



FIT EUROPE

REGIONAL CENTRE EUROPE OF THE
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF TRANSLATORS

info@fit-europe.org

Meeting of FIT Europe Steering Committee Berlin, 11 September 2009

Present: Reiner Heard, Cristiana Coblis, Liisa Laakso-Tammisto, Eyvor Fogarty, Kevin Quirk, Javier Sancho Durán

Apologies: Patricia Alarcon

09/1 Accounts

1.1 Funds available

LT reported that the money from the account in Denmark had now been transferred to her account in Finland. The Regional Centre for Europe (FIT Europe) is €3436 (three thousand four hundred and thirty-six EUR) in credit. This includes the €100 (one hundred EUR) donated by the VÜD. The Steering Committee recorded its thanks to the VÜD. As no book-keeping had arrived with the funds, there were no transactions in 2008, and available records date from 2007, FIT Europe financial record-keeping will start from scratch. LT will keep the Steering Committee informed.

1.2 Banking facilities

FIT Europe is waiting for news from FIT about its banking facilities in Luxembourg. It is hoped that when FIT has a bank account there, FIT Europe will be able to open a sub-account. LT will keep the Steering Committee informed.

ACTION: LT

09/2 Website

2.1 Transfer of Website

The FIT Europe website has to be transferred from its current ownership (JEF's own domain) by November 2009 and it was agreed that CC would arrange for a **temporary** site to be created for it by a Romanian specialist. FIT Europe will pay the costs involved in the transfer and hosting, and CC will inform the Committee of what the costs are likely to be.

FIT had offered FIT Europe pages on its website. The Steering Committee looks forward to this integration but agreed to pursue the temporary solution in the meantime, until any technical aspects have been resolved. The correct FIT colour scheme will be obtained and used when the transfer to a new FIT Europe website is made.

There is the issue of transferring information and previous emails already existing on the FIT Europe website. CC will enlist help as necessary.

CC is updating the FIT Europe member list, which is important for both the website and communication with the members. Sabine Colombe has been most helpful in supplying data and input by the other SC members is requested.

ACTION: CC/All

09/3 Administrative

3.1 Other Regional Groups

The Brazilian association had been in touch with CC to ask if it could be included in FIT Europe correspondence. It was agreed that the chairman of the FIT Regional Centre for South America could be included, for the sake of good practice.

ACTION: RH

09/4 Activity Report

4.1 Reporting to FIT

RH had prepared a draft report to FIT Council for its meeting in October 2009 and the Steering Committee approved it. RH reported that he would be attending the EUATC (European Union of Associations of Translation Companies) in Sofia in mid-October and will go on from there to the FIT EC/Council meetings in Istanbul. It is hoped that EUATC, FIT and his own association will bear the costs of this.

ACTION: RH

4.2 Projects

4.2.1 FIT funding. LT will seek advice from Sheryl Hinkkanen on how to prepare a request to FIT for funds from the FIT Budget.

4.2.2 *Translator Survey*. During her presentation of the recent FIT Survey at the FIT Europe Annual Meeting Sabine Colombe said that the data collected during the Survey could be made use of in different ways, but an expert would have to be paid to do this. Given this need, and the continuing possibility of an interpreter survey, it was suggested that this might be suitable project for FIT funding.

4.2.3 *EU Services Directive*. RH will have a discussion about the Directive with Dörte Stielow (BDÜ) who will be giving a talk on this at the BDÜ Conference on 12 September. The FIT Europe Code of Professional Conduct can be posted on the Directive website now that FIT Europe has approved it.

ACTION: RH

4.2.4 *Admissions and Pastoral care*. The members of the Steering Committee will pursue their contact with other associations in Europe (e.g. Albania, Ukraine, Hungary), to maintain links and encourage associations to join FIT and FIT Europe.

ACTION: All

4.2.5 *Assessment of Translation*. Quality in Translation is a hot topic in Europe just now, against a background of ISO projects. There have been articles in the trade literature (such as EUATC) and the area is open to 'entrepreneurial' (business scam) activity. RH will talk to Eva Leitner about ways in which FIT Europe can offer input or coordinate information.

ACTION: RH

4.2.6 *Initiative on Debt Collecting Database*. There was discussion about this database. FIT Europe should be looking at ways to expand this database in EU countries and facilitate exchange between members.

ACTION: All

4.2.7 *CPD*. FIT Europe is hoping to facilitate virtual exchange between members on CPD, looking at different systems and credit points. Ben Phister of the SFT is making the technical arrangements, with free provision of a video conference for up to twenty people.

ACTION: RH

4.2.8 Arbitration Schemes. It was agreed that this was a suitable project to work on. A working group (RH, KQ and EF) was set up. Initial steps would be to arrange a 1-page information sheet in EN/FR and then put together a suitable survey.

ACTION: RH/KQ/EF

4.2.9 Professional Translator Profile.

- a. The EU has a page on its website about this.
- b. According to PA, a project on this subject is currently under way in Belgium. Action on this subject will be postponed for the time being.

09/5 Liaison with FIT Council and Committees

5.1 RH will be attending the FIT EC/Council meetings in Istanbul in October 2009 as an observer.

09/6 Contacts with other bodies

6.1 RH has been invited to a meeting with EU DGT Lönnroth. CEATL has also been in touch.

ACTION: RH

09/7 Next Annual Meeting

7.1 In the absence of any other offers, it was suggested that the next Annual Meeting might be held in London. There is also scope for a Round Table or similar event at some time in the next five years. (By the time of the Congress after next, FIT Open Congress will not have been in Europe for nine years.)

ACTION: EF

A reminder for our association diaries:

FIT Statutory Congress will be held on 30-31 July 2011 in San Francisco, USA, with the Open Congress to be held on 1-4 August 2011.