

## Report from WSCF Europe Senior Friends Meeting

(Budapest, 8<sup>th</sup>–10<sup>th</sup> February 2008)

*Between the 8th and 10th February 2008, seventeen senior friends of WSCF Europe coming from nine countries and two continents met in Budapest, Hungary. Possibilities for setting up a senior friends network in the Europe Region were discussed, and the following ideas were developed there by the participants.*

*It would be good if regular meetings for senior friends could be organised; they could take place annually (or biannually). The next meeting might take place in February 2009 in Wien, Austria.*

*An increased effort should be made to involve senior friends of WSCF Europe from all generations in the next meeting and in the future.*

*The next meeting might take place without being attached to another event; but a future senior friends meeting could well take place just before (or after) a global, regional or subregional WSCF conference, regional or general assembly.*

*The possibility of attaching it to other ecumenical gatherings, for example a conference of the International Ecumenical Fellowship (IEF), was also discussed and considered.*

*The International Ecumenical Fellowship (IEF, established in 1967, [www.iefnet.info](http://www.iefnet.info)) and its past and future activities and projects were presented during the meeting.*

*All participants were encouraged to help complement the senior friends database by researching names in their own countries, in cooperation with the national offices.*

*It was agreed that a senior friends forum (currently: <http://senior-friends.bonniot.dyndns.org>) shall be created after the meeting to exchange ideas and thoughts in between the meetings.*



*In the future as in the past, the participants expressed their commitment that they intend to serve the World Student Christian Federation (WSCF) in whatever ways possible. The following participants attended: ASZALÓS Kinga (Hungary), Rebecca BLOCKSOME (United States of America, Slovenia), Daniel BONNIOT (France), Kate DAVSON (Great Britain), Tobias DÖBRICH (Germany), GÖMBÖCZ Elvira (Hungary), Katharina IGENBERGS (Austria), KMECS Ildikó (Hungary), KÖRMENDY Petra (Hungary), Silke LECHNER (Germany), LEKENY Hajnal (Hungary), LÉVAI Ildikó (Hungary), NAGYPÁL Szabolcs (Hungary), Markus OJAKOSKI (Finland), Suzanna VERGOUWE (Netherlands), Jooa VUORINEN (Finland), and Rachael WEBER (United States of America).*

## **A note from the Regional Secretary:**

WSCF Europe is constantly developing its communication with senior friends. During the global General Assembly of WSCF in Montréal, 1-10 August 2008, almost 50 senior friends from all over the world gathered in a meeting, including 7 from Europe. The European friends met with the European Secretary for a discussion about the past, present and future of the region, focusing also on how senior friends could assist in this journey.

Developing and compiling the database of European senior friends is one of the working priorities of the region, but this cannot happen without the help of the senior friends. As envisaged in the meeting

in Budapest in February 2008, we wish to compile a database of not only names, but also of resources. If you would like to help by telling us how you would consider supporting the Federation's life – by lecturing on your field of expertise in a conference, supporting or advising the region or a specific SCM, fundraising, helping us to identify or reach other senior friends, what ever you feel a calling for - please let us know!

Please do not hesitate to contact the regional office at **regionaloffice@wscf-europe.org**. You can also join the internet forum at <http://senior-friends.bonniot.dyndns.org/> by requesting a new account. We look forward to hearing from you.

*Jooa Vuorinen, from Finland, has been the European Regional Secretary since January 2008.*

