RUSSIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

INSTITUTE FOR AFRICAN STUDIES SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL FOR THE PROBLEMS OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES

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Dear colleagues,

Thank you for the interest in our Conference. This letter is to testify that your application is accepted and you are included on the list of participants of the 13th International Conference of Africanists "Society and Politics in Africa: Traditional, Transitional, and New". The Conference will take place in Moscow, Russia, on May 27-30, 2014. The Conference will bring together scholars from about forty countries and we are sure that participation of each of you will become an important contribution to its success.

Please confirm that you do intend and will be able to participate in the Conference in person by sending an e-mail message to conf2014@gmail.com. We need it first and foremost for preparing Visa Support Application Certificates necessary for you to apply for Russian visas. Please note that, to our pity, the Organizing Committee has no means for covering the participants' travel or accommodation expenditures.

Below you will find more detailed information concerning the Visa Support Application Certificate and accommodation. Please note, that your passport should be valid six months after the Russian visa's expiry date.

- 1) To prepare a **Visa Support Application Certificate**, besides confirmation of intention to participate (please see above), we need the following information:
- your passport page with photo and personal particulars (and also the page with registration, your residence and work permits, if you reside in a country other than the one a citizen of which you are).
 - Place of permanent residence (state and locality)
 - Place of work
 - Position occupied
 - Work full address (not a post box number), fax and telephone numbers

Besides, please indicate where you will apply for visa (state and the city in which a Russian Embassy or/and Consulate is present) and the postal address to which your Visa Support Application Certificate should be sent.

Please, send all this information by e-mail (<u>visa-support2014@yandex.ru</u>) by **January** 31, 2014.

We kindly attract your attention to the fact that the Visa Support Application Certificate is NOT a visa!

After getting the Visa Support Application Certificate (not earlier that three month before supposed entry, according to the Russian legislation) you should apply with it in hand at a Consulate or Embassy of the Russian Federation precisely in the city indicated by you to us.

The Organizing Committee would like to inform you that your visa support application certificate will be issued for the period from May 15 until July 15, 2014.

According to the official website of the Russian Foreign Ministry, the nationals of the following states do not need Russian entry visas, at least for one short-term entry: Abkhazia, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Chili, China (residents of Hong Kong and Macao only!), Cuba, Columbia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Israel, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia (yet the official letter of invitation is necessary), Moldova, Montenegro, Nicaragua, Peru, Serbia, South Ossetia, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, and Venezuela.

2) We would like to encourage you to make independent hotel reservation. You can find information about many Moscow hotels of different class and make a reservation online on the Internet, for what please visit such local sites as Moscow-hotels-russia, Hotelsrussia, Select-a-room, or All-hotels, as well as global sites, like Otel.com, Booking, etc. <a href="Please note that late May is high tourist season in Moscow, so early booking is strongly recommended.

The Organizing Committee can assist in booking the <u>"Slavyanka"</u> hotel. For making a hotel reservation for you, we need your **exact dates of stay**. Please send us this information by e-mail (<u>visa-support2014@yandex.ru</u>) by January 31, 2014. **January 31, 2014.**

3) Let us remind you that the Conference registration fee is \$150 (\$75 for students) and can be paid not only in dollars, but also in Euros or Russian rubles according to the official exchange rate on the date of registration. The fee is to be paid in cash on site upon arrival. The registration fee includes the Visa Support Application Certificate, the Conference Book of Abstracts, stationary items, coffee-breaks, and reception. The fee for an accompanying person (official spouses, children and parents only, according to the Russian regulations) (\$50) includes the Visa Support Application Certificate and reception. Participants from most African, as well as some non-African states, can apply for waving from the fee by sending an e-mail to conf2014@gmail.com before sending us information for the Visa Support Application

Certificate (the deadine for what is January 31).

We are looking forward to meeting you at the Conference.

With kind regards, Yours faithfully,

Organizing Committee