



E-IAVE

August 2013

In This Issue

News from IAVE

- **Elections for Regional Representatives to IAVE Board Announced**
- **IAVE's 2013 Regional Conferences – Learn More and Plan to Attend**
- **IAVE's Next World Volunteer Conference – September 15-20, 2014 – Australia!!**
- **IAVE National Representatives in the Spotlight: Vahida Huzejrovic, Bosnia and Herzegovina**
- **Let's Celebrate – Special Anniversaries for GCVC Companies – Part 2**
- **E-IAVE in Portuguese**

News from IAVE Members

- **New Leadership at Volunteering Australia**

The Final Word: BEWARE! Conference Scams Are As Bad As Ever

ELECTIONS FOR REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES TO IAVE BOARD ANNOUNCED

At its meeting on August 15, the IAVE Board of Directors approved the schedule and process for election of Regional Representatives to the IAVE Board for those members whose terms expire in January 2014.

Elections will be held in five of the six IAVE regions. Here are the specifics:

Africa – The new by-laws, adopted last year, allow for one Regional Representative, a reduction of one. The term of Marcel Umesi (Nigeria) expired in July of this year. The second term of Honore Sietso (Togo) expires in January 2014.

Arab Nations – No election is required as Patricia Nabti was re-elected as Regional Representative last year for her second term that will expire in 2015.

Asia-Pacific – The new by-laws, adopted last year, allow for one Regional Representative, a reduction of one. The terms of Indira Dasgupta (India) and Dr Amelita Go (Philippines) expire in January 2014.

Europe – The term of Eugen Baldas (Germany) expires in January 2014.

Latin America – The term of Dacil Acevedo (Panama) expires in January 2014.

North America – The term of David Styers (U.S.) expires in January 2014.

Mr Sietso, Dr Go and Mr Styers are not eligible to stand for re-election as they are completing their second terms. Ms Acevedo is eligible to stand for re-election but has indicated that she does not plan to do so.

Timetable for the Election

September 2-6 – Call for Nominations sent to members in the Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe, Latin America and North America regions.

September 30 – Deadline for return of nominations.

October – Nominating Committee reviews nominations; voting papers prepared

November 1 – Voting papers for each region sent to members in that region

November 30 – Deadline for votes to be received by email, fax or airmail

December 15 – Results announced through E-IAVE

Remember:

- Only current paid members may make nominations and only for candidates in their region.
- Only current paid members as of October 15, 2013 may vote and only for candidates in their region.

Regional Representatives to the IAVE board of directors have two primary roles:

- To be the primary presence for IAVE in the region, giving leadership to development of IAVE in the region, including but not limited to, the recruitment of National Representatives and the organization of regional conferences or other convenings; and,
- To serve on the board of directors, both representing the interests of the region and also participating in setting the strategic direction, program priorities and allocation of resources for IAVE as a whole.

Bottom Line: Look for the Call for Nominations to arrive during the week of September 2.

IAVE'S 2013 REGIONAL CONFERENCES – LEARN MORE AND PLAN TO ATTEND

October 14-16 – Latin America – Guayaquil, Ecuador – www.voluntariadoecuador2013.com

November 24-26 – Arab Nations – Muscat, Oman – www.arabvolunteer.org

December 9-12 – Asia-Pacific – Macao S.A.R., P.R. China - <http://aprvc.avsm.org.mo/>

IAVE'S NEXT WORLD VOLUNTEER CONFERENCE – SEPTEMBER 15-20, 2014 – AUSTRALIA!!

Check out the “Web Hot Special” registration rate – the lowest on offer – at www.iave2014.org/registration/.

IAVE NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES IN THE SPOTLIGHT: VAHIDA HUZEJROVIC, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

[Prepared by Ramona Dragomir, our manager for Network Development and Atlas Corps Fellow.]

This month our spotlight is on Vahida Huzejrovic, from the organization called OSMIJEH, IAVE's National Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). Vahida gives us details about the organization she is involved with, what it means to be a member of IAVE and what are some of the reasons she is so passionate about promoting and developing a culture of volunteering in her community.

“OSMIJEH-GRACANICA was founded in 1996 after the war in BiH to provide psychosocial assistance to people in need and to promote development of voluntary work as a means of self-help and social reconstruction of the country,” Vahida starts by explaining the story of the organization she is involved in. “Since its early founding, OSMIJEH empowers all generations of people to be proactive in rebuilding of their lives and their communities”.

Today OSMIJEH has transformed into an organization which has an extensive experience in implementing projects and programs – locally, nationally, and regionally – which deal with concrete help and services to different target groups. It has rich experience in capacity building and activating people in all generations for active participation in the society, as well as for advocating the rights of disadvantaged groups in BiH, such as children and seniors.

Vahida told us that “being a member of IAVE as well as national representative is being member of a big family that gives you support in many ways. To us it means having access to knowledge, expertise, good practices, ideas, developments, and to many other assets in the area of volunteering globally that we can share then nationally. IAVE empowers us, motivates us to sustain in our efforts. It gives us visibility and promotion.”

“When it comes to volunteering, we are passionate about it because we believe in human beings. When involved, when participating, creating, building...people tend to feel responsibility. Human beings tend to mind, to take care of something we do, build ourselves,” Vahida says.

Looking ahead, she says, “We would be happy to have some IAVE event organized in our country, too. It would bring IAVE and OSMIJEH more visibility, but would also help organizations in BiH to better coordinate their work, to improve their cooperation and unite approaches in promotion of volunteering.

If you want to get in touch with Vahida, she can be reached at hvahida@gmail.com. Be sure to visit OSMIJEH website (www.osmijeh.com.ba) to keep up with their work!

LET'S CELEBRATE – SPECIAL ANNIVERSARIES FOR GCVC COMPANIES – PART 2

[Thanks to Sarah Hayes, consultant director of IAVE's Global Corporate Volunteer Council for this article. Sarah can be reached at sehayes@iave.org if you would like further info on this or on GCVC.]

Last month we shared with our readers several significant anniversaries being celebrated by some of our GCVC companies, highlighting UPS, IBM, Disney Credit Suisse at their Switzerland HQ, Pfizer and Amway. It is exciting to see companies celebrate important events in their corporate lives with employee volunteering projects, special celebratory weeks of volunteering, special NGO and business partnerships and many other community-focused activities.

This month our focus is on Credit Suisse's London office, celebrating five successful years of its Global Education Initiative (GEI), launched in 2008 with the goal of educating 45,000 students.

To achieve this goal they have been working in partnerships with six international NGOs and to date they have had an impact on 89,157 school-age children and have trained 14,724 teachers in 419 schools worldwide. The GEI's three-fold approach aims to break down barriers to access; improve the quality and relevance of education; and support their partners to achieve greater impact and sustainability.

In addition, since 2010 they have been running the Global Citizens Program, an international skills-based volunteering program for employees offering them an opportunity to support their not for profit partners in the Global Education Initiative as well as in our second global initiative, the Microfinance Capacity Building Initiative.

Through this program employees have an opportunity to work on a project with their Education and Microfinance partners in-country. Employees help build the capacity of the partners while benefitting from a unique experience that develops their professional and personal skills. Since 2010, 93 employees have been on 93 Education and Microfinance assignments in 22 countries world-wide.

Hat's off to Credit Suisse – and to all our GCVC companies – new and old – and to the work they are doing to make things better around the world.

E-IAVE IN PORTUGUESE

Many thanks to Heloisa Coelho, IAVE National Representative in Brazil and Executive Director of Riovoluntário, for arranging for translation of E-IAVE into Portuguese. HUGE THANKS to Leonardo Borba who volunteered to do the translation.

Our Portuguese edition can be found at <http://iave.org/content/newsletters>.

AND...

NEWS FROM IAVE MEMBERS

NEW LEADERSHIP AT VOLUNTEERING AUSTRALIA

We were pleased to learn that Volunteering Australia, host organization for IAVE's 2014 World Volunteer Conference, has named its new CEO effective October 1. He is Brett Williamson, former CEO of Surf Life Saving Australia.

On its website, Volunteering Australia reported:

"Mr Williamson will take over from Maureen Cane who has been acting in the position since last October - in conjunction with her role as CEO of Volunteering ACT. The board would like to thank Maureen for her hard work and contribution to Volunteering Australia in taking on this challenging joint role.

"The appointment of a full time CEO, is the next stage in VA's journey, one that began early last year with the relocation of VA headquarters from Melbourne to Canberra.

"VA conducted its most successful National Volunteer Week celebrations in May 2013, and is now making final preparations for the 15th National Conference on Volunteering to be hosted by Volunteering SA&NT in Adelaide 4-6 of September."

THE FINAL WORD...

BEWARE! CONFERENCE SCAMS ARE AS BAD AS EVER

It is been several years since we have warned IAVE members about this but it seems a good time to do it again.

Please be very aware that many (maybe most) emailed invitations to participate in international conferences are actually scams designed to steal your money.

Here are three examples:

- "an international global combined conference against Child abuse/Racism and human trafficking...organized by the human rights and social welfare organization, the (H.R.W.O.)...in collaboration with the United NationsUN & the American electric power AEP...Our conference organizing committee and donor sponsor's will take full responsibility of all registered participants VISA arrangements for the United states and that includes your round trip AIR TICKETS to both events." It supposedly will take place both in the U.S. and Saudi Arabia.
- "The global Congress meeting against Economic Crisis, Child Protection & HIV/AIDS Treatment, Prostitution, Sex Work and forced Labor is scheduled to take place from August 19th – 23rd 2013 in California the United States and in Dakar-Senegal, from August 26th – 30th of 2013. The global congress is hosted by the Campaign against Child Labor Coalition and sponsored by (The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, The William J. Clinton Foundation and other benevolent donors worldwide. Note that all interested delegates that requires entry visa to enter the United States to attend this meeting will be assisted by the organization, in obtaining the visa in their passport. Free air round trip tickets to attend this meeting will be provided to all participants."

- “The Global Association for Women's Rights and Welfare (GAWRW) invite you to the World Summit on Trafficking of Young Women and Children, which will be held from 20th -23rd August 2013 in Washington, DC and from 26 -29 August 2013 in Dakar Senegal.”

How do we know these are not real? Some hints:

1. If you search for the sponsoring organization on the internet, you either will discover that they are listed on a “fraud watch” website or they do not exist.
2. They usually are supposed to take place in two locations. For some reason, Dakar, Senegal seems a popular second location. The first location almost always is in the U.S. or U.K.
3. They promise some degree of help in getting a visa. As those of you who have obtained or tried to obtain a visa to the U.S. or U.K., you know how difficult it is and that it must be done from your country, not by an outside organization.
4. The email addresses from which they come or the email address to which you are to respond has no relationship to the supposed host organization.

Most important – **search for it on the internet before you respond!**