

No. 7142

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**UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC  
AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION  
and  
UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC**

**Agreement concerning the salvage of the Abu Simbel  
Temples (with annex). Signed at Cairo, on 9 November  
1963,**

*Official texts: English, French and Arabic.*

*Registered by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization  
on 27 February 1964.*

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**ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES  
POUR L'ÉDUCATION, LA SCIENCE ET LA CULTURE  
et  
RÉPUBLIQUE ARABE UNIE**

**Accord concernant la sauvegarde des temples d'Abou  
Simbel (avec annexe). Signé au Caire, le 9 novembre  
1963**

*Textes officiels anglais, français et arabe.*

*Enregistré par l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'éducation, la science et la  
culture le 27 février 1964.*

No. 7142. AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC CONCERNING THE SALVAGE OF THE ABU SIMBEL TEMPLES. SIGNED AT CAIRO, ON 9 NOVEMBER 1963

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*Considering* that the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,<sup>2</sup> hereinafter referred to as “the Organization”, assigns to it, among other functions, that of assuring the conservation and protection of the world’s inheritance of works of art and monuments of history and science,

*Considering* that the Organization has appealed for international co-operation in order to save the Abu Simbel temples endangered by the flooding due to the construction of the Aswan High Dam which the Government of the United Arab Republic has undertaken in order to ensure the country’s economic development and to promote the welfare of its people,

*Considering* that the General Conference of the Organization, by resolution 4.421 adopted at its twelfth session, decided that “the Organization must continue international action with a view to ensuring, in so far as may be possible through voluntary means, the temple preservation and monument removal programme” and requested the Executive Committee of the Campaign to Save the Monuments of Nubia to take steps to ensure the continuance of this international action,

*Considering* that the salvage project adopted by the Government of the United Arab Republic, involving the cutting of the temples into sections and their reconstruction at a higher level has been subsequently recommended by the various competent technical committees, and accepted by the Executive Committee of the Campaign to Save the Monuments of Nubia,

*Considering* that many Member States and Associate Members of the Organization have responded to its appeal and an Agreement concerning the voluntary contributions to be given for the execution of the Project to Save the Abu Simbel temples,<sup>3</sup> hereinafter referred to as “the Agreement concerning

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 9 November 1963, upon signature, in accordance with article VIII.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 4, p. 275; Vol. 18, p. 383; Vol. 21, p. 336; Vol. 34, p. 382; Vol. 43, p. 336; Vol. 45, p. 319; Vol. 53, p. 407; Vol. 68, p. 261; Vol. 98, p. 264; Vol. 126, p. 346; Vol. 161, p. 360; Vol. 166, p. 368; Vol. 172, p. 326; Vol. 190, p. 376; Vol. 191, p. 358; Vol. 213, p. 369; Vol. 243, p. 302; Vol. 250, p. 289; Vol. 253, p. 307; Vol. 256, p. 326; Vol. 257, p. 359; Vol. 300, p. 298; Vol. 307, p. 300; Vol. 316, p. 271; Vol. 353, p. 308; Vol. 383, p. 310; Vol. 387, p. 322; Vol. 393, p. 307; Vol. 415, p. 423; Vol. 423, p. 278; Vol. 425, p. 309; Vol. 429, p. 248; Vol. 444, p. 291, and Vol. 450, p. 404.

<sup>3</sup> See p. 209 of this volume.

voluntary contributions ", has been adopted by the Meeting of the Contributing Member States and Associate Members of the Organization held in Cairo on 8 November 1963,

*Considering* that this Agreement determines the amounts which, in order to save the Abu Simbel temples, the contributing Member States and Associate Members of the Organization undertake to pay into the hands of the Director-General of the Organization, together with indications as to the conditions, dates, currency and methods of such payments,

*Desiring* to define between themselves the methods and conditions under which the Organization will provide assistance to the Government of the United Arab Republic to save the Abu Simbel temples and the undertakings to be given by the Government of the United Arab Republic in this connexion,

The Organization, represented by its Director-General, Mr. René Maheu, duly authorized to that effect by the Executive Board of the Organization and

The Government of the United Arab Republic, represented by Dr. Abdel Kader Hatem, Minister of Culture and National Guidance

have stated the following :

1. In application of resolution 4.421 by which the General Conference of the Organization, at its twelfth session, recommended that the safeguarding of the Abu Simbel Temples be ensured while preserving the international character of the enterprise, the Government of the United Arab Republic has adopted a salvage project of the Abu Simbel Temples. This project involves the cutting of the temples into sections and their reconstruction on the same site at a higher level, at an estimated total cost of the equivalent of 36,000,000 dollars of the United States of America.
2. The Government of the United Arab Republic has agreed to proceed with the execution of the project and to take the necessary measures for its satisfactory completion, provided that the amount of international assistance received for that purpose shall be not less than the equivalent of 20,500,000 dollars of the United States of America.
3. The total assistance pledged by various Member States and Associate Members of the Organization although amounting to a very substantial figure has not, to this day, reached the above-mentioned amount and not all Member States and Associate Members concerned have, to this day, signed the Agreement concerning voluntary contributions.
4. Nevertheless, by reason of the timing of the construction of the High Dam, it is essential, if the Abu Simbel temples are to be saved, to start immediately the salvage work.