



Dear Skålleagues, Dear Friends,

The months of June and July have once again been months of intense activity.

After a successful Asian Area Congress, I attended the 60th Anniversary celebrations of Skål International Northern Ireland in a great atmosphere and with the presence of Alison Partridge, President of Skål International United Kingdom, Nora Cronin, President of Skål International Ireland and John Bright who I have the pleasure of presenting with the Order of Skål Merit. The celebration was very well organised and I was delighted to note that Skål International Northern Ireland is a very active Club with its new President, Kathleen Lavery-Boulouha and dynamic, new, young members thanks to Diane Toner and Mark Alexander. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone and wish them every continued success in their development with great professionals as is the case currently.

On the last weekend in June I visited the General Secretariat in Torremolinos to work with the team on various projects and, notably, the organisation of the celebrations of the 80th Anniversary of Skål in Paris in July; the finalisation of the partnership with the UNWTO which was signed in Madrid on 21 July 2014; to begin the preparations for the General Assembly in Mexico City, the forthcoming E-Newsletters and Skål News, Sustainable Awards and meeting with each member of the staff, etc. There are a few photographs of these events in the newsletter.

During the celebration of the 80th Anniversary of Skål International in Paris, we organised an "extraordinary" meeting of the Executive Committee with those members present in Paris – Vice Presidents Marianne Krohn and Salih Cene and Finance Director, David Fisher. I invited Internal Auditor, Frank Klare to join us for a decision concerning Thailand.

The month of August will be quieter and I wish all those who, like me, will be taking a well-earned break, great, relaxing and interesting holidays.

To each and everyone of you, enjoy August.

Yours in Skål

Karine Coulanges
President Skål International