

REGISTRY OF WORLD CITIZENS

66, boulevard Vincent Auriol, 75013 Paris, France.

Board Meeting, May 3, 2003

Official Report

(12, rue des Fossés-St-Jacques, Paris Vth)

Were Present:

Daniel Durand, President

Liliane Metz-Krencker, General Secretary

Basile Ginger, Treasurer

Geneviève Charpentier, **Peter Davidse**, **Jean-Claude Loewinski**, **René Marlin**, **Claudius Schauffler**, **Dorothea Sheasby**, Board Members

Observers:

Joël Luguern & Thierry Toulon, Registry Members

Jerry Bourgeois, Henri Cainaud, Troy Davis, Bernard Henry, Didier Marchand, Bernard Muet, Jean Prédine, Jean-Michel Richard, Harold Suderman, Christa Werner, plus some fifteen other World Citizens.

Excused: Board Members Amel Djemai, Claudine Fischer, David Foncho, Andrée Gaymard-Rollet, Ursula Grattapaglia, Aimé Ruzuba Bizimwa, Jean Verstraeten.

Meeting Chairperson: Daniel Durand

Meeting Secretary: Bernard Henry.

The meeting is declared open at 09.40.

0. Remembering Guy and Renée Marchand

The President recalls that our dear friend and colleague Renée Marchand passed away on June 5, 2002, whereas her husband, Guy Marchand, had already left us nine years earlier, which makes this year the tenth anniversary of his death. The couple dedicated their life to the promotion of World Citizenship, and, of course, of World Democracy through the creation of a number of institutions -- The Peoples' Congress, the Institute for Mundialist Studies, the Mundialist Information and Press Agency, the World Solidarity Fund Against Hunger and many others.

Now that Renée died, things will never be the same for the World Citizens. During this Board Meeting, we shall prove that we can be brave enough to bring about the changes needed to continue the work Guy and Renée started over half a century ago. That would be the best tribute to pay to those beloved friends we have lost.

1. What have we achieved since the last Board Meeting?

1.1. The Executive Team

1. Fixing the Registry Headquarters

2002 and early 2003 were devoted to improve the Paris office that houses the Registry Headquarters. The building license was obtained in late December 2002 and the start of the "exterior design" took place on March 3-4, and then in early April the interior woodwork was finalized. This costed the Registry around €10,000, but the result was well worth it. The Registry office looks a lot better now and we can proudly exhibit our material there again. The Board thanks Jean-Michel Richard for conducting the bidding process, former President Jean Prédine for putting together and filing the official documents, and current President Daniel Durand for the petty work, surveillance and conduct of the overall work.

2. The Dabo Study Days (Dabo, Dept. of Moselle, France, September 27-29, 2002)

The death of Renée Marchand and other events last year

prompted Daniel Durand and Liliane Metz Krencker to convene a series of Study Days on World Citizenship. Registration officials from Switzerland, Germany and France were invited, plus the International Esperanto Center represented by Geneviève Charpentier and other mundialists in their individual capacity. During these Study Days, the participants decided to create a Committee to Support the Peoples' Congress (CSPC). The official reports are available in English and French and can be requested from the Registry.

3. The CSPC's first meeting (Dijon, France, March 15-16, 2003)

The CSPC convened for a first time to assess the status of the Peoples' Congress further to the passing of Renée Marchand, who was its Secretary. An agenda was set to call a plenary session of the Peoples' Congress (PC) in Paris for late October 2003. Changes were proposed to the Internal Regulations. The President of the Registry of World Citizens was appointed Secretary *ad interim* of the Peoples' Congress. Then again, the official report is available in English and French from the Registry.

1.2. Centers and Correspondents

(Note: This report is limited to the activities known to the Registry.)

- **Albania:** Vlore: Correspondent Adriana Gjika has translated into Albanian the promotional page entitled "A problèmes mondiaux, solutions mondiales" (Global problems require global solutions), which can now be found on the Internet.
- **Australia:** Sydney: Correspondent Christopher John Hamer has undertaken to open a Center there, with a little help from Secretary-General Liliane Metz-Krencker who spends several months each year in the country. The two organized an information meeting on World Citizenship at the Sydney Institute of International Affairs which was attended by over a hundred people. A university professor by profession, Christopher Hamer has created an Association of World Citizens at the University of New South Wales where he works, taking several of his own students aboard. At this point, a team of sixteen people make up what is now to become, sooner than later, the Sydney Center.
- **Belgium:** Jean Verstraeten, who is Correspondent for Flemish-speaking Belgium and the Netherlands, publishes a *NewsBrief* three times a year. The latest issue was published in January 2003. Jean has registered five new World Citizens this year.
- **Burkina Faso:** Ouagadougou : Correspondent Souleymane Drabo has registered five new World Citizens too. In March, Souleymane took part in a demonstration against the war in Iraq.
- **Brazil:** Muriel Saragoussi, a Registry Correspondent and Peoples' Congress Delegate, has left Manaus for Brasília. For the next four years, she will be a close aide to the new Brazilian Environment Minister, Marina Silva. Every good wish, Muriel -- but now, we regret, you may have to cut short your commitment to the Registry for some time.
Ursula Grattapaglia, who is a Peoples' Congress Deputy Delegate and our Correspondent in Alto Paraíso de Goiás, has registered five new World Citizens and wishes to create a World House there, with a place for both UNESCO and the Registry. This should be made possible by a grant from the Rotary Club.
- **Canada:** The Canadian Registration Center, headed by Dorothea Sheasby, has published Issues 11 and 12 of its *Newsletter*. The Center Board meets ten times a year and organizes regular group meetings. On September 21, 2002, the Center held its General Assembly and provided the Paris Headquarters with its activity record for the July 2001-July 2002 period.
- **Congo (Dem. Rep. of):** In *Kalougué*, South Kivu, twelve new

World Citizens have been registered. Yet the position of World Citizens remains anything but safe due to the insecurity in the Great Lakes area.

In *Kinshasa*, Correspondent Faustin Sheta Mikayeleye has undertaken to revive the local Registration Center. Several meetings have already taken place and Faustin has registered four new World Citizens.

- **Switzerland:** In *French-speaking Switzerland*, the Ogens Registration Center, created after the 2002 General Assembly, has registered a few new World Citizens. Its members took part in the October 2002 antinuclear demonstration of Strasbourg, France, and they have been in several demonstrations against the war in Iraq. The Center has launched a survey involving all World Citizens registered in its area of activity. A meeting is to take place on September 13, 2003, with Secretary-General Liliane Metz-Krencker in attendance on behalf of the Registry.

In *German-speaking Switzerland*, Claudius Schaffler, our Correspondent in Steffisburg, is also President of an association, *Schweizer WeltbürgerInnen* (World Citizens of Switzerland). The association now has a Web site of its own, www.worldcitizens.ch. "The World Citizens of Switzerland have been very active this year," says Claudius, "especially against the war in Iraq. We started a petition that ended up signed by 6,000 people." Claudius has also registered three new World Citizens this year.

- **Cameroon:** Peter Mbunta, our Douala Correspondent for English-speaking Cameroon, was arrested by the police during a meeting of World Citizens in September 2002. We have no idea why he was arrested, and our attempts to reach other World Citizens in the Douala area have proved fruitless. Now the question is whether we should report Peter's "disappearance" to Amnesty International or even create a "reaction network" of our own, which we could use when World Citizens "disappear" like this. Joël Luguern and Didier Marchand pledge to work on it.

- **Germany:** Inge Grzyb, our Correspondent in Magdeburg, in the former East Germany, has registered four new World Citizens. Both she and Hamburg Correspondent Barthold Olbers attended the Dabo Study Days. Furthermore, newcomer Christa Werner, also from Hamburg, says she would like to help the Registry. We sure will find you something to do, Christa.

- **France:** Registry Treasurer and Center President Basile Ginger, Center Secretary-General Joël Luguern and Center Board Members Thierry Toulon and Didier Marchand had to rise and fight after the death of Renée Marchand. In the end, they managed to register as many as 220 new World Citizens and have the quarterly newsletter *Citoyens du Monde* go out on a regular basis. **Well done, friends!**

- **Ghana:** Accra Correspondent Karl Kpodo has registered seven new World Citizens.

- **India:** Dr. Leo Rebello, who lives in Mumbai, was appointed Registry Correspondent on August 3, 2002. He was invited to attend this Board Meeting but had to cancel at the last moment for health reasons.

- **Italy:** Francesco d'Ingiullo, who lives in Frisa, was appointed Registry Correspondent on February 3, 2002. He has already printed and uploaded several documents in Italian.

- **Japan:** Kobe Correspondent Masaji Ie has provided the Paris Headquarters with the local Center's contribution and with Issues 41 and 42 of his *Newsletter* published in both Japanese and English.

- **Comoros:** A World Citizen event there resulted in the registration of four new World Citizens. Our prospective Correspondent there is not presently available to assume the post. We are continuing with our contacts there.

- **Luxembourg:** Goulнора Soultanova, a native of formerly Soviet Uzbekistan and a classical musician by profession, was appointed Registry Correspondent during the Dabo Study Days. Along with *FCE* editor Joseph Peschon, her husband, she has produced new documents for the Registry.

- **International Esperanto Center:** The Center's Head Geneviève Charpentier was too unwell to attend any Esperanto Congresses this year. She has registered only six new World Citizens.

- **Paris Headquarters:** In addition to its usual administrative

work, the Registry office has become very much an information point for this multiethnic neighborhood of eastern Paris. Since it is very near to the famous Pitié-Salpêtrière Hospital and stands just below the aerial subway, people get attracted to it, thanks to this new and costly "exterior design" they like to come and pay a visit.

2. FINANCES

The 2002 Financial Record

Registry Treasurer Basile Ginger introduces the 2002 financial record.

(all amounts in euros)

INCOME

Individual Contributions	3,126.23
Contributions from the Centers	291.76
Contribution from the French Pacifist Union	2,744.09
Cards issued by the Registry	500.78
Cards sold to the Centers	1,769.00
Interests	587.74
Sales	53.30
Window refund	628.32
TOTAL	9,711.22

OUTCOME

Clerical activities	2,180.00
Travel	1,546.28
Office equipment	49.18
Printing	365.51
Stamps	401.80
Phone & Internet bills	523.65
Financial fees	15.22
Registry office condo fees	782.34
Registry office improvement	3,750.50
Insurance, electricity bills, taxes	1,042.91
Purchases	8.00
Dabo Study Days	259.00
General Assembly room rent	276.49
TOTAL	11,200.88

GENERAL RESULT: - 1,489.66

3. OUR COMMON INVOLVEMENT

3.1. How much should the World Citizen Card cost ?

Since the 1990 General Assembly, the World Citizen Card has cost €12.20, formerly FRF 80. But the ever-growing inflation and transition to the euro allows us to a re-examination of the card price, possibly up to a "rounded" figure of €5. The Board unanimously agrees to open a "transition period" up to January 2004 for the definitive price raise.

The President, the Secretary-General, and the Treasurer – recall that reduced prices remain available in situations of national poverty or personal financial difficulties. It is further recalled that the Registry now also issues Provisional Registration Certificates which make it possible for those less-privileged applicants to pay for their card by installments spread over up to three years.

3.2. What should be the Card's format ?

Most of those attending seem to find the current format satisfactory. Nevertheless, a cardboard card will always be vulnerable ; moreover, we are told the current format is no longer wallet-friendly . It is therefore proposed that we produce an experimental, wallet-sized laminated card, although this may have to be a bit more costly (e. g. €20). We could also reformat our existing cards as they are issued.

No formal decision on this is made, though.

3.3. Creating a World Citizen network

Francesco d'Ingiullo, our Correspondent in Frisa, Italy, suggests that we create a network linking all interested World Citizens together, which would enable them to share ideas and experiences related to World Citizenship, as well as to trade accommodating services and other offers. A moderator is thus sought – and Peter Davidse, volunteers for the position and requests a one-year-and-a-half period to get the network going.

3.4. Listing our personal skills

Liliane Metz-Krencker suggests that we create a Registry-wide list which would include all the different skills and fields of expertise available to the Registry. Such a list could even operate in conjunction with a World Citizen network. We shall now be working on this.

4. The Registry in Print

It has been three years since the last issue of the *Registry Bulletin* went out, entirely written, edited, published and distributed by the Daniel Durand alone. We need to resurrect the *Bulletin* and find a new editor. The position is offered to Bernard J. Henry, who accepts it and pledges to engage in the editorial process as soon as he has received the articles that Daniel Durand has gathered for a brand new issue.

5. The Peoples' Congress

The President recalls the Study Days of Dabo and Dijon (see 1.1 & 2.3). The CSPC has proposed that a new Peoples' Congress (PC) session be held in Paris in late October 2003. The PC Delegates have received their marching orders and replies are starting to flow in. The issue of finances also has to be brought up. To date, the French Center has carried the entire financial weight of the PC and its latest sessions. Our late friends the Marchands literally died for the PC and its continuation. Now we must restore a viable *modus operandi* that enables the Congress to be fully autonomous again. Peter Davidse suggests that the PC be financed by the Registry at the global level and not by this or that national center from this day on. For now, a third of the contributions received from the various Centers goes to the PC.

French Center Secretary-General Joël Luguern further suggests launching a subscription in France through the Center bulletin.

6. Plans & Miscellaneous

6.1. When the Appeal of 13 Turns Forty

This will be in March 2006. We ought to consider some “big event” to commemorate the initial issuance. Should we renew the Appeal? Any other ideas?

6.2. A List of Mundializations

The mundialization concept was created by Robert Sarrazac. In the early years of the Registry, Roger Volpellière and Guy Marchand had drawn an exhaustive list of the thousand vicinities and institutions which had been “mundialized” since 1949, when the French town of Cahors opened the drive. The list has since been updated and is now available online on the Registry Web site.

This list is part of our worldwide effort to create a world constituency for a future World Constituent Assembly. Now the question is: Who should legitimately manage the list? No conclusive answer can be found, however, and the issue shall thus be postponed to a later date for examination.

6.3. A Global Parliament

Liliane Metz-Krencker and Bernard J. Henry have undertaken to translate into French the book written by our Sydney Correspondent, Christopher John Hamer. “A World parliament”.

The meeting is adjourned.

We have not been able to fully finalize the agenda. The President closes the meeting, leaving some pending questions not requesting a vote to be included in the afternoon debate.

End of meeting at 12:45

<http://www.recim.org>

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