

MUSIC FOR HOPE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION CHARTER

Music, a mysterious mediator between people, as old as the world and as ubiquitous as sunlight, speaks the universal language of life, death, pain, joy and hope.

That is why, we, musicians and friends of music, have understood that it can bring people together and make them more united.

Because this is our belief, we intend to act in favour of those who suffer, whether they are deprived of health, labor laws, education, human dignity, or peace and security in their home countries.

To be faithful to the will expressed by pianist Miguel Ángel Estrella when he was released from the prisons of South American dictatorships, our *Music For Hope* NGO is essentially respectful of liberties and independent from any partisan, political or confessional option.

As part of *Music for Hope International Federation*, members declare that it is essential:

- to promote music and music learning primarily in discriminated places.
- to make sure that artistic folk traditions, which are the cultural roots of human communities and a part of our universal heritage, are kept everywhere, especially in education and development programs.
- to favour the training of young "sociocultural art promoters" who will act as activity leaders in the most socially deprived places.
- to promote equal opportunities and access to a culture of peace mostly for children and teenagers through music programs that can raise active participation and solidarity awareness.
- to promote a critical function of art, based on:
 - * a will to fight against the flood of a commercial, short-lived subculture causing violence and exclusion, and likely to pervade deeply-rooted cultural creations by distorting them.
 - * a rejection of strictly commercial criteria as elements of reference and judgment because they do not favour equal opportunities.

Accordingly, members commit themselves :

- to establish fruitful exchanges in all countries within *FIME*, and to favor mutual information and a will to work together with respect for diversity, in keeping with the principles and convictions which led to the foundation of *Music for Hope*.
- to organize an annual international meeting for all members to get acquainted and for the very numerous requests and demands that come from all over the world to be taken into account.

Paris, November 24th, 2001