



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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Mandate of the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights

REFERENCE: Cultural rights/2012/MB

18 October 2012

Dear Ms. Bruguera,

I would like to invite you to participate in a consultation entitled "The right to artistic freedom", organized by the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights, Ms. Farida Shaheed. The consultation will take place on 4, 5 and 6 December 2012 in Geneva, Switzerland.

The consultation aims at identifying the multi-faceted way in which artistic freedom may be infringed upon and at elaborating recommendations that could be made to States and other stakeholders to ensure artistic freedom. The discussion will provide valuable insights to the Special Rapporteur and inform her 2013 thematic report to the Human Rights Council. A draft agenda of the meeting and a background note will soon be sent to you, which will provide you with more details about the content of the consultation.

The consultation will be divided in two parts. The first part, which will take place on 4 and 5 December, will take the form of a private meeting amongst invited experts, together with the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights. Experts will be provided in advance with a background paper and a list of questions aimed at guiding the discussion.

The second part, which will be held on 6 December, will be open to the participation of, inter alia, representatives of United Nations Member States, international agencies, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and national human rights institutions. The audience will be briefed about the content of the experts' discussion, and given the opportunity to ask questions and make additional comments.

I would be grateful if you could confirm us your availability to participate at this consultation at your earliest convenience. Please note that your presence is required throughout the two day consultation on 4 and 5 December.

I sincerely hope that you will be able to join us. The costs of your participation would be covered by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Please confirm your participation to Ms. Mylène Bidault at the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (sculturalrights@ohchr.org / +41 22 917 9254).

Sincerely,

Jane Connors

Chief, Special Procedures Branch
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

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