



27. Internationaler
Berufswettbewerb 1983
Linz, Österreich



Bundeskammer
der gewerblichen
Wirtschaft

10.30 hrs. Brucknerhaus

August 22, 1983

OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY

1. Fanfare; Entry of Competing Teams

2. Multi-Media Show:
Austria - the Host Country

3. Welcome Addresses:

Komm.Rat Carl Hans Schönbichler,
Vice-President of the Federal Economic Chamber,
Chairman of the Austrian Organising Committee

Mr. Valentín Gamazo y de Cárdenas,
President of the Member Assembly of the International
Organisation for the Promotion of Vocational Training

Hofrat Franz Hillinger,
Mayor of the City of Linz

Dr. Josef Ratzenböck,
Governor of the Federal Province of Upper Austria

Dr. Norbert Steger,
Vice-Chancellor, Federal Minister of Trade, Commerce and
Industry, Member of Parliament

4. Official Opening of the 27th International Vocational Training
Competition by Mr. Rudolf Sallinger, President of the Federal
Economic Chamber

5. Anthem of the Federal Province of Upper Austria
National Anthem of the Federal Republic of Austria

6. Fanfare; Exit of Standard Bearers

Music performed by
Apprentices' Music Band of Steyr-Daimler-Puch AG
Fanfares sounded by
Military Music Band of Upper Austria

OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 27TH IVTC

LINZ, AUG. 22, 1983

WELCOME ADDRESS

BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AUSTRIAN ORGANISING COMMITTEE

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL ECONOMIC CHAMBER

KOMM.RAT C. H. SCHÖNBICHLER

In my capacity as Chairman of the Austrian Organising Committee for the 27th International Vocational Training Competition in Linz I would like to welcome you most cordially on behalf of the Federal Chamber Economic and the Chamber of Commerce of Upper Austria at today's official opening ceremony and to the events of this week. The importance of these events for our country is underlined by the fact that they are held under the auspices of the Federal President of the Republic of Austria. The three days of competition - from tomorrow Tuesday until Thursday - and their main moderators are the center of these events: 320 young skilled workers from 18 countries and 4 continents who will enter into a fair competition in 33 trades. I therefore extend a special welcome to these young people who will go into this 27th Vocational Training Competition, not only to succeed in this competition but also to learn for their future life. Let me express our best wishes to them at this point. Let me also wish a pleasant and successful stay at Linz, the capital of Upper Austria, to all those who have come to serve in different functions. I hope that the next few days will also provide an opportunity for mutual encounter, as well as to get to know and to understand a little better the town, the province and the Republic of Austria. After all, obtaining a better understanding of each other and of the trades is not the least important goal of these international vocational training competitions. It is in this spirit that I would like to welcome you once more most cordially. May I now ask Mr. Manuel Valentín-Gamazo, President of the International Organisation for the Promotion of Vocational Training and International Vocational Training Competitions for Youth to address the assembly with his words of welcome.

OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 27TH IVTC

LINZ, AUG. 22, 1983

ADDRESS

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE MEMBER ASSEMBLY

MR. VALENTIN-GAMAZO

It is with this official opening ceremony that we inaugurate today the beginning of this event I would like to send a message of hope to the four corners of the globe: I maintain and declare, on behalf of the General Assembly of our International Organisation as well as in my own name, that the days of the competition and work ahead of us, where we will be close to each other, are a challenge for all those nations that are ready to listen to us. There may be ample reason for concern in this world that we live in, there may be circumstances around us announcing a future full of difficulties and problems, yet we can declare here and today, as we have done before in all parts of the world, that there are still valid and sound arguments and reasons for hope and for a sensible amount of optimism about our future. These arguments and reasons find their expression in the spirit of this Olympiad of Skilled Work, which stands for nothing less than love for things well done, the constant effort at improvement and perfection in our professions, by shedding all fatigue and sluggishness. And last, not least, this generous and outgoing gesture by our young people who will be able to understand and to work with joy, forgetting all differences of nationality, race, language or religion. Ladies and Gentlemen, this is our message and our example, the serious and responsible inscription on our flag, which we have come to hoist on Austrian soil.

It is not our intention, however, to hide the practical realities of the work, undertaken by our Organisation, behind verbose statements. For many years we have tried to contribute to vocational training schemes by practical and specific suggestions.

(4)

Unfortunately, this is one branch in our educational system which is neglected and disregarded throughout the world, which receives less support and protection than many other forms of training. We know though, that men and women are needed for the further development of nations and, in consequence thereof, their prosperity, who are skilled and accomplished in all types of crafts and trades, forced upon us by recent progress in technology, who can exercise and practice these professions. At the same time we should not forget the important fact that a technical training will be an overall education only if the individual apprentice does consider himself to be a thing or a machine but a person who has obtained instruction in all subject matters.

Well, this noble task of research and promotion of vocational training will also be the objective of our work here at Linz. After all, it is the principal aim of our Organisation, and the International Competition is the instrument for its implementation. It is in this respect that the presence of engineers, experts, master craftsmen, directors of vocational training schools plays a fundamental role, just like the presence of entrepreneurs and politicians that are active in these fields, who have come here from a total of 25 countries, including also observers. In addition, observers from other international organisations are present here, which take an interest in vocational training matters. I would like to welcome all the experts and personalities from public life. On behalf of the General Assembly I would like to ask them to give us their support, their enthusiasm and their selfless cooperation, to the extent that we place our many years of experience at their disposal.

These are the two aspects of our activities during these weeks in August: the noble and ambitious competition of our young people, on the one hand, and investigation, research and exchange of opinion on the future on vocational training, on the other. I know that these goals will be reached in this venerable

5

town of Linz, which is so close to our hearts. I am proud to be hosted by the country and the people of Austria, who have given such valuable support to our Organisation. It will serve as an example for us all for what can be achieved for our important principles: to promote vocational training and to encourage a spirit of cooperation and harmony among peoples and nations.

In winding up I would like to turn to the competitors: the Competition starts at this very moment because the Skill Olympiad comprises both, your work at the workshops and making friends with all those who have come here from four continents. May this 27th International Vocational Training Competition be governed by a spirit of generosity, fairness and joy!

(6)

OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 27TH IVTC LINZ, AUG. 22, 1983

ADDRESS

BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF LINZ

HOFRAT F. HILLINGER

In my capacity as Mayor of the City of Linz I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all cordially to Linz and to convey to you the greetings of the Linz City Council Members and of the population of Linz.

I am very happy indeed, that the 27th International Vocational Training Competition, which for the first time is organised by Austria, is held in the capital of Upper Austria. I am quite certain that the excellent technical facilities of the Institute of Economic Promotion at Linz and the importance of Linz for Austria's economy in general were decisive factors in selecting Linz as venue of the Competition. I have stressed the importance of this major event for Linz on several occasions. The significance of the event is corroborated impressively by the fact that a total of 17 nations have sent approximately 900 delegates, and that Austria, the host country, is also represented by a large number of observers, experts and jury members.

I hope that in the course of the past few days in Linz you had some opportunity to see our provincial capital and its sights while coping with your other tasks. You received an information kit, containing all important facts about Linz, the town on the Danube river, which will help you to get a lasting impression of our town.

As Mayor of Linz, I am also pleased that we encouraged the construction of hotels in recent years so that there were no difficulties in accommodating our guests from Austria and abroad. I hope that the hotels and lodgings meet with your satisfaction and that you will enjoy your stay at Linz also in this respect.

At the end, I would like to say once again how pleased I am about the fact that for this year Linz was chosen to be the venue of the Skill Olympiad. Let me assure you that the people of Linz consider this to be a great honour. With this thought I would like to welcome you again to Linz. Let me wish all participants in the different competitions the best of success in their work and all guests a pleasant stay in Linz.

(8)

OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 27TH IVCT LINZ, AUG. 22, 1983

ADDRESS

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE FEDERAL PROVINCE OF UPPER AUSTRIA

DR. J. RATZENBÖCK

The world's economy is currently in a difficult phase of restructuring. Although the most diverse economo-political strategies are used, ranging from monetarism to Keynes' economic principles, to proffer solutions, in order to cope with these difficulties, one thing is beyond controversy in all of these schools of thought: economic success is basically dependant upon the vocational qualifications of the working population.

It is for this reason that the vocational training of young people must be given special priority, both in the interest of our national economies and for the enhancement of opportunities in professional life. Ever since the guild system, we have accumulated experience over the centuries, which has had a decisive influence in successfully contributing to the development of our country.

If Austria was put in charge of organising this year's Competition, for the first time after 26 international vocational training competitions, and if Upper Austria and its capital Linz were chosen as its site, then this is not only a great honour but at the same time an opportunity for us to attract international attention for Upper Austria and its outstanding economic achievements. After all, we are hosts to participants from 18 countries in four continents, who will strive to win gold, silver or bronze medals in this peaceful competition.

I am quite certain that the performances will be excellent, they should encourage our societies to give young people job opportunities so that they can earn their own bread, find fulfillment and meaning in their lives. In my opinion the prevention of youth unemployment is undoubtedly one of the priority

tasks in politics, next to securing peace and protecting our environment, and will continue to be so also in the future. What reaction can we expect of a young and eager person who is told that he or she is not needed? They will withdraw from our society and, thus also, from our democratic system. This we must prevent by all means, for human and political reasons.

As Governor of Upper Austria I am very proud that the Chamber of Commerce of Upper Austria and its Institute of Economic Promotion has been put in charge of organising this Competition. I am confident that it will also successfully cope with this organisational challenge. Just as we can master the current economic problems by applying our diligence, knowledge and optimism.

The industrious young people who will test their skills in an international competition are examples for this. Let me wish them and the large numbers of friends and officers the best of success for this Skill Olympiad and a pleasant and rewarding stay in our country.

OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 27TH IVTC LINZ, AUG. 22, 1983

ADDRESS

BY THE FEDERAL MINISTER OF TRADE, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

VICE-CHANCELLOR

DR. NORBERT STEGER

Let me welcome you most cordially as Vice-Chancellor, but in particular in my capacity as competent federal minister. I am happy that the 27th International Vocational Training Competition is held in Austria this year. It is certainly remarkable that more than 320 young people from 18 countries and 4 continents have come to Austria, in order to show their expertise in a peaceful competition in 33 different trades. This is expression of the strong will of the participants to achieve something, as well as of their strong self-confidence, which makes them take up the challenges of our times. At the same time, this encounter serves to deepen international understanding and to promote peaceful co-existence among nations.

We have always been aware of the fact that a sound vocational training is the best investment into the future. In the past, our productivity, our flexibility in adapting to new technical and economic conditions, as well as our "know-how" have helped us to achieve a tremendous economic development. These characteristics, which I have mentioned, will also help us to cope with the economic problems of today and tomorrow, which, I admit, are of considerable scope.

In today's dynamic economic world the demand for labour, having certain skills and specific know-how, is subject to frequent changes. It is the structural change in our economic life which renders an initially obtained vocational training inadequate in the course of years. Traditional trades are beginning to be replaced by new job-profiles of different dimensions. In the future, we will have to take account of this trend increasingly. People who have realized that a permanent education is

necessary to succeed in the future will be able to cope with the difficulties ahead of us - I am fully convinced of that. In spite of worldwide economic problems, the demand for well-trained and skilled workers is still on the increase. It is for the benefit of a sound economic policy of competition to continue to improve the skills and knowledge of the labour force.

At the end of this year's Vocational Training Competition medals and prizes will be awarded. Yet, we will all benefit from the exchange of experience, taking back with us the firm conviction that unless you perform well no success is feasible in our times. With this thought in mind I would like to wish the participants in the Competition the best of success, the delegates and guests a successful course of the events and all of you a pleasant stay in Linz.

OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 27TH IVTC

LINZ, AUG. 22, 1983

ADDRESS

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL ECONOMIC CHAMBER

MR. RUDOLF SALLINGER

In my capacity as President of the Federal Economic Chamber I take particular pleasure in welcoming you here today on behalf of the organisers of the 27th International Vocational Training Competition. Ever since 1961, the Federal Economic Chamber has represented Austria in the International Organisation for the Promotion of Vocational Training and Vocational Training Competitions for Youth, which has its seat in Madrid. We are pleased to have been entrusted with the arrangements for the vocational training competition of 1983 by this international organisation. The name of the organisation is decisive for our understanding of these vocational training competitions. They are not intended to be an end in themselves but to promote the vocational training of young people. Active involvement in vocational training matters has always been a particular concern to entrepreneurs and economists in this country. This applies both to the first training phase as well as to vocational further training and permanent education. Various companies in Austria's economic life have been particularly involved in the training of apprentices or their further training. And the organisation of chambers of commerce took account of the basic significance of vocational training as early as the second half of the 19th century by creating the most important institution for vocational adult education in Austria - the institutes of economic promotion.

It is not by chance that this year's International Vocational Training Competition is held by an institute of economic promotion, i.e. the Institute of Economic Promotion of the Chamber of Commerce of Upper Austria. The Federal Economic Chamber, the Chamber of Commerce of Upper Austria, and the 8 other chambers of commerce of Austria all cooperated to make the organisation of this Competition possible.

Our young competitors, who meet here at Linz, in order to test their knowledge and skills, not only come from 18 different countries but they also come from systems of vocational training that in many respects differ greatly. For Austria's economy, for example, the dual system of vocational training, as the training of apprentices is referred to here, is of particular importance. Approximately 50 % of our young people obtain this form of training. Some other countries also resort to this system mainly, although the dual system of vocational training does show considerable differences from country to country. Other countries, again, rely more on a class-room type system of training. Nobody has the right to claim that his or her system is the ideal one. International vocational training competitions thus provide an opportunity to learn from one another. Let us put this learning process next to the idea of a fair competition, making them the focal points of the 27th International Vocational Training Competition. It is in this spirit that I would like to wish all participants in the competition a successful stay in Austria. Participating in the competition is worth the effort. Although not all of you will receive a medal or prize at the end of the competition, it will give you the opportunity to further advance your personality, to make friends with people from other countries, to extend your own horizon and that of others.

I would like to wish the members of the General Secretariat of the International Organisation, the official and technical delegates, as well as the jury members the best of success for their work in the framework of the 27th International Vocational Training Competition. May the official observers and guests enjoy an interesting competition and a pleasant stay in Austria. May those in charge of the arrangements for the Competition be crowned with success in their endeavour. With these considerations in mind, I would like to declare the 27th International Vocational Training Competitions 1983 opened.