

REMAINING 2001 FNCC CONFERENCES CANCELLED

As a result of recent military actions taken by the United States and Britain in Afghanistan, an emergency meeting between SGI-USA national leaders, the SGI-USA Corporate Officers and the Florida Nature and Culture Center staff was convened to discuss the matter of FNCC conferences for the remainder of this year.

In light of this development, it was concluded that the safety of all FNCC conference participants is paramount. We wish to prevent the risk of any possible injury or unfortunate incident. Thus, it was unanimously decided that all remaining conferences for the year 2001 will be cancelled due to many concerns, including the following:

1) Inevitable changes and delays in flight schedules and increased security at airports result in inconvenient and time-consuming procedures. Conference participants arriving to and departing from Florida are subject to long delays at the airport and perhaps even an overnight stay in an unfamiliar city. In the event of these likely occurrences, the FNCC staff would be unable to facilitate or accommodate, in a proper and timely manner, the comfort and care of each participant.

2) Language barriers, which are an added obstacle to many of our members, will hinder the success of their travel at this time.

We truly regret the tremendous inconvenience that this causes, and we are committed to supporting you with any questions or concerns you may have regarding these recent developments.

Refund of Participant Fees

All conference participants will receive a full refund of participant fees through the SGI-USA office at which payment was received. Payments made with credit cards will be refunded as a reverse transaction (debit) to the same credit card account. A refund check will not be issued for credit card payments.

Individuals who made credit card payments to either their respective SGI-USA office or the FNCC must contact that specific office to request their refund. Due to credit card company policy, credit card refunds cannot be issued without the request or confirmation of the credit card holder.

Discount Coupon

A \$100 discount coupon will be issued to all individuals who purchased airline tickets for the cancelled conferences. It is redeemable toward participation in any future FNCC conference. The discount coupon has no cash value and is not redeemable for cash. This offer is available until Nov. 15, 2001.

The discount coupon has been provided by the SGI-USA in consideration of the fees participants must pay to change or refund an airline ticket they have already purchased. Though the SGI-USA is not responsible for these fees, we are pleased to extend this discount coupon as a gesture of goodwill.

To qualify, ticketed travel dates must coincide with respective conference dates and the ticket must have been issued on or before Oct. 14, 2001. To receive your discount coupon, proof of airline ticket purchase is required. Airline ticket holders must submit a photocopy of either the paid airline ticket invoice, electronic ticket purchase receipt or the 'passenger

receipt' coupon of their airline ticket directly to the FNCC.

Kindly forward your proof of purchase along with your name, mailing address and telephone number directly to the FNCC at the following address:

SIGI-USA FNCC
Attn: Ticket Exchange
20000 SW 36th St., Bldg. 4
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33332-
1929

Should you have any questions on this matter, please feel free to contact your zone office or the FNCC. Thank you very much for your understanding and support.