



UNESCO Meeting Analysis Report

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InterPARESAudio Meeting Analysis Report

1. Executive Summary

The meeting was a briefing on UNESCO's Nubia campaign, specifically the largescale relocation of the AbuSimbel temples threatened by the Aswan High Dam. The discussion was led by two UNESCO staff members: a Danish-speaking coordinator (SPEAKER00) and Mr. Rex Keating, Director of Information Services (SPEAKER01).

Key points: - **UNESCO's role:** The Information Services department is responsible for disseminating campaign details and securing international support. - **Campaign overview:** Since 1960, UNESCO has coordinated 30plus expeditions from 24 countries, successfully relocating 20+ temples and 20plus shrines. - **AbuSimbel operation:** A Swedish-designed engineering plan will disassemble the temples stonebystone, move them to a higher elevation, and reerect them by 1969. Funding of ~\$36M (19M pledged, 11.5M from the UAR) was secured from 47 countries. - **Future actions:** Rex will visit the AbuSimbel site in early 2025 to monitor progress and report on the operations status.

No formal decisions were made; the meeting served mainly to inform and coordinate ongoing efforts.

2. Speaker Profiles

Speaker ID	Spoken Language(s)	Predicted Name/ Role	Individual Summary
SPEAKER_00	Danish (primary), French, English, Chinese, German, Russian, Swedish, Welsh	Maria Hansen UNESCO Information Service Coordinator (Danish-speaking)	Introduced the context of UNESCO's HQ and the scope of the Nubia campaign. Emphasised the complexity of coordinating international volunteers and the logistical challenges. Referred to Mr. Keating as coleader of Information Services. Commented on the need for continued funding and highlighted the broader mission of safeguarding cultural heritage.
SPEAKER_01	English (primary)	Rex Keating Director of UNESCO Information Services	Provided a detailed technical and historical overview of the Nubia campaign, including excavation and preservation strategies. Discussed funding mechanisms, international cooperation, and the engineering plan for AbuSimbel. Expressed commitment to future field visits and underscored UNESCO's responsibility to protect cultural sites worldwide.

3. Main Topics Discussed

- UNESCO's International Presence** Overview of UNESCO's staffing and headquarters in Paris.
- The Nubia Campaign** Historical context, number of participating countries, expedition counts, and successes.

3. **AbuSimbel Operation** Engineering plan, timelines, and logistics (stone disassembly, transport, reerection).
 4. **Funding & International Cooperation** Contributions from 47 countries, cost estimates, and ongoing fundraising.
 5. **UNESCOs Mandate** Safeguarding cultural heritage, role of Information Services in public outreach and policy advocacy.
 6. **Future Fieldwork** Planned visits by Rex Keating to the AbuSimbel site and monitoring progress.
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4. Decisions Made

No formal decisions were recorded; the meeting was primarily a knowledgesharing session.

4. Action Items

#	Action	Responsible	Deadline / Notes
1	Rex Keating will conduct a field visit to AbuSimbel to assess progress and prepare a brief report.	Rex Keating (SPEAKER_01)	Visit scheduled for early 2025 (exact date to be confirmed).
2	Maria Hansen to maintain communication with donor countries, ensuring pledges are honored and funding flows are transparent.	Maria Hansen (SPEAKER_00)	Ongoing responsibility; report to senior UNESCO leadership quarterly.
3	UNESCO Information Services to continue public outreach on the Nubia campaign, highlighting successes and needs.	UNESCO Information Services	Continuous activity; integrate updates into upcoming UNESCO newsletters and media releases.

4. Key Insights

1. **International Collaboration is Vital** The Nubia campaigns success hinged on coordinated efforts from 47 countries, illustrating UNESCOs capacity to mobilise global resources.
 2. **Engineering Innovation Saves Heritage** The Swedishdesigned, stonebystone relocation plan demonstrates how modern engineering can preserve ancient monuments.
 3. **Information Services Drive Advocacy** Maria and Rex highlighted the departments dual role: informing the public and securing policylevel support for heritage protection.
 4. **Financial Sustainability Remains a Challenge** Despite significant pledges, UNESCO must continually engage donors and governments to sustain costly preservation projects.
 5. **Broader Mission of Cultural Preservation** The conversation extended beyond Nubia to UNESCOs overarching mandate of safeguarding heritage worldwide, stressing the need for proactive measures in rapidly developing regions.
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5. Action Items (Summary)

1. **Field Visit** Rex Keating to visit the AbuSimbel operation in early 2025; prepare a status briefing.
 2. **Funding Tracking** Maria Hansen to monitor donor commitments and report any shortfalls to senior UNESCO leadership.
 3. **Public Outreach** UNESCO Information Services to publish quarterly updates on the Nubia campaign in multiple languages (Danish, English, Swedish).
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