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référence: CL/3595

10 August 2001

**Subject: Nominations for the Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize**

Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite your government to nominate candidates for the Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize, created pursuant to 25 C/Resolution 23 adopted by the General Conference at its 25th session (1989).

As indicated in the extracts from the General Regulations reproduced in Annex I, the Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize is intended to honour individuals, bodies or institutions that have made a significant contribution to promoting, seeking, safeguarding or maintaining peace.

The Prize, which comprises a cash award of 800,000 French francs (approximately €122,000), a gold medal and a Peace Diploma, is awarded every year to one or more prizewinners by an international jury composed of figures of international repute.

Aware, as I am, of your Government's interest in seeking, promoting and maintaining peace worldwide, I should be grateful if you would kindly nominate candidates worthy of receiving this high international distinction.

Candidates must have distinguished themselves by their meritorious action over a number of years, and have acquired an international reputation through:

1. a major contribution to peace-building, peacekeeping or peacemaking (conflict resolution, peace accords, mediation);
2. specific activities in defence of human rights or with a view to fostering attitudes favourable to peace;
3. any specific action which has contributed significantly to understanding among peoples and nations;
4. action to combat racism and all forms of discrimination;

To Ministers responsible for relations with UNESCO

5. any other outstanding contributions to the achievement of the basic objectives of the United Nations system, in particular lasting contributions to the emergence of a true culture of peace in the minds of men.

You will find attached the list of winners of the Prize selected by the Jury in previous years (Annex II).

Lastly, I enclose herewith a nomination form (Annex III), which you are kindly requested to return by 28 February 2002 to Mr Alioune Traoré, Executive Secretary of the Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize, Room B1.06, UNESCO, 1 rue Miollis, 75732 Paris Cedex 15, France.

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

Koïchiro Matsuura  
Director-General

Attachments: 3

cc: National Commissions for UNESCO  
Permanent Delegations to UNESCO

**ANNEX I**

**EXTRACTS FROM THE GENERAL REGULATIONS OF  
THE FÉLIX HOUPHOUËT-BOIGNY PEACE PRIZE**

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**Article I – Purpose**

The Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize is intended to honour living individuals and active public or private bodies or institutions that have made a significant contribution to promoting, seeking, safeguarding or maintaining peace in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and the Constitution of UNESCO.

**Article II – The Prize**

- (a) The Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize may be awarded each year by an international Jury.
- (b) The value of the Prize shall be 800.000 French francs. If several prizewinners are designated, the amount of the Prize shall be shared equally among them.

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**Article V – Nominations**

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- (b) In addition to Member States and the non-governmental organizations having consultative status with UNESCO, the following may submit nominations:
  - (i) members of the Jury during their deliberations;
  - (ii) previous winners of the Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize;
  - (iii) academies or academicians;
  - (iv) centres specializing in areas relating to the search for peace;
  - (v) institutes of international law;
  - (vi) members of the International Court of Justice;
  - (vii) associations or organizations working to promote peace, human rights and the spread of democratic values in the world, with due respect for the Constitution of UNESCO and the Charter of the United Nations.
- (c) The Jury may, however, award the Prize to any living individual or active institution or body of its choice not included in the list of candidates.

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**Article VI – Official ceremony**

- (a) The Prize shall be presented at an official ceremony to be held at UNESCO Headquarters, or at any other place proposed by the Jury.
- (b) The Director-General may invite any person, institution or association whose presence would add lustre to the ceremony.
- (c) The Director-General shall present to the prizewinner(s) a cheque or cheques of a total value of 800,000 French francs, or of an equivalent value in another currency.
- (d) The President of the Jury shall present to the prizewinner(s):
  - (i) a gold medal stamped in the Paris Mint workshop:
  - (ii) UNESCO's Peace Diploma.

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**ANNEX II**

**WINNERS OF THE FÉLIX HOUPHOUËT-BOIGNY PEACE PRIZE**

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1991	Nelson Mandela President of the African National Congress (ANC) Republic of South Africa	and	Frederik W. De Klerk President of the Republic of South Africa
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1992	The Hague Academy of International Law The Netherlands
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1993	Yitzhak Rabin Prime Minister of the State of Israel		Shimon Peres Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel	and	Yasser Arafat President of the Palestine National Authority
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1994	H.M. Juan Carlos I King of Spain	and	Jimmy Carter Former President of the United States of America
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1995	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees			and	Mrs Sadako Ogata United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
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1996	Alvaro Arzú Irigoyen President of the Republic of Guatemala	and	Rolando Morán Representing the National Guatemalan Revolutionary Unity (URNG)
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1997	Fidel V. Ramos President of the Republic of the Philippines	and	Nur Misuari Representing the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF)
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1998	Sheikh Hasina Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh	and	George J. Mitchell American Senator Special Adviser to the President of the United States of America for Initiatives in Ireland
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1999	Community of Sant'Egidio Italy
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2000	Mrs Mary Robinson United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
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**ANNEX III**  
**FÉLIX HOUPHOUËT-BOIGNY PEACE PRIZE**

Nomination form

Is nominated for the Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize:

Surname ..... First name .....

Profession .....

Date and place of birth .....

Nationality .....

Address .....

Telephone ..... Fax.....

Nomination submitted by: .....

Please add to the form 2 to 3 pages maximum specifying the nominee's contribution to peace research (mediation, conflicts resolution, defence of human rights and freedom).

Nominations should reach Mr Alioune Traoré, Executive Secretary of the Félix Houphouët-Boigny Peace Prize, UNESCO (Room B1.06), 1, rue Miollis, 75732 Paris Cedex 15, France, **by 28 February 2002.**