**Major Achievements**

After intensive preparatory work in 2011, CIOFF® implemented several priority projects during the year 2012:
- Adoptions of the new structure of CIOFF® and revised By-Laws
- Acceptance of 3 countries as Corresponding Members: Kirgizstan, Kuwait, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Results of the Folkloriada 2012 1-14th of October in Anseong (Korea)
- 35 international festivals reconfirmed as Recognized CIOFF® International Festivals
- Official recognition of Youth Commissions (Certificates)

**Publications**

- CIOFF® Calendar of Festivals 2013-2015
- CIOFF® Electronic Newsletters Entre-Nous (n°10-n°11)
- Annual Report of National Sections 2011

**Membership**

With the newly accepted members, the total number of CIOFF® Members is now:
- 69 National Sections
- 4 Associate Members
- 24 Corresponding Members

**New Members**

- Corresponding Members: Kirgizstan, Kuwait, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Major Achievements</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Members</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relations with UNESCO and Relations with other International Organizations</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration Activities</td>
<td>2-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information and Communication</td>
<td>14-16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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ADMINISTRATION / ACTIVITIES

ISKELE, CYPRUS March 26th—April 1st 2012
CIOFF® EXCO and Council Meeting took place in beautiful surroundings of Kaya Artemis Hotel in Iskele, Cyprus. The Joint meeting of Festivals Commission and Working Group on Public Relations also took place prior to the EXCO and Council meetings. All the meetings were extremely productive, with the main focus on the New CIOFF® Structure and Strategy, relations of National Sections with UNESCO National Commissions, forthcoming Folkloriada 2012 in Anseong, South Korea and changes to CIOFF® By-Laws.

The meetings were extremely well organized and hosted and the hospitality experienced by all the delegates was overwhelming. The delegates were treated to Traditional Turkish Cypriot Night – Costume Show, Traditional Turkish Cypriot Musics and Henna & Shaving night show of Iskele Municipality Folk Dance Group in ISKELE ATATURK CULTURE CENTER, trip to historical sites in Famagusta, visit to MELAN-DRA HOUSE Cultural Centre and performance by the Iskele Municipality Folk Dance Group after the final reception.

We would like to thank our Hosts in Iskele for the outstanding organisation and wonderful hospitality. We all felt very welcomed and the memories of our stay in Iskele will remain with us forever.

42nd CIOFF® * World Congress and Youth Forum Hosts 60 Countries in Paris, November 8 – 17, 2012

The 42nd CIOFF® annual World Congress and General Assembly were held in Paris, November 11-17, 2012 at the Centre International de Sejour Maurice Ravel (CISP). Over 200 people from 60 countries took part, with delegates traveling from as far away as New Zealand and Japan. CIOFF® Congress was preceded by CIOFF® Youth Forum, both of which were graciously hosted by CIOFF® France, led by its President Anne-Marie Cioffi and CIOFF® International Secretary General Philippe Beaussant in partnership with La Ligue de l’Enseignement.

The year 2012 marked an important achievement for CIOFF®, as it has become a non-governmental organization (NGO) in Official Partnership with UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) accredited to the Intergovernmental Committee of UNESCO Convention for Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage. As such, both the World Congress and Youth Forum received for the first time High Patronage of UNESCO. UNESCO Director General Irina Bokova addressed the Congress delegates during the Opening Ceremony via a specially recorded video message, in which she acknowledged the contribution of CIOFF® to the safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage. Irina Bokova lauded the organization’s engagement of, and commitment to the youth, and she emphasised that UNESCO and CIOFF® share the same goal: to promote the diversity of cultural expressions and raise the potential for human development.
Among the main items discussed at the CIOFF® General Assembly were CIOFF® work in partnership with UNESCO, results of CIOFF® World Folkloriada 2012 in Anseong, Republic of Korea, as well as adoption of the New CIOFF® Structure and bylaws. Three new countries: Kirgizstan, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia were accepted as Corresponding Members of CIOFF®. CIOFF® and IDC (Inter Delphic Council) have signed a memorandum of understanding.

CIOFF® Youth Forum
CIOFF® Youth presented their new edition of Playing Together Magazine, which was prepared for the Traditional Games day at CIOFF® World Folkloriada. The youths present at the Forum elected a new Youth Coordination Committee and determined the new two-year workplan, emphasizing the importance of expanding the CIOFF® Youth Movement.

CIOFF® Cultural Conference
The CIOFF® Cultural Conference, an integral part of the World Congress, took place November 15 and was dedicated to safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage with presentations by UNESCO Chief, Intangible Cultural Heritage Section, Cecile Duvelle; Anthropologist Chiara Bortolotto, Université Libre de Bruxelles; Diego Gradis, Lawyer, past president of “Traditions for Tomorrow” and Member of the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee; Jean Audouze, President, French National Commission for UNESCO; Mario Garcia Siani, President of CIOFF® Paraguay and Ramiro Mansutti, Chairman of CIOFF® Youth Coordination Committee and acting Chairman of the CIOFF® Cultural Commission. Magdalena Tovornik, CIOFF® Representative to UNESCO and Guy Landry, CIOFF® Honorary Member moderated the discussions following the presentations. In her presentation Cecile Duvelle stated that the “recognition of UNESCO means CIOFF® is doing meaningful and important work.” She further supported CIOFF®’s mission, saying that educating communities puts a value on Intangible Cultural Heritage.

CIOFF® Forum
The Open Forum at the Congress was dedicated to Intellectual Property and the Safeguarding of Traditional Cultures: Challenges and Opportunities for Folklore Festivals” which was presented by the WIPO representative, Brigitte Vezina.

During the Congress all the participants attended a Civic Reception at the Paris City Hall, housed in the historic Hotel de Ville de Paris on the river Seine. The Congress culminated in a CIOFF® Presentation Night at the UNESCO Theatre, attended by 1200 people, including Permanent Representatives of different countries to UNESCO. The CIOFF® President, Udomsak Sakmunwong (Thailand), made a short presentation of CIOFF®, which was followed by a concert from the newly established CIOFF® France Music and Dance Ensemble.
CIOFF® AND UNESCO

Having been previously declared an NGO in official partnership with UNESCO in 2012, we added another very prestigious status - CIOFF® was accredited to provide advisory services to the Intergovernmental Committee of UNESCO Convention for Safeguarding Intangible Culture Heritage.

The new status gave us new obligations and new possibilities to work more closely with UNESCO in the field of cultural heritage. For the first time we were awarded the High Patronage of UNESCO Director General Irina Bokova for our 42th Congress and Cultural Conference held in November 2012 in Paris. The opening speech of Irina Bokova and the very active participation of Cecile Duvel and Helena Drohna convinced us that CIOFF® has an excellent world wide network on national level and a lot of potentials and tools to be an important partner with UNESCO to promote, to present and to safeguard the cultural heritage – through 350 international festivals, conferences, seminars etc.

In 2012 we were working on strengthening the links between UNESCO National Commissions and CIOFF® National Sections - the national level is of great importance for better results on the international level.

CIOFF® is very active also in NGO Forum which becomes more and more organised and focused on UNESCO strategic goals – to strengthen the cooperation with civil society is necessary in general but even more in the cultural heritage field because the heritage is historically part of civil society.

CIOFF® Representative to UNESCO Magdalena Tovornik attended all meetings organised in the field of NGOs and cultural heritage in 2012.

CULTURAL COMMISSION

Cultural Conference in Paris – World Congress 2012

The Cultural Conference was one of the highlights of the last CIOFF® Congress in Paris. This year we had the privilege to count with important speakers representing UNESCO, CIOFF®, and other international NGOs. On behalf of UNESCO there were present Cécile Duvelle - Chief of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Section of UNESCO- and Jean Audouze -President of the French National Commission for UNESCO-. The participation of Diego Gradis -President of Traditions for Tomorrow- and the anthropologist, Chiara Bortolotto, was an excellent complement for the theoretical context presented by the UNESCO representatives. Finally, as a way to show practical examples of cooperation UNESCO- CIOFF®, Mario Garcia Siani - President of the National Section of Paraguay- and Ramiro Mansutti - Vice-president of the Youth Coordinating Committee- made their interventions related with the safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Cultural Conference in Zacatecas – World Congress 2013

During the World Congress in Paris, the members of the Cultural Commission had a first meeting with the host of the next CIOFF® World Congress: the National Section of Mexico. In the year 2013, UNESCO celebrates the 10th Anniversary of the Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage and CIOFF® wants to be part of this celebration. For this reason, the Cultural Commission has decided to celebrate the Cultural Conference in the frame of this important commemoration.

Report of the members of the Commission on the annual work in the sectors

Central European Sector: During the year 2012, the National Sections of Poland organized a Conference on the theme of ethno-pedagogy and education for children. Hungary, organized cultural meetings for the bordering countries. In Russia there was also a Conference for directors of Folk Groups.

North American Sector: Alexander Durtka became a member of UNESCO National Commission of USA and in this capacity he could strengthen UNESCO-CIOFF® cooperation.

Latin American Sector: The 8th Cultural Forum organized by the National Section of Argentina took the topic: “Childhood, games and cultural identity: The game as an element of development of the children in a cultural context and its projection in their adult life”. The forum was led by specialists in the framework of the 21st National Assembly of the National Section.
In Argentina a workshop for Groups Directors was also organized, under the topic “Popular manifestations related with fire: Analysis of the influence of faith in popular beliefs, its classification in the framework of Folklore science, and special characteristics of the regional context. Reflections about how to put on stage these manifestations”.

The National Section of Paraguay continues with the excellent work started in the past concerning aboriginal communities.

**Acting Chairman of the Commission**

Due to personal reasons, Alexander Durtka from the United States presented his resignation as Chairman of the Cultural Commission. Ramiro Mansutti from Argentina assumes the position until the next election in 2013.

**FESTIVALS COMMISSION**

In 2012, the Festivals Commission had two meetings. The first meeting was in the spring in Iskele, Cyprus and the second meeting in Paris during the World Congress.

The Festivals Calendar 2013 is the 25th edition of this publication. This edition was a very special one, because it was the first time that photos were included not only from festivals and groups, but also items from the UNESCO Intangible Heritage List. A special thanks to the National Sections of Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia and Spain, which have sent photos of items of their country listed on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Lists.

As in prior years, a big part of the work of the Festivals Commission was to compile the Festivals Calendar. Most of the National Sections made the updates of their data themselves directly online. Sometimes, some assistance was necessary, but we hope that in 2013 all members will update online. Although this is now much easier for the responsible persons, it is still necessary to control all these updates. In total, this requires many hours of work. Also, for the layout of the Calendar, many hours were necessary. The deadline for updating was July 15, 2012. All Calendars were sent to all National Sections directly after printing. A big problem is still the delivery of the calendars and send them back. This means that those packages must be resent. An example of this is: The calendars 2012 were sent out in mid-October 2011, but packages which could not be delivered came back as late as July 2012. The last package was received at the beginning of November 2012 from Panama. Those late received packages were not sent out again.

A success for the Festivals Commission was the advertising program which grew by 60 percent over the previous year. It was decided by the Festivals Commission to start with the advertising program earlier in 2012 and to inform the festivals directly, with the consent of their National Section. The information was sent to all National Sections at the beginning of the year 2012. Only two National Sections asked us not to contact the festivals directly. The Festivals Commission wants to stress to all National Sections that they inform their festivals about the possibility to place an advertisement in the 2014 Calendar edition. The experiences of the festivals which placed an advertisement were very positive.

The Calendar edition 2014 which will be compiled in 2013 will be ready after the Congress in Zacatecas/Mexico. In the General Assembly 2013 there will be elections, and the Calendar will include the new information. The printing will be done immediately after the Congress and the distribution will start thereafter.

The Reports on Festivals and Groups were distributed to all National Sections on November 02, 2012 by email from our Secretary General. Because of some important additional information, the Problems List and the Report on the Groups were finally distributed on January 05, 2013. The Festivals Commission wants to thank Susanne Kramer for her tremendous work preparing these reports.

For 2013 new questionnaires for the Reports have been prepared and all National Sections are requested to distribute only these new questionnaires to their festivals. The questionnaires shall be sent back to the Festivals Commission at the latest one month after the festival. The reports help festivals to improve themselves and give festivals the opportunity to check the evaluation of groups. All National Delegates are requested to inform their festivals that it is normally an obligation for them to send the questionnaires on the groups at the latest one month after the festival and to distribute the questionnaire on the festivals to the participating groups with a request that they complete it and send it to the address shown on the questionnaire.
For those National Sections which have asked for Commitment to Excellence, it is very important that the Festivals of these Sections send in the completed questionnaires.

In 2012 the Festivals Commission received 35 applications for Recognition as CIOFF® International Festivals. All National Sections were informed by mail from our Secretary General about the festivals with expiring Recognition in 2012. In total these were only 12 Festivals, but there were also some festivals from 2011 which only asked for re-recognition in 2012. The Certificates were handed over to the National Delegates during the General Assembly.

A letter to all festivals in which it is described what CIOFF® expects from the recognized festivals was handed over together with the certificates to the National Delegates with the request that they give this letter together with the certificate to the recognized festival.

As already informed last year, more and more Professional Agencies are dealing with our festivals and our groups. Sometimes neither the festivals nor the groups have knowledge of this. The agencies earn money for conveying groups to festivals, and groups have to pay a special amount if they want to accept the help of these agencies, and the festivals also have to pay. CIOFF® advises its members to be very careful when contacting these agencies to avoid unnecessary payments. When the time comes that all CIOFF® members are participating in the CIOFF® network, it will no longer be necessary to contact such agencies.

**FINANCE COMMISSION**

The Finance Commission, in its meeting in Paris Nov. 2012, went over the 2012 Financial Report, the proposed 2013 budget, and recommended to the Council to adopt them. The Commission noted that there is almost no deficit at present or expected; the Commission recommended to the Council to develop a plan for “Registration of CIOFF® name and logo” for the non-European N.S; and to check ways to decrease the cost for the transfer of membership fees from N.S to the Treasurer.

The Commission noted that the main problem of the financial policy of CIOFF® is the fact that we rely, mainly, on one source of income – the membership fees. The Commission repeated its recommendation to encourage all the commissions, working-groups and N.S, to propose and formulate new international projects to increase our sources of income.

The Commission welcomes the Council resolution, proposed by the Commission, to employ a professional fund-raiser, who will help CIOFF® committees and N.S to develop new international projects, attractive to donors and International Organizations.

The Commission noted that during the years its recommendations to increase income were adopted, among them: changes in the "membership fees system"; “self assessment” of payment by N.S."matching-funds program”, etc.

The Commission proposed to the Council to establish a permanent planning forum, to reassess CIOFF® objectives and the ways to achieve them, in our rapidly changing world; to renew International CIOFF® vision and International CIOFF® long range policies.

The Commission wishes to thank Rolf Kaufman and Rex Burdette, its former chairmen, Esa Vilhonen the devoted Treasurer, and its members.

**LEGAL COMMISSION**

The spring meeting 2012 of the Legal Commission (LC) took place in Cormagens, Switzerland. At the Congress meeting in Paris, the Youth Representative, Antonio Mallozzi, Italy, was replaced by Jessica Latourrette, France.

**OPERATIVE TASKS**

**New membership**

The LC assisted the Sectors, responsible for the recruitment of new members, in their efforts and assessed the legal aspects of the applications presented to the Council.

**Survey of National Sections and Associate Members**

The grid “Report on Membership Requirements” can now be filled out online on Intranet through the TRANSPARENCY PROGRAM. Some Sector Representatives presented their first report to the Council. In addition, each CIOFF® member has now the possibility to consult the current state of the Survey Program on Intranet.
Commitment to Excellence

This program aims to enhance the commitment of the CIOFF® members on the following items: Legal obligations, festivals, cultural policy, Internet visibility and Youth movement. After the 3-years period 2009-2012, 8 countries terminated their commitment: Argentina, Bulgaria, Colombia, Estonia, Germany, Italy and United Kingdom. Consequently the LC initiated the first evaluation of the online registered self-assessments as follows:

Guidelines for the evaluation procedure to be carried out by the responsible for each item;
Global report with detailed evaluations noted for each country by the relevant responsible LC-Report to the Council including proposals for the recognition of Commitment to Excellence

The Council decided to assess the Global report with the detailed evaluations before granting the official recognition. The result of this final Council assessment will be presented at the General Assembly 2013.

DEVELOPMENT TASKS

New CIOFF® Structure: The proposal has been adopted by the GA 2012 in Paris.
Revised By Laws (BL): The revised BL have been adopted by the GA 2012 in Paris.
Internal Regulations: The LC started the global revision of the Internal Regulations on the following basis: the Inventory of proposals published in the Transparency Program in November 2010 and the new proposals received in the meantime.

GENERAL TASKS (decided by the Council)

The LC established Guidelines for the nomination of Meritorious Persons and Honorary Members of CIOFF® on international and national level. The document presented to the Council for discussion will be detailed with additional informative elements for final decision in 2013.

WORKING GROUP ON CIOFF® WORLD FOLKLORIADA

Nearly fifty countries met the commitment of CIOFF®, together with the organizers of the World Folkloriada and authorities, to the city of Anseong in South Korea.

The schedule prepared by the Organizing Committee was met one hundred percent, with activities in music, dance, crafts, games, traditional food, parades, visits to other cities, exhibition of traditional costumes of the participating countries, etc.

In protocol activities the Governor, the Mayor and other government officials participated, as well as businessmen and merchants; invited by CIOFF® were the President U. Sakmunwong, Vice President H. Ifran, and the Secretary General P. Beaussant, Honorary Member G. Landry, and E. Héra and E. Hori, organizers of the 2nd and 3rd world Folkloriadas.

An area of several acres was the perfect setting to expose the world's cultures with comfort, as well as to introduce foreign visitors to Korean culture, through drumming workshops, traditional foods, games, dances, different aspects of rural culture, exposure and sale of traditional food products, etc.

The technical infrastructure can be described as excellent, although at times the media seemed beyond the capacity of those who administered them. A fleet of smoothly moving buses met the needs of the groups. The place where participants could rest and deposit their musical instruments, costumes and other items was convenient. Accommodations were possibly the greatest organizational problem; although the hotel was of good standard, the number of persons assigned per room was, in many cases, higher than desirable, and this produced some discussions between group directors and members of the organization. The news magazine of the Folkloriada and 2 magazines prepared with the cooperation of young people can be considered as EXCELLENT Folkloriada documents.

Three young people, members of the Coordination Committee, collaborated with organizers for several days before Folkloriada. This is important, not only because of the experience they acquired, but also for its important contribution to the development of game days, preparing articles and photographs for two magazines, and other activities that involved volunteering, etc.
A figure of close to a million visitors is telling about the public response to the most
ingredient artistic achievement of CIOFF®.
We achieved the high patronage of UNESCO for Folkloriada, and we think this is a response
to the concerns of CIOFF® in the area of the Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible
Cultural Heritage. The Folkloriada is a concrete example of an action for safeguarding.
We are working with CIOFF® Korea to produce – possibly as a DVD - a document similar to
the existing ones of the 3 previous Folkloriadas.
The participation in four Folkloriadas gave the experience needed to conclude that we have
been constantly improving ourselves; this was without a doubt the best demonstration of
the concept we want to illustrate from the World Folkloriada: an example of cultural
diversity in the world and a tool for peace.

WORKING GROUP FOR CHILDREN

During the past year the WGC concentrated its efforts on developing the criteria for
organizers of children’s festivals. After sending the draft to the Festivals Commission for
consultation and receiving the relevant opinion of the Commission, the revised version of
the Guidelines for International Children Folklore Festival was sent again to the Festivals
Commission for acceptance and for presentation to the Council for adoption.
The collection of children’s most popular songs from CIOFF® members was completed, with
the support of the WGC and the Sector Representatives. WGC continues its work toward the
publication of the book with songs from 54 countries.
Such work is very time consuming, due to the different formats of the scores that were
received and the necessity of making them uniform, as well as the need of verifying the
English translations. In short, the WGC hopes to have this book ready next year.
The establishment of a database for children’s festivals and children’s groups is still in its
preparatory stage. While there is minimal interest from the National Sections at this time,
we encourage all NS to cooperate with the WGC and submit the data on the forms that were
previously distributed.
The planned CIOFF® International Cultural Conference devoted to the problems of children’s
and tutors’ education was finally held as part of the 20th International Festival of Children’s
Folk Ensembles “Festival of Children of Mountains” in Nowy Sacz, Poland between 22 and 29
July 2012. The title of the conference was “ethno-pedagogy and contemporary education of
children”. With minimal interest from abroad, unfortunately, the conference was held
generally on the national level, with participation of about 40 Polish participants, 2 ladies
from Slovakia, 1 from Croatia and 1 from Czech Republic.
Following the suggestion of CIOFF® Ecuador, the WGC is preparing a proposal of how to
include the disabled children into CIOFF® activities and how to develop their participation in
CIOFF®. During the joint meeting between WGC and WGTE, it was decided that both WGs
will work together in this domain.

WORKING GROUP FOR TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Working Group on Training and Education (WGTE) welcomed its new youth member and
reviewed the educational 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 members of the WGTE reviewed the newly submitted articles by experts from four of
the six Sectors. The articles will be published electronically, translated into both Spanish and
French during the year; this will bring the number of papers in the CIOFF® Shared
Documents WGTE file to eleven. One Sector’s paper will be submitted and reviewed during
the next virtual WGTE meeting. The WGTE will again seek one new article from each Sector
to be added to this collection of papers. The papers are written in a variety of styles of
writing, research and recording of training, presenting and preserving of intangible cultural
heritage.
The members discussed the dissemination of information to make these resources available to CIOFF® members. To make members aware of the articles, the youth representative will write an article for Entre Nous about accessing the papers in the Shared Documents file. WGTÉ will continue to work together with the CIOFF® Youth Coordinating Committee to research, interview and publish articles that demonstrate best practices in the area of educating and training teachers, demonstrators, performers and festivals. The WGTÉ CIOFF® Youth representative will contact the Youth representatives of the National Sections to interview their Sector’s authors collecting information about the practical application of their papers. The Youth representative reported that Riitta Korhonen, author of one of the articles posted on the CIOFF® web site, was asked to write an article for the next Playing Together magazine.

The WGTÉ and the Working Group on Children (WGC) supported the children’s conference, International Festival of Children’s Folk Ensembles, that was convened during the Festival of Children on the Mountain in Nowy Sacz, Poland – July 2012; five international participants from neighboring National Sections and about 40 persons from Poland participated. Travel and the cost of the conference, although underwritten with Polish sponsorship, prohibited additional people from participation. Presented papers will be available from the conference.

The WGTÉ will work with the WGC to research methods that will encourage festival directors to include and integrate disabled children INTO FESTIVALS; The education element of festivals sets CIOFF® festivals apart from other festivals, the WGTÉ is proposing flagship seminars/conferences/workshops be convened in two Sectors each year (excluding the year of the CIOFF® Flagship event, Folkloriada.) These opportunities will be open to all CIOFF® members and other festivals. They will focus on the “how to” of festivals’ communication with their audiences about the context and heritage of the performances and demonstrations to facilitate an increased understanding and appreciation of the traditional culture being presented.

When people understand the presentation, they deepen their understanding of the culture and, understanding the culture, the audience grows in its respect for the performance, the culture and the people. They will then support, safeguard and transmit their intangible cultural heritage.

WGTÉ continues to seek representation from South European/African Sector.

YOUTH MOVEMENT

5th World CIOFF® Youth Forum:

It was held in the city of Paris, France from 8th to 11th November 2012. The Forum had the presence of youth delegates from 9 National Sections: Argentina, Canada, Colombia, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy and two proxies from Paraguay and Costa Rica.

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 emphasize three programs that will be implementing in the near future:

1. New internal communication strategy
2. Safeguarding of traditional tales and myths
3. Safeguarding of traditional trades

These three activities were the result of a workshop where all the participants had the opportunity to share their own impressions and opinions.

Other important activities by the YCC during the past year may be described as follows:

Starting the work with new countries:

The CIOFF® Youth Movement has been growing a lot during recent years. New contacts have been initiated with young people from Panama, New Zealand, Canada, Slovenia, Portugal, Costa Rica, Venezuela, Mexico, Indonesia and Germany. There are also other important contacts in Cyprus - Festival of Iskele-, Tahiti, Chile, Lithuania, Spain and Sweden.

Recognition of Official Youth Commissions:
During the year 2012, the YCC has been working on a procedure to recognize the Youth Commissions that are officially established at the national level. This procedure is in accordance with the Commitment to Excellence proposed by the Legal Commission.

To get recognition, the National Commission has to fulfill a number of requirements, such as the organization of national meetings, participation in international CIOFF® events and undertake activities in the framework of CIOFF® Youth programs. These activities must be demonstrated by photographs or videos. The countries that have been recognized as Official CIOFF® Youth Commissions for the period 2012-2014 are: Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Estonia, Germany and Italy.

Folkloriada 2012:
The participation of CIOFF® Youth in the recent World Folkloriada in Anseong was very active. Three members of the YCC (Irene Pimpinella – former chairman of YCC - ; Daiana Jacquier - former member of working group for children - and Emerson Fandiño – former member of Festival Commission) went to South Korea to give their support to the Folkloriada Organizing Committee. The youth intervention started 15 days before the official opening of the Folkloriada. In that period, the youth delegates were in charge of developing 2 newsletters and translating them into four languages (English, Spanish, French and Korean).

During the Folkloriada, the youth delegates were in charge of coordinating four “games days,” an activity proposed by the YCC four years in advance and carried out with the total support of the organizers. During these days, many participant groups presented and taught their own traditional games to the audiences, sharing wonderful and fun moments, including the exchanges of traditions through the games.

During Folkloriada the youth also had the chance to spread the movement, since the organization offered a special space in the Matchum Land, where they had full access to the participant groups.

Cooperation with IMC:
Our relationship with IMC Youth started in 2009. During the past two years our youth delegate in Estonia, Laura Liinat, 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 present at a meeting in Paris, in the UNESCO building, where IMC Youth established their structures and work plans, and held elections.

The cooperation with IMC is one of the priorities for the next two years.

Miscellaneous:
It is also important to mention that a former member of the YCC, Laura Liinat from Estonia, was nominated Recording Secretary of the Council and General Assembly in Paris. This is an excellent example of the transition from CIOFF® Youth to CIOFF®.

To find more information about CIOFF® Youth, please contact the youth representative in your Sector and ask for the CIOFF® Youth Handbook, an important tool to start the work at the young level.

SECTORS

ASIAN AND OCEANIAN SECTOR

The CIOFF® Asian and Oceanian Spring Sector Meeting took place successfully online on 25 May, with the participation of China, Chinese Taipei, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Thailand and Turkey. Therefore, in the Sector Meeting of AOS, held in Paris on 14 November, a proposal was made to hold the on-line video conference every two years and a face to face meeting in a member country interested in holding the event in the following year. The proposal was to be sent to all members for confirmation to encourage full capacity participation in the CIOFF® Asian and Oceanian Spring Sector Meeting, while acknowledging the economic situation and distance difficulty of each National Section.

Further, the information, released by all commissions and working groups was presented and accepted. The national delegates in attendance from China-Chinese Taipei-Korea Malaysia-New Zealand-Thailand and Turkey orally summarized the activities in their national sections in 2012, together with a unanimous expression of gratitude to CIOFF® Korea for its
time and efforts to make the 2012 CIOFF® World Folkloriada in Anseong, Korea successful and unforgettable.

As to new members, Sector Representative, Muammer ARSLAN informed of the new applications from Kyrgyzstan-Kuwait and Saudi Arabia for corresponding membership. These applications were accepted by the Sector and General Assembly in Paris. During the Sector Meeting in Paris, it was decided once again to nominate Nantasarn Seesalab from Thailand to be a Meritorious Person and necessary steps would be carried out by CIOFF® Thailand.

CIOFF® Thailand will host the next EXCO and Council Meeting in Thailand in 06-14 April 2013 in Lampang - Chiang Mai, while CIOFF® Indonesia will host the Spring Sector Meeting in Jakarta between 5 and 9 May 2013. The 6th CIOFF® Asian and Oceanian Children’s Folklore festival was planned to take place in Zhengzhou, China in 2014.

CENTRAL EUROPEAN SECTOR

The spring meeting of the CES was hosted by CIOFF® Czech Republic in Strakonice on April 27.

Our Sector was very pleased about the presence of a delegation from Slovakia. They will work on the organisation of a new National Section and to become a full member again.

Our Sector took some important decisions.

Legal Commission:
- The National Sections in attendance NS had no objections to the revised By-Laws.
- Regarding the call for candidates as Legal Adviser, CES decided to send a proposal to the Legal Commission. This proposal contains the following added sentences:
  1. The candidate must be a professional legal adviser or a legal adviser with professional competences;
  2. The candidate must be fluent in at least two (2) of the three (3) CIOFF® working languages: English, French, Spanish;
  3. The candidate must be willing to attend the CIOFF® General Assembly in the function of Legal Adviser.

The Legal Adviser must be competent with French Law, since CIOFF® is registered in France.

New CIOFF® Structure

CES supports the new structure, as presented by Norbert Müller, member of the ad hoc working group.

Membership’s self-assessment was done in a round table process.

Information on the other commissions was presented and accepted.

CES had elections this year. Re-elected are:
- Jeryz Chmiel as president and Susanne Kramer as vice president, Eva Héra was elected as vice presidents, Lesjek Choluj as treasurer and as secretary Klaus Hohmeier.

Meritorious Persons:
- Ioan Cocian from Romania proposed to award the silver pin to Teodor Vasilescu. The proposal was accepted.
- Hélène van Laanen proposed to grant the silver pin to Wim de Croon. The proposal was accepted.

We enjoyed the hospitality of CIOFF® France very much, the beautiful lunch on the Seine, the reception in the City hall, and the performances of French folklore will stay in good memory.

CES sector spring meeting 2013 will be held in Azerbaijan.
LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN SECTOR

Cultural Activities:
Sector Countries continue taking on important cultural activities revolving around the axis of its activities. Forums and workshops were held to allow group leaders training in various aspects of the staging of Traditional Culture and Folklore, artistic and human preparation and knowledge of CIOFF® through the International Festival of Folklore. As part of the work carried out by the young, Cultural Forums were developed with topics related to children, games and cultural identity. The Sector deals with different strategies and topics of Intangible Cultural Heritage, which are inserted into formal education through special classes for children at different levels.

Youth Movement
The ongoing creation of new committees in the various National Sections has become an important factor of integration, communication and cooperation. The choice of topics that allow the exchange of information, such as finding mythological elements, the game as a way of developing creativity, sociability, has become a matter of permanent links between the different groups. Programs such as “Keepers of Memory”, “Volunteers of Culture”, and “Rescue Extinguishing Trades” enable young people from several countries involved in the research to consider intergenerational dialogue in different cultural settings. Folkloriada organizers invited young Korean, Argentinian and Colombian representatives to become part of their team, organizing the Day of Games and working on drafting two news magazines, developing themes for CIOFF® - UNESCO, and traditional games.

World Youth Forum CIOFF®:
Argentina and Colombia, with three young faces, as well as Costa Rica and Paraguay by proxy, participated in the 5th World Youth Forum. The three young men were elected to fill positions in various areas of the structure CIOFF®.

World Folkloriada 2012:
The participation of 6 Sector groups: Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico and Peru, demonstrated the Sector’s commitment to the principles of CIOFF®. Despite being the most distant from Korea, with the resulting economic, transit visas, and others problems, we believe we had a successful representation.

Extension to new countries:
Work continues to incorporate new countries, and we have signed commitment notes in El Salvador, and Guatemala. Bolivia has submitted documentation to various group leaders to attempt future communication and formation of a National Section.

Relations with UNESCO
Different situations have been tested in the National Sections regarding relations with National Commissions for UNESCO. In order to cooperate with the task of developing the CIOFF® Representation to UNESCO, we will draw up a list of the status of each of them on the idea of developing a strategy to reach the desired goals. That list will be distributed just as soon as we have the answers from National Sections that were not present at the Assembly.

Elections:
Elections were held, and Alejandro Camacho, Mexico, was elected as Chairman of the Sector and Yvrose Green, Haiti, was elected as members-vocal.

NORTH AMERICAN SECTOR

The North American Sector held two meetings in 2012. The first took place in Vancouver, British Columbia on May 18 and 19, hosted by Folklore Canada International in conjunction with the 27th Canadian National Heritage Conference. The Sector Meeting was attended by Belize, Trinidad and Tobago, USA, and Canada. Five workshops were held on May 21. Two of these workshops were especially designed for the attendees representing CIOFF® Youth. The second meeting of the North American Sector took place in Paris, France, on November 14, 2012 as a part of the 43rd CIOFF® World Congress. During the North American Sector Meeting in Paris, it was proposed that a Financial Report be made by the country hosting the World Congress for the purpose of transparency and for follow up and planning of future World Congresses. It was also recommended that at future World Congresses, documents be supplied in the three official languages of CIOFF®.
The new CIOFF® restructuring proposal was discussed and the Sector encourages CIOFF® to develop a long term strategy for the future of CIOFF®. High priority should be given to the development of a 3- or 5-year strategic plan that provides vision and direction to the CIOFF® organization. The North American Sector recommends that the Ad Hoc Working Group develop the strategy and initiate the process of consultation for input from all National Sections during 2013.

**UNESCO**

* The North American Sector report that Diane Haylock, CIOFF Representative in Belize is a Co-Chair of the National Commission of UNESCO in Belize.
* The Sector also announces the appointment of Alexander Durtka to the United States National Commission for UNESCO in 2012. Folklore Canada International, CIOFF® Canada, has been an active member of the UNESCO National Commission for Canada for many years.
* CIOFF® Trinidad and Tobago has a good relation with the National Commission of UNESCO. The North American Sector have continued to work on the resolution topic for the Open Forum for 2013—“Opportunities for Ethnic, Minority and Indigenous Groups’ Participation in CIOFF® International Festivals throughout the World”

The Sector continues to promote the expansion of CIOFF® Membership among the English speaking countries and Belize will contact several of the CARICOM States in 2013.

**NORTH AMERICAN YOUTH**

* Continued development of the CIOFF® Youth movement in the Sector remains a top priority.

The participation of two Youth Members from Canada at the World Congress in Paris and as well, the participation of three Youths from Canada in Folkloriada in Korea has invoked great enthusiasm of the Youth Movement in Canada.

The Youth movement in the United States is being restructured and reorganized; this new Youth group has begun to work as volunteers in leadership roles and in developing and promoting cultural activities.

The Sector participated in the 2012 World Folkloriada in Korea and thanks CIOFF® Korea for its excellent work.

Finally, the Sector regrets to report the untimely passing of Barbara Campbell, who served all too briefly as the Sector’s Representative on the CIOFF® Council.

**NORTH EUROPEAN SECTOR**

Two meetings of the Sector took place in 2012 – spring meeting in Mooste, Estonia and the meeting in Paris, France during the Congress.

Due to the fact that some of the National Sections in the North European Sector are still going through quite a difficult economic time, only 3 National Sections were able to attend each meeting. The Youth representatives of CIOFF® Estonia and CIOFF® Finland took part in the meetings.

During both meetings the Sector had a lot of discussions about CIOFF® & UNESCO, the situation in the Sector and how to help struggling National Sections, Youth movements, and the future strategy of CIOFF®.

In spite of the financial problems, a lot of successful events and activities took place in the Sector:

- International Folklore Festival BALTICA, which rotates between the three Baltic States, took place in Latvia and celebrated its 25th Anniversary;
- The Dance Party, which takes place every five years and involves CIOFF® Finland and CIOFF® Estonia, attracted 4500 people, including over 3000 dancers.
- Scandinavian folklore festival organized by Nordlek took place in Norway with over 2000 participants.
- Billingham Festival (UK) 2012 was recognized as part of Cultural Olympiad of London 2012. A lot of cultural events have been also held throughout the Sector:
  - CIOFF® Estonia, with the active involvement from their Youth Section, organized a special project involving Minorities population and celebrations of their traditions in Estonia.
  - CIOFF® Estonia Folklore Training Centre has been successfully running a variety of courses, including special courses for men.
- CIOFF® Estonia is also organizing a special festival for children of kindergarten age and holding seminars and practice sessions on working with children.
- CIOFF® Finland organized special projects for Children in Korelia and dancing for children in Helsinki.
- CIOFF® UK organized several community cultural programmes in 2012, including World Cultural Ambassadors Project, Sensory storytelling and dance project for autistic children, Stories of the World Project for libraries and African dance residency in Primary schools.

At the CIOFF® Youth World Forum, CIOFF® Youth Estonia delegate, Kaia Kärner, was elected as Representative of North European Sector on the Youth Coordinating Committee.

**SOUTH EUROPEAN AND AFRICAN SECTOR**

1. Sector Meetings.
   * Spring Sector Meeting – 10th to 13th of May 2012 in Bitola, Macedonia organized and hosted by the CIOFF® FYRO Macedonia. 18 People from 8 full member, and 2 corresponding members were present. Important items were part of the agenda – relation between National sections and UNESCO, proposal for optimizing of the organization of the congresses was approved and sent to the council, proposal for clarification of the rules for “good standing” sections.
   * Second Sector Meeting for 2012 was in Paris on 14 November 2012, Paris, France, Sector accepts.

2. CIOFF® World Folkloriada 2012 in Anseong City, Korea.
   The Sector was represented by 8 groups from:
   Bulgaria, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Cyprus Iskele Festival, France, Spain and Portugal.
   Unfortunately FYRO Macedonia and Greece couldn’t make it as well as the group from Congo that previously showed interest in participation. The good news was that anyway we had representative from Africa – a group from Gabon.

3. Commitment to excellence.
   2009 – 2012 – Bulgaria and Italy,
   2010 – 2013 – France, Switzerland and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

4. Meritorious persons.
   The recognition for a meritorious person at Sector level was agreed during the Spring Sector Meeting in 2012 in FYROM Macedonia and it is for Mr. Svetozar PEROVIC who will retire by the end of the year. Mr. PEROVIS is awarded with Silver Pin.
   CIOFF® SEA Sector support proposal for Honorary Membership of Mr. Jean-Francois PROUX.
   CIOFF® SEA Sector support proposal to be awarded with Golden Pin Mr. Renaud ALBASINI.

5. Future Meetings.
   Next Spring Sector meeting will be held in Italy in May 2013.
   Next COUNCIL meeting will be held in Thailand in April 2013.
   The 43th CIOFF® World Congress and General Assembly will be held in Zacatecas, Mexico 2013.

**INFORMATION COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS**

**NATIONAL SECTIONS’ ANNUAL REPORT 2011**

The Annual Report of National Sections 2011 was prepared based on the reports received from 56 National Sections. In 260 international and 61 national folklore festivals, 1.660 oreign and 3.170 national folklore groups with 125.925 participants took part. Festival presentations were observed by 10.263.410 spectators; there were 1.030 TV and 1.827 radio transmissions from these events.

During the festivals, various complementary programs and activities were organized:
- Conferences, seminars at 65 festivals
- Festivals exhibitions at 160 festivals
- Meetings, discussion with audience at 77 festivals
- Handicraft programs at 132 festivals
- Music programs at 153 festivals
- Meetings of friendship at 173 festivals
- Parades at 188 festivals
- Typical food at 112 festivals
- Children’s games at 67 festivals
- Educational programs for children at 57 festivals
- Educational programs for adults at 46 festivals
- Activities for handicapped/sick people at 29 festivals
- Workshops at 90 festivals
- Free excursions (to learn the country’s culture) at 125 festivals
- Religious (ecumenic - multireligious) services at 56 festivals

National Sections organized 83 cultural conferences, seminars and workshops with attendance of 34,575 participants and prepared 54 printed publications.

During the year there were 72 General Conferences of National Sections, 174 meetings of Executive Boards and 134 meetings of committees and national councils.

**WORKING GROUP ON PUBLIC RELATIONS**

**CIOFF® Newsletter “Entre Nous”**
Two editions of CIOFF® Newsletter “Entre Nous” were distributed through CIOFF® network and to UNESCO_NGO list in 2012. Both editions are also published on CIOFF® Website.

**CIOFF® Press Releases**
PRWG has distributed four Press Releases prior to the Congress in Paris:
- General CIOFF® Press Release
- Press Release on Folkloriada
- Press Release on CIOFF® Youth games day at Folkloriada
- And Press Release on Traditional Games

CIOFF® Congress and Cultural Conference press release was distributed after the Congress in Paris to all the CIOFF® members and UNESCO-NGO list

**CIOFF® Presentation Memory Card/Stick**
PRWG is preparing a Presentation of CIOFF® on USB Memory Cards to be distributed to potential sponsors and used for CIOFF® promotion Worldwide, along with CIOFF® Brochure, Calendar and Folder.

**CIOFF® Photo Competition**
3rd CIOFF® International Photocompetition has been launched. The photo entries will be judged during the Spring Council Meeting 2013 after which the results will be announced online.

The winners will be presented at the Congress in Zacatecas, Mexico.

**CIOFF® Website and CIOFF® on Social Networks**
PR Working Group is running CIOFF® account on Twitter as @CIOFF_NGO which now has over 300 followers.

CIOFF® group has nearly 3000 members and the new CIOFF® Page on Facebook has over 800 likes

The CIOFF® website is an important and promotional tool of CIOFF®. This website is frequently accessed by visitors from all over the world. In 2012 there were in total approximately 400 visits per day with 16,000 accesses. The statistics show that the most visited pages were those giving information about the events organized by CIOFF®. Also the information about Folkloriada 2012 was called upon very often. There were also a lot of requests to get information about the members of CIOFF® and how to contact them. 40 % of the visits to the website were made directly by accessing www.cioff.org, 44 % were linked from a search engine, of which at which 93 % came through Google. 15 % of all accesses were linked from external websites that have implemented a link to www.cioff.org.

Among the Top 10 of the search expressions were CIOFF®, Festivals, Festivals Calendar, Folklore, Folklore Festivals, Folk and International. Besides the domains network (.net), commercial (.com), and domains which could not be resolved, the website was contacted from a lot of different countries. The Top 10 of those countries were Mexico, Italy, Turkey, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, France, Slovak Republic, Argentina and Brazil.

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CIOFF® WORLD FOLKLORIADA 2012 – ANSEONG - KOREA

Folkloriadas – Anseong – Korea

EMD Show – UNESCO

Congrès du CIOFF® Paris

Version du 2013/06/01