



International Fellowship of Reconciliation

Internationaler Versöhnungsbund
Mouvement International de la Réconciliation
Movimiento Internacional de la Reconciliación

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Dear members and friends,

Two years ago the IFOR Council meeting in Baarlo decided to celebrate the 100-year existence of IFOR in 2014 in conjunction with the Council meeting. A preparation working group was to be formed to explore and plan. Since last summer there have been two meetings of a committee formed by the three branches bordering on Konstanz, where the 1914 International Peace Conference was held and where we will **celebrate the Centennial on August 1 - 3, 2014** and hold the IFOR Council during the week following the celebrations.

The Baarlo Council in 2010 asked for several ideas to be explored. These include a public celebration and the publication of a commemoration book. Both of these ideas are under way of planning now. Five preparatory committees (see attachments) have been identified to make sure every aspect of the events is well planned and implemented in ways that do justice to the occasion and to the movement.

IFOR is a world-wide network and the Centennial has to reflect the diversity and colors of the IFOR movement. This is why we are writing to all of you wherever you are because your inputs are fundamental.

More specifically we have three requests:

1. To appoint one person from your Branch, Group or Organization who will be the point and contact person for IFOR Centennial.
2. To send ideas and suggestions for the Centennial to the IFOR office in Alkmaar. As evident in the attached reports there are three areas where inputs are especially needed:
 - I) **Vision – Mission:** Ideas for the overall motto of the Council
 - II) **Goal for the Centennial:** Concrete achievements of the activities
 - III) **Activities and Events:** Ideas for Workshops, public events etc.

For examples and ideas please refer to point 5) of the second planning meeting report Konstanz 2014 (attached).

3. To suggest names of people who can serve on one of the planning committees.

The committees are established as follows:

- A. Programme and Events Committee**
- B. Fundraising Committee**
- C. Media and Outreach Committee**
- D. Logistics Committee**
- E. Committee on History of IFOR**

Attached you will find one terms of reference for each committee and one interim convener.

We ask you to respond to these three requests by sending your names and ideas to the International Coordinator, Francesco Candelari (f.candelari@ifor.org), no **later than January 25 2013**.

From 25 January 2012 until 5 February, names and ideas will be collected to be presented to ICOM. Chairs will be suggested by ExCom and International Coordinator in consultation with the preparatory working group. By 22 February ICOM will officially appoint chairs and participants for each committee and provide the framework under which each subcommittee will work until 2014.

We are excited about the perspective of celebrating together and with many people from many places. Nonviolence and reconciliation is in the air, even though the news suggest otherwise!

We also take this opportunity to confirm what you will have learned through the IFOR News, that IFOR has begun a new chapter in its history with the departure of WPP as an independent Foundation. The IFOR office is very, very small right now. However, it is committed and geared to rebuilding relationships with the BGAs and needs your input and commitment as well! The Executive Committee and ICOM are glad to inform you that Francesco Candelari has been reappointed to another term of duty as International Coordinator. He has brought much vision and energy to IFOR and we begin to see the results of his dedication and creativity, both financially and in terms of relationships with the BGAs and with IFOR's partners around the world.

Finally, we wish you joy, peace and strength for the journey as the year 2012 draws to its close. May we build peace and spread reconciliation together in whatever we do or say! May the divine Spirit, which is Love, guide and comfort us all.

Sincerely in peace

Hansuli Gerber

IFOR President

