



## EUROPEAN INSTITUTE FOR DESIGN AND DISABILITY

ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF LIFE THROUGH DESIGN FOR ALL

### Annual General Meeting Toledo 30 March 2001

#### Minutes

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

The President opened the proceedings at 16.30, welcoming the participants:.

Name	Organisation	Country
Randi Andersen	EIDD-Norge	Norway
Francesc Aragall	EIDD, Coordinadora DTP	Spain
Paolo Favaretto	EIDD, IIDD	Italy
Paul Fortune	EIDD, IDD	Ireland
Hubert Froyen	EIDD	Belgium
Lilian Henze	EIDD, Platform NL	Netherlands
Paul Hogan	EIDD, IDD	Ireland
Pete Kercher	EIDD, IIDD	Italy
Lennart Lindkvist	EIDD, EIDD Sverige	Sweden
Karin Månsson	EIDD Sverige	Sweden
Juan Ramón Merodio	Coordinadora DTP	Spain
Miguel Pereyra	EIDD, Coordinadora DTP	Spain
Finn Petré	EIDD, EIDD Sverige	Sweden
Tone Rønnevig	EIDD, EIDD Norge	Norway
Jim Sandhu	EIDD, UKIID	United Kingdom
Isabella Steffan	EIDD, IIDD	Italy
Paivi Tahkokallio	EIDD	Finland
Birgitte Wistoft	EIDD	Denmark

Apologies for absence were received from:

Helena David	EIDD, APDR	Portugal
Karin Bendixen	Danish Centre	Denmark
Olav Bringa	EIDD Norge	Norway

The President outlined the programme for the AGM (30 March), workshop and Board Meeting (31 March). Additions to the agenda: membership (2a), proposal Ireland on the number of board members (7a).

**2a Members**

The Membership Secretary received the following applications:

Organisation/Individual:	Category:	Country:
EIDD Norge	National Member Organisation	Norway
Coordinadora del Diseno para Todas las Personas Espana	National Member Organisation	Spain
EIDD Sverige	National Member Organisation	Sweden
Institute for Design and Disability (IDD)	National Member Organisation	Ireland
APDR	National Member Organisation	Portugal
IIDD	National Member Organisation	Italy
Platform Design for All	Corporate Member Organisation	Netherlands
Danish Centre for Accessibility	Corporate Member Organisation	Denmark
Birgitte Wistoft	Unaffiliated Individual Member	Denmark
Hubert Froyen	Unaffiliated Individual Member	Belgium
Paivi Tahkokallio	Unaffiliated Individual Member	Finland

Before the meeting all applications are checked on the criteria for membership. Only Danish Centre for Accessibility did not meet all criteria (payment membership fee is missing), all others are accepted as members. Striking fact is that UKIID has not applied. Jim Sandhu applies (and is accepted) as Unaffiliated Individual Member from the United Kingdom until UKIID has applied, and is accepted as NMO.

Francesc Aragall mentions that ONCE Foundation and CRID will apply as CMO, thus being both affiliated members and CMO.

The Honorary Secretary explains the voting: NMOs have 20 votes at Annual General Meetings, CMOs and individuals 1 vote. In Board Meetings all Directors have 1 vote.

Action: Membership Secretary will contact UKIID asap.

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

Paul Hogan is wondering what is decided on the appointment of the auditors (7)? Pete Kercher answers that the standing auditors will continue their appointment. As a follow up on the requested rectification of the EIDD logo (14) Paul Hogan hands the original logo over during the meeting.

Lennart Lindkvist (EIDD Sverige) states that the Swedish national report was handed over during the meeting (9).

The AGM passed the motion that the Minutes of the last AGM in London be accepted as a true and faithful account on the proceedings.

**2. President's Address**

The President emphasises this being his last performance as chair because he will withdraw as President. After (too) many years of working with great pleasure in the Executive he feels that the moment has come that he will serve EIDD

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 Pete Kercher 9/4/01 10:03  
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Pete Kercher 9/4/01 10:04  
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better as a member of the board. As a member of the Board of Directors he will continue with project proposals that serve EIDD.  
.....here FA's notes will be added.....

### 3. Honorary Secretary's Report

The Honorary Secretary apologises that he did not send the report earlier due to the very late receiving of the needed material. He promises to the report by email. He gave a verbal report, including:  
.....here some highlights will be added.....(Pete can I have the report for that..?)

He dwelled on the fact that Dieter Philippen, one of the founders of EIDD, passed last year. In memory of Dieter Philippen the AGM stood for 1 minute's silence,

Paul Hogan stresses the fact that the Honorary Secretary's report should have been send 30 days before the AGM. He has doubts on the proposal of the Honorary Secretary to simplify the rules as we are just on the right way to work according to the rules.

Jim Sandhu indicates that, because we are an independent member of EDF, there are new openings to be in contact with the European Commission for reinforcement and funding of EIDD.

### 4. Honorary Treasurer's Report

The Honorary Treasurer apologises that she is too late with the financial report. (distributed during the meeting). Birgitte Wistoft explained the accounts. The balance at 31 December 2000 is € 9.627. The deficit of € 72.962 is mainly due to Crisp & Clear and the lack of new projects.

Francesc Aragall adds that the Crisp & Clear project is finished, all paperwork is send to the EC and now EIDD is waiting for the EC to pay.

Lennart Lindkvist asks for explanation of the grants towards Institute Publications: what was it? Birgitte Wistoft answers it is Crisp & Clear and the grant for an annual publication by ONCE Foundation.

Paul Hogan asks why there is difference between the C&C budget in 1999 and in the figures of 2000, and where is the profit that was expected from the C&C projects for EIDD? Francesc Aragall explains that EIDD also benefits 'in kind' because two Executive Meetings could be held in combination with the project meetings.

Jim Sandhu asks for clarification, the 30% to be received from EC is 30% of the 70%? The Honorary Treasurer confirms that.

The accounts are approved by the meeting.

The Honorary Treasurer explains the EIDD budget 2001, hopefully the future will show an increased balance with regard to the € 90 for 2001. More members and higher membership fees will be a good starting point. Pete Kercher stresses that members should pay their membership fees 'including' transfer costs. Paul Hogan congratulates with the fact that this the very first time there is a budget. He indicates that we should find ourselves at least one small EU project to have an EIDD income.

Jim Sandhu explains that he is participating on his own costs and asks for an explanation how reimbursement is dealt with. Francesc Aragall explains that not always the executive ask for reimbursement. Members of the Board of Directors

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Pete Kercher 9/4/01 10:06

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that are there as representatives of a NMO should be financial supported by their National Organisation.  
The budget is approved by the meeting.

### 5. Publications and Communications Report

Birgitte Wistoft gives a short resumé of the Crisp & Clear project. There were many acknowledgements of the concept and context of C&C. The important thing is that we really should work hard on raising funds to continue the magazine.

Francesc Aragall adds that the C&C project started at the Danish Centre, after Birgitte Wistoft left the Centre the project continued there. There is no future possibility for funding by the EC. The executive is looking for new ways of funding like sponsors, publishers, DG Information and Society, Observatory etcetera.

Problem is that in most cases we have to change the concept of C&C to come up to criteria for funding, and that is not what we really want. In the Board Meeting we will go deeper into this. The project evaluation shows that the concept is highly encouraged, even USA and Japan gave their positive comments.

Paul Fortune reported that the website is just handed over from the Danish Centre to him. It is a very professional concept, what it needs now is content. He asks all to contribute. Action: All members.

Frances Aragall indicates that he received complaints that the website is not accessible for the blind. CRID offered to support the website by keeping and paying the domain and hosting.

Miguel Pereyra (ONCE) suggests to put EIDD in contact with people who are already working on the accessibility of websites and seek for possibilities of co-operation. It is suggested to talk in the Board Meeting about a possible project on cooperation between ONCE and EIDD.

### 6. National Reports

National Reports are received from IDD (Ireland), IIDD (Italy), EIDD Sverige (Sweden), Coordinadora del Diseno para Todas las Personas (Spain), EIDD Norge (Norway), platform Design for All (Netherlands). Members are invited to make comments. Paolo Favaretto (President IIDD) tells something more about the successful workshops on design for disabled children (the toy workshop).

Isabelle Steffan was invited to co-organise this workshop in India. The secretariat is moved from Milan to Vicenza because there it is possible to incorporate other disciplines and not only designers. The IIDD is also going deeper into the south of Italy. IIDD is commissioned to participate in the design a Telephone for All and a Watch for blind people.

Francesc Aragall explains that the Spanish NMO is a formal organisation of organisations. Paul Hogan asks how that is combined with affiliated individual members. Francesc explains that members of the organisations are invited to be individual members.

Lennart Lindkvist indicates that 'Universal Design' in Sweden is a very important project (they will add a report to the website), he also indicates the importance of Frances Aragall, Andrew Walker, Lilian Henze and Miguel Pereyra participating in the Linköping European Expert Meeting on Design for All organised by the Swedish Ministry of Social Affairs.

Pete Kercher 9/4/01 10:07

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Pete Kercher 9/4/01 10:08

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## 7a. Proposal IDD

Paul Hogan explains the IDD proposal that after having received the board nominations of the National Member Organisations, the AGM should only elect as directors-at-large a number that does not exceed the total number of directors appointed by the NMOs. Main reason is the fact that NMOs could be outvoted by individuals, also costs play a role.

Francesc Aragall explains that outvoting only can happen in the Board Meeting. Another solution could be to have a new voting system for the Board Meeting. He stresses that the AGM is the only possibility once a year to meet as a network. Because of that, he thinks it is not sensible to make the board smaller. People who are not on the board will not come to meetings as the practice shows, in that way we will lose contact with people who are not on the board.

Hubert suggests to find a 'new' status for people who are not on the board, that makes it possible to invite people as observers. Lennart Lindkvist strongly seconds this proposal. Francesc Aragall indicates that in that way we will exceed the 24 members. Paivi Tahkokallio suggests that at this moment it is too early to restrict the number because we are still a too small network. Miguel Pereyra indicates that in his experience in the end a small good working executive is the best solution. The rest can have the 'network enrichment' in conferences. Paul Hogan reacts on that by saying that we should have a very good discussion on the role of the executive and the board. He likes to withdraw the proposal. Jim Sandhu suggests to discuss things (as they are doing in UKIID) and see whether we should change our constitution.

Francesc Aragall proposes that the committee on Constitution and By-laws works on this. Pete Kercher reports on the BEDA proposal where in the board the principal of consensus is proposed. It is recommended to the board that the directors should not in practice outvote the NMO's representatives (then you don't have to change the By-laws).

Paul Hogan withdraws the proposal. The Executive is mandated to come up with a proposal. (Action: Executive)

## 7. Election of the Board of Directors

The following Directors were appointed by the National Member Organisations:

Director	Representing
Miguel Pereyra	Coordinadora DTP , Spain
Tone Ronnevig	EIDD Norge, Norway
Lennart Lindkvist	EIDD Sverige, Sweden
Paul Hogan	IDD, Ireland
Isabella Steffan	IIDD, Italy
NN	APDR, Portugal

The following candidates were nominated for the office of Directors at Large:

Name of candidate	Proposed by
Frances Aragall	
Olav Bringa	
Helena David	
Paolo Favaretto	
Paul Fortune	
Lilian Henze	

Pete Kercher 9/4/01 10:10

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Pete Kercher	
Finn Petrèn	
Jim Sandhu	
Paivi Tahkokallio	
Birgitte Wistoft	
Hubert Froyen	

It is proposed to vote on the acceptance of the complete list of nominations. This proposal is unanimously accepted.

**8. Date and place of next AGM**

The Honorary Treasurer reminds that Hannover (2002) was mentioned in the last AGM and the following Stockholm (2003). Hannover is crossed from the list. Jim Sandhu proposes Brussels as an alternative, although the logistics of organising a meeting not in your county will be difficult. Jim stresses that there will be all kind of support because so many have their offices in Brussels. Pete Kercher indicates that it does not make sense to do this until we are able to have a conference with the EC. Jim Sandhu proposes that the AGM mandates the Board of Directors to find a solution: this is approved by the AGM.

**9. Any Other Business**

Appointing of the auditors: Pete Kercher moves to mandate the Board to appoint the auditors in consequences of the selection of the treasurer. This is accepted and is added to the Board Meeting agenda.  
 Guida Faria resigned due to her health problems. The meeting would like to thank Guida's contribution to the EIDD.

**10. Closure**

The meeting is closed at 19.15.

- Pete Kercher 9/4/01 10:12  
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- Pete Kercher 9/4/01 10:12  
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