Dear Members and Friends of ITI, dear Readers

It is a great pleasure for me to invite you to join the second online conference "ResiliArt that UNESCO is initiating in partnership with the International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity. The theme is: The Road to Recovery.

- ITI feels honoured that Mohamed Saif Al-Afkham, United Arab Emirates - President of the International Theatre Institute (IT) is part of this debate.
- These are the panellists that take part as well:
  - ANITTA, Brazil - Singer, songwriter and actress
  - Ferne DOWNEY, Canada - Actress and President of the International Federation of Actors (FIA)
  - Cheick Oumar SISSOKO, Mali - Film director and Secretary-General of the Pan-African Federation of Filmmakers
  - Pascal ROGARD, France - Director General of the Society of Dramatic Authors and Composers (SACD)
  - Fouzia SAEED, Pakistan - Director General of the National Arts Council of Pakistan
  - Jana VOZAROVA, Slovakia - General Director of Authors Association of Slovakia (LITA)
  - (More information below.)

Please join the distinguished speakers on 14 May 2020, from 2 pm to 4 pm (Paris time).

With very best regards

Tobias BIANCONE
Director General
International Theatre Institute ITI
UNESCO will hold the second ResiliArt debate in partnership with the International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity on May 14, from 2 to 4 p.m. (Paris time).

The containment measures related to the COVID-19 pandemic have severely affected the creative sectors, limiting the capacity to create, produce and distribute cultural expressions worldwide. The deconfinement phase will allow a gradual resumption of activities compatible with the physical distancing measures. Artists, cultural professionals, cultural institutions, small and medium-sized enterprises, associations, organizations and governments must reflect on the revival of the sector in a context where the VIDOC-19 pandemic remains a major threat to human health. The cultural activities that can be resumed will be subject to constraints that will have significant human and financial impacts. Some activities will only be able to resume in the very long term, particularly those that depend on international mobility. The situation therefore requires a higher level of public support than usual, as well as a review of business models, in order to maintain diverse, sustainable and dynamic cultural ecosystems.

The recovery of the cultural sector faces major challenges globally, such as:

- Inequalities between countries are likely to be exacerbated by the crisis. Developing countries are calling for international cultural cooperation, already fragile and tenuous before the pandemic, to address the situation, in a context where efforts are mainly concentrated at the national level.
- Domestically, the situation threatens the weakest links in the cultural ecosystem. There is a significant risk of increased inequalities affecting women, indigenous peoples and persons belonging to minorities in particular.
- While the transition to the digital environment is accelerating, cultural policies are often not adapted to deal with rapid technological developments. Large multinational companies are monopolizing markets without contributing to the cultural ecosystems in terms of funding, discoverability or copyright protection.
- The already significant digital divide between countries and regions could become even more pronounced at a time when the world is facing a pressing need for innovation. While the crisis precipitates the transition to the digital environment, the development of necessary systems and platforms requires scientific, technical and economic resources that are inequitably distributed.
ResiliArt
UNESCO launched the ResiliArt movement in April 2020 and organized a first debate on 15 April with CISAC. The second debate will take place on May 14 and UNESCO has chosen to partner with IFCCD, which is proud to co-present the event.

ResiliArt is a global movement that consists of a series of virtual debates with key industry professionals and artists—both renown and emerging—that raises awareness of the far-reaching impact of the current containment measures on the cultural sector. It aims to support Member States in the development of policies and financial mechanisms that can help individuals and creative communities overcome the crisis.

This ResiliArt debate will be structured around four key themes:

- The constraints faced by cultural professionals, creators and artists in resuming their activities and the measures put in place to support them;
- The adoption of measures and policies to support and promote the diversity of cultural expressions, particularly in the digital environment;
- New international relations and modalities of cultural cooperation;
- The sustainability of new forms of creation and of the expression of cultural diversity.

Format
The debate will take place on May 14, from 2pm to 4pm (Paris time). After two rounds of questions, the public will have the opportunity to ask questions to the panelists during a Q&A session.

Keynote speakers at the second edition of UNESCO’s ResiliArt debate, 14 May
Mohamed Saif-Al-Afkham, Ferne Downey, Cheick Oumar Sissoko, Pascal Rogard
Anitta, Fouzia Saeed, Jana Vozarova

The panelists will be led by a moderator. They will answer tailored questions while engaging in a dialogue and building and reacting to other speakers’ responses. The debate will take place on an existing online platform that allows unlimited number of audiences to follow the discussions as well as post questions using a chat function.

Join the debate
Join the debate
You will be able to follow the debate using the link below. The link will go live on 14 May 2020, 2 pm to 4 pm (Paris time).

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>>ITI Website

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