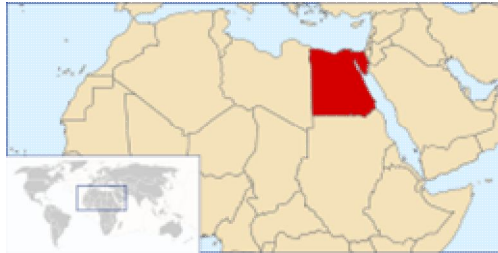


## REGIONAL REPORT – EGYPT – JULY 2009



### Project Management Update from Egypt

By **Ahmed Saleh Mokhtar**

*International Correspondent for PMForum & PM World Today  
Cairo, Egypt*

#### PM Profession News

##### **PMI MENA Chapter formed 6 Committees to enhance member involvement**

The PMI MENA Chapter issued a circulation in June 2009 with a special announcement titled “a call for volunteers”. Volunteers are invited to join one or more of the 6 chapter committees that were formed specifically for the betterment of the Chapter's services. The Circulation promised that “*Volunteering members will enjoy the dynamic participation in building our project management community, being up to date in various project management issues, proactive, networking, and "heard"*”.

The 6 committees formed to date are: .

1. Training and Education Committee : Headed by Suzanne Metwaley and assisted by Mohamed Abu Senn, PMP
2. Events Committee : Headed by Emad Aziz, PMP and assisted by Shoukry Omar
3. Fund Raising Committee: Headed by Moatasseem Kaddah and Mahmoud Mohamed Ahmed and assisted by Magda El Talawy, PMP, PSP
4. Public Relations Committee : Headed by Sameh Bedair and assisted by Nora Bahgat
5. Member Benefits Committee : Headed by Bahaa El Shal, PMP and assisted by Amal Ismail, PMP
6. Registered Education Providers (REPs) Committee : Headed by Mohamed Abdel Latif, PMP , assisted by Ahmed Saleh, PMP

The complete circulation text can be requested by email from: [Volunteers@pmimena.org](mailto:Volunteers@pmimena.org)

**Project Updates – News from some Important Projects**

**Contracts signed for Stage Two of Cairo Subway Third Line; Implementation on July 1, 2009**



The contracts for Stage Two of Cairo Subway Third Line for LE 3.3 billion were signed by and between the Egyptian Transportation Minister Mohamed Mansour and the French Minister of Foreign Trade Anne-Marie Idrac in Cairo in June 2009.

The contracts include works concerning semaphores, communications and control, civil, mechanical and electrical works as well as the activities concerning the railway.

Following the ceremony at Smart Village with the presence of some ministers and governors, the transportation minister said that France was the first country to help Egypt carry out the studies for the first subway line from Helwan to Marg and that cooperation is continuing on the third line, which is currently being implemented.

Mansour said: "The second operational phase will start on July 1 between Abbasiyah Square, Ahram Street and Heliopolis for a total of 7.2 kilometers and four underground stations (Cairo International Fair, the stadium, the girl's faculty and Al-Ahram station). This line should be inaugurated in October 2013."

According to Wikipedia ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cairo\\_Metro](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cairo_Metro)), the Cairo Metro in Egypt is Africa's only full-fledged metro system. The system consists of two operational lines, with construction having begun on a third line in 2006.



The metro is run by the National Authority for Tunnels. The line uses standard gauge (1435 mm). Ticket price is EGP 1.00 for each journey (about EUR 0.13 or USD 0.18, average exchange rate for 2008), regardless of distance. On all Cairo metro trains, the middle two cars (4th and 5th) of each train are reserved for women (the 5th car

becomes a mixed use after 21:00). These cars are used as an option for women who do not wish to ride with men in the same car; however, women can still ride other cars freely.

The two lines carry around 700 million passengers a year and on average 2 million per day.

### **Technology Village Project to boost outsourcing business in Egypt**

The Maadi Technology Village — referred to in local media as the Maadi Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) Park — will comprise around 40 buildings on 75 acres of land exclusively dedicated to outsourcing call center operations. The complex is slated to provide jobs for between 50,000 and 100,000 people when fully operational, with facilities accommodating 40,000 'seats' for call center staff. Current estimates by the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (MCIT) state the project will be finished in 2012. The first three buildings and mosque are set for completion this summer.

Egypt's ICT sector received a boost last month after global consulting firm AT Kearney listed the nation as the top destination for outsourcing in the region. Rising seven positions to number six, this is the first time Egypt has made the top 10 on the Global Services Location Index, beating out competitor Jordan at number nine to be ranked first for the Middle East, MENA and African regions.

### **4 Consulting Groups help rehabilitation of Nile Ritz Carlton Hotel**

The Misr Hotle company signed 4 contracts with 2 international and 2 local consulting groups to rehabilitate the Nile Ritz Carlton Hotel, one of the oldest hotels located at the river Nile not far from the heart of Cairo City. The scope for the 4 consulting contracts include architectural design, interior design, structural design and Electro-Mechanical design, whereas the last two are assigned to local consultancies. An Egyptian bank shall provide a loan to finance the project, which is estimated to cost LE 700 million (about USD 125 millions).

## Egypt Signs Nuclear Plant Consultancy Contract with Parsons

Egypt's Ministry of Electricity and Energy has in June 2009 signed the first nuclear plant consultancy contract with the Australian company 'Parsons' for a total cost of \$ 900 million. The contract is planned to be implemented over two phases. The first phase will update the Dabaa site feasibility studies in accordance with global codes and standards.



The second phase pertains to services in building the station, which include management of the project, supervision and monitoring, forming the project team, reviewing the contractor's designs and doing all necessary tests during construction.

To see the breaking news article previously published on 22 June 2009 about this project including the full story behind the news, visit

<http://www.pmforum.org/blogs/news/2009/06/ConsultancyContractsSignedforaNuclearPlantin.html>.

## About the Author



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**Ahmed Mokhtar** is also a freelancer project management consultant and trainer. Previously, he was the Consultancy Director for Promastar, a Cairo-based project management advisory and training firm (since 2004) and by EPM consultancy (since 1998). Ahmed has a BS in Engineering 1983 from Assuit University in Egypt and a Master degree in Construction Project Management 1991 from Hochschule Hidesheim/Holzminden University in Germany. With 23 years experience throughout the Middle East, he is a Charter member of the Egyptian Project Management Society (EPMS), past VP of PMI-MENA Chapter, a current member of the Project Management Institute (PMI) and a Member of the Management Engineering Society (MES). Additional information about Ahmed Mokhtar can be found at <http://www.pmforum.org/pm%20forum%20team/index.htm>. Ahmed is based in Cairo and can be contacted at [amokhtarmp@gmail.com](mailto:amokhtarmp@gmail.com).