

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR STATE TERRITORIAL REPRESENTATIVES (EASTR)

SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

LOCAL ADMINISTRATION SYSTEM IN EGYPT

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Constitutional Framework for Local Administration



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- ❑ **1923 and 1930 Constitution**: A complete chapter determined the main features of the local administration system in Egypt.
- ❑ **1956 Constitution**: 10 articles of the chapter on the Executive Authority
- ❑ **1964 Constitution**: reduced the number of articles to only 2.
- ❑ **1971 Constitution**: 3 articles determined local administration system in Egypt (161, 162, 163).
- ❑ **In 2007**, some changes were introduced to these articles to promote decentralization.
- ❑ **2011 Constitutional Declaration** that was announced by Egypt's Supreme Council of the Armed Forces (SCAF), did not include any article on local administration.

1971 Constitution and Local Administration

- Recognition of the legal identity of local units.
- Did not define the localities jurisdictions.
- Did not include fiscal jurisdictions of the local units.
- No articles related to the Governor or the Executive Authority at the local level.
- Did not define the relation between state institutions at the national level and those at local level.

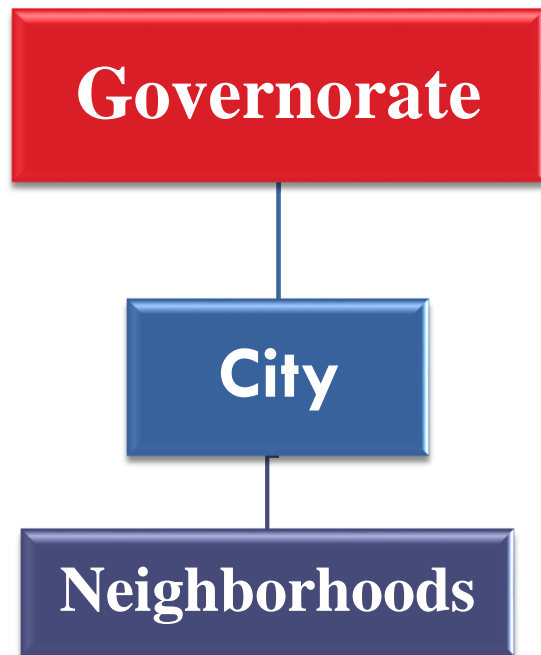
Legal Framework of Local Administration

- Statutory Law no. 29 / 1913
- Law no. 24/ 1934
- Law no. 24/ 1960
- Law no. 57/ 1971
- Law no. 52/ 1975 (Local Government Act)
- Law no. 43/ 1979

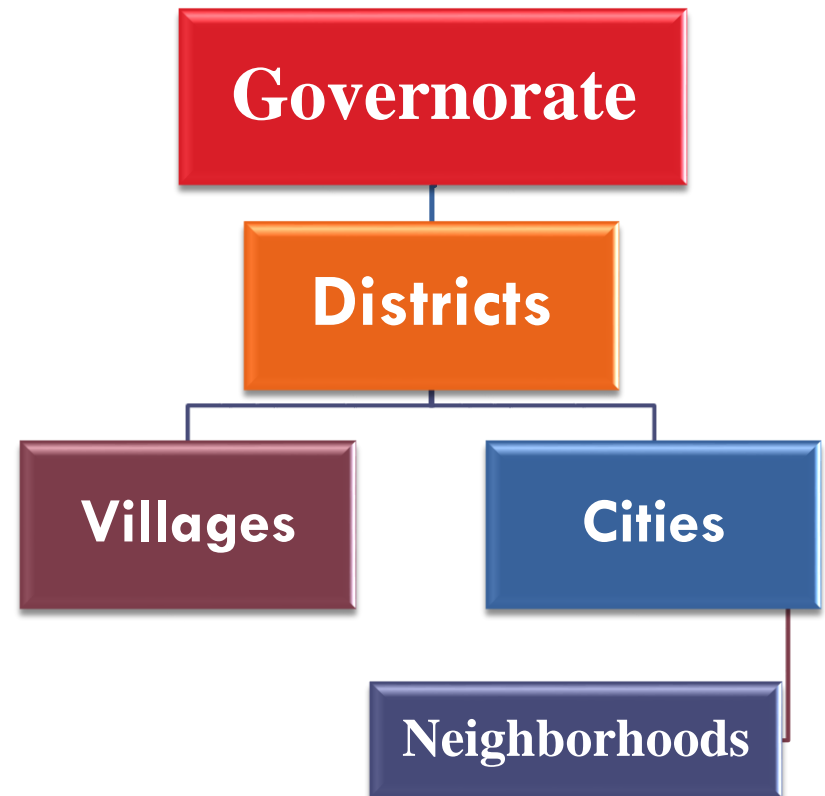
Local Administration Levels

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Urban Governorates



Rural Governorates



Number of Local Administration Units



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Governorates

- **27 Governorates**

Districts

- **186 Districts**

Cities

- **225 Cities**

Neighborhoods

- **85 Neighborhoods**

Villages

- **4737 Villages**

Creating Local Units

The authority to create, modify or eliminate a local unit is exercised by the following entities:

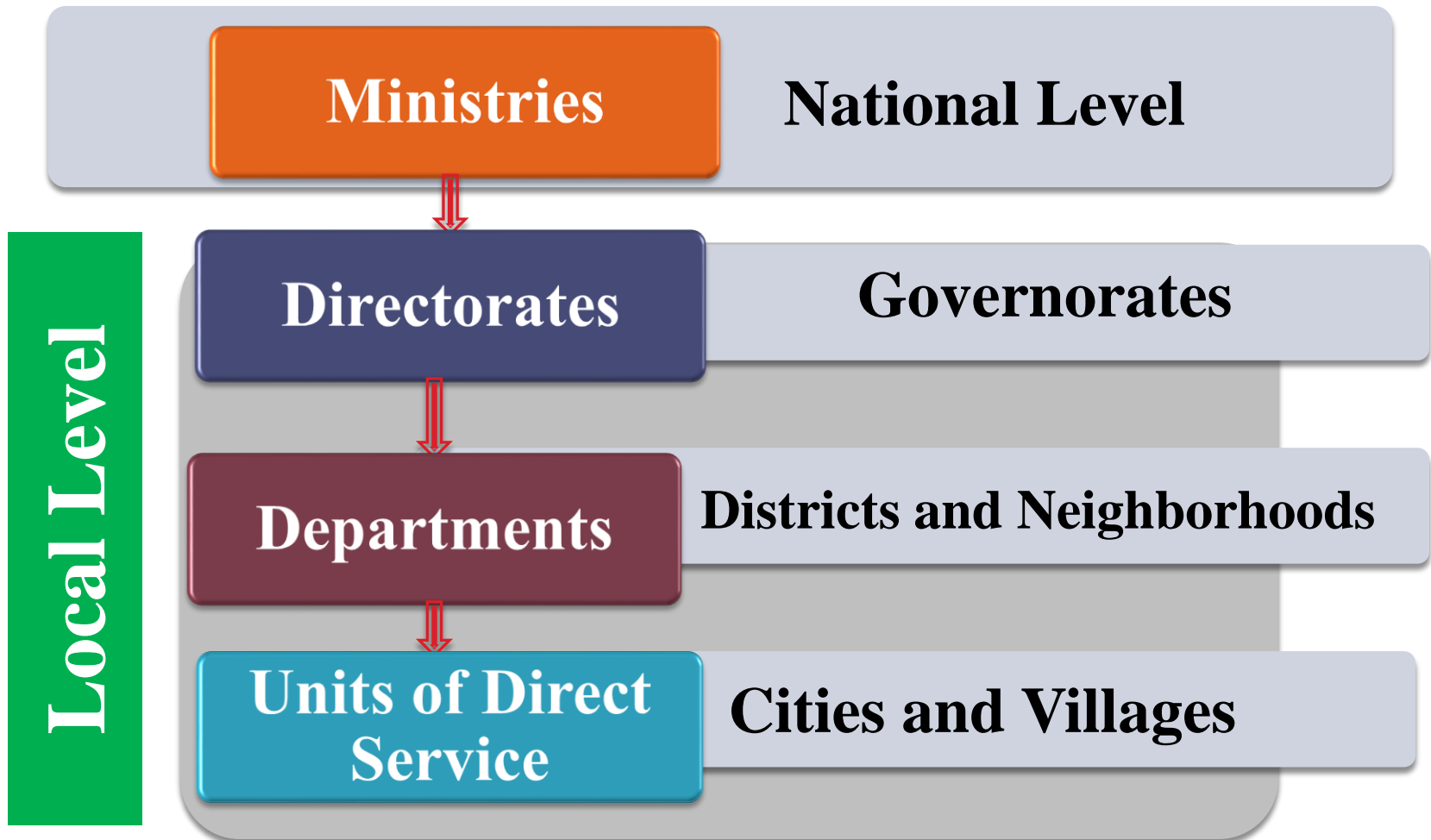
- ❑ **Governorates**: Presidential Decree.
- ❑ **Districts, Cities and Neighborhoods**: a Prime Minister Decree and the approval of the Governorate Local Popular Council (LPC).
- ❑ **Villages**: A Governor Decree, based on a suggestion the District LPC and the approval of the Governorate Local Council.

Institutional Relation between the Cabinet and the Localities



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Local Executives



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Governorate

- Appointed by the President
- Chief Executive
- A Deputy or more may be appointed
- Appoints a Secretary General (SG) and assistant SG to support him

Districts & Cities

- Appointed by Prime Minister or by Minister of Local Development
- Appointment according to “Leadership Law” no. 5/ 1991

Villages

- Appointment by the Governor

Local Popular Councils (LPCs)

- ❑ LPCs are formed at all levels of administrative units through direct elections
- ❑ At least 50% of LPCs members are workers and peasants.
- ❑ Gradual transfer of power to LPCs is granted by the local administration law.
- ❑ Heads and deputies are elected by the members.

Local Popular Councils (LPCs)

Administrative Level	LPC
Governorate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ In desert & Canal governorates: 14 members per district▪ In other governorates: 14 members per district
District	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Capital City: 12 members▪ Cities with more than one administrative division: 14 members▪ The rest of the local units: 10 members

Local Popular Councils (LPCs)

Administrative Level	LPC
City	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ With administrative divisions: 14 members▪ With only one division: 24 members
Neighborhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ With administrative divisions: 12 members▪ With only one division: 18 members
Villages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ With no affiliated villages: 24 members▪ With affiliated villages:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Headquarter village: 2 members,▪ Other village (s): 1 member

Drawbacks of the Current Egyptian Local System

- ❑ There are many players involved in the local affairs.
- ❑ Local administrative agencies act more like “decision implementer” than a “decision maker”.
- ❑ The role of the LPCs in defining priorities of the local citizens is very weak.
- ❑ These drawbacks have resulted in increasing calls for immediate reform to the localities, in a way that makes them more responsive to the development priorities of local citizens.
- ❑ Limited fiscal and technical capacities for the localities.
- ❑ The role of civil society organizations with respect to local issues is very limited.

Local System Reform: Objectives



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- ❑ Improve citizens satisfaction regarding the public services and reduce the criticism addressed to the government.
- ❑ Foster local development that takes into account geographical balance and spatial dimension.
- ❑ Improve efficiency in managing public funds.
- ❑ Raise the potential of localities to mobilize and increase their own resources.
- ❑ Enable the national level to give more attention to strategic functions.
- ❑ Improve information flow at both levels, the national and the local.
- ❑ Develop a system to strengthen accountability, transparency and partnership between institutions at central and local levels.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION

