## Committee for Developing Countries of the European Mathematical Society

## Report for the EMS Council in Prague, March 2015

The book donation scheme of our committee contributed to send more than 100 kg of books to Benin and Senegal recently.

We received several requests for financial support; however, due to the very limited amount of money we have, we agreed that the decisions to support a conference will be taken only once a year, during our annual meeting in April.

Our next annual meeting will take place on April 10-11, 2015, in Oslo. On April 10 there will be a round table on which we are working now.

About ERCE: Emerging Regional Centres of Excellence.

These are centres in developing countries that are selected by EMS after call of interest because they distinguish themselves mostly for their offer of training to M.Sc level to students from less developed countries in their region. Naturally, the centres have to distinguish themselves for internationality, human resources, students, research and research potentials. The ERCE label once awarded lasts 4 years.

The first ERCE label was attributed in 2011 to Lahore (Pakistan). Later we had:

2013 Centro de Investigación en Matemáticas, Mexico (CIMAT) and Vietnam Institute for Advanced Studies in Mathematics (VIASM)

2014 Institute For Mathematical Research, Malaysia (INSPEM) and Institute for Advanced Studies in Basic Sciences, Zanjan, Iran (IASBS)

At the meeting in Oslo, a point of the agenda is the ERCE scheme:

- we will discuss about renewal of label
- we will discuss about the scheme of calls

This year, our committee will not propose any new ERCE label - no call has been issued in 2014. The first label ERCE has been attributed in 2011 for 4 years to the Abdus Salam School of Mathematical Sciences (ASSMS) in Lahore, Pakistan, under the umbrella of Government College University, Lahore. Recently, the former director of ASSMS resigned and founded a new institute, the Abdus Salam International Center for Mathematics (ASICM), under the umbrella of Information Technology University. We need to wait before considering attributing a new ERCE label to an institute in Lahore.

During ICM2014 we had a joint meeting between the Committee for Developing Countries and the Committee for European Solidarity - before our Oslo meeting contacts will be taken again.

The <u>website of our committee</u> provides more information on our activities; in particular the home page

http://euro-math-soc.eu/EMS-CDC/index.php displays the latest news from the EMS-CDC.