

CIB on wings



September 2016

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Initiatives of Change
Caux Initiatives for Business

Editorial

Dear Readers,

Following a good monsoon in India and luscious green everywhere—at least on the mountains where the CIB Global Secretariat is located and in the plains, if not in the cities—we thought you may like this beautiful image, though not from this sub-continent.

We are happy to carry in this issue of CIB on Wings a brief report of the meeting that the CIB Mumbai Chapter had last month under the new leadership of S. Venkatesh from Siemens Ltd. who took over as Convenor of the Chapter recently. Their discussions and plans should interest you.

A flavour of some of the deliberations that took place at the Working Group meeting when the CIB India team met is another update that you may appreciate. It would give you a glimpse of some of the planning that is going on behind the scenes in CIB.

The hectic meeting at Caux, Switzerland that CIB had and a brief report of Sarosh Ghandy's visit to Germany to assist Folker Mittag in his attempts at strengthening the CIB Chapter there would also make for interesting reading.

We hope you enjoy this issue.

Mrs. Ishika Banerjee

CIB Mumbai Chapter Meeting

A Report

It was William James who once said, “It is our attitude at the beginning of a difficult task which, more than anything else, will affect its successful outcome.” S. Venkatesh, Head – Risk & Internal Control, Siemens Ltd., Mumbai displayed a similar attitude when he was requested by Anil Chopra if he would be willing to succeed him as the Convenor of the CIB Mumbai Chapter. Anil, who has relocated from Mumbai and had successfully steered the Mumbai Chapter in the past three years found a willing, ready and enthusiastic response from Mr. Venkatesh.

No sooner had Venkatesh accepted this role—in addition to his already existing responsibilities at Siemens—than he quickly made vigorous attempts to familiar himself with all the things he needed to know as Convenor. While Venkatesh had participated in past CIB Round Table deliberations and Chapter meetings, it was as a participant. This time around things were different.



Come August 6, 2016 and Caux Initiatives for Business was happy to see S. Venkatesh make his debut as Chair at the monthly meeting of the CIB Mumbai Chapter. The venue was as usual the IofC flat at Kumaram on Worli Sea-face and the meetings were

still on the first Saturday of every month at 15:30 hours. Though Anil Chopra was unable to make it from his new city of work, Venkatesh was happy with the support he received from CIB Chairman, Sarosh Ghandy (Bengaluru) and Luis Gomes (Goa) who attended the meeting.

Two CIB Pune Chapter members, Lt. Col. Allan Burby (Retd.) and Sanjiv Mehta, though they expressed their regret at being unable to stay for the discussions, offered complete support. They invited Venkatesh to one of their upcoming RTs so that he too could observe some the things they were doing in their Chapter.

In addition, there were eight others who participated at the meeting to not only strengthen the Chapter under Venkatesh, but also to lend their shoulder to the activities that the team would take up. Among these were Amit Dave, Retd. Dy. Commissioner, Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM); Prof. Virendra Shukla; Mrs. Rekha Shahani-Jagasia; Trustee, Kamala High School; Mrs. Promila Thukral, former Executive, Sumeet Industries; Mrs. Nisha Kapoor, Retd. Senior School teacher who represented her husband, S K Kapoor, former Senior Executive from a dairy industry; Dr. R K Anand, Paediatrician and Mrs. Asha Anand.

Amit Dave first shared his various experiences on ethical dilemmas with his work at the Municipal Corporation of Mumbai. Mrs. Shahani-Jagasia added to this with her own experiences. Those present were inspired to learn of how they succeeded in spite of the challenges faced.

Venkatesh then reviewed the status of various actions that were proposed and listed when Anil Chopra steered the Mumbai Chapter. The list that was drawn up in their meeting on February 6, 2016 contained about 15 to-do's or possible



projects. One such activity focused on conducting one meeting a month with officers from corporates, including businesses in the small and medium scale sector; building and construction; and business management institutions. Another aspect on the list that was reviewed was the possibility of conducting Round Table deliberations at the City Chapter level, much

like the Pune Chapter's successful quarterly events at various companies. A third focus on the list dealt with reaching out to the few Chambers of Commerce bodies in Mumbai to allow opportunity to share details of initiatives by the CIB Mumbai Chapter with their members and suggest an occasion for sharing inspiring experiences with the group's manager level officers.

Following this review, a number of action points were short-listed so to take them up in the immediate weeks ahead. Some of these were:

- Since some of the key members are unable to attend Chapter meetings on a regular basis, Venkatesh is to approach them to identify a proxy who could represent them in their absence, so that continuity on actions is maintained. He also hoped to pursue with some of these members how to take proposed activities forward.
- Venkatesh offered to reconnect with the people who were present at the previous two Round Tables at Siemens to see what next can be done in their respective organizations.
- Prof. Virendra Shukla suggested that it would be useful to review the visioning exercise that had been conducted by the Mumbai Chapter team two years ago on August 2, 2014.
- Mr. Venkatesh hoped to connect with Transasia Bio-Medicals Ltd. and Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. in an attempt to get them host the next proposed Chapter Round Table meetings.
- Prof. Shukla said that he would reach out to some of the management institutes to hold workshops with their students and teachers in the new scholastic year. He also hoped to, along with Dr. Anand, connect with Rotary Club to see how their collaboration could make more business organizations familiar with CIB.
- Venkatesh is also to get in touch with Chief Ethics Officers of RM Next (a forum for sharing best practices in Enterprise Risk Management) and solicit their active participation in CIB.

Thanking all for making the time, Venkatesh and Dr. R K Anand then requested all to stay on for the regular IofC meeting that was to follow.

CIB India Working Group Meeting

A Report

Meeting for the third time following the January 2016 CIB International Conference, the CIB India Working Group discussed several matters with special focus on strengthening the various City Chapters. Sarosh Ghandy, travelling from Bengaluru; Luis Gomes, from Goa; and Lt. Col. Allan Burby (Retd.) and Sanjiv Mehta, from Pune met up with S. Venkatesh from Mumbai at the IofC flat at Kumaram, Worli Sea-face on August 6, 2016.

Sarosh provided insights of his several meetings at Caux, Switzerland and his visit to Germany to support Folker Mittag and his work with CIB activities there.

Other matters including the format for future Russi Lala Memorial lectures; providing value to CIB sponsors; a proposed CIB Assessment and Certification tool; and planned activities in Pune and Lucknow were amongst the things discussed.



As always, Dr. R K Anand and Mrs. Asha Anand played the gracious host by ensuring the right environment for the mind and the right lunch and snacks for the body. CIB India expresses much gratitude to them for this.

CIB Steering Council Meets at Caux

On the invitation from Antoine Jaulmes, President of the Caux Foundation, Sarosh Ghandy, Chairman of CIB, and Folker Mittag from Germany attended the Caux Reference Group meeting for the whole working day starting at 09:00 am. and finishing at 05:00 pm. on June 30, 2016. More than 30 participants discussed the following main agenda items:

1. Recommendations from the 2015 sessions and status of implementation.
2. The Caux Foundation 2016 – 2020 Strategy & Organisation Model
3. Addressing the root causes of violent extremism
4. Discussions and Reflections

This was a special opportunity of great value to learn more about the background and specific way of thinking during the discussions with different groups of participants. Besides that, we met many old and new friends from different parts of the world.

At a separate meeting in the evening of June 30 , a smaller group came together to learn more about CIB's plans in Switzerland, Europe and the rest of the world. Several names from Europe were mentioned to find the



right people for the future CIB organisation in Europe.

The first ever meeting of the CIB Steering Council was held at Caux in the morning of July 1. The guest of honour was the President of the Caux Foundation, Antoine Jaulmes. The Chairman of CIB welcomed additional participants from Germany, India, Kenya and Sweden as well as two members of the International Council of IofC. The atmosphere in Mountain House and the breath taking view from the meeting room contributed to the meeting in a very special way.

All people present, either for the General Assembly of IofC International or for the first conference of the summer, celebrated with a number of old friends the 70th anniversary of Caux as a conference centre for MRA/IofC conferences. The international family came together to listen to people who joined this movement in 1946 or before.

At the end of the day, a dinner was planned for Sarosh, Monica and Folker to meet business people from Switzerland. Unfortunately, most of the invited guests were not able to come and, therefore, the dinner got more private in character, a chance to get to know the different participants better.



The next morning (July 2, 2016), Sarosh Ghandy, Monica and Folker Mittag started their drive to the latter's home in Germany.

Photographs by Monica Mittag

CIB Chairman visits Germany

On July 2, 2016, right after the meetings at Caux, Monica and Folker Mittag drove Sarosh Ghandy (chairman of CIB International) to their home near Hannover, Germany. The next day was used for rest after the meetings at Caux as well as the long hours driving. Besides that, work on the minutes from the two main CIB meetings at Caux was started.



On Monday morning (July 4), the discussions about the development of CIB in different countries went on. It seems that new developments are possible in Africa and Europe. In the afternoon, two guests, Br. Helmut and Br. Markus came to see Sarosh and renew their link with CIB. Both had attended the CIB conferences at Panchgani. During the exchange of ideas on how to develop CIB Germany, they both offered their location in Volkenroda to be used for a Round Table in Germany and to be used to build a team for CIB Germany. This will be followed up by Folker.

On Tuesday, our next guest travelled more than five hours by train (one way) to meet Sarosh and to learn more about CIB International and how to help build a team for CIB Germany. Folker shared news about his visits to Frankfurt and Flensburg to speak to businessmen and management students. He also spoke about business people in various European countries and their interest in CIB.

The discussions then focused on the best way to build a chapter for CIB in Germany. The main obstacle is the history of MRA/IofC in this country. Right after WW II, MRA played an important role in rebuilding the country with the help of many international friends and conferences at Caux. At that time, many German business people were involved in this work. Today, most of them are not working in business any longer and a new network has to be set up. Most of Folker's recent contacts are not aware, that MRA/IofC still exists and are wondering why it is not known anymore. The next step could be an international programme in Germany to get interested people in touch with CIB to spread the knowledge about the main theme: "Be ethical and still competitive".

Since Sarosh had to return home to India, his short two-day visit to deepen our friendship and inform more people about what is going on in CIB was nevertheless very valuable. We all hope that this has helped to launch CIB in this part of the world.

Thanks Sarosh and come back soon.

Report by Folker Mittag; Photographs by Monica Mittag



Feedback

From CIB on Wings - past two issues

Thanks for a wonderful report on the interactive session with Mr. Sunil Mathur. Simple, matter-of-fact and transparent nature of his responses are very educating and inspiring.

My congratulations to Venkatesh on his assuming Mumbai chapter lead. My best wishes to Anil in his new assignment.

Sanjiv Tare, Pune, India

Thank you for the CIB Round table report. I appreciated reading about “The role of top leaders in sustaining ethics in business.” and found the questions that the team, and Mr. Unnikrishnan asked to set the scene very pertinent.

I also appreciate that students were welcomed into the round table and that they have taken away so many gifts from the round table.

Ms. Veronique Sikora, Switzerland



Up Next on the Calendar

CIB UP Chapter Round Table
for CEOs from business and industry
at Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India

October 22, 2016