CIOFF® ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Conseil International des Organisations de Festivals de Folklore et d’Arts Traditionnels

Major Achievements
CIOFF® implemented several priority projects during the year 2017:
- Further steps towards implementation of the new CIOFF® Strategy
- Expansion of CIOFF® cooperation with UNESCO
- Implementation of new CIOFF® Membership Categories
- Development of CIOFF® African Sector

- Acceptance of New Members of CIOFF®:
  Full Membership: New National Sections of Costa Rica and India
  Associate Membership: Kingdom of Jordan

- 4 international festivals reconfirmed as Recognized CIOFF® International Festivals:
  Kyparissia Sunshine International Folklore Festival from Greece,
  Festival Alencon and Festival Chambery from France,
  Folk Azores from Portugal
  Ilinden days from Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Publications
CIOFF® Calendar of Festivals 2018-2020
CIOFF® Electronic Newsletters Entre-Nous
National Sections Annual Report 2017—electronic

Membership
With the newly accepted members, the total number of CIOFF® Members is now—102 Members:
63 National Sections
22 Associate Members
3 Partner Members
14 Corresponding Members

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ADMINISTRATION / ACTIVITIES

CIOFF® SPRING EXCO & COUNCIL MEETING 2017
CIOFF® EXCO and Council Meeting took place in Vienna, Austria in April 2017 hosted by CIOFF® Austria.
All the meetings were extremely productive, with the main focus on the CIOFF® New Strategy 2017-2021.

47th CIOFF® WORLD CONGRESS AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2017
The 47th CIOFF® World Congress and General Assembly took place in Tenggarong, Indonesia, October 20 – 27, 2017, under the High Patronage of UNESCO, hosted by CIOFF® Indonesia. Present at the Congress were 47 National Sections, 1 Honorary Member, 1 Associate Member and 2 Corresponding Members.

CULTURAL CONFERENCE 2017
CIOFF® World Congress included a successful CIOFF® Cultural Conference, “Cultural Heritage of Indonesia”, with presentations by Dr. Yophie Septiady, ST., M.Si. talking about "Cultural Diversity in the Preservation of National Unity", traditional culture and cultural heritage. Lists of intangible culture heritage in Indonesia. List of Indonesian traditional culture that had been appointed by UNESCO as a world cultural heritage and "Cultural heritage: Way of life of a country: Indonesia".

OPEN FORUM
Open Forum was held on the topic “Use of Country Names and Flags at CIOFF® Festivals”, which included very interesting discussions and examples.

THE ROYAL VISIT
CIOFF® EXCO had an audience with Kutai Kertanegara’s Sultan and Prince at Sultan’s Palace in Tenggarong.

CIOFF® ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Council members 2017
President*
Philippe Beaussant- France
Vice-President for Administrative Affairs*
Norbert Mueller- Germany
Vice-President for Cultural Affairs*
Alejandro Camacho– Mexico
Secretary General*
Olga Maloney- UK
Treasurer*
Esa Vilhonen- Finland
Chairmen of Commissions
Communications & PR commission
Oscar Delgado - Paraguay
Cultural Commission
Beatriz Sangoy- Argentina
Festivals Commission
Wolfgang Denke-Otterbein - Germany
Legal Commission
Francesco Mallozzi– Italy
Sector Representatives
African Sector
Marcel Zounon- Benin
Asian and Oceanian Sector
Muammer Arslan- Turkey
Central European Sector
Susanne Kramer–Luxembourg
Latin American and Caribbean Sector
Mario Garcia Siani– Paraguay
North American Sector
Alexander Durtka—USA
North European Sector
Riitta Korhonen- Finland
South European Sector
Anna Maria Boileau- Italy
Chairman of the Youth Coordinating Committee
Antonio Mallozzi - Italy
Representative to UNESCO
Magdalena Tovornik- Slovenia
*Executive Committee
CIOFF® AND UNESCO

CIOFF® – NGO in official partnership (associate status) to UNESCO and accredited to the UNESCO ICH Committee continued to be very active in the field of Intangible cultural heritage. CIOFF® festivals and other cultural events organized by more than 100 CIOFF® national sections were again the most complete presentation of all intangible cultural elements, such as rituals, costumes, dances, songs, instruments, masques...Thousands of young people from all over the world enjoyed the chance to present their own intangible cultural heritage and learn about others - mutual respect for cultural diversity and tolerance were respected in the best possible way.

CIOFF® President (also in his role of President of UNESCO-NGO Liaison Committee) and Representative of CIOFF® to UNESCO participated the UNESCO General Assembly meeting and played a key role in organizing the "NGOs week" in UNESCO headquarters in Paris where all present NGOs could present their work, exchange views and agreed to develop collective work in order to become more efficient partner to UNESCO and to increase the cooperation between civil society and governments.

CIOFF® Representative assisted also the ICH Committee meeting held in the Republic of Korea where CIOFF® was granted the prolongation of the accreditation (expired in 2016) to give advisory services to this Committee for next 4 years. CIOFF® Representative continued to participate also at the ICH NGOs Forum (as one of 7 Steering Committee’s member) - more than 80 NGOs assisted the Capacity Building Workshop for ICH accredited NGOs from all over the world, organized for the first time by Forum itself.

During CIOFF® Congress 2017 in Indonesia an important decision was taken - to be more active also in the activities of 2005 UNESCO Convention on cultural diversity. CIOFF® asked to become observer to the Intergovernmental Committee for the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions, CIOFF® President and CIOFF® Representative participated at the 11th session of this Committee. In the future we have to find out common points of 2003 and 2005 UNESCO Conventions in order to integrate them to CIOFF® activities on national and international level.

12th session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage ICH took place in Jejo Island, Republic of Korea, 4 - 9 December 2017 with CIOFF® representative to UNESCO and several other CIOFF® Members taking part.
CULTURAL COMMISSION

The CIOFF® Cultural Commission organised together with CIOFF® Indonesia the Cultural Conference during CIOFF® World Congress and General Assembly in Indonesia. The Commission has been working on proposals regarding Intangible Cultural Heritage to be implemented by National Sections and Sectors:

- to investigate, document, promote and produce documentary material that contributes to the promotion of ICH
- develop greater and better relationships between the Sections in each Sector; leading to joint work in the Sectors.

Masks in Traditional and Popular Cultures Project
Cultural Commission is working on a Proposal to National Sections to carry out work in communities where masks are used in celebrations, rituals, etc, under the themes: "Masks in Carnival" and "Masks in Celebrations and Rituals". The presentation of the Project will take place at Folkloriada 2020 in Ufa, Bashkortostan, Russia.

This activity will be carried out within the framework of the Celebration of 50 years of CIOFF® and 75 years of UNESCO.

The Night of San Juan - Popular Religios celebration
The Latin American and Caribbean Sector proposed to investigate, document, and produce a final comparative work in the different aspects of this manifestation of Popular Religios Celebration.

Several National Sections carried out special cultural activitie, including Conferences, Workshops, Symposia, Forums. Here are a few examples:

- "Theory and Practice in relation to the Intangible Cultural Heritage". "Traditional Ceremonies and Bank of Memories". "The narrative dimension of the Dance" "Traditional Dance on the stage" - Argentina
- "Intangible Cultural Heritage: the role of the CIOFF® and the Society" "Academic Training of dance professionals and Projection on the scene" "Identity, cultural diversity, innovation and projection of the Folklore concept" – Bolivia
- "Past and future" "Oral transmission in the new society". Canary Islands-Spain
- "Musical Laboratory" - Italy
- "Travelers in Switzerland": Yenish culture and its influences on popular culture.
- Switzerland
- "Celebrating 250th Anniversary of Captain Wallis and Captain Cook expeditions". United Kingdom
- "Childrens Folklore. Folkgame ". Chinese Taipei
- "World Citizen and Cultural Heritage Awards Celebration" - United States

Publication: Information Guide "Living Traditions" – Switzerland

Cultural Commission
Chairman:
Beatriz Sangoy - Argentina
Vice-Chairman:
Kati Taal, Estonia
Members:
Yazmin Muro Mueller, Argentina
Rosana D'Agustino, Italy
Said Rachmat, Indonesia
Youth Member:
Mr. Santiago Rojas Lemur, Colombia
Member ex officio
Magdalena Tovornik - Slovenia
CIOFF® Representative to UNESCO
FESTIVALS COMMISSION

From 05th to 12th July the CIOFF® Festivals Commission held its meeting in Schlitz-Germany during the International Folklore Festival “Schlitzerländer Trachtenfest”.

The Festivals Commission produced and published the CIOFF® Festivals Calendar 2018-2020 and published and distributed the Festival und Group Reports 2017.

The work with the Festivals Charter for recognized CIOFF® Festivals has been completed. 129 Festival Charters were signed by the President of CIOFF® and the Chairman of the Festival Commission and distributed to the National Sections during the Congress.

In 2017, 13 festivals applied for recognition as a CIOFF® Festival. Five festivals fulfilled and completed all the requirements, the recognition was handed out during the World Congress 2017 in Indonesia.

LEGAL COMMISSION

Over the year 2017, the Legal Commission C has examined the documentation for the new membership applications from Costa Rica and Jordan Kingdom; has sent reminders for pending applications to Uganda, Nepal and Republic of Guinea (Conakry).

The documentation about the problem of the NS CIOFF® India has been examined and the expressed opinion was in line with the proposal from the Council to terminate the Section and accept the candidature of the new organization.

Proposals and motions to be circulated for discussion at the General Assembly have been received and examined; some of the proposals have also been accepted as possible amendments to the Internal Regulations.

Moreover, both the By Laws and Internal regulations are under revision, with the special contribution of Felicia Jin, secretary of the Commission, for necessary integrations and needed amendments.

The Terms of Reference for the different CIOFF® offices have been fully updated in cooperation with the Vice-President for Administrative Affairs and will be presented at the General Assembly in 2018 for adoption.

A Memorandum from the Commission about the correct use of country names and country flags during CIOFF® Festivals has been circulated among all CIOFF® members. The Legal Commission has been entrusted to prepare and manage the Open Forum during the General Assembly, on the same topic “Use of country names and flags inside CIOFF® Festivals”; the report about the discussion at the Open Forum has been presented at the Assembly.
COMMITTEE ON FOLKLORIADA

The Committee has been working with CIOFF® Russia and the Organising Committee of CIOFF® World Folkloriada 2020 in Ufa, Bashkortostan, Russia. The President of this Committee made a visit to Bashkortostan, to visit two of the venues where the Folkloriada will take place, with which three of the eight venues that have been contemplated have already been visited; he also accompanied the President of the Republic of Bashkortostan to the International Festival that began as a preparation for the Folkloriada, a Festival that counted the day of the inauguration with approximately 10,000 spectators.

A working meeting was held with the members of the Committee and the authorities of the Bashkortostan Government.

A second agreement was signed between the authorities of CIOFF® and the authorities of the Government of Bashkortostan.

The Committee also worked on the development of the Folkloriada Charter that will be presented to the Council at the next meeting.

At the moment the Committee has a record of 55 confirmed countries to participate in the Folklor's maximum event; the Folkloriada Mundial de CIOFF®.
COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

The meeting of Committee on Children in Tenggarong, Indonesia.

First, the chairman revealed the result of the 52 surveys regarding the situation of children group and folk education on children, conducted in the last CIOFF® World Congress and General Assembly in Fiuggi, Italy. With the relevant result in this survey, it was believed that some tasks can be set within CIOFF for the next generation.

We also discussed the preliminary ideas, prepared by the chairman about the CIOFF® Children World Folkloriada with a recommended slogan of “Children’s Voice about Folklore”, a preferred period of 10 days, proposed total number of the group of 35 persons with children aging between 6 and 14 years old, musicians at all ages and 1 escort for every 6 kids.

COMMITTEE ON TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Committee on Training and Education (CTE) with representation from each Sector is able to capture diverse points of view as it supports the educational role of CIOFF® in the areas of research, methodology and programs of training and education that safeguard and transmit intangible cultural heritage, particularly within the context of festivals and presentation of traditional arts.

To create awareness and to archive such programs CTE has assembled a collection of 70 articles regarding the safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage from a wide range of CIOFF® members, friends and presenters.

CTE members have worked within their Sectors, Sections and communities to develop and pilot models and gather best practices. Two examples from. Northern Cyprus, (South European Sector) are “Ambassador of Culture” and “World Culture, Dance and Music Project” for students and teachers. Another example in process is a seminar in the cultural heritage and presentation of group performance for dance directors and trainers.

Two concerns were presented to the CTE: 1) How potential members gain information enabling them to make an informed decision about becoming members of CIOFF®, are mentored and are retained? and 2) How performances and demonstrations can be raised to a higher level though educational programs for directors and trainers?

Mini Course to Enable Members to become Informed and Effective Leaders has been proposed to grow and strengthen CIOFF®. CTE will pilot a blended learning opportunity using online and face-to-face sessions for those interested in CIOFF® membership by drawing on the expertise within CIOFF®. Together CTE members and identified CIOFF® Youth interviewers will create the webinar series. Through interviewing CIOFF® members CIOFF® youth will deepen their own CIOFF® knowledge and commitment.

The proposed mini-course will offer short videos and/or webinars to provide information about CIOFF®, its structure and membership and a pre-World Congress live-session - concluding with recognition of those who have completed the mini-course. This enables new members to gain knowledge and resources, to be able participate more fully within the organization.
YOUTH MOVEMENT

In 2017 YCC accomplished a great success in Misk NGO Pitch Competition. The objective of the project was about global migration and its effects on societies. The project had the objective to reduce the cultural differences due to social conflicts and to engage young people in bringing together societies that have been, or are being, affected by this kind of conflicts. It proposes to come an inter-dialogue as a vehicle between diverse cultural extractions, away from those meetings arising out the cooperation, knowledge and being blunted the divergences from the current situation. The project was replicable on any type of temporal and geographical level, has no limit of time or place. The general idea was that this project could become a cultural generational debate internationally. The aim was that this approach can be taken as an example of a method for resolving intergroup conflicts.

Our vision was to be able through our youth network to act at the same moment in different places. CIOFF® Youth was awarded with 20.000 Euros to be used for the future projects.

Communication In order to use the advantages of the technology, we have created new whatsapp groups for better communication, while youth are exchanging their cultural messages. It was also important for a quick announcement. Eventhough whatsapp works perfect for quick reactions about all matters, several skype meetings were held.

Public Relations—Website. In order to reach more people easily and demonstrate our works, meetings and all kind of new announcements we created a web-site for Youth which is www.cioff.org. Our website have been visited by a lot of visitors from a lot different countries and even by outsiders which shows that we were able to reach our goal so far by creating a website. Social Media—It is decided that using of social media requires time and personal care, in order to keep our social media accounts, we decided to create a new position as a P&R Officer who would take care of all social media accounts including website, Elizabeth Burson from United States of America was elected for this position until the next elections.

Working Group for Translation- Another achievement was the re-creation of "Working Group for Translation", formed by 8 Youth members from Argentina, Paraguay, France, USA that are able to translate in three CIOFF® languages English, Spanish and French. P&R Officer is appointed to organise meetings in this group.

Projects: Coloring Book Project—In order to share our cultures with larger groups, we starting the work to create a Coloring Book for children which can be used in Children festivals, schools and related public places. This Coloring Book is designed by any kind of cultural motifs for countries. In the Coloring Book, which includes nearly 30 different countries, the cultural motifs also have an information part about the picture in three CIOFF® languages English, Spanish and French.

We started to created a Glossary of CIOFF® for CIOFF® Youth members to help understanding on the terms and acronyms that used by CIOFF®. Content of this book is based on CIOFF®’s By-Laws and Internal Regulations.

Exhibition on Musical Instruments In order to share our cultures, we have chosen the topic on Musical Instruments to create an exhibition. We collected pictures and different musical instruments of countries. First exhibition is planning to be exposed in the World Congress 2018 in UFA, Bashkurtistan, Russian Federation.
CIOFF® SECTORS

AFRICAN SECTOR

After the CIOFF® World Congress in Fiumi, Italy 2016, the newly formed African Sector is composed of fifteen (15) members accredited by the World Congress 2016. They are: Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Republic Central Africa, Comoros Islands, Egypt, Guinea Bissau, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, South Africa, Togo, Tunisia.

Several cultural events and festivals have been held throughout 2017 in CIOFF® African Countries, some of which are:

- Comoros Islands Festival, September 2017;

- the Festival of Rituals and Masked Dances of Cotonou (FeRiDaMa). The 8th edition is in preparation and is scheduled to take place in Cotonou, Benin on 15, 16 December 2017 in Cotonou;

- The Kourouma Moussa Festival, the legacies of the world of Côte d'Ivoire, from 28 to 30 April 2017;

- the different cultural events in South Africa, North Africa and Central Africa reflecting the vibrancy of the intangible cultural heritage of the continent.
CIOFF® SECTORS

ASIAN AND OCEANIAN SECTOR

In 2017 two sector meetings were held, one, the spring sector meeting, took place from 26 April to 2 May in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic with attendance of 15 persons from CIOFF® and the other, held in Tenggarong, Indonesia on 24 October with participation from China, Chinese Taipei, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Kyrgyz Republic, Thailand and Turkey. The Sector Meeting in Kyrgyz republic was also attended by Director of the Tourism Department of the Ministry of Culture, Information and Tourism of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Mayor of Bishkek.

The main activities and events in the Sector Included:

Yilan International Children’s Folklore and Folkgames Festival in Chinese Taipei

Anseong Namsadang Baudeogi Festival in South Korea

Erau International Folklore and Folk Art Festival in Tenggarong, Indonesia

International Traditional Meeting of Artists in Pendik, Turkey
CIOFF® SECTORS

LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN SECTOR

The Annual Meeting of the Sector was held in the city of La Paz, Bolivia, organized by the National Section CIOFF® Bolivia, with the participation of representatives of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador, México, Paraguay, Panamá, Perú and Puerto Rico. The perfect organization allowed intense days of work.

The CIOFF® was projected as an international NGO in meetings with authorities of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the Chamber of Deputies of the State of Bolivia and the Government of the city of La Paz.

Visits related to the Intangible Cultural Heritage are specifically dealt within populations of the Altiplano and Lake Titicaca.

International Symposium with the participation of different exhibitors. Conferences:
- CIOFF® and Intangible Cultural Heritage.
- The Dance: research, documentation and projection. The dance on stage.

A special meeting was held with young people from different artistic groups in Bolivia, with the exhibition and exchange of experiences by Professor Alcides Hugo Ifrán. The foundations for the formation of the Youth Commission of the National Section CIOFF® Bolivia are established.

Mario Garcia Siani, Paraguay

Latin American and Caribbean Sector

Mario Garcia Siani sadly died in July 2017

Intangible Cultural Heritage - Totora Boat of Lake Titicaca - Bolivia

“Floor loom” on the shores of Lake Titicaca - Bolivia
The joint Sector meeting with North European Sector was held in Luxemburg in May 2017 and at the CIOFF® World Congress in Tenggarong, Indonesia in October 2017. The following flagship projects took place within the Sector:

**The School of Folklore Traditions (Czech Republic)** is a joint project of the National Institute of Folk Culture (the seat of the CIOFF® Czech National Section) and the National Information and Consulting Centre for Culture (NIPOS), Prague. The school is attended by around 50 learners, who are mostly heads of folk ensembles, musicians and dancers. During their two-year-long studies they are educated in the fields of ethnology, choreography, work with material, folk music, practical folk dance lessons and other important subjects. Now in its 7th year the school produced more than 300 graduates. Education in the field of folk culture is very important to all managers of folk ensembles, the influence and results of the education that the learners get during the course is apparent on the Czech folklore scene.

The educational and creative laboratory for the folklore groups leaders called "*Modern forms and methods of musical folklore's mastering*" based on the Polenov State Russian House of folk arts, CIOFF® NS and Moscow State folklore musical theater "Russian song" took place on April 21 – 26 2017 in Moscow, Russia. There were representatives of 14 Russian regions also including Serbian and German choirmasters and folk methodologists. Given the genre specifics the following disciplines were organized: folk style voice training, regional singing styles, basics of playing traditional instruments, traditional/scenic folk costume, etc. Participation in the festival of 475th anniversary of the Ust-Tsilma village foundation is one of the main laboratory’s events. The laboratory participants enjoyed live sound of original northern tunes presented by folklore groups from Tver, Moscow, St. Petersburg, participated in handicraft master classes. Bearing in mind the importance of transferring performing traditions, part of the classes was devoted to the methods of working with children's group.

In December 2018 The Student Culture House in Cluj-Napoca in Romania in collaboration with the Martisorul Folk Ensemble organized the 4th edition of the Laurentiu Hodorog Festival of Winter Carols and Traditions, as well as the 60th anniversary of the foundation Martisorul Student Folk Ensemble. The carols festival was attended by students from all the university centers in Romania, presenting traditions and winter habits specific to each ethnic-folklore area. At the 60th anniversary of the foundation of Martisorul, all generations that played and danced overall took part in the show. It was a folk royal where more than 700 people participated and the national television took over and distributed the event.

"*Kapele Serc*" is an annual charity event initiated in 2009 by CIOFF® Poland. Polish folk dance ensembles, members of the Polish National Section, organise charity concerts for people suffering from multiple sclerosis, or else support other people in need. The concerts are usually organised in April and May.

This year in Belarus is declared the Year of the Little Motherland. Local authorities together with non-governmental organizations and members of national section CIOFF®-Belarus organize events dedicated to the preservation of local traditions, costumes, rituals, crafts. Karmiel Dance Festival and dance teachers workshops in Israel.
CIOFF® SECTORS

NORTH EUROPEAN SECTOR

XXX International Folklore Festival BALTICA 2017
International Folklore Festival BALTICA is one of the most significant of its kind in the Baltic States. Every year, since 1987, in accordance with interstate agreement, it has been held in Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia in turn. The festival is included in the official list of events of CIOFF®.

The aim of the festival is to preserve, revive and develop intangible heritage, national and local cultural traditions, to promote cultural contacts and friendship with other nations.

XXX International Folklore Festival BALTICA 2017 was held in Lithuania, on July 4–9, 2017. The activities took place in the capital city of Lithuania – the green Vilnius – which is known for its baroque architecture and Old Town included on the UNESCO World Heritage List, as well as in other cities and in the regions.

BALTICA gathered about 2000 participants of all ages of different regions of Lithuania and this year the guests were from Latvia, Estonia, India, Greece, Japan, Brazil, Korea, Poland, Spain, Ukraine.

BALTICA included wide variety of cultural aspects: folklore, traditional songs, dances, instrumental music traditional, unique arts and crafts, handmade articles and traditional cuisine. For that purpose, there was built a small Festival Town with stage for performances by folk groups, areas for demonstration of traditional crafts and traditional foods fair. Each country was assigned time slots to present their culture. At the same time, there were video presentations featuring ethnocultural traditions, festivities, domestic and other customs, work routine, production processes, etc.

The festival consisted of different types of 45 events: gala and chamber concerts, creative workshops, parades, short performances, etc. Festival activities took place both in cities (concert halls, open–air stages in parks, streets) and countryside (near special cultural, historical objects such as castle mounds).

UNITED KINGDOM
‘Billingham World Explorers’ project celebrated the 250th anniversary of Captain Samuel Willis’s discovery of the Island of Tahiti in 1767, linking it with Captain James Cook, who was born locally and later followed Captain Samuel Wallis’s expedition discovering the Cook Islands in Polynesia. The project was delivered by Billingham International Folklore Festival in collaboration with Captain Cook Birthplace Museum and engaged a wide range of community participants including primary and secondary schools, community interest groups & Billingham families.

Participants visited the Museum, followed by research about the lives and journeys of two famous captains, supervised by the museum curators, project coordinator & school teachers. This opportunity encouraged people from the local area to engage with these facilities, inspiring them to research & learn about the local British explorers, taking pride in local history & heritage.

The heritage research undertaken was presented at the festival interpreted through community participant’s visual art work, films, storytelling, poetry, drama and dance, created prior to the festival with the help of professional visual and performance artists. The project culminated in the creation of an interactive journey through the centre of Billingham, visually mapping out the expeditions of the 2 captains. Festival visitors and audience were given a map, which they used to follow the route, with finale dance and music performances.
The North American Sector celebrated a variety of activities including group exchanges and festivals that provide an opportunity to safeguard intangible cultural heritage and promote a more just and peaceful world through learning about other’s cultures and one’s own. NAS continues to focus on geographic expansion of its membership to include the non-Spanish speaking countries of the Caribbean and Central America, Canada and the United States. Infrastructure and organizational and financial challenges exist among the Caribbean countries, exasperated by the slow recovery from the 2017 hurricane season. CIOFF® NAS is assisting with their immediate needs and meeting the criteria of CIOFF® membership.

NAS continues to coach its members - festivals, groups and artisans - to meet CIOFF® standards and safeguard intangible cultural heritage. The Sector is developing emerging leaders among its youth and young professionals. CIOFF® Sector representative serves as a commissioner on the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO, which is composed of 100 members. As commissioner, Alexander Durtka, Jr. is a representative of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) focusing on Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Activities of CIOFF® Canada increase the knowledge and the commitment for the World Cultural Intangible Heritage. The members of CIOFF® Canada organized networking meetings to exchange and work on projects together. The 2017 Montreal International Show celebrated the 40th Anniversary of Hungarian Bokreta group and Ani of Armenian Hamazkayin Cultural Association with six culturally diverse groups. SPEQ, the Quebec provincial association of CIOFF® Canada, organizes an annual thematic show; the 2017 theme selected was traditions related to the birth of a baby. The West-Can Caribbean group photo shows a mother presenting her baby to the community.

CIOFF®-USA convened, hosted and participated in six major Intangible Cultural Heritage festivals including a children’s festival, performing groups traveled the world to share their culture heritage, World Citizens and Cultural Heritage Awards. It inducted artisans into the Holiday Folk Fair International Master Artisan Guild. Following Holiday Folk Fair’s past practice a theme was selected to reflect UNESCO’s International Year, “Celebrate the Culture of Welcome.”

Folkmoot USA continues to expand its programs as it develops the Folkmoot Friendship Center - a year-round cultural center. Folkmoot has moved from a two-week festival to a year-round cultural center, focusing on programs and events that celebrate diversity and differences, encourage cultural conversation and inclusion and preserve and honor worldwide cultural heritages, especially using dance as a tool to achieve world peace. Children enjoy dancing in Camp Folkmoot.

CIOFF® St. Vincent and the Grenadines, The Bahamas, Antigua and Barbuda convened festivals that were well attended; the Bahamas participated in Holiday Folk Fair International to experience a CIOFF® festival in the areas of performance and demonstrations.
The Sector Meeting held on October 2016 in Fiuggi stressed two important commitment for the Sector:
The Festival of Mediterranean Cultures, to be organized in 2018 by CIOFF® Portugal, whose basic concept rotates around “the number five”: 5 regions to be present, 5 routes to reach the venue, 5 places for presentations, 5 days and 5 nights of duration, 5 senses to be celebrated.
A plan for information about/promotion of activities, including a Sector Strategy and a NSs & Festivals Strategy.
At the Sector Spring Meeting, held on May 2017 in Montignac (France), the delegation of CIOFF® Portugal delivered the available information about the organization of the Festival:
Place: Lisbon;
Provisional dates: from May 30 to June 3, 2018;
Traditional moments to be presented: dance; music, choral singing; selection of Groups to be invited will be the responsibility of CIOFF® Portugal;
Exhibitions: since not all the Sector members ‘border’ the Mediterranean Sea, but this is meant to be a Sector event, exhibitions of traditional costumes and traditional music instruments will be set, to which all the Sector members are expected to contribute with costumes and instruments from their countries; shipping expenses and insurance will be covered by the Festival budget;
Audiovisual presentations: all Sector members are requested to contribute a video, 2-3 minutes long, explaining ‘what the Mediterranean is for us’;
Other CIOFF® Sectors including countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea will be informed about the event;
Financing: possibly also through European funds, even if it is not so easy.
A proposal was presented – and accepted - to use a part of the Sector account to contribute to cover the expenses for the Festival; since the budget for the Festival is not finished yet, the amount of the contribution will be discussed later.
A Sector Commission was set up, to to help CIOFF® Portugal to prepare the Festival; the Commission - composed by K. Ioannidis (CIOFF® Greece), A.M. Ciolfi (CIOFF® France), N. Dimitrovski (CIOFF® FYR Macedonia), O. Kadiraga (Iskele Festival) - started to work immediately in Montignac.
Updated information about the Festival was delivered by CIOFF® Portugal at the Sector Meeting held in Tenggarong (Indonesia) in October 2017.
The basic concept and structure of the Festival remain unchanged, but the Organization was forced to change the dates for the event, mainly due to other important events going on in Lisbon during the spring and summer period of 2018; the new dates for the Festival will be from September 12th to 16th 2018.
For the financing of the event, an application for European funds will be presented through the Creative Europe program; all NSs of the Sector were requested to send the materials for the exhibitions within the deadline, so as not to hamper the organization process.
As for the workplan about information/promotion of activities, the CIOFF® Youth delegations from Switzerland and North Part of Cyprus at the Sector meeting in Teggarong presented an “Improvement project for internal communication & external visibility of South European Sector”. In their words, their “ideas only revolve around Internet, but it is just the easiest way to communicate today with people who are distant from each other”. Basically, they suggest:
a) “to work with social networks (Facebook in particular). This allows a better visibility and an exchange between the different sections/different countries”;
b) to make a widespread use of Dropbox, which allows to back “files up to the cloud, sync them between computers, and share them with the delegates in the Sector. By this way documents, articles, files, videos, photos etc. would be easy to reach whenever needed”.
The Sector members recognize that the youth involvement in CIOFF® is very important for the future, so it was decided to use an amount from the Sector budget to help the presence of the youth members to the forthcoming spring Sector meeting, to be held in Niš (Serbia) from May 11 to May 14, 2018.
INFORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

NATIONAL SECTIONS ANNUAL REPORT 2017

The Annual Report of National Sections 2016 was prepared based on the reports received from 54 National Sections, 3 Associate Members and 1 Corresponding Member. In 2015-2016, 1,766 visiting and 7,115 national folklore groups with 132,380 participants took part in 453 international and 379 national folklore festivals. Festival presentations were observed by 4,813,522 spectators; there were 5,606 TV and radio transmissions from these events. During the festivals, various complementary educational programs and activities were organized:

- 3,343 Dance Workshops
- 239 Music Workshops
- 121 Song Workshops
- 381 Craft Workshops
- 445 Special activities for children
- 66 special activities for people with disabilities
- 183 Exhibitions with demonstrations

National Sections organized cultural conferences, seminars and workshops and prepared 447 printed and online publications.

COMMUNICATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS

CIOFF® Newsletter “Entre Nous”
In 2017 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® 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 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 the 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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Oscar Delgado, Paraguay
Vice-Chairman
Irene Pimpinella, Italy
Members
Imanol Manuz, Argentina
Nadia Avalos Delgado, Paraguay
Jean Claude Menard, Canada
Richard Foundez, Chile
Shu-Tzeng Chang, Chinese Taipei
Carlos Lopez, El Salvador
Rodrigo Acosta, Paraguay
Karen Babcock, USA
Youth Member
Benoit Pascal, France
Member ex Officio
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