

## 36th congress of the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux

The representatives of the 3.000.000 allotment garden families request protection and support in the countries and by the European Union



=> *Resolution Congress*

The representatives of the European allotment gardeners support their colleagues in Stockholm to safeguard their allotment gardens.



=> *Resolution Stockholm*

The representatives of the European allotment gardeners support their colleagues in Berlin to safeguard their allotment gardens



=> *Resolution Berlin*



# OFFICE INTERNATIONAL du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux

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Regroupement des fédérations européennes des jardins familiaux  
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## RESOLUTION

*XXXVIth International Congress of Allotment Gardens held in  
Copenhagen from 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> August 2011*

**The allotment gardens of the future**

Representatives of the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux, the international allotment garden federation, which is associating 3 million allotment gardeners in Europe have been gathered in Copenhagen 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> August 2011 for their XXXVIth International Congress. At the closing of the Congress they have unanimously adopted the following resolution:

Allotment gardens play an essential role in offering both possibilities for recreation and supply of healthy garden products to people with no other access to green land. The allotment garden has at the same time become one of the only places where younger generations from urban areas can discover nature and learn how to cultivate garden products. Finally, both training of trustees by the allotment garden federations and many other allotment gardeners participation in management activities in their societies ensure valuable organizational training to those involved. These contributions to social life by our allotment gardens are still essential.

Our allotment gardens are not only serving as a green spot of leisure and learning for those who live in them, however. The gardens equally serve a number of other purposes in society – purposes that will become increasingly important in the years to come.

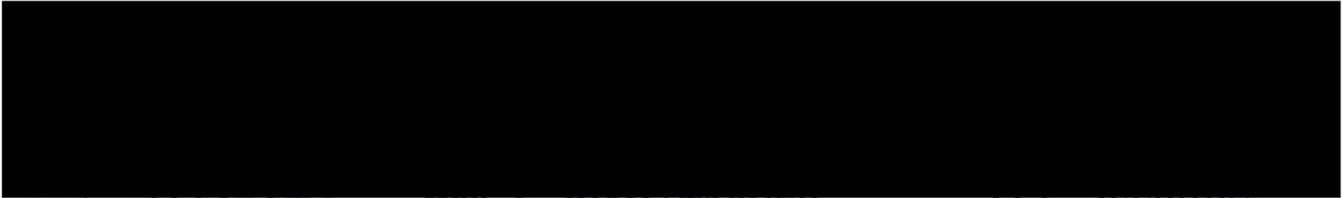
The many open allotment garden sites offer green space to everybody in urban areas – being the green lungs of our cities. Many allotment garden societies furthermore contribute to social life through integration of immigrants and through social activities for children and for elderly or disabled people from their neighbourhood.

Moreover, the allotment gardens – often sheltering a broad variety of plant species - have become an important part in safeguarding biodiversity and at the same time an inspirational example to others by applying organic gardening principles.

We, the representatives of European family and allotment gardeners are determined to continue to develop our movement in order to ensure its contribution to a sound and nature friendly development in society. Our priorities in this respect will be further strengthening the social and ecological aspects of allotment gardening as well as emphasizing the important role of allotment gardens in public urban planning.

Attracting young families is another high priority for our movement. We are determined to continue efforts to develop allotment garden sites that are shaped and equipped to meet the requirements of our younger generations and we will support and facilitate their integration in our garden societies. We are equally determined to continue to be open also to groups in society who do not have a traditional link to our movement – but who are willing to share our ideals.

Our movement and activities have both a national and European perspective. We therefore call on national authorities as well as the European Union to recognize the efforts of our movement and to support and stimulate the protection and creation of allotment and family gardens in our countries.



Preben JACOBSEN  
President

Wilhelm WOHATSCHEK  
Chairman of the executive board

Malou WEIRICH  
Secretary general



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**Statement made by the International Congress in Copenhagen,  
August 2011**

**Preserve and develop the allotment garden operations in Stockholm! Take  
advantage of Årstafältet's allotment gardens and let them enrich the  
outdoor environment in the upcoming settlement!**

The International Allotment Garden Federation is an association made up of the national allotment garden federations of Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Japan, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Switzerland, Slovakia, Sweden, Germany, and Austria. Together, they have close to three million active members. Every three years the International Federation hosts a congress. This year's congress took place in Copenhagen from August 18-20. Congress has agreed on the following statement:

**Preserve and develop the allotment garden sites in Stockholm! Take advantage of Årstafältet's allotment gardens and let them enrich the outdoor environment in the upcoming settlement!**

In 1999 the City of Stockholm proudly presented their plans for a landscape park with a new allotment area on the field of Årstafältet. The plans were executed and ten years ago the allotments opened. The allotment gardens have become a great asset, not only for the colonists themselves, but for everyone living nearby! It was designed with a promenade through the entire area and is always open to visitors. The gardens have great satisfaction value and the activities of the allotment garden society truly enrich people's lives in the district.

It is therefore both surprising and noteworthy that the City of Stockholm has apparently not even considered preserving the allotments as an asset in the future settlement, but has decided to build on Årstafältet instead of completing the original plans for a large landscape park. We have seen preliminary sketches of an initial detailed plan for a portion of the field. In challenging vicinity of the existing allotments, parkland is planned in as a wedge in the proposed settlement. Parkland, which will require costly maintenance, and probably not even come close to generating the floral splendor, biodiversity, and social community generated by the allotment area.

It seems entirely possible to preserve the existing allotment area as an integral part of the proposed housing construction, even if it means that it cannot be designed exactly as intended. Since there are no legally binding new plans yet, it is not too late to reconsider and do the right thing.

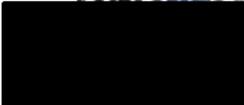
The International Allotment Garden Federation Congress therefore calls on the City of Stockholm to carefully examine how the new intentions with comprehensive housing construction on Årstafältet can be completed without having to erase the city's newest allotment area. If the City still chooses to tear down the allotments, the City must, in consultation with Årstafältet colonists, create the best possible conditions, both financially and in other respects, for continued allotment activities at a new location of Årstafältet. That is a prerequisite for the colonists to be able to start over and for the allotment garden society to live on.

Congress also urges the City of Stockholm not to, in other current matters, view allotment garden areas as land reserves for housing construction. As more homes are built, we need more allotments, not fewer!

Preben JACOBSEN  
President of the Office

Wilhelm WOHATSCHEK  
Chairman of the  
Office

Malou WEIRICH  
Secretary General of  
the Office

Austria :	Zentralverband der Kleingärtner und Siedler Österreichs	President Wilhelm WOHATSCHKEK	
Belgium:	Ligue Nationale des Coins de Terre et du Foyer- Jardins Populaires Asbl	President Jean-Pierre SARAY	
Denmark:	Kolonihaveforbunder for Danmark	President Preben JACOBSEN	
Great- Britain	The National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Ltd	President Allan REES	
Finland:	Suomen Siirtolapuutarhaliitto ry	Pres Risto AALTONEN	
France:	Fédération Nationale des Jardins Familiaux et Collectifs	President Hervé BONNAVAUD	 
Germany:	Bundesverband Deutscher Gartenfreunde	President Achim FRIEDRICH	
Luxembourg:	Ligue Luxembourgeoise du Coin de Terre et du Foyer	President Jean KIEFFER	
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Poland:	Polski Związek Działkowców	President Eugeniusz KONDRACKI	

Slovakia: Slovenský Zväz Záhradkárov -  
Republikový Výbor President  
Ing Eduard JAKUBEK

Sweden: Koloniträdgårdsförbundet  
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Lars OSCARSON

Switzerland: Fédération suisse des jardins  
Familiaux President  
Walter SCHAEFFNER



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## **Stellungnahme des Kongresses in Kopenhagen im August 2011**

**Erhaltung und Sicherung von Kleingartenflächen in der Deutschen  
Hauptstadt – oft als „Grüne Stadt“ bezeichnet.  
Um diesem Namen gerecht zu werden, ist es erforderlich das bestehende  
Grün zu erhalten**

Der internationale Kleingärtnerverband ist ein Zusammenschluss der nationalen Kleingärtnerverbände aus Belgien, Dänemark, Deutschland, Finnland, Frankreich, Japan, Luxemburg, Niederlande, Norwegen, Österreich, Polen, Schweden, Schweiz und Slowakei.

Zusammen haben diese Verbände ca. 3 Millionen aktive Kleingärtner, die in vielen Vereinen sich um das Grün in ihren Ländern bemühen.

Alle drei Jahre hält der internationale Verband einen Kongress ab, der in diesem Jahr in Kopenhagen in der Zeit vom 18.-20.08.2011 tagt.

Der Kongress hat folgende Stellungnahme angenommen:

**Erhaltung und Sicherung aller Kleingartenflächen als dauerhaften Bestandteil der Stadt Berlin. Auf 3064 Hektar Kleingartenflächen, das sind 3,5% der Berliner Landesfläche, nutzen 75.000 Gärtnerinnen und Gärtner in 934 Kleingartenanlagen die sozialen Möglichkeiten für sich und die Gemeinschaft und leisten einen Beitrag dafür, die Artenvielfalt im Stadtgebiet zu erhalten. Die Notwendigkeit des Erhalts der Kleingartenanlagen liegt im Interesse des sozialen Friedens und eines menschenfreundlichen Stadtklimas.**

Damit dies nachhaltig möglich ist, ist es erforderlich, diese Flächen bauplanerisch zu sichern. Dies geschieht bisher nicht im erforderlichen Maße. Der Senat hat im Jahre 2000 einen Kleingartenentwicklungsplan verabschiedet.

Danach wird ein Teil der Kleingartenflächen in Berlin leider immer noch als Bauerwartungsland genutzt.

Die festgelegten Schutzfristen für 187 Kleingartenanlagen (etwa 6600 Kleingärten) laufen 2014 beziehungsweise 2020 aus. Diese Flächen sollen für den Wohnungsbau, für eine Industrie- und Gewerbeansiedlung sowie für die Erweiterung von infrastrukturellen Einrichtungen genutzt werden. Die bisher erkämpfte Schutzfristenregelung bis 2020 ist für die Kleingärtner untragbar.

In Anbetracht dieser Sachlage erklärt das Office International seine Solidarität mit den Kleingärtnern und erwartet von der Politik und der Verwaltung, dass ein Umdenken im Interesse des Erhalts des Berliner Kleingartenbestandes erfolgt.

Ohne ein neues Gesamtkonzept zum Erhalt aller genannten Flächen geht Lebensqualität in Berlin verloren.

Der Kongress fordert die Verantwortlichen auf, zukünftig auf die Umwidmung von Kleingartenflächen zu verzichten.

Preben JACOBSEN  
Präsident

Wilhelm WOHATSCHEK  
Vorstandsvorsitzender

Malou WEIRICH  
Generalsekretärin

Belgien:	Ligue Nationale des Coins de Terre et du Foyer-Jardins Populaires Asbl	Präsident Jean-Pierre SARAY
Dänemark:	Kolonihaveforbunder for Danmark	Präsident Preben JACOBSEN
Deutschland:	Bundesverband Deutscher Gartenfreunde	Präsident Achim FRIEDRICH
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Österreich:	Zentralverband der Kleingärtner und Siedler Österreichs	Präsident Wilhelm WOHATSCHEK

Polen: Polski Związek Działkowców

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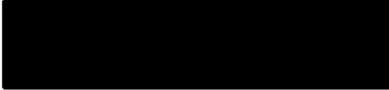
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Schweiz: Fédération suisse des jardins  
Familiaux

Präsident  
Walter SCHAFFNER

