

European Forum of Heritage Associations

Minutes of XVI General Assembly

The 16th General Assembly of the European Forum of Heritage Associations was held from March 7th to March 9th 2006 in Hasselt, hosted by the Belgian Flemish Association JCW, Jeugd, Kultuur en Wetenschap, in co-operation with the Technische Hogeschool Limburg.

FORUM UISPP Committee

The works began with a meeting of the FORUM UISPP committee which took decisions regarding FORUM volunteers taking part to UISPP congress in Lisbon next September. These were the decisions:

- 1) Volunteers are divided in working groups, each followed and managed by two responsables:
 - Press Office, led by Adriana Martini and Giorgio Mastella,
 - Room Service, Conferences and Workshops, led by Conceição Catroga and a member of the local organisers,
 - Translators: led by Magali Boureux and Raffaella Gerola,
 - Secretariat and Event Management: Chris Huybrechts and Tony Waegeman.
- 2) The honorary Vice-President Tony Waegeman was confirmed to organise and manage during the Congress the Forum workshop about volunteers, archaeology and cultural policy. All Associations are still invited to present material and to send people for the event.
- 3) Forum Secretariat received 170 volunteers participation form from all over the world and all the requests in line with the pre-requisites were accepted.
- 4) All volunteers will arrive September 1st, 3 days before the beginning of the Congress, except for a restricted working group which will arrive some days earlier in order to prepare the logistic for all volunteers. Group leaders will arrive earlier than volunteers.

During the Assembly the President of Hasselt Politechnic and Conceição Catroga, representing the Secretary General of UISPP Congress Luis Oosterbeek, signed the official agreement to send Belgian volunteers to the Congress.

NEW ASSOCIATIONS AND ELECTIONS

The General Assembly was opened with the evaluation of the quorum, the welcome of the new Associations and the elections of the Board.

19 Associations were represented at the Assembly, with their delegates or throughout a delegation to another participant. The General Secretary evaluated the quorum and declared the Assembly regularly established.

Present Associations:

JCW (Belgium): Tony Waegeman
Archeolo-J (Belgium): Catherine Breyer
Bulgarian Association for National Heritage: George Trak
REMPART (France): Antoine Monpert
Archeoclub d'Italia (Italy): Lino Tucci
Gruppi Archeologici d'Italia (Italy): Ilario di Nardo
CPSSAE (Italy): Adriana Martini
Gruppi Archeologici del Veneto (Italy): Giorgio Mastella
Aurelia (Italia): Roberto Cavallini
C.I.R.A. (Italia): Raffaella Gerola
CERP (Italia): Ilenia Ceci
Arqueojovem (Portugal): Conceição Catroga

Present through a delegation:

Municipality of Smolyan (Bulgaria): delegation to Adriana Martini
ANGO (Finland): delegation to Adriana Martini
CESMAP (Italy): delegation to Adriana Martini
Museu de Arte pré-histórica de Maçao (Portugal): delegation to Conceição Catroga

Absents:

AVEC (France)
Arbeitskreis Denkmalpflege e. V (Germany)
NJBD (Netherland)
Centro de Arqueologia del Almada (Portugal)

Four new Associations were presented in Hasselt; their requests for admission in Forum was presented to the President and were all accepted:

Brodsworth Community Archaeology Project (Brodsworth, Sheffield, England): its scope is working with the past for the future of South Yorkshire communities. These are the overall aims:

- 1) **Research:** to understand the landscape history and development of South Yorkshire through time (over the last 3,000 years, including the preservation of the memory of local people regarding the now closed heavy industry, particularly coal mining and limestone quarrying);
- 2) **Training:** for universities, schools, community based groups, offering development of a wide range of skills;
- 3) **Widening participation:** community groups, individuals, local residents

KFZ – KulturForschungszentrum, Weimar (Germany): the association is involved in the study and the exploitation of today's products, seeing them as the "archaeology" of the future and trying to study the impact of our society in the environment – KFZ won the Weimarer Umweltpreis 2005, a prize given by the city of Weimar to the association which is most distinguished in the field of environment – KFZ won it

with its work in “recycling”, “redesign”, “Sampling as technical culture”: recycled waste becomes “corporate design”.

Council of Loures – Portugal, with its Loures Municipal Museum Network: the Loures Municipal Museum and the Sacavém Ceramics Museum are part of a museum network that the municipality of Loures intends to keep enlarging. These museums see it as their mission to transmit knowledge, to preserve their collections and heritage and to promote public access to culture in all of its dimensions. The Loures Municipal Museums Network is part of the European Museum Forum and is currently in the process of becoming a member of the Portuguese Museums Network. Both museums have won national and European recognition:

- the Loures Municipal Museum was given a Special Commendation by the EMYA (European Museum of the Year Award – European Museum Forum) in 1993, and the Sacavém Ceramics Museum won the Micheletti Award, attributed by the European Museum Forum, in 2001.
- the Loures Municipal Museum received the APOM (Portuguese Museology Association) Award in 1993 and the Best Outreach & Educational Services Award in 2002.

Ensemble (Montauban, France): its scope is organising cultural interchanges mainly between Italy and France. These are the overall aims:

Cultural Exchanges: to spread the knowledge of Southern France in Italy and the knowledge of Italy in France, organising travels, conferences, presentations and workshops;

Support for Associations: for universities, schools, community based groups, offering their competences in international exchanges

European Projects: sharing as partner the resources of the international network of the Association.

The General Assembly then elected the President of Forum. The session was managed by Forum Honorary Vice-President Tony Waegeman who asked the Assembly if there were candidatures for the office. The only candidature was the one of Adriana Martini, who was re-elected unanimously. After the elections, the Assembly returned under the co-ordination of Adriana Martini, who officially opened the elections for the renewal of the Board.

The delegates were then invited to vote for the new Board. The President proposed the list of candidatures received before the deadline of February 28th. The Assembly agreed on adding also in the candidates list some other candidatures arrived after the deadline. Each delegate had the right to express five preferences; each delegation from an Association not represented by its own delegate gave right to five additional votes.

These were the results of the elections :

Giorgio Mastella	19 votes
Daniel Caleb Thompson	14 votes
Raffaella Gerola	14 votes
Catherine Breyer	14 votes
Maya Vatsparova	12 votes

Magali Boureux	9 votes
Roberto Cavallini	8 votes
Antoine Monpert	3 votes
non given preferences	2

BUDGET

2005 budget was approved by the Assembly. The Treasurer presented the financial situation: all the participants agreed on the necessity of finding other ways for funding since European Union does not support any more networks without paid personnel.

The President expressed the intention of finding for Forum a role in European projects for partnership research and contacts assistance between different Associations and Institution in different countries. This could be a way of collection contributions for an active role in a way that does not oblige Forum to have paid personnel. Another discussion and a practical proposal for Bulgaria were held in the last session described further in this document.

2006 ACTIVITIES

The Associations presented to the Assembly their forthcoming summer activities, which are already published in Forum website at the moment.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

The representative of the new German Association KFZ offered himself for the role of webmaster of Forum: the Assembly accepted this candidature.

The President Adriana Martini proposed to work in order for Forum to be officially mentioned in the European Parliament, as it happened already in the past when the Carvalho Resolution of 1992 stated that Forum was an Association of European interest. This should happen again in order to confirm after years the role of Forum and its importance.

The General Assembly of 2007 will be held in Germany, hosted in Weimar by the German Association KFZ.

The Honorary Vice President Tony Waegeman will evaluate the opportunity of interacting with other Associations with a seat in Brussels, in order to create a common platform for the contacts with the European Union.

The Assembly expressed its interest in helping the Bulgarian Association in presenting a Youth for Europe project in 2007. For this project Forum intends to put in practice the decision of the Assembly stating that Forum Associations help a single Association in getting funds: if the project succeeds Forum will have the role of managing the international contacts and will be entitled to receive 10% of the total funds for this activity and for the support. This could be a reasonable way to finance the network accessing to European Projects without the need of asking directly for money.

Padova, September 2006

The General Secretary

Giorgio Mastella