



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

Assistant Director General Africa Department

Mrs Johanna Odonkor Svanikier
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Ref: ADG/PAX/19/1513

Dear Mrs Odonkor Svanikier,

On behalf of the Director-General, I wish to thank you for your letter of 22 January last, by which you request permission to use UNESCO's name and logo for the Heritage and Cultural Society of Africa Summit that will be hosted in Ghana from 5 to 11 of August 2019.

At the outset, I wish to congratulate you on this wonderful initiative. As you are no doubt aware, the International Decade of Peoples of African Descent is of great importance to UNESCO, particularly in view of the project on slavery the Organization has been implementing since 1994. Known as "The Slave Route Project: Resistance, Liberty, Heritage", the Project encourages new approaches to the preservation and promotion of itineraries of memory related to the slave trade, and promotes the contributions of people of African descent to the construction of contemporary societies with the help and guidance of an International Scientific Committee.

The programme of events that you propose for the Summit in Accra, which will give communities of African descent the opportunity to have a tangible experience of the history and realities of the slave trade, reflects some of the guiding principles of UNESCO's Slave Route Project. Moreover, one of the Organization's mandates is to promote and protect intangible heritage, helping to build bridges between societies as a way of supporting peaceful development processes. In this context, creating awareness around contemporary African cultures is of great importance to promoting wealth creation in an active manner, encouraging foreign direct investment in cultural industries and developing entrepreneurial projects. Such actions are fundamental to protecting the richness and uniqueness of African heritage.

Given the above and the international nature of the Summit, it is my pleasure to inform you that the Director-General has decided to grant UNESCO's patronage to the HACSA Summit, and to authorize the use of the Organization's name and logo for this important event, in accordance with the enclosed general conditions. I have every confidence that it will provide a most enriching experience for all those who participate in it.

With my best wishes for the Summit's success, I remain,

Yours sincerely,


Firmin Edouard Matoko