

UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
Office of Public Information
United Nations, N.Y.

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Press Release SC/899
8 March 1960

MESSAGE FROM UN SECRETARY-GENERAL DAG HAMMARSKJOLD
TO UNESCO DIRECTOR-GENERAL VITTORINO VERONESE ON THE
OCCASION OF LAUNCHING THE NUBIAN MONUMENTS CAMPAIGN

(8 March 1960)

United Nations Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold has sent a message to Dr. Vittorino Veronese, Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, on the occasion of today's official launching of an international campaign to save monuments of the Nubian Valley threatened by submersion as a result of the building of the Aswan high dam.

The campaign is being launched at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris in accordance with a decision of UNESCO's Executive Board, following requests from the governments of the United Arab Republic and the Sudan.

Mr. Hammarskjold is a member of the Committee of Patrons for the international campaign.

The message from the Secretary-General follows:

I count it a privilege to be associated with the Campaign that is about to be launched for the safeguarding of the monuments of Nubia and I should like to express to you my earnest hope that the Campaign will be an outstanding success.

All of us who recognize the imperative human needs which necessitate the flooding of the Nubian Valley must also welcome, and wish to further, the efforts to safeguard the threatened archaeological treasures that form so significant a part of man's cultural heritage. You have taken the first steps for achieving this purpose, in cooperation with the United Arab Republic and the Sudan. It remains to find the necessary funds, and I cannot but believe that a full and generous response, from all parts of the world, will be forthcoming.

The Charter provides that the United Nations shall promote international cultural cooperation: the United Nations stands ready to lend UNESCO and the governments concerned any support it can in the great task to which they have set their hand.

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For additional details on the campaign, see Press Releases UNESCO/1281 and 1283.
A statement by the UNESCO Director-General on the launching of the campaign will also be issued today.⁷