



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

Organisation  
des Nations Unies  
pour l'éducation,  
la science et la culture

Organización  
de las Naciones Unidas  
para la Educación,  
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация  
Объединенных Наций по  
вопросам образования,  
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة  
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、  
科学及文化组织

## The Assistant Director-General for Culture

Ms Jeannette D. Tuason  
Deputy Executive Director  
UNESCO National Commission of the  
Philippines  
G/F Department of Foreign Affairs  
Building 2330 Roxas Boulevard  
Pasay City, Philippines

Ref.: CLT/CIH/MCO/11/156

25 February 2011

Dear Ms Tuason,

I would like to thank you for your kind letter of 27 January 2011 addressed to the Director-General and requesting UNESCO patronage for the Inaugural Asia-Pacific Underwater Cultural Heritage Conference organized by the Asian Academy of Heritage Management, which will take place from 8 to 12 November 2011 in Manila.

This promising international initiative is perfectly in line with the objectives of the UNESCO 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage. In addition to promoting the Convention, I have no doubt that the conference will have a positive impact on underwater archaeology and its further development in the Asia-Pacific region.

It is therefore with great pleasure that I grant UNESCO patronage to this conference and I authorize the use of the UNESCO logo in accordance with the terms set forth in the enclosed document on UNESCO patronage. We are also pleased that the conference organizers will be working together with the Secretariat of the 2001 Convention and the UNESCO Bangkok Office in this endeavour.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to invite the Philippine national authorities to consider a prompt ratification of the 2001 Convention in view of fully protecting underwater cultural heritage.

I wish you every success in this undertaking, dedicated to the safeguarding of humanity's submerged legacy.

Yours sincerely,

Francesco Bandarin