



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

The Director-General

To the Permanent Delegations,
National Commissions and Contact
Points of the Parties to the 2005
Convention

Ref. : DG/4.1/10/28

15 MAR 2010

Sir/Madam,

As you know, the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) was established by the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. It entered into its operational phase in June 2009, following the adoption of Guidelines on the use of the resources of the fund by the Conference of Parties.

Allow me to inform you of the current status of this voluntary multi-donor Fund, conceived primarily to promote cooperation for sustainable development and poverty reduction with a view to fostering the emergence of a dynamic cultural sector in developing countries.

When the Conference of Parties adopted the IFCD's guidelines, it recommended that the Parties make contributions to the Fund equal to at least one per cent of their country's contribution to UNESCO's budget. It was further suggested that voluntary contributions be made on an annual basis.

As of 11 March 2010, a total of 21 contributions have been received from various sources (i.e., Parties to the Convention, States not party to the Convention, and one private donor), totalling US \$2 391 489. A complete list of contributions is enclosed for your information. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest thanks to those States Parties that have lent their financial support to the Fund.

The main IFCD priorities are: strengthening policies for culture and cultural infrastructures; fostering the emergence of new cultural industries; and protecting and promoting cultural expressions at risk of extinction, under serious threat or in need of urgent safeguarding. An IFCD Fact Sheet is attached for your information and use.

As you can appreciate, in order to achieve these goals and support projects and activities in developing countries that are Party to the 2005 Convention, additional financial resources will be required.

I would like, therefore, to appeal once again to all State Parties to support the Convention's goals by providing an annual voluntary contribution to the International Fund for Cultural Diversity. Moreover, I intend to issue a similar appeal for contributions every year.

For practical information regarding contributions to the Fund, please consult the 2005 Convention website at the following address: [http://www.unesco.org/culture/culturaldiversity/To contribute en 2010.pdf](http://www.unesco.org/culture/culturaldiversity/To%20contribute%20en%202010.pdf).

I thank you in advance for supporting UNESCO's efforts to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions through the IFCD.

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Irina Bokova