



**ORGANISATION MONDIALE POUR L'ÉDUCATION PRÉSCOLAIRE  
WORLD ORGANIZATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION  
ORGANIZACIÓN MUNDIAL PARA LA EDUCACIÓN PREESCOLAR**

## **ASIA-PACIFIC eNEWS Number 25     November 2005**

### **From the Regional Vice President**



Dear National President,

Greetings! With this letter I send my best wishes for your work for children in our region and beyond. I would appreciate your acknowledgement of this eNEWS and also your responses to the various reminders for action.

### **World President's Request.**

By now you will have received the detailed minutes of the World Assembly held in Havana, Cuba. The President Selma Simonstein asks that these be discussed with members and comments sent to her. She would like all members of OMEP to be fully informed about debates and decisions and reminds us that 'OMEP is the sum of its members – there is no OMEP body apart from us'.

I understand that communication is a continuing problem for many organizations. Recently I have been speaking with members of several other world bodies, Amnesty and Oxfam. Though these both have large secretariats and the resources for much publicity and member mailouts, they still have difficulty with ensuring that members are fully informed about what is happening. OMEP (that is, you and I) must continue to work at resolving this problem.

### **Annual Reports**

As we near the end of the year it is time to be thinking of your annual report for the World President.

To aid your thinking about what to put in your report, you could re-read this year's report which included poems and photographs. (Selma would be pleased to receive some for 2006). An amendment to the Constitution requires you to record the *number* of members in your country, and the *type of membership* they hold. In Havana, Stig Lund from Denmark explained why it is important to explain what sort of membership. In Denmark there are about 48 members, but very few are individual ones. Most are representing colleges and other institutions. Stig himself represents a teachers union with 55,000 members, so the Danish National Committee is composed of thousands of people.

On pages 9 and 10 of the Minutes of the World Assembly Vital Didonet, former Vice President, reminds us that the Annual Report is 'OMEP's face shown to the world'. As Vital says, it is important that 'we get to know the relevance, meaning and importance of OMEP both in each country and worldwide'. We should show what has been done to improve children's lives – through teacher training, publications, parent seminars, exhibitions or provision of services – so that others may be encouraged in their own efforts.

So as well as the numbers of members, your report should be an account of

- The activities of OMEP in your country for the period January – December 2005, especially those relating to the world project, Children from Birth to Three.
- Any activities conducted in co-operation with other OMEP committees and participation in regional events
- The most urgent challenges faced by OMEP in your country in 2006, and your plans to meet these challenges.

### **Asia-Pacific Conference**

There is still time for you to register for the Regional Conference in Wellington, New Zealand December 2-4. I hope to see representatives from each National Committee at the Conference and the Regional Meeting which follows. You will be able to meet Doreen Launder, the proposed Vice President. The Conference program sounds very interesting and the offer of home hospitality is most generous. Please encourage your members to register and help make this a great gathering of OMEP colleagues. Full details of registration and program are on [www.vuw.ac.nz/omep2005/programme.html](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/omep2005/programme.html)

### **Regional Meeting**

**Sunday, December 4, 2005 from 10.30 am-3.00 pm.** This day promises to be a good opportunity for us to share information and perhaps to plan for a region-wide project. During the morning session I would like to receive a report from each national committee, especially your ideas about work for children from birth to three years. (It could be a summary of your report for the World President, see above). If you are not going to be present, please send me a copy of your report before November 23 and I will have it read out at the meeting. In the afternoon we will make plans for 2006.

### **Action needed:**

- **Acknowledge eNews**
- **Read and discuss minutes from World assembly Havana**
- **Write annual report**
- **Register for Conference and regional meeting**
- **Send report and ideas for discussion to Regional Vice President.**

Until I see you in Wellington,  
Best wishes

Joan Waters