



Dear Readers

The CTIF Delegates Assembly at the end of September 2011 in Norway was a turning point for our association. Due to health problems, our former president Walter Egger decided on short notice to step down from his position. As a result, a new Secretary General, Executive Committee and interim president were elected. Together they form our new team.

The elections showed, however, that our statutes include a certain regulation that needs to be revised. This is the clause stating that, after the final voting round, a matter is to be decided by the president's vote.

In the wake of the elections, I call on you to stand together as one firefighting family! Now is the time to join ranks and further develop our organisation and the International Association of Fire and Rescue Services.

The Delegates Assembly showed the wide range of the CTIF's tasks. In our next newsletter, we will report on this in more detail. It will be necessary to further develop the project CTIF 2010. Both the CTIF's role as a network and its levels of information need to be extended. Within our association, this includes the need for the clear positioning, for example, of the European fire brigades in respect to the European Union. This concerns a variety of issues, such as the Working Time Directive, which should on no account be applied to volunteer work. In addition, we will also contact other organisations to form better networks. Aligning the CTIF towards the United Nations (UN) is a logical continuation of our scope of work.

Youth work and competitions are all about crossing boundaries and this year, the country of Slovenia hosted very successful youth competitions during the summer. Apart from excellently organised contests and youth meetings, the International Young Firefighters Meeting was an absolutely unique event. And the Fire Brigade Olympics 2013 are already looming as well. The CTIF is happy and grateful that France has agreed to host the games, not least because the conditions are perfect. We are convinced that the International Competition Commission will be able to host successful games in France and that this will be a great opportunity for our youth to present themselves.

For next year, we plan to have talks with the International Sports Federation of Firefighters and Rescuers to better connect the aspect of both organisations' firefighting sports.

And in other news, a new working group called "Women in the Fire Service" was established to increase the number of women in the fire brigades. These are just a few examples of our work.

Since it is vital in today's fast-paced times, with its high demands on fire brigades and rescuers, to quickly communicate with each other, we are also working very hard to solve the current problems with our website in order to make better use of this vital platform.

In general, it is important to bring together the different principles and approaches within our firefighting organisations. In our next issue, we will report on the commissions' activities. Together, we can make things happen – and so I would like to ask all of you to actively participate in our work.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. h.c. Ralf Ackermann



New elections at the Delegates Assembly in Bergen

The annual CTIF Delegates Assembly took place on 16 September 2011 in Bergen, Norway. The International Technical Committee for the Prevention and Extinction of Fire (CTIF) represents five million firefighters in 39 countries, mostly in Europe, the United States of America (USA) and Russia. Our Permanent Office is located in Berlin.

Representatives from 25 of our member countries were present at the assembly, together with additional representatives from other nations, associated members and chairmen of commissions. President Walter Egger gave an overview on his work and the work of the vice presidents. The chairmen of the commissions and the working groups presented the results of their groups' respective meetings over the past year. A detailed report on these results will be part of the next issue of CTIF-News.

It was also necessary to carry out elections for new functionaries. Point 10 on this year's agenda was the election of the secretary general, six vice presidents, the cash auditor and the representative of the associated members.

Michel Bour, France, was unanimously elected new Secretary General. The following Vice Presidents were elected to the Executive Committee:

- Aleksander Chuprijan, Russia
- Denis Davis, United Kingdom
- Tore Eriksson, Sweden
- Luther Fincher, United States of America (USA)
- Ante Sanader, Croatia
- Marketa Strzinkova, Czech Republic

Julian Wagner (Rosenbauer Company) was elected representative of the associated members. Laurent Wehrli, Switzerland, was re-elected as Treasurer. Ulrich Behrendt, Germany, and Marc Mamer, Luxembourg, were elected Cash Auditors. The previous cash auditors received the organisation's thanks for their excellent work. At their suggestion, the organisation's finances were approved. Due to health problems, the acting president Walter Egger decided on short notice to step down from his position. According to the organisation's statutes, there was not enough time to hold elections. So the Delegates Assembly had to appoint a new president for one year, until new elections can be held in 2012. After extensive talks and following the proposal of the Executive Committee, President Egger suggested to appoint Ralf Ackermann, whose term as vice president will end as scheduled after eight years, as presi-



The Members of the CTIF Executive Committee (from left to right): Julian Wagner, Representative of the Associated Members; Treasurer Laurent Wehrli, Vice President Dennis Davis, Secretary General Michel Bour, Interim President Ralf Ackermann, Vice President Markéta Strlínková, Vice President Luther Fincher, Ante Sanader, Tore Eriksson. Not present: A. Chuprijan (Photo: CTIF)

dent for the duration of one year. Walter Egger further informed the delegates that this motion was agreed by the newly elected Secretary General.

The Delegates Assembly unanimously agreed to the proposal. As a result, Ralf Ackermann, Vice President of the German Fire Services Association, will be interim president for one year.

Immediately following the Delegates Assembly was the first meeting of the new Executive Committee. Its aim was to assign the responsibilities within the new team for the commissions and working groups.

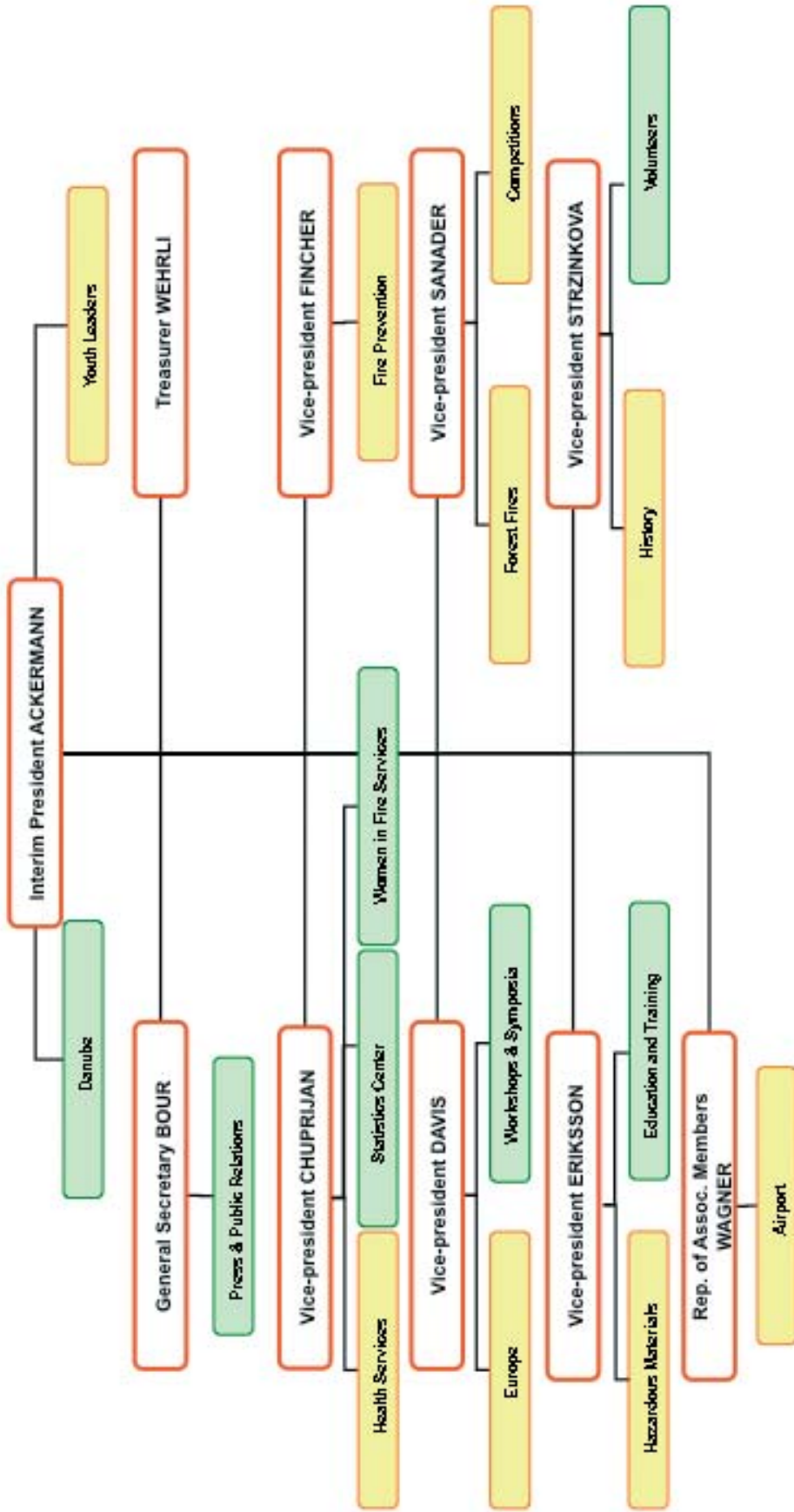
We would like to extend special thanks to the CTIF Committee in Norway led by Ole Hansen for the excellent conditions and the organisation of this year's Delegates Assembly



This year's Delegates Assembly took place in Bergen, Norway.



Organigramm of CTIF Executive Committee



CTIF

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES
 INTERNATIONALE VEREINIGUNG DES FEUERWEHR- UND RETTUNGSWESN
 L' ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES SERVICES D'INCENDIE ET DE SECOURS

Walter Egger appointed Honorary President

Due to health problems, 65-year-old Walter Egger, Adlikon (Switzerland), stepped down from his position as CTIF President as of 16 September 2011. The delegates from the member states unanimously agreed to the Executive Committee's proposal to appoint Walter Egger Honorary President. He was awarded an honorary certificate by the CTIF at the end of the meeting.

For 13 years, Walter Egger was committed as an executive with the CTIF, following his position as president of the Swiss Fire Service Association (SFV). From 1998 to 2004, he worked as the SFV's treasurer, from 2003 to 2004 he was Secretary General and president and as of 2004 president of the SVF.

Many important issues were tackled during his term, such as the working group »CTIF Future 2010«, the

establishment of a half-day General Secretariat and, one of his favourite projects, the Firefighting Museum. He succeeded in his wish to increase the number of member countries and associated members.

During his term, he reflected typical Swiss characteristics such as self-initiative, determination and uprightness. He treated everyone with respect and was always willing to reach out to others.

We would like to thank him for his manifold activities and his commitment within CTIF. We wish him all the best and particularly good health for his future



Staff news from the member associations

France – In the French city of Metz, Richard Vignon, President of the French Fire and Rescue Services, was appointed Prefect for Security and Defence of the 18 Départements in the eastern part of France. He will therefore no longer act as the Head of the National CTIF Commission.

Luxembourg – Jean-Pierre Hein will step down as President of the Firebrigade Federation of the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg on 31 December 2011. His successor will be the current Secretary General Marc Mamer.

A n n o u n c e m e n t
Fire Olympics 2013
MULHOUSE/France
14th to 21st of July 2013