

## 4.17. Report from RO17 (India, Iran, Pakistan)

*Author: Vinit Kapur*

The TEAM MEMBERS met monthly. They were:

Mr. Sitendu Mandal, Chief Scientist and Head Specialty Glass Division (SGD), (India).

Dr. Atiar Rahman Molla, Principal Scientist, CGCRI, (India).

Mr. Vinit Kapur, All India Glass Manufacturers Federation (AIGMF) & IYOG RO Coordinator (India).

Mr. Saeed Keshavarz Motamedi, Consultant (Iran).

Regular reports were circulated to the Iran and Pakistan desks at MEA, the Indian mission in Iran and the Iranian mission in India who reported to PRC countries.

### 4.17.1. Introduction

2022 was special for the glass fraternity as we celebrated together the UN IYOG. AIGMF acknowledges the kind support of the ICG, IYOG Council, Education Dept. of GNCTD, Glass Worldwide, SGT, Delhi Technological University, Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute, glass manufacturers/suppliers and all participants; we delivered over 30 events for Youth and Adults in all walks of life.



Figure 4.17.1. Photographs from Glass in our lives contest

Source: © IYOG archive.

Reports of our pilot projects ‘Green as Glass’, ‘Glass in our Lives’ and ‘Glass Protects’ are available in: Kanch (Glass), Glass News, Glass Worldwide/AIGMF, Library of Indian Articles.

The 13 chapters of the IYOG book ‘Welcome to the Glass Age’ were reproduced in 4 parts in Kanch (Glass).

Activities from RO17 and other regions were also covered in Glass News, Kanch and Glass News and Kanch (Glass) displaying IYOG logos. They were distributed worldwide with soft versions on AIGMF’s website at [www.aigmf.com](http://www.aigmf.com). Glass News was distributed to selected PAN-India schools/colleges

informing them of IYOG activities and inviting them to organize events.

The number of young participants was encouraging and generated new ideas on Environmental and Health issues, to better society and industry. Our 2022(3) and (4) issues carried stories on these projects which involved schools, colleges, ICG, SGT (UK) and Glass Worldwide (UK).

#### 4.17.2. Partners and activities

Our heartfelt thanks go to: a) AGI Glaspac, La Opala RG Ltd., Cello Inds. Pvt. Ltd., Shri Sitaram Glass Works, Kwality Glass Works, Adarsh Kanch Udyog Pvt. Ltd., HNG who supplied glass articles to give to students/ Members/Govt./select stakeholders at Glasstec; b) our 90 AIGMF Member companies, especially Schott Glass (India) Pvt. Ltd. for funds and c) architectural glass panels (Asahi India Glass Ltd., Gold Plus Glass Industry Ltd., Gujarat Guardian Ltd and Şişecam Flat Glass (I) Pvt Ltd) for interesting glass projects. Members assisted with international speakers, audience/participants, knowledge/event partners, expert/jury members, sponsors, technical articles/papers, research/studies, advertisements, etc., AND any collaborations that made Glass more visible.

#### 4.17.3. Activities in IRAN

A photo contest on “Glass in our Lives” for kids and youth; IYOG2022 advertised in local events and exhibitions in the country; publishing content in social media highlighting the importance of glass as the best packaging material; the IYOG2022 advertised at the National Dragon Boat Championship; Dragon Boat Team advertised IYOG2022 by wearing smart jerseys at the Championship organized by the local Canoe Federation in the south of the country; the team, one of 24 participating won Gold Medals; a similar activity was repeated a few months later.

#### 4.17.4. COVERAGE in AIGMF publications

Six issues of the quarterly journal Kanch (Glass) and Glass News were published during the period of this report, distributed free of charge to all members of AIGMF, selected non- members and important stakeholders. E-issues of Kanch were circulated to 15,000+ contacts worldwide including Government departments, Ministries & Educational Institutes.

*Oct-Dec 2021 issue*

The following important IYOG articles were published:

Figure 4.17.2. IRAN Dragon Boat Team advertised IYOG2022.

Source: © IYOG archive.





- IYOG calendar glass bottle 2022 presented to Aloft hotel New Delhi.
- Release of AIGMF 2022 print calendar on the theme ‘Glass in our Lives’.
- Proud users of IYOG 2022 calendar glass bottle - a glimpse (Part 1).
- Creating a United Nations International Year of Glass.
- Indian Glass Science: Current Status and Future Prospects.
- Glasses for Healthcare.
- Glass History and the Arrival of the Glass Age.
- Proud Users of IYOG 2022 calendar glass bottle - a glimpse (Part 2- women’s special).
- CGCRI’s inaugural IYOG 2022 event.
- IYOG 2022 March monthly lecture series.
- IYOG 2022 advertised Iran Dragon Boat Premier League, organized by Iran Canoe Federation, at Tehran Stadium Lake in March 2022.

#### *Apr-June 2022 issue*

AIGMF delegation met Additional DGFT Mr. Anil Agarwal to discuss RoDTEP scheme, and presented IYOG calendar bottle at Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi on June 3.

Affordable and Clean Energy provided by Glass.

Glass in Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and Photonics.

Reflections on Reflection: Glass in Architecture.

#### *July-Sept 2022 issue*

Youth and Industry get-together to celebrate IYOG2022.

Youth says Adopt Green as ‘Glass’. Sustainable Glass Production with Carbon Reduction.

Sustainable Glass in a Circular Economy.

Social, Cultural and Environmental Sustainability within the International Art Glass Movement

#### *Oct-Dec 2022 issue*

Meeting with President of Society of Glass Technology.

AIGMF/CGCRI meeting with Prof. Manoj Choudhary.

Glass Industry Meets at Guwahati to conclude IYOG celebrations in India.

SGT President held workshops with School & University students.

#### *Jan-Mar 2023 issue*

AIGMF meeting with research students from Free University, Brussels

COVERAGE on AIGMF website [1]

A new link [2] was created to the complete book ‘Welcome to the Glass Age’ edited by Prof. Alicia Durán and Prof. John M. Parker of the IYOG Organizing Committee aimed at Celebrating the United Nations IYOG2022. A link to the IYOG logo will remain on the AIGMF homepage till 2025.

#### **4.17.5. Touring Exhibition on ‘Glass in our Lives’ (Sep 10, 2021)**

Chief Guest Dr. Reinhard Conradt, Vice President and President Elect of the ICG unveiled a touring exhibition on ‘Glass in our Lives’ at the virtual 2021 AGM of the AIGMF.

To commemorate International Youth Day, the AIGMF invited online entries from the age group between 7-24 years to participate in the ‘1st Photography Contest on the theme “Glass in our Lives”.

A kickstart event to mark the first IYOG2022 activities in India.

A distinguished Jury of Members representing a cross section of glass sectors and regions decided the top 3 photographs out of approx. 7,000 entries received from educational institutes and Youth across India: Mr. Sanjay Somany, Former President AIGMF and CMD HNG Inds. Ltd.; Mr. Sanjay Ganjoo, Former President AIGMF and COO Asahi India Glass Ltd.; Dr. Suman Kumari Mishra, FNASc, Director CSIR-Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute and Adjunct Prof. AcSIR and Ex-Dean Eng. Sc. AcSIR; Prof. Manoj Choudhary, Former President International Commission on Glass, Adjunct Prof. Materials Science & Engineering, The Ohio State University and President, MKC Innovations, LLC (USA); Dr. Arun K.



Varshneya, Emeritus Professor (Glass Science) Alfred University and President Saxon Glass Technologies, Inc. (USA); Mr. Dave Fordham, Publisher Glass Worldwide (UK).

Dr. Suman Kumari Mishra, Director, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research - Central Glass & Ceramic Research Institute (CSIR-CGCRI), Kolkata congratulated the winning students.

1<sup>st</sup> Prize (Rs. 20,000): S. Christy Laura aged 15 years, Sri Akilandeswari Vidyalaya, (Trichy) Tamil Nadu



2<sup>nd</sup> Prize (Rs. 10,000): Medhansh Singhla aged 8 years, Delhi Public School (Vasant Vihar) New Delhi

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize (Rs. 5,000): Brijesh Jethva aged 22 years from (Junagadh) Gujarat

As a token of appreciation, a lucky 500 entries were given a specially designed empty Glass Bottle made from recycled glass (manufactured by Hindustan National Glass & Industries Ltd., under its CSR initiative), carrying logos of the IYOG2022 and Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan (Clean India Campaign).

Figure 4.17.3. a) Prize winning contest for AIGMF Calendar 2023 and b) Calendar 2023 launch event.

Source: © IYOG archive.

145 Industry Associations  
 45 Central Universities  
 300 State Universities  
 30 Chief Ministers of all States in India  
 30 Hotels in National Capital Delhi  
 80 Colleges in National Capital Delhi  
 145 Foreign Missions in India  
 225 Federation of Safety Glass Members + Processors  
 550 Members of Parliament (Lower House)  
 40 Chief Secretaries and Lieutenant Governors of all States in India  
 31 Education Secretaries of all States in India  
 250 Members of Parliament (Upper House)  
 220 Municipal Corporations of all States in India

31 Education Secretaries of all States in India  
 250 Members of Parliament (Upper House)  
 220 Municipal Corporations of all States in India  
 115 Secretaries to the Govt of India  
 60 Media  
 250 AIGMF Members  
 300 Schools (top 10) of all States in India  
 60 Schools (top) in National Capital Delhi  
 50 CSIR-Central Glass & Ceramic Research Institute  
 100 UPGMS (Glass Cluster)  
 90 Consulate General offices in India  
 300 1st Poem and Essay contest  
 550 Others

4000 calendar glass bottles were made to promote glass and distributed as follows.

A Press Release and drawings by school children on ‘Glass in our Lives’ were published in the July-Sept issue of Kanch and on the AIGMF website.

#### **4.17.6. Calendar Glass Bottle 2022 ahead of IYOG2022 (Sept 10, 2021)**

In the virtual Executive Committee and Annual General Meetings of the AIGMF held on Sep 10, 2021 the President and Office Bearers released the Calendar Glass Bottle 2022 carrying the logo of IYOG2022. The bottle had been specially designed by AGI glaspac as main partner for all IYOG events held in India.

Some MPs approached the AIGMF for additional copies. Distribution to International destinations was kept on hold owing to non-availability of an economic courier in COVID era.

Originally it was planned to distribute around 300 bottles to all Indian Missions overseas, International Glass Associations, ICG, select glass

companies and stakeholders BUT the cost per consignment was between €30-50 against only €2-3 for domestic destination.

#### **4.17.7. IYOG Calendar Glass Bottle 2022 presented to ALOFT Hotel New Delhi (Dec 23, 2021)**

The IYOG Calendar Glass Bottle 2022 was presented to Mr. Pranav Bharadwaj Director Sales at ALOFT New Delhi on Dec 23, 2021 to promote green packaging. The story and selected photos were published in Kanch and on the AIGMF website.

#### **4.17.8. AIGMF 2022 Print Calendar on the theme ‘Glass in our lives’**

President Mr. Bharat Somany, Office Bearers and Former Presidents released the AIGMF 2022 calendar on ‘Glass in our Lives’ at the promotion meeting held at ALOFT New Delhi in Dec 21, 2021.

As part of an educative process, 535 wall versions of the calendars were distributed to AIGMF Members/ Regional Associations and Stakeholders. The entire dispatch was completed by Dec 16, 2021; and 95% were delivered by Dec 22, 2021 for effective use and glass promotion. Soft versions of both calendar glass bottles and a print version of the wall calendars were posted on the home page of the AIGMF website.



Figure 4.17.4. Visitors at Exhibition of Artwork Photography by PAN India school children, Feb 23.  
Source: © IYOG archive.

Members were invited to adopt this calendar by affixing their address and logo with the AIGMF logo; other content remaining the same. It was announced that the AIGMF's official printer could, if addresses were provided, even arrange their dispatch by courier at a cost to be agreed directly.

#### 4.17.9. Artwork exhibition and Photography by PAN India School

The Glass Promotion Committee met in February at the AIGMF. In the gallery outside, artwork from the touring exhibitions 'Glass in our Lives/Glass Protects' and 'Adopt a Glass Bottle' was unveiled by Office Bearers of New Delhi House and AIGMF; they will be displayed until Dec 2024. Mr. Vikram

Mittal, Treasurer of New Delhi House and Managing Director of Mittal Teas hailed this cause, saying that it is not only educational but a humble step towards the CSR objectives of educating societies on the sustainability of glass packaging and building material and is in tune with Hon. Prime Minister's vision of Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan (Clean India Campaign).

Educational Institutions were invited to be a part of IYOG2022; they could adopt a week or a day to celebrate it by organizing activities e.g. Touring Exhibitions, Debates or Essay Writing on 'Glass as an eco-friendly material', Quizzes, Drawing competitions, etc. The AIGMF Secretariat could provide speakers and publicize initiatives in Kanch and Glass News for worldwide coverage.

Glass calendar bottles as mementos for 2022 (made by AGI glaspac) as well as print calendars on 'Glass in our Lives' carrying logos of IYOG 2022 were freely distributed to all participants.

#### 4.17.10. 1st Poem / Essay Writing Contest-'Green as Glass' (August 12, 2022)

Online entries were invited from the age group between 7-24; over 2,000 entries were received from educational institutes and youth across India.

Former Presidents- Mr. Sanjay Somany & CMD Hindustan National Glass & Industries Ltd.; and Mr. S C Bansal., CMD Adarsh Kanch Udyog Pvt. Ltd., were jury members who selected the top 3 entries:



Figure 4.17.5. SGT President holds IYOG workshops with school & university students, Nov 30, 2022.

Source: © IYOG archive.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize (Rs. 25,000) to Akshita Tejwani aged 14 years, Maharani Gayatri Devi Girls School, Jaipur
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize (Rs. 15,000) to R. Shruthi aged 15 years, Jawahar Vidyalaya Senior Secondary School, Chennai
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize (Rs. 10,000) to Kanishk Sharma aged 16 years, Ajanta Public School, Gurugram (Haryana)

The event story and selected photographs were published on the AIGMF website and in Kanch.

#### 4.17.11. Green Hydrogen Economy: Options for Indian Glass Manufacturers (Sept 3, 2022)

As part of IYOG2022 celebrations, the Glass Manufacturers held their AGM in Hotel Lemon Tree, Aerocity, DELHI. NTPC's Mr. DMR Panda, Head of Hydrogen Group and Planning Head of Renewable Business gave a presentation on Green Hydrogen Economy: Options for Indian Glass Manufacturers.

Mr. Panda highlighted that *“the Indian glass manufacturing industry can position itself as a low cost, zero-carbon green hydrogen manufacturing hub which can help to achieve India's Net Zero target. As always, the Indian glass manufacturing industry lead by examples, it can be one of the early movers in the green hydrogen space and set an example for all MSMEs/hard-to-abate sectors”*.

Approximately 80 senior industry members were present.

The program was an excellent opportunity for AIGMF to honor India's Youth who participated from schools and colleges across India in its annual contest for Youth: 1st Poem / Essay Writing Contest on 'Green as Glass' coinciding with the International Youth Day on August 12, 2022. The event story was published on AIGMF website and Kanch where photos are available too.

#### **4.17.12. IYOG Celebrations continue: SGT President workshops with school and university students**

At the invitation of AIGMF, Dr. Arun Varshneya, President of Society of Glass Technology, UK and Member of the IYOG2022 Council held interactive sessions with students at St. Thomas School and Delhi Technological University on Nov 30. Around 300 students from 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> standards participated. The topic chosen by Prof. Varshneya was Stronger Glass Products and an Overview on IYOG.

A tribute was paid by the Eco-club Students/Teachers/Prof. Varshneya/AIGMF to Mahatma Gandhi who once walked in the St. Thomas school grounds holding glass bottles with the Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan (clean India campaign) logo, adopted from Gandhi's spectacles by the Indian Govt.

Prof. Varshneya made the session very interesting using simple experiments which the students responded to enthusiastically. Mr. Purvish Shah, Office Bearer of AIGMF and Director, Gopal Glass Works Ltd, Ahmedabad, overviewed the Indian Glass Industry. Mr. Vinit Kapur, Secretary AIGMF highlighted the importance of academic and CSR linkages for Environmental and Health reasons.

*'Students were very happy to discover the magical world of glass. They learnt many facts*

*and were eager to know the properties and types of glass and career prospects. We deeply thank Dr. Arun Varshneya, Mr. Purvish Shah and Mr. Vinit Kapur for helping students understand that glass can transform our future and help us build a sustainable tomorrow. Thank you to the entire IYOG team for an engaging experience "Glistening Glass for a Greener Tomorrow", St. Thomas' Girls Sr. Sec. School, Mandir Marg, New Delhi.*

Prof. Varshneya is also President of Saxon Glass Technologies as well as Professor of Glass Science & Engineering, Emeritus, at Alfred University, New York, USA.

Prof. A.S. Rao, Head, Department of Applied Physics, Delhi Technological University said that *"A Technical Talk by Prof. Arun Varshneya was organized by the Department of Applied Physics in association with The All India Glass Manufacturers' Federation on Nov 30, 2022. Prof. Varshneya interacted with our students showcasing the growing importance of glass and its popularity in packaging and building material. He has covered the topics from fundamentals to advances in glass science and technology. Discussions were carried on the further technical cooperation and research collaborations in Glass Science and Technology with the support of AIGMF. Thanks to Prof. Varshneya, Mr. Purvish Shah and Mr. Vinit Kapur for their presence at DTU. We received overwhelming responses from the students. The Dean (Academic-PG) Prof. Rinku Sharma,*

*and more than 80 Faculty Members and Research Scholars participated to make the event a grand success."*

Mr. Vinit Kapur talked on the most recent Indian IYoG activities involving Youth. He was in an upbeat mood to work more closely with young minds. He said that *"students have not only shown commitment and willingness but have also contributed significantly to relevant topics related to Health and Environment; glass and its usage in our daily lives."* The students, Teachers and Professors were all given Mementos - glass bottles with the IYOG logo specially made by AGI glaspac and HNG from the recycled glass. Photos are available on the AIGMF website and in Kanch.

#### **4.17.13. Release of AIGMF 2023 Print Calendar on the theme 'Green as Glass' (Dec 10, 2022)**

President Mr. Sanjay Agarwal (online), Mr. Dave Fordham, Glass Worldwide; Dr. K Annapurna, Chief Scientist CGCRI; Treasurer Mr. Purvish Shah; Vice President Mr. Hargun Bhambani; Secretary Mr. Vinit Kapur and Mr. Aman Gupta, host of the AIGMF Meeting at Guwahati released AIGMF's 2023 print calendar on 'Green as Glass' at their 1st Hybrid meeting on Dec 10 at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Guwahati.

Wall and Desk versions of the calendars were distributed to AIGMF

Members/Governmental Officers/ Regional Associations and Stakeholders/ Administrators/CMS/Trade Chambers/ Education Secretaries/All FOSG Members/Firozabad/CGCRI contacts etc. The story was published on the AIGMF website and in Kanch with selected photos.

#### **4.17.14. The Glass Industry met at Guwahati to conclude IYOG celebrations in India (Dec 9-11, 2022)**

The first ever AIGMF's Executive Committee meeting with a hybrid meeting was organized at Guwahati, Assam on Dec 10, hosted by North East Sillimanite Refractories, an Affiliate Member of The All India Glass Manufacturers Federation (AIGMF).

The event saw technical presentations by the Competition Commission of India, Government of India; SEFPRO/SEPR India; a concluding IYOG2022 lecture by CGCRI, and release of AIGMF's 2023 calendar: 'Green as Glass'.

In a session moderated by Mr. Dave Fordham of Glass Worldwide (Honorary AIGMF member), Mr. Umesh Kumar IPS, State Resource Person, Competition Commission of India, Government of India talked on "Competition Law for Trade Associations and Enterprises" and Mr. Cyril Linnot and Mr. Suraj Kumar of SEFPRO/SEPR India discussed the application of self-flow monolithics to

prolong the life of glass melting furnaces in hot and cold repairs.

Mr. Umesh Kumar and Mr. Tanuj Goswami overviewed the Competition Act, its objectives and functions. Inquiry, Investigation, Coverage, Powers of the Commission were highlighted by citing suitable cases. The Presentation was appreciated by 50 members comprising glass manufacturers, affiliate members of AIGMF, special invitees.

Finally, Dr. K. Annapurna, Chief Scientist, Glass Division CSIR-Central Glass & Ceramic Research Institute, summarized IYOG activities in India. Commemorative IYOG glass bottles, specially made by AGI glaspac and HNG from recycled glass were also awarded.

A highlight was the release of the AIGMF 2023 calendar on the theme 'Green as Glass', centered on IYOG celebrations and featuring the 2022 winners of the AIGMF's annual contest for youth: the first-ever poem/essay writing contest on 'Green as Glass', coinciding with International Youth Day. The AIGMF had invited online entries from the 7-24 age group for the 1st Poem/Essay Writing Contest on 'Green as Glass'. The 3 top winners received cash prizes and their poems and essays were converted into the 2023 Calendar. As the National Apex Body of the Glass Industry, the AIGMF undertakes socially responsible steps as a voluntary service to society, thereby bringing increased

awareness of Glass as a safe and 100% recyclable packaging material.

Delegates also learned of opportunities for investment in the north-east region, including subsidies offered by the Government of Assam and the advantages of the area's natural gas, limestone, dolomite, sillimanite, mullite and corundum.

Mr. Tanuj Samaddar (who lives in Assam), 2020 winner of the AIGMF's 'Drawing Competition 3.0' on the theme 'Glass Protects', addressed attendees in Guwahati and enthused about glass as "the only 100% recyclable packaging and building material."

NES hosted 2 dinner receptions on Dec 9 and 10 where a local cultural evening program showcased the indigenous Bihu folk dance, an important part of Assamese culture. NES organized an accompanying tour to the holy city and delegates visited the Kamakhya Temple.

Most of the glass manufacturers present had been using NES products; they expressed their full satisfaction on the quality, service and performance of the products, commented Mr. Aman Gupta, Managing Partner of North East Sillimanite. NES, located in Guwahati, is successfully utilizing local resources and providing world class bonded refractories and monolithics to the container, float, solar, sheet, figured and opal glass sectors in India and abroad with products such as high alumina

Figure 4.18.1. Homepage of RO18 in Italian Language.  
Source: © IYOG archive.



(42%–99%  $Al_2O_3$ ) and basic refractories including 88%–98% magnesia, magnesia-zircon, magnesia-zirconia-alumina and special refractories zircon and zircon-mullite.

The event was published on the AIGMF website and in Kanch; selected photos are on both platforms.

## References

- [1] <https://www.aigmf.com/>.  
[2] <https://aigmf.com/glass-age.php>.

## 4.18. Report from RO18 (Italy)

*Author: Gabrielle Peron*

### 4.18.1. Committee

Regional Organization RO18 Italy was designated by IYOG2022 with the aim to represent the Italian glass community. It was led by 6 members with a comprehensive set of knowledge and competences in: history, art, industry, design, and education.

- Gabriele Peron Stevanato: Group and ICG Steering committee member (coordinator).
- Teresa Medici: ICOM Glass International Committee for Museums and Collections of Glass.
- Marina Uboldi: Comitato nazionale italiano AIHV.
- Vincenzo Sglavo: University of Trento.
- Fabrizio Cattaneo: Vitrum and Gimav.
- Umberto De Lorenzo: Vitrum and Gimav.

### 4.18.2. Activities

A dedicated website was created.

RO18 promoted 23 events branded with IOYG2022 logo engaging thousands of attendees and glass lovers.

One of the most impressive events has been the Italian Glass Weeks, Italy's first festival dedicated to industrial and

artistic glass among the city of Milano and Venice as a result of the union of the Milan Glass Week, organized by VITRUM, and the Venice Glass Week, organized by its Organizational Committee.

The event (Milan, 10<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> September 2022 - Venice 17<sup>th</sup>- 25<sup>th</sup> September 2022) was designed specifically for the 2022 “UN International Year of Glass” and featured exhibitions, workshops, art installations, shows, activities for children and families as well as guided tours, cultural seminars, workshops and much more in order to highlight the internationally recognized excellence of Italy in the field of glass.

The Festival drew more than 450,000 visitors to 300+ events in more than 200 different locations, allowing people to cultivate a new awareness of glass and its importance, and a growing interest in an industry that, although



Figure 5.4. 'Glass protects' contest and 'Green as Glass' Calendar 2023. India.

Source: © IYOG archive.

The International Year of Glass began with an Opening Ceremony using the facilities of the UN in Geneva. For this event, the organizing committee created a 226-page book, *Welcome to the Glass Age* [1], where a deliberate decision was made to target the intelligent teenager i.e. the older child at secondary school. The text has individually written chapters based around the role of glass in supporting the UN 2030 Humanitarian Goals and incorporated numerous stunning images. It has also been translated into Spanish and we hope that other translations will follow. Both texts are available for free download through links on the IYOG web site.

