Sheikh Khaled Bentounes named Knight of the National Order of Merit!

The International Association Sufi Alawiyya (AISA NGO) sincerely thanks the French authorities, and welcomes the appointment of its Honorary President, Sheikh Khaled Bentounes, to the rank of Knight of the National Order of Merit. This prestigious French National Distinction, honors our President. We also see this equally as a recognition and an encouragement to continue his action for a Culture of Peace and Living Together.

Since 1975, the date of his appointment as spiritual guide of the Alawiyya Sufi Confraternity, Sheikh Khaled Bentounes tirelessly travels the planet to transmit a message of Peace and to work for the reconciliation of the human family. Drawing on the universal wisdom of Sufism, he invites the elevation of human consciousness, indispensable for living together in peace and harmony.

This spiritual dimension, understood in its universal sense, has been recognized by the United Nations as an important factor for the development of a culture of peace in the world. Indeed, this desire for Peace, a tool of sharing and communion of the beings that populate the planet, has made the project of the International Day of Living Together succeed, a project initiated and led by Sheikh Bentounes.

Since the last visit of Sheikh Bentounes to New York in September 2017 for the 72nd Session of the UN General Assembly, his strong determination has convinced hundreds of important players, including influential NGOs accredited to the United Nations, to adopt this project.

On the strength of such support, carrier of a concrete project with the UN, Sheikh Bentounes, a man of faith and a humanist, for decades has tirelessly called for peace with oneself and with others. He will be invited to address the United Nations General Assembly, before the vote for adoption, which will be engraved forever on the marble of human history as one of the most important contributions to human rights for present and future generations who will be able to annually celebrate the International Day of Living Together (JIVE).

In this regard, an Appeal is to be launched from Cannes, at the annual Congress "Living Together, the reconciliation of the human family", scheduled for December 30 and 31, 2017, inviting humanity to urgently develop a Culture of Peace and learn "to better live and act together in order to build the future with each other and not against each other" according to the words of Sheikh Bentounes.

Hamid Demmou
President AISA International NGO