

## Report of subcommittee “European African Initiative” to General Assembly of IAWWE Europe/Africa

Wednesday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2005, EACWE 4, Prague (CZ), speaker R. Höffer

### I. The initiative:

General assembly Eindhoven July, 2001: a sub-committee of the Steering Committee will formulate a relevant proposal and report within a year on a pilot project and a conference/workshop on African soil.

### II. Membership:

- \* Claudio Borri, Adam Goliger (coordinator); Mulenga, Hans-Juergen Niemann; Giovanni Solari (Regional coordinator); Kees Stigter; Jacob Wisse;
- \* For the sake of greater effectiveness the subcommittee co-opted the following people:  
Chris Baker, Reinhard Harte, Rüdiger Höffer, Wolfhard Zahlten and Jiri Naprstek were prepared to join.
- \* Coordination: In 2002 Jacob took over from Adam and in 2004 Chris took over from Jacob.

### III. Meetings:

- 28 to 30 09 01 Pretoria
- 20 02 02 Eindhoven
- 03-06-02 Nantes
- 07 11 02 Genoa
- 27 12 02 Bochum
- 07 03 03 Bochum
- further more discussion during COST-C14 meetings at Reykjavik and Olu

### IV. Main activities:

#### Topics

The following 8 topics were identified:

- Wind climate
- Wind and agriculture
- Wind and energy
- Data on wind related disasters in Africa
- Wind related disasters and building
- Wind and built environment
- Wind and energy transmission
- Wind and fire propagation

Essential for any success is contact with African experts. The colonial times are over. Therefore a get-together on African soil is essential. CSIR Pretoria was kindly prepared to host a workshop.

### Funding

The only way to raise international funds seemed to be a proposal to the European Commission,

Research Directorate-General,  
International Scientific cooperation,  
To the programme: Integrating and Strengthening the European Research Area, "Specific measures in support of International cooperation INCO"  
Specific support actions (SSA) developing countries

The title of the project was: Research agenda for African-ACP countries and supporting European engineers

Subtitle:

A project focused on the needs of African/ACP smallholders

The European programme was restricted to ACP-countries and therefore Morocco, Algeria, subcommittee Tunisia, Libya and Egypt were not addressed despite some interesting papers and suggestions.

The project was submitted August 31, 2003 and rejected 20 February 2004.

In our opinion the arguments for this negative decision were-unfounded (and unfair) namely:

- ✓ The proposal would be a doubling of the work of an Institute ICRAF. Afterwards this institute, of which Kees Stigter has been advisor for many years, affirmed that they have no activities relevant to our proposal.
- ✓ We should address the energy sub-programme of the sustainable development, Global Change plus Ecosystems programme. That programme was-already closed at the time of the "advice"

It appears that we should have done much more networking with other international organisations as UNEP, UNDP etc. Although the preliminary telephonic conversations with EU-officers were encouraging, and a Dutch liaison officer made a positive contribution to the proposal, the final telephonic discussions were bluntly discouraging.

### National funding

A German national activity has been to offer a proposal to the Volkswagen Foundation, with the title: German-African Workshop "Renewable Energy"

Jacob Wisse, 28-06-05

Rüdiger Höffer, 13-07-05

Adam Goliger, 18-10-05

approved by all members of the subcommittee, 24-10-05