Major Achievements
After intensive preparatory work in 2002, CIOFF implemented several priority projects during the year 2003.

- **Guidelines for Festivals and Groups**: Adoption of the two Guidelines prepared by the Festivals Commission.
- **Youth Movement**: Adoption of new structure for the CIOFF Youth Movement by amendments of the By Laws and Internal Regulations recognising officially and formally the Youth Movement as a new entity of CIOFF.
- **Cultural Policy**: Adoption of a completely up-dated edition of the CIOFF Cultural Policy.
- **New Members**: Acceptance of four new Full Members.

Publications
- **CIOFF Calendar of Festivals 2004-2006**
- **CIOFF-UNESCO Newsletter Nr 9 (June 2003), Nr 10 (December 2003)**
- **Publication by Polish National Section of Annual Reports of National Sections for the Years 1999, 2001, 2002, 2003**
- **Entre-Nous 2003**

Membership
With the newly accepted Members, the total number of CIOFF Members is now:
- 72 National Sections (Full Members)
- 4 Associate Members
- 10 Corresponding Members

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New Members

**Full Members**: Colombia, Indonesia, South-Africa, Uruguay

**Corresponding Member**: Belarus

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ADMINISTRATION

Council
Upon invitation by CIOFF Czech Republic, the Executive Committee and Council Meetings took place from May 31 to June 3 2003 in STRAZNICE.

The Council sessions were mainly dedicated, as usual, to preparatory work for the World Congress; other significant issues were:
- The Terms of Reference for the Coordinating Meetings of the Chairmen of Commissions and Working Groups were adopted.
- Additional charges for late registration at World Congress were adopted.
- It was agreed to dedicate one of the Workshops at the next Congress to the Operation of CIOFF Network and to organise during future Congresses a so called “Open Forum” to give the opportunity to all participants to raise questions and discuss on any topics.
- New certificate for CIOFF Festivals was adopted.
- Links for festivals on CIOFF web site were improved in order to provide new opportunities for using the links.

World Congress
Upon invitation by CIOFF France, and Interfolk, the 33rd CIOFF World Congress took place from October 8 to 11 2003 in LE PUY EN VELAY, FRANCE. Fifty six Members countries were present and two were represented by proxy. Mrs Arlette Bon, International Dance Committee and Mr Peeters President of Europeade, attended as guests and made presentations on the activities of their organizations, delivered greetings from their members and expressed interest in further development of co-operation with CIOFF.

Four new Full Members, COLOMBIA, INDONESIA, SOUTH AFRICA and URUGUAY, as well as one new Corresponding Member, BELARUS, were accepted.

Hungarian National Delegate Mrs Eva HERA made presentation of and officially invited all CIOFF Members to the third CIOFF World Folkloriada to be held in PÉCS from 12 to 22 August 2004. It was decided that CIOFF Canada shall organise the Folkloriada 2008 in MONTREAL.

A completely up-dated edition of the CIOFF Cultural Policy was adopted by consensus, as well as new Guidelines for CIOFF Festivals and Groups.

A new system of participation Fees at the World Congress was accepted. Process of protection of the CIOFF Logo on national and international level was initiated. By Laws and Internal Regulations were adopted in order to introduce the CIOFF Youth Movement as an integral part of the CIOFF administration.

The representation of Mexico in CIOFF had for some time been a problem and created controversy at the General Assembly. The issue was finally solved by terminating with qualified majority the membership of the present National Section and accepting as new member for Mexico Asociación Mexicana de Festivales Culturales (AMEFEC).

Proposal by the Council to award Past President, Mr Guy Landry (Canada) Honorary Membership was accepted by acclamation. In conformance with decision by the Council, Gold meritorious Service Award were presented at the General Assembly to Cyrill Renz (Switzerland), Savas Tugsavul (Turkey), Hugo Ifran (Argentina) and Fernando Marani (Argentina). Because no invitations had been received, it was decided to authorize the Executive Committee to decide on the location and organization of the next World Congress.

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Honorary President
Henri Coursaget, France

Council Members 2003
President *
Kari Bergholm, Finland.
Vice-President *
Jerzy Chmiel, Poland
Udomsak Sakmungvong, Thailand. **
Secretary General *
Philippe Beaussant, France. **
Treasurer *
Rolf Kaufman, USA.

Chairmen of the Commissions:
- (Cultural Commission)
  Renaud Albasini, Switzerland.
- (Festivals Commission)
  Norbert Mueller, Germany.
- (Finance Commission)
  Rex Burdette, USA, Dan Ronen, Israel (interim). **
- (Legal Commission)
  Jean-François Proux, France.

Representatives of the Sectors:
- (Asian and Oceanian S.)
  Bill Nathan, New Zealand.
  Muammer Arslan, Turkey **
- (Central European S.)
  Viasta Ondrusova, Czech Republic.
- (Latin American S.)
  Pedro Alonso Palacios Vargas, Mexico.
  Alcides Hugo Ifran, Argentina. * *
- (Northern American S.)
  Guy Landry, Canada, Lucien Loiselle, Canada. **
- (Northern European S.)
  Harry L. Davies, United-Kingdom.
- (South European and African S.)
  Jean Roche, France.

* Executive Committee
** elected or reelected in October in France
CULTURAL POLICY

Updating of the Cultural Policy

Completely new edition in English, Spanish and French of the Cultural Policy was prepared and presented to the General Assembly. The next step would be to prepare an up-dating of the various annexes.

Directory of Experts

National Sections have received a communication on including the names and competence of experts of folklore in the Data Base. This provides a place for specialists inside the Organisation of CIOFF.

World Summit on Information Society Geneva 2003

The World Summit on Information Society was held in December 2003 in GENEVA. The next Summit will be held in Tunis in 2005. In Geneva the work was focused on political and policy issues. CIOFF has contributed to this program with two Cultural Conferences. The CD of the proceedings of the Conference in PUY-EN-VELAY was sent to the secretariat of the program.

Cultural Conference and CD on the Congress of PUY-EN-VELAY

With the collaboration of the Permanent Delegate of CIOFF at UNESCO Mr Jean ROCHE, his assistant Ms Ariane GUAIITA, the National Section of France, host of the last Congress, the Cultural Commission organised a Cultural Conference on the Topic “Traditional Culture, a Means of Communication”. A CD including general information and presentations of the speakers was prepared and distributed to all Delegates, members of the Council and Commissions, as well as to other cultural organisations.

CIOFF Action for the Culture of Peace

The Decade of Culture of Peace was promoted through distribution of documents, and the use of its slogan and logo on all official material of CIOFF.

UNESCO Participation Programmes

Implementation of the Participation Programme for 2003 was entrusted to the Youth Movement. Preparatory work for a programme for 2004-2005 was initiated.

Convention on the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage

The General Conference of UNESCO has adopted the Convention on the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage. For the whole CIOFF and its members this Convention would be of utmost importance. In co-operation with the International Music Council, CIOFF contributed actively in the preparatory work for the Convention.

FESTIVALS

Main task of the Festivals Commission was the preparation of the Guidelines for Festivals and Groups to be presented to the General Assembly. Cultural aspects were added to the Guidelines for festivals. Internal Regulations were revised and adapted accordingly. Letter of Recognition of CIOFF Festivals was given a new design. Like every year, the Calendar of Festivals was edited and published. In connection with the World Congress a specific workshop was dedicated to the operation of the CIOFF Festivals Network.
LEGAL ISSUES

New Structure for the CIOFF Youth Movement
Together with the Working Group for Youth the Legal Commission prepared a comprehensive proposal on integrating the Youth Movement into the administrative structure of CIOFF.

Classification of CIOFF Festivals
Together with the Festivals Commission the Legal Commission prepared a new classification of CIOFF festivals to be presented to the General Assembly.

New members
The Commission received complete membership applications from:
COLOMBIA, after a meeting organised in Cartagena by Philippe BEAUSSANT with several applicants.
INDONESIA, after many discussions between the chairman of the Legal Commission and the two applicants.
SOUTH AFRICA, through the South European and African Sector;
URUGUAY, through the Latin American Sector.
The full membership of Belarus was terminated. Instead BELARUS was accepted as Corresponding Member.
The Commission had received two applications from Armenia. The Central European Sector was invited to assist in finding a solution to the situation.

Situation in Mexico
After new information received from the National Section and the new applicant, AMEFEC, and the impossibility to find a solution that both parties could accept, the Council, at its meeting in Straznice, decided to send President Kari Bergholm and Chairman of the Commission, Jean-François Proux, to Mexico in September. The report of this mission was presented to the General Assembly of LE PUY EN VELAY, and finally, AMEFEC was accepted as the new National Section of Mexico.

CIOFF WORLD FOLKLORIADA
Preparations for the Third CIOFF World Folkloriada by the National Section Hungary, assisted by the Working Group on Folkloriada progressed according to plans.
The main emphasis were on the following topics:
- selection of the groups participating – totally 69 countries were considered.
- adoption of the cultural content of the Folkloriada in accordance with the updated CIOFF Cultural Policy.
- organising the Youth Conference within the framework of the Folkloriada,
- planning of special activities for children,
- planning of public relations activities.

WORK FOR CHILDREN
The activities for children, such as Children Folklore Festivals, Children Folkgame Festivals, Educational Tour and Cultural Exchange Programs, had to be postpone in 2003 due to SARS epidemic.
In 2003, work and collaboration with members of Working Group for Children as well as other CIOFF members, as directors of Children’s festival and instructors of children’s group, in accordance with CIOFF policies and guidelines have been done at both international and national level.
The meeting of Working Group for Children was held during the 33rd CIOFF World Congress in October 2003 in Le Puy En Velay, France.
At the World Congress 2003 the CIOFF Youth Movement saw the achievement of an ambitious work and the reward of its efforts with the approval by the General Assembly of its new structure in the By Laws and the Internal Regulation of CIOFF. The activities, however, did not meet the expectations. Four planned Sector meetings had to be cancelled for various reasons, among them SARS. Of three planned projects for implementing the UNESCO Participation Programme only one was carried out. This project for the American Sectors under the responsibility of the CIOFF Youth Commission of Argentina was, however, a great success with very interesting results.

Main achievements:
- Adoption of the CIOFF Youth new structure with the amendment of the By-Laws and Internal Regulation, recognizing officially and formally the Youth Movement as a new entity of CIOFF.
- Integration of the CIOFF Youth aspects in the new Cultural Policy.
- Realization of the UNESCO Participating Program project: Transmission of the immaterial cultural heritage to the youth.
- Creation of a new CIOFF Youth logo.

Youth Commissions in the world:
Since the creation of the Working Group for Youth, the number of established national Youth Commissions increased every year. The present situation is the following:
Asian and Oceanian Sector (1); Central European Sector (7); Latin American Sector (5); Northern American Sector (2); Northern European Sector (3); South European and African Sector (5).
At present 23 National Sections have established a Youth Commission. The efforts of these National Sections was highly appreciated. It is expected that this number will significantly increase in the next few years.

SECTORS
Asian and Oceanian Sector
The CIOFF Council meeting, originally planned to take place in Istanbul, Turkey in April was cancelled, due to the war between US and Iraq. In the year 2003, SARS played an important role in the work of Asian and Oceanian Sector, the Sector meeting originally to take place in Dequin, Zhejiang Province of China was postponed due to this world epidemic. Festivals/events taking place in CIOFF China and CIOFF Chinese Taipei suffered the same fate. The disease also affected the participation of groups from the Sector, especially from CIOFF China and CIOFF Chinese Taipei in festivals around the world. Countries like Japan, Korea, Turkey and Thailand, however could hold festivals, and groups from countries like India, Korea, New Zealand, Philippines, Turkey, Thailand...etc. kept on attending various festivals around the world, trying their very best to promote and preserve the traditional folklore and art. Research of folklore continued to be carried out especially in CIOFF China and CIOFF India. CIOFF China published the results of the completed work and India dedicated itself to the realization of audio and video CDs of the folklore around India. In addition, CIOFF Chinese Taipei devoted its efforts to the promotion of children's art education and CIOFF Australia tried hard to set up a seminar as a bridge to get close to the aboriginal culture.

Central European Sector
No information received.
Latin American Sector

Sector Meetings were held in Montevideo (Uruguay) and Le Puy en Velay (France). Main topics: Folkloriada; Activities for children; strengthening of the Sector; relations to UNESCO National Commission; Web page implementation; promotion of the Youth Movement and designation of Sector Representative. CIOFF Argentina organised in cooperation with the Youth Movement in Santa Fe a Youth Seminar on Training for the Transmission of Intangible Cultural Heritage. In the Seminar which had the patronage of UNESCO participated youth from 16 countries. The participants agreed to implement the results of the Seminar in their countries; to establish National Section of CIOFF where they still do not exist; to work with existing National Sections. Two new countries, Colombia and Uruguay were admitted in the Sector. Efforts to extend CIOFF to Ecuador, Nicaragua and República Dominicana continued. Membership of Mexico was transferred to AMEFFEC. The World Congress of International Music Council (CIM) took place from 12 to 19 October in Montevideo, Uruguay. CIOFF was represented by the Sector Representative, Prof. Hugo Alcides Ifrán. It was agreed to initiate co-operation for extending the membership of both organisations to all Latin American countries.

Northern American Sector

Membership for the Northern American Sector remains USA, Canada and Haiti. The Sector had its only 2003 meeting during the 33 CIOFF World Congress at Le-Puy-en-Velay, France on October 8. All Members were represented. Concerning the recruiting of new members, the USA National Section (NS) is in contact with Trinidad and Tobago. The USA has initiated contacts with the Arts Sector, starting with the American Music Festival. Canada is looking at the expansion of its network into more provinces. The development of the Youth Movement continues with the participation of one representative from Canada and USA at the Youth Seminar in Argentina. Also USA had 60 youth participants at its NFO Conference. In preparation for Folkloriada 2004, Canada will send one aboriginal group to the event. The USA will also be represented. The Canadian Commission for UNESCO organised a national workshop entitled Consultation on intangible cultural heritage in Canada in Ottawa on March 29, 2003. Fifteen of the participants were members of Folklore Canada International's national network and represented five provinces.

Northern European Sector

The Northern European Sector had its Spring Sector Meeting in 2003, Stockton on Tees, UK on 3 and 4 may 2003. All National Sections of the Sector, as well as representatives from CIOFF Youth from Estonia and UK, were present. A second meeting of the Sector took place during the CIOFF World Congress. All the directions of CIOFF Work Plan 2003 were successfully undertaken by the Sector. During the Spring Meeting, CIOFF UK organised a Northern European Symposium on the Preservation of Traditional and Folklore Arts in the UK, which was attended by all the participants. CIOFF Estonia held an International Conference on "Traditional Culture in Globalizing World" in September 2003. CIOFF Latvia has successfully played host to the Festival "Baltica 2003". A lot of activity of the Sector was concentrated on the Youth Movement. Four National Sections now have Youth Teams working within CIOFF: Finland, Estonia, UK and Sweden, which was founded this year. Efforts to revive the National Section of Lithuania were continued. Invitation was sent to Lithuania to join as observers the next Sector Spring Meeting in Bergen (Norway) in May 2004.

South European and African Sector

The South European and African Sector held its Spring Meeting in Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria, on May 8-11, 2003. The Sector was actively involved in the artistic selection of groups for the Folkloriada by its representative Jean Roche in the Selection Committee which had its meeting on September 11-14, 2003 in Budapest, Hungary. The Spanish National CIOFF Section organized a Conference on the theme "Folklore and the Society of the 21 Century" at the University of Valencia on the 17 and 18 October 2003. The first CIOFF Regional Meeting of Southern Africa was held in South Africa on May 22-24, 2003 in Pretoria, concurrently with the SADC Festival. It gathered representatives from South Africa, Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe. As an important result, Rep. of South Africa decided to present application for full membership in CIOFF.

Representative of the Sector in the Council:

Latin American Sector
Mr. Pedro Alonso (Mexico).
Mr. Alcides Hugo Ifrán (Argentina).

Northern American Sector
Mr. Guy Landry (Canada).
Mr. Lucien Loiselle (Canada).

Northern European Sector
Alderman Harry L. Davies (United Kingdom).

South European and African Sector
Mr. Jean Roche (France).

* Newly elected person
CIOFF AND UNESCO
Coordinating Meeting UNESCO-CIOFF held on February 2003 made it possible to identify the progress achieved in regard to UNESCO – CIOFF’s relationship and projects.
The Participation Programmes 2002-2003 for Children and Youth and for Africa were carried on by the respective bodies and persons in charge as planned.
UNESCO agreed to postpone the deadlines of the PP for Children and Youth to December 2004 due to SARS.

The year 2003 was marked by the 32nd UNESCO General Conference, held from September 29 to October 17, 2003, where the Member States adopted an International Convention on the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage. Our office at UNESCO performed follow-up of the three Meetings of Experts on the Draft Project of Convention. The General Conference also agreed that UNESCO shall prepare an international standard-setting instrument on Cultural Diversity in the forthcoming years.

CIOFF office at UNESCO administered the integration of CIOFF into the Global Alliance for Cultural Diversity and attended the one-day conference organized on 2 December 2003, on this topic. The International Conference of the NGOs held at UNESCO on December 17-19, 2003 was also followed.


UNESCO reaffirmed all along the year the importance of celebrating the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World 2000-2010.

Lastly, as Jean Roche was designated by the South European and African Sector as an expert to the Artistic Committee of the Folkloriada, the Office at UNESCO recommended and collected proposals of groups on behalf of the Sector.

CIOFF AND AFRICA
The year 2003 was mainly marked by the concrete launching of the CIOFF network in Southern African Countries through the organization of the first Regional CIOFF Meeting of Information. For this purpose, the Permanent Delegate to UNESCO Jean Roche and Assistant Ariane Guaita traveled to Pretoria, South Africa, 19-25 May 2003. This meeting, organized with the support of the UNESCO Regional Office in Maputo (Mozambique) and in cooperation with the Department of Arts and Culture of South Africa, took place within the multidisciplinary SADC festival (Southern African Development Community). Prof. Lupwishi Mbuyamba, UNESCO Cultural Regional Advisor for Africa, opened the meeting with the representatives of the South African National Commission for UNESCO, associations and provincial governments of South Africa, Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The “Africa CIOFF” website edited in French and English was put online: www.africa-cioff.org
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

During the year 2003 Working Group on Public Relations met twice in Vienna (May 2003) and in Le Puy (October 2003).
The main activities of the Group covered following issues:
- Promotion of CIOFF through CIOFF Festivals. The Group adopted the Recommendations to the Festivals Commission, regarding the identification of CIOFF at Festivals and had a meeting with the commission.
- Promotion of Cultural Diversity through Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. The Group adopted a list of official recommendations to CIOFF and issued the Press-Release underlining the CIOFF support of the commission.
- Distribution of "Declaration of Istanbul" through National Sections.
- The press release following CIOFF World Congress 2003 in Le Puy en Velay.
The Group's ongoing activities and discussions also covered the ways and means to raise the profile of the following:

FINANCES
CIOFF continued to operate in stable financial condition throughout the Year 2003. Significant progress was made during the year in the implementation of the "Matching Funds" program, with contributions and/or commitments from Chinese Taipei, Canada and the USA. In addition, steps to further enhance CIOFF's web site are expected to enable CIOFF to significantly expand the existing Festival web site link program. Further, the Finance Commission continues and intensifies its efforts to develop new sources of outside revenues for CIOFF.

Initial implementation program for the new Membership Fee system adopted by the General Assembly in 2002 was put into place during 2003, which will result in modest additional revenues beginning in 2004. This system incorporates Membership Fee Supplements on a graduated basis. When fully implemented in future years, this is expected to result in Membership Fee levels that will closely reflect the economic status of the respective National Sections.

While the above developments are expected to help enable CIOFF to undertake programs which could not be budgeted at previous income levels, it must be noted that the great majority of CIOFF's income is denominated in US Dollars, while many of its expenses are incurred in EUROS. Consequently, a significant portion of increased US Dollar revenues are presently being offset by the decreased value of the Dollar in relation to the Euro. The future course of currency exchange levels is unfortunately not predictable.

In 2003, the Finance Commission continued to develop the Matching Funds, the Festival Link and Sponsorship and Grants working programs. Discussions continued on the Rafael Maldonado Proposal. The Finance Commission continued to search for new programs to increase the working revenue of CIOFF. Mr. Rex Burdette, USA resigned as the Chairman due to work-related problems and Mr. Dan Ronen of Israel was appointed Chairman to complete the term.