



The Assistant-Director General for Culture

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

Letter addressed to Secretary
General of National Commissions

22 April 2015

Ref.: CLT/HER/HMD/15/2845

Subject : **Creation of a Database for the UNESCO Sharjah Prize for Arab Culture**

Sir/Madam,

On behalf of the Director-General, I am pleased to inform you that the Executive Board, at its 195th session, decided to renew the UNESCO Sharjah Prize for Arab Culture for the next six years. This decision is in line with the new criteria for UNESCO Prizes and takes into account the new Rules and Procedures for the creation and renewal of UNESCO Prizes. During its deliberation, the Board recognized the important role that the Sharjah Prize plays in promoting a culture of peace and in enhancing the understanding of Arab culture.

Created in 1998 and awarded since 2001, the Prize aims at rewarding significant contributions made by two eminent personalities, groups of persons or institutions from the Arab States and from abroad, to the development, knowledge and spread of Arab culture by means of an artistic, intellectual or promotional outreach aimed at enhancing intercultural dialogue and understanding. To date, 24 people from around the world have been awarded this Prize (see the attached list of laureates).

After 12 successful editions, we consider that it is essential that the UNESCO-Sharjah Prize for Arab Culture acquire an exhaustive database encompassing individuals, as well as national, regional or international institutions, with an artistic, scientific or educational vocation and working towards the promotion of Arab Culture in accordance with the founding principles of UNESCO's Constitution.

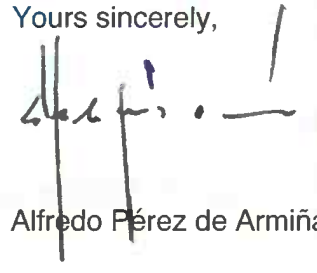
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I invite you, therefore to propose the names and contact details of individuals and/or institutions working for the promotion and better understanding of Arab Culture in your country, which you consider should be included in this database. To that end, we have created a form that can be accessed online at the following link: <https://secure.unesco.org/experts-arab-culture>.

Moreover, I invite you or person(s)/institution(s) designated by you to provide us with all the requested information in the form, and to submit it by 30 August 2015. In case of technical difficulties, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Shama Chokkam-Sunderraj, focal point for the UNESCO Sharjah Prize for Arab Culture in the Culture Sector (tel: (33) 1 45 68 42 71; e-mail: s.chokkam-sunderraj@unesco.org; prix.sharjah@unesco.org).

Thanking you for your valuable cooperation, I remain,

Yours sincerely,



Alfredo Pérez de Armiñán

Enc.

cc: Permanent Delegations to UNESCO