

The Worldwide Organization Serving the Exhibition Industry

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JANUARY

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| Executive Committee: | 15 January, Paris |
| Marketing Working Group: | 16 January, Paris |

FEBRUARY

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| ICT Committee: | 1 February, Paris |
| Exhibition Halls & Fairgrounds Committee: | 14 February, Utrecht |
| European Chapter: | 15 February, Utrecht |
| Associations Committee: | 28 February, Paris |
| Business Management Committee: | 28 February, Paris |

MARCH

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| Executive Committee: | 1 March, Paris |
| Steering Committee: | 1 March, Paris |
| Joint meeting UFI Steering Committee and IAEM Board: | 1 March, Paris |
| Joint meeting UFI / IAEM Executive Committees: | 1 March, Paris |

FOLLOWED BY

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|---|--------------------------|
| Exhibition Halls & Fairgrounds Committee: | 17 May, Munich |
| IAEM Summer meeting: | 18- 20 June, Dallas |
| 69 th UFI Congress | 23 - 25 October, Munich |
| Waste Management Seminar: | 21 - 22 November, Madrid |

The exact date and venue of the **UFI Summer Seminar 2002**, due to take place either in June or early July, will be announced in the coming days.

FOREWORD BY THE UFI PRESIDENT

Dear UFI members,

We intend to produce a regular newsletter to update all our members on what is happening in the hope that you can get more involved in what is being done on your behalf and help us with suggestions and direction on what UFI should be doing. At UFI headquarters we are very conscious that membership of this organisation has to be justifiable in the services and benefits which you receive as a member. It is not enough to belong to an organisation where networking is the most tangible benefit of membership. In a period when many other organisations and associations are challenging for your attention, we intend to meet that challenge and properly represent your interests globally.

Vincent Gérard and I have spent the last few weeks representing UFI at a number of meetings where we have had the opportunity to explain the new directions in which we want to take UFI. With more limited resources than before and increasing costs we are determined to produce a balanced budget with our Treasurer Pentti Kivinen and hopefully improve our reserves. This will undoubtedly involve us in some methods of operating which might upset some of our members and for this I apologise in advance. However, to survive it will be necessary to seek sponsors for activities which we have not considered in the past, to work more closely with other organisations in the running of our activities and to set up strategic alliances with partners who will help us to achieve our ambitions and objectives.

Our prime objective must be the generic promotion of our industry and although that is more difficult in a multi cultural, international organisation we do intend to provide a framework and back up material to assist members in this objective. We also intend to get as much information about what is happening in our industry and the impact that IT and the internet is having on the declining number of visitors in some markets and in some countries where this trend is not just related to terrorism and the economic downturn.

The strengthening of the Chapters remains the biggest priority and I hope this is where the membership growth will come from as each chapter provides the services that are required for the very different problems and challenges posed on different continents and in different regions.

The year ahead will be a challenging time for our Union but I hope that with Vincent Gérard and the whole team in Paris we can retain your confidence and support.

I wish you all a very happy New Year!



I.R. Angus
UFI President



