



**Re: International Peace Movement not by Force but by Art under the patronage of UNESCO
(April 20th to 23rd)**

To: ITI Centres and ITI CIDC Tri-Network on Social Change Network, Peace and Heritage concerns through the kindness of the ITI International Secretariat

From: Philippine Centre of ITI CIDC Social Change Network Earthsavers UNESC Artist for Peace

Dear Colleagues in the ITI:

It has been sometime since we all met in Segovia and the ITI general assembly gave its unanimous approval to the CIDC social change network and the Philippine ITI Centre presentation of the global launch of An International Peace Movement not by Force but by Art under UNESCO patronage. Please be informed in consultation with the ITI secretariat & Director General Tobias Biancone we are proceeding with the execution of this historic event to harness a creative army composed of artists, media leaders, teachers and social activists as a concientizing force to help prevent war which could explode in the disputed China Sea and the divided Korean peninsula. It will be held for the triple observance of United Nations Day for Global Creativity and Innovation Earth Day and ITI World Dance Week for its 70th Anniversary April 20 – 23, 2018

This cultural diplomatic initiative consists of a *Music-Dance-Theatre Arts Concert with* participants from claimant countries of the conflicted West Philippine/China Sea and the divided Korean Peninsula to help lower the decibel of confrontation and aggressive behavior. It is complemented with an Interdisciplinary, Interfaith Leaders Forum in education, culture, environment, science and communications which will be hosted at the Philippine Senate. It will forge a declaration on implementing cultural rapprochement through the dynamic, inclusive application of arts and media for popularizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and scientific data for the protection of the ocean as a carbon sink from pollution and overheating of the waters to mitigate further climate change catastrophes. It is also geared to promote understanding of the oceans as a global commons to guarantee free unhampered access of the sea lanes with adherence to the Law of the Sea. Arts, likewise has an inherent therapeutic character to help heal trauma of war victims of conflict and ecological disasters.

This significant gathering **Art Speak for Peace** was approved by the General Assembly of UNESCO Goodwill Ambassadors and Artists for Peace in 2016 and unanimously agreed upon at the General Conference of the International Theatre Institute, the World Performing Arts Organization in consultative status with UNESCO. (Attached is the letter of patronage of UNESCO Director General Audrey Azoulay, the endorsement of the International Theatre Institute, the UNESCO Philippine Mission in Paris, letter of endorsement of Senator Loren Legarda, Chairperson of the Committee on Foreign Relations and Climate Change, the National Commission on Culture and the Arts, and that of the United Nations Information Center and the Climate institute).

In this connection, on this United Nations declared *Decade for Cultural Rapprochement and Biodiversity Protection*, we seek the crucial cooperation of the ITI for those involve in the subject theme of PEACE and the SDG's to send a delegate to participate in a 2 day interdisciplinary forum which will be held in the Senate of the Philippines. For those centres coming from countries that claim a part of the disputed sea we hope that you can send a performing group focused on the theme (maximum of 8 members). We trust your government or organization can provide the travel fare of the participant and the delegate for the performing artists and ITI delegate from the executive council particularly from the Asia Pacific Region. We shall provide the internal transport mechanics for rehearsals and performances, hotel accommodation and food requirements. We have a slot of 15 artists as special guests from the ITI family where we provide board and lodging. Kindly confirm the first 15 will have the full hospitality, others who wish to join we shall provide a very reduced rate for the hotel. Kindly confirm your participation by March 10. We hope that you can secure assistance from UNESCO Commission in your country or ministry of culture and education.

The Forum will be held on 20th and 21st of April while the concert of individual country performances will be on the 21st as well as a collective collaborative interfaith, intercultural, theatrical liturgy for peace linked to the SDGs with a special focus on the protection of the oceans will be undertaken on the evening of the 22nd. The 23rd is the presentation of the Manila Declaration for peace and the SDGs to officials of the Philippine government and representatives of UNESCO, ASEAN and other cooperating U.N agencies.

A visit to Corregidor and /or Marawi is scheduled after the Press Conference. As a prelude to the event, a radio Soap Opera on Peace and the SDGs will start its world premiere broadcast and webcast on March 1 at DZRH in celebration of the special days dedicated to *Women, Water and World Theatre*.

We earnestly hope you can send us by the 10th of March a favorable consideration of our request for partnership in forging this common essential path way to peace. For queries, please call +63915-898-3947/ (632)524-6662. We are asking the ITI Secretariat to send this information to the ITI family.

With the highest expression of our appreciation and esteem, I remain.

Sincerely yours,



Cecilia Guidote-Alvarez

Director, Earthsavers UNESCO Artist for Peace

President, Philippine Center of the International Theatre Institute (ITI)

Founder, Philippine Educational Theater Association (PETA)

Ramon Magsaysay Outstanding Asian Laureate, 1972