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EGYPT

NILE AUTHORITY SEEKS NEW WATER SOURCES IN SUDAN

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[Article by 'Adil Shafiq: "The Nile Water Technical Authority Seeks To Increase Nile Resources for Agricultural Expansion"]

[Text] Yesterday, after inaugurating the meetings of the permanent Nile Water Technical Authority which consists of Egypt and the Sudan, Eng 'Abd-al-Hadi Samahah, the minister of irrigation, reviewed research and studies on the schedule of projects to increase the Nile River's input from the Bahr al-Ghazal, al-Subat and Mishar basins.

The minister also investigated the possibilities of developing the authority and amending its bills to conform to international changes in the field of river water use and the recommendation on establishment of the Nile Basin Authority, which will include the nine countries of the Nile. The people at the meeting discussed the coordination of Egyptian-Sudanese efforts to get in touch with the ministers involved in these countries to form this authority.

Eng Muhammad Amin Muhammadayn, head of the Egyptian party, stated that the authority is investigating the status of projects to reduce water loss that are now being carried out in accordance with plans and programs derived from the agreement on full Nile water use.

That will result in the development of water resources to carry out agricultural expansion projects. He went on to say, "As far as the Jonglei Canal project goes, 200 million cubic meters have been excavated and contacts are being made to make use of the expertise and experience of a number of countries in this field, especially Egypt and the European Common Market countries."

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