

**35th CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL LIBRARIES
(CDNL), QUEBEC CITY, CANADA, 13 AUGUST 2008**

COUNTRY REPORT

Name of Country: Egypt

Name of Library: The National Library & Archives of Egypt

Name of Chief Executive:

Dr. Saber Arab, Chair, The National Library & Archives of Egypt

Dr. Laila Galal Rizk, Director, The National Library at Bab Al Khalq, Cairo

Dr. Abdel Nasser Hassan, Director, The National Library at Corniche El Nil, Cairo

ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2008

1. The opening of the newly renovated early 20th century National Library at Bab Al Khalq in Cairo. The premises offers reading rooms where researchers and visitors can consult digital and microfilm copies of manuscripts (about 62, 000 titles, many in multiple volumes).

The Library also includes a three-floor exhibition area displaying selected items from its important collection of manuscripts, calligraphic albums and panels, papyri, and coins.

2. A protocol with CULTNAT (The Center for Documentation of Cultural and Natural Heritage) to create a catalogue (Arabic and English) of the Library's collection of illustrated Persian manuscripts included in the UNESCO Memory of the World Register comprising 66 items dating from the 14th to 19th centuries.

3. A protocol with CULTNAT for the digitisation and management of Arabic newspapers and periodicals (1800-1961).

4. In cooperation with the Ford Foundation, the setting up of The National Library of Egypt Summer School (3 sessions to date), a series of training workshops in methods of research in the humanities culminating in a group project.

5. Funded by the Ministry of International Cooperation, the purchase of 3 mobile libraries to serve under privileged areas of Cairo.

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