



INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS FORUM

MEETING IN CAUX, 13-18 JULY 2007

REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The ICF held a series of meetings in Caux, Switzerland during the Caux Conference on Trust and Integrity in the Global Economy (TIGE). The objective of the ICF's sessions was to review the ICF's activities and identify and discuss key issues facing the ICF as it develops its work and establishes Chapters around the world. The ICF's Annual Assembly held on 17 July 2007 concluded the ICF's sessions. The names of those attending the ICF's sessions is attached.

Our President, Bernard Margueritte, gave his report on the past year. A copy of this is available on our web site at www.icforum.org.

This paper summarises the conclusions reached and the actions proposed.

CHAPTERS

Reports were received on the status of the Chapters, summarised as follows:

USA: The chapter is in being as a legal entity, with a board of directors and an advisory board. A conference to launch the Chapter is under consideration, but no date has yet been set. Funds are being sought from a number of foundations.

UK: An application has been filed for the grant of charitable status, which will enable the chapter to have a tax exempt status. A programme of activities is being put in place, including media ethics workshops, seminars, and advance planning for a major conference to be held in London in 2009. A successful conference on the Media and the Middle East was held in June in association with the Next Century Foundation.

Poland: The chapter has been established as a NGO under Polish law, and the chapter will be launched at a conference in Warsaw in December 2007. Full details will appear shortly on our web site.

Other Chapters: Work has begun to establish chapters in India and Africa.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mailing List

The current ICF database has 2700 names, of which we have e-mail addresses for 1105. These names have been collected over the years from ICF events, events attended by ICF leaders, and other encounters with interested people. The whole list has been contacted directly three times in the past 4 years. 1159 names on the list have made no reply to any of these messages. 168 people have responded positively to past appeals for financial support, including those who bought Bill Porter's book.

It was agreed that the list needed updating, and we need to acquire up to date e-mail addresses to reduce the cost of communications. A letter will be sent to all on the list, by post and/or e-mail as appropriate. The letter will give a positive message about the state of the ICF, and will ask for a positive response from those who wish to remain on our mailing list, by e-mail if at all possible. Consideration will be given to use this mailing to ask for a contribution to our funds (see Funding below). A final decision about removing names from the database will be taken after the responses from the letter have been received.

In connection with this activity consideration will be given to acquiring a more efficient e-mail management system. A standard package available through AOL is one possibility.

Bulletin

Consideration will be given to publishing a regular bulletin (short – say A5 sheet), say monthly or quarterly, to be circulated by e-mail and published on the web site.

Web site

There is a plan to update the current web site and improve its design by using the technology developed by Initiatives of Change.

FUNDING

The ICF is in urgent need of funds to support its President's activities and maintain its simple but essential central administration. It is hoped that Chapters will become self sufficient and provide surplus funds to cover administration costs. Until this source of income is established we need to raise funds directly. Several specific proposals were put forward, with commitment from individuals to take action. These include:

- Approaching foundations
- Approaching government/EU sources
- Approaching business sources
- Approaching people on our mailing list
- Running fund raising occasions (e.g. dinners) for senior media people

We are grateful for those who responded to our appeal for conference participants to make a donation to the ICF.

CAUX 2008

The ICF's presence in Caux in 2008 was discussed. More details of this will follow, but the following ideas were put forward:

- Meeting in second half of July (probably July 18-23)
- Involvement of senior media people
- Opportunity to bring together media people from conflict areas to engage in reconciliation meetings
- Opportunity to run media workshops for young journalists especially those from Eastern Europe.

ASSEMBLY

The ICF's annual Assembly was held on 17 July. The proposals identified above were discussed. William Porter, Founder President, paid tribute to Torben Krogh, ICF Vice President, who died this year.

Margaret Bonikowska, chair of our Polish Chapter, was elected a Vice President.

The Executive Committee – Bernard Marguerite (President), William Porter (Founder President), Robin Williamson (Executive Director), Hugh Nowell and Jean-Jacques Odier, were confirmed in office.



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ATTENDANCE

John	ALBERT	United Kingdom
John	BOND	Australia
Margaret	BONIKOWSKA	Poland
Aad	BURGER	Netherlands
Christine	CHANNER	United Kingdom
Simon	COHEN	United Kingdom
Joao	GONCALVES	Portugal
Annick	GUENOT	France
Christoph	HORVAY	Norway
Jane Ellzabeth	IRISH	France
Warner	IRISH	France
Sekina	JOSEPH	Malaysia
William Logan	KIRK	United Kingdom
Bernard	MARGUERITTE	France
Veronica	MORRIS	United Kingdom
William	MORRIS	United Kingdom
Emmanuel	NDEJOULE	France
Oksana	NIKOLENKO	Ukraine
Carolyn	NOWELL	United Kingdom
Hugh	NOWELL	United Kingdom
Jean-Jacques	ODIER	France
William	PORTER	France
Albert	REYNOLDS	United Kingdom
Julia	SAVCHENKO	United Kingdom
Anne Elisabeth	SUTER	Switzerland
Alick	SYTOR	Belgium
Bob	WEBB	USA
Priscilla	WILLIAMSON	United Kingdom
Robin	WILLIAMSON	United Kingdom



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IMAGES

Some pictures from a party celebrating the birthdays of our Founder President, Bill Porter, and Joanna Margueritte, wife of our President, Bernard Margueritte

