

# **CHRONOLOGY OF ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH IN THE CITY OF SKOPJE**

In order to hold the arguments elaborated below, and in the course of future positive function for improving the occupational safety and health in the manufacturing technical-technological processes in the city of Skopje, an association for Occupational Safety and Health was founded in 1964 to follow the counsels for Occupational Safety and Health of the city of Skopje.

Following the resolution by the Management for administrative affairs of Skopje's Assembly, the Association is registered with a head office at the address: 125 Bitpazarska.

**1. The activities of the Association began with the first conference held on June 5 1964 (the date symbolizes the world's day for ecology), when the organizational body of the association was elected and a president has been appointed with a mandatory of 4 years.**

The first Presidency consisted the members of the initiative board where a delegate from each municipality counsel for OSH was involved.

The Association consisted of: 180 individual and 78 communal members (some of the larger firms in the city).

Financing the Association: the membership's fee from the individual and the communal members, donators and sponsors.

Durable donator: the Found for health and pension insurance and the regular sponsor ZOIL Macedonia –Skopje.

The Association was allowed to exploit state's financial assets from the Republic's budget through the Council of the Syndicate's union and the Commerce chamber of the Republic of Macedonia.

**2. The implementation of the working activities of the Association were expressed through: councils, meetings with the chiefs of division for occupational safety and health**

**and expert lectures in the working environments of the chamber organizations in the city, organizing tribunes, round tables, counseling and seminars in Skopje and within the country.**

Especially valued cooperation was established with the institutions from the field of OSH outside the country, in Nish, Belgrade, Vrsac, Novi Sad, Zagreb and other cities part of the former Yugoslavian Union , in order to exchange experiences.

This cooperation lasted all along the period of 3 years and continued after the Union of the AOSH of R.Macedonia was founded in 1970. The Union consisted of 12 municipality associations for OSH where the AOSH of the city of Skopje and the city of Bitola (functioning from 16.12.1976) were dominant and culminates with founding the Yugoslavian Union for OSH in 1983 which connects all the republican and province centers for OSH in the former Yugoslavia.

The founding of the Yugoslavian AOSH was encouraged by R. Macedonia.

The prime conference was held in Belgrade march 17, 1983 (Nemanjina-6) with a introduction note of the delegate from R. Macedonia, Risto Djunov, politician and minister of labor and social politics.

The Yugoslavian Union was registered with a head office on Bitpazarska 125 on the May 10, 1983 by resolution no. 30-3890-1/83 of the Secretary of internal affairs under the Assembly of the city of Skopje noted no.9/13.

The Union consisted of 4900 delegates from all over Yugoslavia.

The first counsel for OSH was held on September 9,10, 1986 in Ohrid and that is when April 4 was pronounced to be the day of the YOSH as it was previously celebrated by the AOSH from the city of Skopje and Bitola where variety of manifestations such as sport events and exhibitions were held and awards and acknowledgements were given away to the participants.

It was decided in the curriculum for OSH in the city of Skopje that October will be the month for OSH and the most important activities took place during this period, but when the OSH from Skopje joined the YOSH, November was accepted as the month for OSH in Yugoslavia.

### **3. Few sentences with elaboration of the arguments explained how the AOSH in the city of Skopje was founded.**

The factual situation of this significant field, working in the service of the citizens who are the creators of the material goods in their own working environment, was in dysfunction with the balance between the factors that demonstrate the comfort of the environment, the working assets and the natural-geographical elements of the micro locality.

Here we state illustrative examples.

In 1964 Skopje's Commerce registered 2114 injuries (accidents) that happened during work and caused a loss of 45667 working days. The number of the employees at that period was 50000 in which case 67 of the accidents resulted in death.

Especially quoted was the "handicap" of the qualified structure of the arbitrators for OSH.

According to the reserches made by the AOSH from Skopje in correlation with the Union from 1970 the following analytical report was obtained:

- in 607 of the largest firms in Skopje and the Republic only 36 had the OSH service organized.
- in 419 of the firms, the OSH was obliged to only one person –the arbitrator (referee).
- in 152 of the working organizations there wasn't any OSH.

The total of the executors involved in the OSH is 570 of which 77 have technical high school diploma, 95 are gymnasium high school graduates, 65 are economic school graduates, 52 graduated at vocational schools and 3 of them are qualified workers.

This shattering balance of accounts has simply forced the AOSH to raise on a procedure for the legislators to vote the law for OSH in R. Macedonia in 1987 which among other things consisted a regulation for organizing the services of OSH where more than 1000 employees were involved and have OSH engineers operating with them.

At that time, 73 OSH graduate engineers who completed their studies in Belgrade and a few graduates from the University in Nish were employed in the commerce facilities.

Acting in this way, the general situation in the field of OSH rapidly changed to a raising point. The engineers participate with 14,4 % from the total of the experts that have been activated (involved).

This resulted in reduced work accidents up to 53% and death accidents up to 57% in 1992.

Employing the expert personnel never the less pointed out the need of employing 400 additional OSH engineers in Skopje and through out the country.

In order to satisfied the need of OSH expert personnel in Skopje and Bitola, the Union of Associations for OSH has pledged the procedure of introducing the interdisciplinary OSH studies in the academic year of 1987/88 as part of the University in Skopje, as the OSH studies were not available in Macedonia before.

#### **4. Tracing the activities that emerged from the work policy of the AOSH and the great variety of planned annual projections in the latest 2,5 decades we achieved the following status:**

- 246 meetings of the presidency were held and 375 questions concerning OSH were elaborated.
- 25 annual conferences were held
- 18 work meetings with the OSH arbitrators from Skopje were held.
- 14 counseling's within the country took place, 3 independent and 6 regional municipality counseling's were held in cooperation with the Associations from Bitola, Radovish, Kochani, Strumica and Gostivar.
- Participating at the foreign counseling's organized from the Yugoslavian AOSH in Belgrade, Zagreb, Nish, Sarajevo, Vrnjacka Banja, Vrsac, Novi Sad, Herceg Novi, Dubrovnik, Cavtat, Neum e.t.c.

- jubilee gatherings at every 5 year's period were held, the AOSH accepted 66 letters of appreciation and 38 acknowledgements for the results gained in developing the OSH as a driving force towards labor humanization.

The AOSH from the city of Skopje has undertake the working duties to the maximum and has introduced:

- the annual indication of the work accidents.
- the book of indicated firms within the association.
- indicated lists of annual reports.
- work accidents analysis within the city and other written documentation.

**5. In 1986 the AOSH of the city of Skopje, took part in the Yugoslavian campaign "safety service – humanity service", which was traditionally conveyed every calendar year and which was accepted by 1800 of the most renown firms in former Yugoslavia and had 1,5 million members all over the Federation.**

The AOSH from the city of Skopje has realized special expert gatherings with 7-40 delegates participating. The one held in REK Bitola 1988 had the representatives of the AOSH from Vrsac as their special guests.

In May 1990 the AOSH from Kumanovo and its factories "October 11" and "Polet" were visited as well as the monastery of Prohor Pcinski.

In May 1993 the AOSH from Kocani with the factory for cellulose and paper "Ruen" was visited and the factory capacities were inspected.

There were some gatherings outside the country realized in 1982 with:

- the Institute for OSH from Nish where the factory Electroindustry ( EI ) was visited together with the publishing house of the Institute and a great number of books (expert literature) from the field of OSH were received.
- the Institute for OSH in Krakov (Poland) in 1984. The factory for automobile parts from Krakov was visited and OSH lectures were organized.
- the AOSH from Vrsac, September 1988 was visited together with the factory "Hemofarm"

by 17 members from AOSH Bitola and city monographs of Bitola and Vrsac were exchanged. Two years later the Province Union of OSH from Vojvodina was visited. In June 1991 the AOSH from Novi Sad was visited together with the laboratory and the Institute for OSH that examines and observes the situation of OSH in Vojvodina.

- the Eko-forum for the Balkans, held in Sofija, Bulgaria in 1995 and the last participation in the AOSH of the former Yugoslavia where the XXII international conference in Herceg Novi, July 1998 took place. The theme of the conference was "Universality of the human rights and the right for OSH in the working environment. Our country was represented with only one delegate Pero Georgievski on this conference.

At the same time Pero Georgievski is the only delegate to be awarded the highest acknowledgment in the former Yugoslavia, the medal-golden sun for the achievements in the field of OSH.

### **6. Previous presidents of the Association:**

- Vlade Trpovski
- Zdravko Zajkov
- Emil Kalajdzijski
- Stevo Stefkovski
- Stojan Dimovski
- Pero Georgievski
- Borce Stojcevski
- Milan Petkovski (current president of the Macedonian Association).

Two of these presidents were presidents of the Union of Association for OSH in R. Macedonia: Vlade Trpovski and Pero Georgievski.

### **7. Participants with their expert lecturing and counseling, seminars, tribunes and other forms of activities organized by the Association:**

- PHD Teofilo Popovik, dean of the Faculty for OSH –Nish

Professors from the same Faculty:

- Dr. Dusan Gjurik
- Dr. Miloraf Zagorski
- Dr. Miroљjub Petrovik
- Dr. Zivko Stoiljkovik, Institute for OSH – Nish

- Dr. Velimir Nedeljkovic, Institute for OSH – Nish
- PHD Jordan Jovev, neuropsychiatry
- PHD Angele Vrcenovski, technology – mining engineer
- Dr. Dimko Milenkov, lawyer
- Dr. Kostadin Grekovski, specialist doctor of labor medicine and others who have been expert consultants to the Association.

### **8. Institutions that gave a special contribution to the Association:**

- The Institute for OSH from Nish, Sarajevo, Novi Sad
- NIRO "Zastite rada"(OSH)-Belgrade
- Faculty of OSH –Nish
- PIOM –Skopje
- ZOIL Macedonia
- FAS "Oktober 11"
- MZ Tito –Skopje
- RZ Skopje –Skopje
- "Ohis" –Skopje
- "Jugosurovina"
- "Agrohemizacija"
- ATS "Proleter"
- "Trgotekstil" –Skopje and others.

### **9. Individuals:**

- Gjorge Miljkovic, Institute of OSH –Nish
- Marija Ivkov, Institute of OSH, Novi Sad
- Kornelija Luka, chief province labor inspector of Vojvodina –Vrsac
- Boshko Komnetovik, Davorka Nededeljkovic and Ljubo Probojcevik-NIRO OSH –Belgrade
  
- Risto Djunov
- PHD Milkov, specialist of labor medicine
- PHD Dime Petrovski, specialist, internist
- DR. Kojce Cvetkovski, specialist of labor medicine
- Prim.Dr. Leonora Stankovska, specialist of labor medicine
- Jordan Dimovski, economist
- PHD Ljubco Trupce, ecologist
- PHD Ljubco Nelovski, ecologist

### **10. Journalists:**

- Vanco Mehandjiski, Nova Makedonija
- Marija Ivanova, Vecer