Major Achievements

After intensive preparatory work in 2012, CIOFF® implemented several priority projects during the year 2013:

- Implementation of the new CIOFF® Structure and Election of new CIOFF® Council officers according to the new structure.
- Adoptions revised Internal Regulations
- Acceptance of New Members of CIOFF®:
  - Full Membership: El Salvador, Guatemala
  - Associate membership: Belize, Philippines, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Egypt, Gabon,
  - Corresponding Membership: Antigua & Barbuda, Syria, Tunisia
- Signing of Agreement for CIOFF® World Folkloriada in Zacatecas (Mexico)
- 10 international festivals reconfirmed as Recognized CIOFF® International Festivals

Publications

CIOFF® Calendar of Festivals 2013-2015
CIOFF® Electronic Newsletters Entre-Nous (n°14-n°15)
Special Edition of Entre Nous dedicated to CIOFF® - UNESCO
Annual Report of National Sections 2013
Folklore Songs of Children of the World Book

Membership

With the newly accepted members, the total number of CIOFF® Members is now—101 Members:

- 68 National Sections
- 8 Associate Members
- 25 Corresponding Members

Office of Secretary General
CIOFF® International
Stockton Business Centre
70 Brunswick Street
Stockton on Tees
TS18 1DW
United Kingdom
tel: +44-(0)1642-651050
+44-(0)1642-651060
Email: info@cioff.org
www.cioff.org
ADMINISTRATION / ACTIVITIES

**CIOFF® SPRING COUNCIL MEETING 2013**
CIOFF® EXCO and Council Meeting took place in Lampang and Chiang Mai hosted by CIOFF® Thailand. 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® Strategy, National Sections questionnaire and changes to CIOFF® Internal Regulations.

The meetings were extremely well organised and hosted and the hospitality experienced by all the delegates was overwhelming. The delegates were treated to a very memorable visit to Elephant Preservation Centre, Mae Mo panorama, attended the spectacular Opening ceremony of “Salungluang Klongyai Peemai Mueng” (Songkran Festival) and experience the Thai New Year celebrations.

We would like to thank CIOFF® President Dr. Udomsak Sakmunwong and all our Thai Hosts for the outstanding organisation and wonderful hospitality. We all felt very welcome and got wonderful memories of our visit.

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### Council members 2013

- **President**
  - Udomsak Sakmunwong – Thailand
- **Vice-Presidents** *
  - Jerzy Chmiel – Poland
  - Alcides Hugo Ifrán – Argentina
- **Secretary General**
  - Philippe Beaussant – France
- **Treasurer**
  - Esa Vilhonen – Finland

### Chairmen of the commissions

- **Cultural commission**
  - Ramiro Mansutti – Argentina
- **Festivals Commission**
  - Norbert Mueller – Germany
- **Finance Commission**
  - Dan Ronen – Israel
- **Legal commission**
  - Cyril Renz – Switzerland

### Representatives of the sectors

- **Asian and Oceanian Sector**
  - Muammer Arslan – Turkey
- **Central European Sector**
  - Susanne Kramer – Luxembourg
- **Latin American and Caribbean Sector**
  - Socorro Maciel - Brasil
- **North American Sector**
  - Leticia Bulotano – Canada
- **North European Sector**
  - Olga Maloney – UK
- **South European and African Sector**
  - Emil Pavlov – Bulgaria

### President of the Youth Committee

- Irene Pimpinella – Italia

### Representative to UNESCO

- Magdalena Tovornik – Slovenia

*Executive Committee

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**43rd CIOFF® * WORLD CONGRESS AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2013**

The 43rd CIOFF® annual World Congress and General Assembly were held in Zacatecas, Mexico, October 26 - November 2, 2013. Over 150 people representing 52 countries participated, with delegates traveling from all over the World to this historic UNESCO Heritage city. The 43rd CIOFF® Congress was graciously hosted by CIOFF® Mexico, led by its President, Professor Alejandro Camacho, in collaboration with the city of Zacatecas, under High Patronage of UNESCO.

During the World Congress, it was announced that the CIOFF® flagship event, Folkloriada, will take place in Zacatecas, Mexico in July 2016. The Governor of the State of Zacatecas, Miguel Alejandro Alonso Reyes, was joined by CIOFF® Mexico President Professor Alejandro Camacho and CIOFF® Past-President Udomsak Sakmunwong, CIOFF® President Philippe Beaussant, CIOFF® Secretary General Olga Maloney, CIOFF® Vice-President for Cultural Affairs and Chairman of CIOFF® Committee for Folkloriada, Prof. Alcides Hugo Ifrán and Council Members, to sign the agreement.

The Folkloriada is held every 4 years in a different host country, featuring dancers and musicians from about 70 countries in an extravagant celebration of the world’s rich, diverse folklore and CIOFF® international’s work to promote intangible cultural heritage.

Eleven countries were approved by the General Assembly for membership in CIOFF® International. New Full Members are Guatemala and El Salvador, Associate Members are Egypt, Gabon, South Africa, Belize, Sri Lanka, and Philippines. New Corresponding Members are Tunisia, Antiqua & Barbuda, and Syria.

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**CIOFF® ANNUAL REPORT 2013**
Important outcomes from the CIOFF ® General Assembly included elections of new officers. President -Philippe Beaussant (France), Secretary General -Olga Maloney (United Kingdom) and Vice President for Administrative Affairs -Norbert Mueller (Germany) were newly elected. Vice President of Cultural Affairs -Professor Alcides Hugo Ifran (Argentina) and Treasurer -Esa Vilhonen (Finland) were re-elected. Beatriz Sangoy (Argentina) was elected as Chair of the Cultural Commission, NamYong Kim (South Korea) was elected as Chair of the Festivals Commission, and Karen Babcock (USA) was elected Chair of the Communications and Public Relations Commission.

CIOFF® Cultural Conference
The CIOFF ® Cultural Conference, an integral part of each World Congress, took place October 29. Dr. Yolotl Gonzalez Torres presented Day of the Dead celebrations throughout Mexico, from pre-Hispanic to modern day civilizations. In the second part of the Conference, Dr. Jesus Jauregui presented the cultural heritage of Mexican Mariachi bands.

CIOFF® Open Forum
The Open Forum at this year’s World Congress was titled “Cultural Diversity—Enriching Communities,” and was moderated by CIOFF® USA President Alexander Durtka and former CIOFF® International President Guy Landry, of CIOFF® Canada. The Forum focused on how intangible cultural heritage is passed to new generations and how the sharing of cultural traditions is affected by the movement of people through migration to other countries. It is well known there are many diverse ethnic groups who live outside their native countries. As these groups continue to practice preserving their cultural heritage in their new home country, Forum participants discussed the question of their current and future place in the CIOFF® festival network.

During the Congress, participants attended performances of Mexican Mariachi bands and traditional dancers, including a special “fashion” show of traditional dress styles worn throughout the regions of Mexico. Attendees were also invited to participate in tours of the UNESCO Heritage city of Zacatecas and museums, as well as Day of the Dead celebrations, which occurred during this CIOFF® World Congress.
CIOFF® AND UNESCO

After receiving a new status of NGO in Official Partnership with UNESCO in 2012 and CIOFF® accreditation to provide advisory services to the Intergovernmental Committee of UNESCO Convention for Safeguarding Intangible Culture Heritage, the Representative of CIOFF® to UNESCO Magdalena Tovornik, continued to have good and close relations with this organisation, taking active part in the UNESCO NGO Forum, exchanging many ideas and information interesting for NGOs working in the ICH field.

CIOFF® Secretary General Philippe Beaussant took part in the Forum of NGOs on the theme "Which educational goals for tomorrow's citizens of the world?" and Meeting of the Committee on Non-Governmental Partners in Paris.

CIOFF® Representative to UNESCO Magdalena Tovornik also participates in the UNESCO General Assembly 2013 in Paris.

CIOFF® took very active part in the celebrations of the 10th Anniversary of UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. Over 100 various events and activities, festivals, workshops, seminars, conferences, exhibitions, trade fairs and displays were held by CIOFF® members on National and International Level.

CULTURAL COMMISSION

Meeting of the Commission during the 43rd CIOFF® World Congress in Zacatecas:

The Cultural Commission held its meeting on 28th October 2013 in Zacatecas, Mexico. The most important topics discussed were:

- Cultural Conference 2013 and 2014
- CIOFF® Cultural Policy: Revision and Update
- Terms of Reference of the Cultural Commission
- Annual Report of Cultural Activities
- Planning of future Operative Programs

Cultural Conference in Zacatecas – World Congress 2013

In the frame of its 43rd World Congress held in Zacatecas, Mexico, CIOFF® organized a Cultural Conference to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of ICH signed in 2003. The Conference received the patronage of UNESCO and the support as an official ICH activity.

The Conference was divided in two sections. The first one was named “UNESCO: A place for development” and had the participation of two lecturers. Adolfo Yañez Rodríguez, Director of the UNESCO Regional World Heritage Institute in Zacatecas took the floor first and made a presentation of the UNESCO office, their projects and the cooperation with the NGO’s. After the first presentation, Magdalena Tovornik who is the CIOFF® Representative to UNESCO addressed the topic “Convention for the Safeguarding of ICH, inscriptions of elements 2008-2012” highlighting the elements included in both ICH lists that belong to countries, members of CIOFF®.

The second section of the Conference, under the title “Intangible Cultural Heritages from Mexico”, featured two elements included by Mexico in the list of ICH: the “Indigenous festivity dedicated to honoring the dead” and “Mariachis: string music, song and trumpet”. This part was presented by two well-known Mexican experts: Yolotl González Torres and Jesús Jauregui.

Cultural Activities Annual Report

During the year 2013 it was decided to create a report of the cultural activities implemented by each CIOFF® National Section. As a reference in the field of Intangible Cultural Heritage, CIOFF® has the obligation to have a complete register of all the activities done by its members in this sense. During the year 2014 and 2015 the Commission will work hard to implement and distribute this Report.

Following the elections at CIOFF® World Congress in Zacatecas in November 2013, Beatriz Sangoy, Argentina became the new Commission Chair. New member - Kati Taal from Estonia joined the Commission.
FESTIVALS COMMISSION

In 2013, the Festivals Commission had two meetings. The Spring Meeting was held in Lampang / Thailand and the second meeting in Zacatecas / Mexico during the World Congress. As in every year in the past, a big part of the work of the Festivals Commission was to compile the Festivals Calendar. The Festivals Calendar 2014 is the 26th edition of this publication. The new edition included the newly elected CIOFF® officers, following the elections at the World Congress in Zacatecas in October 2013, according to the new CIOFF® Structure. In this edition, elements from the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage List were again included. Mexico was the host country of the World Congress and, as a special contribution, photos of four elements in Mexico from the ICH list were published. These were the Marachis, the Day of Death, the Traditional Mexican Cuisine and the Voladores. Also, two other elements from Latin America were included, namely Argentina and Uruguay with Tango and Peru with Scissors Dance. To mark the Tenth Anniversary of the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage, a special article from the CIOFF® Representative to UNESCO, Ms. Magdalena Tovornik, was published to show the contributions of CIOFF® in the ICH field. Within the layout, the winning photos of the 3rd CIOFF® Photo Competition were displayed. A detailed report on the Folkloriada 2012 in Anseong / Korea, accompanied by two Folkloriada photo pages, was also published. The Festivals Commission successfully implemented the advertising programme in the Festivals Calendar. The Reports on Festivals and Groups were distributed to all National Sections on December 18, 2013 by email from the Secretary General.

In 2013 the Festivals Commission received 8 applications for Recognition as CIOFF® International Festivals. The festivals are Wereldfolkloreade_Oostrozebeeke (Belgium), International Folk Festival Karlovac (Croatia), International Iskele Municipality Folk Dance Festival, (Northern Part of Cyprus), Võru Folklore Festival (Estonia), Festival Internazionale del Folklore “Incontro di Cultura Popolare” and Festival Dei Cuori – Tarcento (Italy), International Folklore Festival Festivalul Inimilor – Timisoara (Romania) and Xornadas de Folclore – Ourense (Spain) received the Recognition for 10 years.

Commission member Rolf Kaufman from CIOFF® USA presented a possible new Avenue of Commission member Rolf Kaufman from CIOFF® USA presented a possible new Avenue of Finance Commission in collaboration with the Department of Broadcast and Electronic Communication Arts at San Francisco State University, in California. The University offers to festivals and groups the opportunity to produce and edit videos, interview participants and perform other tasks related to publicizing the image and public relations, with emphasis on their contribution to the preservation of traditional heritage. It was agreed to start a Pilot Scheme in the North America Sector and that the Festivals Commission shall deal with this item at the next spring meeting.

The Commission is working on creating a charter which will specify all the duties and obligations of CIOFF® Festivals, which should be signed by all the CIOFF® Festivals directors. This will ensure that the festival follow the CIOFF® Guidelines.

Following the elections at CIOFF® World Congress in Zacatecas in November 2013, Nam Yong Kim, South Korea became the new Commission Chair. New members - Dr. Eonyong Kim, South Korea and Jerome Le Coutaller, France joined the Commission.

FINANCE COMMISSION

According to new CIOFF® Structure CIOFF® Finance Commission at the General Assembly in 2013 was replaced by new Committee on Financial Development. Committee on Financial Development started the work during the General Assembly in Zacatecas. The aim is to analyse the current possibilities available now and to develop new activities, which could create funds for our operations.

The members of Committee on Financial Development are: Esa Vilhonen (Finland) - CIOFF® Treasurer, Magdalena Tovornik (Slovenia) - CIOFF® Representative to UNESCO, Karen Babcock (USA) - Chairman of new Commission on Communication and Public Relations, Susanne Kramer (Luxembourg) - President of CIOFF® Central European Sector and Antonio Mallozzi (Italy) - Vice-Chairman of Youth Coordinating Committee.

Festivals Commission
Chairman: Norbert Mueller, Germany
Members:
- Susanne Kramer, Luxembourg
- Arturo H. Cueto Juárez - Mexico
- Rolf Kaufman - USA
- Jay Nayoung Jeong—South Korea
Member ex Officio:
- Wolfgang Denke-Otterbein, Germany
- Coordinator of the Festivals Calendar
- Youth member
- Chiara D’Elia - Italy

Finance Commission
Chairman: Dan Ronen - Israel
Members:
- Emil Pavlov - Bulgaria
- Humberto Valdivia Yoplac - Peru
- Hassim Salim - Malaysia
- Muanmer Arslan - Turley
- Jean-Claude Menard - Canada
Youth Member: Dolores Villanueva - Canada
Member ex officio:
- Esa Vilhonen - Finland
- CIOFF® Treasurer
LEGAL COMMISSION

The Spring meeting took place from February 14 – 17 in Lac Noir, Switzerland. The main item discussed was the preparatory work for the Revised Internal Regulation (IR) -Version 4 to be presented to the General Assembly.

Survey of the National Sections
At its Spring meeting the Council decided that from now on, the Membership Requirements have to be filled out not only in the election years but annually. The Sector Representatives assess each year the filed Reports and prepare a Report for the next Council Spring meeting that will take place in March 2014 in Costa Rica.

Commitment to Excellence « (CtoE)
This program has been reminded in detail during the General Assembly. For the first 3-years period 2009-2012, the LC proposed to the Council two National Sections, Estonia and Germany, for recognition as CtoE. The proposal was accepted by the General Assembly.

Revised By Laws
Just after the adoption of the revised By Laws (BL) last year in Paris, the LC started the work of improvement. The LC proposed to the Council that the BL enter in force during this GA 2013, proposal adopted by the General Assembly.

Revised Internal Regulation
In April 2013, the Revised IR – Version 4 was distributed by the SG to all CIOFF members. Sincere thanks are expressed to CIOFF® Spain for the translation into Spanish language. During the Sector meetings and the General Assembly, a list of final amendments was presented. The revised IR including the final amendments were adopted by the General Assembly. The LC proposed to the Council that the IR enter in force during the next General Assembly 2014.

WORKING GROUP ON CIOFF® WORLD FOLKLORIADA

Working Group on CIOFF® World Folkloriada met in Zacatecas, Mexico during CIOFF® World Congress.

The work of Working Group on CIOFF® World Folkloriada in 2013 concentrated on the application from CIOFF® Mexico to organize CIOFF® World Folkloriada 2016. The official candidature application from CIOFF® Mexico was received at the 14th of February 2013. The vision of the new organizers was to spread Folkloriada 2016 activities all around the country. There are new ideas and concepts for Folkloriada 2016, which will also incorporate Youth activities.

Following the implementation of new CIOFF® Structure, the Working Group on CIOFF® World Folkloriada became a Committee on Folkloriada at the CIOFF® World Congress in Zacatecas in November 2013.

The Folkloriada is held every 4 years in a different host country, featuring dancers and musicians from over 70 countries in an extravagant celebration of the world’s rich, diverse folklore and CIOFF® International’s work to promote intangible cultural heritage. During the World Congress, the General Assembly unanimously voted in favour of the CIOFF® Folkloriada 2016 to be hosted in Zacatecas by CIOFF® Mexico in July 2016.

The official agreement was signed between The Governor of the State of Zacatecas, Miguel Alejandro Alonso Reyes and CIOFF®.

Working group on CIOFF® World Folkloriada now has members from every CIOFF® Sector.

Legal Commission
Chairman: Cyril Renz - Switzerland
Member: Vlasta Ondrusova - Czech Republic
Youth Member: Jessica Latourrette – France
Legal Adviser: Vacant

Working Group on Folkloriada
Chairman: Hugo Ifran - Argentina
Executive Secretary: Christian Hidalgo-Mazzei - Canada
Members: Guy Landry - Canada
Eva Héra - Hungary
Stiliana Yorgova - Bulgaria
Savas Tugsavul - Turkey
Joe Maloney - United Kingdom
Mario Garcia Siani - Paraguay
Nam Yong Kim – Korea
Youth Member: Kaia Karner—Estonia
Secretary: Victoria Horvath - Hungary
WORKING GROUP ON CHILDREN

Working Group on Children met during CIOFF World Congress in Zacatecas, Mexico. The main achievement of the Working Group on Children in 2013 was the publication of the Book “Folklore Songs of Children of the World” featuring children’s songs from 54 countries. The book was dedicated to the 10th Anniversary of UNESCO ICH Convention. 150 copies of the book were distributed: two for each NS who contributed, one for every member of the Council.

The children’s song books are now on sale for 10 euros each from CIOFF® Office. Working Group on Children is also finalizing the Guidelines for Children’s Festivals, which will be presented for adoption at the World Congress 2014.

Working Group on Children expressed their most sincere credits to the Chairman Mr. Jerzy Chmiel for his services and contribution, who led the Working Group on Children in these years and sent him a letter of gratitude in the name of the working group after the CIOFF® World Congress and General Assembly in Zacatecas, Mexico.

WORKING GROUP ON TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Working Group on Training and Education (WGTE) 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 WGTE continues to seek one new article on the safeguarding of intangible culture or educational practices from each Sector, to be added to the collection of resource papers in the Intranet Shared Documents file. Papers may be written in a variety of styles of writing, research and recording of training, presenting and preserving of intangible cultural heritage.

WGTE continues 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 WGTE is working collaboratively with the WGC to research practices and methods that may be shared to assist festival directors in the inclusion and integration of challenged children (children with disabilities) into festivals.

The WGTE presented its proposal to the Cultural Commission – World Congress Paris 2012. CIOFF® states on its web site “The Working Group on Training and Education and the Working Group on Children organize regularly conferences and workshops for CIOFF® Festival Organizers. CIOFF® also has been seeking a second flagship event - a prominent event. It is this education element of festivals that sets CIOFF® festivals apart from other festivals; the WGTE proposed that “flagship” seminars /conferences /workshops be convened in two Sectors each year (excluding the year of the CIOFF® Flagship event, Folkloriada.) CIOFF®’s recognition of these designated educational “flagship” events – for example, a day workshop attached to the Sector meeting – would demonstrate and provide evidence of CIOFF®’s commitment to safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, to quality festivals and to networking. The North American Sector agreed to pilot such an event. Its outcome was positive.

Samples of introductions of performing groups have been collected for National Sections. These samples will give insight into how festivals communicate with their audiences about the context and heritage of the performances and demonstrations; this is one way that festivals are able to increase understanding and appreciation of the traditional folk art culture being presented and passing of the cultural heritage to the present generation. 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.
YOUTH MOVEMENT

Youth meeting during the 43rd CIOFF® World Congress in Zacatecas:
The youth meeting, held in Zacatecas the first day of the World Congress, had the presence of 12 delegates from 7 National Sections: Argentina, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Estonia, Mexico and Turkey and a youth delegate representing Cyprus Iskele Festival.
The meeting was very productive and important to define the work plan for the year 2014. The most important resolutions are the following:

• Revision of the CIOFF® Youth Terms of Reference
• Planning of the 4th edition of the Magazine Playing Together
• Extension of the Program “Safeguarding of Traditional Games” emphasizing the activities in schools
• Implementation of two new Operative Programs: “Safeguarding of Traditional Trades” and “Safeguarding of Myths and Legends”

Recognition for Official Youth Commissions:
During the recent years, the YCC has been working on a procedure to recognize the youth commissions that are officially established in the national level. To get the recognition, the national commission has to fulfill a number of requirements like the organization of national meetings, participation in international CIOFF® events and making activities in the frame of CIOFF® Youth programs. These activities must be demonstrated by photography or videos. The countries that have been recognized as Official CIOFF® Youth Commissions for the period 2013-2015 are: Canada and France

Cooperation with UNESCO:
From 29th to 31st October 2013 Benoit Pascal (President of CIOFF® youth France) and Jessica Latourrette (CIOFF® youth France and secretary of the YCC international) have represented CIOFF® youth during the UNESCO’s 8th Youth Forum in Paris.
UNESCO Youth Forum is an integral part of UNESCO’s General Conference. It was created in 1999 with the aim of creating synergies between UNESCO’s work concerning youth, youth organizations and public institutions charged of youth. More than an event, it is a process which enables young women and young men to submit strategic advice to the representatives of the 195 State members and to involve in their application.
Besides the strategic recommendations, the forum identified a succession of working plans elaborated by and for the youth and submitted in the framework of the UNESCO’s operational strategy for the youth (2014-2021).
This was a very good example of cooperation between CIOFF® and UNESCO and an excellent experience for the youth movement that strengthened the relation with an important international organization. CIOFF® Youth has a concrete compromise to the safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritages.
Besides the participation in this important meeting, CIOFF® Youth has been collaborating with the Heliophon Magazine, a Global Youth Intercultural eMagazine, an initiative of the Students UNESCO Association of California (USA)

Cooperation with IMC:
From 18th to 21st April 2013 Irene Pimpinella (Former President of CIOFF® YCC) has represented CIOFF® youth in the 3rd European Forum on Music. This Forum has been organized by European Music Council which is a regional group of the International Music Council. This year was scheduled in Glasgow – Scotland, UK – from 18th to 21st April 2013. EMC/Youth Committee managed the Youth Day. It was supported by local organization “Scottish Music Centre”, the EMC, and part of it has been financed by Youth in Action Program. Youth Day is part of the project called “Make Music! Be Heard!” carried out by EMC Youth Committee. The projects aims to further promote and disseminate the Manifesto for Youth and Music in Europe, to find new opportunities to present the Manifesto and to lobby for change. Our relationship with IMC Youth started in 2009. The cooperation with IMC is one of the priorities for the next years.
CIOFF® SECTORS

ASIAN AND OCEANIAN SECTOR

In the year 2013, the celebration of the international folklore festivals in the respective countries and the dispatch of the local folk music and dance groups abroad to the international folklore festivals in different countries remain as the major job for the members of the CIOFF® Asian and Oceanian Sector.

The CIOFF® Asian and Oceanian Spring Sector Meeting took place on 6 May in Jakarta, Indonesia successfully with attendance from China, Chinese Taipei, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Tahiti, Thailand and Turkey. The attendees discussed the CIOFF® Youth Movement in each National Section in the Sector and found out that though the majorities of the national sections faced difficulty in setting up the Youth Committee in the National Section due to different circumstances, whenever the event was held in the country, there was youth participation. It was decided to set up a working group for the printing of the CIOFF® History 2000-2010 in the Sector. It is also decided to reelect Mr. Muammer Arslan of CIOFF® Turkey as Sector Representative and propose Dr. Nantasarn Seesalab of CIOFF® Thailand as meritorious person for the CIOFF® silver pin and Dr. Lee, Du-hyue of CIOFF® Korea for CIOFF® gold pin.

In the CIOFF® Asian and Oceanian Sector Meeting, held on 30 October in Zacatecas, Mexico in which CIOFF® China, Chinese Taipei, Korea, New Zealand, Tahiti, Thailand and Turkey were present, Sector Representative, Mr. Muammer Arslan informed the membership termination of CIOFF® Jordan and the new applications from Philippines, Sri Lanka as Associate Members and Syria as Corresponding member. Moreover, it was decided that the nomination of Dr. Lee, Du-hyue of CIOFF® Korea as meritorious person for CIOFF® gold pin should remain and carry on for his services and contribution to CIOFF® in these years, although unfortunately he passed away this August. In this occasion, CIOFF® China also confirmed the celebration of the next sector meeting in Beijing, China and the 6th CIOFF® Asian and Oceanian Children’s Folklore Festival in Honan, China.

To engage the less-active members in the sector to get more involved in the related CIOFF® activities remains as major task for CIOFF® Asian and Oceanian sector.
Central European Sector Spring meeting was hosted by CIOFF® Azerbaijan in Baku from 29th May till 2nd June 2013. 10 Countries were present and enjoyed the marvellous program provided by our host Chimnaz Ahmadzada.

The agenda was adopted and the tasks, proposals and information for the Sector emanating from the Council Meeting in Thailand were opened by Magdalena Tovornik. Dan Ronen mentioned that our relation with UNESCO changed since Magdalena Tovornik is our Representative. Dan Ronen informed about his good relationship with the UNESCO committee in Israel and that they donate to CIOFF® every year (since 6 years) 840 € for weak countries.

Reports on Membership Requirements.
Only Armenia and Romania did not fill out the Report on the Intranet site.

Jerzy Chmiel explained that he created an evaluation system together with the Legal Commission. This proposal was adopted by the Council meeting. The evaluation system is done in percentages and the Annual Report is ok in case 55% of the points are fulfilled, which is the minimum.

Jerzy Chmiel presented the Children Song Book and handed over 2 copies to all National Sections which were present.

Sector had a long discussion about National Sections who are not answering on any message. We had a proposal to make a black list. We asked the Council to put this important issue on the agenda of the Sectors for the spring meeting 2014. “NS Network behaviour – working together”.

Elections on Sector Level
Jerzy Chmiel declared that he will resign from his job as the Chairman of the Sector and he asked if there are candidates for the election of chairman and treasurer as also Leszek Choluj had resigned. Günther Lippitz from Austria was unanimously elected as Treasurer. Susanne Kramer from Luxembourg was elected unanimously as Chair of our Sector. At the farewell dinner Jerzy Chmiel received as a present an original music instrument from Azerbaijan. We expressed our gratitude to him for his long term working within our Sector.

Meritigious Persons.
We have granted this year 6 silver Pins. 3 for Poland, 1 for Germany, 1 for Hungary and 1 for Slovenia. It was proposed to award Dan Ronen with the Golden Pin. The request has the support of the sector and is forwarded to the Council. Sector proposed to award Jerzy Chmiel honorary membership for all his work done since the past 25 years. The proposal was unanimously adopted and the curriculum vitae was sent together with our proposal to the Council.

Sector meeting in Zacatecas
In Zacatecas the Sector had an additional election of a vice-president. The new Vice President is Ioan Cocian from Romania.

Hungary Proposed to award a director of a festival with the Silver Pin, this proposal was adopted.
LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN SECTOR

As part of the celebration of 10th Anniversary of UNESCO Convention on Intangible Cultural Heritage - UNESCO, Sector specific cultural activities included various forums and conferences:

Costa Rica held the 2nd Forum on "Intangible Cultural Heritage";
Argentina: delivered a presentation at the 9th Cultural Forum of CIOFF ® Argentina 2013 entitled—"UNESCO document relevant to us", valuing the work that is ongoing and continues, including:
- "Research the trades in danger of extinction" by the Youth Movement,
- "Programme Revaluation of Traditional and Popular Games", their applications through the Youth Movement,
- "Vivientes Memory Bank: A Response from Argentina", rescue, recovery and distribution of the Traditional Cultural Heritage.

The following publications were produced documenting the activities of the Sector:
Argentina:
"Argentina CIOFF ® in Action",
young people published the 17th edition of "Mapu Werken" -Messenger of the Earth-;
Honduras "Cultural Identity",
Panama "Newsletter" Youth.

Development Meetings about Children’s Festivals took place in Argentina, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay, Haiti, emphasizing that "children dance and sing as children, not just imitating what adults do", especially through songs, games and dances for children.

Research work and cultural encounters with the "Indigenous Peoples", developed in Paraguay and Costa Rica.

Panamá plans to initiate a research project of "Indigenous Games."

Traditional Craft Fairs: valuing the artistic piece and the craftsmanship took place in Paraguay, Costa Rica, Argentina.

Fairs for the Traditional Gastronomies, promoting awareness of traditional foods took place in Panamá and Argentina.

Participation of artistic groups of Sections in International Folklore Festivals in the world included Paraguay, México, Costa Rica, Panama, Perú.

Representative of the Youth Movement in the Sector, Daiana Jacquier, proposed the development of the movement in the Sector, highlighting the commitment demonstrated by Commissions and Delegates from Costa Rica, Argentina and Paraguay.

The status of Certified Youth Commission was awarded to Colombia, Costa Rica and Argentina, after completing all requirement installed by the CIOFF® Youth Coordinating Committee.

Extension to new countries: El Salvador and Guatemala were accepted as new CIOFF® Full Members at the General Assembly in Zacatecas, Mexico.

Relations with Uruguay and Bolivia are continuing and developing, through the provision of information from various members of the Sector.

Prof. Alejandro Camacho, México, was unanimously elected as Sector Representative on the CIOFF® Council. Prof. Mario Gracia Siani, Paraguay, was unanimously elected as President of Sector.
The Spring Meeting of North American Sector was hosted by CIOFF®-USA in conjunction with its Annual General Meeting that was convened from May 31 to June 2, 2013 in Elgin, Illinois. The meeting was attended by representatives from Belize, Canada and the United States. Among those present were representatives from CIOFF®-USA festivals and groups, as well as youth, and groups that have expressed interest in membership. US Participants were from a wide geographic area of Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Mississippi, North Carolina, Ohio and Wisconsin. More than 30 participants were in attendance.

The first day of the Conference was dedicated to the topic of CIOFF® activities: orientation, strategy, recruitment, programs and exchanges. The second day of the conference was geared towards the 10th anniversary of the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH).

The Program included a workshop based on two themes:

1. North American Sector Workshop Pilot Program (as proposed by the Working Group on Training and Education) - Getting to Know CIOFF®, including discussions of What CIOFF® Is and What It Does, CIOFF®-USA's Structure, Preparing Groups to Travel Abroad and Getting to Know the Network.

2. Tenth Anniversary of the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH), including discussions about: What is Intangible Cultural Heritage and How Do We Safeguard It?; How can We Ensure that the Younger Generation Will Be Prepared and Motivated to Transmit Their Cultural Heritage and Benefit from It in Their Own Lives?; Safeguarding our ICH through Research, Study, Presentation and Passing It to the next generation and Showcase Performance: Understanding the Culture through Performance – Growing Appreciation and Respect for the Traditional Folk Arts and Performers. (Performed by seven Children, Youth and Adult Cultural Groups).

The youth present met with the Representative from Canada to rekindle the development of CIOFF® Youth with cooperation among the North American Sector Members.

The 2nd meeting of the North American Sector took place here in Zacatecas on October 30, 2013 as part of the 43rd CIOFF® World Congress. During this meeting, the following recommendations were approved:

- The North American Sector Meeting and Pilot Workshop (as proposed by the WGTE) convened this year was of benefit to the CIOFF® organization, for the deepening of knowledge and responsibilities of membership in the CIOFF® organization, as well as engaging the participants to understand and reflect on their role in the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage.
- Again, this year, our main priority has been the recruitment of new members for the North American Sector and to support and mentor the newer members. We have solicited the help of our Associate Member CIOFF® Belize, Trinidad and Tobago and Antigua and Barbuda to help achieve this goal through CARICOM STATES and the CaribNet Organization in the Caribbean.

**Highlight of the North American Sector activity:**

During the 43rd CIOFF® World Congress, held in Zacatecas, Mexico, one of the activities presented was the Open Forum by the North American Sector on November 1, 2013, under the theme “Cultural Diversity Enriching Communities”. This Open Forum has started discussions that clearly show that there are more and more ethno-cultural groups in the world that are keeping alive their traditions, their dances, their music, their language and traditional values. Such groups usually represent the traditions of their forefathers, who were residents of countries other than the country in which they presently reside. It is therefore imperative that the CIOFF® organization make an effort to determine the way in which we should work with ethno-cultural groups in helping them keep their cultural heritage alive and to make dissemination of their traditions possible through the prestigious CIOFF® organization.
NORTH EUROPEAN SECTOR

Two meetings of the Sector took place in 2012 – Spring meeting in Darlington, UK and the meeting in Zacatecas.

The following important topics have been discussed at the meetings:

**CIOFF® New Strategy**
The sector discussed the future new strategy of CIOFF®, which, we believe, should play an important part in helping the sectors to revive the National Sections, which are not working, find active member-replacements and recruit the new members.

**National Section Model**
The Sector believes that it is extremely important to create a “Model of a National Section”, which will show to any existing or new members, what a National Section is, its structure, its activities and its work based on the best practice examples from all the CIOFF® National Sections. It will help Sectors to recruit new members to CIOFF® both on National and International level, and improve the work of some of the National Sections, which are struggling at the moment.

**CIOFF® and UNESCO National Commissions**
The Sector discussed the cooperation with UNESCO National Commissions. In Estonia, the cooperation with UNESCO is very well established and is working very well. However in the UK and in Finland all the efforts to establish any contacts with UNESCO National Commissions so far have been unsuccessful. The Sector hopes that a new directive of UNESCO, requesting the National Commissions to cooperate with NGOs on National Level, will help the situation.

**Youth Movement**
We have two National Sections, which are very active in CIOFF® Youth movement: Estonia and Finland. It was decided that CIOFF® Youth Estonia will try and arrange a meeting between all the youth in our Sector who might be interested to join CIOFF® Youth Movement.

**Improvement of the festivals**
Discussions have been started by CIOFF® Estonia and then continued at the joint meeting of the Baltic States on how, in this present day and age, to improve the festival Baltica, which is organised by three Baltic States in turn, so that it remains attractive to the new generations. Similar discussions have been taking place at other festivals in our Sector. It was decided to look at the results of discussions at the next meeting.

**Joint Sector Project**
At the Spring Sector meeting we discuss the possibilities of developing a joint project which will include the four National Sections: Estonia, Finland, Latvia and the UK. It was decided that each National Section will explore their mining traditions and heritage, and see how the project can be connected in all four countries.

**10th Anniversary of ICH Convention**
During the North European Spring Sector meeting we held Cultural Conference dedicated to 10th Anniversary of UNESCO ICH Convention - Intangible Cultural Heritage of England - Traditional Durham and Northumberland Clog Dancing, History and Presentation by Brenda Walker.

**Helping National Sections in the Sector**
The Sector discussed and adopted a plan of action on how to help some struggling National Sections in the Sector to re-engage with CIOFF®.
SOUTH EUROPEAN AND AFRICAN SECTOR

The South European and African Sector held its Spring Meeting on May 2-5, 2013, in Sabaudia (Italy). The meeting was organized and hosted by the NS CIOFF® Italy, that was celebrating the 25th anniversary of its foundation. The meeting was attended by CIOFF® Secretary General Philippe Beaussant, CIOFF® representative to UNESCO Magdalena Tovornik and the CIOFF® Honorary Member Dr. Bruno Ravnikar. The cultural program of the celebrations included a round table on the subject: "International Festival of Folklore: the anthropological, cultural and social aspects of sharing a Festival and the implications for the intercultural and interreligious dialogue."

In addition to the usual exchange of information a discussions about the issues proposed by the Council, one important point was the elections of the Sector Board: Rafael Maldonado from CIOFF® Spain was elected as President, Anne Marie Cioffi from CIOFF® France as Treasurer and Anna Maria Boileau from CIOFF® Italy as Secretary and Sector Representative to the Council.

During the months between May and October, a large amount of work has been dedicated to the relations with African countries. According to the President Rafael Maldonado, in most of the cases, the requests came from groups that participate in festivals in other continents, but they have neither support, nor influence, nor representation, nor enough human means for creating a National Section. Their intention, in most of the cases, is to join CIOFF® in order to get invitations from Festivals in other countries. It is really difficult for us to verify the operation of the groups/organizations and their grade of implication in the cultural activity of their country.

The Second Sector meeting was held in Zacatecas on Oct. 30, 2013 during the CIOFF® World Congress.

During the meeting, information on the different points of the Agenda emanating from the Council was obtained both from the Sector Representative and from Council members who came to give details and to answer questions raised during the discussions on the points.

In connection with the proposed new CIOFF® Strategy, and with the aim to implement it at the Sector level, a mid-term Work Plan has been proposed by the President and discussed by the members.

The Plan focuses on four main points:
- Strengthening of the National Sections, mainly through cooperation and interconnections between their activities;
- Preparation and implementation of Sector Projects, in three fields: Youth Movement and Youth activities in the NSs; Cooperation among National Sections in common activities; Projects financed through European funds;
- Communication reinforcement, both at the intra-sectoral level (among Sector members) and at the inter-sectoral level (spreading and exchanging information and good practices among Sectors);
- Responsibility toward Africa, for providing information and assistance to African potential members, at least until the Council will prepare and implement a specific plan of action to achieve the emergence of an autonomous African Sector.

Four New members of the Sector were accepted at the general Assembly 2013 in Zacatecas: Tunisia as Corresponding Member, Egypt, Gabon and South Africa as Associate Members.
INFORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

NATIONAL SECTIONS ANNUAL REPORT 2012

The Annual Report of National Sections 2012 was prepared based on the reports received from 61 National Sections. In 253 international and 75 national folklore festivals, 1,845 foreign and 4,584 national folklore groups with 133,577 participants took part. Festival presentations were observed by 1,438,230 spectators; there were 1,311 TV and 2,297 radio transmissions from these events.

During the festivals, various complementary programs and activities were organized:
- Conferences, seminars at 105 festivals
- Festival exhibitions at 174 festivals
- Meetings, discussion with audience at 99 festivals
- Handicraft programs at 153 festivals
- Music programs at 180 festivals
- Meetings of friendship at 197 festivals
- Parades at 205 festivals
- Typical food at 122 festivals
- Children’s games at 82 festivals
- Educational programs for children at 83 festivals
- Educational programs for adults at 60 festivals
- Activities for handicapped/disabled people at 43 festivals
- Workshops at 121 festivals
- Free excursions (to learn the country’s culture) at 141 festivals
- Religious (ecumenical - multi-religious) services at 74 festivals

National Sections organized 78 cultural conferences, seminars and workshops with attendance of 7,288 participants and prepared 54 printed publications.

WORKING GROUP ON PUBLIC RELATIONS

CIOFF® Newsletter “Entre Nous”
In 2013 two editions of CIOFF® electronic Newsletter “Entre Nous” were published in three languages and distributed among the CIOFF® Network. The January 2013 edition was dedicated to CIOFF® World Congress in Paris and the results of CIOFF® World Folkloriada. The second newsletter, which came out in June 2013, featured CIOFF® Spring Council Meeting in Thailand and news from Sectors and National Sections. “Entre Nous” is proving to be extremely popular and the amount of interest shown by CIOFF® Members continues to grow. CIOFF® Working Group on Public Relations would like to express thanks to everyone who sent their contributions for the Newsletter and to CIOFF® France and CIOFF® Spain for taking care of Entre Nous translations into French and Spanish.

CIOFF® Presentation USB Memory Card
The new CIOFF® Memory Card was presented at the World Congress in Zacatecas. Cards are available for sale at 10 euros each. The USB Memory Card is a presentation about CIOFF® which will also be given to potential sponsors and donors. The presentation includes important facts, main projects of CIOFF® such as Folkloriada; Youth Project on Traditional Games; Cultural Conferences; Photo Competitions; Commitment to Excellence, and a short, but effective Folkloriada video.

CIOFF® Press Releases
In 2013, the Working Group created and distributed a press release featuring the World Congress in Zacatecas, Mexico, in advance of the event. This was distributed and used in advance of the press conference held in Zacatecas at the start of the Congress.

Working Group on Public Relations
Chairman
Olga Maloney - UK
Members
Shu-Tzeng Chang - Chinese Taipei
Socorro Maciel - Brasil
Dr. Sunny Bhavsar – India
Karen Babcock – USA
Member ex Officio
Philippe Beaussant - Secretary General - France
Webmaster
Norbert Mueller – Germany
CIOFF® 3rd International Photo Competition

The judging of the 3rd CIOFF Photo Competition 2012 took place at the Council Meeting in Thailand. The diplomas were presented to all the winners at CIOFF® World Congress and General Assembly in Zacatecas (Mexico) and distributed through relevant CIOFF® National Sections.

After the votes were in, winners in three categories were:

- **Action**: Photo “Latin Sunshine”, Photographer: Danielle Cutler (UK)
- **Portrait**: Photo “Macedonian Bride”, Photographer: Marijana Sofronijoska (Macedonia)
- **Friendship**: Photo “Peace, Love and Friendship”, Photographer: Tahir Kaser (Iskele Festival).

CIOFF® Website

The CIOFF® website is an important and promotional tool of CIOFF®. This website is frequently accessed by visitors from all over the world. In 2013 there were in total approximately 460 visits per day with 16,500 hits. The statistics show that the most visited pages were those giving information about the events organized by CIOFF®. There were also a lot of requests to get information about the members of CIOFF® and how to contact them. 50% of the visits to the website were made directly by accessing www.cioff.org, 34% were linked from a search engine, of which at which 93% came through Google. 15% of all hits 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 identified, the website was contacted from a lot of different countries. The Top 10 of those countries were Mexico, Slovak Republic, Poland, Germany, Turkey, France, Brazil, Czech Republic, Portugal and Italy.

A general review of the CIOFF® website was performed and all necessary changes and improvements were assembled in a list which was turned over to the hosting company for implementation.

CIOFF® History 2000 – 2010

Dr. Bruno Ravnikar completed the CIOFF® History 2000 – 2010. Assembling all needed information was not easy and was a very complicated and time consuming task. The Council thanked Dr. Bruno Ravnikar for this tremendous work. The written History and the Photo section, which was compiled by Norbert Mueller, will be available on the CIOFF® Website. Seeing the work which had to be done for the History 2000 – 2010, Norbert Mueller suggested finding a person to serve as chronicler for the next edition of the History.

CIOFF® Design Guide and Stationery

The CIOFF® Design Guide was produced in 2011. Since that time, many things have changed, and the Design Guide must be reworked. This will be done at the beginning of 2014. The relations to UNESCO have changed, and this has consequences on the CIOFF® letterheads. New versions were distributed to all CIOFF® members and are available in the CIOFF® Intranet.

CIOFF® on Twitter and Facebook

CIOFF® has increased its presence on Twitter as @CIOFF_NGO with over 650 Followers and on Facebook CIOFF® Page with over 2100 Likes and Group, which now has over 5200 members.

Working Group on Public Relations becomes Communications and PR Commission.

Under the new CIOFF® structure, the Commission for Communications and Public Relations (CCPR) began work at the World Congress in Zacatecas, Mexico. Members of this Commission include: Karen Babcock – USA, Chair; Dianne Newman – UK (Scotland), Catherine Chang – Chinese Taipei, Irene Pimpinelli – Italy, Jean-Claude Menard – Canada, and Sherling de la Paz (youth member) – Canada, with Olga Maloney (United Kingdom) (CIOFF® Secretary General) and Norbert Mueller (Germany) (CIOFF® Webmaster) as Members Ex-Officio.