

## IP meets DGs \*

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11. Oktober, 09:00 – 10:30

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Room Hall Dialog

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PID Dr. Manfred Westhoff, Europa-Forum Präsident 2015

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Sprecher

Internationaler Präsident 2015/16, Dr. Yamada

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Zentrale Botschaft

Der IP erläutert den DGs sein Motto und sein Jahresprogramm

President Yamada started out with his thoughts on the **refugee crisis**. He pointed out that it really is an international issue and a global problem. Immediate action will be necessary but planning must come first. A briefing by the UNHCR in Turkey in order to learn more about the needs will help.

Next step will be a message for action from LCI. In the meantime clubs are urged to provide service in their communities when they see needs.

As LCIF chairman Joe Preston added, a steering committee with about 8 or 9 members will be appointed. As the committee's work progresses it will be necessary to invite representatives of all countries – not just Europe – to give advice and their contribution. Eventually, there will be a joint committee of LCI and LCIF that will make suggestions of how to provide service globally.

Another concern is **Membership Growth**. 1.37 million members currently are not enough to provide the service necessary. The goal to achieve is to stop the drop in membership and raise the number to 1.4 million members by the end of the year.

How will we be successful in attracting new members? One key to success is making activities more fun, enjoyable and interesting.

Finding new members by following the „Ask one – start at home“ - idea will be as successful. Husbands and wives are asked to invite their family members. Children involved in service will give an example to other children and their parents.

President Yamada believes in implementing strategy for achieving success. We have to start a circle of good service; it will bring more members.

A third issue were some **faults in structure**. President Yamada mentioned conflicts between GMTs and DGs due to differing lengths of time in office. These problems might be reconsidered by the international board. However, he reminded and encouraged all DGs: They are the CEOs and the district's future is on their shoulders. They are the ones to lead the district.

The key to success are the club presidents, and they have to be reminded of this. The truth about gaining new members is not the sheer increase of numbers, it is the need for more and better service. We only can provide this with more members.

Issues that came up in **questions** after the president's statements dealt with getting Leos to Lions. The presidents suggested to follow best practice examples . Single districts are advised to send invitations to be visited by executive officers and to mention that they have never been visited.