

Embassy of the Republic of Slovakia
Thommas Heftyes gate 24
0244 Oslo

June 17, 2005

Ambassador Dusan Rozbora

Activity report for January to June 2005

Projects

On the 21st of April, Nidaros Cathedral's Restoration workers traveled to Trenčín in order to have the chance to closely study the town castle fortress. A meeting between the town's administrators and skilled workers took place. During the visit, the Norwegian ambassador in Slovakia and representatives of the National Slovakian government met for a working lunch meeting. This lunch was a central part of EEA (European Economic Area) seminar. Representatives from Nidaros Cathedral were also invited to participate. The visit was promoted and seen as a part of the ongoing cooperation between Trønderlag and Trenčín.

On the occasion of the Centennial Celebration of the dissolution of the union with Sweden in 1905, there will be a number of special events in Trondheim. One of the most important events is the celebration week starting on Sunday 31 July, when their Royal Highnesses the King and Queen of Norway, King Harald and Queen Sonja, will be in attendance. Ambassador of the Slovak Republic Dusan Rozbora and Governor of the Region of Trenčín Stefan Stefanec, will be invited.

Two companies from Trenčín will visit 'Stor-Marnan' from the 27th to the 29th of June. Each company will send two representatives. EIC Midt Norge will pay for 50% the overnight expenses while the two companies will pay 50%. The consulate will pay for lunches and dinners during their visit. Trondheim Commune will provide a stage and tent, along with tables and chairs and a host to our disposition, by the city marketplace (Torget). The guests will be met at the airport and a welcome dinner will be held in their honor. Commercial councilor Erika Chuda will also be visiting Trondheim at this time.

January - June 2005

With respect to the Memorandum of Understanding for the Norwegian Financial Mechanism, signed on 11 January 2005 between Norway and the Slovak republic, there was a meeting of the working group. One of the areas we focused on was 'Integrated protection and development of objects of cultural heritage.' We discussed and produced a proposal expressing 'The restoration engineers and workers of Nidaros Cathedral and the Archbishop's Palace, is very interested in visiting Borgen (the castle fortress) Trencín.'

January- June 2005

TroNett's Chairperson, Anne Karin Sveinall and myself have worked to have UNECE's executive secretary, Brigita Smögneroväs come as a guest to the TroNett conference in Trondheim. Charge'd' Affaires, Zuzana Chuda has been very helpful in the process. HRF Crown Prince Haakon and HRH Princess Mette-Marit have announced their attendance. (TroNett is a local woman's networking group)

The training department in Sør Trønderlag county administration met with representatives for a regional municipality and a high school in Previdza. Sør-Trønderlag is a partner in the Leonardo/Socrates application.

My working group has worked closely with Trencín's chamber of commerce. This has focused on companies in Trencín that produce footwear and traffic signs and which wish contacts in this region (Sør-Trønderlag)

In conjunction with the NATO exercises, the CC (Corps Consulaire de Norvége is a non-profit organization founded in 1973 to represent all foreign consuls in Norway.) was invited to a reception. More than 150 guests were in attendance.

Visit of Martina Kozlerova. She was primarily looking for employment. She has been trying to bring about a regional cooperation agreement between Møre & Romsdal and the city region Poprad. She indicated that her father would be making contact with the mayor of Poprad. The Trønderlag – Trencín cooperation agreement would be used as a model.

Visited embassy to meet Ambassador Dusan Rozbora.

Meeting of CC Mid-Norway. President Ole Rikhard Høisæther participated.

Food and Agriculture Department director Steinar Svanmyr wishes for me to become involved in the Slovakian agriculture department. He will make contact with the ambassador.

Goals for the second half of 2005

Continue working with Trenčín in the following matters:

- Student exchange and support in the establishing of a Nursing Studies program with the University Alexander Dubcek. HiST (www.hist.no) is currently in contact with University Alexander Dubcek.
- NTNU (www.ntnu.no) will make contact with University Alexander Dubeck to discuss the possibilities for closer cooperation
- Regional High Schools (Sør Trøndelag) and Trenčín to work in the EU's Leonardo Program.
- A group has been established to investigate the possibilities of restoring Borgen in Trenčín.
- Continuation of the establishment of a Norwegian-Slovakian industry network within water treatment, shoe and other potential industries
- Continued work towards the establishing of a Project Office in Slovakia.
- We have been contacted by the local chapter of the Red Cross. They wish to establish a new international partner to cooperate with. We hope it will be Slovakia.
- Arrange a meeting with Slovaks who reside in this region.
- Participate in arrangements which promote Slovakia.

Respectfully,

Erik Frederiksen
Honorary Consul
www.konsulat-slovakia-trondheim.no