

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

Mr. Thomas J. Donohue
President & CEO
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
1615 H Street, NW
Washington, DC 20062

Dear Mr. Donohue:

In advance of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's mission to Egypt next month, I wanted to thank you for your hands-on engagement in trying to make progress on our commercial and economic relationship with Egypt.

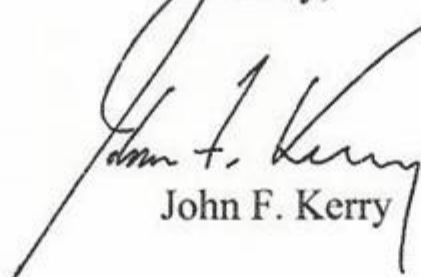
The United States wants to see Egypt succeed – and we know that a stable, prosperous, and democratic Egypt is in the interests not just of the United States, but of the entire region. It is also in the interests of American businesses, which are looking for places to invest where they can count on not just security and stability, but the transparency and certainty that comes with good governance. As you well know, a critical component of Egypt's future success is economic growth driven by policy reforms and private sector-led expansion to create jobs and opportunity. The Chamber of Commerce can deliver that message with great credibility and bonafides.

I am especially pleased my personal representative, Ambassador David Thorne, will lead our participation in this mission. Ambassador Thorne has done terrific work developing what we've called the "shared prosperity" agenda at the State Department, focusing not just on traditional economic diplomacy, but on knitting the economic agenda together with our broader foreign policy interests, including focusing on economic growth in critical countries like Egypt. As you know, Ambassador Thorne and the Counselor of the Department, Ambassador Tom Shannon, have visited Egypt and the Middle East region several times over the past year to promote economic reform and expanded trade and investment, and so he joins your mission with substantial knowledge and experience in this arena.

I know that the Chamber and its partners, the American Chamber of Commerce in Egypt and the U.S.-Egypt Business Council, remain at the forefront of efforts to strengthen commercial ties between the United States and Egypt. We expect robust participation in the November visit from American companies interested in expanding current trade and investment or in entering an attractive market that includes the largest population in the Middle East.

Thank you, as always, for all the good work the U.S. Chamber of Commerce has been doing to advance the United States' economic and commercial relationship with Egypt and globally. I am confident this mission will be a great success, and I look forward to continuing our coordination to create opportunities for American businesses and improve economic ties with countries and people around the world.

Sincerely,



John F. Kerry