

Short Report - IVV Congress Preparations
IVV Vice-President G. Fawcett, Oct 25, 2015

On Saturday, September 26 in Chengdu, China, I met for three hours with Oscar Pires, Secretary of Tourism for the City of Casimiro de Abreu, Brazil, to review complete details of the organization for the 2016 IVV Congress. As a result, we established a schedule of visits and meetings in Brazil for the week of October 3 - 8 to meet with representatives of Anda Brasil, to inspect possible sites for meetings and accommodation, and to meet with various local officials.

During the week of Oct 3-8, I first attended the regional meeting of Anda Brasil in Itabirito, where I also made a presentation to the delegates on the possibilities for innovation in the planning, organization, and execution of walking programs. I met with tourism officials from Casimiro de Abreu and 3 other surrounding towns. In two and a half days, I also visited 5 or 6 local 'pousadas' (private hotels) and 'fazendas' (farms); both are local types of accommodation and very pleasant places to stay. Several possibilities for a location to hold the Congress were also examined. At the end of the week, I met with the President and Director of Tourism in Rio de Janeiro to discuss preparations for the arrival and transfer of delegates and others at the airport in Rio de Janeiro.