STATEMENT FOR THE ERO PLENARY IN SINGAPORE

During the last year, ERO has been confronted several times with conflicts, which rose within member-associations. Having been seized by some member associations, the ERO-board takes the following position in this matter:

- Neither the ERO-board, nor its members are legitimated to interfere within current affairs of member-associations.
- ERO, in the same way as FDI, supports the establishment of National Committees according to Article 1.1.4 of FDI constitution.

Beyond internal rules of FDI and ERO, the ERO-board asks everybody to respect “the Universal Declaration of Human Rights” ruled by the United Nations and the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR), particularly:

**Article 10 ECHR – Freedom of expression**

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of expression. This right shall include freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart information and ideas without interference by public authority and regardless of frontiers. This article shall not prevent States from requiring the licensing of broadcasting, television or cinema enterprises.

2. The exercise of these freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing the disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.

**Article 11 ECHR – Freedom of assembly and association**

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and to freedom of association with others, including the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests.

2. No restrictions shall be placed on the exercise of these rights other than such as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others. This article shall not prevent the imposition of lawful restrictions on the exercise of these rights by members of the armed forces, of the police or of the administration of the State.

Ph.Rusca 7.7.09