

**SUMMARY NEWS FROM THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN
TBILISI
ON MAY 1 TO 4, 2008**



Dear members,

The 52nd General Assembly of the World Federation of International Music Competitions was held in Tbilisi on Thursday, May 1st, Friday, May 2 and Saturday, May 3 with an excursion on Sunday May 4, 2008.

37 member competitions were present in Tbilisi with one or two delegates and

all the present members received a proxy.
The meetings took place in the Hotel Courtyard Marriott.

On **Thursday, May 1st**, the delegates were invited to a welcome ceremony at the Youth Palace where they were greeted by the President of the Parliament of Georgia, Mrs Nino Burjanadze and Mrs Manana Doidjashvili, Director of the Georgian Music Competition Fund.



Mrs Manana Doidjashvili



Ceremony at the Youth Palace

The ceremony was followed by a Concert of the Best Young Participants of the « IV Georgian Competition of Musician-Performers » (2007) at the Conservatoire Recital Hall. The prize winners were all under 16 years:

From left to right : Ana Gogova, piano (age: 16), Sandro Sidamonidze, cello (age: 10), Zurab Gvantseladze, oboe (age: 16), Lizi Ramishvili, cello (age: 10), Ana Kipiani, piano (age: 13).



After the concert, Mrs Nino Burjanadze invited all the delegates to a Reception at the Parliament of Georgia, in the Rustaveli Hall.



Friday, May 2, was dedicated to the WFIMC's Plenary Sessions.

After the welcome speeches by our host, Manana Doidjashvili, Director of the Georgian Music Competition Fund and by Mrs Marianne Granvig, President of the Federation, the General Assembly was held according to the Agenda.



Mrs Marianne Granvig's Presidential address dealt with activities during the last year.

Before going further into the Agenda, Mrs Mariane Granvig had the pleasure to congratulate and thank Mrs Linda Anne Engelhardt, First Vice President, for her work in the Federation.

The Minutes of the General Assembly in Terni (Italy) in 2007 were adopted unanimously.



Finances

At its meeting in Geneva on February 8, 2008, the Committee accepted the Treasurer's proposal to redistribute the surplus of the accounts 2007 to the member competitions. Consequently, 61.500 CHF, i.e. 500 CHF to each member competition in 2007, will be reimbursed on the membership invoice in 2009. The General Assembly adopted this proposal unanimously.

The 2007 accounts were adopted unanimously.

The 2009 budget was adopted unanimously.

Proposed amendments of the Statutes

In accordance with Article 24 of the Federation's Statutes, the proposal made by the Melbourne competition was accepted as follows:

“That the Federation's Statutes are amended as suggested by the Federation's lawyers in their annotated copy of the Statutes sent to member competitions with the agenda for the 52nd General Assembly.”

Elections of one Vice President and one member of the Committee for the period 2008/2009

Mr Quinten Peelen (Utrecht / The Netherlands) was elected Vice President for one year.

The Montreal International Music Competition was elected Committee member for the same period.

Possible admission of new members



Three new members were admitted:

International Max Rostal Competition for Viola and Violin, Berlin (Germany)

Swedish International Duo Competition, Katrineholm (Sweden)

The "Joaquin Rodrigo" International Competition (guitar, piano, singing and violin), Madrid (Spain)

Possible new disciplines or changes in the competitions

The International "Lily Laskine" Harp competition was accepted as a new discipline within the membership of the City of Paris International Music Competitions.

The "Carl Nielsen" International Music Competitions announced their decision to take Odense International Organ Competition and Festival under their umbrella, as a new discipline.

The Gyeongnam International Music Competition wanted to add “Isang Yun in Memoriam” to its original name.

Resignation

The International Piano Competition “Pilar Bayona” in Zaragoza has announced its resignation from the Federation.

Considering the new admissions and the resignation of the Competition in Zaragoza, the Federation is today an umbrella organization for 124 member competition

General Assembly in Melbourne from April 16 to 19, 2009

Mr William J. Forrest, AM, President and Mr Benjamin Woodroffe, General Manager, cordially confirmed the invitation to hold the 53d General Assembly of the WFIMC in Melbourne, Australia, on the above-mentioned dates.



Confirmation of the location of the future General Assemblies

2010: Viña del Mar (Chile) - 200 anniversary of the independence

2011: Warsaw-Chopin (Poland)

2012: Martigny (Switzerland)

In addition, the competitions in Tel Aviv and Tongyeong have expressed their wish to organize future General Assemblies in their cities.

2008 WFIMC GRANT

Competition Name _____
 Project Name (if applicable): _____
 Project Start and End Date _____
 Grant Amount Request (Maximum 20 000 CHF) CHF _____

I. GENERAL INFORMATION
(Please type or print)

Competition's Name _____
 Executive Director / President / Secretary General _____
 Address _____ City _____
 Country _____ Zip Code _____
 Telephone _____ Fax _____
 E-mail _____
 Contact Person & Title _____
 Address (if different from above) _____
 Telephone _____ Fax _____
 E-mail address _____

New Grant Programme

Mr Glen Kwok, Vice President of the WFIMC, announced the creation of a Grant Programme. Members will be invited to submit new projects and propose grants to help realize them.

For 2008, member competitions are invited to apply for grants up to ten thousand Swiss Francs (10,000 CHF). Specific eligibility requirements and restrictions from funding are outlined below. Only one application per organization will be accepted.

Grants will be awarded for specific innovative projects that enhance the competition. Eligible projects must be new initiatives or major enhancements to existing programs. Collaborations with other member Competitions are acceptable and encouraged.

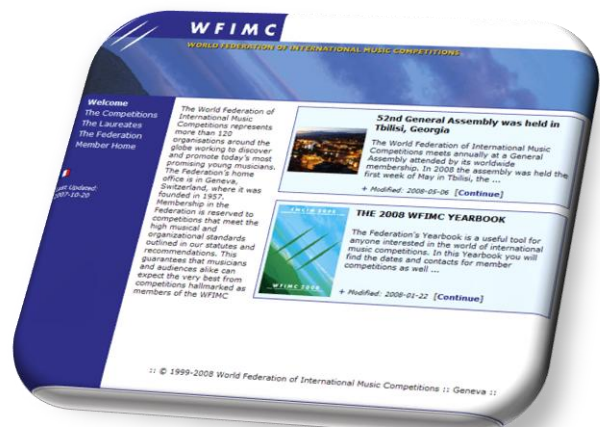
The future of the yearbook

Mrs Marianne Granvig, President of the WFIMC, informed the General Assembly about the creation of a sub committee for the communication strategy. The future of the yearbook should be seen as part of this strategy. Several steps were proposed:

- Change Article 23 of the statutes at the GA in Melbourne 2009
- Substitute the yearbook as we know it now by a max. 24-page publication from the 2010 edition (Autumn 2009)
- A flyer about the Federation be printed every three years (following terms of election)
- Electronical newsletter with info about upcoming competitions and laureates and other news
- Create a facebook on the Federation website after the General Assembly

Federation's website

Mrs Alexandra Marinescu, Assistant, informed the members about the new features added to the website. She pointed out some improvements on the main pages, announced the creation of a new e-mail address for the Federation as well as the creation of a commissioned works database containing as many of these commissioned works as possible with all relevant information. A new feature will be added – a password protected page containing photos from the General Assemblies. Mrs Marinescu invited all members to contribute with their photos



Miscellaneous

Linda Anne Engelhardt, proposed some modifications to the proxy forms sent to members before the General Assemblies. She encouraged members to nominate the competition(s) to give proxy to, if possible. The 2009 form will also include an optional section where instructions can be given about the non-attending competition’s preferences on issues that will be voted upon.

After the meeting, the Tbilisi Piano Competition invited everybody to a performance of the Folk Ensemble “Rustavi” at the Opera and Ballet State Theatre.



The spectacle was followed by a dinner hosted by the Mayor of Tbilisi, Mr Giorgi Ugulava, in honor of the participants of the 52nd General Assembly.



Saturday, May 3



Saturday was dedicated to the seminar “Educational systems for musicians”, moderated by Mr Carl Adalsteinson, Luxembourg.

Presentations of different music education systems by Vice-rector, Prof. Manana Andriadze, Georgia and Prof. Paul Pollei, USA, were followed by a discussion among members of the WFIMC.

At the end of the seminar, members declared their admiration for the non-stop music education system that exists in Georgia as described by Prof. Andriadze. Members considered it to be of the utmost importance for the development of musically talented children - in Georgia and elsewhere - to continue educational systems of this kind in the future.

In the afternoon, members met in workshops by discipline.

After the workshops, members were invited to visit the Georgian National Museum and in the evening, to a piano recital by Mrs Eliso Virsaladze.



The recital was followed by a reception hosted by the Tbilisi International Piano Competition.



From left to right : Mrs Marianne Granvig, Mrs Manana Doidjashvili and Mrs Eliso Virsaladze

Sunday, May 4

Our last day in Tbilisi, was filled with visual emotions!

We visited the region of Kakheti, a province in Eastern Georgia, bordered by the mountain-range of Greater Caucasus to the north.



On our road to Signaghi, we stopped at the Monastery of Saint George at Bodbe.

Originally built in the 9th century, it has been significantly remodeled, especially in the 17th century. The monastery now functions as a nunnery and is one of the major pilgrimage sites in Georgia, due to its association with St. Nino, the 4th-century female evangelist of Georgians, whose relics are kept there.

The Bodbe Monastery is nestled among tall Cypress trees on a steep hillside overlooking the Alazani Valley, where it commands views of the Greater Caucasus mountains.

Our visit continued to Signaghi, a small town renowned for its landscapes and historical monuments.





From left to right : Mrs Barbara Niewiarowska, Mr Zlatko Stahuljak, Mr Mr Jorge Salomó Flores, Mrs Danuta Misiag, Mr Iñaki Gordejuela Hierro

We were invited to take a tour of the Signaghi Museum where, among the treasures of the Georgian art, we saw an exhibition of Niko Pirosmanishvili, one of the outstanding primitivism painters in the World.

In the evening, the Minister of Culture, Monuments Protection and Sports of Georgia, Mr. Nikoloz Vacheishvili, invited us to a Farewell Dinner at the restaurant “Kalakuri”.



Mrs Marianne Granvig took the opportunity to warmly thank our hosts for their fantastic welcome and hospitality!



A warm thank you to our hosts in Tbilisi
And
see you next year in Melbourne!

