Celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Slave Route Project

Wednesday, 10 September 2014
UNESCO Headquarters

Programme

Part I  10 a.m. - 12.50 p.m., Room IV
Round Table: from the Slave Route to the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015-2024): what directions?

9.30 - 10 a.m. Welcoming of participants

10 - 10.15 a.m. Opening session
- Mr Alfredo Pérez de Armiñán, UNESCO Assistant Director-General
- Mrs Lalla Aïcha Ben Barka, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Africa
- Mr Mactar N'doye, Anti-Discrimination Section, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (Geneva)
- H.E. Mr E. Courtenay Rattray, Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations, Chairman of the Permanent Memorial in Honour of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Committee (New York)

10.15 – 11.05 a.m. Panel 1: Actions in the field of historical research
  *Introduction/Moderator:* Mrs Nelly Schmidt, member of the International Scientific Committee for the Slave Route Project

11.05 - 11.50 a.m. Panel 2: Actions in the field of education
  *Introduction/Moderator:* Mr Hilary Beckles, member of the International Scientific Committee for the Slave Route Project

11.50 a.m. - 12.35 p.m. Panel 3: Actions in the field of culture (heritage, creativity and development)
  *Introduction/Moderator:* Mr Ali Moussa Iye, Chief, History and Memory for Dialogue Section, UNESCO Culture Sector

12.35 - 12.50 p.m. Conclusion of discussion by Mr Doudou Diène, former Director of the UNESCO Division for intercultural projects

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Part II  1 - 1.30 p.m., Suffren Hall
Inauguration and visit of the exhibition “Africans in India: from Slaves to Generals and Rulers”

- Address by Mr Getachew Engida, UNESCO Deputy Director-General
- Address by H.E. Ms Ruchira Kamboj, Ambassador of the Republic of India to UNESCO
- Address Ms Sylviane A. Diouf, Curator of the exhibition, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture (New York)
- Artistic performance (Indian dance)

Part III  2.30 - 6.15 p.m., Room I
Commemorative Ceremony: Testimonies, influences and creativity

2.30 - 2.45 p.m.   Welcoming of personalities (Salle Miró 1,2,3)
2.45 - 3 p.m.   Accompaniment on the way to the Symbolic Globe
3 - 3.30 p.m.   Release of doves around the UNESCO Symbolic Globe, in presence of Ms Irina Bokova, UNESCO Director-General and eminent personalities invited
   - Greetings by Mr Michel Reinette, master of ceremonies
   - Performance by TF Gospel Singers
   - Accompaniment of personalities by Nanou Coul “griotte” (from the Globe to Room I)
4 - 4.10 p.m.   Formal opening of the ceremony by Mr Michel Reinette, master of ceremonies and performance by Tazenco Gwo ka, Antillean music group
4.10 - 4.30 p.m.   Screening of a video on the accomplishments of the Slave Route Project
   - Address by Mrs Irina Bokova, UNESCO Director-General
   - Video message from Mr Ban Ki-Moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations
4.30 - 4.50 p.m.   1st Interlude
   Abyale, Franco-Gabonese Jazz singer
   - Address by H.E. Mr Abdou Diouf, former President of Senegal and Secretary-General of the International Organisation of la Francophonie
   - Address by Mrs Christiane Taubira, French Minister of Justice
4.50 - 5.15 p.m.   2nd Interlude
   Anuanga, Masaï choreographer
   - Address from Mr Hao Ping, President of 37th UNESCO General Conference
Address from the Right Honourable Michâelle Jean, former Governor-General of Canada, Member of the International Scientific Committee for the Slave Route Project, UNESCO Special Envoy for Haiti

5.15 - 5.35 p.m.  
3rd Interlude  
Mary Paz, Cuban eletropercussion  
- Address by Mr Li Ruohong, Chairman of the China World Peace Foundation (Beijing) and donor  
- Address by Mrs Maria Elisa Vélasquez, President of the International Scientific Committee for the Slave Route Project

5.35 - 5.45 p.m.  
4th Interlude  
Video clip of departed celebrities committed to the fight against racism and for the recognition of African heritage  
- Address by Mr Marcus Miller, Artist for Peace and Spokesman for the Slave Route Project

5.45 - 6.15 p.m.  
Closure  
- Sefarat’ al khafaâ, Gnawa music group  
- Afro Samba Project by choreographer Alex Lima, Brazilian music and dance group

From 7 p.m., Fontenoy Restaurant (7th floor)  
Cocktail Reception offered by the Permanent Delegation of the United States of America to UNESCO (by invitation only)

- Address by H.E. Mrs Crystal Nix-Hines, Ambassador of the Permanent Delegation of the United States of America to UNESCO  
- Projection of film by the Permanent Delegation of the United States of America to UNESCO  
- Music performance by Mr Marcus Miller, Artist for Peace and Spokesman for the Slave Route Project