Major Achievements
CIOFF® implemented several priority projects during the year 2015:
- Further steps towards implementation of the new CIOFF® Strategy
- Expansion of CIOFF® cooperation with UNESCO
- Revision of CIOFF® Membership Categories
- Creation of CIOFF® African Sector
- Adoption of CIOFF® Festivals Guidelines
- Adoption of CIOFF® National Sections Annual Report
- Adoption of Guidelines on how to establish CIOFF® National Section
- Organization of 1st CIOFF® Forum of Festival Directors in Bogota, Colombia
- Acceptance of New Members of CIOFF®:
  Full Membership: Chile and Serbia
  Associate Membership: Australia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia, Comoros, Denmark, Madagascar, Moldova and Togo
  Corresponding Membership: Qatar
- 5 international festivals reconfirmed as Recognized CIOFF® International Festivals

Publications
CIOFF® Calendar of Festivals 2016-2018
CIOFF® Electronic Newsletters Entre-Nous (n°17)
National Sections Annual Report 2015

Membership
With the newly accepted members, the total number of CIOFF® Members is now—118 Members:
67 National Sections
21 Associate Members
30 Corresponding Members

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CIOFF® SPRING COUNCIL MEETING 2015
CIOFF® EXCO and Council Meeting took place in I-lan, Chinese Taipei in April 2015 hosted by CIOFF® Chinese Taipei. 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 very well organised and the members of the Council had a chance to experience some memorable visits around I-lan and Taipei.

1st CIOFF® INTERNATIONAL FORUM OF FESTIVAL DIRECTORS
AND WORLD SUMMIT - ARTS AND CULTURE FOR PEACE
The World Summit Art and Culture for Peace and the Forum of CIOFF® Festival Directors was very well organised in Bogota, Colombia by the National Section of CIOFF® Colombia in April 2015.
The World Summit Art and Culture for Peace was held in various theatres and was very well attended.
Forum of the CIOFF® Festival Directors was opened by Angela Beltran, Dance advisor of the Ministry of Culture from Bogota, Santiago Trujillo, IDARTES Director, Enrique Jatib, President of CIOFF® Colombia, Susanne Kramer, member of CIOFF® Festival Commission and CIOFF® Council.
Main points of discussion at the Forum were:
- CIOFF® Festivals Guidelines
- Integration of Disabled people into the festivals
- How to create a balanced and interesting festival programme to attract the audience
- How to recruit volunteers for the Festivals
- Fundraising for the Festivals
- Activities for children and families within the festival programme
- Dance and music workshops within the festival programme
- Cultural exchange and interaction between participating groups at a festival
- Festival publications, advertising and promotion
The Forum was attended by over 100 delegates from all over the World.

CIOFF® ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Council members 2015
President*
Philippe Beaussant- France
Vice-President for Administrative Affairs*
Norbert Mueller- Germany
Vice-President for Cultural Affairs*
Alcides Hugo Ifran- Argentina
Secretary General*
Olga Maloney- UK
Treasurer*
Esa Vilhonen- Finland
Chairmen of commissions
Communications & PR commission
Irene Pimpinella - Italy
(Acting Chairman)
Cultural commission
Beatriz Sangoy- Argentina
Festivals Commission
Wolfgang Denke-Otterbein - Germany
(Acting Chairman)
Legal commission
Cyrill Renz- Switzerland
Sector Representatives
Asian and Oceanian Sector
Muammer Arslan- Turkey
Central European Sector
Susanne Kramer–Luxembourg
Latin American and Caribbean Sector
Alejandro Camacho- Mexico
North American Sector
Leticia Bulotano—Canada
North European Sector
Riitta Korhinen- Finland
South European and African Sector
Anna Maria Boileau- Italy
President of the Youth Committee
Ramiro Mansutti- Argentina
Representative to UNESCO
Magdalena Tovornik- Slovenia
*Executive Committee
45th CIOFF® WORLD CONGRESS AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2015
The 45th CIOFF® World Congress and General Assembly took place in Arequipa, Peru, October 10 – 18, 2015, under the High Patronage of UNESCO, hosted by CIOFF® Peru. Present at the Congress were 42 National Sections, 2 Honorary Members, 3 Associate Members and 5 Corresponding Members.
12 new members were accepted: Chile and Serbia as Full Members; Australia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia, Comoros, Denmark, Madagascar, Moldova and Togo as Associate Members; Qatar as Corresponding Member.

CULTURAL CONFERENCE 2015
CIOFF® World Congress included a successful CIOFF® Cultural Conference included presentation from Magdalena Tovornik, CIOFF® Representative to UNESCO, presentations of traditional Dances of Peru, as part of Intangible Cultural Heritage, and presentation on Cultural Community of Cusco by Regis Andrade Oblitas, representative of Ministry of Culture from Cusco.

OPEN FORUM
Open Forum was held on 16th of October and covered two topics: “Bridge between disabled and nondisabled people in the festivals” presented by CIOFF® Hungary and “Cooperation with press during festivals and events” presented by CIOFF® Peru. During the General Assembly four National Sections: USA, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Argentina about UAE and Estonia 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 2015. Representative of CIOFF® assisted at all important meetings organized by UNESCO where CIOFF® could participate.

CELEBRATION OF 70th Anniversary of UNESCO and 45th Anniversary of CIOFF®

CIOFF® Members all over the World took active part in celebration of 70th Anniversary of UNESCO and 45th Anniversary of CIOFF® though holding special events, conferences, forums, exhibitions and seminars and including special projects in CIOFF® Festivals. All the CIOFF® festivals have been listed on UNESCO website as part of the anniversary events.

NEW CIOFF® STATUS AT UNESCO

At the 38th General Assembly of UNESCO in Paris (3rd -18th November) CIOFF® has been awarded the UNESCO associate partner status as NGO, being one of the only three NGOs, who received the associate status in 2015.

This recognition of CIOFF® by UNESCO reflects the new level of cooperation with CIOFF® in providing a valuable partnership to UNESCO in recent years, having made regular major substantial contributions to framing UNESCO’s objectives and implementing its programmes in the field of safeguarding and promoting the World intangible cultural heritage.

CIOFF® becomes the only organisation working in the field of ICH to receive associate partnership status of UNESCO.

What that means for CIOFF® is:

Visibility – an immense chance to promote the work and activities of CIOFF® by both CIOFF® International and the National Sections
Opportunity to develop and implement new exciting programmes and projects with the support of UNESCO
Responsibility- to maintain the high level of engagement with UNESCO as an associate partner, constantly strengthening CIOFF® organisation on national and international levels and delivering effective programmes and projects.

CULTURAL COMMISSION

Meeting of the Commission during the 45th CIOFF® World Congress in Arequipa:

The Cultural Commission held its meeting during the 45th CIOFF® World Congress in Arequipa, Peru. The most important topics discussed were:
• Cultural Conference 2015 and 2016
• Cultural Activities at Folkloriada 2016 in Zacatecas, including proposed photo exhibition of traditional musical instruments, exhibition of musical instruments from around the World, traditional handicrafts exhibition, exhibition of Mexican embroidery with demonstrations.

Cultural Conference in Arequipa, Peru – World Congress 2015

The Cultural Conference, which took place in Arequipa, Peru during the 45th CIOFF® World Congress included 2 parts; the first part was dedicated to CIOFF® relationships with UNESCO; the second part was dedicated to the intangible cultural heritage of Peru, including dance demonstrations.

CELEBRATION OF 70th Anniversary of UNESCO and 45th Anniversary of CIOFF®

CIOFF® Members all over the World took active part in celebration of 70th Anniversary of UNESCO and 45th Anniversary of CIOFF® though holding special events, conferences, forums, exhibitions and seminars and including special projects in CIOFF® Festivals. All the CIOFF® festivals have been listed on UNESCO website as part of the anniversary events.

33 best celebration events which took place in 14 National Sections were included into a special presentation at the CIOFF® Assembly in Arequipa.
FESTIVALS COMMISSION

In March, from 5th to 8th, the Festivals Commission and the PR & Communication Commission of CIOFF® had their spring meeting as joint meeting in Cori, Italy. Festival commission produced and published CIOFF® Festivals calendar 2015-2017 and produced and distributed the Festivals Reports and Group Reports 2015.

CIOFF® Forum for Festival Directors in Bogota / Colombia
CIOFF® Colombia in cooperation with the CIOFF® Festivals Commission hold the Forum of Festivals Directors in Bogota / Colombia from 06.04.2015 to 12.04.2015 with the support of the Institute of Arts IDARTES and the Ministry of Culture of Colombia. Every National Section was able to send two Festival Directors free (accommodation and full board). In total 100 places sponsored by the organizers. Mrs. Susanne Kramer represented the Festivals Commission at the Forum.

Guidelines for CIOFF® Festivals
The new guidelines for CIOFF® International and CIOFF® National Festivals have been adopted by CIOFF® General Assembly in Arequipa 2015. The results of the Forum in Bogota and from the comments of some other CIOFF members were included in the guidelines.

Recognitions and Renewal of Recognitions of CIOFF® Festivals
In 2015, the Festivals Commission awarded the Recognition as CIOFF® International Festivals to Csángó Festival, Folklore Festival of European Minorities and Folk Art Fair, Jászberény, Hungary; Interetno festival, Subotica, Serbia: International Gokcan College Children’s Festival, Istanbul, Turkey; Magic Valley Folk Festival, Burley, USA and renewed the recognition of Folkfaro, Folclore Internacional Cidade de Faro, Faro, Portugal.

LEGAL COMMISSION

In 2015 the Legal Commission dealt with the following topics:
- Revision of CIOFF® By-Laws and Internal Regulations in 3 languages;
- Development and adoption of new CIOFF® Membership categories
- Application for membership procedure
- Termination of membership
- Analyses and recommendations for acceptance of new CIOFF® Members

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 is working to develop a Flagship event of CIOFF®. The Committee had meetings in I-lan, during CIOFF® Council meeting and in Arequipa, Peru, during the General Assembly 2015.
COMMITTEE ON FOLKLORIADA

CIOFF® World Folkloriada 2016 in Zacatecas, MEXICO

The Folkloriada Committee met in October as part of CIOFF® General Assembly and World Congress in Arequipa, Peru.

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 accepted the proposal 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.

CIOFF® World Folkloriada 2020

CIOFF® General Assembly in Arequipa, Peru awarded to right to host CIOFF® World Folkloriada 2020 to City of Ufa, Bashkortostan, Russia.
COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

Committee is looking to revise its goals, concentrating on tasks that help the work of the committee. Joint work is needed with the members of CIOFF®, to identify the importance of all the children and children group. The future of CIOFF is the present children. Today's children will be young adults in 10-15 years. They will be the members of CIOFF® Youth. After 20-25 years they will be the board of CIOFF®. It is therefore necessary to examine the current situation.

The first step is: obtain key information. to survey the member countries, about situation of children groups in National Sections: 

dance education for children; is there a national association; is it connected to the national section of CIOFF*: how many children's ensembles are in the country; is there a children’s festival; is there dance education in the primary schools; how to train the teachers; are children involved in folk games; is there a special folk game festival; is there a folk song in education; how many children are involved in the country folk dancing, folk music, folk songs.

Two new members joined the Commission Marie Christine Mercier-Moinard (France) and Youth Member - Beyza Gökcan Göktas (Turkey).

The Committee on Children had a joint meeting with the Committee on Training and Education during the CIOFF® World Congress in Arequipa and presented the main topic for the Open Forum “Children with disabilities at Festivals”. The presentation was made by Jozsef Szigetvari, Hungary, who presented incredible life stories of children with disabilities being given a chance to perform, the presentation with greeted with a standing ovation.

COMMITTEE ON TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Committee on Training and Education continues to research and promote various methods and programs of training and education that safeguard and transmit traditional cultures, particularly within the context of festivals and presentations of traditional arts.

CIOFF® Committee on Training and Education Collection of Papers Regarding the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage 2010-2015 has been published and circulated on the occasion of the 45th Anniversary of CIOFF® and the 70th Anniversary of UNESCO.

Committee on Training and Education will continue to seek, collect and archive topics and authors/presenters that provide examples of the safeguarding of intangible culture heritage (ICH) and educational practices for CIOFF® and its members. Papers are written in a variety of styles of writing, research and recording of training, presenting and preserving of intangible cultural heritage.

Committee on Training and Education will continue to work together with the CIOFF® Youth Coordinating Committee in the area of education and training of teachers, demonstrators, performers and festivals.

The Committee on Training and Education proposed again that a prominent event be convened at the sector level, such as worldwide forum or conference in 2017- the Bogata, Colombia Forum of Festival Directors was such an example. Folklorida is the flagship event of 2016. CIOFF®’s recognition of these designated educational events demonstrates and provides evidence of CIOFF®’s commitment to safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, to quality festivals, and to networking.

In the effort to work effectively with CIOFF® and its members, Committee on Training and Education will review CIOFF®’s vision and develop its next steps and projects to move CIOFF® from good to best!
YOUTH MOVEMENT

7th World CIOFF® Youth Forum:
The 7th World CIOFF® Youth Forum is going to take place in Mexico, in the city of Zacatecas, in the frame of the CIOFF® World Folkloriada 2016.
The Project will concern on the item of the Mexican Culture:
- Mexican Traditional Games and Traditional Games of the participants (especially indigenous games);
- Mexican Traditional Trade and Traditional trade of the participants;
- Mexican Myths and Legend and Myths and Legend of the participants.
The Activity will be developed like as follow:
1 Day – Presentation of the participants, workshop and YCC meeting;
2 Day – Workshop and Sector Meeting;
The workshop will be coordinate by the YCC and will be focused on the three main topic mentioned above, and on the new challenges for youth generation.
The following three days there will take place workshop and conference coordinate by Sector. The first day is coordinated by LAS sector, the second day by Europe and the third day by North American Sector, Africa and Asian and Oceania Sector.
The morning will be characterized by Conferences; the first section is coordinated by the relevant sector. The second section of the Day will be always a conference but with the item of the Mexican culture. All the afternoon will be focused on the workshop coordinate by the relevant sector. All these activity will take place in the frame of the CIOFF® Folkloriada held in Mexico form 30 July 2016 till 15 August 2016. The Forum will take place in the city of Zacatecas the first week with approximately 120 youth. Until now, their presence confirmed 71 youth belong to 44 different countries. This will be a great opportunity for our organization to spread the knowledge of our organization at the Youth Level and to get involved more and more youth.
This is surely at the same time the biggest challenge and an opportunity for YCC to show how important is the presence of the youth in an international level.

Starting the work with new countries
The CIOFF® Youth Movement has been growing a lot during the last year. New contacts have been started with young people from Belize, Cameroon, Egypt, Syria and Philippines.

New Sector—Africa:
One of the important goals reached by CIOFF® in 2015 is the first meeting of the African Sector. The meeting was held at the beginning of December in Benin. This was important also for the youth, because for the first time after several years we had our first youth movement coming from an African country. The President of the Youth from Cameroon, Mr. Prosper Mounta, started cooperation with us, especially with our youth sector representatives from SE Sector, who is having a close contact with him. The youth from Cameroon looks really interested in CIOFF® Youth Activities and they are getting day by day more involved to our project. Regarding the election of a youth representative for the African sector, we still not have received any concrete document from the president of the sector, so for the moment we are waiting to understand who will be the deputy youth from the sector interested to cooperate with YCC. In the same way, our SE Sector Youth representative has a close cooperation with a Youth from Egypt.

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. To get the recognition, the national commission has to fulfil 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 photograph or videos. For the year 2015, there is no country that applies for the new recognition. Anyway there was a lot of preparatory work from that country that received the recognition in the year 2012, that have to prove that the requirements are still valid to continue to be recognized as Official youth Commission.

Youth Coordinating Committee:
Chairman
Antonio Mallozzi, Italy
Vice-Chairman
Nikos Papapesios, Greece
Secretary
Giulia Ciuffa, Italy
Treasurer
Benoît Pascal, France
Cultural Commission
Nikos Papapesios, Greece
Legal Commission
felicia Jin, Canada
Festival Commission
Giulia Ciuffa, Italy
Communications and PR Commission
Benoit Pascal, France
Folkloriada Committee
Jesus Orlando Casas Valdés, Mexico
Committee on Training and Education
Dilara Meral Korahan, Cyprus, Iskele Festival
Committee on Children
Beyza Gökcan Göktaş, Turkey
North American Sector
Felicia Jin - Canada
Latin American Sector
Yazmin Muro Mueller, Argentina
North European Sector
Kaia Karner, Estonia
Central European Sector
Masa Kumperger, Slovenia
South European and African Sector
Jessica Lagarde, France
Asian and Oceanian Sector
Beyza Gökcan Göktaş, Turkey
CIOFF® SECTORS

ASIAN AND OCEANIAN SECTOR

There were two CIOFF® Asian and Oceanian Sector Meetings in 2015. One took place from 18th to 22nd April 2015 in Pendik, Turkey with attendance of 13 National Sections, especially those which attended CIOFF® activities for the first time, Pakistan, Syria and Saudi Arabia and the other on 14 October in Arequipa, Peru with participation of Australia, China, Chinese Taipei, Indonesia, Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Philippines, Tahiti and Turkey.

In CIOFF® Asian and Oceanian Sector Meetings meeting in Pendik, Turkey, all attendees were committed to finding qualified folk groups to go to the 2016 CIOFF® World Folkloriada in Zacatecas, Mexico. CIOFF® Asian and Oceanian Sector Meetings meeting in Arequipa, Peru, decided to give silver pin to Mr. Hassim Salim from Malaysia for his contribution to CIOFF®. The Sector welcomed Bangladesh as new associate member and congratulated CIOFF® Australia for being upgraded as associate member.

As for the future activity in the sector, the 2016 CIOFF® Asian and Oceanian Sector Spring Meeting was confirmed to take place in Gujarad, India from 4 to 8 April 2016 and the 7th CIOFF® Asian and Oceanian Children’s Folklore Festival would be celebrated in Gokcen, Turkey from 16 to 24 April 2016.

CENTRAL EUROPEAN SECTOR

The joint Sector meeting with Northern European Sector was held in Klagenfurt, Austria 27th—30th May 2015.

14 countries from Central European Sector and 3 countries from Northern European Sector participated in this meeting. The Sectors discussed and approved all the items on the Agenda in preparation for the general Assembly in Arequipa, Peru.

9 National Sections were present in the second Sector meeting in Arequipa, Peru, during the CIOFF® World Congress. The North European Sector again joined our meeting in Arequipa, where 4 National Sections were present from North European Sector.

The joint Sectors are looking at proposals to make Spring meetings more interactive and interesting.

Upon the proposal by the Central European Sector Norbert Mueller, Germany was awarded Golden Pin of CIOFF® for his services to CIOFF® at the CIOFF® General Assembly in Arequipa.

A new Full Member—Serbia joined the Sector.

NORTH EUROPEAN SECTOR

The Sector had two joint meetings with the Central European Sector (please see above). The important topics in this meeting were CIOFF Strategy, Work Plan, CIOFF and UNESCO cooperation, Folkloriada 2016 and Youth Movement.

The Sector discussed the cooperation with UNESCO National Commissions. For instance Estonia is a good example where the National Section is working very well 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.

The Sector wants to support and to help young people to keep on contacts and develop their cooperation both in national and international levels. The Sector welcomed Denmark as a new Associate Member of CIOFF®.

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 Baltica festivals).
LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN SECTOR

The Latin American and Caribbean Sector held two meetings during 2015. Spring Meeting in the city of San Pedro Sula, Honduras, with the presence of 11 National Sections. The meeting also included the Conference: “Intangible Cultural Heritage: why it needs to be safeguarded?”, which took place in the Technological University of Honduras, Artistic exhibitions by groups of Honduras National Section and Meetings in the Museum of Anthropology and History.

The main topic of the meeting agenda was: Analysis of the new Cultural Policy of CIOFF®: the preservation and spreading of the different expressions of the Intangible Cultural Heritage is the immediate action to be developed by the National Sections of the Sector, with an emphasis on Latin American perspective in terms of the concepts used. The Sector agrees on the concepts of preservation of the Intangible Cultural Heritage defining different strategies to be developed by the National Sections, constituting them in testimony of adhesion to the Cultural Policy of CIOFF®.

The other topics discussed at the meeting were: CIOFF®-UNESCO cooperation; Sector Working Plan 2015/16, World Folkloriada 2016 in Zacatecas, Mexico, Elections 2015 in Arequipa – Peru, Calendar 2016 of the activities of the Sector.

The second meeting was held in the framework of the CIOFF® Congress and General Assembly in Arequipa, Peru were 8 National Sections were present, with 2 observers from Chile and Bolivia.

Sector welcomed two new members—new CIOFF® Chile as Full Member of CIOFF® and Bolivia as Associate Member.

NORTH AMERICAN SECTOR

The North American Sector celebrated the 45th anniversary of CIOFF® and the 70th anniversary of UNESCO with a variety of activities including group exchanges and festivals that provide an opportunity to promote a more just and peaceful world through learning about another culture and one’s own.

Another goal of the Sector has been to expand its geographic membership to include the non-Spanish speaking countries of the Caribbean and to build up its current members, Canada and the US, and developing its newest members, Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago to recognize and share their unique cultures with the global community.

CIOFF®-USA convened, hosted and participated in six major Intangible Cultural Heritage Events, including the World Citizens and Cultural Heritage seminars, the 20th anniversary of the World Citizens and Cultural Heritage Awards, 14th annual Around the World in 5K(m), Centennial Celebration of the Village of Lublin, Wisconsin with its sister city of Lublin, Poland, Tea Offering: Chado: The Way of Tea Tradition offered by Dr. Genshitsu Sen, Urasenke Grand Master XV Dr. Sen is a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador in recognition of his contribution to peace and culture through the traditional Japanese tea ceremony, Walk in U.S., Talk on Japan, a Dinner Showcase kickoff for the Holiday Folk Fair International (HFFI) and the Children’s Festival and the HFFI Master Artisan Guild - Theme: Celebrate the Culture of the Artisan.

Canadian Commission of UNESCO participants involved in Intangible Cultural Heritage agreed to develop a LinkedIn groups to exchange ICH information and to explore ways to engage youth. CIOFF® Canada overcame challenges and convened a Fall National Youth Forum with the support Canadian Commission for UNESCO. Alexander P. Durtka, Jr., Commissioner, participated in the US National Commission for UNESCO annual meeting and group projects meetings designed to celebrate the 70th anniversary of UNESCO.

CIOFF® Canada’s Affiliate Members organized anniversaries and forums celebrations for the 45th anniversary of CIOFF®, the 70th anniversary of UNESCO including Philcas of BC, The Canadian Council Folk Arts of Metro Toronto and the 50th Anniversary of Podhale, Polish Dance Company. The Minister of Culture and Communication acknowledged the 45th and 70th anniversaries and Pamana Ng LuzViminda 10th anniversary as important ICH event

NAS members continue to work with emerging leaders and young professionals.
SOUTH EUROPEAN AND AFRICAN SECTOR

The Spring Sector Meeting was organized by National Section of Montenegro in Budva in May 2015. The second Sector meeting took place during the CIOFF® World Congress and General Assembly in Arequipa, Peru. The Sector discussed all the main topics in preparation to CIOFF® World Congress and General Assembly in Arequipa: CIOFF® cooperation with UNESCO, CIOFF® new strategy and new proposed membership categories, CIOFF® Folkloriada and involvement of CIOFF® Youth, CIOFF® Youth Forum at Folkloriada and Youth movement in the Sector. CIOFF® Italy submitted its candidature to host CIOFF® World Congress and General Assembly 2016 in Italy, which was adopted by CIOFF® World Congress. The major event for the Sector was the creation of CIOFF® African Sector in 2015.

FORMATION OF AFRICAN SECTOR

The first Conference of CIOFF® Africa took place from 25th to 27th Spetember 2015 in Faumban, Cameroon. 7 Countries—Ivory Coast, Senegal, South Africa, Benin, Botswana, Kenya and Cameroon took part in the Conference Chaired by CIOFF® President Philippe Beaussant, CIOFF® Representative to UNESCO Magdalena Tovornik and Honorary Member of CIOFF® Jean Roche. The Conference was organized by National Section of Cameroon, has achieved a standing ovation among African cultural actors. During this Conference, a Forum on Cultural Diversity and the International Decade for the Rapprochement of Cultures related with the 2005 UNESCO Convention has took place. Another great achievement of the Conference was the creation of CIOFF® African Sector. In the year of 45th Anniversary of CIOFF® and 70th Anniversary of UNESCO, this creation is a very important result for our Organization. Africa has 55 countries, hundreds of ethnic groups and it is the second most populated continent in the world. The goal of the new COFF® African Sector is to develop good communication and to start working with festivals in Africa which are meeting CIOFF® standards, make the Sector effective and representative. In December a mask festival was held in Benin (a CIOFF® event) and during this festival the African Sector Meeting took place. As the result of the elections the following board of CIOFF® African Sector has been formed: President - Prince ISAAC YAMEKUE , Cameroon; Vice-presidents - ALEXISE GOGOUA, Ivory Coast and GILLES BOKPE, Bénin; Secretary General - JAN LOMBARD, South Africa. The delegation from African Sector took part in the CIOFF® World Congress in Arequipa.

CIOFF® FILM CELEBRATION 45th ANNIVERSARY OF CIOFF®

A special film was made by Susanne Kramer, Luxemburg to celebrate the 45th Anniversary of CIOFF®. The film was shown during the Cultural Conference at the CIOFF® World Congress and General Assembly and featured all the CIOFF® major historic events, meetings, Congresses and four Folkloriadas. The film received the standing ovation at the Congress.
INFORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

NATIONAL SECTIONS ANNUAL REPORT 2013

The Annual Report of National Sections 2014 was prepared based on the reports received from 59 National Sections. In 256 international and 78 national folklore festivals, 1,762 foreign and 4,423 national folklore groups with 136,961 participants took part. Festival presentations were observed by 10,304,047 spectators; there were 1,027 TV and 3,586 radio transmissions from these events.

During the festivals, various complementary programs and activities were organized:

- Conferences, seminars at 68 festivals
- Festival exhibitions at 124 festivals
- Meetings, discussion with audience at 59 festivals
- Handicraft programs at 121 festivals
- Music programs at 124 festivals
- Meetings of friendship at 147 festivals
- Parades at 166 festivals
- Typical food at 99 festivals
- Children’s games at 70 festivals
- Educational programs for children at 66 festivals
- Educational programs for adults at 51 festivals
- Activities for handicapped/disabled people at 32 festivals
- Workshops at 94 festivals
- Free excursions (to learn the country’s culture) at 122 festivals
- Religious (ecumenical - multi-religious) services at 63 festivals

National Sections organized cultural conferences, seminars and workshops with attendance of 29,144 participants and prepared 67 printed publications.

COMMISSION ON COMMUNICATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS

CIOFF® Newsletter “Entre Nous”

In 2015 one edition of CIOFF® electronic Newsletter “Entre Nous” was published in three languages. 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® Press Releases

In 2015, the Commission created and distributed press releases featuring the World Congress in Arequipa, Peru. This was distributed and used in advance of the press conference held in Arequipa at the start of the Congress. A second press release about the results of the World Congress was published during the Congress.

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.

CIOFF® on Twitter and Facebook

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

CIOFF® Website

CIOFF® Website has been regularly updated with CIOFF® latest News.

Translations

PR & Communication Commission received a great help from Youth Coordinating Committee. It provided a capable and active team of translation. People coming from youth commissions of all over the world, in particular Latin America, Canada, France and Greece helped our commission to produce the Entre Nous in French and Spanish versions and updates for CIOFF® Website.

Commission on Communication and Public Relations

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Irene Pimpinella, Italy

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Nadia Avalos Delgado, Paraguay
Jean Claude Menard, Canada
Dianne Newman, UK

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