

APR President's Annual Report 2013

In pursuit of fulfilling my mission from the first year of my Presidency, I organized two major events with the support of the Kuwaiti Government, where Craftspeople from various countries gathered on one platform to exchange expertise and knowledge, build friendship and sell products. One was **REGIONAL** launched in January at the beginning of the year, and the other was **INTER-REGIONAL**, launched in November at the end of the year. As seen below, a number of activities, including APR Board Meetings, special meetings with APR Vice Presidents and other members, attending crafts festivals and expos, took place in between. The major events were held in **January** and **November 2013**.

I. January 20-25th, 2013: “The WCC-APR Handicraft Week”

In **January 20-25, 2013**, the first leg of my **REGIONAL Mission** materialized in the event of **“The WCC-APR Handicraft Week”** held in Kuwait. Initiated by APR Presidency in collaboration with the Secretary General of National Council for Culture, Arts & Letters (NCCAL), craftspeople, WCC President, APR Board members and other guests from 18 Asian-Pacific countries were invited to Kuwait from the furthest ends of Asia Pacific Regions, West and East, North and South, to participate in this event.

The Asia Pacific Handicrafts Week, inaugurated by the Minister of Information & State Minister for Youth Affairs, H.E. Shaikh Salman al-Humoud al-Sabah, was initiated by APR President Dr.Ghada Hijjawi-Qaddumi in collaboration with the Secretary General of the National Council for Culture, Arts & Letters, Eng. Ali al-Youha.



WCC-APR Flag in front of Kuwait National Museum Theatre Building



Press Conference with APR Board Members preceded the opening ceremony held at Hyatt Regency Hotel on Jan 20th.



Opening Ceremony

The event comprised of the following activities:

1. A **WORKSHOP** entitled **“Artisans at Work”**: Guest craftspeople met with each other and with the host craftspersons to demonstrate their skills and to exchange friendly relations.



NCCAL Secretary General, Eng. Ali al-Youha with APR President visiting a Malaysian artisan at Work after the Opening Ceremony



Felt Craftswoman from Kyrgyzstan at work



NCCAL Secretary General visiting the booth of a Kuwaiti Basket Weaver and a Jewelry Artisan





A craftswoman from Taiwan demonstrating her craft



NCCAL Secretary General watching a Chinese craftswoman demonstrating her craft

2. **Recycling** demonstration entitled **“From Waste to Wealth”**:

Guest artisans met with a large number of Kuwaiti artisans, specifically students.



A Young Kuwaiti Student demonstrating recycled paper to the visitors



An Artisan from Australia demonstrating her recycled jewelry

3. **An EXHIBITION** entitled **“UNESCO Award of Excellence for Handicrafts”** where awarded products from South, South East, Central and East Asia were showcased. This was the first time that an APR comprehensive exhibition of UNESCO awarded products was set up since the inception of this award. It was curated by Ms. Nirula Manjari, VP of South Asia sub-region.



H.E. the Head of the NCCAL, NCCAL Secretary General, H.E. the Indian Ambassador in Kuwait, and the VPs of South Asia and Central Asia



APR President, Immediate Past APR President, and the VP of South Asia with H.E. the Head of the NCCAL and the NCCAL Secretary General



The VP of South Asia, NCCAL Secretary General, H.E. Head of the NCCAL, WCC-President and WCC-Secretary General at the Opening of the Exhibition



H.E Shaikh Humud al-Sabah the Head of the NCCAL with the VP of Central Asia

4. A PANEL DISCUSSION of Two Sessions:

a. **English** on crafts topics, whereby members from APR Executive Board spoke:

- (1) Y.M.Raja Datin Paduka Fuziah binti Raja Tun Uda from Malaysia, on “World Crafts Council/WCC: History and Objectives”,
- (2) Ms. Surapee Rojanavongse from Thailand on “Crafts and Education”,
- (3) Ms. Sayyada Ruby Ghuznavi from Bangladesh, on “Natural Dyes-Training of Trainers (TOT)”, and
- (4) Mr. Edric Ong from Malaysia, on “Marketing Promotion-Exhibitions of Craft Fairs”.



APR Executive Board Members who participated in the Panel Discussion in English

b. **“Arabic** on Special Cases” in West Asia sub-region. Main speakers were:

- (1) Dr. Ali Najadah from Kuwait.
- (2) Dr. May Hobeika from Lebanon
- (3) Mr. Ahmed Saleh from Oman, VP of APR-West Asia



The three speakers who participated in the Panel Discussion in Arabic

5. **ASIA PACIFIC REGION 1ST BOARD MEETING IN 2013** convened in Hyatt Regency Hotel on Jan. 23rd, 2013. (Appendix 1: Copy of the Minutes of Meeting e-mailed to WCC President and Secretary General on May 1, 2013.)



APR Executive Board during the First Board Meeting for 2013, held on 23rd Jan 2013.



APR Executive Board Members posing after the meeting for a group photo with WCC-President & Secretary General, Immediate Past WCC-President, Immediate Past WCC Secretary General, Immediate Past APR President & Secretary General, and current APR President & Secretary General

6. A **FASHION SHOW** entitled “**Traditional Splendor-Asia Pacific Region**” which was a successful finale to the event. It was organized by Ms. Noorjehan Belgarmi, (a WCC-APR member from Pakistan) and Ms.Nadya Ahmad from LOYAC (a youth society in Kuwait).



Fashion Show of traditional costumes

7. “**APPRECIATION CERTIFICATES**” were awarded to craftspersons by the Secretary General of NCCAL, Eng. Ali al-Youha, and the Director of Cultural Department, Mr. Sahl al-‘Ajmi, to Craftspersons at a lunch hosted by WCC-APR President, Dr.Ghada Hijjawi-Qaddumi, at the Sheraton Hotel.



NCCAL Secretary General, APR President, Immediate APR Past President, in a group photo with participating craftspersons after being awarded Appreciation Certificates by the NCCAL

II. November 11-15, 2013: African Handicrafts Event

In Nov. 11-15th, my **INTER-REGIONAL Mission** was realized by the **African Handicrafts Event** held in Kuwait in collaboration with the National Council for Culture, Arts & Letters (NCCAL) and under the patronage of Kuwait Government, as part of the celebrations that preceded the **3rd Arab-African Summit**, which was held in Kuwait Nov. 18-20, 2013.



Mr. Bila Clément OUEDRAOGO the Representative of the President of WCC-Africa Region with WCC-President Mr. Wang Shan and APR President Dr. Ghada Hijjawi-Qaddumi, before the Opening Ceremony



Advisor at the Amiri Diwan, Mr. Mohamed Abul Hasan, President of WCC-Southern Africa, H.E. State Minister of Cabinet Affairs and Minister of Health, Shaikh Mohamed Abdullah al-Mubarak al-Sabah, and the Representative of the President of WCC-Africa Region.



At the Opening Ceremony, attended by H.E. the State Minister of Cabinet Affairs and Minister of Health, NCCAL Secretary General, WCC-President, the Representative of the President of WCC-Africa Region, Presidents and Vice Presidents of WCC-Africa subregions, Immediate Past WCC President, WCC-Secretary General and participating craftspersons from Africa



H.E. the State Minister of Cabinet Affairs and Minister of Health, handing gifts to APR President, the Representative of the President of WCC-Africa Region and WCC-President



WCC-President, the Representative of the President of WCC-Africa Region, APR President, H.E. the State Minister of Cabinet Affairs & Minister of Health, the President of WCC-Southern Africa region, H.E. Advisor to Amiri Diwan and the Secretary General of NCCAL

The Event included:

- I. A WORKSHOP**, where **34 African craftspeople from 24 African countries** participated, along with **2 Arab artisans from Asia**, and 2 more host artisans from **Kuwait** (total 38 craftspeople).

The crafts demonstration ranged from textiles weaving and decorative techniques such as batik and embroidery, wood carving, beaded jewelry, tree bark cloth, basketry, leatherwork, mosaic, wood marketry, sadu weaving, ship-building, silver smithing, etc.



Participating Craftsman from Uganda demonstrating the tree-bark cloth making



Kuwaiti craftswoman demonstrating Sadu Weaving



A Participating Craftsman from Egypt demonstrating his silver smithing craft



A Craftsman from Togo demonstrating his textile weaving craft



A Craftswoman from Madagascar demonstrating her straw weaving craft



Two craftspersons from the Massai tribe in Kenya demonstrating their beaded jewelry



Craftswoman from Namibia demonstrating her basket weaving craft

II. An EXHIBITION of African Handicrafts:



Official opening of the Exhibition by Mr.Muhammad Abul-Hasan, Advisor at the Amiri Diwan, followed by a tour with WCC-President, the Representative of the President of WCC-Africa Region, APR President and President of Southern Africa Sub-Region



Mr. Abul Hasan touring the Exhibition with WCC-President, APR President, the Representative of the President of WCC-Africa Region, and President of Southern Africa Sub-Region.



***Exhibits from Egypt,
North Africa Sub-Region***



***Exhibits from South Africa,
Southern Africa Sub-Region***



***Exhibits from Burkina Faso & Congo,
West & Central Africa Sub-Region***



***Exhibits from Burundi,
East Africa Sub-Region***



*Display of Kuwaiti Handicrafts in the Exhibition,
West Asia Sub-Region*



*Exhibits from Jordan,
West Asia Sub-Region*

The whole event was initially proposed by Asia Pacific Region Presidency to the Secretary General of NCCAL. Consequently, APR President and Secretariat prepared for such event. A team of 5 NCCAL personnel helped in the involved logistics, such as site preparations and needed equipments, visa issuance, air-ticketing, accommodation and transportation arrangements and hospitality etc. The commendable collaboration of the NCCAL and the full sponsorship of the State of Kuwait and its support for APR President made this event possible and helped in having a successful result.

The 54 guests included the Representative of WCC-Africa Region President, Mr. Bila Clément OUEDRAOGO and the VP of West-Central Africa, Presidents and Vice Presidents of Northern, Eastern and Southern Africa as well as Organizers and Coordinators from the African Continent.

As President of one of WCC Regions, and out of courtesy and loyalty to WCC as the mother organization, I was keen to invite WCC President to Africa Region's Handicrafts event.



APR President with WCC-President and Secretary General touring the Arab-African Handicrafts Exhibition Prior to the official Opening Ceremony

The non-African Region guests, included the current WCC President and Secretary General, as well as the WCC Immediate Past President, and Mr. Raghu Kumar, Liaison Officer to CODEPA in WCC-Africa Region.



APR President: Dr.Ghada Hijjawi-Qaddumi, WCC-President: Mr.Wang Shan, the Representative of the President of WCC-Africa Region: Mr.Bila Clement Ouedraogo, Advisor at the Amiri Diwan: Mr.Mohamad Abul Hasan, Immediate Past President of WCC: Ms.Usha Krishna, Ms.Passant Nossair of North Africa Sub-region, Ms. Sudha Ravi, the Exhibition Coordinator: Ms.Paola Manfredi of Southern Africa Sub-region, and Liaison Officer to CODEPA in WCC-Africa Region: Mr. Raghu Kumar

Besides fulfilling an important target in my mission, which is WCC Inter-Regional collaboration, my objectives in initiating this event were:

1. To gather as many African Artisans at one platform to meet, to build friendship among themselves, to exchange knowledge and expertise, and to have the chance to demonstrate their skills and to market their products beyond the borders of the African continent specifically in an Asian-Arab country.
2. To have the President and Vice Presidents of Africa Region, elected for the new term (2013-2016) get together, for the first time since the General Assembly in October 2012, so as to hold the first African Board Meeting and give them a chance to meet with each other, coordinate, cooperate and plan for comprehensive operations.
3. To give the chance for the current President of WCC to meet, for the first time, with the Board Members of Africa Region.

For this purpose, Asia Pacific Presidency and Secretariat with the WCC-Immediate Past President, Ms.Sudha Ravi, and Mr. Raghu Kumar arranged for an African Board Meeting which was held in November 12, 2013 at the Kuwait National Library where WCC Current President and Secretary General attended.

4. To highlight the importance of the role of local governments in supporting, encouraging, and collaborating with the World Crafts Council, the Regional Asian Pacific Event and the Inter-Regional African Event are stark examples of such support.

Moreover, in this Board meeting, the **WCC-Africa Region Kuwait Declaration** was issued and signed (Appendix 2), copies of which were distributed to African Region Board Members, Asia Pacific Region President, WCC Current President and WCC-Immediate Past President (IPP).



First WCC-Africa Board Meeting held on November 12, 2013 in Kuwait National Library. WCC-Africa Executive Board members appear in the first picture (top left first row) with WCC-Current President, APR President, WCC-IPP, Mr.Raghu Kumar and some craftspeople from Africa Region

III. Other In-Between Activities Through the Year 2013:

1. April 11-16th, 2013, Visit to China:

The invitation from WCC Presidency included crafts award celebration, Opening of Leather & Jade Exhibition, meetings with Mayors and Vice-Mayors in 3 cities (Yangzhou, Dantong, Dongyang), and making a preliminary evaluation of Dongyang as Woodcarving city, visiting museums & cultural sites, and venue for the 50th Anniversary Celebration.

- **April 11:** Celebrating the Chinese recipients of the Award of Excellence.



CACA President Mr.Zhou Zhengschen, WCC-President Mr.Wang Shan, and APR President Dr.Ghada Hijjawi-Qaddumi with Chinese recipients of the Award of Excellence

- **April 12:**
 - a. **Morning:** Attended the opening of the Exhibition of lacquer-work, Jade and Ivory, by the President of CACA, Mr. Zhou Zhengschen



Opening of the Exhibition



Touring the Exhibition of Lacquer, Ivory and Jade with the President of CACA and WCC-

- b.** Afternoon: Meeting with Deputy Mayor of Yangzhou, Mr. Zhang Baojuan (Minutes with WCC Secretariat).



APR President, and WCC-President meeting with the Vice Mayor of Yangzhou

- c.** Evening: Met with Vice Mayor of Dantong, Mr. Zhu Jin, at dinner.



APR President meeting with the Deputy Mayor of Dantong

- **April 13th**, Visit to Dantong Museum and craftshops.



Crafts Museum in Dantong

- **April 14th**, Visit to Dongyang Wood Carving City, as a preliminary step in the evaluation of the Creative Crafts City.



Touring Dongyang Woodcarving City

Along with WCC-President and Secretary General, we met with the Mayor of Dongyang, Mr. Zhu Jianjun, and Vice Mayor, Mr. Chen Jun (Minutes with WCC Secretariat) and a group of master craftspeople, in a Press conference in Dongyang.



Press Conference



Meeting with Master Craftspeople

- Visits arranged to several handicrafts workshops and galleries.



- **April 15th**, Visit to Handicrafts College and to showrooms of wood furniture factories.



A class at Handicrafts College



APR President with WCC-President visiting the wood furniture premises

Note: Main purpose in the above three meetings concentrated on designating the venue

for the WCC 50th Anniversary celebrations, after touring the above-mentioned 3 cities.

2. **May 3-5, 2013, Visit to Semarang, Central Indonesia:**

- President of WCC: Mr. Wang Shan, APR-VP of South Pacific: Dr. Kevin Murray, and APR President: Dr. Ghada Hijjawi Qaddumi attended the Opening of 1st Semarang International Batik Festival, in Semarang, Indonesia, which was inaugurated by the Governor of Central Java: Mr. Bibit Wuloyo and his wife, and the Director General of Creative Economy: Professor Ahman Sya, and other dignitaries, Ms. Wenny Sulistyowati, Owner of the Developed Kampung Semarang Crafts Center.



- Touring the site of the event comprising of :
Batik demonstrations, crafts marketing shops for products of batik and other

crafts.

- **May 4th**, a Seminar was held, wherein the APR-VP of South Pacific: Dr. Kevin Murray, and APR-President: Dr. Ghada Hijjawi Qaddumi, gave speeches with delegates from Australia Ms. Liz Williamson and Mr. Tony Dyer.



- APR- South Pacific & West Asia sub-regions show-cased in the Crafts Exhibition which was visited by the Minister and other dignitaries.



- Visit to Old City.
- Visit to Batik Workshop.
- Visit to Natural Dyes Workshop and Congregational Mosque.



- **May 5th (morning):**

Dr. Kevin Murray, VP of South Pacific and myself, representing APR, held a Meeting with Kampoeng Semarang organizers, Ms. Wenny Sulistyowati and staff. (Appendix 3: Report on Semarang International Batik Festival by Dr. Kevin Murray is enclosed).



- **May 5th (evening):**

Attended the Closing Ceremony in the presence of Mr. Hendrar Prehadi, the Mayor of the city of Semarang.



Dr.Ghada offering gift from Omani craft to the Mayor and his wife



APR President Dr.Ghada contributed US\$ 1000 in the name of APR towards a prize for batik art competition for 2014 festival.

3. **May 6th -9th, 2013, Visit to Kuala Lumpur :**

- Meeting with Y.M. Raja Fuziah at her house, where I stayed as her guest and was overwhelmed by the warm and friendly Malaysian welcome and hospitality.
- **May 7th:**
A Work Meeting with Y.M. Raja Fuziah & Mr.Edric Ong, Senior Vice-President of APR, and Vice-President of S.E. Asia, who joined us on his way back from Thailand to Kuching. (Report on Meeting, e-mail dated May 10, 2013, by Mr. Edric)

Appendix 4: E-mail from Mr. Edric Ong, dated May 10, 2013

Appendix 5: E-mail from Y.M. Raja Fuziah, dated June 15, 2013

- Visits arranged by Y.M. Raja Fuziah:
 - * **May 7th**, The National Textiles Museum, which we both toured with the Director, Ms. Janet Tee Siew Mooi.
 - * Visit to an Exhibition of Textiles entitled “Tradition & Continuity”, at the Islamic Arts Museum, which we both toured with the Curator, Ms. Adline Abdul Ghani.
 - * **May 9th**, Accompanied with Raja Fuziah, and Ms. Zuraida Mukhtar, Director of National Craft Institute, I met Mr. Mohamed Kamil Ali, Director General of Malaysian Handicrafts Development Cooperation (MHDC), at his office in Kraftangan.



Ms. Zuraida Mukhtar, APR President, Director General of MHDC Mr. Mohammed Kamil Ali, *Y.M.Raja Datin Paduka Fuziah binti Raja Tun Uda*

4. **June 8th-10th, 2013, Visit to Tehran- Iran:**

- I was invited by Iran Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization (ICHTO) to attend the Annual World Crafts Day Festival.
- I met with the Deputy of Iran Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts, and Tourism Organization (ICHTO), Mr. Yahya Rahmati.
- **June 8th**, 2013, At the Opening Ceremony of the World Crafts Day inaugurated by His Excellency the Deputy President: Dr.Misha'i, and Minister of ICHHTO: Dr.Malakzadeh and his Deputy Mr.Rahmati. I delivered a speech and participated with the officials and Ms. Tajra Virtanen, Director and Representative of the UNESCO in Tehran in conferring the Awards.



Crafts Day Opening Ceremony



Dr. Ghada delivering her speech at the Opening Ceremony



From the left: Mr. Rahmati, Dr. Malakzadeh, Dr.Misha'i, Dr.Ghada and Ms.Tajra Virtanen- UNESCO Representative.

- Touring the collective Crafts Exhibition representing all Iranian provinces, with the President and Deputy of ICHHTO.



Dinner Party by ICHHTO

- **June 9th**, 2013, Visit to the National Museum of Iran and the Gulstan museums.
- **June 10th**, Meeting with President of Iran Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization (ICHHTO), Dr. Malakzadeh, and his Deputy for Handicrafts, Mr. Yahya Rahmati, and their staff at his office. While discussing cooperation I suggested that ICHHTO in Tehran, shares the Vice Presidency of West Asia sub-region with PACI in Muscat, Oman.



Meeting with President of ICHHTO, his Deputy for Handicrafts and APR President at the President's office

- **June 10th**, 2013, afternoon, Visit to ICHHTO Headquarters where I attended a wheel pottery demonstration, followed by a tour of the gallery & workshops where there was emphasis on the Zari-baff section, comprising huge looms and the various colours of silk yarn as well as gold and silver threads. Special attention is given to the revival of this old technique.
- The amended Minutes of the meetings with the Letter of Thanks to His Excellency, Dr. Malakzadeh and Mr. Rahmati are attached. (Appendices 6 and 7)

5. **June 14th-19th, 2013, Visit to Amman-Jordan:**

- Visiting a weekly gathering of craftspeople called “Souq (Bazar) Jarah”.



Souq (Bazar) Jarah

- Visited the Jordan River Foundation (JRF), and met with the Handicrafts Project-Manager: Mr. Anwar Elhalah, and Head of Design and Marketing: Ms. Rositza Haddadine. They confirmed JRF membership as National Entity in WCC-APR, which they requested in Feb. 2013.



Basket Weaving Objects, (JRF)

- Visited Ms. May Khoury, Individual member of APR, at her art gallery, “Badr adduja”, to congratulate her personally for getting the Design Award “Silver A”, 2012-2013.

6. **July 7th-9th, 2013, Visit to Muscat, Oman:**

- **July 8th**, Meeting with the APR-VP of West-Asia subregion Chairperson of the Public Authority for Crafts Industries (PACI), Her Excellency Sheikha Ayisha Al-Siyabiyya, and her Deputy, Mr.Ahmad Saleh, in her office at the headquarters of the Public Authority for Crafts Industries (PACI).

(Appendix 8: Points of discussion & Report/Minutes of Meeting attached)



Meeting with Chairperson of PACI, H.E. Shaikha Ayisha Al-Siyabiya, and Chief of Chairperson's Office, Mr. Ahmed Saleh Al-Farisi

7. **VIIIth International OIMO Festival (July 26th -28th, 2013), in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan:**

- Along with the Executive Board Members of WCC-APR, I was invited by APR-VP of Central Asia, Ms. Dinara Chochunbaeva to convene the 2nd Board Meeting of WCC-APR in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan and to attend the VIIIth International OIMO Festival.
- The OIMO Festival was organized by Ms. Dinara Chochunbaeva , VP of Central Asia sub-region and President of (Central Asian Crafts Support Association Resource Center) under the patronage of the Ministry of Information, Tourism and Culture in collaboration with the Regional and City Administration.
- **July 24, morning:** Attended the Opening of the UNESCO Awarded Handicrafts products of Central Asia sub-region, and the opening of the workshop, at the National Fine Arts Museum, where I was invited, in my capacity as President of Asia Pacific Region, to address the audience in a short speech. Other national and international speakers also participated.



APR President with APR South Asia VP, Mr. Pushkar Man Shakya at the UNESCO Awarded Products Exhibition



APR-VP of Central Asia, Ms. Dinara Chochunbaeva at the Opening of the Felt Works Exhibition during the VIIIth OIMO Festival in Bishkek.



APR President delivering a short speech at the Opening Ceremony of the Felt Works Exhibition



WCC President: Mr. Wang Shan and the Secretary General: Ms. Chen Jing, and IP Secretary General of WCC: Ms. Sangeet Chopra at the Felt Works Exhibition held at the Fine Arts Museum in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, during VIII OIMO Festival.



APR President and VP of South Pacific, Ms. Lindy Joubert, attending the Felt Exhibition



APR President and VP of Central Asia watching a live demonstration by a felt work artisan

- **July 25th, morning**, Press Conference for WCC President and APR President



- **July 25th, afternoon:** Visited a Private Workshop with WCC President, Secretary General, and APR Board Members.
- **July 26th,** Vice-Presidents of South Asia and South East Asia, Ms. Manjari Nirula and Mr. Edric Ong gave a presentation at the National Fine Arts Museum on their Study Tour with the Vice President of Central Asia, Ms. Dinara Chochunbaeva, to Fergana Valley from 28th Feb. to 9th March 2013, for the purpose of advancing Women’s Economic Opportunities in Fergana Valley. They also spoke about the Santa Fe International Festival.



APR VP of South Asia, Ms. Manjari Nirul, and Senior VP of APR, & VP of South East Asia, Mr. Edric Ong, during their presentations.



APR President, WCC-President, WCC Immediate Past President, APR Immediate Past President, and APR VP of South Asia attending the Presentation

- **July 26th,** APR President and Board Members with WCC President and Secretary General, attended the afternoon Opening Ceremony of OIMO Festival, inaugurated by the Minister of Information, Tourism and Culture, where WCC President and APR President were among the speakers for the occasion. Guests toured the crafts stalls with fascinating products after a performance of Kyrgyz folkdance and music.



The Minister of Culture delivering speech at the Opening Ceremony of VIII International OIMO Festival



WCC-APR President delivering speech at the Opening Ceremony of VIII International OIMO Festival, with VP of Central Asia



Crafts Bazar stalls at the VIII International OIMO Festival

- **July 27th, APR 2nd Board Meeting** was held in the Conference Hall at Hyatt Regency Hotel (Appendix 9). The First Deputy Minister of Culture, Information and Tourism: Mr. Akim Tekeshov, gave a welcoming speech before the opening of the Board Meeting.



Group Photo showing APR Executive Board Members who attended the 2ND APR Board Meeting, with the Deputy Minister of Culture, Mr. Akim Tekeshov and WCC President, prior to the Board Meeting.

- The Board Meeting was followed by Dinner hosted by TURKSOY, the official Sponsor of the VIII International OIMO Festival, represented by Mr. Firat Purtash. The Former President of Kyrgyzstan, Ms. Roza Otunbayeva, was the guest of honor.



APR VP of South Asia, the Representative of TURKSOY: Mr. Firat Purtash, APR Secretary General, APR President, Former President of Kyrgyzstan: Ms. Roza Otunbayeva, WCC Immediate Past President, APR VP of Central Asia

- **July 28th, morning**, Vice-President of Central Asia, Ms. Dinara Chochunbaeva, organized a forum for APR Board Members and WCC President in the museum auditorium with Kyrgyz craftspeople, where a fruitful discussion took place.



Forum with Kyrgyz craftspeople attended by APR Board Members and WCC President



Audience attending the Forum

- **July 28th, evening**, Dinner hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Chochunbaeva at their residence, where the initiation of the Kyrgyz Crafts Organization was announced by Ms. Dinara.



VP of Central Asia announcing the initiation of the Kyrgyz Crafts Organization during the dinner party held at her residence



VP of Central Asia thanking her team, for their efforts during the VIII International OIMO Festival

- Immediately after the VP of Central Asia announced the initiation of the Kyrgyz Crafts Organization, APR President, APR-IPP, WCC President, and WCC-IPP, each of whom contributed US\$ 1000 as seed money.

8. **September 5th-7th, 2013, Visit to Amman, Jordan:**

- Was invited with APR-VP of West Asia sub region, to attend the Jordanian Traditional Handicrafts Festival held in Amman, at the New Century Hotel, where Jordanian Craftspeople from all over the Kingdom participated.
- The event was organized by the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities.
- Mr. Ahmad Saleh, VP of West Asia and I set up a stall with samples from West Asia crafts products.
- **Sep. 5th**, With the Representative of the VP of West Asia, Mr. Ahmed Saleh, I attended the Opening Ceremony of the Crafts Festival, which was inaugurated by the Secretary General of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Mr. Issa Gemmo.



Opening of the Exhibition of Jordanian Traditional Handicrafts by the Secretary General of the Ministry of Tourism & Antiquities, Mr. Issa Gemmo, which was attended by APR President and VP of West Asia subregion



The Secretary General of the Ministry of Tourism & Antiquities, Mr. Issa Gemmo with APR President, and Representative of the VP of West Asia, at the Jordanian Traditional Handicrafts Festival Inauguration



A craftswoman showing her products at the Exhibition



Ms. Nadia Al-Thahabi: Advisor for Traditional Crafts at the Ministry of Tourism & Antiquities, APR President, Mr. Khaled al-Nsoor – Ministry of Tourism & Antiquities, APR-VP of West Asia with an official from Tourism sector

- Immediately after the Opening Ceremony, Mr. Gemmo held a meeting for both of us (Mr. Ahmad Saleh and myself) with artists, designers, promoters, entrepreneurs, from the Private Sector to discuss the ways and means of cooperation with WCC-APR to increase the market capacity by promoting Jordanian products, and to help improve the quality of products by exchanging expertise, as well as hosting Asian trainers in Jordan, or sending craftspeople for training courses to Asian countries.



Meeting with Mr. Gemmo and some artists, designers, promoters and crafts traders after the Opening Ceremony

- **Sep. 6th**, I held a forum attended by 30-40 craftspeople where I highlighted the objectives of WCC. I stressed the benefits of becoming a member in terms of participating in functions which enriches their skills and knowledge through the interaction with other counterparts, seminars, conferences, workshops, etc. I mentioned that WCC is ready to invite craftspeople (specialized in certain crafts) to get training at Institutes in China and other Asian countries.
 - ✳ Membership forms were distributed to the attendants.

9. **September 25th-27th, 2013, Dongyang, China:**

- **WCC First Board Meeting, Sep. 25, 2013**, in Dongyang.
(Minutes posted on WCC website)



WCC Board Members with the Evaluation Team



Evaluation Meeting Sept 25, 2013

- **Sep. 26**, Dongyang “Woodcarving City” Inspection and Evaluation.



Entrance of Woodcarving City in Dongyang



Inside Photo of Woodcarving City

- **Sep. 27**, Evaluation of Dongyang City, nominated as “World Woodcarving City”.



*Evaluation Meeting of WCC Woodcarving City
Sept 27, 2013*



Closing Meeting of Evaluation Committee

✧ “World Woodcarving City” Conference.



✧ Announcement of the positive results of the evaluation for designating Dongyang as the “World Woodcarving City” in October 2014 during the WCC 50th Anniversary Celebrations.



Announcement of the positive evaluation results for designating Dongyang as WCC Crafts City

10 November 20-24, 2013, Visit to Taipei-Taiwan:

WCC President, and WCC Regional Presidents of North America, Latin America, Africa and Asia Pacific Region were invited by the Director of the National Taiwan Crafts Research & Development Institute (NTCRDI), Mr. Hsu Keng-Hsu, to the “Taiwan National Cultural & Creative Industry Expo 2013”, held in Taipei World Trade Center, Nangang Exhibition Hall from Nov. 21-24, 2013.

The three days’ stay was very rich. We all attended all functions, visits and tours:

- a. The Opening Ceremony of the Expo by the Minister of Culture, Dr. Lung Ying-Tai,



Minister of Culture, delivering the opening speech



Group photo: WCC-President: Mr.Wang Shan, APR President: Dr.Ghada Hijjawi-Qaddumi, the Representative of President of Africa Region: Mr.Bila Clement Ouedraogo, NAR President: Ms.Cindy Bowden, LAR: Mr.Alberto De Betolaza

- b. Delegates toured the Expo, which was extremely impressive,



A Master Artisan of NTCRDI, APR President, and Vice Researcher NTCRDI: Mr.Ben Hsu



WCC President: Mr. Wang Shan, APR President: Dr.Ghada, and APR Senior Vice President: MrEdric Ong



Babies clothes colored with Natural Dyes



A sample of ceramics

- c. Forum: “How to host ISEND-WEFT 2014 More successfully in Taiwan”, presentations by Mr. Ben Hsu, Vice Researcher of NTCRDI and Mr. Edric Ong, APR-Senior Vice President.





d. Welcoming Party patronized by the Minister of Culture, Dr. Lung Ying-Tai.



e. A whole day visit to the premises of NTCRDI, which started with a “Briefing on NTCRDI” by the Director Mr.Hsu Keng-Hsu.



The National Taiwan Crafts Research & Development Institute (NTCRDI)

f. Visit to Workshop and Exhibition at the NTCRDI premises.



g. Visit to Museum.

h. Forum-Meeting with Deputy of Minister of Culture on “How to Expand Craft Industry Worldwide”.

11 **Visit to China 27-30th Dec,2013:**

Presidents of Latin America and North America, and Asia Pacific Region were invited to attend the **“Donation & Establishment Ceremony of the Charity Fund for Original Culture of China”** and **“the Press Conference of the First Global Cultural & Artistic Creation Competition”**.

Dec 27th,2013:

An informal meeting was held in Dec 27th, in the Beijing International Hotel, attended by President of WCC, President of Latin America Region, myself (President of Asia Pacific Region), Secretary General of WCC, Senior Vice President of APR, and Vice President of Central Asia-APR, to discuss the program of 50th Anniversary Celebration.



The informal WCC Board Meeting on Dec 27th, 2013 at Beijing International Hotel

Dec 28th,2013 (Morning):

An establishment ceremony of the Charity Fund was held at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. Kweichow Moutai Winery (Group) Beijing Liquor Co., Ltd., gave donation to Chinese Red Cross, which to be used specially for the Charity Fund for Original Culture of China.

WCC-Regional Presidents were invited to join the Jury 2014 for the First Global Cultural & Artistic Creation Competition sponsored by the Charity Fund for Original Culture of China.



WCC Regional Presidents holding invitation for the July 2014.

LAR: Mr.Alberto De Betolaza, APR: Dr.Ghada Hijjawi Qaddumi,

Dec 28th,2013 (Evening):

WCC President, Presidents of Asia Pacific Region, Latin America, North America, Representative of Vice President of North America, WCC Secretary General, Senior Vice President of APR, Vice President of Central Asia-APR, as well as representative from UNESCO, Ms.Beatrice Kaldun, and other experts on the subject, met for discussing MOU of partnership between WCC-AISBL and UNESCO regarding the Award of Excellence for Handicrafts. (Details is found in WCC President's Annual Report 2013 and WCC Website @ www.wcc-aisbl.org)



Dec 29th,2013:

The host arranged for tours in the following day for the guests. A visit to the National Museum, Tiananmen Square, and the Forbidden City.



Dec 30th,2013:

WCC President - Mr.Wang Shan, Secretary General - Ms.Chen Jing, met with the Presidents of North America – Ms.Cindy Bowden, Representative of Vice President of North America – Mr.Simon Wroot, and the President of Asia Pacific Region – Dr.Ghada Hijjawi Qaddumi, to discuss a project of an American Art Exhibition to be hosted in Beijing.



Dec 31st,2013:

Last day of my stay in Beijing I visited the Mausoleum of Mao Zedong in Tiananmen Square, and an ancient house in Hotong (the old city), and attended a Chinese Opera.



Dr. Ghada Hijjawi-Qaddumi
President, WCC-Asia Pacific Region (2013-2016)

Appendices: (Not enclosed. All Appendices were sent to WCC-AISBL by e-mail on Dec. 8th, 2013)

Appendix	Description
1.	Minutes of WCC-Africa Board Meeting, dated 12 Nov. 2013.
2.	Kuwait Declaration
3.	Report on Semarang International Batik Festival by Dr. Kevin Murray, Vice President of South Pacific Sub-Region, dated 5 th May 2013.
4.	Minutes of Meeting with Y.M. Raja Fuziah and Mr. Edric Ong in Kuala Lumpur on 7 th May 2013. (E-mail from Y.M. Raja Fuziah, dated June 15, 2013.)
5.	WCC Matters by Mr. Edric Ong. (His e-mail dated May 10 th , 2013).
6.	Minutes of Meeting with President of ICHTO, Dr. Malakzadeh.
7.	Minutes of Meeting with Deputy President of ICHTO, Mr. Yahya Rahmati.
8.	Visit Report and Minutes of Meeting with Chairman of PACI on July 7 th , in Muscat Oman.
9.	Minutes of WCC-APR 2 nd Board Meeting, 2/2013, held on 27 th , July 2013, in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan including 11 Attachments.