

CIM/LC-1988

Paris, June 9, 2010

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

To all members of the IMC,

I am pleased to send you herewith the next informative letter with recent news on the IMC and its activities, further to the meeting of the Executive Board in Vienna, on April 18-20, which was preceded by the 1st European Forum on Music organized by the European Music Council. This very successful conference highlighted 'Musical Diversity' as a theme, diversity in genres of music, in the history of music, in the creation and performance of music worldwide, through the musics that are brought to our countries and cities by new incoming citizens, and last but not least, in the way we get access to and participate in music.

You can find detailed information on this conference on www.emc-imc.org. The event was strongly affected by the problems caused by the volcanic ashes from Iceland. Quite a number of delegates and speakers could not reach Vienna (in time), so that some speeches had to be read by substitutes, and those who were there had to improvise a lot to leave Vienna by train or by car. Also a few Board members could not make it to Vienna. Nevertheless, those who attended the Board meeting were highly motivated to reach results and decisions in a very positive and constructive way.

The preparation for the next World Forum on Music in 2011 takes further shape. The work force is now in full speed to a gathering in Tallinn (Estonia) from September 26th until October 2nd. Please keep these dates penciled in your schedules. Our host is already preparing a very attractive musical program, with staged performances, symphonic and choral works, chamber music, Gregorian chant, traditional music, folk music, media arts, electronic music; performed by professional musicians, young artists and through youth projects; at various locations in and around the city. The Board endorsed the recommendations of the working group on content for the overall theme 'Music & Social Change' as well as for the following thematic areas:

Education (formal, informal, non-formal, e-learning, the multi-task musician)

New technology

Composition/performance

Development programmes

Youth's perception

The financial position of the IMC has improved and the cash flow is relatively stable. The year 2009 ended with a positive result which reduces further the 'accumulated' deficit from the past. On behalf of the Board, I wish to thank those members who have reacted to the request of the Board to pay the membership fee before the end of March. Thanks to your payments, IMC had a higher income in dues than in previous years over the same period. Let me strongly encourage those who haven't paid yet to do so now!

The next board meeting will take place in Africa, in Douala (Cameroon) from November 14th to 20th; connected to this meeting is the African Musics Market *Le Kolatier*. As far as can be recalled from the IMC history, this will be the first meeting of an official IMC organ to take place in Africa.

Lupwishi Mbuyamba will organize on this occasion as many meetings as possible, with current and potential members in Africa as well as with musical authorities. Board members will actively participate in seminars, workshops and the like. This meeting will show how important Africa is for the IMC and we appreciate Africa's active participation in all its activities.

A small committee from the board, together with former board members Peter Rantasa and Franz Patay, and the Secretary General met a representative of the TV-production company Hey-U to discuss the feasibility of a joint project with the IMC to create a renewed Music World Award connected with a televised/live broadcast public event in Vienna.

Preparations were made to start the application process for the Musical Rights Awards, to be presented at the WFM 2011. It was decided to keep the structure as much as possible in the format of the inaugural 2009 edition. The 2011 ceremony will offer an opportunity for winners to present their activities.

The Board was informed about the establishment of a Music Sector Development office by the Finnish Music Council to serve the needs of Finnish music organizations interested in realizing development projects. This office will work in close cooperation with the IMC Music Sector Development Programme Task Force.

Furthermore, it was agreed to start an intense campaign to increase the visibility of the IMC; to convey the value and the message of music globally. Each target group - members, members of members, media, sponsors, public authority, (creative) industry, funders – should be approached in a differentiated way, whilst the content and its key message should remain the same.

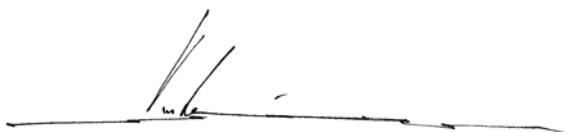
The Board accepted a new national music council for Bulgaria, the Union of Bulgarian Musicians and Dancers. It took also note of the new members admitted by the European Music Council: "Europe Jazz Network" as regional music organization, and the "Association for the Promotion of the Music of the Mediterranean" as specialised organisation.

With regard to regional cooperation, I should like to mention the Board's intention to work with the Arab Academy of Music towards the creation of an Arab Regional Music Council.

The Board meeting was followed by a meeting of the Working Group "Membership" which studied case by case the plans of those national music councils considered as being "in development".

The Executive Board really hopes that you appreciate its activities and the way we communicate with you, among others through this kind of letter. It is an honour to serve you for the sake of the musics of the world.

Sincerely yours, and with kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping strokes that form a stylized name, likely 'Frans de Ruiter'. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line that spans the width of the text area.

Frans de Ruiter,
President