As we promised in the first article, we illustrate our argument by an argument by experts and by an argument by technicians and the silence of most of the experts.

As we have mentioned, Sudan and Egypt missed the global forum which discussed the Nile water and the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) and the self-proclaimed new international experts in Egypt and Sudan argued that writing articles and airing television interviews in Cairo and Khartoum were enough to halt the construction of the Renaissance Dam. In the meantime, some Ethiopian experts and international experts published articles in three international peer-reviewed journals specializing in water issues (The International Journal of Water, International Journal of Water Resources Development, International Water Policy) showing and explaining the right of Ethiopia to building the Great Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD), and the Dam benefits to Sudan and Egypt. These three periodicals are the journals and forums of international experts in water resources. In contrast, not a single article was published by an Egyptian or a Sudanese expert, or by any other nationality criticizing the Renaissance Dam. And not a single Egyptian or Sudanese expert had appeared in any international session to explain and defend Egypt and Sudan’s refusal of the Dam. Thus, while the Ethiopian experts were presenting their research and studies at the international conferences, and publishing their articles in international water academic journals, and showing the justice of their case in such international forums, the self-proclaimed Egyptian and Sudanese international experts were continuously making rhetoric statements in Egypt and Sudan. However, one of these briefing statements said the Renaissance Dam will result in an earthquake that will crack the Kaaba itself (the Grand Mosque in Mecca), and while Egypt was threatening to take military action against the Dam, Ethiopia was talking about cooperation and sale of the Dam electricity at the production cost to Egypt and Sudan. The first important report on the Nile Basin were completed and published. The first report was prepared at the request of the Ministers of Water of the four countries to take advantage of the huge power in the operation of the Renaissance Dam of Ethiopia and the Sudanese-Egyptian powerhouse and stop the floods, without the social and environmental disasters and the massive financial cost.

The Convention has so far been ratified by 36 countries.

The Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) could have been, with some cooperation, the viable alternative to the Egyptian High Dam and the Sudanese El-Roseires Reservoir. That decision could have led to the cited coexistence bloc, which emerged in 1959, following the signing of the Nile Water Agreement that year. That crack in the Egyptian-Sudanese relationship was a great achievement of the Ethiopian strategy. Then Egypt returned and demanded the new Sudanese law to stop the construction of the Dam, and the two countries on 23 March 2015 and two countries signed the March 2015 Agreement. The cooperation is the primary and only basis for benefiting by any joint water resource. History has confirmed this fact so many times. The four countries of the Senegal River (Senegal, Mauritania, Mali and Guinea) built two dams on the Senegal River (Ma-ka-Diama Dam and Manantali Dam). These countries share the benefits of the two dams such as electricity, irrigation water, drinking water and the flooding control. Besides, Brazil and Paraguay built Itaipu Dam on the Paraná River to generate electricity for both countries and selling part of it to the state of Argentina. The Niger River ten countries manage the river through a Joint Commission, as such generates significant benefits, especially in the matter of navigation and the prevention of floods.

As we have repeatedly mentioned, the United Nations International Watercourse Convention, which entered into force on 17 August 2014, stresses the principle of cooperation. The Convention includes the word cooperation and its derivatives about fifteen times. The Convention has so far been ratified by 36 countries.

The Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) could have been, with some cooperation, the viable alternative to the Egyptian High Dam and the Sudanese El-Roseires Reservoir. That decision could have led to the cited coexistence bloc, which emerged in 1959, following the signing of the Nile Water Agreement that year. That crack in the Egyptian-Sudanese relationship was a great achievement of the Ethiopian strategy. Then Egypt returned and demanded the new Sudanese law to stop the construction of the Dam, and the two countries on 23 March 2015 and two countries signed the March 2015 Agreement.