A New Egyptian Museum: Its Role and Activity in the Africa and Middle East Region

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Museum activities in the Africa and Middle East region are at an exciting phase of
development with the Egyptian Museum in Cairo built in 1902 being a world-recognized
institution and a nodal point for international partnerships. Due to the growing need for
space and modernization, a new alternative facility for the Museum is being constructed
by the Egyptian government. This new facility, the Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM)
scheduled to open in 2015, will house and display a large number of ancient Egyptian
artifacts including the famous Tutankhamen collection. One of the important parts of the
GEM, the Conservation Center (GEM-CC) has already being active with more than 160
professional staffs with the technical assistance of Japan International Cooperation
Agency. Thorough its most important role, transporting, documenting, conserving and
displaying the artifacts, the GEM-CC will contribute not only to Egyptian citizens but to
a great many visitors from all over the world. The presentation will highlight the vision of
the GEM-CC to “be a regional center of excellence for conservation and collection care”
and a goal to “be an international education, training and research institution” as well as
the various activities and the regional leadership role that the GEM-CC is developing.