Honorary Membership Proposal – Salwa El Shawan Castelo-Branco

I wish to propose Salwa El-Shawan Castelo-Branco for Honorary Membership of the International Council for Traditional Music (ICTM), in recognition of her unwavering dedication to the Council over the past 39 years. Salwa's journey with ICTM started in 1984 when she became an Ordinary Member of the Executive Board, and served as such until she was elected as Vice President in 1997–2001 and again in 2009–2013. In recognition of her commitment, on August 12th, 2013 she was elected as President of the Council for two mandates, serving until July 10th, 2021.

Salwa El-Shawan Castelo-Branco has made numerous contributions to the mission of ICTM over the years, including serving as the Liaison Officer of Portugal and Chair of the Portuguese Committee from 1984 to 2021. In this role, she has organized and/or been a part of the Programme and Organizing Committees of various events on behalf of ICTM, such as the 6th ICTM Colloquium, held in Lisbon in 1986, which led to the publication of the edited book Portugal and the World: The Encounter of Cultures in Music (Lisbon: Dom Quixote); two meetings of the National Committee (Lisbon in 2010 and Aveiro in 2021); the 2nd Symposium of the ICTM Study Group on Audiovisual Ethnomusicology (Lisbon, 2018), and the 46th World Conference of ICTM held in Lisbon in July 2022.

In 2004, she co-organized with John O’Connell the 18th ICTM Colloquium, held in Limerick, Ireland, which resulted in the edited book Music and Conflict, published by Urbana University Press (2010). Additionally, she has been a member of the Programme and Organizing Committees for three World Conferences: the 28th World Conference held in Stockholm and Helsinki in 1985, the 31st World Conference held in Hong Kong and Macau in 1991, and the 41st World Conference held in St. John’s, Canada, in 2011. In 2015, Salwa El-Shawan Castelo-Branco organized the first ICTM-SEM Forum in Limerick, Ireland, along with Beverley Diamond, President of the Society for Ethnomusicology, which resulted in a two-volume publication by Oxford University Press in 2021 titled Transforming Ethnomusicological Praxis through Activism and Community Engagement.

Through her dedication to ICTM, Salwa El-Shawan Castelo-Branco has produced at least 22 reports for the Bulletin of ICTM and co-edited the 44th volume of the Yearbook for Traditional Music (2012) alongside Beverley Diamond and Kati Szego. Since joining the ICTM, she has participated as a speaker in 19 World Conferences, and as President of the Council, she has represented the ICTM at numerous international events, both as a guest and as a participant in institutional profile roundtables and symposiums. Additionally, she has been extremely committed to strengthening institutional relationships between the ICTM and other organizations, such as the Society for Ethnomusicology and the International Musicological Society. Salwa's impressive track record and unwavering commitment to the ICTM make her a highly deserving candidate for Honorary Membership of the Council, and I wholeheartedly recommend her for this honor.