## FROM THE PRESIDENT - IIW



The International Institute of Welding - IIW, founded in 1948 with just 13 Member Countries has since expanded to an impressive total of 54 Member Countries from the four corners of the globe, nations which have all eagerly sought to integrate our "world of joining experience."

These countries have all identified with and adhered to the IIW's mission "to act as the worldwide network for knowledge exchange of joining technologies." In general, they have all also continuously contributed to the fulfillment of the IIW's aims and objectives

regarding the technical exchange of best practices, education, training, qualification, certification, standardization and promotion of the IIW and its Member Societies.

From 17 - 20, July 2011 for the first time India is organizing the 64th Annual Assembly of IIW, followed by the International Conference on "Global Trends in Joining, Cutting and Surfacing Technology" from 21 - 22 July. As concurrent event, the International Exhibition on "Joining, Cutting and Surfacing - WELD INDIA 2011" will provide an opportunity to the exhibitors to showcase their state-of-the-art products and services to the national and international visitors.

Chennai expects many Delegates, Experts, Participants and Visitors from all around the world, and India will be a generous host for all their guests.

As President of IIW, my special thanks go to our host, The Indian Institute of Welding, its President Mr. R. Ravi, the Chairmen and members of the Advisory Committees and everybody involved in organising and running the manifold events.

IIW and India both are proud, that for the next three-year mandate with Dr. Baldey Raj for the first time an Indian President will lead IIW.

Welding not only joins materials, welding also joins people.

**Prof. Dr.- Eng. Prof. H.C. Ulrich Dilthey**President of the International Institute of Welding - IIW