

Mona Omar (Egypt)

A public figure in the field of women Rights and a regionally renowned career diplomat, with extensive experience representing and coordinating issues of strategic interest on the international, regional and national levels. Lecturer and regular speaker at international and regional conferences and on all forms of media. Founder and active board member of a number of organizations aimed at addressing key socio-economic issues affecting Egyptian and African development

Current activities and professional membership

- *Founder & Board Member to variety of organisations:*

Established record of contribution and participation to a variety of social and economic organisations aimed at socio-economic development in Egypt, as well as the promotion of investments. Regular lecturer and commentator on strategic issues at a number of universities, organisations and media

- *Board member of “Egypt Foreign Affairs Council” ECFA*
- *Head of the Consultative Committee of” International Business and Professional Women “ Organization*
- *Founder of “Women of the Nile “ NGO*
- *Chairperson of “Salema for women empowerment”*
- *Founder & National Coordinator, “Who Loves Egypt?” Campaign, Egypt*
- *Founder & Vice President, Egyptian – African Economic Council, Egypt*
- *Founder & Board Member, “Ahl Misr”, Egypt*
- *Member of the Board of Trustees, Institute of Information and Communication Technology, EGYPT*
- *Member of a variety of organizations*

Work experience

- *Member of the Board of the “National Council of Women” and Head of the “International Relations Committee”. January 2016 – present.*

The National Council for Women is an independent institution, established in 2000 to advance the status of Women in Egypt through proposing matters of public policy on the development and empowerment of women; monitoring and evaluating the implementation of women-related policies; advising on draft laws and decisions pertaining to women

prior to their submission to the competent authority; recommending draft laws and decisions on the advancement of women, and designing national programs and plans aiming at ensuring gender equality and women empowerment in Egypt.

Responsible for all International and Regional conventions and agreements dealing with women's rights in particular and human rights in general.

Exchanging experiences with similar national councils all over the world.

Coordinating with international, continental and regional organizations, in all fields related to women empowerment and promotion and wellbeing.

Analyzing trends and best practices related to issues pertaining to gender equality and women empowerment in the political, economic, social, and cultural fields.

Presenting reports about potential fields of cooperation with Regional/International counterparts.

- *Secretary General, National Council for Women (NCW), 2013-2015*

Leading and managing an organization of approximately 400 employees with representation offices in all 27 of Egypt's governorates.

Overseeing programmes on the political, economic and social empowerment of women across Egypt. Programmes ensure the inclusion of women, generating awareness of women's issues and following up on implementation (e.g. NCW campaign on societal dialogue for the inclusion of women in the Egyptian constitution).

Impacting the development, implementation and enactment of gender sensitive policies programmes and regulations through engaging and coordinating with national legislators and policy-makers; as well as generating awareness through regular appearances in media and public lectures.

Liaising and coordinating the development and implementation of international standards and policies impacting women in Egypt through regular participation in international conferences, conventions, meetings and events. Follow up and report on progress at the national and international levels.

- *President of "Africa Center " at the British University in Egypt "BUE" 2014-present*

Presenting analysis and prospects of main events in the African Continent to Egypt political and economic leadership;

Consultant on African issues to the “Federation of Egyptian Investors“.

Creating awareness at the ”BUE” among students about the importance of consolidating relations with the rest of the African countries.

Organizing events with African leaders visiting Egypt.

Organizing workshops and seminars on various issues.

- *Author of a vast array of reports and studies related to Women’s rights domain*
- *Presidential Envoy to Africa, By Appointment of the President, 2013*

Represented the Egyptian President to the Heads of State of a number of African countries and discussed Egyptian policies and standpoint on a number of issues ranging from regional to national security.

- *Career Diplomat, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cairo – Egypt, 1976-2013*

Established, developed and strengthened bi-lateral and multi-lateral relations with countries and international organizations across a number of geographies - with significant experience and specialization in the African continent. Experience ranges from the establishment of Egyptian embassies and representation offices in the immediate aftermath of the genocide in Rwanda and apartheid in South Africa; to founding and actively engaging in the steering committee of the NEPAD (The New Partnership for Africa’s Development).

Facilitated the flow of investments to and from Egypt across a number of geographies, and promoted social, economic and cultural exchange with other countries, through identifying and highlighting potential opportunities and establishing appropriate institutions (e.g. contributed to the establishment of the Egyptian – South African Business Council).

Negotiated and mediated with bi-lateral partners to address and resolve issues of mutual interest and concern, ranging from conflict resolution and nation building in Africa to specific crises such as the Danish cartoon crisis.

A recognized and active leader within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, assumed a number of additional roles and responsibilities to official posts. These included, but were not limited to chairmanship of the Council of Assistants of Ministers of Foreign Affairs and chairmanship of the Diplomats Club during internal negotiations during the Egyptian revolution.

Participated and represented Egypt at a numerous international, regional, and national conferences and events.

Formal Posts include:

- Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for African Affairs, 2008-2013
- Ambassador of Egypt to South Africa, 2006-2008
- Ambassador of Egypt to Denmark, 2003-2006
- Assistant Deputy Minister of African Affairs for Bilateral Relations, 2000-2003
- Ambassador of Egypt to Rwanda, 1997-2000
- Deputy Head of Mission of the Egyptian Embassy to Ethiopia, 1995-1997
- Deputy Head of Mission of the Egyptian Embassy in South Africa, 1994-1995
- Head of the Egyptian Representation Office in South Africa, 1993-1994
- Councillor (political) at the Egyptian embassy in London 1988-1992
- Various posts in the ranks of the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 1976-1988

Education

Postgraduate Studies in Political Science, Faculty of Political Sciences and Economics, Cairo University, 1975-1976

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, Faculty of Political Science and Economics, Cairo University, 1971-1975

Language skills

Arabic: Mother Tongue

English & French: Fluent (Written and Spoken)

Spanish & German: Fair (Written and Spoken)