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COUNTRY PAPER 1/

ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

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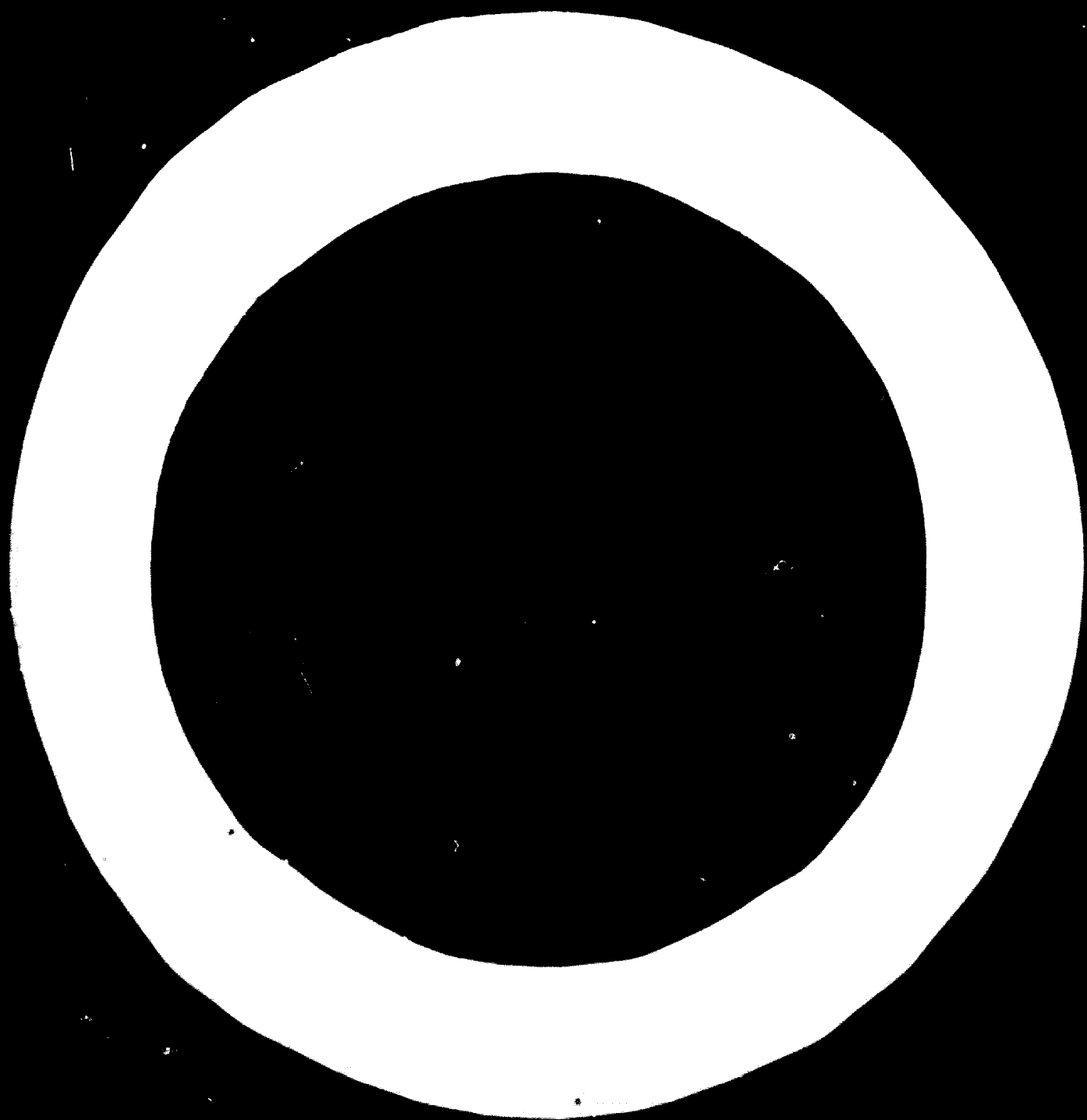
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Country Paper: Arab Republic of Egypt

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Arab Republic of Egypt

The Arab Republic of Egypt, which has a population of over 33 million, covers an area of approximately 386,000 square miles, more than 90 percent of which is arid desert. Only about four percent of the total land area is arable.

The economy of the country has for centuries been based on agriculture, and only in the past two decades have efforts been made towards industrialization. After a succession of programmes of industrial and economic and social development, the value of the industrial product for the fiscal year 1969-70 is estimated to represent approximately one third of the National Product. The proportion of the population employed in manufacturing currently amounts to about 4.5 percent.

Organizations in the Arab Republic of Egypt concerned with the provision and processing of industrial information include the following.

Government Organizations

1. The Ministry of Industry, Mineral Resources and Electricity - which includes the Administration of Industrial Information and Foreign Scientific and Technical Relations. The Administration maintains contact with related international organizations and procures all pertinent documentation and publications from local and foreign organizations in order to provide for the information requirements of existing and projected industries.

The General Organizations falling under the Ministry are as follows
Food Industries; Spinning and Weaving; Technical Industries; Electrical and Electronic Industries; Productive Co-operation and Minor Industries;

Chemical Industries; Building Materials and Ceramics; Metal Industries; Petroleum; Mining; Geological Survey; and Electricity.

2. General Organizations under the Ministry of Land and Agrarian Reform.
3. General Organizations under the Ministry of Economy.
4. General Organizations under the Ministry of Agriculture.
5. Central Organ for Mobilization and Statistics - which has a computerised collection of diverse industrial statistics.
6. Central Organ for Organization and Administration - which supervises the operations of the public industrial sector.
7. The Central Organ for Training - which is responsible for the training of technicians and skilled workers and maintains an up-to-date documentation centre on training and productivity.
8. Central Organ for Auditing - which evaluates the annual financial statements of each industrial company in the public industrial sector.

National Organizations

1. The National Information and Documentation Centre - which was established with UN Technical Assistance in 1954 to perform information work in the fields of science and technology. Its services and activities include:
 - Publications. These include abstracts of scientific and technical papers published in English and French twice yearly; Documentation Bulletin of the National Research Centre; technical information for the textile industry.
 - Preparation of bibliographies on request.
 - Reproduction of material from the ARE and abroad.
 - Translations.
 - Documentation research.
 - Promotion of new information services and development of special libraries in existing scientific and industrial organizations.
 - Training in information and documentation.
 - Library. It is intended that the Centre's library be developed into the national reference library of science and technology.

- Preparation of the "Union Catalogue of Scientific Periodicals in the ARE".
 - Organization of international seminars and training courses.
2. The Egyptian Agricultural Organization - which acts as an information centre for farmers.
 3. The National Planning Institute - which carries out planning studies by computer. It maintains a library and a documentation centre.
 4. The National Science Centre - which includes departments of chemistry, agriculture, food and nutrition, mineralogy, ceramics and glass.


Research Organizations

1. The Supreme Council for Scientific Research - which is concerned with the planning, co-ordination, and guidance of development. Relations with a number of European, Asian and African countries and with international organizations are maintained by the Council. Its Executive Organizations on Industrial Research, Agricultural Research, and Mining and Water Research supervise the following research bodies which, in addition to performing research, provide consultancy services to industry:

- National Research Centre
- National Chemical Research Centre
- National Physics Laboratory
- Metallurgical Research Centre
- Petroleum Research Institute
- Textile Research Centre
- Electronics Research Institute
- Central Laboratory for Metrology and Material Testing
- Building Research Institute
- Egyptian Desert Institute
- Mineral Oil Institute
- National Institute of Standards

2. The El Tabbim Metallurgical Institute for Higher Studies - which came into being in 1968-69 to serve the metallurgical industries in the fields of specialization, research, and design of metallurgical equipment. It has research laboratories and a library.
3. The Atomic Energy Establishment - whose Scientific Information Division is pursuing the possibility of establishing regional information centres under the International Nuclear Information System being prepared by the International Atomic Energy Agency.
4. The Documentation Research Centre for Education.
5. Industrial Development Centre for the Arab States - which includes among its objectives the promotion of industrial information and the establishment of close relations with advanced sources of information. Under its auspices, a Textile Industries Institute is being established in the ARE with the co-operation and assistance of the UNDP and UNIDO.
6. University research facilities.

Other Organisations

1. The Egyptian Federation of Industries - whose members include the main industrial concerns in the public and private sectors. The Federation publishes the quarterly magazine "Industrial Egypt" and the "Technological Bulletin" covering industrial legislation, statistics, annual reports, productivity and industrial planning.
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