

Executive Committee and Council meetings held at the end of April

May 2008

Hosted by the American Translators Association (ATA), the FIT executive organs met in Alexandria, Virginia, USA on 25–27 April 2008. Two Council members participated via the Internet, a first for FIT.

New memberships: New candidates for Regular membership, to be ratified at the Statutory Congress: the Federation of Translators and Interpreters of Macau; the Iraqi Translators' Association (ITA); and the Romanian Translators Association. New candidate Associate member of FIT: Association des traducteurs et interprètes professionnels du Congo (ATIPCO). New Observer member of FIT: Egyptian Translators Association (EGYTA). Membership inquiries were received from Krasnoyarsk Territory Guild of Translators and Interpreters, Russia, and Kostanay Professional Translators' Association, Kazakhstan Republic. There was also a request for advice on how to form an association.

Strategic planning process: A thorough analysis of the questionnaire responses was presented to Council and a draft proposal for a detailed Action Plan for 2008–2013 was discussed. The process, with the collated responses and results, will be documented in a booklet and distributed to the FIT member organizations before the Statutory Congress.

The current **Executive Director** will be leaving FIT, at the latest in October 2008.

Review of the **FIT statutes** continued. FIT member bodies are invited to send their suggestions for amendments by e-mail to secretariat@fit-ift.org with **FIT Bylaws** in the subject header.

FIT ID card: Nearly 700 cards have been sold. Renewals are occurring at a steady pace. The International Federation of Journalist (IFJ) has expressed its support for the FIT ID card and is willing to have a suitable mention of this added to the card. The IFJ has also proposed to include FIT ID cardholders in the scope of its international safety activities; this possibility is now being studied.

Upgrading of the **FIT website** continues. The electronic depository is being expanded. Other new features to improve member services are currently in the making.

International Translation Day 2008: The topic is terminology and this year's theme is *Terminology: Words Matter – Terminologie: des mots qui parlent*. A press release has been circulated and is posted on the FIT website.

The **FIT Translation Technology Committee** has reported on the invitation to participate in its online survey on computer tools. The Committee will soon contact the FIT member organizations willing to participate in the survey.

FIT visibility: Since the Executive Committee meeting in late January 2008, FIT was represented at or has been invited to the following meetings, conferences and events:

- A meeting between a FIT representative and an IFJ representative in Quebec City, Canada in February 2008
- Translation World, the Conference of AILIA – the Language Industry Association of Canada, Montreal, Canada, 11–13 March 2008
- European Master's in Translation Conference, Brussels, Belgium, 14 March 2008
- Arab Thought Foundation: The Third International Translation Conference, Beirut, 4-6 October 2008
www.translationatf.org
- UNESCO, September 2008: 60th anniversary of the UN Declaration on Human Rights
- Terminology Week, a series of events in Outaouais region, Canada, 1–10 October 2008,
<http://www.translationbureau.gc.ca>

Upcoming FIT events

9th International Forum, FIT Committee for Court Interpreting and Legal Translation and the University of Tampere, Tampere, Finland, 29 May–1 June 2008; <http://vi01n247.members.eunet.at/tampere/>

FIT World Congress 2008: The dates are: **Statutory Congress**, 2–3 August 2008 at the Shanghai Lansheng Hotel; **Open Congress**, 4–7 August 2008; see www.fit2008.org. Over 1,300 have already registered for the Open Congress.

FIT Prizes: The nominations are in; decisions will be announced during the Awards Ceremony at the Open Congress.

Next FIT meetings: The **pre-Statutory** Executive Committee meeting will be on 31 July 2008 and the Council meeting on 1 August 2008 at the Shanghai Lansheng Hotel.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF TRANSLATORS