

Suez Cement honours Ramadan's traditions and hands out 10,000 Kg of food in Helwan and Tourah communities

Cairo, 18 September 2008. As part of its continuous commitment to ongoing Corporate Social Responsibility Programs and in the spirit of *zakat*, the top management together with the employees of Suez Cement group of Companies is to distribute 10,000 Kg of rice and pasta in Helwan and Tourah districts.

The distribution started today in Kafr El Elw districts and Al Maasara areas.

The Company has already distributed food to more than 1,500 families two weeks ago, with a two-month food ration designed to meet the needs of families throughout Ramadan. The content of the food package included dates, cracked wheat, rice, lentils, oils and jam.

"As a social responsible citizen, our Company is keen to improve its dialogue with the local communities. We are glad to be involved in the food distribution and have the opportunity to learn more about their needs. It is very satisfying to see the impact of these small gifts on the families, and in particular on orphans and seniors in the area. These people are really in need! On a parallel note, I have to say a very big thank you to everyone in Suez Cement group- at all levels - who gave up their time to take part in this wonderful and very successful initiative" said Mr. Roberto Callieri, Managing Director of Suez Cement group of Companies explaining why the Company had launched the initiative.

Moreover, in keeping with the spirit of Ramadan the Company has also organized five *iftar* events for all its employees inside its plants.

Mr. Callieri went on to say that Suez Cement's CSR programs were proceeding according to a clear, consistent and substantial plan and strategy that it is not only limited to the Holy month of Ramadan.

It is worth a mention that in 2007, Suez Cement group donated L.E. 4,000,000 to implement the social development project "***For the Smile of our Children***" to contribute in eradicating poverty in the poor districts of Helwan and Tourah. The project, implemented in partnership with NCCM, undertook several activities focused on improving educational environment, building institutional capacity, raise environmental awareness, support medical care and health standards, improve recreational and sports activities as well as enhance the economic and social standards.

Besides, the planned activities for 2008 that will be financed by the Company will include the creation of a fund to support, through micro-credit loans, income-generating activities for the unemployed inhabitants of the target area and decrease the number of vulnerable people.