



Main RTI Events

Round Table Day

Worldwide, 14 March 2016

Africa Meeting

Kenya, 21-24 April 2016

ASPA Meeting

Sri Lanka, 27-29 May 2016

EMA Meeting

Tunisia, 14-17 July 2016

RTI World Meeting

Nepal, 31 Aug - 4 Sept 2016

To view the full list of submitted events, visit the RTI Website www.rtinternational.org. To have your event published on the website, submit the information to pro@rtinternational.org

Deadline for submission of articles is the **10th** of **each month**. Please send articles in the format of a News release (in MS word) together with relevant pictures separately (max. 4 per article) to publish.



AFRICA REGION MEETING

21ST - 24TH APRIL
MOMBASA



ROUND TABLE SOUTHERN AFRICA





**3-6
MARCH**



**ST PETERSBURG
CHARTER
2016
ROUND
TABLE 1**




Welcome to St Petersburg!



RTZ 2016 AGM
Service above self!



Hosted by
Lusaka Table 15

**Enjoy the
Beautiful
Sunsets over
the Lake!**



**Lake Kariba
Inn, Venue
for the AGM!**



RTI Day Celebration



**blood
donation
program**



TABLING IS ABOUT DISCOVERY

Dear Tablers,

International tabling is about meeting new tablers, bonding with old friends and new, 'working hard and playing hard' and above everything immersing myself in a new culture. My last trip took me to Hungary for the first RTI Half Yearly

Meeting and we also had the first RTI Africa Middle East and Indian Ocean (AMI) meeting.

The organisers, Tablers Zoltan Abry, Adam Nagy and their teams were formidable in their task of hosting participants from around the world and in turning the quiet town of Eger into 'Roundel' territory. For me, traveling is carries a dual responsibility - you transform into both an ambassador, representing your country whilst also becoming a guest, receiving the gifts of the hosts.



RTI HYM 2016
ROUND TABLE INTERNATIONAL - HALF YEAR MEETING
17-21. FEBRUARY - HUNGARY, EGER

And international tabling is at its best - where there is exchange and discovery. Where there's the opportunity to accept the host country's gifts and discover its places, peoples and cultures. In this regard, Hungary was truly magical because it welcomed me to discover the multiple facets of its civilisation;

- It was fascinating to learn more about the Hungarian or Magyar people, their heroes and myths.
- Hungary spans a rich history which includes the Romans, Holy Roman empire, Ottoman rule, the Habsburgs dynasty, the two world wars and the communist era.
- Budapest originates from the merger of two cities; Buda and Pest and there are four magnificent bridges on the Blue



Danube which link them forever.

- The architecture of Budapest dates from the Austro-Hungarian empire and the city is an open museum for the world to contemplate and learn from.
- Built in the heyday of the 'Belle Epoque', the Szechenyi Thermal Bath is the largest medicinal bath in Europe with its water supplied by the thermal springs of Budapest.
- I discovered the Bocskai, the national costume of Hungary since the 19th century, decorated with braids to reflect the various regions of the country and which are increasingly rare nowadays.



Interestingly, I also had the opportunity to visit three historically important places of worship during my Hungarian stay;

- First, the 20th century, neo-classical St. Stephen's Basilica, which at a height of 96m, is equal in stature as the magnificent Hungarian Parliament, symbolising that worldly and spiritual thinking have the same importance.
- Next was the Dohány Street Synagogue, the largest synagogue in Europe. Its Moorish Revival style architecture and decoration is based on islamic models in Northern Africa



and medieval Spain depicting an incredible spirit of cultural tolerance and openness.

- Finally, the 16th century minaret of Eger - the northernmost minaret of the Ottoman period in Europe. Refusing to be pulled down, the 40m red sandstone minaret stood firm and is now the only remaining vestige of a mosque which was demolished in the 19th century. Today, it serves as a touristic attraction protected by the national historical monuments committee.

These historical landmarks reflect the diversity of Hungary, a country which lies at the confluence of not just Carpathian history but also of World History.

So, aside from fellowship, fun and work, why is international tabling important? Because by taking us around the world, international tabling makes us more curious and more humble. It enables us to discover places, peoples and cultures which bear witness to events which have shaped the modern world as we know it now. It gives us the tools to adopt, adapt and improve.

Yours in International Tabling
Irshad Paurobally:
AMI Chairman & RTI Secretary 2015/16



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Woven & Embroidered Sweats,
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Ties, Bows, Pennants.

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Market leaders in high quality woven products.
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ROUND TABLE 1 NICOSIA AND KEO BEER DID IT AGAIN! MOVEMBER CYPRUS 2015 WAS A SUCCESS!

Under the slogan “We are changing the face of men’s cancer”, within the framework of our social activities, Round Table 1 Nicosia and KEO Beer organized for a second consecutive year the MOVEMBER CYPRUS 2015. The co-organisers planned a successful series of events to raise awareness about the global movement Movember and fund-raise for Movember Foundation and Europa Uomo Cyprus.

The launch of the campaign was with 4 radio live-links in the three major shopping malls of Limassol, Nicosia and Paphos and a busy commercial area of Larnaca. The purpose of the live links was to raise public awareness for Movember, the ‘recruitment’ of mo bros, the sale of collectibles memorabilia and of course fundraising.

On 20/11 at the contemporary gallery “IsNotGallery” 35 sculptured moustaches which have been designed/painted/curated by 35 artists and show-biz people have been auctioned and all proceeds have been contributed to Movember Cyprus 2015. Moreover, on 18/11 and 24/11 in two medical institutes in Nicosia (American Medical Center-American Heart Institute) and Limassol (Polyclinic Health) we organized two short semi-

nars related to prostate cancer while all attendees have been eligible for a free PSA test.

The Movember Cyprus 2015 campaign concluded with an ‘80s, ‘90s and ‘00s closing party with a dj set from Greece (Trash-formers) accompanied by 4 signers of those decades, in the presence of more than 500 people.

During the whole month, a facebook application has been developed by an RT1 Tabler, Orestis Michael and his company (SocialWay) for the Mo Photo Competition with more than 100 people participating helping to raise awareness about Movember but also Round Table.

Of course the icing on the cake has been the “recruitment” of the Minister of Health, Mr. George Pamporidis, who became a mo bro for the whole month, while he managed to photographed the whole Council of Ministers, including the President of Cyprus Mr. Nicos Anastasiades with a mo! Perhaps is the first President of a country worldwide that participates (even this way) in a Movember campaign.

All events have been covered extensively by local media and especially by the official Media Sponsor, Eidikes Ekdoseis Media Group (www.spprmedia.com). We have been hosted in many radio and tv shows to speak about Movember, while the live show of the final of the Cyprus beauty contest has been dedicated to Movember Cyprus. Finally, the monthly magazine MUST (November edition) has been dedicated to Movember and hosted Celebrities Mos together with their inspiring quotes. The overall proceeds from the Movember Cyprus 2015 campaign have been shared between the worldwide movement Movember International and the local branch of the European Organization Europa Uomo Cyprus. The organizers are very proud to announce that the amount collected for Movember International ranked “RT1 NICOSIA KEO BEER” official account/profile No.1 in the individual rankings and Team Movember Cyprus No. 1 in the team rankings of Movember International platform.

RT1 Nicosia and KEO Beer already started planning for the Movember 2016 Cyprus campaign in a continuous effort to change the face of men’s health and fight prostate cancer in Cyprus.





COLOMBO RT 5 HOST A CHARITY FUNDRAISER EVENT WITH CELEBRITY CHEF

The godfather of modern cooking, three Michelin Star celebrity chef and Judge of MasterChef Australia, Marco Pierre White was hosted by Cinnamon Hotels & Resorts and Trekurious in collaboration with Colombo Paradise Round Table 5, for our Charity Fundraiser Event on the 22nd of January 2016.

Marco Pierre White is a British chef, celebrity restaurateur and television personality. He is noted for his contributions to contemporary British cuisine. White has been dubbed the first celebrity chef, and a trend setter of the UK restaurant scene. White was, at the time, the youngest chef ever to have been awarded three Michelin Stars. He has trained chefs including Gordon Ramsay, Curtis Stone and Shannon Bennett.

At the Fundraiser, Colombo Paradise Round Table 5 presented Chef Marco Pierre White with our Table Pin, as an Honored Guest of Round Table 5 and in recognition of his contribution towards the Table's charity: The Ceylon School for the Deaf and Blind, Ratmalana.

Colombo Paradise Round Table 5 hosted a function on the 22nd of January where funds were raised through ticket sales as well

as personally autographed aprons by Marco Pierre White. Nett proceeds are to be donated to The Ceylon School for the Deaf and Blind, Ratmalana.

Speaking at the Event, Round Table 5 Secretary, Mr. Rae Devadason stated "We are proud to present Chef Marco Pierre White with our Pin as an Honorary Guest of the Colombo Paradise Round Table 5 in recognition of his contribution towards our Charity. This is a great moment in highlighting the needs of differently abled persons, and we as a community should strive to uplift the lives of those who need our support."

Round Table 5 has completed a variety of community service projects in the past such as the Renovation of an Elders Home (2013), raising all the funds required for building a Vocational Activities Centre for "The Refuge – Home for Girls" (2014), providing Audio Visual and Essential Equipment for the Ceylon School for the Deaf and Blind (2015); as well as meeting the needs of other charitable institutions. Colombo Paradise Round Table 5 President, Hazim AbdulCader stated "We as a Table of young businessman are proud to be doing our part towards our community".



MRT5 TWINNING WITH TRF 291 - AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE



The twinning event in November 2015 where MRT 5 visited RTF 291 in Reunion was an incredible opportunity to experience traveling in an intense and unique (manner). The level of enjoyment within and after the trip was a feeling that I rarely experience before. It actually provided more than I was expecting.

I consider that this unique sensation is due to an amalgam of friendship, sharing, discovery and enjoyment. The interaction among the Reunion and Mauritian Tablers looked so natural. I had the impression that we knew each other since ages. In fact, only a few of us actually met before. The table motto; "Meeting an old friend for the first time" stand so true in these moments. On the other hand, sharing these moments with my friends of MRT 5 allowed me to know them better and to reinforce the existing friendship.



In fact, the whole trip was about sharing moments, values, passions, knowledge, experiences and life among tablers from diverse backgrounds and horizons. This contributed to discover the culture, lifestyles and landscapes of Reunion. I could not have asked for more as for. Then, there has been the unique opportunity to assist to the induction of Stephane Lacroix to the Reunion Table, RTF 291. It was an honour to be able to participate to his induction which was so different from the Mauritian approach. I was quite amazed by Reunion method where the tablers actually test the will and motivation to join the Round Table.

The induction ceremony was one of the main highlights of the journey together with the Saturday night at the lodge in the mountains. In fact, this feeling of experiencing something unique is not solely due to this one or two key moments but more due to the synergy created from the amalgam of friendship, sharing, discovery and enjoyment. These moments have been so fantastic that I just cannot wait to visit and interact with Tablers from different parts of the world. In the meantime, I shall share this experience with my family, friends and non-tablers.

Yours in Table,
Jean Francois Pellegrin

RT FRANCE GOES INTERNATIONAL

During the past two months, RT France has been working hard to contribute to the Round Table International movement.

3 "events" that are making RT France more international :

- Twin meeting RT Germany/RT France : after a twin meeting with RT Belgium in November, RT Germany and RT France gathered in Mulhouse in December (from 11th to 13th) to have a common meeting about their organizations. It is an old tradition that was put aside during few years. Recruitment, membership, charity projects, IT vision... all the discussions were very productive. Very good ideas were shared in a friendly atmosphere! An exchange agreement was negotiated between the 2 associations for their FUNTA and CNR events. To be continued...

- Comité National des Régions (CNR) : as an Half Yearly Meeting of RT France, it is the biggest event of the year. During the Friday night when you can taste all the specialities (food and drinks) from all the 22 areas (22). This year, January from 15th to 17th, RT France welcomed in Burgundy (Chablis) a large international delegation, not only from Belgium or Switzerland, but also from Germany (National President and National VP), Norway, Denmark, Finland (Tr. Saku Hyttinen, EMA Chairman) and Nepal (Tr. Manoj Das, RTI WM 2016 Convenor). You missed the event this year and you did not meet the 1200 attendants? Contact now RT France for the next year!

- The mobile app is in now in English! The National Board decided to turn to app in English so that different foreign associations could try the app of RT France. One of the asset of the RT app is its geolocation system : when you are in a town you can identify who is next to your until 50 kilometers around. It is a very good way to meet new friends. With Round Table, people are closer, with the French app in English, tablers from everywhere can be even more! Any questions about the app? Feel free to contact!

Lény Hénon, National IRO RT FRANCE
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BLIND MAN'S RALLY

Blind Man's Car Rally (BMR) an event which is close to the heart of many tablers in India. It is pan India fund raising and publicity event conducted by Round Tables across 20+ cities in India. One such young dynamic table Belgaum Royals Round Table 205 in a small cosy town of Belgaum (150 kms from Goa), conducted the BMR for the second time in their town on 7th Feb 2016. The event was a resounding success with 75+ cars participating and touched the hearts of thousands of normal and visually impaired people.

BMR is a unique event where in a person with a normal vision drives the car while a Blind person sitting on the front passenger seat verbally provides directions to the driver by reading the rally route which is printed in Braille (Script for the visually impaired). The rally is not a race and is based on the Time-Speed-Distance (TSD) model of professional rallying. The participants will be awarded points based on the accuracy with which they follow the route and designated speeds

BMR is primarily a fund raising and publicity event which also has a huge social impact. The object of this rally is multifold

1. To support the visually impaired and to develop their self-confidence. Empower the visually impaired to be able

to lead and navigate

2. Help a normal person understand challenges faced by the visually impaired in their day to day lives.
3. Demonstrate the power of Braille for a visually impaired person.
4. Raise funds for Round Table Indias freedom through education classroom and toilet block projects constructions in rural India.

Belgaum Royals Round Table 205 have planned to utilize the funds raised to build 2 classrooms and 2 toilet blocks for underprivileged children in a village which is about 15 kms from the town of Belgaum. The tablers of BRRT205 feel that the event has also helped them create stronger bonds amongst themselves and would like to make BMR their annual flagship event and thus do their bit to touch the lives and make a small difference in the lives of the visually impaired population in their surrounding areas.

YiT

Tr. Anand Desai
Chairman Belgaum Royals Round Table 205



PK's MESSAGE

DIFFERENTLY ABLED

Welcome yourself to yet another sensitive corner from your PRO.



Recently I participated and witnessed BMR (Blind Man Rally) organized by BRRT 205 in Belgaum, Karnataka, India.

It is a rally in which the driver has to reach the unknown destination based on blind navigator. The driver has no clue of the destination or the route. He is completely dependent on his navigator who directs based on his brail script route. Amazing isn't it!!!

I started off good and then later I was getting irritated. . anxious ..thinking if the navigator is guiding me correctly . While she was completely relaxed and happy throughout the trip . she was singing ..enjoying the breeze . Though she was visually impaired she had no fear of the unknown ..no doubts of the unseen .

SHE HAD TRUST AND FAITH IN HER ABILITIES AND HER INNER INSTINCT.





All during our trip she kept talking about how happy she was perusing her hobbies..enriching her life with all the abilities she possess. There was no complain of her disability.

SHE COUNTED HER BLESSINGS AND IGNORED HER MISSING ...PROUD AND HAPPY THE WAY SHE WAS !!

Looking at her attitude towards her life I realized ..We all are so much more blessed than these so called 'disabled' but still we keep grumbling and nagging on all that we don't have. Let's have a shift in our outlook towards life n them . They may have some of the physical deformity but they are blessed with lot of other talent we fail to see. We all different and unique because of the virtues and abilities we possess.

THEY ARE NOT DISABLED ...THEY ARE DIFFERENTLY ABLED!!

Let's be proud of them ...let's make them proud of themselves . It was a privilege to be a part of such an awakening event . Can gratins to the entire organising and participating team !! One more reason to be proud TablerKudos !!!

Pls send your articles to reach mailbox: pro@rtinternational.org by 10th of every month. Please send articles in the format of a News release (in MS word) together with relevant pictures separately (max. 4 per article) to publish.

Tr.Prakash Kapadia: RTI PRO



THE MERCY SHIPS'

On february, the members of the TRM Toamasina n°3 visited the M/V Africa Mercy, the Mercy Ships' hospital vessel dedicated to Africa. This was of us an amazing lesson of love and humanity.

« Imagine ... a ship crewed by doctors, teachers, water engineers and agriculturalists visiting some of the world's poorest nations. Now imagine their services offered free of charge! The Africa Mercy, the world's largest non governmental hospital ship, is crewed by over 400 volunteers from around the world and brings hope and healing to hundreds of thousands of people who could never have believed it possible. » (quoted on their website)

Tha africa mercy arrived in Madagascar on August 2015 for a second field service and will leave our country on June 2016 ; 10 months offering reconstructive surgery, eye surgery, othopedic surgery, VVF surgery, dental care, palliative care etc .. to patients from all over Madagascar .. for free.

After Madagascar, the M/V Africa Mercy will continue operating around Africa. Local Tables can check their website in order to give them local supports.



NEWS FROM COLOMBO



CRT1 & CRT6 Joint Project – RTSL Amazing Race & Bring Back the Smiles Christmas Surprise

RT1 and RT6 carried out a joint project to raise funds for a Christmas day surprise to provide gifts for the children in the CCC house in Maharagama Cancer hospital. The event had teams from other tables as well as outside supporters participating where they moved to different locations based on clues and completing tasks at different points.

CRT1 Champs & Future Champs 2016

CRT1 organized the Champs & Future Champs cricket tournament to support the Emerge Lanka Reintegration center being developed to support the abused girls in Sri Lanka to reintegrate to society. Star cricketers such as Lasith Malinga, Muttiah Muralitharan, Upul Tharanga & Jehan Mubarak.

CCRT 4 charity contributions

RT4 of Colombo carried out its charitable contribution as a part of the Heroes project to support kids affected by autism. Recent contributions included the Navodya school for children with special needs in Mount Lavinia. The contribution was in the form of medical equipment.



TIME TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP?

I am writing this on my way to RTI Half Year meeting in Eger, Hungary. I feel excited and also a bit nervous. I am excited to meet so many Tablers again, old friends all of them. Some I meet for the first time, others I have known for years. Nothing beats the amazing fellowship that only Round Table can offer!

I am also excited about the new plans we have made to improve RTI. Plans to make RTI stronger and better prepared for growth and expansion. Not yet knowing the associations' reaction makes me a bit nervous. If they share the same vision with the RTI board, they will be as excited as we are. If not... I have faith they will.

Whatever the reaction will be, I hope for constructive criticism accompanied with ideas of improvement. Just getting yes or no doesn't help. In order to adopt, adapt and improve we need new ideas, new thinking, new ways of doing things. Every no needs to follow with idea of improvement. Every yes needs to follow with reasoning why, and maybe even yet another proposed step forward. This is where we as Tablers should be good at.

I strongly believe that the way the RTI is structured needs to be changed. Every year every board has worked hard to improve things. They have succeeded; RTI has gradually improved all the time. Now we have reached a point where we are able to rethink the very basis of our organisation.

There is amazing potential in all 30 000 of us. Great minds, skillful hands, expertise like no other. Still we have only five guys running the show with a small group of volunteering assistants. Just when they get on the ball, it's time to change the team. We are able to use only a fraction of the great potential in our

movement. I know, and you know, we can do better than this.

Now that you are reading this, we already know how the meeting in Eger went. I hope the associations share the vision with us and are prepared to work hard together to make RTI as great in numbers as it is in spirit.

We are getting closer to the area meetings where positions for the next RTI Board are open. I am looking forward to see a great team of Tablers willing to work hard together taking the RTI to the next level. Hopefully they are strongly supported by many associations. Are you up for the challenge? It will be hard but hey, who said making history would be easy?

Yours in Tabling

Kaj Kostander
RTI Vice president 2015-16



ROUND TABLE
INTERNATIONAL





RTI ½ YEAR WORLD MEETING - EGER, HUNGARY

The best part of the RTI ½ Year meeting this year is the team. The team is made up of councilors from the different RTI countries. These are your Presidents and IROs that represent you at the RTI level.

Our goal at the RTI ½ year meeting in Eger, Hungary was to change RTI. We wanted an organization with a younger face to our members.

The initiatives taken at the RTI HYM 2016

Update RTI Strategy Document 2016-2019 (OGMS format)

The direction for the next 3 years was decided at the ½ year meeting. This document means that RTI follows a consistent direction even though the board changes year on year.

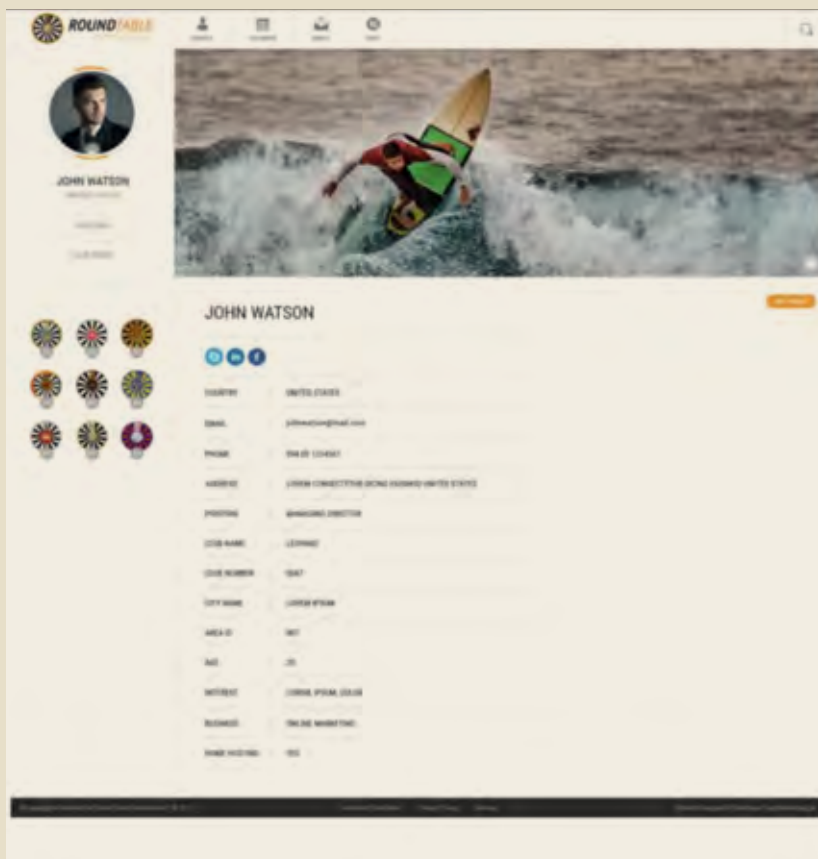
The main goals of RTI for the next 3 years are as follows:

1. Grow membership numbers
2. Reduce the average age of Round Table International Membership



The solution proposed for Round Table International online platform, will cover the user requirements that is mapped in the below MindMap.





3. Encourage all associations to adopt a strategy document
4. Ensure RTI is financially strong
5. Implement a Communication Strategy – so Round Table can develop a strong brand throughout the world
6. Realization of the On-line Vision Document
7. RTI Re-structure

On-Line Vision Implementation

This is an effort to take Round Table Digital and make technology work for us. We are in the process of developing an online tabling tool, that each member can log into, develop their own profile and manage their tabling activities.

With accessible information about each other's tabling lives, we will use the digital possibilities to connect current members, not just within your table, but within your country and internationally.

We can also use this technology to attract new young men into our clubs by better promoting Round Table and its activities in your local community.

Finally we can bring administration down to a minimum for officers to free time for more sensible use of our limited resources for family, work and tabling.

RTI Re-Structure

RTI has had the same structure for the last 20 years and we are not achieving our goals. We believe that by re-structuring RTI in 3 main areas we can be more effective in terms of providing

support to the existing countries and to ensure that RTI grows into new regions.

The 3 areas of restructure are:

1. Dividing into new regions
2. Establishing new functions for RT International
3. Defining roles of the RT International board and its administration

This will provide real benefits to RTI by allowing:

- Specific Regional strategies for each Region
- Focusing on strategy implementation, structure and growth
- Associations will have more say in their own regions by having more targeted Regional events and closer co-operation between tablers

Conclusion

Round Table International numbers have declined 7 % in the last 5 year worldwide. We have to do something different! I believe that by implementing the changes above, we will have an organization that would face the challenges of the next 20 years.

Most importantly we can focus on stabilizing and growing our membership around the world. RTI will look to grow into new regions where we are not present. In countries where we are present I urge associations and clubs to look after themselves at a local level. Recruit new members constantly, be aware of your age, implement the age rule.

Finally I would like to say thank you to all the councilors at Eger for not only understanding this need, but for having courage to make the change. In the future I am confident, we will see the rewards of the decision made at this meeting

Yiit
Altaf Jeevunjee
President , RT International