

# **Celebration of the Portuguese language and the Culture of CPLP - United Nations, New York**

## **PROPOSAL FOR 2014**



Last September, Guinea-Bissau celebrated 40 years since the declaration of its independence. The richness and diversity of the country's cultural heritage reflect a society both plural and open. It's ethnic and linguistic diversity has created a great variety of artistic and musical expression. These manifestations, however, are not widely acknowledged by the international scene.

Celebrating Guinea-Bissau's artistic expressions gather special relevance bearing in mind the dire historical moment in which the country finds itself, searching to overcome political and institutional challenges in order to fully return to democracy and rule of law order that will allow a broader support for cooperation and structured development. Without limiting the importance of these challenges, celebrating the country's cultural identity allows us to shed light on a pacific and plural society, that continues to live and celebrate it's independence and values despite the vicissitudes of the alternating political context, worthy of all international solidarity.

In this context, it is suggested that this year's celebration of the day of the Culture and Portuguese language at the United Nations involves the performance of Guinea-Bissau's acclaimed musician Zé Manel, founding member of the musical group Super Mama Djombo, on May 7th. The concert "Music for the Consolidation of Peace in Guinea-Bissau" will focus on the importance of the country as a converging point of the plurality and independence ideals of the Lusophone world, its singular contribution to the enlargement of the cultural and linguistic repertoire of the CPLP, as well as emphasizing the role of cultural dignity for the consolidation of peace.

The performance will be broadcast live through internet streaming and recorded for future uses. Furthermore, partnerships with other media outlets would be established in Guinea-Bissau, such as the National Radio (state owned) and Radio Sol Mansi (private), as well as television channels of country-wide coverage.