



**Arab Republic of Egypt
Ministry of Antiquities**

EGYPTIAN WORLD HERITAGE SITE

**State of Conservation Report
Abu Mena**



**Cairo, Egypt
2018**



Ministry of Antiquities

1. Executive Summary:

- Referring to the decisions of the WHC on Abu Mena, Session 38 in Doha in Qatar in 2014, Session 39 in Bonn in Germany in 2015, Session 40 in Istanbul in Turkey in 2016 and Session 41 in Krakow in Poland in 2017, which discussed recommendations concerning the property, including the removal of encroachments; regarding the state of conservation of the property and the implementation level of the recommended corrective measures plan for the property in 2017, the State Party undertakes an analysis of ways to address the underlying causes of the rising water table, submits a revised modification of the boundaries of both the property and buffer zone and requests the on-going or planned restoration interventions at the property and visitor centre project.
- The Egyptian government has removed the encroachments from the buffer zone. The sector at the Ministry of Antiquities has prepared a conservation plan which aims to restore the objects discovered in the archaeological area in the south wall of the long side of the Great Basilica which suffers from dismantlement and cracks because of the high level of underground water and rains. The tomb's burial chamber, some walls of the visitor's courtyard, the northern and double bathrooms and the tomb need to be conserved.
- The Egyptian Government has formed a Board of Trustees from the ministries and stakeholders involved in the management of the Abu Mena World Heritage Site to discuss the removal of the new constructions with the local Bedouin and Coptic populations.
- The Ministry of Antiquities, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Irrigation are going to implement an action plan to maintain and clean water discharge lines and plant hydrophilic plants to reuse and decrease the underground water.
- The Ministry of Antiquities has modified the boundaries of the site to help with its maintenance and preservation. The modifications were sent to the WHC in 2016. The Projects Sector is preparing a conservation and capacity-raising plan and has applied for EU funding (USD 19,407,000) in order to implement it.