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USEF
UNITED STATES-EGYPT
FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY

THE UNITED STATES-EGYPT FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY (USEF)

The United States-Egypt Friendship Society (USEF) is a Washington, D.C.-based initiative established in October 2003 to increase understanding and awareness in the U.S. of contemporary Egypt and to promote appreciation of the importance of strong U.S.-Egypt relations. Despite its importance to the geo-politics of the Middle East, North Africa, and the Muslim world as a whole, much about modern-day Egypt is little known or misunderstood in the United States. USEF will tackle this problem, working to promote a broader and more balanced understanding of Egypt in the U.S. To achieve this, USEF organizes regular programs on social, economic, political, and cultural development aspects of Egypt today. Over time, we plan to expand programming to include sponsorship of lectures, seminars, conferences, and publications, art exhibitions, performances, and films; and development of materials and programs for students and teachers. USEF's programs will be directed to public- and private-sector leaders, educators, business executives, the media, nongovernmental organizations, and the interested public.

USEF's function will be purely educational and informational. It will take no policy positions, nor will it engage in lobbying or advocacy. USEF will work to encourage closer economic, social, and political ties, and will offer regular opportunities for leading members of the two nations' business, government, and professional communities to exchange views and forge closer relations. It will not directly promote or support specific business ventures, however. USEF will seek tax-deductible contributions from membership fees and foundations, corporations, and individuals who believe in the mandate of the Society.

ABOUT EGYPT *Egypt is the largest Arab nation and one of the world's oldest nation-states. The Arab Republic of Egypt has a population of over 72 million people. While most of the population is Muslim, Egypt is also home to the largest Christian population in the Middle East. Egypt is the second largest recipient of U.S. foreign aid with \$1.8 billion annually. In addition to significant political collaboration, the two countries are important trade partners as the U.S. accounts for 18 percent of all imported goods to Egypt and 15 percent of all Egyptian exports. The development of a gas export market is a major bright spot for future growth prospects in Egypt, with textiles, food processing, tourism, chemicals, hydrocarbons, construction, cement, and metals as its current main industries.*

Egypt is an ancient center of learning and culture. The revered Al-Azhar University is the most eminent in the Muslim world, considered the fount of Islamic learning. Founded by the Fatimids in 970, it is also the oldest university in the world. The League of Arab States (Arab League) was founded in Egypt in 1945 and is currently headquartered in Cairo.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS	CORPORATE SPONSOR: \$2,500 Recognition in literature and website; Periodic Newsletter
	INDIVIDUAL ASSOCIATE: \$100 Periodic Newsletter
	STUDENT ASSOCIATE: \$25 Periodic Newsletter

USEF is managed by the Washington Center of the Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise, a unit of Kenan-Flagler Business School at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Tax deductible contributions should be made payable to the Kenan-Flagler Business School Foundation, noting "USEF" in the memo line. Please send contributions to the Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise, c/o USEF, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, North Tower, Suite 370, Washington, DC 20004 USA.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT: www.usefsociety.org

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