



MEDCRUISE

NEWS

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MedCruise General Assembly 20-21st October, 2005, Cyprus

New president and board of directors elected

The 27th MedCruise general assembly took place in Lemesos, Cyprus on October 20-21, 2005. Hosted by the Cyprus Ports Authority, the event was attended by over 50 delegates from across the Mediterranean.

The meeting had particular importance, as the Board was due for re-election for the next three-year mandate 2005-2008.

Out-going president Juan Madrid told the meeting that he was satisfied and proud of how MedCruise had developed in the past three years. Reflecting on the highlights of his presidency Madrid said one of his main achievements was to create a more decentralised association and sharing of responsibilities across the board, to make future transition easier and smoother.

Attendees first voted for the position of president, electing Laurent Monsaigneon from French Riviera Ports. Selection of a new Board, composing ten members, five representing big ports and five representing small ports was also elected (see message from the new president) below.



Antonio Crespo of Valencia (right) posts his vote

On the opening day local authorities welcomed all attendees after which the following matters were discussed:

1. Finance report
2. Publishing contract for 2006-2008. Three publishers were invited to present proposals. The result will be announced in early December.
3. Campaign with Tourist Boards

4. Study of the impact of cruises on local economies

5. Approval of new member: Pescara in Italy (see page 4 for more information).

MedCruise currently represents 44 members covering 63 ports.

The next General Assembly will take place in Gibraltar on May 11-12, 2006.

Board View – Laurent Monsaigneon, President

It is with great enthusiasm that I write my first editorial as President of MedCruise. After ten years since its foundation I have inherited a strong and well-known association, thanks, without a doubt, to the professional management of previous Presidents and Directors.

This brings me to choose 'continuity' as my general working guideline, especially regarding the promotion of the Mediterranean. However there is also a major challenge to provide fresh ideas to maintain our region as one of the main cruise destinations. I think it is time to develop improved co-operation, training and best practices among our member ports, through a continuous exchange of experience.

In this sense I am very happy with the Board of

Directors elected democratically by the general assembly. On the one hand our senior vice president Albert Poggio from Gibraltar and director Yiannakis Kokkinos from Cyprus, represent the experience and knowledge from previous mandates. On the other, new ports of different sizes, regions and cultures have been elected into the board: Valeria Mangiarotti as vice president (Cagliari), Antonio Crespo (Valencia), Giovanni Spadoni (Livorno), Lotfi El Ajmi (Tunis), Jose Amate (Almeria), Ivan Franicevic' (Split), Jose Torrado (Ceuta) and David Stupelman (Sochi). A specific task will be assigned



to each director and I am convinced that his or her professionalism and commitment will insure the success of the whole project.

I would not like to finish my contribution without expressing my sincere gratitude to Carla Salvado, who will provide the continuity and performance she brought to the previous team as our secretary general.

to MedCruise members for their confidence in me and to all the people who have already expressed to me, at the very early stage of my mandate, their full support.

MedCruise General Assembly 20-21st October, 2005

On the eve of the opening address, the MedCruise delegation attended a reception by the mayor of Lemesos at the town hall, whilst during the following days, Cyprus Ports Authority organised an attractive social programme with the collaboration of the Cyprus Tourism Organisation, the Cyprus Shipping Association and Louis Cruise Lines. On the first day, lunch was served onboard Louis Cruise Lines' The Emerald which was alongside at the port.

During the second day of the meeting members enjoyed hearing presentations from some key cruise line executives who had kindly accepted MedCruise's invitation. They were George Michaelides (Louis Cruise Lines), Stelios Haji-Ioannou (easyCruise) and Emilio Freeman (ResidenSea). Attendees had the chance for one-to-one meetings with the guests.

Pictures here are a selection of photographs taken over the two days.



Delegates from Croatia enjoy a meal onboard The Emerald



Stelios talks to Port of Barcelona's Juan Madrid and Sandra Yunta during the one-on-one sessions for members and cruise line executives



Juan Madrid and Yiannakis Kokkinos held a press conference on the opening day. Madrid reflected on the highlights of his presidency and said he was pleased that seven ports had joined the association during the past three years, including three from Ukraine and Russia therefore 'extending our borders to the Black Sea.' Kokkinos spoke about the plans to create new cruise facilities at both Limassol and Larnaka.



During the second day members enjoyed the interesting presentations of some cruise line executives. Laurent Monsaingeon presided over the session and was joined by L-R: Louis Cruise Lines' George Michaelides, easyCruise boss Stelios Haji-Ioannou, Laurent, ResidenSeas' Emilio Freeman and Yiannakis Kokkinos from Cyprus Ports Authority



Louis Cruise Lines' George Michaelides kindly hosted a lunch for all participants onboard The Emerald. Pictured at the head table out-going president Juan Madrid hosts his final lunch before stepping down. L-R: Yiannakis Kokkinos (Cyprus), Charles Axisa (Malta), George Michaelides, Albert Poggio (Gibraltar), Juan Madrid, Enrica Caprietti (Venice), Laurent Monsaingeon, Carla Salvado (secretary-general), Mario Flores (Alicante)



Delegates listen to a guide from the Cyprus Tourism Organisation during an afternoon visit to Kolossi Castle



Valerie Mangiarotti from Cagliari elected to the board as vice president

New member



Pescara shapes up for cruise

The Italian city and port of Pescara, situated in the centre of the Adriatic coast between Ancona and Bari, is the newest member of MedCruise.

Located opposite Split, Pescara has two berths – 180mtr and 155mtr in length both which are being dredged to 7.5mtr. Other quays are also available along the river channel for smaller vessels. The berths are connected to the maritime station using a shuttle bus.

'Rome is 190km away and we offer an alternative access to the city via the eastern

coast with highway connections which start from the port's gate,' says Bruno Santori, project manager, City of Pescara. Pescara and its environs offer various architectural and archeological sites, three national parks, mountains with ski tracks, movie set locations ('King David,' 'Lady Hawke' ...), fashionable shopping, food and wine itineraries and religious sites with sanctuaries and hermitages.

There are plans to refurbish the maritime station and widen the port and berth for larger vessels.

About the new president



Former president and new exchanging views

spent five years working for different engineering software companies in Aix-en-Provence. In 1996 he was appointed director of ports for the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Nice Côte d'Azur which collectively welcome 2m passengers a year.

In his spare time Monsaingeon likes astronomy, watercolour painting and mountain hiking. He is also a captain in the Naval Reserve and a French Knight of the Order of Merit.

Monsaingeon's first public appearance as President of MedCruise was at Seatrade Europe in Hamburg where he was invited to join the Destination Panel on November 2nd, just 13 days after being elected to the new role.

MedCruise's new president Laurent Monsaingeon is the managing director of the French Riviera Ports. After training as an engineer, Monsaingeon spent 15 years as an officer in the French navy. During this time he gained an MSc in Oceanography from the University of the US Navy in Monterey, California, in the process gaining fluent and written and spoken English.

On leaving the Navy he

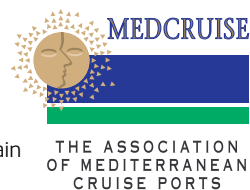
MedCruise Members

■ Alanya	■ Naples
■ Alicante	■ Palamos
■ Almeria	■ Palermo
■ Balearic Islands	■ Pescara
■ Barcelona	■ Piraeus
■ Bari	■ Portoferraio
■ Cagliari	■ Portuguese ports
■ Cartagena	■ Sete
■ Catania	■ Sevastapol
■ Ceuta	■ Sibenik
■ Cyprus ports	■ Sochi
■ Dubrovnik,	■ Split
■ French Riviera ports	■ Tarragona
■ Genoa	■ Toulon, St Tropez
■ Gibraltar	■ Trieste
■ Israeli ports	■ Tunis
■ Korcula	■ Valencia
■ La Spezia	■ Valletta
■ Livorno	■ Venice
■ Malaga	■ Volos
■ Messina	■ Zadar
■ Monaco	

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