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Message from IIC

Dear reader, the International Interchange Committee (IIC) is proud to present the new newsletter after some years of absence. Finally the committee has found someone with a real interest in publishing the IIC newsletter – Ronit - and I can assure you she is pushing us hard to get articles. You can reach her via iic.editor@cisv.org. If you have any comments, suggestions or articles you would like to see published in here, please send them to her. Our mandate is to keep CISVers worldwide informed in terms of what is happening with the Interchange Program and support NICs and LICs in terms of preparing the programme. Our idea is to publish the newsletter every odd month. What can you expect to read? Reports and success stories from various interchanges, information on what IIC is working on, a collection of questions directed to IIC and our answers, and some useful hints on which topics are coming up for you as NIC/LIC during the next two months as well as a reminder on deadlines. In this issue you will find two great reports, one from Brasil and one from Egypt, and an introduction to all IIC committee members. Further you can find a short report on IIC's work during the AIM 2007 in Colombia and a reminder on NIC/LIC tasks in October and November. We hope you continue to enjoy reading and that you may find useful information to help with your Interchange Program! Hugs from the IIC! **Frank Steffen, Germany.**

IIC @ AIM 2007

Since some of our committee members had other duties only a team of 5 met during pre AIM. Heinz joined us from time to time. Don't trust the inscription of the picture; it's IIC – not IJBC. Despite the fears I had, the small group worked well. We were able to recruit several new committee members and to redefine the committee work throughout the year. This allowed us to pick up new tasks. Some of those were the ones we often wanted to start but never found the resources.

So let's first welcome the new people in our committee: Lena from Sweden – working with Monica and EDR on gender issues and child development, Eileen from USA and Gerhard from Denmark – being ReCos and playing an important role in training, Christine from France - working with Ayat on themes in Interchanges, Ronit from Israel – the editor of our newsletter, and Paola from Colombia – working with Frank on training presentations. Throughout this and the next issues of the newsletter they will introduce themselves.

We finally set up a team of five Regional Coaches (ReCo), who will start working with the respective NICs next October. Their main task is to support and train NICs. They will send out monthly reminders on what needs to be done on that specific month and where the necessary resources can be found. We are especially supporting countries who hold interchanges every other year, promotional associations and new NICs;

**„... Communication,
Communication,
Communication ...“**

Heinz Boehnke, Canada

we felt that direct IIC support can make NIC's life easier. In order to support this, we are going to develop a collection of tutorials on specific topics which we will delivered throughout the upcoming interchange year.

Vickie and Monica spent most of the AIM with Kiran from IO, the Educational Officer. Last year we started to re-think the evaluation process. We found out that our Evaluation Form does not evaluate what we were looking for - the Educational Goals of the Interchange Program. This year all USA interchanges used a first draft of the Evaluation Tool. With their comments and Kiran's support for a unified evaluation approach, IIC developed a final Planning and Evaluation Tool, which we will roll-out beginning of next year. From now on we discontinue the use of the Interchange Evaluation Form. As you might have realized, most of its content is now included in other forms, such as DPAF and PDRF.

The drawback of this year's interchanges was the cancellation rate. Almost all of them were cancelled due to a lack of participants. Some of those were late cancellations. Cancellations do harm the reputation of CISV in the other chapter. Also, this year IIC agreed on a few interchanges with four delegates per delegation. The reports showed that this number is too small, so we will keep the minimum number of 6 delegates per delegation. IIC feels that more commitment is needed throughout the negotiations process between both

involved chapters. This year we are going to ask all interchanges to send us their agreement of the interchange. We are going to issue the changed Interchange Agreement Form and some explanations throughout October.

Further we want to review the Matchbox Process. In November the IIC will work on suggestions and discuss the ones that have already been brought to our attention. We are looking for countries/NICs willing to discuss the future changes with us.

Let me finish this article by thanking our hosts of this AIM – Canadolombia. It was a great AIM, just the right number of side attractions and a good working atmosphere for committees. All our plans for 2007-2008 can be found here:

<http://resources.cisv.org/docs/main?action=document.view&id=1081>

Frank Steffen, Germany

Introduction to the IIC members

Hi, my name is Frank and I am the chair of the IIC - International Interchange Committee. I joined the committee in 1998 and became chair in 2005. My primary role is to keep the committee running, work together with Jay from IO on administration, forms and the matchbox process.

Further I have a special interest in ensuring the content and quality of the program. In the upcoming year I would



Abbreviations:

IIC	International Interchange Committee
IO	International Office
LIC	Local Interchange Chairperson
NIC	National Interchange Chairperson

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like to work together with the Asian-Pacific National Associations as a Regional Coach (ReCo). I have held two great workshops in that region during the last two years.

I joined CISV in 1990 and was active as an Interchange Leader, Local Interchange Contact (LIC) in Hamburg, my home town, and National Interchange Contact (NIC) for Germany. Besides that I have done some other CISV programs, such as Village, Summer camp, Seminar camp, Local work and Youth meeting, in various positions: leader, staff, and camp director. I enjoyed all programs a lot and I always felt rewarded when I saw the development in and the smiles from the participants at the end of the program. For about five years I did National Leader training for Interchange and summer camp here in Germany and I can say, as a NIC at that time, I loved to work with all leaders before the program. Since 1998 I am Buddy for Poland. So it was great for me to see them becoming a full member of CISV in 2006.

In my private life I have a master degree in Computer Science and Business Administration. I work in the field of software development as a project manager. Since work demands more of my time, I have decided to step down as chair at AIM 2008 and the committee suggested Cynthia to take over then. I wish for some exciting Interchanges this year.

My name is Heinz and next to my 4 children – Anna, Armin, Alexander & Anita – CISV & IC is definitely one of the best things



that has happened to me. I became involved in IC in 1989 when Anna had an IC with USA. and have been involved with CISV and IC on all levels ever since. The rewards of seeing young people's smiles, increased confidence, personnel growth, increased attitudes towards understanding other cultures and a sense of global worth have given me so many great memories and a reason to continue in CISV. Many years ago I had an opportunity to talk with our founder, Doris Allen. I had just started as NIC for Canada and wanted to know her thoughts on the Interchange programme with respect to the other CISV programmes. Her words to me have kept me deeply involved in Interchange since 1994..... Doris said to me " Interchange allows you to get personal". Over the 6 years that I was chair of IIC, I became friends with many CISVers from around the world. IC did afford me the opportunity to get to know many of you on a very personal level. I am a better person for having known you. Thank You. Okay, enough mush ! As I said before I became involved in CISV in 1989. Since then I have been involved on the local level as chapter fundraiser, camp co-coordinator & organizer, LIC, treasurer and vice-chair. On the national level I have been NIC, IBM95 organizer,

AIM07 co-coordinator, NBM organizer and have sat on the national board. At the international level I have been on the IFC, IIC & chair of IIC. By trade I am a Professional Engineer with a Masters in Project Management but my day job is owner/operator/manager of industrial/commercial/residential rental properties. It is this day job and profession that has given me the time to contribute to this CISV that I love so much. I live just outside of Kitchener-Waterloo (which is home to the second largest Oktoberfest in the world) close to a small village called Mannheim. I live on the edge of a forest in a century stone house protected by my two cats and a long driveway. Coincidentally, I live 1 km away from the very first house my parents and I stayed at upon immigrating to Canada in the '50s..... small world isn't it ? If you are ever in my part of the world, drop me a line..... all CISVers, especially ICers are always welcome at 4Pines.

Hey, My Name is Ayat Abdel Mooty (aka



Titi). I am the President of CISV Egypt as well as the IC coordinator in the board. I have been a member of the International Interchange Committee since 2004; I am currently a full member and have been assigned several roles to help enhance the quality and efficiency of the Interchange program. I am also the

Coach of the Middle Eastern and African region. My role in general is to maintain contact with NA Hosts and cooperate with NAs to improve the quality of the Interchange program; We work on the number of people involved in an Interchange, gather information on best practice and write reports concerning the researches done on Interchanges done throughout the year. I also review, revise and update the educational content (Themes) in the Interchange program and afterwards publish the changes in the Interchange Newsletter. Christine from France is helping out in this task, hopefully accomplished by AIM 2008. Finally with all the information gathered, trainings would be held in order to spread out the updates and start implementing the improved Interchange program in all the NAs.

The international Interchange Committee is one big family, all working towards the same Target. We all help each other and have fun. We have a very nice atmosphere that encourages me personally to give more to the Interchange program and to CISV. I believe that the Interchange program is a very important program in CISV as it involves not only the individual participants, but also their families who will potentially be affected by the philosophy of CISV and hopefully become active members of the society. In that way we can hope for a better future and we can help get closer to the main target of CISV. I am glad to be an active member of

CISV, my family is also actively involved and I hope that some day we can all make a positive change in the world. Lots of warm hugs from sunny Cairo.

Hi, I'm Christine Stremdoerfer, NIC for France. I have 5 Children - 2 boys and 3 girls .They all did many CISV activities. I'm a grand mother too.



My daughter has 2 wonderful sons who are 4 and 2. I'm in charge of interchanges in France since 2003, after being a LIC for my local chapter, Lyon.

Interchange is for me a good opportunity to live the CISV experience. I really enjoy doing this job; even that it's sometimes difficult. I try to meet most of the delegations we host each summer but it is not always possible. I hope France could organise more interchanges with many different countries....I hope to have the opportunity to meet you one day!



I am Eileen Weber from the U.S.A. Interchange is my favorite CISV program and I am very happy to be working with the IIC. My special task this year will be to serve as "ReCo" (Regional Coach) for the Americas, so I look forward to all of us learning as we share ideas about how to make our program better.

You can see from my gray hair that I am not so young any more--next year I will celebrate 50 years of good living. I am married to a chemical engineer and have three beautiful children (23, 20 and 17). Oh, and you really should know that my favorite food is chocolate.

Please email me with any Interchange questions and I will help you find the answer (because I do not know all the answers)!

Hello CISV people! My name is Natalia Oviedo, but people call me Natis. I am Colombian and I am 24 th years old. I just graduated in economics and I am currently working at the Canadian Embassy in Bogota. I have been in the committee since AIM 2004. I really enjoy watching movies, eating ice cream and doing sports.



My name is Ronit Sharir and I am the new editor of this newsletter. I would like to encourage you to send us your articles - we would love to publish your thoughts, suggestions, questions, pictures and stories from your Interchange experience.



I've been deeply involved with CISV since 1973 when I participated in the first formal delegation Israel have sent as an

Stay tuned....In the next edition of the IIC newsletter you will find all about Cynthia, Monica, Vickie, Gerhard, Paola, Lena and Yulia

NA to a village. Later I was a JC, participated in a wonderful Interchange program with Hamburg and a seminar camp in Leeds. For the past 5 years I'm a member of the Tel Aviv's board, I'm Israel's NIC and for the last 2 years the NA secretary. I'm also involved in the international level as a promoter for Georgia and Bulgaria as part of the ODC. I have 3 children who share my passion for CISV - Noam (18), Guy (14) & Amit (7+). I work as an independent Organizational Consultant specializing in career development and transition.

Successful Interchange stories

Brazil - Israel 2007

Of course, when Sao Paulo first got an invitation to be an interchange partner of Tel Aviv, the country's political situation came to our minds. As a committee you must think about the risks. But, as well, the "management theory" tell us to think about how to prevent/decrease risks. We tried to figure out so hard, but it's not easy to come up with ideas and actions, because there are two important points to consider: cultural sensibility and trust. The same way we can think about other countries' risks, we need to think about our own. Sao Paulo city is not an example of a "nation" that inspires security, since all news outside our borders show especially moments of violence - which are not always true. In our chapter we think and act a lot on

how to manage and decrease risks for something bad not to happen - or if it happens, how to resolve the issue and make sure it won't happen again. One of the answers is: lets be very organized: Lets work as a team with a methodology, training, involvement, attention, good sense (a lot of it), respect & love. All that under our CISV values, so that other NAs can trust us. I can tell you that this same feeling we try to embrace in Sao Paulo Interchange Committee, we felt in Tel Aviv Interchange Committee. That is why we had a successful first phase in Brazil this year, and that is why I'm sure we will have an even better second phase in 2008. Because both committees manage to work as one - communicating often, being involved with open minds, trusting each other, training leaders, youngsters and families, which I believe must have a special attention, since they are what sustain an interchange. This is another point that our confidence in Tel Aviv's committee increases: all this transparency shows how well prepared Israeli families seem, so as the leader. This environment is perfect for youngsters to be themselves, focus on CISV values and develop their leadership capacity.

**Cassio Waki, Member of Sao Paulo Interchange Committee,
Sao Paulo Chapter's Vice-president**



Impressions from Egypt's Interchange Programs

Cairo / Madrid Interchange 2007

This is Sarah the leader for the Cairo/Madrid interchange 07 Egypt. I am 23 yrs old and lucky enough to have lived the CISV experience for the first time. I would like to brief you of how I started 10 months ago and where I landed today. I have learnt, shared and experienced so much ideas, knowledge, emotions, cultural differences, friendship and love that are never enough to describe on any paper. We had an easy yet challenging recipe to success that actually made our experience a cherished and memorable one. Our magical potion of success starts with a foundation of respect, acceptance, commitment, responsibility, patience and understanding. Mix them together carefully, the proportion will depend on the type of material you are dealing with as some require more, others require less of some of these ingredients.

Then you make sure you add all the co-operation needed to make sure that these ingredients stick and blend together, once you're sure they all started functioning together, then your group dynamics...uuups!!!..i mean then your dough is begging to mould. And don't rush it in cooking; let it take its time.

After that you keep adding little by little all the fun in the world, but make sure not to add it all at once or all at the beginning so that you could give time for

the other flavors and essences to grow stronger.

The more love, care and nurture you add the more your paste grows stronger and thickens and be sure that it will never dissolve or lose its base. Air bubbles are always challenging, try to overcome them and don't let them stop you.

As now your paste is ready make sure to build a strong crust of Trust and Friendship, and then very carefully fold and seal your paste into that crust.

Then the big secret here comes where you wrap that perfect crust in all the lovely Spirit you could ever find in your deepest of soul, without that Spirit your pie will lose its healthy puffy appetizing shape. The best part is the seasoning; you can always improvise and create endless ideas to serve and represent your pie in the way you feel about it. Oh! And don't forget to serve it with a smile, you never know how it may reflect on how your pie tastes and believe me it adds a lot of taste to it☺

Oh! Almost forgot, please avoid artificial coloring and stick to natural essences, they always come from the heart.

N.B. never ever ever forget that sometimes you will get reaaaaaaaaaaaaally stressed and might get even frustrated at some point, but believe me once your pie comes out perfectly, it will all make it worth while for you.

If you manage your Kitchen and time fine, you will get a perfect pie and in a timely manner. And don't cry when it finishes

Egypt – Norway 2007



Egypt – Indonesia 2007



Egypt – Spain 2007



and they eat it to the last bit because the taste and smell will always remain in your memory and heart.

Love **Sarah, leader for the Cairo/Madrid interchange 07 Egypt**

A word from a parent...

This Interchange program was my first experience with CISV although I am acquainted with CISV Egypt and their day trips.

I believe, the selection of the delegates was very good, and the preparation of the delegates before traveling was enough to give them an idea about the interchange, problems that might appear during the program and how to deal with them.

My daughter had a wonderful experience in Spain. She got exposed to a different culture and had the chance to live the daily life of a Spanish family. At the beginning she was very excited about youth independence in Spain but at the end she got to appreciate her own life in her country.

It was really amazing, the CISV staff was very helpful and cooperative, and the leaders were friendly to the children and handled them well although it was their first experience with CISV. Also local activities were very enjoyable and the children had a wonderful time.

The only comment I have is about the program here in Cairo, it was open for discussion for the parents, and it needs to be a ready-made program by the CISV committee with slight changes according to circumstances and the needs of each

group. Also the free time was too much which can be a burden on a working mother. At the end I really would like to repeat this experience again with my daughter if possible and of course with my son in the future.

Thanks, **Hala Fawzy, Egypt**

Interchange Tasks for October and November

During this time of the year the Interchange tasks for NIC/LIC are threefold: evaluate the interchanges of June-August, stay in touch with your partners of long Interchanges that continue in December/January or next July, and start the communication for new interchanges.

If you as a LIC or Delegation Coordinator haven't done the evaluation with your delegation, your leader and your partner LIC, you should do it now. Please see the Interchange Guide and the General Guide for further information on evaluations. Since CISV is introducing an evaluation tool for all programmes starting with the 2008 programmes, IIC has disconnected the use of the 'Interchange Evaluation Form'. If you already have filled it in, please send it to us. If you have not sent the following information to IO, please do it immediately: Program Directors Report Form (PDRF), Delegation Participation Attendance Form (DPAF), and Address List. Forms can be found here: <http://resources.cisv.org/docs/main?action=query.execute&doctype=3&context=2>. If the forms

IIC Online Resources:

Webpage International Interchange Committee:
<http://resources.cisv.org/iic/>

All Forms relating to the Interchange Programme:
<http://resources.cisv.org/docs/main?action=query.execute&doctype=3&context=2>

All Guides relating to the Interchange Programme:
<http://resources.cisv.org/docs/main?action=query.execute&doctype=1&context=2>

Send a message/question to the Chairperson:
<mailto:interchange@cisv.org>

Send/request Information regarding Interchange to/from IO:
<mailto:jay.warriner@cisv.org>

were not received at IO you will find the respective reminder in the weekly IO-Update, which is sent to your National Secretary.

Continuing long Interchanges have reached their break. Leaders shouldn't worry if there is not too much contact between the delegations. But leaders themselves and LICs/Delegation Coordinators (DC) should stay in contact. When the second phase of the Interchange gets closer (6-8 weeks before the second phase), delegations usually will contact each other more frequently.

New Interchanges for 2008/9 should be distributed within each NA to their various chapters during October. Further NICs need to exchange the contact information of their respective LICs with each other. Thus, LICs can contact their partner chapters as soon as possible in order to exchange their intent and come to a final agreement. At the moment IIC is working on the old "Interchange Friendly Agreement Form". The updated version with further explanations will be distributed until mid of October.

Interchanges need to be reconfirmed by NICs to IO within October. Starting this year we are going to ask for further information in the Interchange Matchbox Confirmation Form. Detailed information will be sent to all NICs in the first week of October. In most cases new matches have already been agreed to. For those of you that had a representative at the Round 3 Matchbox at AIM, a reminder that at that time you agreed to the

matches - therefore, we would not expect to see any cancellations - just a reconfirmation. If your country did not have a representative at Matchbox Round 3, you might have already agreed to the listed Round 1 results by e-mail. Please advise IO, your partner NA/chapter and IIC, by the end of October, if you DO NOT INTENT TO PROCEED with a new assigned Interchange by using the Interchange Cancellation Form. Please include a detailed explanation of why you do not wish to proceed with the IC.

Frank Steffen, Germany

If not done yet:

DPAF, PDRF, Address Lists to IO
Evaluation with the delegation,
leaders, partner LIC/DC

October:

Distribute Interchanges to
Chapters
NICs exchange contact
information of respective LICs
NICs reconfirm Interchanges to IO
(Interchange Matchbox
Confirmation Form)

October/November:

LICs contact their partner LICs
(until November, 1st) and
negotiate the Interchange
Agreement. (Updated Interchange
Final Agreement Form to be
distributed by mid of October)