

ASSOCIATION OING-SERVICE

Maison des Associations
1, place des Orphelins, F - 67000 STRASBOURG
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Moral report OING-Service 2018

Adopted by the General Assembly of 12 April 2019

In her 2018 activity report, the President of the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe, Mrs Anna Rurka , recalled the mission of the Conference and its obligation to act at the service of the INGOs and the citizens. She underlines the difficult context at the Council of Europe, because of the defection of the Russian Federation and the diminishing contribution of Turkey, but considers it an opportunity for the Conference.

The Conference thus maintains and strengthens its capacity for action through :

A triennial action plan 2018 - 2021, established by the Standing Committee and adopted by the Conference of INGOs in June 2018, with the following priority objectives :

- Strengthen freedom of association and associated rights and contribute to democratic security in Council of Europe member states
- Strengthen civil participation in the Council of Europe and in the member states
- Contribute to building inclusive societies
- Contribute to the development of European cultural identity
- Strengthen the Conference of INGOs at the institutional level to respond to the institutional evolution of the Council of Europe and to the geopolitical challenges.

The President recalled that the success factors of the Conference were : its democratic structure, the involvement of INGOs in working groups and in thematic commissions, and openness to national NGOs.

Anna Rurka thanks the Standing Committee for its dynamism and commitment of its members as well as INGO Service for its budgetary and operational contribution, without which important parts of the activities of the INGO Conference could not have taken place.

In this context of close relationship with the Conference of INGOs, the General Assembly of INGO Service of 27 June 2018 elected six new members of the Administrative Council. Of these, the Administrative Council then elected the Bureau composed of :

- President : Annelise OESCHGER, International Movement ATD Fourth World
- Vice President : Marie-Claire GALIBERT, International Federation of Associations of the Elderly (FIAPA)
- Treasurer : Heleen JANSEN, International Alliance of Women (AIF)
- Secretary : Ascensio GARCIA, Association for Voluntary Action in Europe (AVE)
- Assistant Secretary : Léon DUJARDIN, European Social Action Network (ESAN)

Other elected member : Maryne BRUNEAU, European Committee for Home-based Priority Action for the Child and the Family (EUROCEF)

The previous Bureau having reached the end of its mandate, the transfer of information and various documents belonging to the association was made in very good conditions. We thank the outgoing team under the chairmanship of Maritchu RALL for the good work done and for the positive contact always maintained.

An overview of the potential members of INGO-Service shows that there are 307 INGOs enjoying participatory status with the Council of Europe, of which :

- In 2017 : 137 had paid their contribution to INGO-Service
- In 2018 : 116 had paid their contribution to INGO-Service

The first work done by our team was obviously to revive the member INGOs that had not yet paid the 2018 contribution. Two reasons explain this delay, first forgetting, but more serious are the reductions and deletions of subsidies that endanger the very existence of certain associations.

Then, one of our priority objectives is to quickly inform the non-paying associations and to send reminders to our members for the current year's contribution.

Our objectives, let it be repeated, are to provide financial support to the three commissions, to the integrated approaches (gender equality ; youth ; migration) and to the working groups, particularly by covering travel expenses of Conference representatives to all relevant venues and events.

However, the Council of Europe is currently in financial difficulty, which affects the functioning of our institutions. For 2018 it nevertheless maintained the subsidy to INGO-Service in the amount of 12000 €. This grant is added to the total amount of subscriptions received in 2018 (€ 17,500).

In 2018 we had a slightly positive result of 737 €. The details of income and expenditure are published in the report of the accountant.

We want to reinforce our activities and we will continue to motivate all the INGOs to pay the subscription.

Internally, we worked well by starting our mandate with a series of meetings. I repeat here the report of our Secretary Ascensio Garcia.

- AC meeting on 27 June, joint meeting of the Administrative Council of INGO-Service and the Standing Committee of the INGO Conference and meeting of the Bureau of INGO-Service on 7 and 8 October.
- Participation of our President in a Standing Committee meeting and in 3 Bureau meetings of the Conference of INGOs.

Administrative activities of INGO-Service

- Subscription to an insurance contract with MAIF.
- Declaration of amendments to the Tribunal d'Instance of Strasbourg.
- Modifications of signatures at the bank.

Projects opened and finalized

- Preparation of statutory amendments for an extraordinary General Assembly.
- Review of Expense Reimbursement Rules and Refund Request Form
- Translation Rules is ongoing
- Identification of human resources for translation
- Organisation of archival storage

More generally, and to speak of projects, the current year is decisive for the Conference of INGOs ; the 12% general budget cut at the Council of Europe will not affect the INGO-Service subsidy. In return, the organization and action of the Conference will be more in line with the current European situation. It will also be necessary to adopt the code of good conduct required by GRECO's autumn 2017 report and adapt to revised rules of procedure. INGO Service will have to take these developments into account and increase its workload.

INGO Service is able to provide this year a special fund of € 4000 to 6000, corresponding to a part of the reserve fund. Thus, we will intensify our financial contribution to the « road map for youth participation » and allow young people to come to the Council of Europe as youth delegates at the sessions in April and October 2019, with the aim of developing their capacity to intervene within the civil society.

We will also participate in another project just as motivating, the one on « social rights in actions » which concerns citizenship for the reinforcement of vulnerable and excluded groups across Europe, for which the Conference of INGOs is invited to get involved.

In conclusion

We wish to develop INGO-Service in :

- Informing more than ever all INGOs enjoying participatory status with the Council of Europe on our work for their common interests.
- Developing our network of contributors.
- Working closely with the Standing Committee to strengthen the actions of the INGO Conference.
- Supporting new projects of the Conference of INGOs.

Moral report by Marie-Claire Galibert, Vice-President