



## EUROPEAN INSTITUTE FOR DESIGN AND DISABILITY

ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF LIFE THROUGH DESIGN FOR ALL

### 11<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting Stockholm 8 May 2004

#### Minutes

#### 1. Opening and welcome of participants, apologies for absence

The President, Pete Kercher, opened the Institute's 11th Annual General Meeting and welcomed participants:

| Name                  | Organisation                        | Country |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Pete Kercher          | EIDD President                      | Italy   |
| Finn Petrén           | EIDD Vice-President                 | Sweden  |
| Avril Accolla         | EIDD Hon. Secretary                 | Italy   |
| Michal Ozmin          | EIDD Hon. Treasurer, IDD            | Ireland |
| Karin Bendixen        | EIDD Communications Officer, DfA-DK | Denmark |
| Paul Hogan            | EIDD President, Emeritus            | Ireland |
| Francesc Aragall      | Coordinadora DpT                    | Spain   |
| Carl Asaert           | EIDD Belgium                        | Belgium |
| Imma Bonnet           | DfA Foundation                      | Spain   |
| Géza Fischl           | HSUD                                | Hungary |
| Paul Fortune          | IDD                                 | Ireland |
| Hubert Froyen         | EIDD Belgium                        | Belgium |
| Edina Hazkoto         | HSUD                                | Hungary |
| Jesús Hernández Galán | Coordinadora DpT                    | Spain   |
| Marit Jensen          | EIDD Sverige                        | Sweden  |
| Lennart Lindkvist     | EIDD Sverige                        | Sweden  |
| Karin Månsson         | EIDD Sverige                        | Sweden  |
| Peter Neumann         | Individual member                   | Germany |
| András Pandula        | HSUD                                | Hungary |
| Isabella Steffan      | IIDD                                | Italy   |
| Paivi Tahkokallio     | Individual member                   | Finland |

Apologies for absence were received from:

| Name            | Organisation   | Country     | Proxy |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------|-------|
| Guida Faria     | APDR           | Portugal    |       |
| Paolo Favaretto | IIDD           | Italy       |       |
| Lilian Henze    | P5 Consultants | Netherlands |       |
| Tone Rønnevig   | EIDD Norge     | Norway      |       |

|               |       |                |  |
|---------------|-------|----------------|--|
| Andrew Walker | UkiiD | United Kingdom |  |
|---------------|-------|----------------|--|

Guests in attendance:

| Name           | Organisation          | Country       |
|----------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Edwina Hogan   | Hogan PR              | Sweden        |
| Stephen Moore  | BEDA                  | Ireland       |
| Elaine Ostroff | Adaptive Environments | United States |
| Lena Wiklund   | NSH                   | Sweden        |

Apologies were received from the following invited guests:

| Name              | Organisation               | Country     |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| Bo Englund        | Swiss Industrial Designers | Switzerland |
| Jürgen Groethues  | AGD                        | Germany     |
| Dag Holmgren      | SID                        | Sweden      |
| Silvio Sagramola  | Info-Handicap              | Luxembourg  |
| Jan Stavik        | Norwegian Design Council   | Norway      |
| Ilona Törmikowski | Ornamo                     | Finland     |

The President welcomed in particular Stephen Moore, representing EIDD's sister organisation BEDA, the EIDD President Emeritus Paul Hogan and the representatives of the new Hungarian Society for Universal Design, then thanked the host organisation EIDD Sverige for its splendid hospitality and organisation.

Stephen Moore, Honorary Secretary of BEDA, expressed his organisation's greetings and good wishes for a successful AGM.

## 2. Minutes of the last AGM and Matters Arising

No comments had been received to the minutes of the previous AGM.

To a question from the floor, asking how many Directors at Large would be elected, the President replied that this point would be taken up under the appropriate point of the agenda.

On a motion from Francesc Aragall, seconded by Lennart Lindkvist, the Minutes were approved as a true and faithful record of the proceedings of the 10th AGM.

## 3. President's Address

The President gave his address (Appendix 1).

## 4. Honorary Treasurer's Report

The Honorary Treasurer made his report (distributed at the meeting).

After discussion and clarification, on a motion from Paul Hogan, seconded by Francesc Aragall, the report was approved and accepted *nem con*.

## 5. Communications Officer Report

The Communications Officer made a presentation (Appendix 2), apologising for the fact that the website had not been updated as often as necessary, but undertaking that this would be remedied in the foreseeable future.

The Executive Committee felt the need to start developing a complete corporate identity for the Institute. The only item available to date was the logo. On this basis, some first urgent work had been done on the business cards by the Honorary Secretary, who would report on the rest of the work done so far in the Board Meeting following on the AGM.

## 6. Membership Strategy

As the President had already reported on the membership strategy in his address, the AGM moved directly to deal with applications for membership. Two applications had been received for membership of the EIDD:

- Design for Alle Danmark (DfA DK). The President invited Karin Bendixen, President of DfA DK, to report on the organisation's formal establishment, its membership and its activities. The Executive Committee recommended the adoption of DfA DK as the EIDD's National Member Organisation for Denmark. The AGM approved this recommendation *nem con* and DfA DK was welcomed as an EIDD NMO.
- The Hungarian Society for Universal Design (HSUD). The President invited András Pandula, President of HSUD, to report on the organisation's formal establishment, its membership and its activities. The Executive Committee recommended the adoption of HSUD as the EIDD's National Member Organisation for Hungary. The AGM approved this recommendation *nem con* and HSUD was welcomed as an EIDD NMO.

The President particularly welcomed the adoption of the Institute's first National Member Organisation in the New Member States, barely days after their entry into the European Union, and indicated that the Executive Committee considers it a priority to continue working in this direction.

The President Emeritus asked for news about the Institute's efforts to re-establish the German National Member Organisation, re-involve UKiiD and create an NMO in France. The President responded that there were consistent hopes for future developments in Germany, thanks to the active interest of Peter Neumann, who was present in the AGM and well known to many EIDD members. With regard to UKiiD, contacts were regular (witness the apologies for absence received from Andrew Walker) and it was hoped that UKiiD's absence would soon be a thing of the past. France was a rather different situation, as it is notoriously difficult to establish associations in that country and the Executive was of the opinion that the resources that could be spent liberally on not achieving anything of note in France could be better spent at the moment in achieving tangible results in the New Member States.

At this point, Francesc Aragall proposed that members of the Board seek suitable potential key persons in France and report any findings to the Executive Committee. This was agreed.

As his name had been mentioned in relation to Germany, Peter Neumann took the floor to introduce himself and his activities there. The President proposed Peter Neumann's adoption as an individual member of EIDD: approved *nem con*.

The President then took the opportunity to point out that stable relations were being established with partners in Luxembourg, Poland and Switzerland and that moves were also afoot elsewhere. The new National Member Organisations brought the number of NMOs up to nine (Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Ireland, Belgium, Portugal, Spain, Hungary and Italy), plus the UK currently unaffiliated for bureaucratic reasons. He pointed out that Finland and the Netherlands have had individual and corporate members for a very long time and trusted that the number of NMOs would increase again in due course.

## 7. Discussion of Members' Reports

The AGM agreed to postpone this point for a free discussion after the business part of the AGM and the Board Meeting had been completed.

## 8. Amendments to the Constitution

In his address, the President had reported that the Executive Committee had decided to review all the EIDD's practices and documents. In the case of the Constitution, this document had been found to contain several discrepancies with regard to the current practice, objectives and mission statement. As the Constitution should be the servant of the Institute, not its master, the Executive Committee had therefore drawn up a set of proposed amendments and circulated them in advance, in accordance with the provisions established in the Constitution.

The President introduced the proposed amendments, explaining the reasoning behind each, then opened the floor for discussion.

While acknowledging the need to amend the Constitution to adapt it to the current reality of the Institute, some members (Lennart Lindkvist *in primis*) were concerned about the apparent shift of focus away from disability. The President responded that the focus in the Institute moved away from disability and towards Design for All many years ago: the proposed amendments were intended to reflect this move.

The question was then raised as to why no name change was proposed. This question had been debated on several occasions previously and it was felt that the historical reputation vested in the name and logo should be kept.

There was some discussion about whether the Constitution should use the term "disabled people" or "people with disabilities". The Honorary Treasurer expressed a preference for the former, the President Emeritus for the latter. The President advised that the most appropriate term should be used in each language and indicated that the discussion between the two terms in English was rather semantic, while several frankly awful terms, hinting at people having less value or capacity, are still in use in other languages.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, the President then proposed the approval of the amendments, reserving the possibility for members to make specific written proposals by e-mail for further amendments to be tabled at the 12<sup>th</sup> AGM in 2005. This proposal was agreed and the amendments were then **approved as proposed**, with EIDD Belgium and EIDD Sverige abstaining.

The new EIDD Constitution is attached (Appendix 3).

## 9. Amendments to the Bylaws

The President introduced the proposed amendments to the Bylaws, which follow logically on the approval of the amendments to the Constitution made at the previous point in the Agenda. The proposed amendments were **approved as proposed**, with EIDD Belgium and the Design for All Foundation (Spain) abstaining.

The new EIDD Bylaws are attached (Appendix 4).

## 10. Design for All Declaration

The Vice-President introduced the work done on the Design for All Declaration, explaining how the current draft had been reached and then detailing its meaning, section by section. After a first period of discussion, it soon became apparent that members wished to have a

longer time to discuss the draft informally. For this reason, the President proposed postponing the discussion until after the rest of the formal business of the AGM had been completed, keeping the AGM open formally until the next morning, when the final discussion and decisions could take place. This proposal was agreed.

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A detailed discussion resumed in due course on the morning of 9<sup>th</sup> May, with the result that agreement was reached between those present about every detail of the final document. Paivi Tahkokallio requested that a detailed record be kept of the different positions adopted and arguments put forward, as this would certainly be of great interest to future historians of design. Unfortunately, the liveliness of the debate and the lack of an expert minute taker made this option unrealistic: participants were therefore invited to make their positions known in writing subsequently if they felt that there was a need for this. The President repeated the invitation, made earlier in the procedure of drafting and developing the Design for All Declaration: everyone who wishes is warmly invited to write articles of explanation about individual points or paragraphs, in order to help constitute the core of an academic body of writings about Design for All vested in the Institute. The final draft was then put to the vote and **approved nem con**. It is to be known as the EIDD Stockholm Declaration© and shall always be quoted in this way. Approved translations will be made by members into all the Institute's languages and posted on the website. The final text of the EIDD Stockholm Declaration© is attached (Appendix 5).

## 11. Resolutions

**11.1** The Executive Committee moved a vote of thanks to Jim Sandhu, President of the EIDD from 1996 to 1998, for his tireless work in assisting in acting as EIDD representative in the establishment of the European Disability Forum and representing EIDD in it from its foundation to his retirement at this AGM. The motion was **approved nem con**.

**11.2** At an especially-convened session of the AGM held during the EIDD's Annual Gala Dinner organised by EIDD Sverige in the Operakällaren Restaurant in the evening of 8<sup>th</sup> May, the President moved a resolution to name Elaine Ostroff, founder of Adaptive Environments in Boston, USA, a friend of the EIDD of long standing and assiduous attendee at EIDD events, the Institute's first Honorary Member. **The motion was passed by acclamation.**

## 12. Election of the Board of Directors

Introducing the process of election of the Board of Directors to serve from 2004 to 2005, the President requested the National Member Organisations, which are all entitled to appoint one National Director, first specify their chosen appointees, so that their names could be eliminated from the subsequent elections for Directors at Large. This being said, the following National Directors were proposed by the National Member Organisations:

| Country | National Member Organisation | National Director |
|---------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Belgium | EIDD Belgium                 | Hubert Froyen     |
| Denmark | DfA Danmark                  | Karin Bendixen    |
| Hungary | HSUD                         | Géza Fischl       |
| Ireland | IDD                          | Paul Fortune      |
| Italy   | IIDD                         | Isabella Steffan  |

|          |                  |                       |
|----------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Norway   | EIDD Norge       | Tone Ronnevig         |
| Portugal | APDR             | Guida Faria           |
| Spain    | Coordinadora DpT | Jesús Hernández Galán |
| Sweden   | EIDD Sverige     | Lennart Lindkvist     |

Upon a motion from the chair, these appointments were duly ratified.

The President then passed to the election of the Directors at Large. Here it was specified that each of these Directors must have a specific function. As it was his intention to request the re-election of the current Executive Committee without any changes, the President started by asking the AGM to re-elect the members of the current Executive Committee as Directors at Large, then invited further nominations. The following list of nominations was received:

| <b>Nominee</b>    | <b>Proposed responsibility</b>        |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Pete Kercher      | Executive Committee                   |
| Finn Petrén       | Executive Committee                   |
| Avril Accolla     | Executive Committee                   |
| Michal Ozmin      | Executive Committee                   |
| Francesc Aragall  | European Concept for Accessibility    |
| Imma Bonnet       | Relations with the business community |
| Lilian Henze      | (to be specified)                     |
| Paivi Tahkokallio | Design for All Award                  |

Upon a motion from the chair, these nominees were all elected as nominated.

The 2004-2005 Board of Directors therefore has seventeen members.

### **13. Election of Auditors**

Upon a motion from the Honorary Treasurer, seconded by the chair, the AGM voted unanimously to reappoint Messrs T.A. McKeown & Co, Chartered Accountants, of 114 Pembroke Road, Dublin 4, to serve as the auditors of the EIDD accounts for the year 2004-2005.

### **14. Date and place of next AGM**

A proposal was made that the 12<sup>th</sup> AGM of the Institute be held in spring 2005 in Poland, venue to be specified. As no firm commitment could be made at this stage, the AGM agreed to empower the Board of Directors to make the necessary decisions in good time.

### **15. Any Other Business**

#### **15. 1 European Design for All Award**

Paivi Tahkokallio reported on the state of development of the DfA Award, being organised in a European project in which EIDD is a key member, in parallel with a European Assistive Technology Award. Both of EIDD's main sister organisations in the European design community, BEDA and Cumulus, are also members of the DfA Award project consortium: Paivi thanked them for joining the consortium and giving it more design strength.

The jury has not yet been appointed. The AGM felt that the criteria for appointing the jury were of fundamental importance and indicated that the ICSID/Icograda/IFI International

Rules governing design competitions require that the names of jurors be known to participants in advance.

This project does not generate any considerable income for EIDD, but an outline agreement of 20% of the allotted budget has been made to cover EIDD overheads. EIDD will provide the consortium leader Ogilvy with the Institute's bank details in the interests of rapid and efficient payments. A paper detailing the costs of the Award would be circulated in due course.

### **15.2 HSUD acknowledgement**

Géza Fischl, newly-elected National Director of EIDD representing Hungary, asked for the floor to express the thanks of the HSUD for the vote of admission as a National Member Organisation of EIDD.

### **16. Closure**

The President thanked everyone for a very profitable day's work and adjourned the AGM to the morning of Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May, when it completed the discussions and deliberations about the EIDD Stockholm Declaration© before being formally closed.

#### List of Appendices

1. President's Address
2. Communications Officer's Report
3. EIDD Constitution as amended at the 11<sup>th</sup> AGM in Stockholm on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2004
4. EIDD Bylaws as amended at the 11<sup>th</sup> AGM in Stockholm on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2004
5. EIDD Stockholm Declaration©