**THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

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**MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

**To the President of the Russian National Ballet "Kostroma"**

**E.N. Tsarenko**

Dear Elena Nikolaevna,

The Russian National Ballet "Kostroma" has won great popularity in our country and far beyond. Your performances are always a celebration of grace, colours and emotions. The performing artists skillfully portray all the diversity of the Russian culture, offer an insight into the richness of traditions in our multicultural country.

In the restless world we live in today, we can hardly overestimate the importance of the cultural and academic exchange for strengthening state-to-state relations. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs recognizes your achievements in the extension of international cooperation including the ones meant to promote the objective image of Russia in the world.

We welcome your initiative for launching a new promising project "Global Dance Overture" in China, India, Brazil and the RSA, our BRICS alliance partners.

I am sure that the performances of the Russian National Ballet "Kostroma" will make a good contribution to the further strengthening of friendship and fellow feelings between our peoples.

With all my heart I wish You and the members of Your team new artistic successes and all the best.

S. LAVROV

December, 30th 2016