

# Press release

## **Environment Minister, ministry leaders and EPAP managers visit Helwan cement plant**

Minister of Environment, Dr. Yamsine Fouad, visited Helwan Cement Company, a subsidiary of Suez Cement Group of Companies (SCGC), on Thursday, February 14, 2019, inspect the environmental conditions and learn about the latest developments in the company's environmental sanitation plans.

Dr. Fouad and her accompanying delegation were welcomed in the plant by SCGC Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Jose Maia Magrina, Head of SCGC Technical Sector Salem Soso, the Manager of Helwan cement plant Eng. Ahmad Ragae, the Manager of SCGC Environment Department Eng. Waleed El-Zeini and the Manager of Environment Department in Helwan cement plant Eng. Ragheb Hammouda.

During the visit, Helwan Cement Company made a detailed presentation about the company, environmental reform plans, environmental management systems, procedures of periodical follow-up and monitoring and the company's achievements on the level of commitment to the sustainable development, environment protection and CSR initiatives. The Minister and her accompanying delegation also toured the plant and inspected the production lines, coal mill and the central control room.

Dr. Fouad praised Helwan Cement Company's commitment towards the environment and the surrounding community. She stressed the importance of continuing work to protect the environment with the aim of achieving objectives of sustainable development and governance principles.

Fouad also stressed the importance of using social media networks to raise public awareness about the plant's environmental sanitation measures, saying that such networks have effective influence on citizens, particularly youths.

"We have made great steps in improving efficiency and boosting environment protection efforts over the past years. We are proud of the change we have made in the local community through CSR's programs", said Eng. Ahmad Ragae, Manager of Helwan cement plant.

Since 2006, SCGC dedicates a substantial part of its industrial investments to implementing a comprehensive environmental policy. All SCGC operating plants are ISO 14001 and ISO 9001 certified. They have adopted and strictly complied with the environmental laws of Egypt and work in close cooperation with the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) to ensure that all environmental standards of each plant are on target.

The Group hopes to move forward in this direction in order to build a better tomorrow for future generations in the company in cooperation with the local NGOs, schools, hospitals and universities. It also implemented a number of sustainable development programs that aimed at improving standards of living in the surroundings.