Ref.: CL/4303

Subject: Call for nominations for the 2020 UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence

Sir/Madam,

I have the honour to invite your Government to submit nominations for the 2020 UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence. This Prize honours significant activities in the scientific, artistic, cultural and communication fields that promote and encourage a spirit of tolerance and non-violence.

Established in 1995 to mark the United Nations Year for Tolerance and the 125th anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi, the Prize has been awarded biennially since 1996 on 16 November, on the occasion of the International Day for Tolerance and the anniversary day of the founding of UNESCO. In 2020, the Prize will be awarded for the twelfth time.

The Prize consists of a financial award of USD$100,000, from a donation made graciously by the Madanjeet Singh Foundation. The prize-winner is selected on the basis of assessments and recommendations made by the Jury of the Prize.

Nominations may be submitted to the Director-General by Member States in consultation with their National Commissions, as well as by non-governmental organizations and foundations maintaining official relations with UNESCO 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 may also nominate candidates.

In accordance with the Prize’s Statutes, candidates can be women, men, 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.

To Ministers responsible for relations with UNESCO
I am sure you will give this Prize all due attention and propose the most qualified candidates of your country.

You are kindly requested to return the nomination form (Annex I) to the address indicated on it before 30 April 2020, to ensure its consideration by the Jury.

The office of the Assistant Director-General for the Social and Human Sciences stands ready to provide you with any additional information you may require in this regard.

Any inquiries should be addressed directly to Ms Anna Maria Majlôf, Secretary of the UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence in the same Sector (UNESCO, 7 Place de Fontenoy, 75007 Paris Cedex 15, tel.: +33 1 45 68 03 55 ; tolerance.prize@unesco.org).

Information about the UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence, as well as the nomination form, can also be found on the Sector's website: www.unesco.org/shs/toleranceprize.

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

Audrey Azoulay

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cc: National Commissions for UNESCO
Permanent Delegations and Observers to UNESCO
UNESCO field offices