



Ministry of Antiquities
Minister Office
International Organizations
For Cultural Heritage &
The International Cooperation

HISTORIC CAIRO

Historic Cairo has nearly 90% of the Islamic and Coptic monuments of Egypt; it was inscribed on the World Heritage List by UNESCO in 1979.

The State Party has paid considerable attention in recently to this ancient city by embarking to start a project for the restoration and development of Cairo; this project accomplished a lot of its goals till many of the problems and challenges emerged after January 25 revolution; this challenges were addressed at the meetings of UNESCO.

The Urban Rehabilitation of Historic Cairo Project:

In 2010, UNESCO-WHC in collaboration with the Ministry of Antiquities and the concerned authorities launched the Urban Regeneration project for Historic Cairo (URHC) in the framework of a larger programme of technical assistance to the Egyptian Government concerning the management of the World Heritage property. URHC aims to prepare the planning and management tools necessary for the conservation of the a forementioned heritage values, in addition to the socio-economic revitalisation and environmental upgrading of the preserve the historic Cairo project urban rehabilitation as a part of a comprehensive program for the management of the idea of the development of these areas, as it has three stages which are the need for an integrated scheme to preserve the historical and cultural identity of the city, and the preparation of a management plan has the mechanism and deepen coordination between the institutions and bodies entrusted cooperation in this affair, and create a database of the Architectural Heritage of each area to be developed, emphasizing the importance of public awareness of the Egyptian people and the development of specific standards adhered to in how to deal with that heritage.

Government Actions:

First the Prime Minister's Decree to form a Ministerial Committee of Preserving Historic Cairo:

A Ministerial Decree has established a ministerial committee, headed by the Prime Minister and the tasks to maintain the physical fabric of Historic Cairo and remove any obstacles in order to achieve this aim.

Second: The Adoption of New Borders of Historic Cairo:

The Egyptian government has adopted the new borders of the World Heritage site of Historic Cairo and buffer zone of protection between the Nile and the Mokattam.

Third: The Adoption of a Statement of Outstanding Universal Value of Historic Cairo:

The Egyptian government has adopted a statement of the Outstanding Universal Value within the final proposal submitted on 13/01/2015.

Fourth: The Management Unit of Historic Cairo (management system):

Ministerial committee headed by the Prime Minister adopted the decision to form a technical specialised unit for the management of a property's World Heritage Historic Cairo.

Fifth: The Restoration of Ancient Buildings:

The State party has a four phases' plan for the restoration of historical buildings with a total number of 160 historic buildings was renovated 88 and there are 16 currently under restoration and another 27 buildings have a technical studies waiting for the renovation phase.



Ministry of Antiquities
Minister Office
International Organizations
For Cultural Heritage &
The International Cooperation

Sixth: Foreign Missions Operating Active:

- The US Ambassador's Fund (restoration of the Domes of Alsayeda Ateka and Al Jaafari - the restoration of the Alsayeda Rouqia's Dome).
- American Research Center (restoration of the Shagar Durr's Dome).
- European Union (the restoration and of Makaed Qaitbay - the restoration of Qaitbay's basin).
- French mission (excavations north wall - the east wall).

Seventh: The Development of Historical Areas:

- Urban development area for aesthetic projects.
- Project to raise the efficiency of Al-Muizz Street.

Eighth: Excavations in Cairo Historical Location:

Currently the French mission and the Aga Khan Foundation excavations are taking part at the walls of Old Cairo dated to the Fatimid and Ayyubid eras.

Ninth: Re-employment and the Use of the Historical Buildings:

The Permanent Committee of Islamic and Coptic antiquities at the session of 06/04/2014 approved the re-employment and the re-use of historical buildings and currently there are many proposals under preparation.

Tenth: Removing the Illegal Constructions:

Based on the current security situations in Egypt and the enforcement of the law; a governmental decisions issued has been declared to remove 347 illegal buildings, some of which have been implemented and work is underway to remove the rest and to provide a suitable alternative before starting the removal phase.

A ministerial decision is underway to declare Prime Minister's decision, with a legislative amendment to the law, stipulates the requirements that must be met in the construction or demolition in Historic area of Cairo.

Eleventh: a project proposal to maintain the historic Cairo in the face of the challenges of conservation, sustainability and development:

The project is currently sponsored by the Egyptian government and it will begin implementation over the next five years plan.

This project aims to:

- Maintaining the urban fabric and cultural heritage of Historic Cairo to serve the different activities.
- Providing the elements of cultural, social and economic development.
- Encouraging local crafts and industries and the development of traditional construction techniques.
- Promoting tourism as a field of investment and as a factor for the exchange of knowledge and culture.