

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS  
FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES ASSISTANTS SOCIAUX ET DES ASSISTANTES SOCIALES  
FEDERACION INTERNACIONAL DE TRABAJADORES SOCIALES

# NEWSLETTER

October 1973

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Basle, October 1973

Dear colleagues,  
dear friends,

Time is running tremendously fast, about 5 months passed since you received the first Circular Letter from the Permanent Secretariat in Switzerland. This second information should in fact be in your hands since more than one month. Unfortunately, during my stay in Poland, where I intended to come into closer contact not only with the Ministry of Social Welfare, but also with the Schools of Social Work and especially with Social Workers, I have been involved in a car accident. It was a bad accident, and we all sitting in this car can be more than thankful to be alive and not invalid for lifetime. Since 5 weeks, I am back home and partly able to work. I am sitting in a wheelchair, try to learn to walk again which all is quite painful and tiring. So - I hope - you all will understand that life actually is rather difficult for me and that some tasks will be delayed. However, I am certain that I can count on your understanding.

With many thanks and hopefully yours,

*C. Chuard*

But even without this misluck, I am convinced that for the time being, it will be nearly impossible to send out such a Newsletter every two months as it was foreseen at the beginning. There is just too little time for one person to read, to summarize and to bring to paper everything which could be of interest to you and which I would like to let you know. I never had expected that in this short time our new established and very modest secretariat would be used in such an extended way for exchange of any kind of information. Some responses can be given immediately, others need more time to be made available.

This shows once more the urgent need of a broader scale of documentation for our IFSW Secretariat. We have - in a reasonable way - to compile important documents from all over the world, especially in view of a direct help not only to our member associations, but also to individuals. To reach this aim, the Secretariat needs your collaboration. It depends on the Member Associations whether IFSW will be able to build up a well functioning and trustworthy Permanent Secretariat.

I do not intend to talk to you about my short experience, it seems to me much more important to forward to you direct information, reports, summaries, etc., some of them you find attached to this Newsletter. Please excuse if somebody of you gets the same information twice. Some events which happened in the different regions were communicated to member associations by regional circular letters. However, I hope that by the time, such inexactitudes will disappear, this too is a question of experience, collaboration and know-how.

A further Newsletter will be dispatched early in 1974. In between, I hope that all of you are looking forward to arrange all the possible to attend our 1974 Permanent Council and Symposium in Nairobi. Let's hope that this event will be a successful one and especially attractive for our colleagues from all African countries.

Thank you for your precious collaboration, on which I do count also for the coming year. I do wish all of you a successful 1974, a new year from which we all belonging to IFSW and therefore closely related to human wellbeing do expect better understanding between countries and peoples and an increasing willingness to honest discussion.

Looking forward to seeing as many colleagues as possible next July in Kenya, I remain,

yours very cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. Chuard".

(Mrs. Catherine Chuard, Secretary-General IFSW)

## 2. Granada

The meeting of the Executive Committee of IFSW took place in a friendly surrounding, in a beautiful country and under favourable circumstances. The minutes of this meeting will be sent out in the next future to our member associations. We all would have liked to have a larger group of European Social Workers to come together with our Spanish friends. The "Spanish Day" with workshop, discussions and visits was of great interest for everybody and of important help to our Spanish colleagues. There is no doubt that Spanish social workers became more and better acquainted with IFSW and could get concrete professional support.

## 3. Regional Activities

### - Planned Meeting of the Presidents of the European Member Associations

It was suggested and is planned to held a Meeting of the European Presidents early in 1974, meeting which should give the possibility to strengthen direct communication and to discuss the following points:

- Relation between the professional social workers and the governmental bodies of the Common Market in each country
- The Common Market and the equivalence of diploma (formation, selection), etc. etc.

Date: Between the 20th February and the 15th March 1974

Place: Strassbourg (France) or Dublin (Ireland)

Participants: Two representatives of each association (at least)

Languages: Translation (simultaneously) in English, French and Spanish

Let's hope enough countries are interested in such a meeting which also could be a sort of preparatory meeting for the 1974 Symposium in Nairobi.

- The Asian Region of IFSW is planning a meeting just before our Permanent Council and Symposium. This will take place in Jerusalem (Israel) 1.-4.7.74

### - Latin America and the Caribbean Region

There is a proposal to organise a joint Latin American and Caribbean conference with the following theme and objectives:

Theme: Meeting the Challenges to Social Work

Objectives:

1. To provide an opportunity for social workers to meet and share experiences, knowledge and ideas, and bring up-to-date their own information on problems related to development.

2. To examine

- a) the implications of the changes which are taking place in the society and the new needs and challenges arising;
- b) the relevance of Social Workers policies and programmes to these new needs;
- c) to develop appropriate guidelines for social work practice in the circumstances.

Participants: About 30 Social Workers from all countries of the region.

Duration: Four days in February or April, 1974

Place: University of the West Indies or the Casa Monte Hotel, Kingston, (Jamaica)

4. Nairobi (Kenya) 1974

IFSW Permanent Council Meeting: 8 - 10th July 1974

IFSW Symposium: 10 - 13th July 1974

a) Theme: THE CHANGING ROLE OF SOCIAL WORK IN A CHANGING SOCIETY

b) Preliminary programme:

10/7/73	3.00 p.m.	Opening Session Key note
11/7/73	9.00 a.m.	6 groups 3 open groups Topic I
	14.30 p.m.	6 groups 3 open groups Topic II
12/7/73	9.00 a.m.	Plenary Session Summary I and II
	11.00 a.m.	6 groups 3 open groups Topic III
	14.30 p.m.	" "
13/7/73	9.00 a.m.	Plenary Session Summary Closing Session

Topics:

- I The philosophical concept of Social Workers
  - 1) Code of ethics
  - 2) the social and economic background and position of the SW in relation to his values
  - 3) The political function of SW
  
- II The goals, objectives and function of SW
  - 1) The role of SW in social policy and planning
  - 2) Implementation of social policy at different levels
  - 3) The SW as enabler of citizen partnership
  
- III The means to achieve the goals
  - 1) Does training meet the needs of the profession?
  - 2) Do the means of an agency, such as structures, programmes, meet the goals of SW in respect of needs of the society?
  - 3) What can be the role of research in the field of SW?

As already mentioned in the first Circular Letter,  
IASSW holds its annual Congress from July 5th - 9th in Addis Abbeba,  
and  
ICSW from July 13th - 20th in Nairobi.

5. Collaboration with other International Bodies

As you know from several memorandas sent out by our president, Miss Teresita Silva, one of the greatest concerns of our Federation is to find out ways and means of concrete collaboration with other international bodies. This aim can be reached only if IFSW is able to present projects interesting such bodies, as e.g. UNESCO, UNICEF, etc. After our meeting in Granada, our President had the chance to spend a few days in the United States, which did allow her to contact several personalities and to check how a collaboration with IFSW could be done in the most efficient way. These questions will have to be discussed during our 1974 Permanent Council.

(Please see appendix No. 1)

IFSW is now regularly contacted by UNESCO, UNICEF, ILO and also invited to all kind of seminars, meetings, expert groups and other events. As far as possible, the President, the Vice-Presidents or the Secretary-General are representing IFSW on such occasions.

(Please see appendices No. 2 and 3).

6. Co-operation between IASSW, ICSW and IFSW at International Level

For several years already, there were discussions of better and especially more concrete collaboration between IFSW and the above mentioned bodies. The attached paper (appendix Nr. 4) may be a first step in reaching this goal. We hope that in spite of all the difficulties of a closer collaboration, Professor Leapers inquiry and reply may encourage and give new ideas to as much of our member associations as possible.

(Please see also appendix Nr. 5)

7. Activities of the Permanent Secretariat

- In December last year, the Permanent Secretariat started with an empty room, some old papers, journals and some material. Regarding the finances, there is no reason to expect from IFSW to be in possession now of an important, well furnished and perfectly functioning secretariat. We still are the two of us to do all the work, Mrs. Bieri and myself - and this not full-, but part-time. As it was recommended in Granada, I was looking for a secretarial help. During 6 weeks in July/August, a student was of great help in sorting out old papers, setting up registrations, etc.

But in spite of this modest beginning, it is possible today to overlook the whole organization of IFSW. There is still a great lack of information, still events do happen in the field of IFSW the secretariat never is informed of, but on the other hand, we can provide already now useful information, concrete indications in special fields. To facilitate the task of the Permanent Secretariat and to enable it to be informed on a larger scale, I do add to this letter a memorandum, addressed to Presidents and/or Secretaries of countries in membership, asking them to fill in all the requested data. Please send this paper to

Mrs. Catherine Chuard  
Secretary-General IFSW  
P.O. Box 713  
4002 Basle/Switzerland

not later than

15th January 1974.

- Contacts by correspondence do increase from day to day. Many questions cannot be responded directly as they have to be forwarded to National Associations, to the Vice-President responsible or even presented to the Executive Committee Meeting or to our next Permanent Council. There were again many close contacts with UNESCO, UNICEF, etc. I hope all our Member Associations did follow up the memoranda sent out by our President concerning collaboration with UNICEF.

- I am pleased having been invited several times to annual meetings of member associations. I am even more pleased that some countries did not only invite me, but also cover travel and boarding costs.

More detailed information regarding travelling of the Secretary-General will be given in the next Newsletter.

- May I draw once more your attention to the decision taken at Leeuwenhors that all member associations are asked to

send their constitution to the Secretary-General,

and also, if there are any,

their code of ethics.

I have not yet received many of these documents. Please do send them as soon as possible to: P.O. Box 713, 4002 Basle. Thank you.

8. Various

- a) It may be of common interest that the Netherlands Association of Social Workers has agreed to enter into a reciprocal agreement with the National Association of Social Workers of the United States for mutual recognition of members.

Since the NASW Board of Directors has already approved this agreement, it will go into effect immediately and publicized so that any Dutch Social workers residing in the United States will be aware of it:

AGREEMENT FOR MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF MEMBERSHIP

between

THE NETHERLANDS ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

and

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

"Any person who is an ordinary or associate member (completed training for the profession of social work but not working in the field of social work) of the Netherlands Association of Social Workers will be eligible for full membership in the National Association of Social Work after completion of one year of social work employment in the U.S.A.

Any person who is a regular member of the National Association of Social Workers will be eligible for ordinary membership in the Netherlands Association of Social Work after completion of one year of social work employment in the Netherlands."



- b) Also of common interest may be the fact that the German Commission for the Code of Ethics (belonging to the German Association of Social Workers) was working in Holland assisted by Dutch colleagues and therefore able to take into consideration Dutch experiences regarding Code of Ethics.
- c) Please take note of the following new addresses:

The Secretariat of the British Association of Social Workers did move from London to Birmingham. The new address is:

BASW  
16, Kent Street  
Birmingham BS 6 RD  
Tel. 021 622 3911

There is a new address of the Dutch Secretariat:

NVMW  
Nederlandse Vereniging van Maatschappelijk Werkers  
Wittevrouwenstraat 34  
Utrecht 2501  
Tel. 030 33 41 44

And the actual address of the Korean Association of Social Workers is:

KASW  
382-14, Hap Jung-Dong, Mapo-Ku  
Seoul / Korea  
Tel. 34 0472. 0473

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Enclosures mentioned