

ITPG meeting in Frankfurt, 4-6 December 2009: Talking about taxes in teams

"The best education for a clever person is found in travel", says German poet J.W. von Goethe in his famous "Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre". And so more than 40 GGI members travelled to Frankfurt, Goethe's town of birth, for the International Taxation Practice Group (ITPG) Meeting hosted by GGI member firm Benefitax GmbH, Steuerberatungsgesellschaft,

Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft from 4-6 December 2009.

After the welcome by Oliver Biernat and Astrid Rechel-Götz on behalf of the host firm at the Saturday morning session, Ionut Zeche summarized the results of the successful and well-visited ITPG meeting in Cyprus. Then all participants were

...next page: *ITPG meeting in Frankfurt*



www.ggi.com

Issue No. 45, January 2010

Page 04



GENEVA GROUP INTERNATIONAL

INSIDER

asked to combine their individual presentations with some personal statements on how to further increase referrals within GGI. ITPG members and visitors came up with creative and feasible ideas which afterwards were discussed for further development in different workgroups. Some precise projects could be presented in the end by the speakers of the different subgroups which are planned to be set into practice starting in 2010 and shall be presented to all ITPG members at the 2010 meetings.

The afternoon session was reserved to international tax issues presented in excellent presentations by some ITPG members: Dov Ingber gave a presentation on the Israeli income tax reform – tax benefits

to new immigrants and veteran returning residents. Klaus Küspert followed with an interesting contribution on Controlled foreign corporations (cfc's) Comparison of rules in EEC countries and discussion. Dr. Anita Ihasz Kovacsné spoke about the new social security regulation EC reg. 883/2004 and how it affects expatriate issues as well as how ITPG members can generate business from that. Oliver Biernat talked about Confédération Fiscale Européenne (CFE) and Alan Rajah briefly presented the agenda and contents of the Asian Conference in Bali. All presentations can be downloaded from the GGI intranet.

At the end of the meeting the ITPG chairmen for 2010/11

were elected. The new "old" chairmen Graham Busch, Ionut Zeche and Oliver Biernat stood for a second round, and were re-elected with great approval. Participants thanked them for their achievements obtained during the past two years of their chairmanship.

Host firm Benefitax GmbH, Steuerberatungsgesellschaft, Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft had arranged a fantastic leisure program for the participants. Those arriving earlier on Friday took the chance to meet at the Benefitax premises for a first exchange of experiences. The evening program opened with a walk through the historical part of Frankfurt including the Stock Exchange and the Christmas market, before the members met for the dinner

at Frankfurt Hilton Hotel where the whole meeting was held.

On Saturday evening the participants visited the Spa-city of Bad Homburg, had a walk through the romantic Christmas Market inside and around the Bad Homburg Castle and tasted the typical hot spicy Glühwein. The evening closed with a traditional wintery goose dinner at an historical restaurant in one of the most traditional parts of Frankfurt. On Sunday morning Benefitax' guests could enjoy a guided visit at Goethehaus (Goethe's family home and museum). All participants left Frankfurt with lots of new ideas and look forward continuing their work together with their GGI fellows in the many interesting ITPG projects.