



Malta
October 31 - November 4, 2013

5th Malta International Choir Competition & Festival 2013

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION



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5th Malta International Choir Competition & Festival

October 31 - November 4, 2013

Organizer
INTERKULTUR

in cooperation with
Ministry for Tourism, the Environment and Culture, Malta
and
the Malta Tourism Authority

Artistic Committee
Prof. Dr. Ralf Eisenbeiß (Germany)
Rev. John Galea (Malta)
Gábor Hollerung (Hungary)
Christian Ljunggren (Sweden)
Christopher Muscat (Malta)

National Organizing Committee
Anthony Cardona
Martin Morana
Dr. James Scerri Worley
Noel D'Amato
Alexia Maggi

International Project Management
Piroska Horváth (Hungary) - Project Director
Judit Gaál (Hungary) - Project Manager

President INTERKULTUR
Günter Titsch (Germany)

INTERKULTUR Board
Günter Titsch (Germany)
Wang Qin (China)
Piroska Horváth (Hungary)
Stefan Bohländer (Germany)
Gábor Hollerung (Hungary)
Prof. Dr. Ralf Eisenbeiß (Germany)

EVENT SCHEDULE *Subject to change*

Date	WED, Oct. 30	THU, Oct. 31	FRI, Nov. 1	SAT, Nov. 2	SUN, Nov. 3	MON, Nov. 4
Arrival / Departure	<i>Arrival</i>	<i>Arrival</i>				<i>Departure</i>
Rehearsals		<i>Stage rehearsals and Festival Choir rehearsals</i>				
Friendship Concerts & Church Services		<i>Friendship Concerts and Church Services</i>				
Evaluation activities		<i>Evaluation Performance for competing choirs</i>	<i>Evaluation Performance and Individual Coaching</i>	<i>Evaluation Performance and Individual Coaching</i>	<i>Evaluation Performance and Individual Coaching</i>	
Competition			<i>Afternoon, Evening</i>	<i>All day</i>	<i>All day</i>	
Official Events		<i>Afternoon: Parade through the old town of Valletta</i> <i>Evening: Opening Ceremony and Singing for Peace at St John's Co-Cathedral</i>		<i>Evening: Grand concert with the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra and participating choirs</i>	<i>Concert for the Malta Grand Prize & Award Ceremony</i>	
Tourism activities	<i>Sightseeing & excursions (depending on the choir's event schedule)</i>					

PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

INTERKULTUR events provide the opportunity to customize your event experience by mixing and matching competitive and non-competitive categories of participation. Choirs may choose from the following:

	1. Non-Competitive Participation	2. Competitive Participation
Competition categories		X
Friendship Concerts & Church Services	X	X
Festival Choir project	X	X
Evaluation Performance	X	X
Individual Coaching	X	X
Singing for Peace	X	X

1. Non-competitive elements

Friendship Concerts & Church Services

FC

Friendship Concerts: Participating choirs may register to perform in local concert settings together with other international choirs, such as churches, open air markets, libraries, parks, museums, etc. Choirs must prepare approximately 20 minutes of their own music pre-approved by the INTERKULTUR artistic committee. The concert should be preferably a cappella or with own instruments. (Piano or E-Piano can be provided upon request.)

Please be aware that several friendship concerts are planned open air. In the event that weather conditions do not allow this, some concerts may be cancelled due to the weather. The organizers will try to manage alternatives but choirs do not have any legal claim to this.

Choirs can also take part in Friendship Concerts ONLY (Non-competitive Festival Participation).

Church Services: Choirs are also very welcome to sing in Church Services in different churches in Malta.

Festival Choir Project - Performance in the Grand Concert

Choirs and individual members have the unique opportunity to rehearse and perform in a joint international festival choir for a special performance in the GRAND CONCERT on November 3rd. A great opportunity for those who love to sing choir symphonic or oratorio repertoire and as well for those who usually do not have the opportunity to perform along with a symphony orchestra!

Everybody's welcome to join this performance with the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Gábor Hollerung!

Requirements for participating choirs: The choirs are asked to rehearse and prepare the given program of in advance. During their stay in Malta obligatory rehearsal sessions (2 rehearsals and a dress rehearsal) will take place. For further details and program please contact us.

Choirs or individuals interested in taking part in this project are welcome to register. However, participation will have to be confirmed by the Artistic Committee to secure the balance of voices within the Festival Choir.



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Evaluation Performance

EP	Evaluation Performance for non-competing choirs	- three (3) pieces of the choir's own choice - performed before a panel of qualified international jurors who provide immediate positive artistic and pedagogical advice for improvement - certificates of participation will be awarded, as well as evaluation ratings and recommendation letters for future INTERKULTUR competitions upon request
	<i>Number of singers: unlimited</i> <i>Singing time: maximum 15 minutes</i> <i>Accompaniment: unlimited</i>	

EP	Evaluation Performance for competing choirs	- presentation of competition program the day before competitions begin - performed before a panel of qualified international jurors who provide immediate positive artistic and pedagogical advice for improvement - evaluation does not involve preliminary decisions regarding the competition result.
	<i>Number of singers: according to category rules</i> <i>Singing time: according to category rules</i> <i>Accompaniment: according to category rules</i>	

Individual Coaching

IC	Individual Coaching	- one piece of the choir's own choice - with an international choral expert for stimulating artistic ideas and interpretive guidance - for an effective rehearsal, choirs must prepare one piece in advance
	<i>Number of singers: unlimited</i> <i>Singing time: 45 minutes rehearsal session</i> <i>Accompaniment: unlimited</i>	

Singing for Peace

"Singing for Peace" will be an essential part of the Official Opening Ceremony in the St. John's Co-Cathedral. Choirs of different religious denominations are welcome to contribute with their performances in their native tongue. This event is to show everybody's commitment to the peaceful co-existence of different religions in Malta and in the world. Choirs can apply for this performance. Participation will have to be confirmed by the Artistic Committee.



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2. Competitive Participation

2.1 Categories of Competition

A	Difficulty level I	A1- Mixed Choirs; A2- Male Choirs; A3- Female Choirs Four (4) pieces have to be performed: 1. One Piece by a composer born before 1873 2. One Piece by a living composer 3. One piece of the choir's choice 4. One Piece of the choir's choice
	Number of singers: No restrictions Singing time: Maximum time 20 minutes Accompaniment: Not permitted Only original compositions are permitted.	

B	Difficulty level II	B1- Mixed Choirs; B2- Male Choirs; B3- Female Choirs Three (3) pieces have to be performed: Three pieces of the choir's choice and of different character (One folk song arrangement is permitted)
	Number of singers: No restrictions Singing time: Maximum 15 minutes Accompaniment: Maximum 1 piece	

G	Children's Choirs Youth Choirs	G1- Children's Choirs up to 16 years old SSAA G2- Youth Choirs of equal voices (Girls up to 19, Boys up to 25 years old) G3- Youth Choirs of mixed voices (up to 25 years old) Four (4) pieces of the choir's own choice have to be performed
	Number of singers: No restrictions Singing time: Maximum 15 minutes Accompaniment: Maximum 2 pieces	

S	Sacred Choir Music	S1- Mixed Choirs; S2- Male Choirs; S3- Female Choirs Four (4) pieces have to be performed: 1. One Piece by a composer born before 1873 2. One Piece by a living composer 3. One piece of the choir's choice 4. One Piece of the choir's choice
	Number of singers: unlimited Singing time: Maximum 20 minutes Accompaniment: Maximum 1 piece	

F	Folklore	<i>The program should reflect the folk music of the participant's country or a specific vocal tradition. Choirs specialized in a particular foreign singing tradition may present a program in this style.</i> • <i>The number of pieces is not limited.</i> • <i>Program: folk music of the choir's own choice</i>
	<i>Number of singers: No restrictions</i> <i>Singing time: Maximum 15 minutes</i> <i>Accompaniment: allowed; folk instruments significant for the singing tradition, scenic elements and traditional costumes are welcome. However, the singing should be in the center of the performance.</i>	

P	Popular Choral Music	<i>This category may include gospel, spiritual, pop, rock, modern and popular light entertainment music of the 20th and 21st centuries, the style and content of which do not fit into Folklore categories.</i> • <i>The number of pieces is not limited.</i> • <i>Program: popular choral music of the choir's own choice</i>
	<i>Number of singers: No restrictions</i> <i>Singing time: Maximum 15 minutes</i> <i>Accompaniment: Instrumental accompaniment including electric or electronic instruments with their own amplification are permitted. The amplification of voices and instruments is permitted. Equipment suited to the respective venues will be made available on-site. Choreographies are permitted.</i>	



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Artistic Regulations

	A	B	G			S	F	P
	A1 - A3	B1 - B3	G1	G2	G3	S1 - S3		
Age limit	-	-	max 16	Girls max 19 / Boys max 25	max 25	-	-	-
Minimum number of singers	No limit	No limit	No limit			No limit	No limit	No limit
Maximum number of singers	No limit	No limit	No limit			No limit	No limit	No limit
Number of pieces	4	3	4			4	No limit	No limit
Maximum actual singing time	20 minutes	15 minutes	15 minutes			20 minutes	15 minutes	15 minutes
Maximum number of pieces with accompaniment	0	1	2			1	No limit	No limit

Competition Rules

GENERAL RULES

- All non-professional choirs are welcome to compete in this event. With the exception of the conductors, its members must all be amateurs, e.g. they are not allowed to earn their living by professional singing.
- In categories with age limits, a maximum of 20% of the members may exceed the age limit by 5 years. The organizers reserve the right to check the ages of the singers.
- The order of performances within a category is scheduled at random.
- INDIVIDUAL CONCERTS AND PERFORMANCES:** During their stay the participating choirs are not allowed to give further concerts or performances without the organizer's approval in advance.

MULTIPLE PARTICIPATION

- Individual choir members may participate in smaller ensembles formed out of their primary choir but may NOT sing in more than one primary choir.
- All choirs may participate in only one of the categories A, B and G.
- In addition, mixed choirs can participate with their male or female voices in the same category (i.e. participation with the mixed choir in A1 and with the male voices in A2 or the female voices in A3. Choirs may additionally choose to participate in category S, F and P independent of their participation in A, B and G.
- Conductors are permitted to conduct only one choir per category, however conducting in different categories is allowed. A choir may also perform with several conductors.

MUSIC

- a) Only ORIGINAL ACCOMPANIMENTS are permitted, which means that any reductions in orchestration or transcriptions of other instruments that were not scored by the composer or transcriptions which do not have any accepted performance tradition are excluded from the competition.
- b) ACCOMPANIMENT means that at least one pitched instrument is used. In categories requiring a cappella selections, a maximum of three instruments without definite pitch may be used (percussion instruments).
- c) The use of ORIGINAL COMPOSITIONS means that a piece must be performed in accordance with the composer's original score. Compositions prior-to and through the Baroque era may be performed in variations of scoring that correspond with the original musical material. The arrangement of a composition is permitted if it has led to a new composition. The Artistic committee reserves the right to reject compositions.
- d) CHANGES OF KEY: For other selections; if the choir wishes to change the key, the jury must be informed in writing if a choir wishes to change the key from what is written in the printed score prior to the competition.
- e) After APPROVAL OF PROPOSED PROGRAMME by the artistic directors, it will be returned for final review and confirmation by the respective choir. The choir must respond within 14 days of delivery with any changes to the programme. If there is no response within 14 days, the program will be considered final; therefore neither titles nor performance order may be changed. Changes made without informing the organizer will result in a disqualification.
- f) ACTUAL SINGING TIME: Actual singing time is the duration of the performance time only. It excludes entrance, exit, and applause.
- g) Choirs may **NOT** sing the same pieces in different categories. Separate repertoire pages should be filled out for each category of competition for registration

Sheet Music

- a) 5 scores of every piece must be submitted with the registration forms.
- b) Scores submitted must conform to internationally recognized sheet music standards (five lines of notes).
- c) Scores that do not bear the titles, names of composers etc. printed in the Roman alphabet must bear a transcription into the Roman alphabet (clear handwritten notes suffice).
- d) One score remains with the organizer after the competition. Remaining scores may be collected from the organizer after the awards ceremony. Uncollected scores will not be sent by mail.
- e) No scores have to be submitted for friendship concerts and church services.
- f) Please note that published choral compositions may only be sung using the original scores or authorized copies. The use of unauthorized copies or handwritten copies is not allowed! All scores must be sent by mail as hardcopy. Scores sent as files (PDF or similar) will not be accepted.
- g) If your scores are published as score book, please submit only one book but preferably authorized copies.



MUSICA MUNDI® Evaluation System

- Choirs will be evaluated by international acknowledged choral experts in accordance with the general MUSICA MUNDI evaluation system (30 point system). The decision of the jury cannot be contested.
- The performance of each choir will be evaluated according to the following:
 - I) Technical Evaluation
 - a) *Intonation*
 - b) *Sound Quality*
 - II) Artistic Evaluation
 - c1) *Fidelity to the score in general categories or*
 - c2) *Interpretation Practice in Pop or*
 - c3) *Authenticity in folklore categories*
 - d) *Overall Artistic Impression*

	a	b	c	d
Piece 1	25		22	
Piece 2	27		26	
Piece 3	23		25	
Piece 4	26		24	
Criteria a & c = average of 1 - 4	25.25	26	24.25	24
Criteria b & d = points given for the overall performance				
Total Score (average)	24.88			

Example of a score sheet of category F:

	a)	b)	c)	d)
Piece 1 - ...				
Single criteria	26	26	24	24
Total score	25			

- The final result is made up of the average of all given points or by the average of the intermediate results respectively.
- In categories for which the number of pieces is not determined, the jury will evaluate only the overall performance according to the above mentioned criteria.
- If a choir exceeds the maximum singing time, their final result will be reduced by jury decision.

Diplomas & Awards

Diplomas

According to the score, Bronze, Silver, and Golden Diplomas will be awarded. In the event the choir does not achieve a diploma, the choir will receive a certificate of participation. The choir with a golden diploma and the highest score in each category becomes the Category Winner. Special Awards and Conductor's Award are also awarded.

Diploma	Level									
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X
Bronze 1.0 - 10.49	1.0- 1.49	1.5- 2.49	2.5- 3.49	3.5- 4.49	4.5- 5.49	5.5- 6.49	6.5- 7.49	7.5- 8.49	8.5- 9.49	9.5- 10.49
Silver 10.5 - 20.49	10.5- 11.49	11.5- 12.49	12.5- 13.49	13.5- 14.49	14.5- 15.49	15.5- 16.49	16.5- 17.49	17.5- 18.49	18.5- 19.49	19.5- 20.49
Gold 20.5 - 30.00	20.5- 21.49	21.5- 22.49	22.5- 23.49	23.5- 24.49	24.5- 25.49	25.5- 26.49	26.5- 27.49	27.5- 28.49	28.5- 29.49	29.5-30

MALTA GRAND PRIZE

The respective category winners can participate in the competition for the Malta Grand Prize. The jury reserves the right to nominate additional choirs for participation.

PROGRAM: Two freely chosen a cappella pieces which may not be the ones the choir had already performed in their whole competition programme. Those two pieces must be confirmed by the artistic committee.

ACTUAL SINGING TIME: The maximum actual singing time is 8 minutes.

The winner of this competition will receive the **Malta Grand Prize 2013** worth **3,000 Euro** (three thousand Euro).

3. CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

3.1 Registration & Registration Deadline

The deadline for registration is **May 31, 2013**. Early Bird deadline is **February 28, 2013**.

3.2 Registration Check list

The following documents must be provided together with the registration forms by deadline:

- ☐ REGISTRATION FORMS DULY FILLED IN
- ☐ REGISTRATION FEE (PLEASE ENCLOSE PROOF OF PAYMENT). The amount may also be paid with Visa or Mastercard (see registration forms).
- ☐ AUDIO RECORDING: Please send an .mp3, WAV, WMA, or CD with at least three (3) pieces (preferably a cappella) not older than two years. Please write the titles and composers of the pieces as well as the date of recording
- ☐ SHORT BIOGRAPHY OF CHOIR: Please send the biography in English as an editable text document (e.g. Word)
- ☐ PHOTOGRAPH OF CHOIR: Make sure that it is suitable for reproduction (landscape format, as a file jpg or bmp, no PDF format, min. 300 dpi, as original min. 12 x 7,5 cm). The picture should not be older than two years.
- ☐ MUSIC SCORES OF COMPETITION REPERTOIRE: Scores sent as PDF or similar files will not be accepted. Five (5) copies of each competition piece must be sent.

3.3 Costs

Registration Fee

To participate in the event the following registration fees have to be paid per choir/ensemble and category as follows:

	Non-competitive participation	Competitive participation
Per competition category*		200€ <u>or</u> USD 250
Non-competitive Festival Participation*	200€ <u>or</u> USD 250	
Festival Choir project*	200€ <u>or</u> USD 250	200€ <u>or</u> USD 250
Evaluation Performance*	200€ <u>or</u> USD 250	200€ <u>or</u> USD 250
Individual Coaching*	200€ <u>or</u> USD 250	200€ <u>or</u> USD 250
Singing for Peace	No additional costs	No additional costs

*Friendship Concert performance and/or Church Services included.

The registration fee must be made payable to INTERKULTUR in full upon registration by bank transfer or by credit card (Visa or MasterCard). Any banking costs that arise must be paid by the registrant.

Once off discount of 50% for the first category of participation and further Early Bird discounts will be granted on the event package - if completed registration documents and fee have been received by deadline.

In case a choir cancels its participation the registration fee will not be refunded.

The bank details to pay the registration fee in EURO and USD are as follows:

Account Holder:	INTERKULTUR
Name of Bank:	Deutsche Bank
Bank Code:	513 700 24
Account Number:	0152181
SWIFT-Code (BIC):	DEUTDE DB 513
IBAN for EU countries:	DE06 5137 0024 0015 2181 00
Purpose:	M13 + name of choir (please state name in full)

Event Packages

For organizational reasons and to ensure ideal conditions, a participation in the event is possible only if the event package including accommodation bookings are made through the agencies authorised by INTERKULTUR.

This is an exclusive condition and integral part of the conditions for participation and there is no exception to this rule.

The event package includes following services among others:

- participation in the event as chosen from the different participation opportunities
- a share in the non-subsidized organization costs
- support on site from our International team
- programme book (one copy per ten persons)
- accommodation in the ordered category as available.

All included services and rates are described in the authorised travel agency offer enclosed to this participant information.

The purchase of an accommodation package is **four (4) nights** minimum.

Event packages will be provided in following categories: **First Class, Standard Class and Economy Class**

The level of accommodations is based on availability. Should you register at a later date, accommodation choices may be limited. If a registration is received without specific information the down payment invoice will be made and sent on the basis of double rooms in Standard Class.

Registration is binding for the choir, in regard to both participation in the festival and the travel services provided by the authorised agencies. Confirmation of the order (deposit invoice) through the authorised agencies constitutes a travel contract in the sense of § 651a BGB (German Civil Code). The General Conditions of Travel (*ARB Allgemeine Reisebedingungen, General Conditions of Travel*) of the authorized agencies shall apply. They are enclosed in each offer. Please read these conditions carefully. Ignorance of these legally valid conditions does not provide exemption from any resulting obligations. The costs due to the authorised agencies for the event package are due on the date indicated on the invoice. Banking information is also located on the invoice.

We would like to draw your attention expressly to the fact that participation in the event is only possible if the costs due have been received net and by deadline. Delay in payments may affect the participation.

If the number of international participants does not reach 500 persons by (June, 30 2013) the organizer reserves the right to cancel the event.

Travel Expenses

The journey to the event including the travel expenses is the sole responsibility of the choir members and additional persons. Sightseeing excursions aside from the event and airport transfers are not inclusive and must be booked separately.

3.4 Language of Correspondence

German and English are the sole languages that are reflected on official documents. This includes, but is not limited to, the Participant Information, travel documents such as schedule and vouchers as well as invoices. These are all legally binding.

Verbal information is available in the following languages: Chinese, French, Italian, Russian, Spanish and Hungarian.

Please make sure that your choir is accompanied by at least one English speaking person who can assist you with translation during the event.

3.5 Liability

INTERKULTUR is responsible for the artistic and musical design and the execution of the events. Its liability comprises of all organizational matters of the event. Any liability with regard to organizer's liability is expressly excluded. Any liability of such kind would be that of the authorised agencies and/or the management of the respective congress or concert halls, catering and transport companies. The authorised agencies accept liability as travel organizer in the sense of § 651a German Travel Law and on the basis of the "*Allgemeinen Reisebedingungen*" (ARB) mentioned above. With his/her signature on the registration form, the signatory accepts the terms of the "*Allgemeinen Reisebedingungen*" ARB (*General Conditions of Travel*) and the organizer's liability for him / herself and for all persons registered.

3.6 Audio and Audiovisual Recordings

All rights regarding the audio and audio-visual recordings of the event ("Recordings") as well as their exploitation are herewith being granted exclusively to INTERKULTUR by the choir / artists. All rights granted to INTERKULTUR hereunder may be exploited by INTERKULTUR in perpetuity without any limitation as to time, territory and/or manner of exploitation free of any rights of third parties. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, this includes in particular the following exclusive rights in the Recordings which can also be transferred by INTERKULTUR to a third party at INTERKULTUR'S discretion:

INTERKULTUR shall be exclusively entitled to reproduce the Recordings wholly or partly by way of producing vinyl discs, music cassettes, compact discs, DATs, Mini Discs, Digital Compact Cassettes or other sound carriers and by producing video cassettes, picture discs, compact disc videos, DVDs or other audio-visual carriers or other data carriers or by means of other technical devices and to sell or otherwise distribute these reproductions by retail, wholesale or other distribution channels such as clubs, mail order or TV-response. This also includes the right to exploit the Recordings in the context of online and especially internet applications of any kind and of any system, regardless of the way of transmission and business model, and to use, upload and distribute these Recordings in data bases, networks (e.g. internet and all its services) or anything similar of any kind and especially to disseminate and transmit these Recordings to users of databases / networks via cable or other ways of transmission for the purpose of perception and/ or reproduction and/ or distribution against payment or free of charge. This also includes the right to publicly perform or broadcast the Recordings by private or public broadcast stations, including digital radio services, via cable, satellite or other technical transmission services either against payment or free of charge (including the right to collect in INTERKULTUR'S own name broadcast fees accruing in connection with the public performance or broadcast of the Recordings). INTERKULTUR'S rights also include the right to edit and/or alter the Recordings (e.g. by producing mixes or remixes), to couple the Recordings with other recordings (e.g. with recordings of other artists) and the right to release and sell the Recordings on so-called "special product" audio- or audio-visual carriers. Furthermore, INTERKULTUR shall be entitled to grant synchronisation rights in the Recordings for movies, videos, TV and/or movie commercials, image films etc., to translate them into other languages, to use them for multimedia purposes of any kind or to rearrange them in any other way (e.g. to create remixes or do sampling). This also includes the exclusive right to use the Recordings in games / PC games as well as other and also interactive multimedia productions (incl. so called "websites") for goods, services and advertising purposes of any kind.

Finally, this includes the non-exclusive right to use the choir's /artist's name as well as images of the choir / artist in the context of the exploitation and the advertising and promotion measures mentioned above.

INTERKULTUR does not pay any money to the ARTIST for the exclusive grant of rights mentioned above. The ARTIST accepts explicitly that the positive promotion effect resulting from an exploitation of the Recordings by INTERKULTUR represents an adequate return service for this transfer of rights. In case of a commercial release of the Recordings on CD, the parties will negotiate separately in good faith about an adequate royalty to be payable to Artist according to standard business practice.

3.7 Changes

The organizer reserves the right to make changes and amendments to the existing information material and/or the announcement in the event of unforeseen technical, organizational or artistic circumstances or act(s) of God. The organizer also reserves the right to make changes to the programme contents and schedule.

Address of the organizer

For any questions concerning the organization and registration, contact the following address. Please send your registration documents, inquiries, phone calls, facsimile messages and written correspondence exclusively to this address:

INTERKULTUR
Malta International Choir Competition & Festival
Ruhberg 1
35463 Fernwald
Germany
Phone: +49 (0) 6404-69749-25
Fax: +49 (0) 6404-69749-29
E-mail: mail@interkultur.com
Internet: www.interkultur.com

This Participant Information can also be obtained under www.interkultur.com or requested as a print copy from the organizer. In case of any doubt, the printed English version is authentic and legally binding.

