



CIOFF NEWSLETTER No 2, January 2007

FOCUS ON EXCO, COUNCIL, CONGRESS & GENERAL ASSEMBLY

CIOFF WORLD CONGRESS 2006, CITY OF VELIKO TARNOVO, BULGARIA, OCTOBER 28th – NOVEMBER 3rd 2006

Opening of the Congress

The Opening Ceremony of the 36th World Congress took place on Tuesday, 31st of October 2006 at the Museum of the Bulgarian Revival and the Constituent Assembly.



Mr. Emil Pavlov, President of the National Section of Bulgaria welcomed all the CIOFF Delegations attending the Congress and wished all the participants a pleasant stay in Veliko Tarnovo. The Mayor of the City of Veliko Tarnovo, Mr. Rumen Rashev in his welcome speech expressed his best wishes for a fruitful and productive work at the Congress. The Deputy Minister of Culture thanked all the participants for all the hard work done so far for the culture of peace all over the World. The Congress and General Assembly in Veliko Tarnovo were officially opened by CIOFF President Mr. Udomsak Sakmunvong. The Congress received a greeting letter from the Minister of Culture of Bulgaria.



After the Opening Ceremony the Congress Participants were treated to the spectacular Light and Music show.



General Assembly delegations

The National Sections present at the General Assembly with voting rights were:

Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Chinese Taipei, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Korea, Luxemburg, Macedonia,

Malaysia, Montenegro, Mexico, Moldova, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Swaziland, Switzerland, Sweden Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America

Furthermore, 3 countries were present by proxy: Haiti by USA; Lithuania by UK; Philippines by Thailand.

This gave 57 voting members (54 present and 3 by proxy).

Corresponding Members present were: two festivals from Cyprus and Abrassoffa from Brazil.

Honorary President – Mr. Henri Coursaget and 5 Honorary Members – Mr. Guy Landry, Mr. Rolf Leander, Mr. Bruno Ravnikar, Mr. Joao Moreira and Mr. Kari Bergholm were present at the General Assembly.



New Members

The Membership of the National Sections of Montenegro, Congo (FDR) and Costa Rica were accepted by acclamation of the general Assembly.

OPEN FORUM AT THE CIOFF WORLD CONGRESS

TOPIC : CIOFF NETWORK

All the participants of the Forum had a full discussion, expressing and exchanging their opinions about the subject from respective points of view as festival director; national sections...etc. and all present agreed that such network is extremely important to our CIOFF work. All participants in the Open Forum decided to make a declaration to strengthen their job in the CIOFF Network.



Declaration of Cooperation among CIOFF National Sections

- Considering that the formal and informal CIOFF Network is composed of three major parts:
 - CIOFF National Sections
 - International and national festivals
 - Folk artists and groups of intangible cultural heritage
- Considering that the CIOFF Network is based on exchange of information and knowledge
- Considering that the CIOFF Network will help and support the different parties of the Network

We, CIOFF National Sections, want to increase the cooperation in the CIOFF Network and decide to strengthen our individual implication as follows:-

1. We shall offer the full and necessary

information or even assistance to the festivals and groups to gain their trust to work with CIOFF National Sections.

2. We shall remind that the festivals have the duty to inform the National Sections of the groups invited for the festivals, especially those coming without the knowledge of their CIOFF National Sections.
3. We shall answer all the e-mails from the CIOFF Network coming to us regardless the reply is negative or positive.

3rd November 2006

Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria
36th CIOFF World Congress

TOPIC: CULTURAL DIVERSITY

The « Open forum » on cultural diversity gathered about sixty people. Twenty of them actively participated to the debate, which confirmed the necessary presence of cultural diversity in festivals, in the form of world culture or minorities existing in the organizing countries.

Here is the text that led to the debate:

« CIOFF expresses its great satisfaction with regards to the commitments taken by the UNESCO regarding the promotion of cultural diversity and the increasing number of countries which have adopted this approach.

In this context, the activities of CIOFF and its national sections are largely directed towards promotion of cultural diversity at a national and international level.

Nevertheless, although most international CIOFF festivals include programmes that show an importance of diversity reflected in the

cultures represented by the different groups invited by organizers to the festival, there is still a great gap in relation to some of the festivals to showcase, every year, a variety of diversified cultures of the World.

We cannot ignore the economic and political difficulties faced by festival organizers, but we would like to emphasize the importance of every possible effort to represent every culture of the world, which should be better recognized by festivals, the main mission of which is to serve as a meeting and communication place between cultures, should be better defined.

It is therefore not acceptable that a CIOFF Festival does not invite once over ten years a group coming from African cultures, Northern

Africa, the Middle East, minorities or cultures that are oppressed in their own country.

CIOFF would like to encourage the festivals to work on this diversity in their programmes, so that it could become an effective criterion in the allocation of the « International CIOFF Festival seal of approval »

It was agreed that the debate would be continued during the future international congresses, as in future cultural diversity should be a fundamental element of CIOFF policy and credibility.

*(Bernard CRINER
CIOFF-France President
Member of Festival Commission)*



FOCUS ON NATIONAL SECTIONS

CIOFF HUNGARY

NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR FOLKLORE FESTIVAL DIRECTORS:

CIOFF Hungary organized a national conference for folklore festival directors in Hungary on 20-21 November 2006.



The single focus point of the 2-day event was analysis and discussions of the results of a study conducted recently by the National Cultural Fund. The Fund is the primary financial supporter of cultural events in Hungary. The study was a national survey of folk art in

Hungary. Some of the resulting statistics and conclusions may prove useful to other CIOFF National Sections.

The following aspects were covered by the Survey:

1. Folk art in the media
2. Public image, conceptions and view of folk art
3. Current status of folk art as seen by the professionals
4. Marketing of folk art – international results

For festival organizers, the results of the second aspect were of the greatest significance. Here are a few of the important conclusions:

- **Childhood, greatly influenced by the family and education system, is the period of paramount importance in establishing an interest in folk art.**

- **Reasons for individual's lack of interest or outright rejection are:**

- no childhood exposure resulting in no ties with folk art
- not considered fashionable or trendy
- not compatible with today's lifestyles
- high costs (of artifacts and folk art products)
- lack of national pride
- fear of being labeled an extreme nationalist
- looked down upon, considered old-fashioned
- discontinuity in transmission of folk heritage

- **In a representative sample of the population surveyed, only 10% of the Hungarian population indicated an interest in folk art.**

Out of this 10%, the largest portion - 29% - were interested in folk art objects, artifacts and costumes, 16% were interested in folk dance, 10% in folk music and songs, and 4% showed an interest in folk art festivals, and events.

These proportions were similar to and in some cases higher than the results found for other culture or art-related areas (i.e. interest in theatre, reading, etc.)

Conclusions regarding values and attitudes:

1. Folk art and folklore have an important cultural and social role
2. Folk art and folklore need state funding
3. In general people with higher education, those who are religious, conservative, have families and those who live in smaller towns show the most interest
4. Representation in the media is considered quite low

The study reinforced our belief that in view of the future, our greatest asset and investment is

CIOFF INDONESIA

“Citra Indonesia International Folkdance Festival 2007”, DKI Jakarta, August 19th – 26th, 2007



Indonesia has been part of CIOFF since 2003 and is currently applying for funding to organize a first International Folklore Festival in Jakarta, in order to increase the awareness of traditional art among people of Jakarta, in

the work we do with children. Another significant message was that we have to increase all the PR activity regarding festivals.

PERFORMING FOLK MUSIC ATTAINS ACADEMIC STATUS IN HUNGARY

A significant event in the history of the folk art movement in Hungary: as of the 2007-08 academic year, the Hungarian Academy of Music will also offer various degree courses in folk music. Apart from ethnomusicology, the curriculum includes integrated theoretical and practical courses of study and offers training for performing musicians.



The faculty is comprised of experts and researchers in the field ethnomusicology, music teachers as well as prominent representatives of authentic folk music: instrumental and singing inhabitants from the villages. In the words of the contemporary Hungarian composer Emil Petrovics, “Having a university-level degree programme for the training of scholars, teachers and performing folk musicians, might just be the last saving grace in the effort to obstruct the monopolistic rule of “junk-music” prevalent in the world today.”

(submitted by Eva Hera, CIOFF Hungary)

particular, and to promote international vision to the young generation, art lovers and artists.

Such an event, at an International level is the first to be organized in Jakarta, with an aim to make Indonesia the centre of international art at the highest level, and to help promote world peace and understanding, also strengthen the international appreciation of art and folk culture, according to the principals of UNESCO.

The Festival Opening Ceremony will take place on August 19th, 2007 at Plenary Hall, Jakarta Convention Centre, followed by indoor and outdoor performances, parades and festival handicrafts Bazaar.

(submitted by Said Rachmat, CIOFF Indonesia)

CIOFF ITALY

Organisational & Programming Meeting of the Italian CIOFF Section

COREDO 8 – 9 December 2006

On 8th December 2006 CIOFF Italy President Piemonti called an Organisational & Programming Meeting of CIOFF Italy National Section, which took place in Coredo Centre of Trentino Mondialfolk, hosted by Mondialfolk Festival.

President Piemonti on behalf of himself and the Secretary General Malozzi, thanked everyone present at the meeting for their ongoing commitment and growing motivation and unity of direction in the Festivals organisation, he confirmed the desire of the Italian Section to extend the organization by involving more Regions, in order to introduce more initiatives

and involve a larger number of Festivals and young people in particular in CIOFF work.

The occasion was also used to introduce to the Festival organisers the Directory of the Italian folk groups of CIOFF Italy.

Next scheduled annual general meeting was confirmed to take place on 20, 21 and 22 of April 2007 in Florinas (Sardinia) and next Organisational & Programming Meeting in November 2007 in Castiglione del Lago.



*(submitted by
Francesco
Malozzi,
CIOFF Italy)*

CIOFF USA

CIOFF USA ENSEMBLES'

PARTICIPATION AT INTERNATIONAL FESTIVALS 2006

The Idaho Rocky Mountain Express, Burley, Idaho, participated in Bulgarian Folk Festivals during summer 2006. They appeared at the festival in Veliko Tarnovo as well as festivals in Tryavna and Plovdiv. The experiences of these young people will forever be a part of their lives. Director is Kristine Handy.

CLOG America from Salt Lake City, Utah represented the USA at the CIOFF International Festival in Passo Fundo, Brazil in August 2006.

In addition to their presentations of American folk dances and music, they brought blankets, toys and other gifts for local schools and homes for displaced children in Passo Fundo. Director is Shawnda Bishop.



(Submitted by DeWayne Young, CIOFF USA)

CIOFF ISRAEL

Young Choreographers Workshop

CIOFF Israel is holding the annual workshop for young choreographers of folklore groups during “Hanuka” Holidays in December. 150 Choreographers and dancers are expected to take part.



International Conference

CIOFF Israel together with “Jerusalem

Academy of Music and Dance” and Israeli Commission of UNESCO are planning to hold an International Conference during Passover Holidays in April, which will cover such subjects as “Global Village” – A World of Cultural Diversity”.

Institute for Documentation and Research

CIOFF Israel in cooperation with the “ben-Tzvi” – Research Institute for Tribes of Israel, the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance and the Central Library of Dance are opening an Institute for Documentation and Research of ethnic dances and music in Israel.

(submitted by Dan Ronen, CIOFF Israel)

CIOFF BRAZIL

Tourist development with Social Inclusion through the Culture

During the 28th International Festival of Folklore of Caruaru, in the end of March – beginning of April 2007 CIOFF Brazil National

Section, will be holding the Seminar that will aim to discuss a following theme: Tourist development with Social Inclusion through the Culture. The Seminar has the support of the Ministry of the Culture of Brazil.

The following discussions are scheduled to take place:

- Tourism and Culture with Social Inclusion.

- Importance of Culture in Tourism Development.
- Craft in Jobs Creation and Economy Sustainability.
- Folklore and Tourism in Education.

*(submitted by Socorro Maciel
CIOFF Brazil)*

FOCUS ON SECTORS, COMMISSIONS AND WORKING GROUPS

FESTIVALS COMMISSION & PR WORKING GROUP

New Year – New Plans

We would like to inform you about the important decisions we made at our meeting in Bulgaria:

- The Calendar of Festivals will be printed earlier in the year, and therefore the deadline for submissions will now be the 1st of June 2007. The Festivals Calendar will be edited before the GA in Mexico. The printed version of the Calendar will contain a statement that up-to-date information can be found on the CIOFF Website.
- The Festival Commission & PR Working Group agreed to offer an advertising package to the Festivals as follows:

To place an advertisement of the Festival in the **Festival Calendar & Festival Weblink on CIOFF Website:**

250 Euros – full page ad + 1 year Website link on CIOFF Website + 20 free copies of Festival Calendar

150 Euros – 1/2 page ad + 1 year Website link on CIOFF Website + 10 free copies of Festival Calendar

100 Euros – ¼ page ad + 1 year Website link on CIOFF Website + 5 free copies of Festival Calendar.

We would like to ask all the National Sections to inform all the CIOFF festivals of our new proposal regarding the advertisements in the Calendar of Festivals.

All advertising requests from Festivals must have National Section approval, prior to submission.

- In addition the decision was made that the Festivals/Groups Reports also should be distributed before the GA in Mexico. This is only possible if all the CIOFF Festivals send their reports in time, which means within **1 month** after the Festival took place. The Festivals held after the deadline of September 30, 2007 will be included into the Reports 2008.
- We are going to carry out a survey, which you will receive this year, regarding the benefits of being a CIOFF festival.

WORKING GROUP ON TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Questionnaire for National Sections

CIOFF Working Group on Training and Education recently launched a questionnaire, which we would like the National Delegates to answer.

A database will then be compiled from your responses. This database will be used to research and promote various methods and programs of training and education which preserve and transmit traditional national cultures - dance, music and handicrafts.

Please respond as soon as possible. If you do not know the answer to one or more questions, please return anyway. We would be very grateful if you could add names, addresses, phones and emails of persons whom you think could be of help to us.

Please return the questionnaire with your name and country to:

L. DeWayne Young

Chairman, Working Group on Training and Education

Email: dyoungifd@aol.com

TEMPORARY WORKING GROUP ON MEMBERSHIP

New Membership Fees System

Temporary Working Group on CIOFF Membership together with the Finance Commission, developed a New Membership Fee System, which was approved at the General Assembly in Bulgaria. Beginning with the Year 2007, the currency of the Membership Fees has been changed from US Dollars to Euros. The Fees for 2006 were converted to Euros at the rate of 1.00 Euro = US\$1.25. However, future payments may be made in US Dollars, if desired, in an amount equivalent to the amount specified in Euros. The year 2007 will be devoted to going through the procedures to prepare the beginning of the implementation of the new system in 2008.

In 2007 the arrangements will be as follows:

1. National Sections which submitted their "self assessment" to their Regional Sectors Representatives stating the fees they can afford to pay - will pay these fees in 2007.
2. National Sections, in the Sectors which did not respond in time - will pay the same fee they paid in 2006.
3. National Sections which in their "self assessment" listed sums lower than 400 Euros, require approval by EXCO and CIOFF Council - In any case, the amount of their fees cannot be less than 300 Euros.

The Fee System after 2007:

1. Basic Fees: Basic Membership Fees for CIOFF National Sections starting from 2007 will be 400 Euro.
2. Reductions and Supplements: National Sections wishing to apply for reductions in their fees, based on their ability, or to ask for a status of Associate or Corresponding members, or to express their consent to pay supplement sums - should approach the Representative of their Regional Sector before February 1st of the year preceding the year in which the list of the membership fees of each National Section will be implemented. (For example: requests submitted by the National Sections to the Sector's Representatives up to February 1st, 2007; will be brought to the Treasurer for the Council's approval at its Spring meeting in 2007 and implemented in 2008).
3. Timetable

- a. The Sector Representatives should send a reminder, by January 31st, to the National

Sections, members of their Sectors, to submit their consent to pay the basic fee (400 Euro) or their request to pay reduced fees (maximum reduction 100 Euro), or their consent to pay supplement fees, if they so wish.

National Sections wishing to get the status of Associate (200 Euros) or Corresponding (100 Euros) members, should also submit their explained requests to the Sector Representative.

b. The National Sections should submit their applications to their Sector Representative before February 1st each year.

c. Council Approval: The Sector Representatives will study the National Sections requests and forward the list of recommendations to the Treasurer before 1st March. The Treasurer, after studying the recommendations and the reasons for request for reductions or for a status of Associate or Corresponding member, and after consultation with the Chairman of the Legal Commission (if required) - will present the list for approval to EXCO and Council, at their Spring meeting.

d. Treasurer Notice: The treasurer will, after the Council's approval, notify each Section of the approved sum of their membership fee before the annual CIOFF World Congress. If appeals are not submitted National Sections or Regional Sector which will not submit their requests will continue to pay the membership fees which they have paid in the previous year.

Date of Payment: The National Sections should pay their membership fees, according to the Treasurer's announcement before March 31st. They can ask the treasurer for postponement of payment date before March 31st. The Treasurer, based on the reasons for the request, may grant them a delay in the date of their payment (subject to EXCO approval) up to but not beyond the date of the opening of the General Assembly. In the absence of such approval, payments after March 31st will be subject to a penalty of 40 Euros, if paid by the date of the opening of the General Assembly. Payments received after the opening of the General Assembly will be subject to a penalty of 80 Euros, with no further provision for approved delay.

Recruiting and keeping CIOFF Members

In general terms there are two obvious major criteria which determine whether or not to join any organisation for any membership:

1. What benefits does the membership of this organisation provide
2. How much does it cost

This applies to CIOFF as a Worldwide Organisation.

A clear and specific list of CIOFF Membership benefits to National Sections needs to be compiled and published. This list could be extremely important in recruiting new members to CIOFF and also keeping the existing members of CIOFF.

There are some obvious main CIOFF Membership benefits, like CIOFF Network,

which, if functioning properly, can become a major attraction to new members.

In order to create a detailed list of other CIOFF Membership Benefits, all the Sector Representatives were asked by the Council to have a 30-40 minutes round table discussion at their Sector Meeting in Bulgaria covering 2 questions:

1. What each National Section sees as the benefits of CIOFF Membership
2. What other benefits they would like to see included in CIOFF membership

We are now waiting to receive the results of these discussions, which will then help us create the CIOFF membership benefits list.

PEOPLE IN CIOFF

MARY BEE JENSEN (USA)



USA Delegate to CIOFF for 14 years (1974-1988), Mary Bee Jensen, founded the outstanding Brigham Young University International Folk Dancers 50 years ago this year and directed the Group until she retired in 1985. Since then, the ensemble has been under the direction of Edwin G. Austin. The Folk Dance Ensemble has traveled the World since 1964 and performed at Festivals and other Organized Events.

For her amazing achievements she was honored in July 2006 at the 50th Anniversary Celebration in her town of Provo, Utah, USA.

Mary Bee also had the honor of being Grand Marshall at the BYU Homecoming Week an honor not bestowed on many. On the 1st and 2nd of December 2006 she was also honored at the 50th Anniversary of her founding the annual "Christmas Around the World" Folk Dance concert in Provo, Utah where she shared the Dance Floor with the Director of BYU International Dancers Edwin Austin. Throughout her traveling life with the Dance Group Mary Bee has visited all corners of the world making many lifelong friends along the way. Her happy and joyous outlook on life has brought delight to all who encountered her at the hundreds of Festivals she visited and to be able to still dance the "Rocky Mountain Clog" at her grand age is an inspiration to us all. We all wish her continued good health, happiness and long may she continue to dance.

(Submitted by L. DeWayne Young (USA) & CIOFF UK)

HILDE BJØRKUM (NORWAY)



The director of the International Forde festival, Mrs Hilde Bjørkum, has been awarded the highest award within the Norwegian Folk Music and Dance circuit for her outstanding work developing the International Folk Music Festival. This has contributed greatly to world wide understanding and friendship through folk Song and Dance. This award was given to her in 2006 from the Norwegian Council of Folk Music and Dance

(RFF). (This is a state council where all Folk music and Dance Groups and Scientific Institutions are members.) As you know, the Forde festival is the only CIOFF festival to be

held in Norway. The board of CIOFF Norway extends to Hilde Bjørkum our hearty congratulations and best wishes for the future.

(submitted by Tone Eidsvold, CIOFF Norway)

RAFAEL ZAMARRIPA CASTAÑEDA (MEXICO)



The Governor of the Mexican State of Colima, Mr. Jesus Silverio Cavazos Ceballos awarded the 2006 Prize for Merit in Arts to **Mr. Rafael Zamarripa Castañeda (CIOFF México President)**; for Merit in Sciences to Ms. Elena Roces Dorronsororo and for Merit in Humanities to Mr. Jose Oscar Guedea. In an event recently held in the Governors Hall of the Colima State Palace, the Governor emphasized “we offer this public recognition to the people who made a valuable contribution to the material, intellectual and scientific development of the Colima community, and to the promotion of the cultural inheritance of Mexico and Humanity”. In presence of the General Secretary of the Government, Mr. Juan Jose Sevilla Solórzano;

the Secretary of Culture, Ms. Ana Cecilia Garcia Luna and the Secretary of Education, Mr. Carlos Flores Dueñas; as well as President of the Congress of the State, deputy Mr. Carlos Mendoza Cruz and Dean of the University of Colima, Mr. Miguel Angel Aguayo Lopez; Governor Cavazos Ceballos emphasized that the artistic creation, the research in sciences and humanities, the promotion of culture and traditions and the technological innovation, are vital for the development of any society.

“Colima is a rich organization, in its nature as well as in its artistic expressions; its origins of a rich and distinguished culture of West Mexico, which do not measure its history by decades nor by centuries, we measure it in millenniums and by the important actions of its people”, the Governor Cavazos Ceballos said: “**Rafael Zamarripa Castañeda** receives this Prize for his Merits in Arts, because of his contributions and outstanding achievements in folklore dance and in visual arts”.

(Submitted by Arturo Cueto, CIOFF Mexico)

SAD NEWS



**Gustavo Vaquera Contreras,
of CIOFF Mexico
sadly passed away on
12th December 2006**

Professor Vaquera was a teacher with a Master degree in Mathematics and a Bachelor degree in Civil Engineering. He was member of the Math Academy, the Physics Academy, the Chemistry Academy of México City, and the Music Academy of the Department of Fine Arts.

Author of several books in mathematics for Junior High Education, he founded many schools, such as: the Elementary School Margarita Maza de Juárez in Sombrerete, Zacatecas; the Technical Junior High in Colotlán, Jalisco; the General Junior High N° 18 in Maravatío, Michoacán; the Technical Junior High in Coyuca de Benitez, Guerrero;

the CEBTA’s Schools in Villa de las Flores and Tapachula, Chiapas.

In México City he worked as a teacher of music, dance, physics, chemistry and math in several junior high schools, in the Aragón Campus of the UNAM and in the National Polytechnic Institute. He also, co- founded the Junior High and the Secondary School in Nieves, county at the north of the Zacatecas State, which is located on the edge of the semi-desert, and where he was born.

He was a student of Luisa Josefina Hernández in the UNAM and of Dimitrio Krimpalis, Silvia Lozano, Aldwin Nikolais, George Balanchine, Rosa Reina, Amalia Hernández, Clementina Otero and Selki Sano. He graduated from the Andrés Soler Academy, and also was a movie and television scriptwriter. Professor Vaquera was associate in “Teatro de México, A.C.” for more then 30 years. He was a founder of many folklore groups and cofounder of the “Ballet Folklórico Las Palomas de San Jerónimo”.

He created and choreographed “La feria” (The fair), “El carnaval” (The carnival), “Había alguna vez...” (Once upon a time...); and stage the Dialogues of Salvador Novo. With other teachers, he created the Company of Scenic Arts in which he staged the following productions: “Había una vez”, “Madre tierra” (Mother Earth), “Bronce del pueblo” (Bronze of the people), “La bella durmiente” (Sleeping Beauty), “Rosamunda” and over a hundred educational plays. He formed several dance workshops and more than 45 dance groups in México and abroad.

He had a special love for children and young people, because he never lost his touch with his roots as a rural teacher. In Gustavo Vaquera a deep sense of humanity was always present and that is reflected in all of his work.

He received numerous awards; one of them is the Miguel Sabido Grant for outstanding

achievements in the preservation of Mexican legacy, like the “Pastorela Mexicana”, typical Christmas play in México.

During his last years, Gustavo Vaquera was a member and adviser of many culture associations; he was Coordinator of Cultural Promotion in the Ministry of Education and Culture of the State of Zacatecas; General Director of the Dance Company of the same Ministry; member of the Mexican Society of Geography and Statistics, and the General Director of the Zacatecas Festival of International Folklore.

The contribution left by Gustavo Vaquera to the world of art and, especially to dance has enriched the Mexican culture development, and that stands out from his every day work and achievements throughout his forty years of efforts in the world of culture.

(CIOFF MEXICO)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RESULTS OF 1ST CIOFF INTERNATIONAL PHOTO COMPETITION 2006

The organisers received 419 photographs in 3 categories from 34 countries.

The Competition was judged at the CIOFF World Congress 2006 by 11 members of International Jury, which consisted of representatives of all the CIOFF World Sectors, representatives of the CIOFF Festival Commission and PR Working Group and a representative of CIOFF Youth Commission.

The results were decided by secret ballots votes from all 11 jury members.

The photographs of 10 winners in each category can now be seen on CIOFF Website: www.cioff.org and will be publishes in CIOFF International Calendar 2007/09.

Here are the photos of the winners in 3 categories:



“Fire Eater”

Category: *Action*
 Photographer:
Patrick Parton (USA)
 Group: *Togo*
 Festival: *Folk moot USA 2005*

Category: *Portrait*
 Photographer:
**Valentin Todorov
 Russanov (Bulgaria)**
 Group:
**Folklorico Filipino Dance
 Company**
 Festival:
**International Folklore
 Festival Veliko Tarnovo
 (Bulgaria) 2006**



“Folklorico Filipino”



“Playing the accordion...
 easy !!!”

Category: *Friendship*
 Photographer:
**Tine Woestenborghs
 (Belgium)**
 Groups: *Belgium &
 South Africa*
 Festival:
**Festival in Mersch,
 Luxemburg 2006**

All the winners received CIOFF Certificates through their CIOFF National Sections, which were presented at the Closing Ceremony of CIOFF World Congress.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

SPRING EXCO AND COUNCIL MEETING IN MERSCH, LUXEMBURG, APRIL 10-15, 2007

The spring meeting of EXCO and Council will take place from 10 till 15 April 2007 in Mersch. Mersch is the heart of Luxembourg and Luxembourg is the heart of Europe. Our small country has 460.000 inhabitants.

Mersch is a small town with about 6000 inhabitants. Mersch is a part of the Vallee des Sept Châteaux, which is also the name of the folklore group of Mersch.

One third of the country, which has 2.587 square kilometres or about 1.000 square miles, is covered with forests. Geographically the Grand Duchy is divided into 2 sections: in the North the uplands of the Ardennes, a hilly and scenically beautiful region, in the South the Good Land, mainly rolling farmlands and woods bordered on the East by the lovely grape-growing Valley of the Moselle. The

3RD CIOFF YOUTH WORLD FORUM

The CIOFF Youth World Forum is held every three years. The first CIOFF Youth world Forum took place in Santa Fe/ Argentina in August 2001. In 2004 Istanbul/ Turkey played host to the 2nd Forum. Now German Youth movement has been honoured to invite young CIOFF representatives from all over the world to the 3rd international youth Forum.



The objectives are to spread and develop the CIOFF Youth Movement all over the world. To encourage the youth to promote the intangible heritage, through forms of expressions such as dance, music, games, rituals, customs and other arts. Work towards achieving other CIOFF aims in consultative relationship with UNESCO.

At present the CIOFF Youth World Forum is a Landmark of the development and spreading of Youth movement. It's a symbol that several youth movements can work together in unity and harmony.

With the intention to raise awareness, develop friendships and have a good time together, we would like to invite Youth members from all

former mining district is concentrated in the extreme South of the country.

The EXCO and COUNCIL members will not just have meetings but we will show them our cultural heritage such as the castle of Vianden.



We are looking forward to welcome the members of the EXCO and COUNCIL in our lovely country Luxembourg.

*(Susanne Kramer,
President CIOFF Luxembourg)*

over the world from **16th of July to 23rd of July 2007 to Laggenbeck.**

We will stay in host families of Laggenbeck. Laggenbeck is a village and belongs to the city of Ibbenbüren in the district of Steinfurt. This district belongs to the state of North Rhine Westphalia near the border with the Netherlands. Osnabrück is the next biggest City and is approximately 20 to 25 km away from our host village.

Because of this short distance we think that the **Airport of Münster/Osnabrück (FMO)** is the perfect place for your arrival.

If you prefer to come by **train** you can use the **station in Osnabrück or the station in Laggenbeck.**

During our Forum the Group of Laggenbeck is also celebrating one of Germany's most important and biggest Festivals, the **10. International Jugendbegegnungswoche** (youth meeting week). Besides our Forum we will take part at some the events of the Festival and we will visit historical places of this area.

Groups from Bosnia-Herzegovina, Brazil, Finland, Ireland, Latvia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, and Slovakia will take part in the festival.

The official invitation to the Forum will be sent at the end of the Year 2006 to every National Section.



If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to write to

cioffyouth_germany@yahoo.de and we promise to answer everybody as soon as possible. We are looking forward to welcome you in our beautiful country and to meet all of you in Lagenbeck.

(Martina Fey
CIOFF Youth Germany)

37th CIOFF WORLD CONGRESS



The delegation of Mexico receives the CIOFF Flag from Bulgaria

The delegate from the National Section of Mexico – Arturo Cueto gave a DVD presentation at the CIOFF General Assembly in Veliko Tarnovo.

The 37th CIOFF World Congress will be held in Monterrey, Mexico from 26th of October till

2nd of November within the frame of UNESCO Forum Universel des Cultures.



(1st January 2007)

38th CIOFF WORLD CONGRESS

The delegation from the National Section of Turkey gave a presentation at the CIOFF General Assembly in Veliko Tarnovo of the

38th CIOFF World Congress which will be held in Turkey in 2008.

CIOFF AFTER HARD WORK



Having a good time... at Closing Dinner at the 36th CIOFF World Congress in Veliko Tarnovo



NEXT PUBLICATIONS OF CIOFF NEWSLETTER

The new CIOFF Newsletters will be published **twice per year**: after the Spring Council Meeting and after the CIOFF annual Congress. The third CIOFF newsletter will come out in June 2007 with the **deadline for information submission of 1st May 2007**.

If your Festivals, National Sections, CIOFF Sectors, Commissions or Working Groups have any interesting or important information, which you would like to submit to be included into the next CIOFF Newsletter, please send it to: **CIOFF Working Group on Public Relations** by e-mail: cioff@folkloredirectory.com



2001-2010
INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE
AND NON-VIOLENCE FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD
为世界儿童建设和平与非暴力文化国际十年
DECENNIE INTERNATIONALE DE LA PROMOTION D'UNE CULTURE
DE LA NON-VIOLENCE ET DE LA PAIX AU PROFIT DES ENFANTS DU MONDE
العقد الدولي لتفاهة السلام واللاعنف لأطفال العالم
МЕЖДУНАРОДНОЕ ДЕСЯТИЛЕТИЕ КУЛЬТУРЫ МИРА
И НЕНАСИЛИЯ В ИНТЕРЕСАХ ДЕТЕЙ ПЛАНЕТЫ
DECENIO INTERNACIONAL DE UNA CULTURA DE PAZ
Y NO VIOLENCIA PARA LOS NIÑOS DEL MUNDO