

Jay Malina ITC Quarterly Report

January – March 2006

The Jay Malina International Trade Consortium (ITC) has been, during the first quarter, “in transition” stemming from significant changes adopted by the new ordinance approved by the Board of County Commission on December 6, 2005.

These major changes included appointing a new Chairperson for the Jay Malina ITC Board of Directors, Miami-Dade Commissioner Natacha Seijas, and the selection of a new Executive Director for the ITC. Following a search process outlined in the ordinance, the County Manager appointed Mr. J.A. “Tony” Ojeda as Executive Director. In addition, a new organization, the Foundation for Democracy in Africa joined the Board of Directors.

In the midst of the transition, a general audit of the Jay Malina ITC was initiated in January 2006. The audit which is being performed by the County’s Audit Management Services was ongoing as of the end of this reporting period.

Official Visitation & Outreach

Activities that were performed by the Jay Malina ITC during this quarter were as follows:

- At the request of the Jay Malina ITC Chair, three monthly meetings were held with the ITC Board of Directors. At the Board of Directors’ meeting the Chair established two new committees and selected their membership. The new committees are: Finance & Budget, Marlon Hill and Rick Zelman (Co-Chairs) and Internal Management, Alex Gonzalez and Dwayne Wynn (Co-Chairs).
- Jay Malina ITC attended and participated in a business seminar at Johnson & Wales University. (Jan. 10th)
- Jay Malina ITC sponsored, participated and helped coordinate along with the Congolese-American Chamber of Commerce and SunLand Group, the visit of the **Hon. Dr. Z’ahidi Arthur Ngoma**, Vice President of the Democratic Republic of Congo. (Jan. 26th)



At Center: Hon. Dr. Z’ahidi Arthur Ngoma, Vice President of the Democratic Republic of Congo; to his right, Issa Faye, President of Senegalese-American Chamber of Commerce; to his left, Dr. N. Kabamba, President of Congolese-American Chamber of Commerce and members of the Vice President’s delegation.

At Center: Hon. Dr. Z’ahidi Arthur Ngoma, Vice President of the Democratic Republic of Congo. (Jan. 26th)

- Jay Malina ITC assisted the Korean Trade Center with the planning and preparation of two outgoing missions to Korea.
- Jay Malina ITC sponsored and participated in the World Trade Center Miami's 2006 State of the Port Luncheon. (Feb.15th)
- Jay Malina ITC received the visit from a Belgian Trade Officer and coordinated for him as well as for the Hon. Consul of Belgium, a meeting with Miami-Dade Office of Emergency Management. They were interested in learning how Miami-Dade responds to emergencies and disasters.
- Jay Malina ITC assisted the Office of the Consul General of South Africa in their first trip to the Miami International Boat Show. Jay Malina ITC made protocol arrangements with Miami International Airport for the Consul General and the Consul from South Africa. It also helped coordinate and disseminate the invitations for the opening event at the South Africa Pavilion. (Feb.17th)
- The Jay Malina ITC received a business delegation from Italy. Jay Malina ITC staff assisted in coordinating meetings with the Miami Free Zone. The delegation was interested in looking for import/export opportunities and possible office/warehouses.
- Jay Malina ITC received the Gambian Ambassador from Washington, D.C. and the Consul General of Gambia in Miami and held a meeting to discuss the possibility of a future visit by the Head of State from Gambia.
- At the request of the Mayor's office, the Jay Malina ITC participated in the 2006 State of the County address. It provided assistance and helped coordinate the members of Consular Corps who attended the event. (Feb. 28th)
- Jay Malina ITC participated in FTAA working luncheon with the Vice President of Paraguay, H.E. Luis Castiglioni, the Minister of Industry and Trade, Hon. Raul Vera, Ambassador James Spalding, Consul General Carlos Ortiz and Paraguayan officials from the public and private sectors. (March 21st)
- Jay Malina ITC received an incoming delegation from the Chilean Chamber of Construction. It coordinated meetings with the **County's Department of Planning and Zoning. Alberto Torres, Assistant Director for Zoning and Napoleon Somoza, Principal Planner** gave presentations to the Chilean delegation. (March 27th)



Napoleon Somoza, Principal Planner of Miami-Dade County's Department of Planning and Zoning gives a presentation to a delegation from the Chilean Chamber of Construction during their visit to Miami.



Dean and Chairman Walter Loy and Vice Chairman, Shelly Fano preside at the Miami-Dade Sister Cities Coordinating Council Retreat. Present are members of the Sister Cities Coordinating Council.

Protocol Services & International Relations

During the first quarter, Jay Malina ITC provided transportation and/or made protocol arrangements with the Airport for the following important visitors arriving to Miami-Dade County:

- Jan. 26th** Mrs. Joanna Breyer - wife of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Breyer
- Feb. 18th** Mr. Israel Hernandez – Director of the US Commercial Service and Assistant Secretary of Commerce
- Feb. 22nd** U. S. Senator John Edwards
- March 17th** Chinese Consul General Hua
- March 20th** Mr. Daniel Thompson, Mr. Michael McGee, Mr. Mitchell Larsen, and Mr. John McCarthy, all from the U.S. Department of Commerce



View of the Sister Cities Coordinating Council

Sister Cities & Diplomacy

The Jay Malina ITC also administers, the Miami-Dade Sister Cities Program. Their activities during the first quarter were as follows:

- **Sister Cities Coordinating Council held a Retreat** on January 19th at the Mayor's Conference Room.
- There were two Sister Cities Coordinating Council Meetings held on January 19th and on March 23th.
- Sister Cities Committee Meetings on the Protocol Symposium have been held weekly since January 2006 at the Jay Malina ITC Conference Room.
- The Sister Cities Committee of the Mission to Asti, Italy, held four planning meetings during this quarter.
- The Sister Cities Committee on Fundraising met twice during this quarter.
- Both the Sister Cities Art Committee and the Sister Cities Budget Committee met once.
- The South Florida Summit on Citizen Diplomacy titled "Opening Doors and Building International Relations" was held in Coral Gables on March 30, 2006. Miami-Dade County through its Sister Cities Program provided transportation services and made protocol arrangements with the Airport for the keynote speaker of the event, Ambassador Kenton Keith, and two officials one from the U.S. State Department and the other from Sister Cities International. In addition, the Mayor's Office and members of the Jay Malina ITC staff attended and participated at the Summit.