



Association de Recherche  
et de Formation sur  
l'Insertion en Europe

---

Association for Research  
and Training on  
Integration in Europe

## ARFIE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING PARIS – 28 JUNE 2008 09.30 – 13.30

**Present** : Joachim Pequito (Fenacerci), Jorge Rato (Fenacerci), Jean-Luc Becker (Ligue HMC), Elena Tudorache (UCOS), Svetlana Popovici (UCOS), Wenz Jérôme (AFPE), Ann De Winter (Mediander), Liette Braquet (APEMH), Fernand Hauptert (APEMH), Sylvie Hirtz (APEMH), Jean-François Kieken (Action H), Rainer Dolle (Arbeit und Bildung), Gérard Zribi (Afaser), Lara Furiéri (Cadiai), Giorgio Franceschi (Cadiai), Mario Gallo (Cadiai), Carla Ferrero (Dolce), Thierry Beulné (Afaser), Christophe Lesuisse (Tricentenaire), Hélène Maçon (IRTS Lorraine), Raymond Ceccotto, Alberto Alberani, Véronique Lafontaine

**Apologies** : Madden Phil (HFT), Robert Christian (ACIS), Weber Germain (Université de Vienne), De Groeff Johan (Mediander), Banks Roger, Bellion Tom (Kraizbiereg), De Jong Willy (CSSE), Le Texier Michel (Les Genêts d'Or), Antonopoulou Falitsa (Eseepa), Phitirikou Soulla (Cyprus), Ripard Francis (Malta), Sandrine Bem Sibaud (ATP), Jean Feith (CHNP – de Park), Germain Weber (uni Wien), Jean Poitevin (Institut Val Mandé), Daisy Populaire (CEDUC), Michel et Thérèse Baelen (FMS et E=mc<sup>2</sup>), Raghu Raghavan (Bradford University), André Leveaux (Le Tiniheid), Veli-Pekka Sinervuo (Finlande)

### Introduction

The president of ARFIE introduces this Annual General Assembly with a few words about the seminar on « Mental Health Problems and Intellectual Disability » held on June 26-27 in Paris. He warmly thanks Afaser and ARFI France for the organisation of this European Seminar.

ARFIE is holding its AGA for the 16<sup>th</sup> time this year. It was held previously in Luxembourg, France, Italy, Portugal, Belgium and other member countries. 17 associations are attending the AGA today, which represents 40% of the association members.

The president also excuses Carlotta Besozzi for her absence. She is director of the European Disability Forum, of which ARFIE is an ordinary member.

# STATUTORY ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## 1. Adoption of the agenda

The Agenda was approved.

## 2. Adoption of the Annual General Assembly 2007 report

The minutes of the Annual General Assembly 2007 were officially approved.

## 3. Activity report

### Priorities set for 2007-2008:

The priorities set in the 2007 Annual General Meeting were the following :

- Mental Health Troubles and Intellectual Disability
- Competences of managers of the social economic sector
- Aging and disability
- The rights of people with intellectual disabilities ... between public directives and positive practices
- Supporting people with disabilities at home

### Achievements 2007-2008:

- Mental Health Troubles and Intellectual Disability: seminar held in Paris in June 2008
- Competences of managers of the social economic sector : submission of the Grundtvig partnership project COMCADES
- Aging and disability:
  - > 2 projects were submitted (by ARFIE and FMS)
  - > CADIAI seminar in June 2008 in Bologna
- The rights of people with intellectual disabilities ... between public directives and positive practices: project accepted and co-funded by the FNR in Luxembourg

Two new projects (Transfer of Innovation projects – Lifelong Learning Programme) have been submitted to the National Agencies – see below.

### Project applications submitted in 2008:

**COMCADES.** Apemh-Ufep has submitted an application for a Grundtvig partnership called COMCADES. This partnership, if accepted, will focus on the training of managers in the social economic sector. Partners are: IRTS Loraine, Legacoop/Cesvip, Fenacerci, ACIS, Arfie, EGCA, Apemh.

**AGID.** Leonardo da Vinci Project on the theme of Aging and Disability. Partners : University of Vienna, Lebenshilfe Autriche, Cadiai, Apemh, Afaser, Northumbria University . This project aims at developing new training modules in each partner country; each module will focus on a specific issue related to Aging and Disability. The results of each module will be gathered within the partnership and disseminated at a European level.

**TRINNOOD.** Leonardo da Vinci Transfer of Innovation Project. Apemh is the project promoter ; and its partners are : Fenacerci, Aeecrm, Ucos, Sirm, Cte and Arfie. This project was already submitted last year. This project will transfer the results of the Triadd project to new contexts (countries and target groups).

**CONTIEMPO 2.** Leonardo da Vinci Transfer of Innovation Project. Arfie is the project promoter ; and its partners are : Eseepea, Turkish Physiotherapists Association, University of Barcelona and Easpd. This project will transfer the results of the Contiempo project to new contexts (countries and target groups).

**TROISIEME VIE.** Grundtvig Project submitted by FMS (Fédération Médico Sociale des Vosges). Six partners: Roumania, Hungary, Fenacerci, UK, Greece, FMS. This project will focus on the setting up of training modules for professionals on the theme of Aging and Disability in close cooperation with people with disabilities.

### **Members:**

~in 2007:

~**39** member associations

~**6** individual members

**16** European countries are represented in our association.

Gérard Zribi adds that we deliberately chose not to have too many members, in order to keep the human factor and closeness that is specific to ARFIE.

The members joining ARFIE should be interested in ARFIE's aims of quality (qualitative training and qualitative services).

### **Ordinary Activities:**

- New website design and update
- Regular news from the disability field sent to members by e-mail
- Financial report : transition year 2

## **4.Treasurer's report**

The 2007 accounts were presented and explained by our Treasurer (see annex). The Contiempo accounting was done on a specific ARFIE-Contiempo bank account. It will be closed at the end of 2008. We are waiting for the Commission's last financial conclusions. All the details of the Contiempo accounting are available for consultation.

The treasurers's mandate is ending this year. FENACERCI is taking over for the three years to come, under Portuguese law.

## **5.Report from the overseers of the accounts**

Fenacerci could not have the external audit carried out by a portuguese auditor. Mr Duverger was therefore asked to do it, but he couldn't make it timewise. The final version of the 2007 accounts could not be presented to the AGA for that reason.

Nevertheless, the accounts have been checked by the overseers of the accounts as mentioned in the association statutes. However, since we still have to wait for the external audit to be carried out, the overseers of the accounts leave their final approval open.

The proposition presented by the Board and approved by the General Assembly :

- Allow the treasurer some time to ensure the taking over of the accounts before the end of the year
- Have the accounts audited by our previous external auditor in the next 2 months – this will ensure a better transition of the accounts and will be useful for a new European project
- Get the Board to check the accounts after the audit and open an ARFIE account in a Portuguese bank if necessary
- Send a copy of the auditor's final audit with the AGA report

## **6. Elections to the Board of Directors**

This year, the resigning members eligible for re-election are:

Jean-Luc Becker Fernand Hauptert Jean-François Kieken Christian Robert Johan De Groef
---

All have asked for the renewal of their mandate, except JL Becker who will leave the Ligue HMC by the end of the year. A new HMC delegate will be elected to represent the association.

New members elected to the Board:

Christophe Lesuisse Falitsa Antonopoulou Elena Tudorache
--

We are happy to welcome a delegate from an Eastern country (Mrs Tudorache) to the Board of Directors.

M Jean-Luc Becker was elected associate director in order to stay in touch with ARFIE as an individual member. We thanked him for his precious cooperation within ARFIE ; and more especially as an overseer of the accounts.

## **7. Any other business**

### ***Presentation of new associations:***

Mrs Elena Tudorache presented her association UCOS.  
Check out <http://www.ucos.ro/fr/index2.html>

Mrs Carla Ferrara presented her association Dolce (Social Cooperative of Bologna)

### ***Tribute to Nino Loperefido :***

Nino Loperefido passed away this year; he was a psychiatrist known for closing schools for children with disabilities as well as psychiatric hospitals. He was in favour of integrative education. The meeting with Nino Loperefido in Bologna was the starting point of ARFIE-Europe.

### ***European Disability Forum***

EDF's 2009 work programme contains 19 specific action points referring to the UN Declaration on the Rights of people with disabilities. Since an EDF delegate could not join us today, the president listed the EDF main action points linked to our association's activities.

### ***Internal information***

- Members are kindly asked to visit the website and leave us their comments
- ARFIE Study about the links between public sector and service providers : update of information about Luxembourg – before considering any publication, it is important to check with contributing organisations if changes are needed.

## **ARFIE activity report - details**

### **30 june 2007 :**

ARFIE Annual General Assembly in Rennes, France.

### **14 and 15 september 2007:**

Final conference of the Contiempo project and ARFIE Board Meeting in Budapest – Agenda: AGA report, Contiempo, Grundtvig project, proposition of an ECVET study.

### **1-3 october 2007:**

European week of Disability in Ostrava (AFPE-EPTA-TRIGONE-ARFIE).

Participation of ARFIE (Raymond Ceccotto) – contact with czech organisations for a possible membership within ARFIE

### **5-6 october 2007:**

Annual General Assembly of the European Disability Forum in Brussels.

### **25 october 2007:**

Conference “Supporting people with intellectual disabilities in institutions – social and pedagogical approaches” at APEMH, Luxembourg.

Participation of ARFIE (Gérard Zribi and Alberto Alberani).

### **16-17 november 2007:**

Conference CERMI-EDF on the rights of women with disabilities in Europe. Madrid, Spain.

Participation of ARFIE (Véronique Lafontaine).

### **22-24 november 2007:**

Conference “Quality of service providers for people with disabilities”, Verona, Italy.

Presentation of ARFIE's views (Raymond Ceccotto).

### **5-6 december 2007:**

Day of people with disabilities in Brussels.

### **13 december 2007:**

Conference CHORUM “Supporting people with disabilities at home / Aging and disability”.

ARFIE's President and General Secretary presented the practice in Luxembourg and Italy around both themes.

### **14 december 2007:**

Bureau ARFIE in Paris – Agenda: Contiempo, European Seminar 2008, new Lifelong Learning Programme, presentation of the seminar organised by the association Essor end of 2008.

### **16 february 2008:**

Meeting of the Board at Fenacerci, Lisboa, to discuss the handing over of the ARFIE Treasury.

### **4 april 2008:**

Bureau and Board Meeting CA in Brussels – Agenda: treasury, European projects, organisation of the Annual General Assembly, new ARFIE website.

Participation of ARFIE (Jean-Luc Becker and Sylvie Hirtz) to the seminar “Sexuality of people with disabilities” in Nicosia, Cyprus.

### **18 april 2008:**

Meeting with CEDEFOP and EASPD : brainstorming on the setting up of a study on quality assurance in the social care sector and the training of professionals.

Participation of ARFIE (Véronique Lafontaine).

### **22 may 2008:**

Preparation of the 2008 seminar with AFASER in Paris.

Discussion on the handing over of the Treasury.

### **23-25 may 2008:**

Annual General Assembly of the European Disability Forum in Ljubjana, Slovenia.

Participation of the président of ARFIE.

### **13 june 2008:**

Conference Aging and Disability at Cadiai, Bologna.

Participation of ARFIE (Alberto Alberani, Lara Furieri, Raymond Ceccotto).

### **26-27 june 2008:**

European Seminar on “Mental Health Problems and Intellectual Disability” organised par AFASER/ARFI/ARFIE.

### **28 june 2008:**

ARFIE Annual General Assembly in Paris.

# THEMATIC General Assembly

## Reflection on ARFIE's objectives and future activities

In each general Assembly, it is necessary to check whether :

- ARFIE's mission and objectives are met in the achieved activities ;
- ARFIE's objectives and future activities are in agreement with our human and economic resources

### Our external objectives:

- Innovation in the field of training for professionals (all levels)
- Improvement of support and quality of life for people with intellectual disabilities
- Inclusion of people with disabilities in society
- Integration of people with disabilities in the labour market
- Lifelong autonomy for people with disabilities

### Our internal objectives:

- Provide our members with information on European programmes and initiatives
- Promote the exchanges between training and research organisations, professionals and service providers

### Our current reality:

We are in agreement with our human and economic resources :

- our ambitions are not too high
- we don't want to be a « large and powerful » association
- our work is serious and professional
- our European projects meet our external objectives
- we communicate with our network through our Brussels office and products (mails, newsletters, website)

### What else could we do?

- Make a better use of our website and of our information material in order to reach more associations in different countries ; disseminate our products on a larger scale
- Get the new member countries (esp. Eastern Europe) more involved
- Stimulate the participation of English-speaking and German-speaking partners

It would be good to have a reflection with our members to understand how people with disabilities and professionals who support them, live in our respective countries. We could organise a two-day meeting with our members to present our activities and describe the quality of life of people with disabilities in our respective countries. Finally, we could share these reflections with other European organisations.

### New challenges:

#### Aging and Disability

- Graz Conference follow-up
- Organisation of regional meetings to list the « good practices » in Italy, Luxembourg, France, etc.
- European projects

#### Health care and access to care

- Important topic for the years to come
- Some studies are carried out, and answers are suggested. Arfie and its members are playing a precursor role.
- Collect documentation on the field

#### Mental troubles

- Some European projects already focused on this subject (Triadd, Contiempo, Trinnodd)

- This subject is still very important – cfr European seminar 2008
- Qualification of professionals and users' quality of life
- Multiple research areas among our members and within other partner NGO's (cf. international seminar Amsterdam 2009)

#### The rights of people with disabilities

- Another recurrent topic
- Study day end of 2008 in Luxembourg
- Seminar organised by « Essor » in La Rochelle end of 2008

#### Qualification and work conditions for professionals

- Call for tender CEDEFOP – summer 2008

#### Supporting people with disabilities at home

- Subject postponed

#### **Themes suggested by members**

- The evaluation of quality in our services
- Alternatives to sheltered workshops -> analysis of new models
- Reflection on the usefulness of day care centres and their different kinds

#### **General Assemblies in the future:**

**2009** : General Assembly in Bologna and seminar on **Aging and Disability** (to be confirmed by Cadiat)

**2009** : Open Board Meeting : 1 ½ days to have a discussion with our members on **quality of life and services for people with disabilities** in our respective countries

**2010** : General assembly in Marburg and seminar on the **alternatives to sheltered workshops** (to be co-organised with Arbeit and Bildung)

**2011** : General Assembly (place to be confirmed) with European seminar on the theme of **Quality** (organised by Fenacerci)