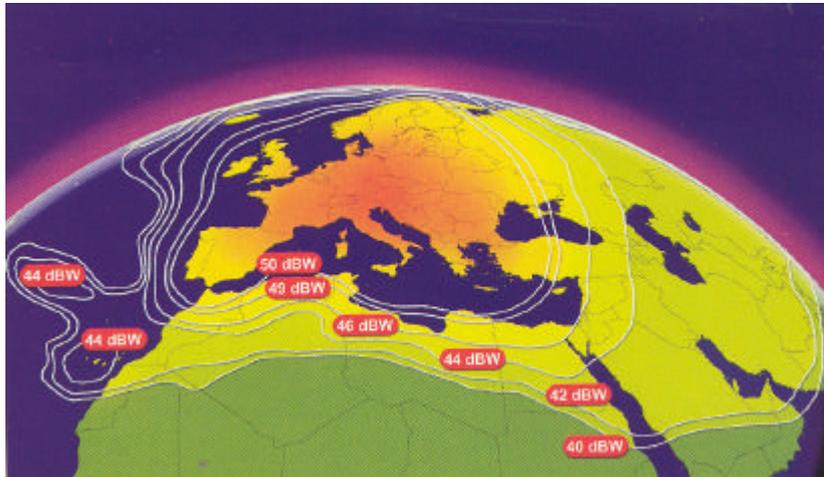


We're all going on a summer holiday, we're going where the sun shines brightly, we're going where the sea is blue, we've seen it in the movies, now let's see if it's true. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Circom Report

CIRCOM Regional Newsmonthly • CR is the European Association of 380 Public Regional TV Stations in 38 countries • Aug 2003/No 46



South East Europe under the spotlight

It seems that the spotlight during the coming months is on South East Europe, where the CIRCOM Report correspondents inform us of important newsworthy stories breaking all the time. First of all a SEE Satellite TV Channel is to be launched by the end of 2003. The 3rd conference of the Public Broadcasters from B SEC takes place in Varna, Bulgaria, Sept. 3-7.

A centre for minority media will open by SEEMO in Croatia. The 28th Golden Chest Festival is to be held in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, Oct. 19-27. The 36th meeting of the Balkan TV Magazine consortium members will be hosted by ERT3 in an Olympus mountain resort. The 2003 PRIX Circom Programs Festival returns for the 4th consecutive year early October in Thessaloniki.

Former CR President

Harald Boe
passes away

Harald Boe, former CIRCOM Regional President, passed away, August 1. He was very ill for the last weeks, "but nearly up to the end he was the good old Harald" writes Grethe Haaland.

Boe, CR President from 1994-96, was representing Norway's NRK from Oslo in CIRCOM Regional. He was the fifth president since the launch of CIRCOM Regional.



SEE Satellite TV Channel

BSEC Public Broadcasters conf. in Varna

Centre for minority media in Croatia

The 4th PRIX Circom Festival in Greece

The 28th Golden Chest Festival

Balkan TV Magazine meeting in Greece

France's new world TV channel named

A French parliamentary commission has produced a report on the setting up of a 24-hour international satellite TV channel. RFI, the French international radio station, reports that the new channel will be called CFI24 - the letters standing for Canal France International -

All French state radio and TV Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese outlets will be involved in the and others.

enterprise, as well as two private ones - TF1 and Canal Plus.

CFI24 will initially broadcast to Europe, Africa and the Middle East in French,

English and Arabic," the radio said, "and in five to seven years' time the coverage area is expected to be extended to include the USA, South America and Asia, with the range of languages widened to include



The parliamentary commission wants the new channel to be, like Radio France Internationale neither servile nor hostile. It is not supposed to be the voice of France -

which would serve absolutely no purpose - but rather an independent French outlet like RFI.

The satellite cover will be provided by Euronews, TV5 and Media Overseas, the radio said.

EBU SEE Europe Information Exchange

At the meeting on cooperation with the EBU Members in the countries of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe in February this year in Brussels, it was decided to create an information exchange system. Following this decision a new section on the EBU web site has been established by the EBU Brussels office:

http://www.ebu.ch/services/european_affairs/seeie_index.php

It aims to facilitate the projects of EBU Members.

exchange of information on matters related to public broadcasters in South Eastern Europe with a focus on media-related assistance in the region. It includes news, provides information on relevant running opportunities and the European and international institutions and media organizations involved. It also includes information on



A forum, (as part of the password protected EBU lounge) provides the opportunity to exchange information e.g. on project ideas.

The EBU Members' contributions are vital with a view of making this a useful instrument. Send your comments, suggestions and contributions to brudoc@ebu.ch.

Teleradio Moldova is now public

Teleradio Moldova has evolved into a public company, writes Boris Parfentiev, Int'l Relations Director.

New president is Artur Efremov and TV General Director is Sergiu Prodan.

TV and radio format to be adopted

The Russian Television and Radio Broadcasting Network state company (RTRS) is planning to streamline the country's entire radio and television broadcasting network by 2010, and to further transfer radio and television broadcasting to the digital format, RTRS General Director Gennady Sklyar said, in a report by NTV. "Such a large-scale operation is very important," he pointed out, "as all of Europe is transferring to digital television by 2008. This is qualitatively new broadcasting, and we believe that Russia must come to it as early as 2008-2010."

Major redevelopment of Broadcasting House

Major redevelopment work has begun at the BBC's most famous building, Broadcasting House in London. The redeveloped complex, due for completion in 2007, will be home to all the BBC's national radio networks, its national and international news operations, and the World Service, which will move back into Broadcasting House for the first time since it was forced out by bomb damage in 1941.

Broadcasting House was purpose-built in 1932, but the expansion of the BBC's radio services means it is too cramped for present-day requirements. In 1961 and 1995, extensions were added, but these will be demolished to make way for the new and greatly expanded complex that will become the largest live broadcasting centre in the world. The new centre will contain six TV news studios and 140 radio studios.

China expects 30 million digital TV subscribers

China is expected to sign up 30 million cable digital television subscribers by 2005, according to a five-year plan conceived by the State Administration of Radio, Film and Television (SARFT). Though the plan says that many cities in China will broadcast digital television in two years' time, it still needs to do more to sell the technology to consumers to fulfill its target, reports Monday's China Daily.

Some 40 Chinese cities and regions have already offered digital television broadcasts on a trial basis and more small- and medium-sized cities have announced plans to start digital television broadcasting in one or two years. But many cable TV subscribers still regard watching digital TV as a "luxury" since it means adding a decoding device, which costs at least 1,000 yuan (about 106 euros).

Thirst for news prompts media free-for-all in Iraq

The Iraqi economy is flat on its back. But on Karada Out, Bagdad's commercial boulevard, business is booming. Specifically, the information business. 53 shops are selling satellite television receivers and close to 100 stores have television sets on display on the sidewalks, where multicolored boxes from South Korean manufacturers are stacked high. The boom is taking place despite the on-again-off-again power situation in many places. Iraqis say they are mainly watching the Arabic language networks like Al-Jazeera, though they have mixed opinions about whether they like what they see. More than 100 newspapers are being published. By early afternoon it is impossible to find a copy of what by many accounts is the most credible daily paper in Baghdad: Azzaman, circulation 75,000, published by a former Saddam aide who escaped in 1992. Internet cafés also dot the street.

Russian international service launches internet video

The Russian state broadcasting company Voice of Russia, which broadcasts in 32 languages, is launching video broadcasting on the Internet.

A special section is to be opened on the Voice of Russia website in which the most significant and interesting programmes and interviews will be posted in a video format.

"In those conditions when the electronic mass media are developing fast" it is necessary to provide listeners, through the Internet and the worldwide web, with "the most up-to-date news product, a balanced combination of audio and video components, as well as textual and graphic information", says Voice of Russia broadcasting company chairman Armen Oganessian.

Berlin's digital gamble gains BBC channel

In a global first this August, the German capital will become a digital-only city for television, when the licensing body MABB switches off the analogue signal completely.

BBC World - an AIB member - the BBC's 24-hour international news and information channel, is the only foreign TV network to be awarded a digital terrestrial (DVB-T) frequency in Berlin.

To date, 25 stations have won licences to broadcast on the new digital spectrum but BBC World will be the only non-German channel to have been granted a frequency.

BBC World has been broadcasting on terrestrial analogue television in Berlin since 1996, when it broke new ground as the first and only overseas station ever to be given such a licence. Patrick Cross, BBC World Managing Director says: "It is a great honour and a reflection of the quality of BBC World that we are the only news channel to have been granted this highly sought-after digital frequency in Berlin.

I am delighted that viewers will continue to have access to our unrivalled, impartial news coverage." BBC World Service radio - also an AIB member - broadcasts in Berlin on FM.

Berlin's TV goes digital with a sharper picture

The Berlin-Brandenburg region is Europe's first television broadcasting area to go completely digital. It wasn't a bittersweet, prolonged parting. In fact, most people didn't notice a thing. But starting recently, broadcast television in Berlin and Brandenburg became a purely digital matter, with a sharper, more stable picture and a channel choice that jumped from 12 to 21.

Since most televisions cannot read digital signals on their own, households without cable or satellite reception had to purchase so-called "set-top boxes" to take advantage of the technology. In fact, the purchase of the boxes, which cost between 88 and 279 euros wasn't optional.

Viewers of analog sets who had put off buying the decoder found their screens had gone black. However, blank screens were in the minority, according to Susanne Grams, spokeswoman with the Berlin-Brandenburg Media Authority.

MTV has European plans for French video game channel

MTV Networks Europe made its first move into the gaming arena this May, when it acquired a 50% stake in French video games channel Game One (pictured) through a partnership with French video game publishing giant Atari.

According to MTV Europe, the deal marks the beginning of a long-term involvement with the video games industry and the channel format may well be exported to other TV markets on the continent.

* * * *

Sky Italia unveils international channels

After years of heavy losses in the Italian pay-TV sector, the launch of News Corp's Sky Italia this July finally looks set to kick-start the struggling market. Formed after the merger of Stream and Telepiu, the single digital satellite platform aims to break even within two years and the long-term target is to reach 10m viewers, up from 2.3m now.

* * * *

French chat channel launch

French digital platform Canal Satellite, has teamed with 1,2,3 Multimedia and Universal Music For Mobile, to launch 1.2.3 Sat. TV, a new channel devoted to chat and interactive programming.

Broadcasting 24 hours a day, 1.2.3 Sat. TV offers entertainment content to which subscribers can interact via SMS or interactive voice server.

* * * *

French public broadcasters unveil animation slates

Public broadcasters France 3 and France 2 confirmed their commitment to the French animation sector at this year's Mifa market, where they unveiled a slate of new commissions and coproductions.

"Animation makes up 90% of our kids' slots, 45% of which are coproductions," said Eve Baron, head of France 3's children's department.

Murdoch takes Sky to Italy targeting 10 m. subscribers

Rupert Murdoch today embarks on his most determined effort so far to capture a continental European television audience, with the launch of Sky Italia into one of the world's most locked-up markets. Tom Mockridge, the pay-TV network's managing director, has set a long-term target of 10 million subscribers. That would put an end to the free-to-air duopoly of Silvio Berlusconi's Mediaset and the state broadcaster RAI, which accounts for 90% of Italy's TV audience. The area in which Sky Italia could make its biggest impact on Italian society is in news, where there is a crying need for a fresh voice. Mr Berlusconi owns Mediaset, which operates three commercial channels, and as prime minister of Italy he controls RAI, which runs three stations. When he caused uproar this month in the European parliament by comparing a German MEP to a concentration camp guard, the RAI main evening bulletin saved him further embarrassment by not broadcasting news of the incident. One of Mediaset newscasters defended him while reporting the event to viewers.

Egypt hopes to expand satellite broadcasts

Egyptian Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif has signed a cooperation agreement with the French Canal Satellite group in a bid to expand Egyptian satellite channels via new satellites.

Under the agreement, the Egyptian satellite Channel 1 will beam its programmes via the Astra satellite to be seen in all of Europe. Egypt hopes that this agreement will help explain the country's information, political and cultural role to the world.

VOR to go all - digital?

Russian news agency ITAR-TASS notes that the Voice of Russia, now taking part in the initial phase of broadcasting in the DRM format, has become the first digital radio station in the country, broadcasting to Europe four hours a day in digital format.

VOR is using only one transmitter for digital broadcasts at present, but according to ITAR-TASS "all others are expected to go digital in the very near future to cover all continents by the end of the year." Complete transition to digital should be completed by 2015.

CNN is Europe's most popular paneuropean TV channel

US channel Fox News has hit new targets with audience ratings claiming 50% of cable news' primetime viewers. Fox, CNN and MSNBC recorded a significant growth in primetime ratings in the second quarter compared to 2002 while

Headline News and CNBC saw audience figures fall, Nielson Media Research reported.

Meanwhile, in Europe CNN was confirmed the most popular pan-European TV channel among Europe's business elite, both on and offline, in this year's Europe 2003 survey by Ipsos UK.

The figures show that CNN is watched each week by 29% of Europe's senior business people compared with 15% who watch BBC World, the BBC's commercially funded 24-hour channel.

New Italian satellite TV by R. Murdoch

Rupert Murdoch's Italian satellite TV service is set to launch a 24-hour news channel called Sky TG24.

The channel, which will go on air later this summer, will draw on the success of Sky News in the UK and Fox News in the US and will share their resources.

Sky Italia is 80.1% owned by Murdoch's News Corporation and marks the latest addition to his media empire. Sky Italia was given European regulatory clearance in April.

21 prizes go to BBC News online

BBC News Online clinched eight of the 21 prizes in the European Online Journalism Awards last night.

Mike Smartt, editor-in-chief of the site, won top honours in the outstanding contribution to online journalism category while the BBC's science correspondent, David Whitehouse, won best news story broken on the internet for the fourth year running.

The Financial Times' web site, FT.com, won the best investigative reporting award for a special report on weapons of mass destruction.

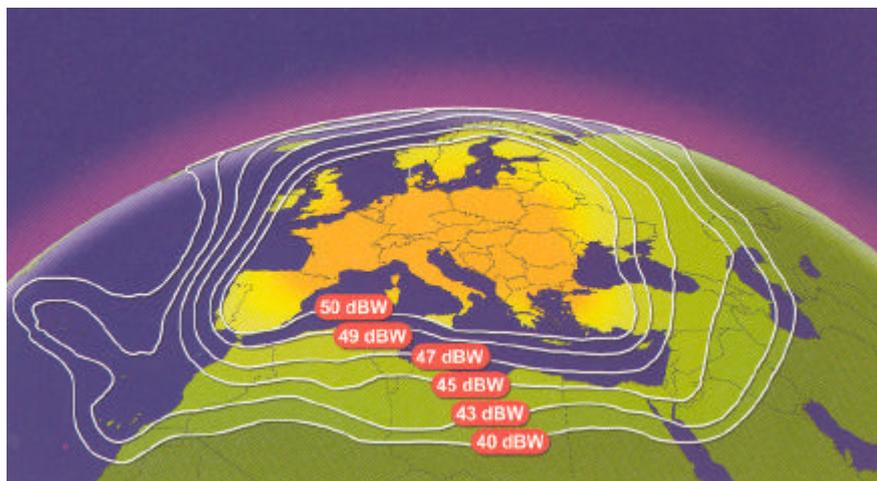
CNN in China is accessible in hotels

CNN's broadcast signals into China were cut during an interview with a Hong Kong legislator criticising a new security law that many think will stifle press freedoms in the former British colony.

The programme was cut as soon as Emily Lau began to criticise the treason and sedition law, Article 23, and only resumed when the interview was over.

Reports on sensitive issues are often interrupted by the Chinese government which maintains strict controls on what the people can and cannot watch.

CNN as well as other foreign broadcasters are only accessible in hotels designated for foreigners as well as diplomatic and media compounds.



CIRCOM Regional programs available on Europe by Satellite transmissions

Three retransmissions of CIRCOM Regional programs are available on EbS.

1st diffusion:

Wednesdays 21.00 – 22.00 CET

1st retransm:

Thursdays 5.30-6.30 CET

2nd retransm:

Saturdays 12.00-13.00 CET



Reality TV breaks African barriers

As the inhabitants of the "Big Brother Africa" house live out their daily soap opera, people across Africa are debating whether a reality TV show about twelve petulant housemates in a Johannesburg suburb can bring a sense of unity to a fragmented, impoverished continent.

This week, while President Bush tours five African countries focusing his attention on AIDS, civil wars and the legacy of slavery-fans of "Big Brother Africa" are watching people do what Big Brother contestants do wherever in the world the hit show has been produced: flirt, quarrel, cook, shower, get bored, go to sleep.

"This show is a safe route to see what other Africans look like," says Lizeka Mda, an editor at South Africa's Sunday Times. "Everybody has stereotypes, and here thanks to this show, all the preconceptions have been shot."

The "Big Brother" format pioneered by a Dutch company, locks often disparate people in houses rigged with television cameras. But the Endemol South Africa version is the first to throw together people from 12 countries across a whole continent.

BBC commitment to DAB digital radio

The BBC is underlining its commitment to DAB digital radio, with a major on-air promotional campaign for its complete portfolio of digital radio stations 1Xtra, Five Live Sports Extra, 6 Music, BBC 7 and the Asian Network.

The five-week campaign, the first by the BBC to promote its family of digital radio services, incorporates TV, radio and online elements. The BBC also confirmed details of the upgrading of its digital radio transmitter network from 65 per cent to 85 per cent coverage of the UK population in 2004.

Jenny Abramsky, Director of BBC Radio & Music and Vice-Chair of the Digital Radio Development Bureau (DRDB) said "For the first time digital radio is on its way to becoming a mass market proposition, rather than the preserve of audio enthusiasts. For the BBC there is also the encouraging sign of digital converts being attracted by new stations, particularly those provided by the BBC."

Bad language widely spread

UK national viewers' and listeners' association Mediawatch has accused broadcasters and film of helping to normalise bad language in society. The "f-word" was used almost 1,500 times in films on the five UK terrestrial television channels in the first half of this year, according to a report published by Mediawatch. The campaign group says the level of swearing on television is unacceptable and against the wishes of most people. It accuses broadcasters and film producers of helping to create a "grunt culture" in which language is being undermined. The group monitored six films featuring swearing screened on BBC One, two on BBC Two, 11 on ITV1, 16 on Channel 4 and 25 on Channel 5, from which gangster movie Goodfellas contained most uses of the "f-word" - 212. Reservoir Dogs came a close second, with 197 incidences of the swear word.

September schedule:

Transmission date:	Transmission time - CET	station
6.9.2003	12:00 – 13:00	ERT 3
programmes in order of transmission	BALKAN TV MAGAZINE Women non governmental Organisations duration: 56'06" transmission: 1st	
Transmission date:	Transmission time - CET	station
4.9.2003	05:30 – 06:30	ERT 3
programmes in order of transmission	BALKAN TV MAGAZINE New Trends in Arts duration: 57' transmission: 2nd	
Transmission date:	Transmission time - CET	station
3.9.2003	21:00 – 22:00	ERT 3
programmes in order of transmission	BALKAN TV MAGAZINE New Trends in Arts duration: 57' transmission: 1st	

August 2003 - detailed programme schedule:

1st diffusion:	1st retransm:	2nd retransm:	station
27.8.2003	28.8.2003	30.8.2003	
programmes in order of transmission	1. SLOVENIAN MAGAZINE No 239 2. EUROPEOS No 23: L'Europe, combine de divisions?		RTV SLO FRANCE 3

By the end of 2003

South East European Satellite TV Channel

With the participation of the area's broadcasters



“It is a pleasure informing you that our project “Establishing a satellite TV channel for countries of Southeast Europe”, or “SEE TV Channel”, was widely accepted at the recent presentation in Thessaloniki and Sarajevo” writes Milan Atanaskovic SEE TV vice president and program coordinator.

The project is also getting international support. Association SEE Channel has been registered in Paris, where our operational secretariat is to be based, with approve of Eureka Audiovisual. Many TV stations, institutions and individuals have expressed their desire to support and help us start this venture. Prevailing cooperation and understanding is a positive step towards success and I am optimistic that this project would succeed. As Editor in Chief of ART TV, one of the participants in the project, and Vice-president of Association, I was asked to be a program coordinator during the experimental broadcasting.

To develop further, I would request you to consider the following:

- a) we all have agreed to create the first joint TV channel of the Southeast European countries and are aware of the fact that the success of this project and presence on the channel will entirely depend on the efforts that each one of us will put in. Since we are working on a low budget, I would request each of us to put in maximum effort during this experimental phase and implement precisely all that we have agreed upon. Any new idea and suggestion is most welcome.
- b) An experimental broadcasting would start on satellite W2, using the capacities of our strategic partners EUTELSAT from Paris and “Interactive Technologies” from Sofia. The format would be BETA SP or DVD. The experimental phase should start by the end of September or latest by 1st October and will last 100 days, till the year-end. All broadcasting materials should be send by mail.

During the experimental stage, the program concept should be:

1. The presentation of all positive spheres of life in our region uniting us.
2. Program should have an international character and be European oriented. All barriers to be avoided, especially political and linguistic.
3. The rich diverse culture of our region would be the basis of the program during the experimental stage. It should also have programs showing our cultural heritage, scientific, ecological and natural achievements.
4. Films from participating countries, as also European films, would be shown. Short films, documentaries, video art, musical programs, concerts and spots, as also coverage of cultural happenings should be a part of the scheme during the experimental stage.

In short, a visual and content identity of our new TV channel has to be created during the experimental period. To begin with, I would suggest

doing the following:

1. To prepare a list of programs and materials from our archives, with which each of us is willing to participate during the experimental broadcast. This should be within the concept of the experimental program mentioned above. The list should be precise and must have a short description, duration, language and name of the author. The materials selected would be broadcast and repeated on SEE TV. We should be absolved from any royalty payment for broadcasting and permit the programs to be shown on local TV networks in our region, should such a need arise.

2. To organize in your countries any other content that could be broadcast on SEE TV. This program has to be public domain. It could be any of the following:

- Documentary and promotional films about your countries, which can be obtained in uour ministries of coulture or information.
- Films, short films, experimental or similar films, which can be obtained from cultural and art organizations.
- Coverage of cultural shows, concerts etc., which can be obtained as a promotional material, various types of music clips, as far as they have artistic and cultural value, and have an international character.

3. To consider and let us have your views on producing “No Comment” shots as per following model:

- This should focus on some particular event or theme from culture, which can be decided occasionally.
- The duration should depend on the theme and could be 5 to 15 minutes.
- Material should be with original sound.

To begin with, lets all agree on a form and method in producing these types of shots. Let the first theme be the main street of your city. Let it be a shot of a passer by or a shot of many young people (showing the optimism and faith in our future project), shop windows, cafes, the general atmosphere of the town. I am sure many of our future viewers have never seen the main streets of Sofia, Tirana, Skopje or your town. Let's make them interested in their neighbor's towns and citizens. The same model can be applied on art events, exposit ions, concerts, etc. Could you and how frequently supply us with this type of material? It should be as often as possible.

4. A short broadcast about your TV station could be incorporated in our program. This can be forwarded in a documentary form of roughly 20 min. duration, by 1st Sept. Please forward all your information, data, tapes, suggestions or ideas to our address: Milan Atanaskovic / SEE TV , Kneza Milosa 64, 11000 Beograd, Serbia & Montenegro or by Email: atanas@eunet.yu

In Varna, Bulgaria

Conference of the Public Broadcasters from BSEC

From Sept. 3-7

The Bulgarian National Radio (BNR) and Bulgarian National Television (BNT) are organizing the 3-rd Conference of the Public Broadcasters from the "Black Sea Economic Cooperation" (BSEC) member states to be held at the "Saint Elias" Resort near Varna, Bulgaria, September 3-7.

The meeting will take place in Grand Hotel Varna. Delegates will be accommodated in St.Elias complex, which is situated near the venue at the beautiful seaside cost.

It is hoped that the meeting will give delegates the opportunity to draft an action plan of common interest in fulfilment of their strategic cooperation goals and also be able to discuss their joint projects and policy.

Working language at the meeting will be English.

Organizers will cover the expenses for the hotel accommodation and meals as well as the transportation from and to Varna airport. Varna can be reached by plane, train, bus or car.

The contact person is Albena Milanova, Director of International Relations of BNR (Tel. +359 2 933 6463, Fax: +359 2 963 44 64 Email: milanova@nationalradio.bg
The provisional agenda of the meeting

1. Presentation of the Coordination Group's activities
2. Statutory Principles
 - Discussion over the chapters of the "Statutory

Principles" of the "Black Sea Public Service Cooperation"

3. Radio and TV matters

- Members' cooperation
- Searching for concrete types and ways of cooperation

4. Common activities within other regional and international organizations

5. Contacting educational seminars and training programmes

- a. How we can organize a training seminar
- b. Financial sources

6. Working together in the Balkans

7. Perspectives of development and activities of the Public Service Broadcasters of the BSEC member States

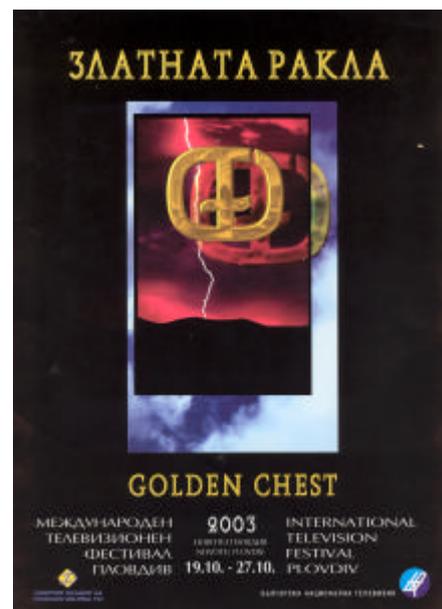
- Sources of financial income
- Cooperation in the areas of programmes and news exchanges
- Web site of the organization/cooperation

8. Functions of Coordination Group

- Sharing the responsibilities
- Reconsideration of the composition

9. Venue and dates for the next meetings:

- Coordination Group meetings
- 4th Conference



Oct. 18 - 25: the 28th Golden Chest Festival

The 28th Golden Chest Int'l TV Festival will be held in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, Oct. 18-25, organized by the Bulgarian National Television.

This year's festival has a competition program in three categories: TV films and Series for Adults, TV Films and Series for Children and Adolescents, TV Documentaries.

There's also a new category: "First Steps" – feature films, documentaries and animation produced by students. It will be open only for theater and film Schools from all over the world.

Mrs Oli Grueva is the newly appointed Director of the Golden Chest.

Due to the local elections the dates of the festival have changed from Oct. 19-27 to Oct. 18-25.

Local television network emerges in Hungary

In an attempt to link up local television stations around the country, (Network Televisions) hopes to emerge as the fourth largest TV network on the Hungarian market. According to Zoltán Gáti, chief executive officer, Hálózatok Televíziók Rt already counts 80 local TV stations among its members. The programming can reach some six million potential viewers around the country, including cable broadcasts. The television stations with the largest number of viewers are the two national commercial stations, RTL Klub and TV2, and state-owned Hungarian Television Rt (MTV), which operates two channels.

Underwater Pictures Festival in Antibes

The 30th World Festival of Underwater Pictures will be held at the Convention Center of Antibes Juan-les-Pins between October 29th and November 2nd 2003.

The theme of this year is "The Festival dives into the 3rd millennium".

Please note the birth of a new contest, "Archipelago", calling for innovative ideas about the underwater coastal development.

All the information is at the web site : www.underwater-festival.com



Festivals, Workshops and more around Europe and the world

August

- August 16-30: Padova, Italy. European Association for Research on Learning and Instruction (EARLI) 10th annual conference
- August 21-23: Helsinki. International symposium on ethics in biomedical research will consider such subjects as stem cells, cloning and use of embryos. www.hbgs.helsinki.fi/bioethics03
- August 22-24: Edinburgh. The 28th International Television Festival sponsored by the Media Guardian. www.mgeitf.co.uk Email: info@mgeitf.co.uk
- August 30: Perpignan, France. International festival of photo-journalism opens for two weeks. +331 4233 9305

September

- Sept. 1-4: Strasbourg. European Parliament plenary session. www.europarl.eu.int
- Sept. 3-4: Viterbo, Italy. Informal meeting of EU Telecommunications Ministers. www.ueitalia2003.it
- Sept. 5-6: Riva Del Garda, Italy. Informal meeting of EU Foreign Ministers
- Sept. 5-6: Milan. Informal meeting of EU Health Ministers
- Sept. 8-12: (Saint Tropez, France) Le Rendez – Vous 2003 French TV Screenings tvfi@tvfi.com
- Sept. 10-14: Cancun, Mexico. WTO. The 5th World Trade Organisation Ministerial Conference, with the EU countries in some disagreement with the USA over development and trade issues. www.wto.org
- Sept. 11-16: Amsterdam. IBC2003. Over a thousand exhibitors are expected at the global electronic media conference and exhibition. www.ibc.org
- Sept. 12-13: Ostrea, Italy. Informal meeting of EU Finance Ministers
- Sept. 12-13: Rome. Informal meeting of EU Justice and Home Affairs Ministers
- Sept. 14: Estonia. Referendum on whether to join the EU
- Sept. 14: Sweden. Referendum on whether to adopt the Euro
- Sept. 16: Brussels. Understanding and reporting EU media issues. A European Publishers Council conference. +322 732 5546
- Sept. 16-19: 14th Sportel Int'l Symposium (Monaco)
- Sept. 16-22: European Mobility Week, ending with Car-Free-Day on 22nd. Hundreds of initiatives will promote alternatives to the car. London's congestion charging will be assessed by other European cities. mark.o'donovan@cec.eu.int
- Sept. 17-18: Leeds. Musicnetwork – a workshop on future trends in music. supported by the EC. <http://callisto.dsi.unifi.it/events>
- Sept. 18: Berlin. EU Higher Education Ministers hold a 'summit' to review progress in creating a European Higher Education Area, (with compatible standards and qualifications). barney.trench@cec.eu.int
- Sept. 18-20: Cambridge. Annual Royal Television Society Cambridge Convention. kate@rts.org.uk 020 7691 2472
- Sept. 19-20: Brussels. EU Justice and Home Affairs Ministers meet.
- Sept. 20: Latvia. Referendum on EU membership
- Sept. 21: UN International Day of Peace.
- Sept. 20-23: Taormina, Italy. EU Agriculture Ministers hold informal meeting.
- Sept. 22-23: Brussels. EU Ministers for Industry and Research meet in the Competitiveness Council.
- Sept. 22-25: Strasbourg. European Parliament plenary session
- Sept. 23-27: Cologne. ENTSORGA 2003. The global Environmental Trade Fair. Tel: +49 221 821 3797
- Sept. 29-30: Brussels. EU Foreign Ministers meet. They may discuss EU funds for the reconstruction of Iraq.
- Sept. 29-30: Brussels. EU Agriculture and Fisheries Ministers meeting
- Sept. 29-Oct. 2: Heidelberg. Eurescom 2003 – European Institute for Strategic Studies in Telecommunications considers the evolution of broadband. www.eurescom.de
- Sept. 29-Oct. 3: EU Youth Week, promoting pan-European projects for children and students. dona.vanwetter@mostra.com
- Sept. 30: Brussels. '2004 - The New Europe' is the title of a conference organised by the European Voice newspaper. deeosullivan@economist.com +322 540 9085

October

- Oct. 2-3: Luxembourg. EU Justice and Home Affairs Ministers meet
- Oct 2-3: Florence. EU Sport Ministers hold informal meeting
- Oct. 2-4: Milan. IST 2003. The European Commission's annual event showcasing and discussing the latest Information Society technologies, such as broadband, mobile services and deregulation. http://europa.eu.int/information_society/istevent/2003
- Oct. 10-14: (Cannes, France): MIPCOM – Int'l Film & Programme Market for Television, Video, Cable and Satellite tvsales@reedmidem.com

November

- Nov. 19-22: (Lubeck, Germany), Int'l Film Festival of Animation tvbs@mediaschool.org

SEEMO to open centre for minority media in Croatia

The South East Europe Media Organisation (SEEMO), an affiliate of the International Press Institute (IPI), will open a new resource centre in Croatia dedicated to training, promoting and researching ethnic minority media. The SEEMO IPI Media Minority Centre will open in Opatija on 1 September in co operation with the International Center for Education of Journalists (ICEJ).

In its first year of operation, the centre will offer several training programs focusing on southeast European minority media, SEEMO says. International media experts and journalism professors will be brought on board to lead the programs, which will include seminars for senior journalists working for Roma media in southeast Europe, journalists working for Turkish media in Kosovo and editors-in-chief working for Serbian media in Croatia.

SEEMO has been working to promote cross-cultural understanding among the media in the region. In May, it organised a conference bringing together senior journalists and media executives from Kosovo and Serbia for the first time. Last month, SEEMO brought together more than 70 journalists from Roma media across eastern and southeast Europe to discuss problems facing Roma journalists. Participants recommended the establishment of a network to improve information exchange and facilitate training programs.

The 4th PRIX CIRCOM Festival in Thessaloniki

Preparations are going strong for the 4th PRIX Circom Festival to be held in Thessaloniki early in October. The best TV programs of the year selected by a prestigious jury earlier this year will again be screened, with open doors, in a cinema for the public, journalists and TV personnel from across the country. The festival is organized locally by ERT3.

“Balkan TV Magazine” meeting in Greece

The 36th Balkan TV Magazine consortium meeting hosted by ERT3 is to be held in Katerini, Greece, August 28-Sept. 1. During a reception given by the Prefect of Pieria the Balkan Song Festival will be announced to be launched in 2004 at the Dion ancient theatre.

At the meeting participants include representatives from Serbia, Romania, Moldova, Turkey, Albania, Bulgaria, FYRO Macedonia and Greece.

Circom Report

The “CIRCUM Report” is a monthly publication of CIRCUM Regional, the European Association of Public Regional TV Stations-available on the CR Internet site and coming to CR member stations and personnel either through E-mail or as an A4 size printed newsletter, through the CR General Secretariat from Zagreb. The French version of the CIRCUM Report is conceived and published by the Strasbourg Secretariat with support from the Region Alsace, the Conseil General du Bas-Rhin and the City of Strasbourg.

The “CIRCUM Report” is planned and edited in ERT3, Thessaloniki, Greece. Production and Design: **Eleni Masoura**. Phone (+302310) 299611-610 fax (+302310) 299655. E-mail: pr@ert3.gr All member stations are considered as potential contributors for this publication, with stories about new and innovative ideas, co-productions, exchanges, modern technologies, etc. Especially welcome are short stories and one-liners.

Eutelsat is the official CIRCUM Regional sponsor.

