



# WACS Africa & Middle East Continental Director's Report

Prepared July 2005  
By Arnold Tanzer



## **1. UPDATE**

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Wednesday, August 10, 2005

Dear President Metz and fellow members of the WACS Executive Board,

The following is an update on progress achieved thus far within our region. Will be posted within the next two weeks, and once again we expect a very favourable response. A year down the line, the fruits of the newsletter are beginning to show, the various associations are finally getting into the swing of things and are beginning to send news is ongoing with emails and telephonic calls working the best.

In the coming year all efforts will be concentrated on effective direct communication with each association, as the last year has been particularly difficult in obtaining correct and updated contacts for the region.

Further more visits to each country are being explored, but as is the case with many an association budgets form a large constraint.

## **2. REGIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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### **South Africa**

In this active association the main focus for the year has been the opening of Centre for Culinary Excellence, in Johannesburg. The progress has been phenomenal with the culinary workshops on the internet going live in August 2005. It is envisioned that one full workshop per month will be posted. The preliminary workshops are amazing with a great attention to detail and content. I truly believe that this tool will enhance the culinary education level through its easy asses via the net.

### **Egypt**

The Egyptian Chefs Association organized the National Salon Culinaire 2005 which took place on Monday 13 June 2005 at the InterContinental Heliopolis Al Saraya Ballroom. The national competition with 13 categories had a large amount of entries and I was witness to the enthusiasm and professionalism of the ECA. It was really a pleasure to bear witness to the dedication of both organizers and competitors.



## **United Arab Emirates**

Preliminary work has also been started regarding the WACS congress 2008 and I have, after numerous trips, all the faith in the Emirates Culinary Guild, execution a great congress in 2008. Further the association is always organizing great competitions with the region and the team is preparing to take part in the MLA Black box in Queensland in September.

## **Rwanda**

Although not a member of WACS at this stage, this young association, less than a year old, is very busy fraternity of chefs in Eastern Central Africa. They have recently staged (under the auspices of SACA) the third world Cooks Tour which raised \$ 30 000.00

For further information use the following link: [www.rca2005.org](http://www.rca2005.org)

Presently, we are in very preliminary discussions about possible WACS membership.

## **Zimbabwe**

This member has not paid its membership for a couple of years, but contact has been made and a site visit is expected soon. The flow of dialog has been tremendous and after the site inspection in September a decision will be made about the future of this country's membership

## **Namibia**

This member country has not paid its dues for a number of years and recently contact has been established. A new president was elected and a site inspection is planned for August. Once again finances play a huge role, but the association is very active and has a very close relationship with its neighbour SACA

## **Israel**

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Morocco Lebanon and Libya has approached me about the formation of chefs associations



### **3. COMMUNICATIONS & CONTACT INFO**

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Further the contact list for the area has been finalized, with outstanding countries been worked on at the moment.

#### **EGYPTIAN CHEFS ASSOCIATION (ECA)**

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### **NAMIBIAN CHEFS ASSOCIATION**

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### **CONGOLESE ASSOCIATION OF YOUNG CHEFS - (C.A.Y.C )** **ASSOCIATION CONGOLAISE DES JEUNES CUISINIERS – ( A.C.J.C )**

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**MPISHI CLUB**  
**KENYAN CHEFS ASSOCIATION**

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Financials

Presently, the continental director not the associations do not receive any feedback from Mr. Schmidiger on who in the region has paid or not. As per my request for invoices for my region, I am still awaiting and with almost half the year already behind us I feel that some resolution needs to be made. Also the financials are still in Swiss Francs and since we charge in Euro the financials should be in that currency.

WACS Membership Fees

This is a grave area of concern to our region. With fees structured in Euros from last year from Swiss Francs, the current fee of Euro 750 has become unaffordable for many smaller members. (Recent Saudi Arabia has resigned) I feel we need to look a receiving income from other sources to maintain and build up our financial situation and then look at reducing our membership fee over time. While I realize that by reducing our cost just to get retain members or to increase our membership might not make sense in the short term it will increase the potential for sponsors having a bigger database of members that they are able to target.

Budget:

As per my budget, I have maintained the costs for travels to within my budget limits, and foresee no gross changes to my budget.

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Subject	Number per year	Fights	Total
board meetings	2	1050	2100
Regional	7	300	2100
Extra ordinary	3	300	900
Sub Total			5100
Subject	Number per year	Per diem 3 days	
board meetings	2	90	180
Regional	7	90	630
Extra ordinary	3	90	270
Sub Total			1080
Total for year			6180