ATTESTATION TO UNESCO OF (LAGOS) EKO’S COMMUNITY IN THE PARTICIPATION AS WELL AS FREE, PRIOR AND INFORMED CONSENT FOR THE NOMINATION DOSSIER OF EYO MASQUERADE OR ADAMU ORISA FESTIVAL OF LAGOS INTO UNESCO’S 2013 REPRESENTATIVE LIST

On behalf of the good people of Eko (Lagos), I wish to express my utmost appreciation to the Federal Government of Nigeria through your esteemed Ministry for the choice of the flagship Cultural event of Lagos: Eyo Masquerade or Adamu Orisha festival as worthy of inscription into the prestigious UNESCO Representative Lists.

2. It is most gratifying the opportunity you gave the Adamu Orisha – in – Council, its Prime Minister, Chief M. Bajulaiye as well as the Lagos State Council for Arts and Culture to participate in the process of responding to the relevant sections of the Questionnaire and supplying audio – visuals and photographs for this laudable purpose. Indeed, we find the experience a most fulfilling one.

3. We also use this forum to grant free, prior and informed consent to UNESCO and sincerely hope that you will find Eyo Masquerade as a unique cultural manifestation worthy of being on the UNESCO Representative List.

4. Please accept assurances of our profound respect and highest esteem.

Oba Rilwan Babatunde Osuolale Aremu Akiolu 1

His Royal Highness, Oba Rilwan Osuolale Akiolu
The Oba of Lagos, L.LB, BL, MNI, CFR
The Secretary
Convention for the Safeguarding of
Intangible Cultural Heritage
UNESCO Intangible Heritage Section,
1, Rue Miollis, Paris,
France,

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR INSCRIPTION OF EYO MASQUERADE FESTIVAL
ON UNESCO REPRESENTATIVE LIST

I write, on behalf of the Trustees, to lend support to the above subject matter which is the flagship event of our people of Eko (Lagos). Our foundation was established to provide the platform for social interaction, inter-cultural dialogue and fraternal cohesion among the respectable indigenes of Lagos from high profile professionals, eminent citizens to the ordinary people.

2. The Foundation not only provides the forum for the different compounds to cross fertilize ideas on pre-preparation of the Eyo Festival, it is also a connecting valve between the adult and the youth as a socialization agent of transmission of our core cultural values including the intricacies of the Eyo Masquerade Festival.

3. In furtherance of their goal, we have created a Network of competition that will release the creative energies of our youths in a competitive exercise on who can create the best motifs on the Hat and Stick. Scholarships in their choice of study will be provided to the first three winners.

4. On the intellectual level, we are encouraging the various Eyo Family Compounds and our prominent members to institute University Chair at the Lagos State University to carry out research on the various aspects of Eyo Masquerade Festival.

5. Please accept the kind assurances of our members' highest regards.

Radu Williams
Secretary
For: Board of Trustees
RE: EYO MASQUERADE FESTIVAL’S INSCRIPTION ON UNESCO REPRESENTATIVE LIST

I am directed to inform you without prejudice to our earlier letter to your esteemed institution that our institution was set up primarily to promote, preserve and present all the best creative impulses and Cultural expressions of the people of Lagos State. We have therefore participated at every stage of the nomination dossier of Eyo Masquerade Festival, the Flagship Event of the people of Lagos and a symbol of our very essence.

2. Our esteemed agency prides itself since its creation of impacting positively on the social nuances, cultural manifestations and physical practicalities of the enactment of the Adamu Orisha Festival. This is through:

(a) Encouragement of Each Eyo Compound to create club or cell Eyo Clubs for the teenagers or youths in each Eyo Compound;

(b) The participation of the Youth Club in the whole creativity process of making the Cap, Stick, apparel so that the skills of transmitting this tangible aspect will be seamlessly learnt and sustained;

(c) Providing adequate security pre – preparatory, during and post festivities period;

(d) Creating a budget portfolio for every Eyo festival in order to balance expenditure with actual reality on ground;

(e) Mobilizing of the general Lagos populace to participate in the Festivities,

(f) Written and audio – visual documentation of each Festival as a memory Bank of the State of Lagos.
3. In the wake of inscription, we are working assiduously with the Lagos State University, the State owned academic institution of excellence to carry out expansive and insightful research into all aspects and different aesthetics of Eyo Masquerade Festival.

4. It is our sincere hope and fervent desire that all the Questionnaire and supporting documents have resolved outstanding questions about this flagship event of our people.

5. Please accept our kind co-operation as always.

Olaitan Otulana
Director