

## RIGHTS FOR US ALL

How Emmaus groups are putting the movement's priorities into action - together

### First anniversary of the OUC



**T**he Organisation for Universal Citizenship (OUC) celebrated its first anniversary from 21 – 24 May.

At Paris town hall square, France, the 'Citizens of the World' campaign urged citizens to create and display an electronic universal citizenship passport. 1000 e-passports were created and displayed, and were also accessible online.

At a press conference on 23 May, the OUC reiterated its

campaign for freedom of movement and settlement of people worldwide and presented six new universal citizenship passports to public figures, Daniel Cohn-Bendit, Maryse Ewangé-Epée, Miguel Angel Estrella and Edgar Morin (who was unable to attend) and migrants, Anne Kinkonda and Moussa Konate, who are now ambassadors of the OUC.

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### Activists for ethical finance!

The theme of this year's Paris salon is ethical finance.

Since 2008 the movement has been committed to this priority area through its pilot project, the Emmaus ethical fund. The fund is used to guarantee loans, granted by Banca Etica, for projects, run by Emmaus groups or other organisations, which promote a solidarity-based economy. Many groups in the four regions are actively involved in this area, since they lend microcredit loans.

### POINT OF VIEW → Jarlyne Barreto, Vila Velha group and elected member of Emmaus Brazil

**"At the time of the world cup, Emmaus Brazil condemns the corruption of public powers and authoritarian interference by FIFA in the organisation of the 2014 world cup. We support the popular and peaceful demands for an improvement in public services, strongly condemn the worsening of sexual tourism that the world cup will cause, and reiterate our commitment to showing one another respect."**



# GO FOR IT!

## Solidarity sales reminder

→ It's not too late if you haven't already held your 2014 solidarity sale! It's up to you whether you want to put on a big, special sale or a standard sale. The proceeds go towards supporting groups' solidarity projects around the world and top up the solidarity funds.

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## Emmaus Angers auction

→ The communities of Angers and Tours in France are running an Emmaus International auction for the third year in a row. All groups that so wish can give a valuable or original item for this solidarity sale that will take place in Tours on 22 November.

## Container days in Toulouse

→ The container training days will take place on 9 – 10 September in Toulouse, France this year, with Beninese and Peruvian representatives. Twenty five communities, groups and friends committees from nearby areas are encouraged to come. You can sign up until mid July.

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## Mobilising for the salon

The fifteenth Paris salon for international solidarity will take place at Porte de Versailles in Paris on 22 June.

The proceeds will help support projects promoting a solidarity-based economy in the four Emmaus regions. Besides the funds raised for the projects, the aim is also to raise the general public's awareness about our actions around the world and the need to rethink what we do with our savings. Together, let's show that an alternative economy is now running.



## Solidarity for emergencies

On 1 May, a cyclone destroyed the Thanapara Swallows group's weaving workshop in Bangladesh, as well as hundreds of houses nearby. The group has requested support of 4700 Euros to repair the damage and enable the 251 employees to go back to work. In Bosnia-Herzegovina, the International Forum of Solidarity and group, Nova Generacija, have fallen victim to the recent flooding. On 18 May, an appeal was made to the European groups to bring together material support for local people there.



## Board meeting in Africa



**F**rom 24 to 30 April, the elected members of Emmaus International met in Tohouè, Benin for the 2014 board meeting.

Emmaus Preston in the United Kingdom saw its trial membership approved, making it the 30th trial member, and various operational decisions were made in order to implement the guidelines set by the 2012 world assembly. Besides that, many significant decisions were also made.

Firstly, it was decided that Emmaus International will use a forceful tone in its communications, which is expressed in a slogan that will soon be included in our logo: 'Emmaus Interna-tional, activists for change'.

It was also decided that a ten-yearly evaluation needs to be done to gauge every member of the movement's involvement in the priority areas. A new solidarity sale timetable, to be implemented in 2015, was also approved, in order to reduce the time between applications being made and transfer of financial support.

Lastly, the board meeting marked the start of preparations for the next world assembly in 2016 that will focus on the Emmaus movement's values and guiding principles. You can find out about the consultation process on the following page.

The board's closing statement acknowledges the difficulties being faced by Emmaus groups, the poor and migrants throughout the world, who are all too often marginalised and stigmatised. It reiterates that Emmaus's action must remain robust in five main areas: developing solidarity-based economic activities, gaining access to fundamental rights, defending commonly-held property, ethical finance and civic engagement.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### → Solidarity evaluation

Two reports about solidarity have been published: one is about shipment of containers in 2013, the other about solidarity projects financed thanks to the 2013 sales. They explain, group by group, how efforts made to show solidarity by sending containers and running sales can help develop groups' activities.

### → Website make-over

Emmaus International's website is being revamped. The new website will make plenty of room for campaigning, and for Emmaus groups, who will be able to continue relaying their news as they were previously able to do on the Planet Emmaus website. The website will go online at the end of the year.

### → New training plan

The new international training plan is now available (see enclosed). Three areas of training are on offer up until 2016: Emmaus, an international solidarity movement; Governance and management of non-profit organisations; Techniques for mobilising and coordinating groups. Training sessions for trainers were run in Montreuil, France for 12 members of the interna-tional movement. To contact them, get in touch with:

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# SAVE THE DATE

## 26 – 28 September

Emmaus Europe board meeting,  
Porto, Portugal

## 1 – 4 October

Emmaus Asia assembly,  
Thanapara, Bangladesh

## 19 – 23 October

Emmaus America board meeting,  
Pereira, Colombia

## 27 – 28 October

Emmaus Africa board meeting,  
Togo

## 5 – 7 November

World council on political action  
and international solidarity  
(Montreuil, France)

# 7000

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## Getting ready for the next world assembly: thinking about our values

### → WHEN?

The board of Emmaus International decided the central theme of the 2016 world assembly will be about our movement's values, for today and for the future. They've approved a process which aims to be participatory. The first phase will run from July to December 2014. The outcome of this work will then be looked at by the board in 2015.

### → WHAT?

Eight years since our founder passed away, and whilst the movement continues to develop with new groups and new activists, the idea is to ask ourselves what values are common to all the world's groups, and unite us and our action.

### → WHO?

All member organisations are invited to take part, by thinking about their daily activities. A values committee made up of representatives of each region has been set up to ensure the process runs smoothly in all the regions. The regional governing bodies will also help support this work.

### → HOW?

By the end of July, you will be sent resources to help you put this work into action in your group.

