

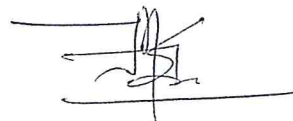
F. 4-50/2014-M.II
Government of India
Ministry of Culture
'C' Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.

Dated the 10th July, 2014.

Subject: SAARC International Conference on Development of Museums in South Asia, - Curating Culture for Present & Future'

SAARC Cultural Centre in collaboration with the Department of National Museums, Sri Lanka, is organizing a SAARC International Conference on Development of Museums in South Asia, entitled, 'Curating Culture for Present & Future' in Colombo, Sri Lanka in October, 2014. The proposed Conference is conceived as a platform to discuss research findings, the existing mechanisms and recommended strategies to better manage museums in the South Asian Region. The objectives and other details of the Conference are as per Annexure.

2. Nominations of suitable candidates for the conference from amongst the experts and academicians representing different categories of Museums in the Country are invited from all Museums and all State Secretaries in-charge of Art and Culture. Candidates from Universities and research bodies are also invited.
3. It may be borne in mind that to and fro travel cost will be borne by the sponsoring agency/Museum/Govt. (not by Ministry of Culture), while full local hospitality (full board, lodge and transport) in Sri Lanka would be provided by SAARC Cultural Centre, Colombo, Sri Lanka.
4. Applicants must send their CVs and 500-word abstract of the proposed paper to be presented.
5. Nominations must reach Ministry of Culture by **22.08.2014**.
6. For more details please visit SAARC Cultural Centre website, www.saarcculture.org.



(A.N. Mishra)

Under Secretary to the Government of India,
Tel: 23388169

To
All the Museums
All State Secretaries in charge of Art and Culture,
All Universities
All Research Bodies.

- Copy to: (1) JS (Admn./Coord.), Ministry of HRD (Attn: Ms. Veena Ish, JS) for better circulation.
(2) NIC in-charge, Ministry of Culture with a request to upload the matter in the website of the Ministry by 11.07.2014.

SAARC INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DEVELOPMENT OF MUSEUMS IN SOUTH ASIA, - CURATING CULTURE FOR PRESENT & FUTURE' TO BE HELD IN OCTOBER, 2014 IN COLOMBO, SRI LANKA.

1. OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE CONFERENCE

- To provide a common platform to professionals, experts, policy-makers and other stake-holders to share their challenges, best practices and success stories;
- To discuss the country situation relating to the museums in the SAARC Member States;
- To explore the feasibility of evolving a 'Vision Document for the South Asian Museums' consisting of a coherent policy laying down strategies, standards, guidelines and action plans;
- To develop and adopt a mechanism for synergizing capabilities and resource-sharing;
- Publication of the Conference Proceedings in a book form; and
- Publication of Masterpieces of Artefacts from South Asia

2. THEMES FOR THE CONFERENCE

- Museums in the 21st Century: New Trends in Museum Management
 - Security: Physical and Cyber
 - Museum 24x7
 - Visual Storage
 - Digital and Virtual Museums
- Museums in Education and Learning
- Role of Communication, Cooperation and Collaboration in Museum Management
- Strengthening Culture through Museums
- Capacity Building for Effective Museum Management
- Social and Intellectual Engagement through Museums
- Museum Outreach Programmes: Reaching the Unreached
- Museum as Catalyst for Interdisciplinary Collaboration

3. SESSIONS

The Conference would have Paper Reading and Poster Sessions.

3.1. PAPER READING SESSION:

Each of the themes will have one Resource Person (in Chair) plus 3-4 speakers. The selection of the Resource Person will be made by the SCC on the basis of the research profile of the participant.

3.2. POSTER SESSION:

Along with the Technical Sessions for presentation of research papers, the Conference would also invite young researchers to participate in the Poster Session, to showcase their research.

The Conference venue will have a designated space for display of posters (pin up boards for A0 size) where the presenters will have an opportunity to interact with the participants. Depending upon the number of Posters selected for the Conference, a separate session for the poster presenters could also be organized where the presenters could answer the questions from the audience.

All selected posters will appear in the book of abstracts and will also be published in the online poster proceedings. The Poster presenters are advised to contact the SAARC Cultural Centre in advance with details of size/ number of sheets of their Poster presentation and if copies of any hand-outs are to be prepared for distribution during the Conference.

3.3. ROUND TABLE SESSION:

In addition to the paper and poster presentations, the Conference will also organize Round Table Session(s). Proposals for the themes of Round Table may be sent along with the Registration Form.

4. DATES AND VENUE

The Conference will be held at the National Museum, Sir Marcus Fernando Mawatha, Colombo-7, Sri Lanka for 3 days from 23 to 25 October 2014.

5. POST-CONFERENCE TOUR

A full day Post-Conference tour will be organized on Friday, 26 October 2014 to the World Heritage City of Anuradhapura, for the participants of the Conference.

6. PARTICIPATION AT THE CONFERENCE

6.1. OFFICIAL NOMINEES FROM THE MEMBER STATES:

The SAARC Cultural Centre invites all the Member States to send a minimum of **four** nominations in the prescribed Registration Form (maximum 10 persons can be nominated by a Member State) from amongst the experts and academicians representing different categories of museums in their country, viz. the national museum, provincial/ state museums, private museums, folklore museums, university museums, specialized museums etc. The delegation may be led by a senior officer of the Government, who may represent the policy-makers' perspective at the Conference.

6.2. ACCOMPANYING PERSONS:

Every person accompanying the official nominees of the SAARC Member States (viz. the Delegates/ Resource Persons-cum-Panel Heads) should pay a registration fee of

US \$ 300/- towards his/ her boarding and lodging during the Conference. All such accompanying persons will be accommodated with the respective official nominee on full board/ twin-sharing basis.

6.3. OTHER PARTICIPANTS:

The SAARC Cultural Centre would also accept the participation of other experts from the region (other than the nominees of the respective SAARC Member States) as well as from those residing outside the SAARC Region provided that they are able to meet their travel and accommodation expenses to attend the Conference. However, to facilitate their stay during the Conference, the SAARC Cultural Centre would assist them in securing accommodation in guest houses/ hostels at economic/ subsidized rates.

The SAARC Cultural Centre, however, reserves the right to accept or reject any request for participation in the Conference.

6.4. REGISTRATION FEE:

6.4.1. Official nominees of the SAARC Member States : Nil

6.4.2. Accompanying persons of the Official nominees : 300.00 US\$

6.4.3. Other participants:

Before Last date	After Last date	Spot Registration
Local : 500.00 (LKR) Overseas: 50.00 US\$	Local : 750.00 (LKR) Overseas: 75.00 US\$	Local : 1,000.00 (LKR) Overseas: 100.00 US\$

All payments are to be made in favour of the **SAARC Cultural Centre, Colombo**, either through e-payment OR in cash at counter at the Conference for spot registration, as the case may be.

For E-payment:		
Name of the Bank	:	Bank of Ceylon
Address	:	Torrington Square Branch, Colombo -07 (Sri Lanka)
Sri Lankan Rupee A/c	:	0009773920
US \$ A/c	:	9825298
Swift Code	:	BCEYLKLX

6.5. NOMINATION PROCESS:

All nominations should include:

1. Full Name and affiliation of the Person with a detailed CV; and
2. An Abstract (c. 500 words) of the proposed paper/ poster presentation.

The participants would be required to submit their full papers not later than two weeks before the Conference and make a short presentation at the Conference. The Poster Presenters would be required to put up their posters at the designated space at the Conference venue, before the inauguration of the Conference.

7. LAST DATE

The last date for sending the nominations is **15 August 2014**.

(For sending the nominations, please use the registration form attached with this note, or download it from the website of the SAARC Cultural Centre – www.saarcculture.org).

8. LANGUAGE

The language for the Conference would be English.

9. LOGISTIC SUPPORT

The SAARC Cultural Centre would provide the local hospitality (hotel accommodation on full-board basis) and the local transport to all official nominees of the SAARC Member States (viz. the Delegates/ Resource Persons-cum-Panel Heads) and the registered accompanying persons.

The airfare of the nominees of the SAARC Member States is to be borne by the respective Member State. Other participants are required to make their own arrangement to meet the airfare and accommodation expenses.

The Conference facilities (delegate kit, tea, working lunch), as well as invitation to special events and the field trip would be extended to all registered participants and accompanying persons
