

GENEVA GROUP INTERNATIONAL WORLD CONFERENCE 2008, RIO DE JANEIRO,
BRAZIL

MINUTES OF THE NETWORKING FORUM OF GROUP D

TOPIC: MY MOST AMAZING CONFERENCE EXPERIENCE

SUBMITTED BY: RAGHU MARWAH

After a brief introduction of everyone on the Table, as given by the person to his/ her right hand side, the Group began by narrating their first experiences and delved into whether a Conference was the best platform for networking and building personal relationships.

First Experiences: It was felt that travelling to the conference destination was in itself an experience which led to many pleasant experiences of the cultures, languages and peculiarities of the city where the Conference was hosted. Further, meeting a lot of difference people from similar backgrounds, i.e. medium sized firms; family owned business, led to a establishing a connection that much easier. These connections lead to finding solutions via the exchange of ideas.

Virtual Conference: Using technological tools, such as Skype to teleconference other members was also discussed as an alternative to increasing the interactions to a greater level between the year for those members whom are unable to travel to the regional conferences due to constraints of time and money.

Amazing Experiences:

1. At the Rio Conference in 2008, the Belgium Dance of Mr. Phillip where he cried out that 'I Love This Network'
2. At the Moscow Conference in 1999 the experience of some of the members whom were hauled up on their return to the Hotel after dinner where they were forced to 'pay for their life' was narrated
3. Another experience at the Moscow Conference in 1999 where the Conference Chairman, Takkis was handed over a Note by the Hotel that unless they were given the Conference charges of 5000 USD (the TT remittance had not been received) by 2.00 p.m. that day the Conference would be cancelled and how the members arranged the money in cash at such short notice.

4. At the Malta Conference in 2006, which was the first conference attended by Ms. Aurelia Tramosch at the closing when the members were leaving Ms. Tramosch greeted a gentleman with a kiss whom was standing in the Lobby of the Hotel and told him that she looked forward to meeting him again at the next conference in Dubai, the gentleman smiled without saying anything. Shortly thereafter he picked up the luggage and left to put it into the waiting taxi- he was the Hotel Porter!!
5. At the Eisenberg Conference in 2008, eating 183 difference varieties of chocolates as part of the tour of the Chocolate factory was also an amazing experience. Next morning the stomachs were definitely rumbling and reminding them of the excesses.