

SCUPAD NEWSLETTER

SCUPAD 2003 Congress

"Renaissance of Our Cities: Conflicting Visions"

Announcement to follow by Mail
Hold the Weekend of
May 15 -18, 2003
Schloss Leopoldskron, Salzburg

*The SCUPAD 2003 Congress will focus on the modern Renaissance of a number of European and non-European cities. The Congress will examine transformations in these cities through case study presentations, primarily by SCUPAD members, that will provide short **profiles** of the cities, and group discussions that will **evaluate** how the cities relate to various **physical, social, economic and political dimensions** in an effort to draw lessons to be applied to cities elsewhere.*

SCUPAD CONGRESS 2002 OPENING SESSION/KEYNOTE

On May 23, 2002 SCUPAD President **Franz Oswald** opened the 2002 Congress entitled "The Multicultural City: Synergy Through Diversity" with remarks on the timeliness of the topic. He said it was a natural outgrowth of the last Congress on Shaping Urban Places and the impact of increasing globalization on cities. He reminded the participants that the Congress would be exploring several crucial questions such as: what are the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the multicultural city?; what can we learn from the history of cities?; which processes promote the advantages and prevent the threats?; and what are the responsibilities of planners and architects in shaping the multicultural city?

Roberta Gratz introduced **William Moody** of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund who gave the keynote address entitled, "Multicultural Cities: New Vitality in an Age of Interdependence." **The Rockefeller Brothers Fund** supports local efforts to build the capacity of local organizations to promote sustainable resource use, monitor global security and strengthen civil society. For more than a decade, Mr. Moody has been responsible for recommending grants to support activities in Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and

Hungary. He recently assumed similar responsibility for the Balkan countries.

Mr. Moody set the framework for his address by noting that a dictionary definition of "multicultural" as "of, relating to, or designed for a combination of several distinct cultures", or as an "urban environment" thus clearly linking the word multicultural with cities. He went on to quote from **Jane Jacobs** in "The Death and Life of Great American Cities" that American cities "need all kinds of diversity, intricately mingled in mutual support" and that "most city diversity is the creation of incredible numbers of different people and different private organizations, with vastly differing ideas and purposes, planning and contriving outside the formal framework of public action. The main responsibility of city planning and design should be to develop ... cities that are congenial places for this great range of unofficial plans, ideas and opportunities to flourish, along with the flourishing of the public enterprises." Bill went on to say that "multicultural cities are a fact of life, as they have been for centuries all over the world" and that with the increases in immigration more

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cities, towns and suburbs will become multicultural in the future.

Moody described the grant making by Rockefeller Brothers Fund in Central and Eastern Europe, which focused on supporting and connecting local people of different backgrounds to develop and implement cooperative efforts to solve community problems. Examples cited were support of the Amber Trail Greenway, a cooperative venture of citizen groups in Poland, Slovakia and Hungary that links economic development with natural and cultural heritage protection; and support of the Carpathian Foundation, a regional community foundation in the Carpathian mountain region where a number of ethnic groups and countries come together enabling them to fund and provide technical assistance to local initiatives that foster inter-ethnic cooperation and rural community development efforts.



The lessons learned from these and other experiences include:

- Long term, comprehensive thinking is essential to deal with complex problems, yet short term, small victories are needed to inspire confidence
- Identifying credible individuals and investing in capacity building

opportunities for them is critical

- Positive change must often overcome mindsets of waiting for government to act
- Responsibility goes along with empowerment in a democracy, as does building trust across ideological and ethnic divisions and among different segments of society
- Fostering real participation, not just consultation, by all segments of a neighborhood or city is essential
- Value-based work rather than project-based work has a better chance of long-term impact
- Grass roots, bottom-up approaches to economic, political, environmental and social issues have a better chance of success if accompanied by policy analysis and advocacy efforts
- Corruption exists in all forms of government and must be rooted out through increased transparency, monitoring and building of trust
- Broadcast and print media should be helped to increase their understanding of issues in a comprehensive way, as well as to communicate urban issues clearly to the general public and policy makers
- An assortment of incremental locally and regionally based efforts, each modest in size, together lead to big significant change.

Bill continued with the statement that “in an increasingly globalized world, the challenges facing multicultural cities are more pronounced than ever.” He felt it was thus important for the Congress to consider the following observations:

- History – since every country in the world is multicultural, it might be constructive to begin looking at issues of ethnicity, diversity and multiculturalism at an earlier point in history
- Historic Preservation – the goals of historic preservation activities should be broadened to include protection of buildings/monuments that have cultural value to various ethnic groups
- Livable Cities – the challenges facing multiculturalism and sustainable or livable cities are intertwined
- Celebrate Different Cultures – actively involve artists, musicians and cultural institutions in promoting the values of diversity, multiculturalism, tolerance and acceptance
- Philanthropy/Government Support Programs – encourage philanthropic institutions to be more involved in supporting multicultural programs and activities
- Media – how can the media contribute to presenting information in ways that help to ease ethnic conflict and not exacerbate it
- Democratic Capacity – democratic societies are the result of improving transparency in government, business and the non-profit sectors and giving more attention to equity, fairness and inclusiveness
- Multicultural Cities as Incubators – local multicultural activities can serve as models or incubators of new policies and practices for facing ethnic conflict and terrorism at the national and international level

At the conclusion of his address, Bill spoke of the concept that humans need diversity to thrive and therefore we must create or enhance multicultural environments. A UNESCO document states “cultural diversity is a s necessary for humankind as biodiversity is for nature.” Thus, we should be looking at better ways of bringing people together – connecting them – to overcome distrust and solve problems together, to provide places that facilitate the coming together of different people, to encourage media, public and religious leaders to promote positive images of multiculturalism and to think anew about incentives to encourage respect and tolerance of different groups.

In conclusion, the recent comment by **Kofi Annan**, United Nations Secretary General, was a wonderful reflection on the topic of the multicultural city: “Today, ... city-dwellers around the world represent the future of humanity. More than half of humankind live in cities. That is more than 3 billion people. Cities are crossroads of ideas and innovation. At their best, they can serve as models of democracy, diversity, and multicultural living. It is from the life of the city, since ancient times, that we derive the notion of citizenship – and indeed civilization.”

Multiculturalism in the Austro-Hungarian Hapsburg Empire

On Thursday evening, **Gerhard Schimack** of Vienna and **Petr Stepanek** of Prague presented historical perspectives on the multicultural cities in which they live. Gerhard began his remarks with the comment that a better name for the Hapsburg Empire would be the Hapsburg Monarchy, which sometimes had Vienna as its capital and sometimes Prague. After World War II, the territory held by the Hapsburgs was split into many parts with nationalism a reaction to the monarchy. Vienna can be described as a melting pot style of multicultural or multiethnic city.

Gerhard discussed the growth of the Jewish population in Vienna from 1880, when the Jews first arrived in the city of 700,000 people, to approximately 175,000 Jews in 1910, 200,000 in 1923, which was about 11% of the total population of the city. By 1936, 47% of the doctors and 62% of the lawyers in Vienna were Jews. Vienna never developed a Jewish quarter, except for one area on the other side of the river. People went wherever they could find cheap housing, resulting in a mixture of people throughout the city and a faster assimilation of the new immigrants. The rise of nationalism in the 1920's and the Czech uprisings gave Vienna a mixed population of immigrants. Hitler described Vienna as "a disgusting racial mixture", with racial incest destroying the old German population.

Petr Stepanek described the city of Prague, which since its beginnings has had a large number of minority groups, including the Boi (a Celtic group who came from Bohemia), Germanic Jews, Czechs, Saxons and other Germanic groups, Roma, Slovak, Polish, Russian, Ruthenian, Hungarian, Cuban, Vietnamese, Ukrainian and Equatorial African people.

The Jewish population, which began as a temporary settlement of merchants, was approximately 2000 in 1654; by the early 1700s, one-fifth to one-fourth of the city's inhabitants were Jews. There were several German migration waves with the population of Germans remaining at approximately 30% for many years through the end of the 19th century. The first people of color in Prague were the Roma who came from the Gujurat area of India.

After World War I, Prague became the capital of Czechoslovakia. It is interesting to note that only Belarus and Czechoslovakia recognized Jews as a national minority. Prague was also a place with religious diversity (Catholics, Protestants, Jews), diversity in the languages spoken by its residents, diversity in its architectural styles (Romanesque, Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque, Secession, Functionalism and Cubism), as well as its literature. During the Holocaust, many residents of Prague were killed, including the Jews, Roma, disabled people, Social Democrats and Communists; after Austria, Prague was the place occupied longest during World War II.

In the year 2000, Prague still has many minority groups making up its population – Roma, Ukrainians, Russians, Germans, Vietnamese, Jews and Africans.

Case Studies : New York- Berlin

In introducing the case study presentation on New York and Berlin, **Ron Shiffman** quoted from a guidebook on Berlin, which described the city as an "open city", a place with new architecture, areas of luxury shopping, areas of poverty and as a place with the possibility for innovation. He went on to say that this description could also be that of New York City.

Toya Williford from the Regional Plan Association in New York made a presentation on the Rebuilding of New York City post September 11th. Ms. Williford began with a description of the short-term impacts of 9/11: 3,000 lives lost, 13 million square feet of office space destroyed, over 1,000 jobs lost, NYC and NJ PATH train lines severely damaged and damage to power and telecommunication grids. The major players in the rebuilding activities are the federal government, the Port Authority, the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation, and the New York City and State governments.

The Civic Alliance, a coalition of 85 organizations with the goals of facilitating an open process for the rebuilding effort and ensuring that principles of social equity, economic and environmental justice are addressed, has also been involved in the rebuilding effort. The preliminary findings of the Civic Alliance were that:

- Affordable housing should be the basic building block of the rebuilding of the Lower Manhattan area
- Environmental quality and equity were compromised by public policies that concentrated polluting functions in low-income areas
- Revitalization and memorialization should be open, inclusive and transparent
- The boom of the 1990's exacerbated the polarization between high and low-income jobs – most families didn't have income gains

Based on the above, the Alliance's recommendations for rebuilding Lower Manhattan include:

- Sustain the mixed use residential and business district; include green building technology and high design quality
- A housing strategy based on principles of social and economic justice
- Restructure the economy to support a diverse economic base that decreases polarization
- Stop locating "negative externalities" in low-income outer borough neighborhoods

In sum, the rebuilding effort should be based on Equity – improving prosperity for all, Environment – vibrant sustainable growth, and Economy – a healthy regional ecosystem.

Karl Dieter Keim next described his work in Erkner, an urban fringe area of eastern Berlin, after the reunification of the city. Mr. Keim was part of an Institute of 60 people from both the East and West, which collaborated in a study after the reunification of Berlin. The study found that there were

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several components of the area: the employees of the BMW-Roll-Royce company who lived on the edge of the village, and had no involvement, either administratively or socially, with the locality; members of a right-wing group called “Nordish by Nature”, which is restrictive in its outlook and against the notion of an open society; and a local group that wants to defend their properties against new development plans put forth by the local planning office, but use ecological arguments to cover their NIMBY politics. These groups represent the unclear relations between the old and the new forces in the area. It was noted that the West Berlin districts have a higher percentage of foreigners and older housing, both public and private. There is a clash between residents of the capital city, characterized by its urban, foreign population and the surrounding area, which is anti-urban and is lacking in open discourse.

In the final segment of this presentation, **Peter Zlonicky** discussed the western Berlin perspective. He described the IBA Berlin Exhibition of 1984, which focused on the resolution of conflicts in Kreuzberg, an area of Berlin with a lack of investment, flight of the German population to the suburbs and the in-migration of Turks. IBA put forth a 12-step program for the careful urban renewal of Kreuzberg, which included the following principles:

- Trust and confidence to be reconstituted
- Urban renovation that respects the needs of the present inhabitants
- Socially concerned planning, regulating the rights of the participants
- Consent between owners and tenants
- Public facilities
- Financial commitment

In 1990, after the reunification of Germany, there was a Stadtforum in Berlin where actors in urban development participated in a two-day forum that produced a social contract for the unified city of Berlin. In this contract, future development would be guided by principles of heterogeneity, for example, respect for urban and social diversity, peaceful coexistence of non-homogeneous neighbors and respect for the breaking points between different communities.

More recently, Berlin Strategies 2001 was an integrated political approach for neighborhood/urban districts whose principles built on the earlier efforts. These principles called for strengthening social cohesion, strengthening plurality without exclusion, urban identity, empowerment, public spaces and facilities for communities and participatory neighborhood management. In conclusion, Peter quoted **Erhart Pfothauer**, of the IBA Berlin project, who described urban renewal as “cultural work”, that is, “learning from sites, from buildings and from people”.

Amsterdam-Beaucaire

On Friday afternoon, May 24, 2002 there was a case study presentation on the cities of Amsterdam, The Netherlands and Beaucaire, France. **Ab Vos**, Director of the Amsterdam City Housing Department, spoke about the multicultural city of

Amsterdam and the Dutch planning tradition. He initially described the history of Amsterdam from its first settlements around 1000 B.C. to its golden age in the 1600’s when it had a mixed population of Flemish, French, Germans and Jews. By 1950, Europe had become a continent of immigrants. This pattern was reinforced by the 1995 Treaty of Shengen, which allowed visas for non-European immigrants. Eighty percent of the 16 million people in the Netherlands live in cities or in the area of cities. Amsterdam has a population of 750,000 in the city itself and 1.4 million in the region. There are people of 172 nationalities in Amsterdam, 37% of them from non-industrialized countries. By 2030, Amsterdam is projected to have a population of 830,000; 40% of Dutch origin and 52% from non-industrialized countries.

Mr. Vos went on to describe the area of Bijlmermeer, which was developed in the southeastern area of Amsterdam in the 1960 in the western European fashion. It was designed as a “city of the future”, with 12,000 high-rise units and parking garages that could be reached from the dwellings. Between 1975 and 1990, the development attracted many immigrant squatters from former Dutch colonies and 50 other nations. Bijlmermeer was characterized by vacant dwellings, the poverty of the residents, vandalism and carelessness about public space. By 1985, there was a crisis situation with 22% of the flats being vacant and a 25% turnover rate. In response, many large flats were split into two units and more security was provided. In 1992, about half of the worst flats and some of the garages were torn down. The flats were replaced with one-family dwellings; 60% of the units were for sale, 30% were inexpensive rentals and 10% were higher cost rentals. The redevelopment included a community garden, churches and an emphasis on good schools. Mr. Vos ended by saying that the process of reconstruction is more important than the project.

We then heard from **Christien Kop**, who described an organizing effort with the tenants of the Bijlmermeer development. The project was called “Mi Akoma Di Color”, which means my colored heart, but every word is in a different language. The project included 40 participants from 13 different cultures who worked together on tenant issues and were also involved in planning for their “dream house”. Everyone wanted a large three-story house, but there were variations among the different ethnic groups on how to arrange the houses. Ultimately, the project developed 40 houses – 20 for subsidized rental and 20 for subsidized purchase – but at a size that was one-third of the “dream house” proportions.

Jacqueline Ramon presented her work with a group of architecture students in the city of Beaucaire in France. The project began in the summer of 1998 and continued for the next three years with the additional participation of local artists, landscape architects, etc. Beaucaire is a city of 14,000 inhabitants; 55% of the 7,000 people who live in the city center are Arabs. It is a very dense city with approximately half of the residential units in very poor shape. The project, which gave advice to the local authorities, focused on plans to revitalize a devastated block in the midst of a dense urban fabric. Initial solutions ranged from complete destruction/rebuilding of the block to rehabilitation. The project concentrated on limited rebuilding and taught techniques of restoration to local young people.

Jerusalem

On Saturday morning, there was a presentation on the city of Jerusalem from two perspectives – Palestinian and Israeli. By way of an introduction to Jerusalem, **David Guggenheim**, the moderator, opened the session with a short slide presentation on the city's major religious and multicultural sites in the square kilometer area that is the old city within the walls. **Omar Yousef**, a Palestinian architect and urban planner, then presented the Palestinian view of the city. Mr. Yousef said that the Palestinian aspiration was for Jerusalem to be a city of equals – the capital of two states. After 1948 when Jerusalem was divided between the Jordanian area and West Jerusalem, West Jerusalem developed as an urban area with a grid, but this was not the case in the eastern part of the city. Since 1967, Jerusalem is guided by ethno-political polarization with the Israelis speaking of the “unification of Jerusalem” and the Palestinians speaking of the “occupation of Jerusalem”. The eastern, or Palestinian part of Jerusalem, does not have a master plan and has experienced the loss of many cultural areas in the city. He asserted that the new settlements by Israelis have destroyed Bedouin homes and the network of old villages surrounding Jerusalem have been excluded from citizenship rights as Jerusalemites. Mr. Yousef stated that the checkpoints between the eastern and western parts of the city have stopped the flow of life between the two sides, leaving East Jerusalem as a series of enclaves between the settlements. He said that it was hard to get permits for housing development in East Jerusalem and that, except for the settlements, there has only been one subsidized housing project in East Jerusalem – a 400-unit project built in the 1970's.

Mr. Yousef went on to describe his vision for the city, which was for a Jerusalem County that would be a Free Zone. There would be twin municipalities under a coordinating body, based on the concept of an open city of equals. The sovereignty of East Jerusalem would be given back to the Palestinians, the boundaries of the city would include the now-excluded areas, and the Palestinian areas would be upgraded, as needed. He ended his presentation by saying that the scar dividing the city should be bridged by revitalization of the city edges and the development of one multicultural,



diverse city.

Elinoar Barzacchi, the head of the Tel Aviv Architectural

School and a former City Engineer of Jerusalem, presented another view of the city of Jerusalem. Her presentation was based on the results of a joint Israeli-Palestinian professional effort, aided by Dutch and Austrian experts, called “Planning Jerusalem in Peace”. The project aimed at developing a comprehensive solution that would deal with visions of the city and the permeability of its borders with respect to goods, people, labor, capital and residences. The project looked at issues such as: what services need to be delivered, who will deliver them, and who will govern. For each kind of urban service, they developed a grid that showed what kind of organizational system would be best, e.g., metropolis, city, satellite towns and suburbs, private sector or state. The inter-relations between the metropolis, two cities and boroughs were also considered, as were issues such as which level officials should be elected or appointed. They also agreed that some services might be done together for efficiency, and that some services were to be delivered separately or could be delivered by the private, rather than the public, sector. Various degrees of development were also looked at. The project demonstrated that there is more than one way that a city can function and was based on the only scenario being one of peace. The group is now elaborating on how to realize its analysis and recommendations, but is faced with a problem in that the participants were professionals, but were not representatives of any decision-making bodies. A comment was made that while the Israelis were not representatives of any group, the Palestinians sent people who represented Ministers of the Palestinian Authority. In response, Elinoar said that although some members of the project were officials of Palestine, they worked in the group as individual professionals.

On Saturday morning, there was a plenary session moderated by **Adam Mazor** that provided time for discussion on the case study of Jerusalem. Adam began the session by describing the presentations as different approaches to the city – one started with the problems, while the other looked at goals for the city, but at the end the two presentations were looking at similar issues. Adam stated that the role of planners is to look at goals and the future, while taking the past into consideration. He asked for comments on the role of the planner in a multi-cultural society. The comments included the following:

- Another approach is that of advocacy planning, which brings equality to various group perspectives
- In a democratic setting, the planner's role has to be to empower people – planners are the priests of democracy
- In cities in crisis, there is a need for a new vocabulary; planning can't be done from the bottom up
- Planners aren't pure professionals – they can't ignore the reality of politics
- Planning will not be perfect, but nevertheless should develop scenarios that improve conditions for all
- Pre-conditions make planning difficult; politics is part of city planning; planner has a role now, not just when the formation of the city framework is defined
- Democracy must respect/include the rights of the minority; a new vocabulary has to be developed that includes all voices
- The language of planners should be accessible to the public, particularly to the people affected by the plans; there is a need for a new conversation.

Discussion Groups and Closing Session

On Friday afternoon, there were reports from each of the discussion groups, which had been meeting earlier in the day, summarizing comments made or issues raised on the material presented during the first two days of the Congress. The reports included the following comments on multicultural cities:

Group 1: finding common ground; conflicts as catalyst; decisions not made by planners; are societies able to accommodate different values?; can new and old groups share values?; self-segregation; us and them

Group 2: classic immigrant wants to better his/her life; earlier immigrants looked up to the host country, but now immigrants expect the country to provide for all needs; classic cities are ones where there has been a history of immigration (London, Paris) as opposed to divided cities (Jerusalem, Belfast)

Group 3: is multicultural society a vision or a reality?; growth of cities is linked to migration; people in cities are strangers; one must not only speak a language, but understand body language of different cultures; public places are meeting points for different cultures – how to create them; planners should create places of opportunities; to understand projects, one needs to understand contextual environment

Group 4: the 13th tribe were the first city dwellers; it's not the city vs. the village, but villages in the city; identity - the city is a structure of bubbles; are catastrophes necessary to influence planning?; problems are caused by fear of the unknown, poor communication, exclusion by forming groups; pace of change is key.

Closing Plenary

The closing plenary of the Congress on Sunday morning opened with commentaries by **Roberta Gratz** and **Adam Mazor**. Roberta spoke on what planners can do in the multicultural city. She said that planners can bring people together, encourage input by everyone and sincerely be willing to listen to people, including to the fears of the intolerant, and facilitate connections. Planners need to create places, both in and out of doors, where people can come together. People need to live together in peace, tolerance and cooperation in multicultural cities of diversity, not assimilation.

Adam Mazor stated that the goal of the multicultural city is for everyone to view the city as “ours”. We should not concentrate too much on diversity or differences, on those already in the city vs. newcomers, or on haves and have-nots. The city and its streets are in the public domain and they should be considered in trying to make the city “ours”. The mosaic is not a sufficient definition for the multicultural city because there is no interaction between pieces in a mosaic; a mosaic should not be a clustering of ghettos. We must look at how to break down barriers and turn them into meeting points.

Additional comments from the Congress participants included:

- Need to change institutions to allow people to participate, e.g., immigrant children are in public schools, but their parents can't be on the school board
- Need to have values, emotions and democratic expression of ideas
- Cities mean the co-living of different people; residential areas can be segregated or not; schools are the filter for the functioning of the labor market; schools should be the castle of each neighborhood – the place where people learn values and information and also serve as a meeting place for people
- We in this group share values, but these values are not necessarily shared by others in the multicultural society; fear of the stranger and other fears are derived from values
- The labor market was key to developing synergy in the Ruhr region; education, communication, and democratic values are also needed for synergy
- Need to find the balance between the private domain (to maintain identity) and the public domain (open to having interaction)

SCUPAD 2002 CONGRESS RETURNS TO SALZBURG



The 2002 SCUPAD Congress returned to Salzburg following the successful 2001 Congress in Venice, which included a number of first time participants from Eastern Europe and from the ranks of young professionals. The **2002 Congress on “The Multicultural City: Synergy Through Diversity”** had an impressive turnout of about 70 participants. The staff of the Salzburg Seminar’s Schloss Leopoldskron graciously assisted SCUPAD to conduct a successful Congress. The new technical improvements in Parker Hall facilities provided an excellent environment for the Congress presentations and the food was better than ever. Except for the rain, which, among other things, moved the Barbecue inside, it was wonderful to be back in Salzburg for the annual SCUPAD Congress.

MINUTES OF THE SCUPAD GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2002

Salzburg, Schloss Leopoldskron, May 25th, 2002

Attending (50):

Kyle Alexander (EIRE), Shlomo Aronson (ISR), Elinoar Barzacchi (ISR), Lolita a e (LATVIA), Enrique Calderon (E), Raimonda Daja (ALB), Tom de Wit (NL), Thomas Dillinger (A), Elena Dimitrova (BUL), Hartmut Dumke (A), Lou Gelehrter (ISR), Elena Gerheuser (CH), Frohmut Gerheuser (CH), Donald Gratz (USA), Roberta Gratz (USA), David Guggenheim (ISR), Hans Harms (GB), Petra Hirschler (A), Dieter Keim (D), Christien Kop (NL), Iveta L auniece (LATVIA), Dieter Lapple (D), Horst Lechner (A), Monica Lotreanu (ROM), Luciana Malavasi (I), Gisela Matern (D), Adam Mazor (ISR), Gerhard Meighorner (D), Maria Mihat (RO), Franz Oswald (CH), Paul Pattay (D), Maridea Petrova (MAK), Venkateswar Ramaswamy (INDIA), Jacqueline Ramon (B), Gerhard Schimack (A), Ron Shiffman (USA), Yvette Shiffman (USA), Joachim Siefert (D), Saskia Siefert (D), Ivan Stanic (SLO), Dan Stav (ISR), Petr Štepanek (CZ), Nina Thedosi (ALB), Efraim Torgovnik (ISR), Leo Van der Meer (NL), Evert Verhagen (NL), Toya Williford (USA), Robert Yaro (USA), Bruno Zanon (I), Elke Zlonicky (D), Peter Zlonicky (D).

The General Assembly opened at 21:30

1. Opening by the President

The President Franz Oswald welcomed all SCUPAD members and the hosts present at the annual General Assembly. He expressed his pleasure to have come back to Salzburg for a Congress without empty chairs.

2. Minutes of the General Assembly 2000

The minutes of the General Assembly 2000, drafted by the Secretary Bruno Zanon and published in the last Newsletter, were unanimously approved.

3. Reports

- Report of the President

The President Franz Oswald summarized the work done by the Committee in the meetings held in Prague and Vienna concerning:

- a. financial affairs;
- b. the decision about where to hold our Congress;
- c. the topic and the organization of the 2002 Congress.

- Report of the Vice President for External Affairs

The Vice President for External Affairs, Enrique Calderon, gave his last report as his term has expired. He was happy to serve SCUPAD for a long time with different responsibilities. His primary concern, as Vice President for External Affairs, was to foster a good relationships between SCUPAD and the Salzburg Seminar.

- Report of the Vice President for Internal Affairs

The Vice President for Internal Affairs, Tom de Wit, described his work in organizing the 2002 Congress, which proved to be a success: over 60 participants (plus companions), from 20 different countries. Only 45 were members,

showing how the SCUPAD Congress can attract new people.

- Report of the Secretary

The Secretary, Bruno Zanon, reported on his activity as Secretary and invited all to help him in keeping everybody informed about new facts and initiatives and in updating the mailing list.

- Report of the Treasurer

The Treasurer, Thomas Dillinger, who was not present at last year's Congress, thanked Tom and Hans de Wit for their work in Venice to collect the Congress fees. He then presented the figures of the financial year 2001-2002 (pre-Congress). A short discussion followed, during which the members are asked to take a formal decision on how many membership fees back are to be paid by members who missed some Congresses (Dieter Keim). It was also stressed that SCUPAD needs to support people from Eastern European Countries through the Reformed Countries Fund (Peter Zlonicky) as well as younger members (Ron Shiffman). After additional information provided by Thomas Dillinger, the Financial Report was unanimously approved.

President Franz Oswald reminded the Assembly that the Committee, as decided by the General Assembly 2001, approved the Financial Report 2000-2001 on the basis of the auditor's report. Franz Oswald nominated Rainer Mayerhofer as auditor; the proposal was unanimously approved.

- Report of the Editor of the Newsletter

Yvette Shiffman, Editor of the Newsletter, invited everybody to send her materials and information in order to help her in preparing the Newsletter in the best way and as early as possible at the beginning of the next year.

4. New Members

Secretary Bruno Zanon announced that a number of applications were received from participants who are not yet members. They are: Daja Mydinllari Rajmonda (Albania), Kalisch Rotem Einat (Israel), Kop Kristien (Netherlands), Venkateswar Ramaswamy Harish (India), Theodosi Nina (Albania), Willingford Toya (USA), Yusof Omar (Palestine), Stanic Ivan (Slovenia), Esinger Sarah (USA). They were accepted unanimously as SCUPAD members.

5. Recommendations for the Elections

President Franz Oswald described the work done in Prague and Vienna by the Advisory Group and the Committee, which unanimously approved the recommendations for the elections of Committee Members. They were published in the Newsletter. The recommendations were unanimously approved by the general Assembly.

6. Committee Elections

The following Committee members are resigning or are in the position to not be re-elected: Enrique Calderon, Peter Gauder, Frohmut Gerheuser, Maridea Petrova, Joachim Siefert, Peter Zlonicky. Franz Oswald personally thanked everyone for their dedication to SCUPAD and their commitment to the work of the Committee.

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Franz Oswald proposed the names of Committee members and officers suggested by the Committee:

Franz Oswald, President;
Tom de Wit, Vice President for Internal Affairs;
Roberta Gratz, Vice President for External Affairs;
Thomas Dillinger, Treasurer;
Yvette Shiffman, Editor of the Newsletter;
Bruno Zanon, Secretary;
Dieter Läßle, Member;
David Guggenheim, Member;
Saskia Siefert, Member;
Marco Venturi, Member.

The proposal did not recommend filling all the possible positions on the Committee at this time, leaving open the possibility, in the next year, to elect new members, perhaps from Eastern European Countries. President Oswald asked for a vote on the proposed slate. The list proposed by the Committee was unanimously approved.

7. Topics for next year's Congress

Franz Oswald encouraged members to propose topics for the next Congress. It is possible to contribute to the discussion also after the Congress, by means of e-mails sent to him or to other Committee members.

The following topics were proposed:

“Cities in (and) Regions” (Leo van der Meer);
“Network Cities” (Leo van der Meer);
“The new role of the Regions” (Peter Zlonicky);
“Innovation and the city” or “Cities without innovation” (Marco Venturi);

“The original sense of the role of planners” (Marco Venturi);
“The role of the planner” (Joachim Siefert);
“Professionals, politicians and the public - how to incorporate public's voice and maintain high professional standards at the same time” (Petr Štěpánek);
“Adapting cities to the change” (Bob Yaro);
“The role of the cities in the knowledge society” (Dieter Läßle);

“The changing role of the state in the infrastructure provision” (Dieter Läßle).

8. A.O.B.

President Franz Oswald announced that the SCUPAD Congress 2003 would be held on May 15-18. Frohmüt Gerhäuser spoke about his service in the Committee and recommended that people do not underestimate the work done by all the Officers.

Karl Dieter Keim and Paul Pattay mentioned that the red beech tree donated by SCUPAD to the Schloss on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Salzburg Seminar is suffering. Some cures have to be suggested and devoted to the tree in order to keep it alive. Contacts will be kept with the Schloss in order to provide appropriate suggestions.

Evert Verhagen recommended that the Committee address the issue of encouraging new young members, possibly from Eastern European Countries.

Gerhard Schimack remembered the experience of the Ohrid Seminar, which proved that SCUPAD could have an important role in promoting new initiatives regarding countries/ areas that deserve particular attention. SCUPAD should support a group of people developing such a proposal in the next 2 years, involving members from Eastern European countries. Ron Shiffman supported this proposal, which can continue the experience of holding different initiatives in other countries.

Leo van der Meer, interpreting the thoughts of all those present, thanked President Franz Oswald for the hard work he did in the last two years and for his commitment in accomplishing a successful Congress 2002.

The General Assembly closed at 22:50.

SCUPAD General Assembly,
Bruno Zanon, Secretary.



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