulder this responsibility of Arab and African issues, foremost of which is the Palestinian issue, in a bid to establish the aspired for independent Palestinian state on the borders of June 4, 1967, with East Jerusalem being its capital, achieving comprehensive and sustainable development, and establishing security and stability in all parts of the Arab region and the African continent.

Dear colleagues,

It is no secret that science plays a pivotal role in promoting global civilizational accumulation. Comprehensive and sustainable development efforts cannot be completed without science, given that it is the backbone of human civilization throughout global human history. In this context, I commend the IPU's interest in this issue as it has established the Working Group on Science and Technology, which drafted a Charter on the Ethics of Science and Technology that ensures its application in an ethically responsible and sustainable manner in order to promote science for the benefit of all humanity, reflecting the pioneering role of our esteemed Union in this extremely important area. All of us, as parliamentarians, should direct our countries towards attaching due importance to strengthening international scientific cooperation, as well as linking science with societies and their issues, and the governance of their work especially in light of the accelerating technological and scientific developments that humanity is experiencing. These developments carry not only specific positive opportunities to confront global challenges such as the effects of the climate change phenomenon, but it rather comprises specific risks that threaten the security and stability of our societies, a matter which we should thoroughly study so that science would not turn into a tool for destroying humanity rather than pushing it forward.

In parallel, Egypt attaches great importance to scientific research, science, and innovation. Egypt has given them top priority in the Egyptian development plan “**Egypt Vision 2030**” In this context, the Egyptian vision focused on providing all the necessary factors to transform knowledge, innovation, and scientific research into a product that meets the development needs of the Egyptian state through various mechanisms, most notably the creation of a favorable environment for legislation, investment policies, financing facilities, and infrastructure development in addition to establishing and developing an integrated national system for innovation capable of transforming knowledge into development value through developing basic and higher education, encouraging creative production, and increasing the links between innovation and society’s needs. This confirms the Egyptian state’s solid awareness of the necessity of science governance and creating an environment conducive to innovation in order to harness science and innovation to achieve sustainable development and stability and security of societies.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In conclusion, in order to address all these looming dangers that are confronting us all, we have no escape but to enshrine the principle of shared human responsibility in encountering these challenges, and this will only happen through the promotion of knowledge and science as common rights of humanity and the availability of all scientific methods with full transparency in order to scientifically confront those challenges, and through the good governance when using science so as to avoid wrong and harmful use and ensure a safe and prosperous environment for our peoples

Thank you for your kind attention