

## **CIRCOM Regional Annual Assembly 052224**

### 6. Annex AA 052224 – Secretary General Annual Report 2023

#### **Secretary General Annual Report 2023**

The year 2023 was the relatively normal year in Europe. CIRCOM Regional continued its activities. All the meetings were in-person meetings.

The 2023 membership fees were normal (increased 7,44% for the inflation rate) and there was no discount on Prix CIRCOM Regional sponsorship.

#### **Nominations and Membership**

At the Annual Assembly on 31 May 2023, Eivind Undrum Jacobsen, NRK, was elected President of CIRCOM Regional and this was his first-year term (Eivind Undrum Jacobsen was interim President from 1/10/2022 until 31/5/2023).

Genc Çausi, RTSH, became National Coordinator for Albania in October 2023.

Renzo Veenstra, Stichting RPO, is National Coordinator for the Netherlands as of 24/2/2023.

Jose Arantes, RTP, is National Coordinator for Portugal as of 3/2/2023.

Miroslav Debnár, RTVS Banska Bystrica, is National Coordinator for Slovakia as of May 2023.

Theodora Fairley, BBC Yorkshire, is National Coordinator for UK as of 10/3/2023.

Wojciech Malinowski, TVP, is Vice-President of CR from 1/6/2023, as TVP is the host of the Annual Conference of CR in 2024.

Televisión Pública de Canarias from Canary Islands, Spain, is CR Member as of 1/1/2023.

#### **Budget**

The budget plan for 2023 took into consideration the subscription fees applicable for 2023 and the confirmed Prix CIRCOM sponsorships.

The outline budget for 2023 was approved at the Annual Assembly on 25 May 2022 held in Galway, Ireland.

#### **Financing**

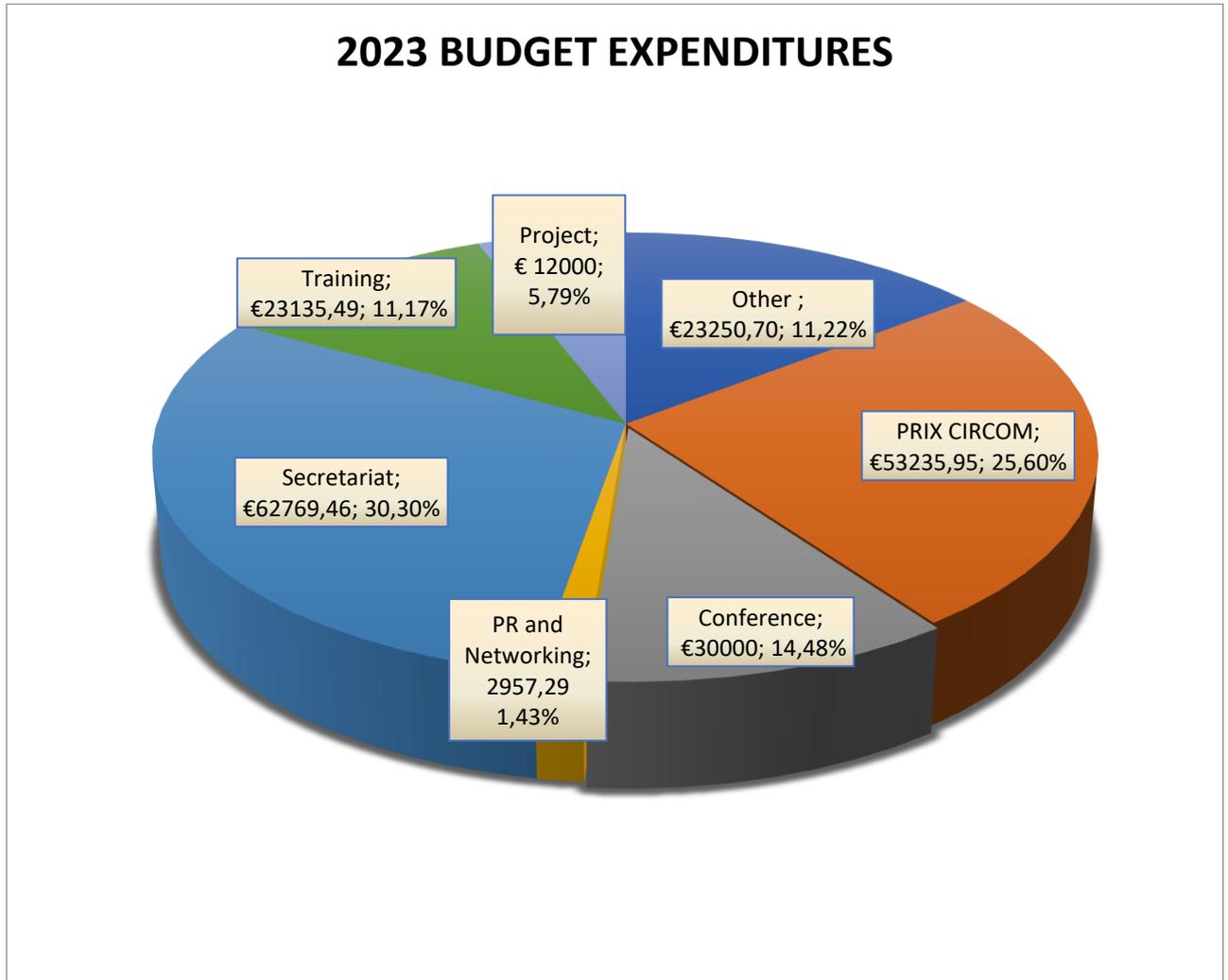
The revenues and expenditures were within the budget and there were no unexpected events.

The realisation of the budget up to 31 December 2023 was:

<b>Revenues</b>	
Membership fees	159.947,89
Sponsor Prix	53.000,00
Other	<u>2.099,66</u>
	<b>215.047,55</b>

<b>Expenditures</b>	
Conference	30.000,00
Prix CIRCOM	53.235,95

Training	23.235,49
PR and Networking	2.957,29
Secretariat	62.769,46
Other	23.250,70
UVIGO – CIRCOM Project	<u>12.000,00</u>



#### Annual Conference 2023

EITB, the public service broadcaster in the Basque Country, hosted the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of CIRCOM Regional on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023 in Kursaal Congress Centre in Donostia - San Sebastian, Basque Country, Spain.

The theme of the Conference was: We Talk. We listen. We share.

The Conference offered a unique opportunity to learn from top industry experts and connect with peers from across Europe. This was a valuable experience for media professionals at all levels.

The themes at the Conference were: News and Young Audiences, Innovation and Trends, Public Service Media and Democracy at Stake, Disinformation and Fake News, Delivering Audiovisual Media

under War Conditions: Ukraine, Solution Based Journalism and there was Meet Prix CIRCOM Winners session.

There were 250 participants.

The Annual Conference is accessible at <https://www.circom-regional.eu/ac-hidd-mn/243-39th-annual-conference/1223-annual-conference-2023> .

Starting in 2022, CIRCOM European Board decided to contribute achieving a climate neutral impact of its Annual Conference – the gathering each year of some 250 participants from regional public service media and other institutions across Europe – and to bring sustainability to developing countries by voluntarily cancelling emissions through the United Nations Carbon Offset Platform. The amount CR paid in 2023 to EE households for the Biomass Energy Conservation programme in Malawi is €2,000 – corresponding to approx. 72 T. CO2.

### **Prix CIRCOM Regional 2023**

Prix CIRCOM 2023 had 177 submitted entries in 11 categories: Digital Multimedia, Documentary, Entertainment and Drama, Investigative Journalism, Minorities in Society, Most Original and Innovative, Music and Arts, News Programme, News Report, Video Journalism, Young Onscreen. Talent. Entries came from 22 regional public service television stations in Europe.

Category sponsors were: ORF, RTÉ, RTP and TVG Galicia, Council of Europe, France Télévisions, NRK, TG4, RPO, CIRCOM Regional, BBC, TVR and TVP.

The Prix CR judging was hosted by RTP in April in Porto, Portugal.

The Prix CIRCOM 2023 Winners and Commended were announced on 27 April. The Grand Prix was awarded at the Prix CIRCOM Gala event on 1 June in Donostia-San Sebastian, Spain. The Winners received their trophies and certificates and the Commended received their certificates at the Prix CIRCOM Gala.

### **Training**

Most of the training sessions were in-presence and just few were online webinars.

How to Win at Prix CIRCOM, 1 hour webinar on 8 February 2023, led by Jules Hyam, BBC. There were 44 registrations from 18 countries.

Senior Management workshop, hosted by Yle in Tampere on 17 February 2023. There were 12 participants from 6 countries.

Leading through Change, on 15-17 May 2023 at the European Youth Centre in Budapest, led by Linda Hermansson. There were 10 participants from 7 countries.

The Future & Storytelling, 29-31 May 2023, in Donostia-San Sebastián, Basque Country, Spain, led by Darko Flajpan, HRT, and John Inge Johansen, NRK, with 12 participants from 8 countries. The feedback was very good.

The MoJo Workshop, 13-18 June 2023 in Timisoara, Romania, led by Jules Hyam, BBC and Dan Pomroy, BBC, with 13 participants – 7 from TVR and 6 from CR members. The overall impression was excellent.

14<sup>th</sup> edition of EuroPCom, Brussels, Belgium, 26-27 June 2023 – CR training on 27 June 2023, led by Guillaume Kuster: Understanding algorithmic content recommendations to find – and fight – dubious content, with 8 participants from 6 countries.

Stepping up, 24-26 October 2023, at FTV in Strasbourg, France, with Linda Hermansson, SVT and Gordana Škaljac Narančić, HRT, with 14 participants. The feedback is excellent.

Digital Transformation – Digital Doctors, a webinar on 5 December 2023 was led by Anton Svendsen, SVT, with three new Doctors: Malin Syrstad, SVT, Tove Myllari, Yli, and Renzo Veenstra, Omroep Brabant. There were 93 registrations from 18 countries, 60 people attended, with 12 giving feedback.

## **Coproduction**

There was no ongoing coproduction and no coproduction announcement.

The new Subgroup for partnership was formed with David Lowen as Chair, and Alexandre Pletser, RTBF, Jean-Marc Dubois, Individual Member, Zoran Medved, RTVSLO. Directorate members and other members were invited to the Subgroup when needed.

The Subgroup was to study references to partnerships and co-productions in CR's Code of Practice, propose such changes as might be appropriate for clarity and better operational management of such partnerships and coproductions and consider the impact of any changes in the Code of Practice on the Statutes of CR.

A system for partnership was to be devised which would be slow and careful enough to make sure we do not make terrible mistakes, but at the same time fast enough not to lose opportunities. A template was to be created which would work for everything, that would take us in one direction in one project and in another direction in another project, a template that would satisfy our parent companies that we are taking appropriate measures to ensure that every risk in any partnership is managed but would not slow us down.

The University of Vigo proposed to CIRCUM a partnership agreement to explore trends in innovation and adaptation to digital transformation in European regional public broadcasters through comprehensive mapping and qualitative investigation. Main sources of information would be interviews with media managers, data collection and attending the CR activities as observers.

Time scope was 1 year, from October 2023 to September 2024 and the cost for CIRCUM €12,000 (plus €3,000 given by CRTVG, the neighbouring station). Proposed CIRCUM Project manager was Zoran Medved, RTVSLO. The formal Framework Agreement between CIRCUM Regional and the University of Vigo was signed.

## **Public Affairs and Networking**

Deputy Secretary General attended New Year's reception of the European Audiovisual Observatory. Francoise Erb also attended the 40<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Advisory Committee of the EAO on 16/3/2023.

On 15 March 2023 Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General met in Strasbourg with Thibault Lesenechal, the new Chief of the Audiovisual Unit of the European Parliament.

On 16 March 2023 Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General attended the Advisory Committee of the European Audiovisual Observatory in Strasbourg.

Committee of the Regions organized the EuroPCom event in Brussels on 26 and 27 June, gathering journalists and people of the communication world, with the topic "European Democracy". Ten journalists from CR Members were invited by the CoR during 2 days and attended CR workshop "Understanding algorithmic content recommendation to find and fight dubious content".

On 14 September the DSG attended the 41<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Advisory Committee of the European Audiovisual Observatory in Strasbourg.

In the first half of the year, Networking was mainly about exploring activities with regard to the forthcoming Annual Conference. On social media there was a series of materials presenting the topics of the Annual Conference and the keynote speakers. After the Annual Conference, short video interviews with the keynote speakers were published on social media in June and July 2023.

CIRCUM Reflections were produced each month, promoting positive developments about CR and shedding light on good practices of our members.