Major Achievements

After intensive preparatory work in 2013, CIOFF® implemented several priority projects during the year 2014:
- The start of implementation of the new CIOFF® Strategy
- Expansion of CIOFF® cooperation with UNESCO
- Acceptance of New Members of CIOFF®:
  - Full Membership: Puerto Rico, United Arab Emirates
  - Associate Membership: Antigua & Barbuda, Ireland, Iran, Pakistan, Palestine, Philippines.
  - Corresponding Membership: Australia (Global Village Multicultural Festival), Anguilla, Cayman Islands,
  - Dominica, Grenada, St. Vincent and Grenadines
- 10 international festivals reconfirmed as Recognized CIOFF® International Festivals

Publications

CIOFF® Calendar of Festivals 2015-2017
CIOFF® Electronic Newsletters Entre-Nous (n°16)
Special Edition of CIOFF® - UNESCO Newsletter dedicated to CIOFF® celebrations of 10th Anniversary of UNESCO ICH Convention
National Sections Annual Report 2014

Membership

With the newly accepted members, the total number of CIOFF® Members is now—110 Members:
- 68 National Sections
- 12 Associate Members
- 30 Corresponding Members
CIOFF® SPRING COUNCIL MEETING 2014
CIOFF® EXCO and Council Meeting took place in San Jose in March 2014 hosted by CIOFF® Costa Rica. All the meetings were extremely productive, with the main focus on the New CIOFF® Strategy, National Sections Membership Requirements and changes to CIOFF® Internal Regulations.

The meetings were well organised and the members of the Council had a chance to meet and have round table discussion with Manuel Obregón, Minister of Culture and Youth of Costa Rica. The delegates were treated to a memorable visit to Irazu Volcano near San Jose.

6th CIOFF® YOUTH FORUM, BAUTZEN, GERMANY
The 6th CIOFF® World Youth Forum took place in Bautzen, Germany, from October 16th to 19th, under High Patronage of UNESCO.

Over 30 Youth representatives from Italy, Tahiti, Kirghizstan, Germany, Mexico, Costa Rica, Cyprus—Iskele Festival, Finland, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Netherland, Turkey, Estonia, Slovenia, Greece, Bulgaria, Canada and Paraguay were present.

During the forum sessions they analysed CIOFF® Mission and the contribution that Youth Movement can make to CIOFF®, which are: to spread the youth movement, to promote the objectives of UNESCO and apply for participation programmes, to develop international projects inside CIOFF® Youth, to organize cultural activities like workshops, exhibitions, etc., to publish the youth magazines.

Antonio Mallozzi (Italy) was elected as a new Chairman of CIOFF® Youth Coordinating Committee, with Benoit Pascal (France) and Nikos Papapesios (Greece) as two Vice-Chairman.
44th CIOFF® WORLD CONGRESS AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2014
The 44th CIOFF® World Congress and General Assembly took place in Bautzen, Germany, October 16 – 26, 2014, under the High Patronage of UNESCO, hosted by CIOFF® Germany in collaboration with the city of Bautzen, and CIOFF® members: Domowina, Sorbisches National Ensemble and Sorbische Volkstanzgruppe Schmerlitz.
Present at the Congress were 46 National Sections, 3 Honorary Members, 1 Associate Members and 3 Corresponding Members.
14 new members were accepted: Puerto Rico and United Arab Emirates as Full Members; Antigua and Barbuda, Ireland, Iran, Pakistan, Palestine and Philippines as Associate Members; Australia, Anguilla, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada and St. Vincent and Grenadines as Corresponding Members.

CULTURAL CONFERENCE 2014
CIOFF® World Congress included a successful CIOFF® Cultural Conference titled “Awareness of Intangible Cultural Heritage - The role of ethnic communities” included presentations by German and Sorbian experts, CIOFF® Canada, CIOFF® Paraguay and CIOFF® Estonia.

OPEN FORUM
Open Forum was dedicated to Intellectual Property and Folk Art and Cultural Festivals, A Practical Guide, presented by Brigitte Vezina from World Intellectual Property Organization.
During the General Assembly for the first time four National Sections: Portugal, Colombia, Argentina and the UK presented the examples of Good Practice in UNESCO Cooperation, Cultural activities, Youth and Festival fields of work.
CIOFF® AND UNESCO

Having the status of **NGO in official partnership to UNESCO** CIOFF® continued to follow main guidelines of UNESCO's work in 2014. Representatives of CIOFF® assisted at all important meetings organized by UNESCO where CIOFF® could participate. Very active participation at the Intergovernmental NGOs Conference at the end of 2014 was especially important for our organization because the new UNESCO – NGO Liaison Committee was elected for next 2 years. CIOFF® President Philippe Beaussant was a candidate to represent an NGO in official partnership from Europe region and he was elected first as a member of this Committee and later as its Secretary General. Having this position CIOFF® can increase the cooperation with UNESCO and play more visible and efficient role also in the family of more than 380 NGOs with the same status in UNESCO.

CIOFF® is also **accredited to provide advisory services to UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of ICH** and in this capacity the Representative of CIOFF® assisted the meetings of General Assembly of States Parties of ICH Convention in June and ICH Committee in November. CIOFF® was also active in NGO Forum network. CIOFF® President and CIOFF® YOUTH Representatives were very successfully involved in the Sozopol (Bulgaria) ICH Conference in September 2014.

CIOFF® was again granted High Patronage of UNESCO ICH for its Congress in Bautzen, Germany. The theme of CIOFF® Cultural Conference was dedicated to the role of different ethnic communities in the process of safeguarding their own cultural heritage – it was supported by local ethnic community of Sorbs in Germany and by German UNESCO National Commission. Some CIOFF® festivals and cultural events organized by our National Sections obtained Patronage by their respective UNESCO National Commissions. The meeting of Central European Sector (together with CIOFF® Alpe Adria festival) in Slovenia was also granted Patronage of UNESCO National Commission of Slovenia. There is a very good cooperation also in other countries, for example Canada and USA.

The year 2014 was important for strengthening this cooperation on the international level – in the future we have to focus on better cooperation between all CIOFF® National Sections and UNESCO National Commissions.

CULTURAL COMMISSION

Meeting of the Commission during the 44th CIOFF® World Congress in Bautzen:
The Cultural Commission held its meeting during the 44th CIOFF® World Congress in Bautzen, Germany. The most important topics discussed were:

- Cultural Conference 2014 and 2015
- New CIOFF® Cultural Policy
- Annual Report of Cultural Activities
- Planning of future Operative Programs

**Cultural Conference in Bautzen – World Congress 2014**
CIOFF® Cultural Conference 2014 took place on October 23rd, in Bautzen, Germany, as part of the Congress, under the theme “Awareness of Intangible Cultural Heritage - The role of ethnic communities”. Beatriz Sangoy, Chairman of CIOFF® Cultural Commission (CIOFF® Argentina) and Magdalena Tovornik, CIOFF® Representative to UNESCO (CIOFF® Slovenia) acted as moderators during the conference. Hugo Ifran, Vice-President of CIOFF® for Cultural Affairs opened the Conference, and Prof. Dr. Christoph Wulf of the German Commission for UNESCO presented a report of German Commission for UNESCO.

German Expert Dr. Dorothea Kolland, musicologist, sociologist and former head of the Cultural Office in Berlin-Neukölln, discussed the role of ethnic groups in the preservation of intangible cultural heritage, followed by a presentation of Sorbian ICH by Dr. Ines Keller, Dr. Theresa Jacobs and Dr. Fabian Jacobs, research fellows at the Department of Cultural Studies of the Sorbian Institute in Bautzen.

The second part of the Cultural Conference was dedicated to examples of best practices in the role of ethnic communities presented by CIOFF® National Sections of Canada, Paraguay and Estonia.
FESTIVALS COMMISSION

In 2014, the Festivals Commission had two meetings. The Spring Meeting in Costa Rica took place during the Council Meeting. The second meeting took place in Bautzen / Germany during the World Congress.

At the GA in Bautzen in October 2014 Wolfgang Denke-Otterbein was confirmed as Acting Chairman of the Commission. The Festivals Commission has three new members, Jérôme Le Couteller from France, Ioan Cocian from Romania and Franco Mallozzi from Italy. Mrs. Susanne Kramer from Luxembourg was also appointed as Vice Chair of the Commission at the GA in Bautzen 2014.

CIOFF® Festivals Calendar 2015 – 2017 was produced and distributed. The CIOFF® Festivals Commission successfully implemented the advertising program in the Festivals Calendar. The Festivals Commission started 2014 with the CIOFF® Cultural Ambassador program. Fourteen Festivals will be mentioned in the next Festivals Calendar as CIOFF® Cultural Ambassador.

The Reports on Festivals and Groups were distributed to all National Sections on December 15, 2014.

In 2014, the Festivals Commission received seven new applications for Recognition as CIOFF® International Festivals and three festivals received re-newel of recognition during the GA in Bautzen.

The completed Charter for CIOFF® International Festivals was presented to the Council and was confirmed by the Council.

The Guidelines for CIOFF® International and CIOFF® National Festivals are nearing completion.

LEGAL COMMISSION

The spring meeting planned initially in France and then in Switzerland could not take place due to health reasons and several cancellations. The follow up of the administrative affairs and the development of the ongoing projects were nevertheless performed, except for the 2014 Commitment to Excellence Program.

New membership.

The legal assessment of the applications received during the past year has been strengthened, especially on the 3 legal requirements: to be democratic, open and representative. Namely, the LC included in its legal assessment a new option: To recommend to the Council the acceptance of new members for a trial period, if needed. The meaning and the consequences of this trial period have been presented in detail during the General Assembly.

Survey of the National Sections

At its spring meeting 2014, the Council decided that in future, the online registration of the Membership Requirements has to be filled out annually. The survey is now in the hands of Sector Representatives and under the responsibility of the Vice President for Administrative Affairs.

The new editorial version of the revised By-laws has been published in the three official CIOFF® languages English, French and Spanish on Internet as well as for the English version in the Transparency Program (TP) of the Legal Commission; the Internal Regulations on Intranet as well as in the TP.

During the CIOFF® World Congress 2014 in Bautzen, Germany, the following nominations took place: Vlasta ONDRUSOVA was nominated as Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Fernando MARANI as Legal Consultant and ex officio member, Norbert MÜLLER, Vice-President for Administrative Affairs, nominated as ex officio member and Felicia JIN, Canada, elected as Youth Representative in replacement of Jessica Latourrette.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The aim of the Committee is to analyze the current possibilities available now and to develop new activities, which could create funds for our operations.

The Committee had meetings in Costa Rica, during CIOFF® Council meeting and in Bautzen, Germany, during the General Assembly 2014.
COMMITTEE ON FOLKLORIADA

CIOFF® World Folkloriada 2016 in Zacatecas, MEXICO

The Folkloriada Committee met in the month of July during the International Folklore Festival in Zacatecas and in October as part of CIOFF® General Assembly and World Congress in Bautzen, Germany.

It was decided to involve Sector Representatives on the Council to cooperate with the Committee.

The presence of the Committee members in the activities of the Festival of Zacatecas allowed to carry out an assessment of the availability of accommodation, catering, transportation, technical issues, guides, etc., in order to suggest the necessary changes and improvement to ensure the success of Folkloriada.

During the visit to Zacatecas the Agreement for the organisation of Folkloriada, which outlined the general guidelines, was signed by the Governor of Zacatecas, President of CIOFF® Mexico, the President of CIOFF® and the Chairman of Folkloriada Committee.

The scale of Folkloriada 2016 has been confirmed, including the minimum participation of 50 countries with maximum of 1800 people.

7th World Youth Forum: The Folkloriada Committee accepted the proposal of Youth Coordinating Committee, to hold the 8th CIOFF® Youth Forum during Folkloriada, between 1st and 5th August (two days meeting with simultaneous translation and 3 days program of games and other activities).

World Forum of Group Directors: The Culture Committee of Folkloriada has proposed to hold during Folkloriada the World Forum of Group Directors, specifically engaging the directors of the groups participating in the Folkloriada and directors of Mexican groups. The Forum will take place over two days and will be conducted with simultaneous translation.

Cultural Policy: In accordance with the new Cultural Policy in CIOFF® related to Intangible Cultural Heritage UNESCO convention, it is agreed that Folkloriada 2016 will become a tool for implementation of the Cultural Policy.

Other events planned during Folkloriada 2016:

- Exhibition of Musical Instruments and / or photos of musical instruments: the aim of this project presented by the Committee on Culture is to extend the public accessibility, knowledge and appreciation of other cultures.
- Workshop and exhibition of embroidery from different regions of Mexico: a form of preservation and dissemination of intangible cultural heritage that provides strong picture of identity of Mexico.
- Activities of the Youth Coordinating Committee.
- Workshops and Crafts exhibition: It is planned to incorporate up to 2 artisans in the presentations of the National Sections, exclusively for this activity.
- The Intangible Cultural Heritage on stage: the International groups will be asked to showcase their traditional ceremonies and rituals on stage.
- Traditional Games and Photographic Exhibition of Traditional Games: organized by Youth Coordinating Committee.

Folkloriada Committee
Chairman:
Hugo Ifran - Argentina
Executive Secretary
Christian Hidalgo-Mazzei - Canada
Members:
Guy Landry - Canada
Eva Héra - Hungary
Stiliana Yorgova - Bulgaria
Joe Maloney - United Kingdom
Mario García Siani - Paraguay
Carlos Guillermo Terrazas Domínguez - Mexico
María Teresa Gómez Saldaña—Mexico
Youth Member:
Kaia Karner—Estonia

Photos from the festival in Zacatecas 2014, where the Folkloriada Agreement was signed
COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

The Committee on Children concentrated its work on two topics: Children’s folk songs book and guidelines for the International Children Folklore Festivals. 150 copies of the Children’s Folk Song Book were distributed. The Books are on sale online at www.billinghamfestival.co.uk/store

In the meeting of the Committee on Children in Bautzen, we also discussed the definition of the children’s folklore, which generally was regarded as folklore on the stage or folklore in life and how to connect the folklore with the current and future digital generation and would like to suggest “How to preserve the children’s culture” as topic for discussion for the future children’s conference or similar event.

Two new members joined the Commission at the CIOFF® General Assembly in Bautzen: Marie Christine Mercier-Moinard (France) and Youth Member - Beyza Göktas (Turkey).

The Committee on Children had a joint meeting with the Committee on Training and Education during the CIOFF® World Congress in Bautzen and proposed the topic for the new Open Forum “Children with disabilities at Festivals”.

WORKING GROUP ON TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Committee on Training and Education (CTE) reviewed the education role of CIOFF® in the areas of research and the promotion of various methods and programs of training and education that preserve and transmit traditional cultures, particularly within the context of festivals and presentations of traditional arts.

The CTE continues to seek one new article on the safeguarding of intangible culture heritage (ICH) or educational practices from each Sector to be added to the collection of resource papers and presentations in the Intranet Shared Documents section.

The CTE is working with the Committee on Children (CoC) to research practices and methods that may be shared to assist festival directors for the inclusion of children with disabilities as presenters and participants within festivals. This topic introduces a new area of sharing ICH with all people.

CTE continued to work together with the CIOFF® Youth Coordinating Committee in the area of education and training of teachers, demonstrators, performers and festivals.

It is the education element of festivals that sets CIOFF® festivals apart from other festivals; the CTE proposed that seminars /conferences /workshops be convened in two Sectors each year. CIOFF®’s recognition of these designated educational events would demonstrate and provide evidence of CIOFF®’s commitment to safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, to quality festivals, and to networking.

At the CIOFF® General Assembly in Bautzen, Germany, Özlem Kadiraga was nominated the Vice Chair of the Committee and Riitta Korhonen will represent CTE on the Council. Dirala Meral Korahan, CIOFF® Cyprus Iskele Festival, was welcomed as the Youth Representative.
6th World CIOFF® Youth Forum was held in the city of Bautzen, Germany from 16th to 19th October 2012. The Forum had the presence of youth delegates from 18 Country: Argentina, Bulgaria, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Canada, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, Paraguay, Slovenia, Tahiti and Turkey.

As usual, the Forum was an excellent opportunity to share experiences and plan the work policy for the next two years. Among the most important results, it is interesting to stand out program that will be implementing in the close future:

1. New internal communication strategy
2. Safeguarding of traditional tales and myths
3. Safeguarding of traditional trades
4. The possibility to organize a Youth Event
5. The 7th Youth Forum during the Folkloriada 2016 in Zacatecas

Starting the work with new countries

The CIOFF® Youth Movement has been growing a lot during the last years. New contacts have been started with young people from, Albania, Austria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Latvia, Lithuania and Netherlands.

Recognition for Official Youth Commissions:

During the year 2012, the YCC has been working in a procedure to recognize the youth commissions that are officially established in the national level. This procedure is in accordance with the Commitment to Excellence proposed by the Legal Commission. To get the recognition, the national commission has to fulfill a number of requirements like the organization of national meetings, participation in international CIOFF® events and make activities in the frame of CIOFF® Youth programs. These activities must be demonstrated by photographs or videos. The countries that have been recognized as Official CIOFF® Youth Commissions in the 2014 are: Canada, France, Greece and Turkey.

Cooperation with IMC:

Our relationship with IMC Youth started in 2009. During the last two years our youth delegate in Estonia, Laura Llinat has been in charge of this important cooperation. In September 2011, we participated in the 4th World Forum on Music that took place in Tallinn. In January 2012, YCC was also presented in a meeting in Paris, in the UNESCO building, where IMC Youth established their structures, working-plan and made elections. This Year during our 6th World CIOFF® Youth Forum, Jesse Boere Chairman of the IMC Youth was present as guest to our meeting.

Miscellaneous:

It is also important to mention that more and more former member of the youth starting to take places in the bodies of CIOFF®:

Kati Taal , Recording Secretary; Irene Pimpinella, Vice-Chairman of the Commission on Communication and Public Relations. These are excellent examples of the transition between CIOFF® Youth to CIOFF®.

Elections

During the 6th Youth Forum in Bautzen, Germany in October 2014, Antonio Malozi (Italy) was elected as a new Chairman of CIOFF® Youth Coordinating Committee, with Benoit Pascal (France) and Nikos Papapesios (Greece) as two Vice-Chairman.
CIOFF® SECTORS

ASIAN AND OCEANIAN SECTOR

In the year 2014, the celebration of the international folklore festivals in the respective countries and the selection folk music and dance groups to go abroad to the international folklore festivals in different countries remained the major task for the members of the CIOFF® Asian and Oceanian Sector.

The major sector activities of this year, were the Spring Sector Meeting in Beijing, China between 9-16 May 2014 with attendance of 24 delegates from 11 National sections and the 6th Asian and Oceanian Children’s Folklore Festival in Beijing, China between 25 and 29 July with 6 participating groups.

Youth Representative of CIOFF® Turkey Ms. Beyza Gokcan Goktas was elected as youth representative of CIOFF® Asian and Oceanian Sector and member of the Committee on Children. Valeria Wu of Chinese Taipei was nominated as acting Chairman of the Committee on Children at the General Assembly in Bautzen.

The second CIOFF® Asian and Oceanian Sector Meeting was held in Bautzen, Germany. 2014 Sector Work Plan was presented and approved.

To implement CIOFF® new strategy, ensuring the democratic structure within all CIOFF® bodies, the Sector started the work on Membership Requirements with National Sections. Associate and Full Membership positions for Corresponding Members were discussed. The new applications from Iran, Palestine, Philippines and Pakistan as Associate members were accepted by the Sector and approved at the General Assembly.

Said Rachmat of CIOFF® Indonesia was nominated as sector representative in the Cultural Commission and Jay Nayoung Jeong from CIOFF® South Korea became the new treasurer of the Sector.

Mr. Udomsak SAKMUNVONG, immideate past CIOFF® President was elected the President of CIOFF® Asia and Oceanian Sector and received Honorary Member of CIOFF® at the General Assembly in Bautzen, Germany.

CENTRAL EUROPEAN SECTOR

The Sector meeting was held together with the Alpe Adria Festival, from May 28 till 1st of June in Kranj and was hosted by CIOFF® Slovenia.

Special guest in this meeting was our president Philippe Beaussant. At the end of the meeting special guests from the Alpe Adria Festival: Franco Mallozzi, Anna Marie Boileau, Ante Cukrov and Mr. Paolo Vidotto from the Unione Folkloristica Italiana joined the Sector.

Meeting

11 countries from our Sector participated in this meeting.

The sector had a round table discussion on the Cultural Activities in the National Sections. The Report was sent to the chair of the Cultural Commission.

National Sections structure and communication problems were discussed on the last day of the meeting, highlighting the situation of each National Section.

Almost all our National Sections were present in the second Sector meeting in Bautzen, Germany, during the CIOFF® World Congress. The North European Sector joined our meeting in Bautzen.

After the presentation of the Strategy 2014 – 2018 the National Sections were informed about the Membership Requirements documents which have to be provided to the Sector Representative.

The Sector accepted unanimously the proposal of the National Section CIOFF® Slovenia to grand Mrs. Branka Moskon the Silver Pin.
LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN SECTOR

The Spring Meeting of the CIOFF® Council was held in San Jose, Costa Rica, organized by CIOFF® Costa Rica, followed by the Sector Spring Meeting in Nagoya, Costa Rica. In line with the new CIOFF® Strategy the Sector received a working visit of CIOFF® President, who visited several countries in Latin America; in Peru he assisted with the renewal of CIOFF® Peru, where open and democratic elections were held, he also visited Colombia, Brazil and Panama.

FOLKLORIADA In Mexico agreements with federal and state authorities for Folkloriada 2016 and the events taking place in over 20 states in the post-Folkloriada days were signed. The Sector also carried out Folkloriada Committee meeting, this was held in the city of Zacatecas in August.

NEW COUNTRIES: The Sector is working with diverse groups to create CIOFF® Bolivia. A national meeting had been planned with groups and members of cultural organisations in the country, which will be attended by CIOFF® Vice President for Cultural Affairs Alcides Hugo Ifrán and the Representative of the Sector. The Sector is making contact with organizations in the Dominican Republic, with the intention of creating CIOFF® Dominican Republic.

FESTIVALS: A total of 45 international festivals registered in the directory of World CIOFF Festivals.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES: Three conferences of intangible cultural heritage in the sector were held, with two Internet radio broadcasters one in Mexico and one in Colombia, thus strengthening relations with UNESCO.

NORTH AMERICAN SECTOR

The North American Sector and CIOFF® Canada Annual Meeting were hosted by CIOFF® Canada. It was held in the Metro Hall of Toronto in May 2014. More than 35 participants were in attendance; the Canadian Commission for UNESCO was represented by Mr. Matthias Bizimana, Program Officer, Culture and World Heritage.

The second meeting of the North American Sector took place in Bautzen, Germany, as a part of the 44th CIOFF® World Congress. Reports on the status of National Sections and their relationships with National Commissions of UNESCO were discussed in details. The revisions to By Laws will be reviewed and elections will be discussed during the Section’s Annual Meeting. Other subjects discussed at the meetings were: communications, CIOFF® web site, cancelations by groups and festivals that seem to be primarily due to the finances and about the effect these matters have on CIOFF® internationally and at the Sector and Section Level.

The North American Sector discussion was focused on helping our new Member countries ensure that they will become open to all organizations and individuals dedicated to the preservation of Folklore and Folk Arts in their countries. The North American Sector is honored to work with the Canadian Commission for UNESCO in joining the global campaign calling for culture to be included in the 2015 Sustainable Development Goals and the links cultural heritage may have with sustainable development. Five new corresponding members - Anguilla, Cayman Island, Dominica, Grenada and St. Vincent and the Grenadines joined CIOFF® and the Sector in 2014 at the CIOFF® World Congress in Bautzen, Germany.
NORTH EUROPEAN SECTOR

North European Sector has had two meetings during 2014. Spring meeting was held in Latvia, Riga in May, hosted by CIOFF® Latvia. The second meeting was in Germany, Bautzen in October 2014, together with Central European Sector. The important topics discussed at the Spring meeting were CIOFF® New Strategy, Work Plan, CIOFF® and UNESCO cooperation and Youth Movement. There have been many cultural events and festivals for adults and children in each country and cooperation has been active between neighborhood countries (Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania for Baltic festivals). Billingham Festival in UK celebrated its 50th Anniversary.

Discussion dealing with CIOFF® New Strategy was very active and all members were satisfied with the latest version. The written strategy is good and principles and ideology are presented clearly. The participants of the meeting discussed and finalized the Sector work plan, which is a starting point for the other activities in the good cooperation. The work plan is in developing process all the time according the needs of activities in the Sector.

The Sector discussed the cooperation with UNESCO National Commissions. Estonia is a good example of close collaboration with ICH specialists who work in Folk Culture Centre and together they have organized two exhibitions. The other good examples are from Lithuania and Latvia, where some cooperation projects with UNESCO are ongoing. Members of Youth Coordinating Committee from Estonia and Latvia took part in the meeting and discussed their cooperation and activities. The Sector wants to support and help young people to develop their cooperation both in national and international levels. All members agreed that open and good communication is very important element for developing and making deeper cooperation between different countries and cultures.

SOUTH EUROPEAN AND AFRICAN SECTOR

The Spring Sector Meeting was organized by National Section Bosnia Herzegovina in Sarajevo, in cooperation with the International Folklore Festival “Ilidža”, in June 2014. At the meeting in Sarajevo, the first draft of a proposal for a regular “Mediterranean Festival” was presented and discussed, including its objectives and strategy to a “Sector Flagship event” which will give the National Sections the opportunity to work together.

Former President of CIOFF® Italy Sergio Piemonti was awarded a Silver Pin for his contribution to CIOFF® work.

The Sector continued working with African Counties, processing the requests for information coming from different groups and organizations in different African countries. There are several proposals, which will be presented to the Council, once they have been verified.
- “Project MBENINGOMA-COMORES”, request for partnership-cooperation with CIOFF® and for information on the procedures to be followed;
- In Togo a number of associations (following the suggestions of CIOFF®) created the “Mouvement Togolais pour la promotion des danses folkloriques” and are now asking for a partnership.

The sector continued working with various organisations and groups in Serbia to found a new CIOFF® Serbia National Section.
INFORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

NATIONAL SECTIONS ANNUAL REPORT 2013

The Annual Report of National Sections 2013 was prepared based on the reports received from 59 National Sections. In 224 international and 78 national folklore festivals, 3,425 foreign and 1,273 national folklore groups with 121,176 participants took part. Festival presentations were observed by 8,460,728 spectators; there were 1,006 TV and 1,402 radio transmissions from these events.

During the festivals, various complementary programs and activities were organized:
- Conferences, seminars at 105 festivals
- Festival exhibitions at 152 festivals
- Meetings, discussion with audience at 102 festivals
- Handicraft programs at 142 festivals
- Music programs at 168 festivals
- Meetings of friendship at 185 festivals
- Parades at 188 festivals
- Typical food at 125 festivals
- Children’s games at 86 festivals
- Educational programs for children at 74 festivals
- Educational programs for adults at 58 festivals
- Activities for handicapped/disabled people at 27 festivals
- Workshops at 123 festivals
- Free excursions (to learn the country’s culture) at 126 festivals
- Religious (ecumenical - multi-religious) services at 52 festivals

National Sections organized cultural conferences, seminars and workshops with attendance of 32,741 participants and prepared 70 printed publications.

COMMISSION ON COMMUNICATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS

CIOFF® Newsletter “Entre Nous”
In 2014 one edition of CIOFF® electronic Newsletter “Entre Nous” was published in three languages. A special UNESCO Edition of “Entre Nous” was produced and distributed in Summer 2014. CIOFF® Commission on Communications and Public Relations thanks everyone who sent contributions for the Newsletter and to those who translated Entre Nous into French and Spanish.

CIOFF® Brochure
The revised CIOFF® brochure was produced and 4,000 printed in time for the World Congress held in Bautzen, Germany in 2014. Thanks to CIOFF® Germany for their very generous contribution for all printing expenses! Thank you to CIOFF® Argentina and CIOFF® France for help in translation.

CIOFF® Press Releases
In 2014, the Commission created and distributed press releases featuring the World Congress in Bautzen, Germany. This was distributed and used in advance of the press conference held in Bautzen at the start of the Congress. A second press release about the results of the World Congress was published by German media during the Congress, resulting in much publicity, especially relating to CIOFF® Germany and the regional Sorb community.

CIOFF® History 2011 – 2020
Mr. Rolf Kaufman, Dr. Udomsak Sakmunwong and Mr. Jean Francois Proux have formed as a team to work on the next decade of CIOFF® History. Work should begin in the early part of 2015.

CIOFF® on Twitter and Facebook
CIOFF® Youth team is working on CIOFF® social media posts and administration.

CIOFF® Website
Benoit Pascal of France will help administer the website with Norbert Mueller of Germany.