International Theatre Institute ITI

World Organization for the Performing Arts

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To the Authorities of the Government and to the People of China

UNESCO/Paris & Shanghai/China, 20 February 2020

Letter of Encouragement, Appreciation and Friendship at the current difficult time

Dear Friends in China,

On behalf of the Members of the Executive Council and the General Secretariat of the International Theatre Institute (ITI), we would like to express our heartfelt very best wishes to the members of government and all the people of China.

We encourage you and support you in your endeavours to handle this harmful and sometimes deadly novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Your efforts are helping the people of China and all over the world feel safer, so that they live a prosperous and happy life without fear of the virus.

We appreciate your openness and transparency of sharing vital information with your people and the world. We are thankful that you are taking preventative and strict measures so that the virus can no longer be spread but handled – in the best interest of the Chinese people and the people of the world.

We admire all those people rising to the challenge and working around the clock to ensure the safety and health of the public. We are happy that the Chinese people are united. You are impressing everyone in the world with strong courage and determined action.

It is still in our fresh memory that five years ago the Shanghai Municipality made the quick and decisive action and invited the International Theatre Institute (ITI) to relocation its headquarters to the city of Shanghai. Since having the headquarters based in Shanghai, the International Theatre Institute and its Chinese friends in Shanghai and all over China have built up a strong relationship based on trust and mutual assistance, and were engaged in many joint projects.

In this time of crisis, we feel even closer with you and will strongly collaborate with you so that the Chinese people will not be beaten by this virus but will overcome it and triumph at the end – for the benefit of China and for the benefit of the world.

We are with you in this fight. We fight with you against the virus. And we will assist you the best we can, so that the people in China and all over the world will be able to live in a safe and healthy environment.

Together we can make this world a better place where mutual assistance, respect, peace, trust and friendship can happen – for the best of everyone.

Jia You China! Jia You Wuhan!

The Executive Council and General Secretariat International Theatre Institute ITI

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