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flash

January 2009

FIT Executive Committee meeting December 2008

The FIT Executive Committee (EC) met at the offices of the Société française des Traducteurs (SFT) in Paris, France, on 6 and 7 December 2008 after attending FIT Europe's General Assembly. Eighteen observers participated in the EC meeting.

FIT Europe's General Assembly

Marion Boers thanked FIT Europe's Steering Committee for the invitation to attend their General Assembly as observers and expressed the hope for further fruitful cooperation between FIT and its European Regional Centre. The General Meeting was well attended, thus reflecting the growing interest in, and support for, the activities of FIT Europe. The declared goal of the new Steering Committee (SC) is to continue and complete the projects initiated by the previous SC and to take up any new projects proposed by the member associations. The EC accepted details of the new Steering Committee of FIT Europe to submit to the FIT Council for ratification. Its members are as follows (listed in alphabetical order):

Patricia Alarcon, CBTIP, Belgium (Vice-Chair)
Cristiana Coblis, ATR, Romania (Webmaster)
Eyvor Fogarty, ITI, UK (Secretary)
Reiner Heard, ATICOM, Germany (Chair)
Liisa Laakso-Tammisto, SKTL, Finland (Treasurer)
Kevin Quirk, STF, Norway
Javier Sancho Duran, ASETRAD, Spain

FIT Secretariat

The EC decided to continue its cooperation with OTTIAQ while limiting the term of the contract to two years with automatic renewal for two further years by mutual consent. Véronique Saint-Pierre is FIT's new Executive Director.

FIT Corporate Identity

The Council has commenced a process to register the FIT logo and a set of guidelines for the use of the FIT corporate identity is being drawn up to ensure uniform usage across all FIT entities. The first draft is expected in April 2009.

Communication Policy

With the exception of statutory documentation that must be sent by post, the EC aims to develop electronic communication with members. More detailed information will be forthcoming in due course. Each member association will also be invited to appoint a FIT liaison officer.

Strategic Planning Process

The EC confirmed the deadlines in the 2009 Action Plan, which has been sent to all members and which includes new mechanisms for rapid Website updating, diffusion of information on all FIT activities (of regional centres, committees, member associations, etc.), possible creation of member discussion forums, review of FIT publications and help with the establishment of professional associations. Final arrangements were discussed.

Finances and Visibility

The EC devoted a large part of its meeting to consideration of advertising in FIT publications and on the FIT website. A subcommittee was appointed to draw up guidelines and principles. Moreover, the EC will examine how

to attach greater benefits to the FIT ID card and another subcommittee will focus on increasing FIT's visibility and influence.

FIT visibility (November 2008 – February 2009)

17 November 2008: AILIA (Association de l'industrie de la langue/The Language Industry Association) – Canadian Language Industry Showcase 2008 - Gatineau (Canada) - <http://secure.ailia.ca> (FIT representative: Michel Parent)

8 – 13 December 2008: MAAYA (World Network for Linguistic Diversity) and Unión Latina - World Congress on Specialized Translation – Havana (Cuba) - <http://dtil.unilat.org/cmte2008> (FIT representative: Silvana Marchetti)

21 – 26 February 2009: Salzburg Global Seminar - Traduttore Traditore? Recognizing and Promoting the Critical Role of Translation in a Global Culture – Salzburg (Austria) - <http://www.salzburgseminar.org/2009> (FIT representatives: Marion Boers and Miriam Lee)

Regional Centres

The EC wishes to maintain better contact with regional centres and to promote the establishment of new centres. At the same time, the EC wondered if the standardization of the names of the regional centres might strengthen their relationship with FIT. This matter will be taken up with the steering committees.

Committees

The EC agreed on the creation of various new committees and retention of current standing committees. With the help of the chairpersons and member associations, the composition of all FIT committees for 2008-2011 should be finalized soon.

New members

Queries regarding FIT membership have been received from the following associations and are being processed:

Korean Association of Translation studies (KATS)

Moscow Lomonosov State University, School of Translation and Interpretation (Faculty)

The Australian literary translators association (AALTRA)

Publications

The EC considered the format of the FIT publications, including the question of translation of content. The idea of creating a pool of volunteer translators will be revisited as a possible solution, but will need careful analysis. It was decided that the *FIT Flash* should appear more regularly as a news bulletin for members.

International Translation Day 2009

The EC accepted the theme proposed by SFT (Société française des Traducteurs) for ITD 2009: *Working Together*. A press release will be circulated shortly.

Meetings

The EC will meet in Shenzhen (China) on 25 and 26 April 2009. The full Council will meet in Istanbul (Turkey) in October 2009. Exact dates will be communicated as soon as possible.

Happy New Year – Happy Year of the Ox