

Dear ship modellers the world over:

In my report i would like to start by thanking each and everyone of you who made an effort to organize one of the various events we had over the last 2years. In many of our Sections we had either Continental or World Championships for which off course i will leave the details to the respective Section leaders but having visited several myself i know first hand that they were held in very good fashion with good attendance. Obviously it is impossible for me to visit each and every World Championship because of the cost factor involved, since we aim not to take such trips as Naviga sponsored events as happened in previous times. One of those trips i made in the past work year was a very well organized trip to China. If memory serves me right, it was the very first time a Naviga President visited China on official business. I would like to express my gratitude to the CMMA for graciously inviting and sponsoring myself and the M and S Section leader for this wonderfull experience. We combined a race event in Shanghai in a simultanious competition in Sections M, S and FSR-V with several extra days in the company of leaders of CMMA to make this a visit to remember a lifetime. During these days i personally met with the Chairman of CMMA + other dignitaries and local authorities to discuss possibilities for organising major events in China in the near future. Some very good talks and ideas were exchanged in regard to the future.

In regard to organising events like the Continental or World Championship, there is one very important remark i need to make. During one of those Championships i was informed that there were people trying to attend these Championships under false pretences. Someone claimed to be a member of a certain Member Countries' Federation whilst in reality this person had no affiliation to that Federation at all. Thanks to swift action of both the organising committee of the WC and help from the Federation involved, this unlawful attempt of participating was perverted and this person was not allowed to participate. This off course should never have happened to begin with and the procedure for participating at any Championship needs to be updated to avoid such unlawful efforts. In our modern times of online connection to each and everyone, whatever country they re from also offers a perfect way of checking such data by having all the data pass through the National Federation of the canidate participants.

Another remark or comment in regard to planning of events for the next year, is the apparent lack of communication between the different organisers and Naviga as well. This is more of a problem in Section with racemeetings such as Section E, FSR-V and M. Everyone wants their event to be succesfull with the highest possible attendance but since there are only so many "long" weekends in a race season this leads to having several events on the same date, with obviously lower numbers of participants due to having to make a choice which event to attend. The Naviga calendar is the perfect tool to announce any event but consulting the already planned events on certain dates could prevent this as well. The enormous cost and effort needed to organise such race meetings requires high number of competitors to as simple as break even in some cases, so better communication and respect for already planned and announced events can help a lot here.

On a much more possitive note i am happy to say that despite of the very worrying and uncertain times we live in these days, Naviga with the help of all it's Member Countries has managed to even expand it s numbers by affiliation of new countries and prospects for the future. Eventhough in many countries we regrettably notice a decrease in members, there are still those die-hards who keep on working to maintain the level and even expand in some cases. Those people deserve our greatest appreciation and gratitude for their hard and often

unseen work because that is the cornerstone that keeps Naviga the leading Organisation in ship modelling! A heart-felt huge thank you for your efforts.

The financial situation is excellent in my opinion but off course i will leave the details to the treasurer, but in regard to that i think we need to seriously discuss what Naviga should do with that money in order to help, promote or whatever is needed. We discussed and agreed that every Section can use a certain budget to help or support the needs of the Section and as the treasurer will explain in his discours has been well made use of my most Sections. In the Assembly General we are holding at this very moment, we are open to all ideas and or suggestions in regard of use of those funds as it is an item on the AGM agenda, afterall it is each and everyone of us' money and pointless to keep it stored away gathering interest.

Looking forward to a fruitful and constructive meeting i remain at your disposal

Geens Walter
Naviga President