

REPORT ON THE MEETING OF THE IIW WORKING GROUP - REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

Held on Monday 7 July 2008
At the Congress Graz, Austria

*(Note: The **WG-RA** documents referred to in the report are available through the CCIW)*

1 Apologies

D. Shackleton gave his regret

2 Adoption of the draft agenda (**WG-RA-199-08**)

The agenda was approved.

3 Membership of WGRA

The chair will review the membership of this working group going forward

4 Adoption of the draft minutes of the Meeting held on 18 January 2008 (**WG-RA- 195r1-08**)

The minutes were approved.

5 Actions from Previous Meeting Not Covered on this Agenda (**WG-RA-200-08**)

Nothing of significance to report

6 Review of the IIW Business Plan

6.1 Update on Business Plan and new opportunities

C. Smallbone gave a brief update on the IIW business plan. A presentation will be sent out to the members regarding the value of certification of personnel and companies.

6.2 Update IIW Project "To Improve the Global Quality of Life Through the Optimum Use of Welding Technology" (**WG-RA-203-08**)

C. Smallbone gave a brief presentation on a workshop on Thursday afternoon.

7. WG RA Business Plan and Operational Action Plan (**WG-RA-190r1-08**)

The chair gave a brief report on the RA Strategic plan. A German delegate indicated that in Europe they found that there are 1.2 million Full Time jobs in Germany within welding (including NDE)...the largest amount of welding people in Europe are in Italy, second is in Germany.

8. Objective A: Promote the holding of IIW supported events throughout the regions of the world (**WG-RA-196r1-08**)

8.1 Report on Brazil, Sao Paulo: 14-16 May 2008

A short report was presented on this congress

8.2 Planned and future International Congresses (short reports from each planned congress were given)

China, Tianjin: 10-13 October 2008

Nigeria: 4-6 March 2009

Iran: November/December 2009

Slovakia: 12 or 19 October 2009

Israel: January 2010

Thailand: 25-27 February 2010

Tunisia: March 2010

Malaysia: October 2010

Vietnam: Late 2010

Mexico: June 2010

Indonesia: Late 2010

Kuwait: Pending membership

9. Objective B: Introduce the IIW WeldCare programme for take up by developing countries

9.1 Technology Innovation Workshops (B2.2)

- Greece (this workshop helped convince Turkey to apply for IIW membership)
- China (this is a possibility going forward)

9.2 National and regional networks – Technology Support Centres and Educational Support Centres (B3)

The SEENet (Southern Eastern Europe Network is working well)

9.3 Champions of WeldCare (B4) (**WG-RA-183r1-08**)

Nothing of significance to report.

9.4 Aid Agencies and update on White Paper (B5, B7)

It was noted that aid agencies might be able to provide a letter of support. It was asked that each member country consider this.

9.5 Image of Welding Task Group (B8) (**WG-RA-201-08**)

The chair provided a quick overview of the work going on in the USA with this issue.

9.6 Awards Recognition Task Group (B9) (**WG-RA-198-08**)

The chair provided an overview of awards given out in Australia and suggested this is something other member countries might want to consider

10. Objective C: Promote and market IIW in different regions of the world

10.1 Marketing promotional plan

Nothing of significance to report

10.2 Success Stories **(WG-RA-202-08)**

An article from the USA was approved to post on the IIW website

10.3 Promotion of IIW Qualification and Certification

The workshop on Thursday was highlighted to address this.

10.4 Prospective member negotiations **(RD120 and RD121)**

- Montenegro
- Kuwait
- Bosnia
- Colombia
- Other

11. Objective D: Harmonise IIW efforts with other organisations' efforts in each region

11.1 WorldSkills MOU - Report on WorldSkills International Competition September 1-6, 2009, Calgary Canada (D5)

The writer gave a brief overview of the upcoming World Skills Competition and invited all to attend.

12. Close 14:00

Douglas R. Luciani
Delegate