



The Arab Republic of Egypt
Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities

State of Conservation Report



World Heritage Site:

ABU MENA

EGYPT 2022



Property of the World Heritage: Abu Mena

Country: Egypt

ID number: 90

Registration Date: 1979

Registration Standard: 4

Date of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger:

2001

Location: Mariout Desert, Burg El Arab City, Alexandria Governorate



I. Executive Summary of the Report

With reference to the decision of the World Heritage Committee (WHC) at its 44th extended session, held in Fuzhou, China, 16-31 July 2021, and its recommendations to keep the property on the “List of Heritage in Danger”, the State Party (the Arab Republic of Egypt) has undertaken consistent efforts to implement The WHC’s recommendations and meet its operational guidelines to save and safeguard the property and remove it from the endangered category.

To this end, the President of Egypt decreed on 2018 the establishment of a Higher Committee for (the Management of) the Egyptian World Heritage Sites (HC-EWHS), chaired by the Assistant to the President for National and Strategic projects, and comprising overarching stakeholders’ representation, with the option of inviting - upon need – government and non-government representatives. (Presidential Decree number 550 FY 2018). The Higher Committee’s action plan, adopted during its meeting on 10/01/2019, placed the WH site of Abu Mena at the lead of its immediate concerns, instructing the development of radical solutions to remedy the perils of rising underground waters, reversing the dilapidating results of erosion and collapse, and implementing WHC’s various recommendations for the restoration, preservation and conservation of WH properties.

This report overviews a mitigation strategy comprising 10 integrated tactical outreaches, adopted by the State Party to achieve the goal of removing the property from the “List of World Heritage in Danger”, to positively respond to the successive recommendations of the World Heritage Committee (from its 30th session in Vilnius, Lithuania (2006) to the 44th session in Fuzhou, China (2021)) and implement the necessary corrective measures to preserve the site and its Outstanding Universal Value. It includes the following:

1. The Site Management and Conservation Plan of Abu Mena.
2. A report on the current state of the archaeological remains and the ongoing restoration and conservation works.
3. A monitoring report on the current conservation status of the property, while mitigating the effects of groundwater levels.
4. The actions taken by the State to complete the implementation of all necessary corrective measures to protect and preserve the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property in order to reach the desired conservation status that justifies its removal from the “List of World Heritage in Danger”.



5. A technical report summarizing the efforts and results of the project to mitigate the groundwater levels at the Abu Mena WH Site.
6. A status report on the implementation of the recommendations of the WHC Response Monitoring Mission FY 2012 and the Advisory Mission FY 2018.
7. The property's sustainable development plan (part of the Site Management Plan).
8. A request for Minor Modification of the property's boundaries, in accordance with paragraphs 163-165 of the Operational Guidelines.
9. A Draft Retrospective Statement of the property's Outstanding Universal Value (RSOUV).
10. The structural diagram for the Abu Mena Steering Committee (AMSC) assigned to oversee the property's management, consisting of representative of the relevant government entities and non-government stakeholders, including the local community in Abu Mena. AMSC is empowered to direct the implementation of all conservation and restoration projects as well as managed tourism activities hosted on this WH property and encouraging the development of the local community and its cultural activities in the context of an integrated plan to preserve the human as well as the physical fabric of the site.

In conclusion, the State Party would like to communicate that **it welcomes a visit by a Reactive Monitoring Mission to Abu Mena site as of January 2022 at the WHC's discretion and convenience**, to review the current state of conservation of the property and assess the implementation of the recommendations in preparation for removing the property from the "List of World Heritage in Danger".