

The summarized chronology of the WFD-KFPD-Relationship:

**Exact date unknown, before the 14<sup>th</sup> WFD-Congress in Montreal:**

Carol Aquiline, the former Secretary General of the WFD mentioned that WFD has established the contact with all deaf people in the world since the foundation of the WFD in 1951, although some countries still have no deaf association, e.g. Vietnam. Only in North Korea deaf people practically don't exist.

- 2003, July:** 14<sup>th</sup> WFD Congress: it was reported that WFD has no contact with deaf people in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, neither with deaf individuals nor with an organisation related to deaf people.
- 2003, Aug/Sep:** Robert's first application for a trip to the DPRK and for visiting a deaf school there
- 2004, June** 1<sup>st</sup> visit to the DPRK, no meeting with deaf people yet but getting information about 8 deaf schools in the country
- 2005, April** 2<sup>nd</sup> visit to the DPRK, the promised meeting with deaf failed
- 2005, November** 1<sup>st</sup> contact with WFD (Nanny Nordstrom of WFD in Helsinki, Yerker Anderson of WFD – Human Rights in USA)
- 2006, February** 3<sup>rd</sup> visit to the DPRK, 1<sup>st</sup> meeting with deaf people in the KFPD building (Korean Federation for the Protection of the Disabled) supported by KITC (Korean International Travel Company)
- 2006, May** 4<sup>th</sup> visit to the DPRK and meeting with deaf people in Pyongyang and in Wonsan, but the permission for visiting the deaf school in Wonsan failed due to its renovation. Instead of visiting deaf school I met one teacher for deaf and two deaf pupils at the Wonsan Songdowon Hotel.
- 2006, summer** intensive communication with WFD (Ms. Laura Pajunen) in Helsinki about the deaf issue in the DPRK
- 2007, March** contact to Dr. Barbara Unterbeck through Mr. Jan Holtermann, the CEO of KCCE (Korea Computer Center Europe in Berlin)
- 2007, July** 1<sup>st</sup> publication of information about the deaf issue in the DPRK in the Newsletter of WFD (special issue on the 15<sup>th</sup> WFD Congress in Madrid)
- 2007, Summer** The Pyongyang Team established, a friendship circle of Mrs. Myriam Hugon of Handicap International Pyongyang Office, Mrs. Barbara Unterbeck of KCCE (Korea Computer Center Europe) Pyongyang Office, Mr. Robert R. Grund of Chollima Tours, Berlin
- 2007, November** 1<sup>st</sup> meeting at the WFD headquarter about the deaf issue in the DPRK
- 2008, May** Travelling to Pyongyang as the Special Envoy of the WFD to KFPD, officially establishing cooperation between WFD and KFPD and visiting three deaf schools in the DPRK. After his return Robert R. Grund was suggested as WFD-KFPD liaison officer in order to emphasize the communication between the WFD and KFPD

<b>2008, Nov 1st</b>	Foundation of the German NGO “TOGETHER – Educational Center for Deaf, Blind, and Nondisabled Children Hamhung e.V.” Chairman: Mr. Robert R. Grund Vice Chairwoman: Mrs. Dr. Barbara Unterbeck
<b>2009, March</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting at the WFD Headquarter about the relationship between the WFD and the KFPD
<b>2009, Sep</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> GOOD FELLOWSHIP as the international deaf meeting supported by WFD, KFPD, KITC (16 participants from 5 different countries, Germany as main guest country)
<b>2010, April</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> meeting at the WFD Headquarter
<b>2010, June</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> visit of a KFPD delegation to Germany
<b>2010, July</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> official visit of the WFD-President Mr. Markku Jokinen and the WASLI-President Mrs. Liz Gibson to the DPRK, 1 <sup>st</sup> direct discussion about the content of the MoU between the WFD and KFPD
<b>2010, August</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> GOOD FELLOWSHIP (19 participants from 6 different countries, USA as main guest country)
<b>2011, June</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> participation of KFPD to a WFD Congress – the 16 <sup>th</sup> in Durban
<b>2011, August</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> GOOD FELLOWSHIP (30 participants of 5 different countries, China as main guest country)
<b>2011, Nov</b>	preparation meeting with Mr. Markku Jokinen for WFD-KFPD-MoU in Helsinki
<b>2012, Jan</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> visit of RRG to the DPRK, preparatory meeting with KFPD in Pyongyang for signing the MoU
<b>2012, February 9th</b>	signing the MoU in Helsinki
<b>2012, April</b>	Meeting with KFPD officials to discuss about the 4-year action plan in Pyongyang
<b>2012, August</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> GOOD FELLOWSHIP (27 participants of 6 different countries, China as main guest country)
<b>2012, November 5th</b>	the 4-year action plan officially confirmed by the 101 <sup>st</sup> Board Meeting of the WFD
<b>2012 Dezember – 2013 January</b>	5 weeks work in Pyongyang to prepare for the foundation of the National Deaf Association and launching the 4-Year Action Plan of WFD

Since 2007, WFD and KFPD have exchanged letters of salutation emphasizing their wish to consolidate the contacts by MoU for the Foundation of the National Deaf Association in the DPRK

WASLI has supported the WFD-KFPD-cooperation by sign language interpreting and providing the knowledge and experience of WASLI in the area of sign language interpreting since 2008.