

## Dear Member and Partner Organisations

The ERYICA Governing Board held the second meeting for this year in Paris, 29-31 May. The meeting was hosted by the CIDJ. The meeting agenda was full of errands. Many topics were discussed and important decisions were taken.

We hope that you will distribute this Governing Board Bulletin around your national network so that as many of the local youth information centres as possible would get the information.



*Governing Board (Mick and Jorge were unfortunately hindered to participate to meeting), Davide and Antonio De Marco in Paris 2008 toasted with glass of champagne for the EC framework partnership agreement for years 2008-2010*

## SECRETARIAT REPORT

The new visual identity of ERYICA is being implemented: business cards, letterheads, online systems were adapted to the new logo and visual language. A new system of invoicing, automated and data-based has been adopted. Revised versions of Standing Orders and Statutes enable readers to find easily the needed paragraphs. An online system for sharing and archiving documents, that are being uploaded, has been created. Reliable and cheap online communication tools are exploited thoroughly in order to enhance the secretariat effectiveness and keep costs down. A systematic presence at national partners' events was pursued. All emails, sent and received, are backed up and stored online.

## FINANCES AND OPERATING GRANT

We are very happy to confirm that the application prepared by Davide and Joelle to EC for the three-year framework partnership agreement was successful. ERYICA will receive operating grant 2008-2010, up to 35 000 euros /year. This grant will make possible for example to have second post in the ERYICA secretariat and to work forward with actions in the ERYICA working program 2007-2009 and beyond.

The financial situation for ERYICA generally looks better if we compare it to last year. Before the meeting in Paris we had received almost 75% of the membership fees for this year and we expect to receive the last fees in near future. In this positive trend it was also good to have a preliminary debate about the budget for year 2009.

**PARTNERS AND STAKEHOLDERS**

Council of Europe invited ERYICA to participate 8th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible of Youth in October 2008 in Kiev, Davide will represent us in this occasion. The general theme of conference will be "The future of the Council of Europe youth policy". Other ERYICA and CoE co-operation activities for this year will be a "Starters Kit" for Youth Information Services and a State-of-Art of Youth Information in Europe - report. These both actions and projects will be finished before end of the year 2008 with financial support from CoE.

Marc, Alexandra and Davide met Mr. Pierre Mairesse from EC in March. The purpose of the meeting was to present to Mr. Mairesse the changes, new developments and strategic priorities within ERYICA and to discuss possible cooperation with the European Commission. The meeting was held in a very positive atmosphere and we encountered a lot of interest on our work and possible input by Mr. Mairesse, who also invited ERYICA to come forward with further project-ideas.

In November 2008 there will be three networks (ERYICA, EYCA, Eurodesk) seminar in France. The goal of the seminar will be to discuss common needs and development ideas for common tools and projects for partners at local, regional, national and European level concerning information for young people in a European context. In July a preparatory meeting of the three networks will take place - after that we will inform you in detail about dates, topics and ways of participation for this meeting.

**CO-OPERATION AND PARTNER ORGANISATIONS**

Governing Board discussed about clarifying the status of co-operating and partner organisations in ERYICA. All -co-operation organisations will be asked to apply for co-operation organisation status as foreseen in ERYICA standing orders.

**ACTIVITIES****Training task force**

Alexandra, Johan and Mick responsible for training issues in Governing Board will in the near future send out an invitation to all members to nominate experts for the training task force. Task of this group will be developing ERYICA training issues, e.g MBTC, and other training programme for future.

**Study visit to Varna**

We still are waiting for the confirmation from EC if the study visit to Varna will be supported from Youth in Action project. As soon as we receive the confirmation Davide will inform partner organisations for this project the next steps.

**Future projects**

Marc and Davide are preparing applications for Youth in Action program 4.5 calls for proposals. More information on these projects will follow later.



**WEB DEVELOPMENT**

The web development project progresses well. Antonio De Marco (IT consultant) presented the background arguments for the web development and the latest versions of [eryica.org](http://eryica.org) and [infomobil.org](http://infomobil.org) web pages. After discussions and feedback with Governing Board Antonio will finish the development work and the new [www.eryica.org](http://www.eryica.org) sites will be published 21 June.

Infomobil seminar, organised in Rotterdam by the Stichting Jong Rotterdam with support of Youth in Action programme, was succesful. More than 20 Infomobil editors tested the new CMS for Infomobil, discussed about the content, common themes and what kind of information youngsters look for on Infomobil. Also the target groups of Infomobil and marketing of the service were discussed. More information on Infomobil future and next steps will follow soon.

**NEXT GOVERNING BOARD MEETING**

The Board will have the next meeting in the end of September. If your organisation has suggestions or questions that should be dealt with by the Governing Board, please feel free to contact any of us before 15 September 2008.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2008**

After some preparations we are happy to announce that GA 2008 will be organised in Montenegro, by Forum MNE. The dates will be 11 – 14 December. A more detailed email will reach you in the midst of July, with programme, venue, application data, costs and delegation form, as well as a detailed travel guide, including suggested itineraries and best travel options from the main European cities, prepared jointly by Forum MNE and the ERYICA Secretariat. Have a nice summer time.

**On the behalf of the ERYICA Governing Board,**

Mika Pietilä