



THE WORLD SUBUD ASSOCIATION  
WSA Chair & Executive  
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## **WSA 2010 Q1 Review for WSC – REVISED VERSION April 21 2010**

Ninety five days have passed since the end of Congress. Not quite one of those ‘100-day’ reviews... But as we pass into the second quarter of 2010, we feel it is time for an overview of what we, your WSA team, has been doing on all fronts. The WSA team of chair and executive comprising: chair, vice chair and team intend to report to the WSC four times a year as far as possible. We use ‘Q1’ or Quarter 1 - because to use ‘Spring Report’ when it is autumn in the Southern hemisphere may confuse.

### **1. WSA CHAIR-WSA EXECUTIVE LINKS**

- Luke and Maxwell Skype call weekly; email and as-needed contact
- Have a very close and harmonious working relationship based on a friendship going back over 30 years (Loudwater group, UK)
- Still in process of covering off respective areas of responsibility i.e. balancing policy (Luke) with operational (Maxwell) functions
- Luke remains open to the possibility of a Deputy WSA chair since there is a need to not only cover for the chair when unavailable, but also take on core projects on a delegated basis (as did Frederic Richard under Osanna Vaughn in the prior WSA)

### **2. WSA EXECUTIVE STRUCTURE**

- At the end of Congress, Maxwell swiftly appointed a core team that combines both continuity (Maya, Julia, Amalia, Amalijah) and new blood (Hammond, Silvana)
- Maxwell (Canberra, Australia); Maya (Rungan Sari, Indonesia); Julia (Washington State, USA); Hammond (Christchurch, NZ); Amalia, External Relations Officer (Vienna, Austria); Silvana, Administrative Assistant (Canberra, Australia); form a well-integrated main secretariat, with Amalijah as Archives Coordinator (Canberra, Australia) working closely with the executive.
- Maxwell, Maya, Julia and Silvana Skype call weekly; Hammond comes in on budget calls; Julia also supports Luke’s work as WSA chair

### 3. WSA EXECUTIVE ACTIVITY

- **Building WSA-IH links:** Includes building links with the International Helper (IH) team (18) spread across (3) Areas globally; there has been a tendency to address key issues to a small team of IHs within the same Area (North America from Luke/Maxwell's perspective) to provide support with testing, supporting regular weekly WSC latihan assisting with difficult/intractable issues
- **WSA-IH growing relationship** is vital and is evolving as we work more together; both WSA and the IHs are developing their collaborations across great distances/time zones; WSA and the IHs also look forward to the next WSC meeting when we are all together to share latihan, testing and understanding of our work (see 'Next WSA meeting' below)

### 4. KEY OPERATIONAL ISSUES

- **Corporate governance updating:** MSF, on behalf of WSA, is currently engaged in upgrading our legal compliance and corporate governance. Not only in response to new US laws impacting US registered NGOs (which WSA is), but also in terms of building on existing disclosure, transparency and ethical behaviours. Those that we are bound to embody both inwardly and outwardly as the organization supporting the work of Subud and the latihan in the world
- **WSA-External Relations & SDIA relationships:** WSA and SDIA chairs coordinated and reached agreements on overall WSA UN policy drafted in 2009; since then the SDIA board has sought to review and adopt new policy representing a number of different perspectives; consequently two (2) areas are under review: a) coordination within the WSA executive (including the WSA External Relations group), and b) joint responsibility for reporting to both WSC and SDIA boards; given this debate, a need arose to seek inner guidance in our respective roles; participants began regular weekly WSC latihan and role/orientation testing pending a policy review by the WSA executive; this will precede more comprehensive testing during the WSC meeting
- **Completing confidential reviews/due diligence** around projects in Indonesia in line with the need to monitor and support progress around Subud's implementation of Bapak's vision for Kalimantan (centered on Rungan Sari and surrounding lands); also reviewing the management of his legacy in terms of centres (Adi Puri and Wisma Subud), WSA Archives (in process of being centralized), the ongoing History of Subud project etc.; Adi Puri, WSA Archives etc. are being done in association with MSF
- **WSA Archives** are a vital project that Congress endorsed as high priority with a significant budget increase needed; this has recently become more critical with the realization that: a) there are key archival materials including tapes needing urgent preservation and advanced copying; b) that there is a need to map out our Congress-supported WSA Archives strategy step-by-step implementation for the next 3-4 years immediately; c) we need to begin with a significant increase in 2010-11 funding to jump-start critical operations; d) that the Archives team needs to expand to include more support internationally; WSA is working closely with Amalijah Thompson as Archives Coordinator on this urgent project and will present an update and strategic plan for the WSC meeting in August

- **Familiarization and due diligence around Yarralumla Foundation (YF)** and its wish to make grants/donations to Subud projects and operations; this involves clarifying funding mechanisms, working relationships, responsibilities and the potential for conflicts of interest. WSA has tasked MSF (along with professional support as needed), to clarify how WSA, its affiliates and MSF will work with YF (currently chaired by Maxwell Fraval)
- **WSA/MSF governed by stringent new US Laws for NGOS:** WSA wants to emphasize that under now much more stringent US laws governing NGOs and charitable foundations, this same due diligence and drawing up of appropriate legal agreements would be done (regardless of the source), for any organization seeking to donate/grant funds to the Subud organization/projects etc.
- **Continuing to build excellent websites and communications** serving the internal needs of Subud as well as its external communications; SESI is already taking a leading role in sponsoring and developing these services on behalf of WSA and wing organizations; the WSA and wing's needs are becoming more comprehensive – hence the need for a plan to build on the excellent prior WSA websites ([www.subud.org/.com](http://www.subud.org/.com), SWN etc.); SYA are setting up a networking blog site called subudyouth.net as a communication tool
- **WSA-endorsed/unendorsed websites:** The WSA is currently reviewing both groups in order to bring them under the auspices of WSA for copyright and trademark, as well as Bapak Talks, translations and Subud member access purposes
- **Building on core aspects of Subud:** being present in the world (see below): Subud Centres; Subud Projects; Subud Census; this involves building on existing websites and databases; integrating accumulated/new information
- **Strongly supporting the restructuring/revisioning of WSA wing organizations:** SDI; SESI; SICA; SIHA and SYA and the MSF foundation; all are in various stages of revisioning and restructuring for greater focus and strength. Not all are legal affiliates – but all are ultimately responsible to The WSA/WSC in terms of Subud's activities in the world. There has been particular progress in the growth of the new SESI under Ruslan Morris. Likewise the new SICA under Latifah Taormina and two vice chairs Susanna Rosenthal and Helena Casbolt is gathering momentum; (see below); also the new/larger SYA youth rep. team covering three (3) Areas now; SIHA is helping build new websites around health issues; MSF and SDI are both building stronger organizations on deep foundations

## 5. CORE 'SUBUD LIFE' PROJECTS

- **Subud Projects:** Supported by existing [www.subudprojects.net](http://www.subudprojects.net) website as encouraged by the prior WSA; Harris Madden (Sydney) as part of the new SESI team is building new website content and linkages. The hope is that SESI (e.g. Rashad Pollard with a 'Lessons Learned' segment on SESI' website), SDIA (ESP – Enterprise Sponsorship Program and other SD programs under Virginia Thomas) and other wing organizations will contribute to a shared profiling of Subud projects
- **Subud Census:** Sparked from an interest in how many Subud members have been opened. This project guided by Julia Hurd (USA) and Valentine Narvey (Canada) builds on existing WSA/WSC data and group/member information to reach out to members old and new; find out more about who we are; how active we are; what our groups look like

- **Subud Centres/Houses:** A core project if not one of the major themes emerging from Congress; our Centres/Houses are sacred spaces for worship, socializing, cultural activities, community outreach, skills development, enterprise etc.; to build on these and add where there is the intention to grow – an open door for the growth of Subud in the world..; a team looks to be emerging around Haris Wolfgang (Portland); Marston Gregory (Seattle); Santa Raymond (UK); to build and share our considerable experience internationally.

## 6. WSA-WING RELATIONS

- The new WSA was at the inception of the new SESI, also the new SICA towards the end of Congress; this re-birthing has been very important and enabled new leadership as well as new strategies and already new operations to emerge (see above) – stay tuned!
- Likewise there is much to do in supporting the development of the SYIA under its new leadership across the three (3) Areas. SYIA priorities are already focusing on communications; travel and organizing cultural and other social events.

## 7. IMMEDIATE RESOLUTION FOLLOW-UP FROM CONGRESS

- **Lessons Learned:** At the end of Congress Dave Hitchcock (Zone 7 Rep) was asked by WSA/WSC to set up a Task Force to build on ‘Lessons Learned’. This being, ‘what came out of Congress for all of us in terms of what worked/didn’t, why and how we can improve’. This arose from a working party that met towards the end of Congress.
- **WSA Membership:** A new Task Force is being set up that deals with concerns around WSA membership – i.e. around defining rights, privileges and responsibilities.
- **Wisma Subud:** Garrett Thomson has agreed to continue being the point person contact for WSA concerning the Wisma Subud Heritage program (WSHPP) Thank you Garrett! He has also accepted to follow through with the support that WSA/ MSF have agreed on for the buying of a Subud House in Kinshasa in D. R. Congo
- **Past Chair:** In parallel, Osanna is providing support and advice to SDIA as well as your WSA chair. So our past chairs have definitely not retired! This is in fact a trend the WSA would like to support – i.e. the recognition of past chairs and their being included on key/core committees to support organizational continuity in building on what we have

## 8. NEXT WSC MEETING

- We can now confirm the location for the next WSC meeting as at the Subud Britain Congress location at Great Malvern one hour south of Birmingham International Airport; August 02 (arrival)-August 08 (departure). WSA (in consultation with/supported by the IHs) is keenly aware of how important it is to allow 5 full days for WSC preparation and work;
- The WSC meeting is after both the Zone 4 meeting in Lithuania and the Zone meeting held immediately prior to Subud Britain’s own Congress/Family Gathering August 01-08 at the same Great Malvern location.
- In this we follow past practise and meet annually (recognizing the need for latihan/testing, building relationships as well as improved operational effectiveness by being together). Our target had been November 2010 at the latest. Increasingly, given the surge in activities (and

limited time after Congress) there has been a call for a meeting sooner. The question became 'how much sooner and when/where?' WSA evaluated a number of locations.

- The key issue was 'which location that can best meet our inner needs; attract the greatest attendance at least cost; at the best time of year etc.' Great Malvern now meets that need.

## 9. EVENTS 2010-11

- **Congresses:** Q2 and Q3 bring international congresses including: Indonesia; Russia; Mexico; Holland; Germany; Canada; France; USA; Zone 3; Lithuania/Zone 4; Britain; Australia etc.; combinations of WSA/WSC members will attend as many as practical in terms of time and budget
- **Latihan/Testing:** The IHs have been supportive of the work of WSA; initiated in part by the need to build our collaborative relationships (see 'WSA-ER/SDI' above). We now have regular Monday noon GMT simultaneous WSC latihan and have had some core testing around attitude/roles to help strengthen our worship and work together
- **Youth:** are already organizing a number of meetings, gatherings in different parts of the World (Colombia, Hamburg, Lithuania) We are asking them to provide WSC with a worldwide calendar of such events, with regular updates. This can allow other council members to join if they wish. WSA's experience last term was that the youth really appreciated having some International Helpers at these events

## 10. WSA WING PERSPECTIVES AND COLLABORATIONS

### WSA-MSF Perspective

- A naturally close linkage as MSF supports the long-term growth of Subud and provides financial and operational support for WSA team and wing organizations
- Relations between WSA Luke, Maxwell, Maya and Hammond with Samuel and his trustees are harmonious and solidly based in mutual respect
- Most communication with MSF is via chair Samuel, and executive director Rayner Sutherland
- There is a high and growing level of professional expertise on the MSF board; MSF with appropriate external legal advice is developing new corporate governance and reporting guidelines for adoption across the Subud organization with support from within with its newly established and professional IAT - Investment Advisory Team; alongside the growing expertise of its trustees
- MSF (Samuel and 1-2 MSF team members) on behalf of WSA, is currently leading due diligence efforts on two fronts alongside Luke as WSA chair
- WSA supports MSF's goal of substantially growing the foundation's investments and funding capacity; there are close and regular Skype calls between the WSA and MSF chairs; WSA chair is also ex officio trustee on the MSF board so kept up-to-date

### WSA-SDIA perspective

- Overall the WSA chair/exec.team relationship with SDIA has been very amicable and based on deep mutual respect; especially for the professional work of SDIA as a full-fledged, UN-accredited NGO

- Where difficulties have arisen is in their respective spheres of activity and responsibility; there is significant overlap in areas of mutual activity; WSA-SDIA and MSF are now building deeper mutual trust and will shortly complete a policy and operational review; we hope to make good use of testing with IH support at upcoming Congresses/Gatherings ahead of and at the upcoming WSC meeting to draw closer together in this area.

#### **WSA-SESI perspective**

- Close links given WSA chair (on policy) and executive chair's (on implementation/operations) and close involvement in the reestablishment of the new SESI at Congress; the SESI team under Ruslan Morris sees WSA as operations/policy guide in its ambitious development plans; the foundations are strong: Luke and Rashad had worked together on SES 'Lessons Learned' pre Congress; Ruslan with the SESlistservers, Harris with [www.subudprojects.net](http://www.subudprojects.net); Marcus Hamilton in his professional team building capacity; this bodes well for a new, vigorous capacity-building SESI

#### **WSA-SICA Perspective**

- WSA executive particularly close to SICA as newly reformed at Congress; WSA and SESI see significant areas for supporting SICA initiatives in Subud Centres, Projects etc.

#### **WSA-SIHA Perspective**

- WSA executive chair Maxwell as past SIHA chair strongly supports Rachman Mitchell as new chair; SESI will be helping SIHA develop new health websites

#### **WSA-SYIA Perspective**

- WSA chairs both supported the emergence of the new SYA 3 x pairs structure during Congress; next steps are to provide more planning and budget support as well as regular Skype connections

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Luke and Maxwell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Luke and Maxwell  
and the executive team