

## The Assistant Director-General Sector for External Relations and Public Information

Ref.: SHS/HPD/HGR/2011/057

Subject: Call for nominations for the UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence, 2011

Sir/Madam,

On behalf of the Director-General, I am pleased to invite your Organization to submit nominations for the eighth UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence (2011).

In 1995, at the proposal of Madanjeet Singh, the Indian artist, writer and diplomat who participates actively in the Organization's activities as a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador, and in recognition of his lifelong devotion to the causes of peace and tolerance, the Executive Board unanimously created the UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence, thus marking the United Nations Year for Tolerance and the 125th anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi.

This biennial Prize is awarded to honour individuals, institutions and other entities or non-governmental organizations that have made exceptional contributions and demonstrated leadership in the promotion of tolerance and non-violence.

The name of the prizewinner will be announced in October 2011 through a UNESCO press release that will be disseminated worldwide, and a dedicated page on the UNESCO website. The 2011 award ceremony will be held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on 16 November 2011, on the occasion of the International Day for Tolerance.

In accordance with the Statutes of the Prize, which were amended by the Executive Board in 2010 (184 EX/Decision 35), nominations may be submitted to the Director-General of UNESCO by Member States in consultation with their National Commissions, as well as by non-governmental organizations and foundations maintaining official relations with the Organization and active in a field covered by the Prize. Former laureates of the Prize, qualified eminent personalities, as well as any suitable person or civil society organization working for the advancement of a culture of peace, human rights, non-violence and tolerance in the world also may nominate candidates worthy of receiving this outstanding international distinction.

The nominees should be men, women, institutions or non-governmental organizations that have distinguished themselves through particularly remarkable initiatives extending over several years to promote the understanding and solution of international or national problems in a spirit of tolerance and non-violence, namely:

7, place de Fontenoy 75352 Paris 07 SP, France Tél.: +33 (0)1 45 68 10 00 Fax: +33 (0)1 45 68 16 90 To International Non-Governmental Organizations and Foundations maintaining official relations with UNESCO

- by directly carrying out an educational activity;
- by implementing international, national, regional or local programmes aimed at the promotion of tolerance and non-violence;
- by mobilizing initiatives and/or means likely to contribute to the implementation of such programmes;
- by producing teaching materials or other special aids designed for the development of programmes to teach tolerance and non-violence;
- by undertaking, coordinating or encouraging research in those fields or fields related to specific aspects of tolerance;
- by conducting special surveys or launching original undertakings that have made for significant development in the promotion of tolerance and non-violence.

Please find enclosed the form for submitting nominations (Annex I) and a copy of the Statutes of the Prize (Annex II).

The nomination form must be completed in either **English** or **French**. You are kindly requested to return it, duly signed and stamped, **no later than 9 September 2011** and directly to Ms Angela Melo, Secretary of the UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence in the Division of Human Rights, Philosophy and Democracy of the Social and Human Sciences Sector (UNESCO, 1 rue Miollis, 75732 Paris Cedex 15; tel.: (33-1) 45 68 38 17; fax: (33-1) 45 68 57 26; email: a.melo@unesco.org, cc.: i.zoubenko-laplante@unesco.org). The recommendation concerning the nominee, contained in paragraph 3 of the nomination form, should be concise. Additional materials (publications, video, audio and other teaching materials, etc.) may be attached to the nomination form. They will be presented to the international jury and will remain at UNESCO.

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

Eric Falt

Enclosures: 2

cc: National Commissions for UNESCO

Permanent Delegations and Observers to UNESCO

UNESCO field offices