

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE NETHERLANDS
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL
ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF COMMON CULTURAL HERITAGE**

The Government of the Netherlands

And

The Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil
(hereinafter referred to as the "Signatories"),

Considering that the relations between Brazil and The Netherlands date back to the 17th century;

Considering, in particular, that the period of Johan Maurits van Nassau's governorship was influential in both Brazil and The Netherlands, and

Considering further that the preservation and promotion of the common cultural heritage provide a solid basis for bilateral relations and contribute to its further deepening,

Have reached the following understanding:

PARAGRAPH 1
Objectives

The Signatories aim at strengthening the cooperation in the field of the common cultural heritage shared by Brazil and The Netherlands, in order to increase the knowledge, create awareness and preserve the existing tangible and intangible patrimony, as well as create positive social and economic impacts on other policy sectors such as education, science, employment and tourism by carrying out an integrated approach.

PARAGRAPH 2
Areas of Cooperation

The Signatories endeavour to make a comprehensive inventory of the common cultural heritage, to better establish a strategic plan of action, focusing their cooperation on the following fields while at the same time encouraging a cross-cutting approach and spin-off in other sectors such as education and tourism:

2.1 Archives

The common cultural heritage is rich in historical sources, partly established in The Netherlands and partly in Brazil, which are not always accessible due to language barriers. Archives are an essential source of information and their accessibility is crucial in the further development of the common cultural heritage cooperation. Archival cooperation should concentrate on:

- a) Sharing information, experiences and research on the Dutch period in Brazil;
- b) Sharing experiences on accessibility through record management, electronic archiving, digitalisation of collections and other methods; and
- c) Overcoming language barriers by encouraging language education for archival experts and researchers in Dutch and Portuguese in both countries.

2.2 Built Heritage

The identification and drawing up of an inventory of remaining built and archaeological monuments is a necessary first step in elaborating a programme of cooperation in the field of built heritage. Such an initiative should involve students and young professionals from the start, and lead to sharing information, experiences and research in restoration issues; sharing experiences in management of World Heritage sites; and the involvement of local populations, through the developing of training and employment programmes for unemployed youth as a good way to integrate heritage preservation and social and economic development.

2.3 Museums

Movable heritage is an important testimony of the shared cultural heritage. Museums play an important role in the promotion of safeguarding, accessibility and awareness of this shared heritage. Cooperation in the museum field should include capacity building and the exchange of knowledge, including in the field of intangible heritage.

2.4 Underwater archaeology

The Signatories will further strengthen their cooperation in the fields of research and capacity building, and in the identification and protection of sites and wreckage underwater.

2.5 Other Areas

Three further areas of cooperation will be developed in order to stimulate the creation of networks of experts working on the same period of history and interested in the same issues today :

- a) Urban renewal in historic urban landscapes;

- b) Building conservation techniques, such as mortar conservation, and shipbuilding; and
- c) Migration history.

PARAGRAPH 3 Implementation

1. The implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding through projects in the field of common cultural heritage will be carried out by institutions in the cultural field in both countries.
2. All resources necessary for its implementation should be agreed on a case-by-case basis, according to each party's availability, not excluding other types of assistance obtained from third parties.
3. In all activities emphasis will lie on:
 - a) Ensuring the accessibility and exchange of information;
 - b) Training and research;
 - c) Engaging cultural, historical, sociological and educational experts and institutions;
 - d) Building networks of experts with other countries that had significant historical relations with The Netherlands in the Atlantic area, such as Suriname, Ghana and South Africa;
 - e) Exchanging best practices; and
 - f) Increasing public awareness, both in Brazil and The Netherlands.

PARAGRAPH 4 Monitoring

Representatives of the Signatories will meet periodically to assess the progress of the cooperation in the field of the common cultural heritage.

PARAGRAPH 5 Concluding provisions

1. This Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect on the day of its signature and will be effective for a period of five (5) years. Further extensions may be decided and agreed upon through diplomatic channels.
2. This Memorandum of Understanding can be amended as agreed by the Signatories through diplomatic channels.
3. This Memorandum may be terminated at any time upon a three (3) month notice in writing prior to the intended date of termination. The termination will not affect the implementation of on-going arrangements, programmes, activities or projects

which have been decided under this Memorandum of Understanding prior to date of its termination, unless the Signatories decide otherwise.

4. This Memorandum does not create any rights or obligations under international law.

Signed at The Hague, on this 11th day of April 2008, in duplicate in the English and Portuguese languages, both texts having equal validity.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE NETHERLANDS



Handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Rens B. White', with a horizontal line underneath.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL



Handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be a stylized 'P. A.', with a horizontal line underneath.