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----- Unofficial translation ----

Brusy, 28.04.2010

Union of the Baltic Cities Wały Jagiellońskie 1 80-853 Gdańsk

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am turning to you with a kind request to take by the Union of the Baltic Cities the honorary patronage over the International Folklore Festival "Days of Kashubian Culture", which XVI edition will be held on 27.07-01.08.2010 in Brusy, Chojnice, Charzykowy, Czersk and Wiele.

This festival fulfils very important aims, like promotion of the kashubian culture in Poland and abroad, promotion of tourist attractions in Kashubia, promotion of the Pomeranian Woyvodship, establishing the international cooperation, artistic education of the young generation, preservation the cultural heritage, enriching the cultural offer, and many more.

Our festival is under the substantial protection of *CIOFF* - International Council of Organizations of Folklore Festivals and Folk Arts at UNESCO. In 2001 we were awarded a Certificate of this organisation, which is granted to the best organised folklore events in the world. Our efforts and innovation in creation of the festival were appreciated and granted of numerous, prestigious awards: prize of the Union of the Polish Cities in the contest

"Innovations in Cities", a title "City 2000", double Pomeranian Artistic Award "Pomeranian Griffin" for 2000 year for the Director of the Festival – Wladyslaw Czarnowski, a Medal of the Pomeranian Voivode (number 007) for the main organiser of the event – folklore group Krebane. The full approval and support of the local authorities for our festival should not be also forgotten.

It was very important for us to include the Festival to the calendar of the leading cultural events in the Pomeranian Voivodship, beside so important events like the Polish Film Festival in Gdynia and Shakespeare Festival in Gdańsk.

Every year this event gathers more and more participants and spectators. In 2009, around 800 participants from different countries in the world took part in the festival. This year, in the XVI International Folklore Festival there will participate groups from Macedonia, Slovakia, Kenya, India, Ukraine, Georgia, Turkey, Hungary and from Poland.

I hope that you would like to take the patronage over our festival, as the aim of this event is not only cultivating the national traditions and the cultural wealth of our country, but also cultural cooperation of the nations participating in the Festival.

A perfect method for developing cooperation among the nations from the Baltic Sea region would be organising one of the next editions of the Festival, as a Festival of the groups recruited from the Baltic Sea region countries.

Yours sincerely, Director of the Festival Władysław Czarnowski