Participation of the allotment gardeners in the "Internationalen Grüne Woche Berlin"

## Chris ZIJDEVELD, Office President, visited the exhibition of the allotment gardeners

On 18<sup>th</sup> January the Internationale Grüne Woche (IGW) (international green week) opened its doors. "Let your senses be delighted" is the slogan of the IGW. Its aim is to stimulate the appetite for adventure and pleasure. 400,000 visitors are expected.

Among the 1,600 exhibitors are the Berlin amateur gardeners. In the Flower Hall the allotment gardeners will prove their skills. The Berlin allotment gardeners are supported and strengthened by their colleagues from Schleswig-Holstein. Representing the German allotment federation the allotment gardeners from Schleswig-Holstein are presenting the history of the allotment garden movement in Germany – a history of more than 150 years.

The Netherlands are the official partner country of the IGW 2013. Therefore, the Dutch allotment federation AVVN, partner of the German allotment federation is also taking part with an own exhibition in Berlin.

The visitors can look forward to admiring specially laid out fruit and vegetable plots and can discover live beekeeping. An ecological garden shed can be admired too. Our technical garden advisers will be competent interlocutors for interested amateur gardeners as far as gardening is concerned. Their advice ranges from biological pest control to the correct maintenance of garden tools.

Chris ZIJDEVELD, president of the Dutch federation and President of the International Office, regrouping 3,000,000 allotment garden families, admired the realization of the allotment gardeners during this exhibition.