

To IFSW Member organisations, the IFSW Executive Committee and IFSW international representatives

## **Medal in Memory of Andrew Mouravieff-Apostol (Andy)**

The International Federation of Social Workers is pleased to invite nominations of candidates to receive the 2008 Medal and Diploma in Memory of Andrew Mouravieff-Apostol.

The Medal and Diploma will be presented at the IFSW General Meeting in Salvador de Bahia, Brazil\*. The Medal honours Andrew Mouravieff's memory and is awarded to an individual or organisation that has stimulated the further development of international social work. Candidates can be either an individual or organisation. Eligible candidates must, over time, have made an outstanding contribution to the social work profession on an international level and thereby enhanced our visibility. The recipient must have shown enterprise and initiative as well as dedication to the profession. The contribution must have transcended international borders and reflected social work values.

Nominations can be made by IFSW's member organisations in good standing, Officers and Members of the IFSW Executive Committee and official IFSW international representatives, and should be received by the IFSW Secretariat not later than 1 June 2008.

Nominations should include a summary of the candidates working history. A statement addressing the criteria listed above must accompany the nomination.

A Committee consisting of Ellen Mouravieff-Apostol, IFSW President David N Jones and the former recipients Evelyn Balais Serrano, Gayle Gilchrist James and Richard Ramsay will consider the nominations and make a final decision to be made official at the IFSW General Meeting in Salvador de Bahia, Brazil 13 – 15 August, 2008.

### Andrew "Andy" Mouravieff-Apostol

Dr. Andrew "Andy" Mouravieff-Apostol, IFSW's Secretary General from 1975 to 1992 and later Honorary President died in Geneva 13 August, 2001.

Andy's lifetime spanned close to a century. He was born in Cannes, France 7 February 1913 of Russian /Ukrainian parents. The family was abroad when the 1917 revolution in Russia broke out and it

was impossible for the aristocratic family to return home. Not until the time of the perestroika in the late 1980's, Andy could return to his former homeland for visits.

Andy started his career as a journalist and worked as a foreign correspondent in England before and during World War II. During the war he also served in the Free French military forces. After the war, Andy left journalism and took up a position with the World Council of Churches and later with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. He served in many countries, but mainly in South America, where he met his future wife Ellen. The couple settled in Geneva, where Andy until his death worked as a professional interpreter at the United Nations and other international bodies.

From 1975 to 1992 Andy was IFSW Secretary General, and was elected lifelong Honorary President when he retired in 1992. For IFSW, Andy was the cornerstone. He communicated with social workers of all countries with warmth, knowledge and diplomacy and became like a father for the international social work community.

\*Please observe that travel costs to the General Meeting cannot be funded by IFSW.

Best regards

Tom Johannesen

Secretary General

**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS**

Postfach 6875, Schwarztorstrasse 22, CH-3001 Berne,

SWITZERLAND

Tel (41) 31 382 6015

Fax (41) 31 382 1125

[global@ifsw.org](mailto:global@ifsw.org)

<http://www.ifsw.org>