



**Cine-Regio announces five new members, a new chairman
and a permanent secretariat in Göteborg**

Cine-Regio, the European network of regional film funds, is happy to announce five new members. After the 2nd General Assembly held during Cannes Film Festival, Cine-Regio now include five more members: Filmstiftung Nordrhein-Westfalen and Filmförderung Hamburg from Germany, French Rhône-Alpes Cinéma, Zürcher Filmstiftung from Switzerland and Swedish Film i Skåne. Thus Cine-Regio now count 21 members from 12 European countries.

At Cine-Regio's 2nd General Assembly Bengt Toll from *Film i Väst*, Sweden was elected new chairman. He replaces the founder of the network, *Wallimage's* Philippe Reynaert from Belgium, who said:

"I am very pleased with the election of Bengt Toll as chairman and I am confident in the future of Cine-Regio. We are recognised by UNESCO through IFCT, as of May 2006 and Cine-Regio is ready to play a key role in the changing State Aid landscape in the forthcoming years".

In March 2006 Cine-Regio opened a permanent secretariat in Göteborg, Sweden, with the support of the Region of Västra Götaland. At the same time Charlotte Appelgren was appointed Secretary General of Cine-Regio. She has previously worked as Marketing Executive for Irish Merlin Films, Advisor at MEDIA Desk Denmark, Festival Manager for the Danish Film Institute and is the co-author of "The Fine Art of Co-producing".

"I am really proud to already be able to present five new members" Charlotte Appelgren says. "The regions in Europe represent an increasing share of the public support in the audiovisual sector. Today it stands at 20% and the figure is growing", she states and continues: "it is important to recognise that film is not only a representation of national culture, but of regional culture as well. We will continue our work of encouraging cross-border co-operation, stimulating artistically and creative exchange and strengthening the co-production environment for the benefit of the European film makers".

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