

Behind the scenes, work is going on all around the world to make our waters safer places for us all to work and play.

**European Directors** have, since 1991, met annually around Autumn.

We have no record of where the first seven meetings took place, our records show to date that meetings have been held at :

- 1998 Meeting No. 08 ~ Madrid, Spain
- 1999 Meeting No. 09 ~ Leidschendam, Holland
- 2000 Meeting No. 10 ~ Gothenburg, Sweden
- 2001 Meeting No. 11 ~ Bremen, Germany
- 2002 Meeting No. 12 ~ Oslo, Norway (*pictured*)
- 2003 Meeting No. 13 ~ Reykjavik, Iceland
- 2004 Meeting No. 14 ~ Poole, England
- 2005 Meeting No. 15 ~ Istanbul, Turkey
- 2006 Meeting No. 16 ~ Genoa, Italy



*Pictured here are the attendees of the 2002 meeting held in Oslo hosted by the [Norwegian Society for Sea Rescue](#)*

**International Meetings** involving organisations from all over world have taken place every four years, since 1924, when the RNLI celebrated its 100 year anniversary. They aim to exchange ideas, discuss issues and offer assistance .

Previous Meetings were :

- |                                     |                          |   |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| 1924 London, England                | 1955 Estoril, Portugal   | 1983 Gothenburg, Sweden   |
| 1928 Paris, France                  | 1959 Bremen, Germany     | 1987 La Coruna, Spain   |
| 1932 Amsterdam, Holland             | 1963 Edinburgh, Scotland | 1991 Oslo, Norway   |
| 1936 Gothenburg, Sweden             | 1967 Dinard, France      | 1995 Montevideo, Uruguay  |
| <i>No meetings held during WWII</i> | 1971 New York, USA       | 1999 Poole, England<br><i>RNLI's 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</i> |
| 1947 Oslo, Norway                   | 1975 Helsinki, Finland   |   |
| 1951 Ostend, Belgium                | 1979 The Hague, Holland  | 2003 Cape Town, South Africa                                      |

*(Each country not only presents their operational updates but also raises topics for group discussion)*



*The delegation that attended the 19th Conference held in 2003 at Cape Town South Africa, hosted by the [National Sea Rescue Institute](#)*

The 20<sup>th</sup> Conference, planned for June 2007 will be held in Gothenburg, Sweden to coincide with the SSRS celebrating their 100 year anniversary. For more details you can visit the websites of the [Swedish Sea Rescue Society](#) (SSRS) or the [International Maritime Rescue Federation](#) (IMRF).

The RNLI plans to attend the quadrennial conference in June 2007, taking along three operational lifeboats, namely the 13 metre experimental fast carriage lifeboat FCB2, an Atlantic 85 and the Tamar, as well as their respective crews.

**Intermediate International Meetings** have also taken place :

- 2000 at KNRM in Ijmuiden, Holland
- 2005 at RNLI in Poole, England