

d) Europe - North America, by Anders Lidén, coordinator

The European region and IAA Europe has about 40 national committees. The Netherlands has returned with a new association. Over the last six years the following new countries have joined the IAA: Montenegro, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg and Canada. According to UNESCO's definition of cultural regions Canada and USA together with Israel belong to the same cultural sphere as the European countries.

In 2008, La Maison des Artistes, organised a European Convention of Visual Arts in Paris, discussing the social and economic situation of the artist and involving all the European National Committees of the IAA. Important documentation of the convention was later published in a White Book.

One week after the earthquake in Haiti in 2010 a commission was set up in Paris with the participation of IAA. A great number of art works were collected and sold at a public auction. The profit, more than 70 000 €, will go to support the artists in Haiti.

IAA Europe has also supported some exhibition projects like the Biennial of Drawing in Pilzen and "Baltic Bridges" in the Baltic republics.

A new IAA identity card has been designed and approved by UNESCO and is now produced and introduced by many European national committees.

The European Executive Committee was reorganised in 2010 with Christos Simoneodes, CY, as president, Alex Mezmer, CH, as vice president, and Pavol Kral, SLO, with secretarial functions. A General Assembly was successfully held in Bratislava, Slovakia, in October 2010, together with a Congress on the theme, "Art after Crisis".

As mentioned before the Norwegian national committee has been sponsoring IAA membership for an African country, Tanzania, by paying their annual fees.

Finally, Anders Lidén announced the publication by the Swedish Association KRO / KIF of a practical guide on custom procedures for transporting works of art and exhibiting abroad.