MULTILATERAL INTERNATIONAL
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ECONOMIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

ECONOMIC BRIEF

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EXPORTS

## Egypt Allocates EGP 6 Billion for Third Tranche of Lump-Sum Export Subsidy Dues

The Egyptian government has allocated EGP 6 billion for the third tranche of its lump-sum export subsidy payment initiative, targeting shipments completed prior to July 1, 2024. Finance Minister Ahmed Kouchouk announced that applications will be accepted from August 16 to October 1, 2026, with disbursements scheduled for October 22, 2026.

Over the past six years, the government has paid more than EGP 80 billion to exporters, aiming to fully settle all remaining outstanding arrears within two years. The current state budget dedicates EGP 48 billion to accelerate these support payments, while export subsidies specifically reached EGP 28 billion in FY 2025/2026, representing a 55% annual increase.

ECONOMY

## Egypt Expands Medical Tourism Strategy as Revenues Surpass $10m

The General Authority for Healthcare (GAH) is expanding Egypt's medical tourism sector, with international revenues rising 37% year-on-year to surpass $10 million and hospital admissions reaching nearly 42,000 international patients.

GAH Chairperson Ahmed El-Sobky announced a focus on competitive medical specialties such as cosmetics, IVF, obesity treatment, and advanced dental care. To bolster competitiveness, the GAH is integrating its facilities with "Tour 4 Cure," the national medical tourism platform, establishing dedicated service desks for foreign patients, and launching strategic coordination with specialised Turkish medical centers to leverage regional expertise.

ENERGY

## Egypt Launches International Bid Round for Oil and Gas Exploration in 14 Areas

Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister Karim Badawi has announced the launch of the 2026 international bid round for crude oil and natural gas exploration across 14 new blocks.

The digital bidding process, hosted on the Egypt Upstream Gateway (EUG), includes 8 areas offered by the Egyptian Natural Gas Holding Company (EGAS) in the Mediterranean, Nile Delta, and North Sinai, with a deadline of December 11, 2026. Additionally, 6 areas in the Gulf of Suez, Sinai, and the Western Desert are offered by the Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation (EGPC), closing on November 11, 2026. The bid round leverages proximity to existing infrastructure to reduce development costs for regional partners.



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ECONOMY

# Egyptian Finance Minister Advocates Fairer Global Financial Architecture at BRICS Meeting

During the first BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting in Jaipur, India, Egyptian Finance Minister Ahmed Kouchouk called for a more equitable and inclusive international financial architecture for developing countries.

Accompanied by CBE Deputy Governor Rami Aboulnaga, Kouchouk held bilateral discussions with Indian Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. The talks focused on executing local currency trade settlements, enhancing Fintech and AI integration for risk assessment, and strengthening the role of the New Development Bank (NDB). The ministers also highlighted the importance of strengthening ties between Indian and Egyptian MSMEs to expand market opportunities.

EXPORTS

## Egypt Expands National Merchant Fleet with Delivery of Two Chinese-Built Kamsarmax Vessels

During a state visit to China, Minister of Transport Kamel Al-Wazir witnessed the delivery of two modern Kamsarmax dry bulk vessels, "Wadi Al-Neel" and "Wadi Al-Qamar," to the National Navigation Company.

Strategically, the Ministry of Transport aims to expand its total state-owned merchant fleet to 40 vessels by 2030, boosting its annual cargo transport capacity to 30 million tonnes. To accelerate this, the Minister requested bringing forward the delivery of two additional vessels ("Wadi Natrun" and "Wadi El-Allaqi") to late 2027, fast-tracking four new container ships, and establishing a specialized commercial repair shipyard in Egypt.

INVESTMENT

## Non-Bank MSME Financing Surpasses EGP 100 Billion in May 2026

The Financial Regulatory Authority (FRA) reported that outstanding non-bank financing for MSMEs in the Egyptian market surged to EGP 100 billion in May 2026, marking a 15.8% increase from EGP 86 billion in May 2025.

Microfinance programs represented the largest share, reaching EGP 74 billion serving 3.4 million beneficiaries, while financing for SMEs reached EGP 25 billion serving 17,200 entities. The FRA also reported substantial expansions in non-bank consumer finance, which rose to EGP 51 billion (led by automotive and appliance purchases), financial leasing contracts reaching EGP 76 billion (dominated by real estate), and mortgage financing climbing to EGP 19 billion.



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