



## **Mauritius to attend but Oceania 2IC / New Zealand Sumo Coach to miss SWC, 2007**



*by Mark Buckton*

Following on from recent updates in Snippet form, SFM has learnt that the Mauritius team will attend the Sumo World Championships in Chiang Mai meaning Africa's 50 plus member states will be represented by at least one team - South Africa having already announced non-participation and Egypt yet to confirm either way. (details will follow as to the make-up of the Mauritius team)

On a less positive note, SFM contributing writer and much respected amateur sumo expert,

Mr. Howard Gilbert - also the General Secretary of the Oceania Sumo Union and the Coach of the New Zealand Sumo Federation at the last three Sumo World Championship events - will sadly not be making it four in a row by attending the 2007 version.

Gilbert is one of the more experienced men in amateur sumo in terms of time spent in and around sumo in Japan and will be a face sorely missed in Chiang Mai.