



EIDD – DESIGN FOR ALL EUROPE

ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF LIFE THROUGH DESIGN FOR ALL

**11th General Assembly
held online, 10 June 2021**

Minutes

1. Opening and welcome of participants, apologies for absence

The President, Onny Eikhaug, declared the 11th General Assembly open at 14.00 CET on 10 June 2021, welcomed participants and introduced the agenda, which had been reduced to the minimum necessary, in the interests of enabling members around the globe to participate in this first online General Assembly.

Apologies for absence and proxies, when specified, were noted and are listed below.

Present

Onny Eikhaug	EIDD President, EIDD Norge	Norway
Terhi Tamminen	EIDD Vice President, Avaava	Finland
Markus Haas	EIDD Vice-President Finances, Freiraum	Austria
Pepetto di Bucchianico	EIDD Vice-President Administration, DdA, Univ. of Chieti-Pescara	Italy
Nuno Sa Leal	EIDD Special Projects, OC – Optima Conclusion	Portugal
Pete Kercher	EIDD Ambassador, Design for All Italia	Italy
Ivelina Gadzheva	Design for All Bulgaria Foundation	Bulgaria
Kathleen Polders	Inter	Belgium
Masashi Kajita	Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, Copenhagen	Denmark
Isabelle Verilhac	Cité du Design Saint-Etienne	France
Inge Eller	Cité du Design Saint-Etienne	France
Erica Mosca	Milan Polytechnic Faculty of Architecture	Italy
Carlos Aceves Gonzalez	University of Guadalajara	Mexico
Jannicke Hølen	Norwegian Centre for Design and Architecture	Norway
Ewa Golebiowska	Cieszyn Castle	Poland
Ewa Janczukowicz-Cichosz	Gdynia Design Centre	Poland
Marta Wieckowska	ASP Katowice	Poland
Beata Fabisiak	University of Life Sciences, Poznan	Poland
Maria Graça Guedes	OC – Optima Conclusion	Portugal
Zuzana Ceresnova	CEDA, Technical University of Bratislava	Slovakia
Francesc Aragall	DfA Foundation, Honorary Member	Spain
Joanna Eriksson	University of Mid Sweden	Sweden
Rama Gheerawo	Helen Hamlyn Centre, Royal College of Art	UK
Beatriz Itzel Cruz Megchun	University of Portland	USA

Guests attending

Jūratė Tulytė	University of Vilnius	Lithuania
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Apologies for absence

Name	Organisation	Country	Proxy
Janice Kowalski Rieger	Queensland University of Technology	Australia	

Severin Filek	Design Austria	Austria	
Veronika Egger	Design for All Austria	Austria	
Jan van Rie	Hasselt University	Belgium	
Kristof Vaes	University of Antwerp, Faculty of Design Sciences*	Belgium	
Nansi van Geetsom	Thomas More University, Mechelen*	Belgium	
Yutin Xu	Chiasmus Partners*	China	
Iva Mrak	University of Rijeka	Croatia	
Camilla Rhyl	Aalborg University	Denmark	
Daniel Kotsjuba	Estonian Designers Association	Estonia	
Mathias Knigge	EDAD – DfA Deutschland	Germany	
Carla Giusti	Città della Scienza Naples	Italy	Pete Kercher
Silvia Pericu	DSA, University of Genoa	Italy	Markus Haas
Gianni Ferrero	CPD Turin	Italy	
Marta Santolin	Planet Idea, Turin and Milan	Italy	
Daniela trunfio	+Cultura Accessibile, Turin*	Italy	
Giedre Bartusevičiūtė-Rimkienė	Kaunas 2022 European Capital of Culture	Lithuania	Pete Kercher
Tom Vavik	Oslo School of Architecture and Design	Norway	
Lubomira Trojan	Cieszyn Castle	Poland	Ewa Golebiowska
Jesus Hernandez Galan	ONCE Foundation	Spain	
Yolanda de la Fuente Riobles	University of Jaen	Spain	
Caterina Cavo	Inclusione Andicap Ticino (Design for All Switzerland)*	Switzerland	
Vanja Garai	Brunel University	UK	

* Applicant members approved at this General Assembly

2. Agenda

The agenda was approved as proposed (Appendix 1).

3. Minutes of the 10th General Assembly, held by e-mail, May 2020

The President referred to the fact that the previous General Assembly had been held by an extended exchange in the month of May 2020. This unusual step had been taken in the interests of providing legal, documentary and financial continuity for the business aspects of EIDD – Design for All Europe during the unprecedented emergency of the Covid-19 pandemic, which had resulted in a complete lockdown and the impossibility for members to come together to meet in a physical location. The minutes had been posted regularly on the website. The President then asked if there were any matters arising.

There being no matters arising, approval of the minutes was proposed by Pete Kercher, seconded by Nuno Sa Leal and passed unanimously.

4. Approval Presentation of New Members

An application for membership of EIDD had been received from the following organisation during the course of the year and approved by the Executive Board and was now submitted for ratification:

4.1 University of Portland, Oregon, in the United States, has a focus on business approaches to design for inclusion. The university was presented by Onny Eikhaug. Since the application had been approved by the Executive Board, which gave its recommendation, the General Assembly voted unanimously in favour

Further applications for membership of EIDD direct to the General Assembly had been received from the following five organisations:

4.2. +Cultura Accessibile, an association based in Turin that focuses on maximising access to culture and cultural heritage, was presented by Pete Kercher.

4.3 Inclusione Andicap Ticino is an association based in Bellinzona, Canton Ticino, which provides services in the field of inclusion of people with disabilities. The association, which is in the process of launching Design for All Switzerland, was presented by Pete Kercher.

4.4 The University of Antwerp, Faculty of Design Sciences was presented by Inter.

4.5 The Thomas More University of Applied Sciences, Interior Design and Architecture Unit, was presented by Inter.

4.6 Chiasmus Partners is a partnership operating in China, presented by Onny Eikhaug.

5. Ratification/Approval of New Members

The General Assembly ratified the application of the University of Portland and voted unanimously to approve the other five applications.

The President welcomed all the new members and invited them all to present themselves and their work in the EIDD Members' Forum held online every two weeks at 18.00 CET.

6. Executive Board Report

The President, Onny Eikhaug, presented the Board Report (Appendix 2), which covered the previous year of 2020 and continued to the current date in 2021. The report encompassed all the activities undertaken by EIDD – Design for All Europe and the executive and non-executive members of the Board during the period.

In addition to this list, the President explained how the Executive Board had gone about tackling the emergency created by the Covid-19 pandemic, notably including the launch of the EIDD Members' Forum, which is now held in a regular slot once every two weeks on Wednesdays at 18.00 CET and has attracted considerable participation among members worldwide. This regular meeting has served to increase familiarity between our members, who are now better informed about each other and their activities, thus providing a suitable virtual replacement for the session of reports of activities from members that has traditionally been held in the framework of the General Assembly.

In another step to make good the lack of opportunity for physical meetings during the pandemic restrictions, EIDD organised an online Conference on Education on 8 June 2021, with speakers and participants from four continents.

7. Financial Report

The Financial Report for 2020 was presented by the Vice-President Finances, Markus Haas (attached as Appendix 3). The move of the Head Office to Linz, in Austria, has now been completed.

The approval of the 2020 Financial Report was moved by Pete Kercher and seconded by Francesc Aragall, then approved unanimously by the GA (Markus Haas, as Financial Vice-President, abstaining).

6.1 Budget for 2021 and Draft Budget for 2022

These budgets were presented by Markus Haas. Their approval was moved by Francesc Aragall and seconded by Isabelle Verilhac, then approved unanimously (Markus Haas, as Financial Vice-President, abstaining; Appendix 4).

8. Other reports

Pete Kercher gave a verbal report of the watching brief he has been maintaining as EIDD representative on the European Disability Forum. There were no other reports.

9. Matters for decision

All matters for decision were subsumed under the other headings in these minutes.

10 Election of the Executive Board

The President Onny Eikhaug introduced the topic, stating that she had decided to stand down after four years of office. She then made a personal report of her four years as

President of EIDD. They had been four years of an enriching, learning experience, during which the organisation has grown more vigorous, despite the difficulties arising from the pandemic. Major events were organised and took place in this period, several important innovations were made, including work on the Acanet website and the launch of the online Members' Forum, and many new members joined, enabling EIDD to have a presence now in four continents across the world. The President made a point of thanking all members for their work and especially her colleagues in the Executive Board: it had been a period of undoubted hard work, but also of great fun for everyone.

Pete Kercher moved a vote of thanks to Onny as retiring President: the General Assembly joined in an ovation.

Following established practice, the President then invited Peter Kercher to manage the election of the President and the other members of the Executive Board.

10.1 Election of the President

Pete Kercher accepted the invitation to manage the elections and started with that of the President. Since Onny Eikhaug had indicated her intention of standing down, he asked for nominations. Pepetto Di Bucchianico was nominated by the retiring President Onny Eikhaug and seconded by Nuno Sa Leal. Since there were no other nominations, Pepetto Di Bucchianico was asked to confirm his availability and then duly elected unanimously to serve for a two-year term as President of EIDD – Design for All Europe.

10.2 Election of the Vice-President without Portfolio

The next position for election was that of Vice-President without portfolio, held by Terhi Tamminen. When asked if she was willing to continue in office, Terhi responded that she too was standing down. Pete Kercher then invited nominations for the position: Nuno Sa Leal was nominated by Pepetto Di Bucchianico and seconded by Francesc Aragall and was then duly elected unanimously to serve for a two-year term as Vice-President of EIDD – Design for All Europe.

10.3 Election of the Vice-President Administration

The next position for election was that of Vice-President Administration, previously held by Pepetto Di Bucchianico. Pete Kercher invited nominations for the position. Ewa Janczukowicz-Cichosz was nominated by Pepetto Di Bucchianico and seconded by Peter Kercher and was then duly elected to serve a two-year term as Administrative Vice-President of EIDD – Design for All Europe.

10.4 Election of the Vice-President Finances

Following the same procedure, Markus Haas was nominated by Pepetto Di Bucchianico and seconded by Pete Kercher to serve another two-year term as Financial Vice-President of EIDD – Design for All Europe. Having accepted the nomination, he was re-elected unanimously.

10.5 Appointment of the Former President

The new President Pepetto Di Bucchianico then nominated the retiring President Onny Eikhaug to the position of Former President. The proposal was seconded by Markus Haas and approved unanimously by the General Assembly.

10.6 Appointment Election of the Ambassador

There being no other elections due, Pete Kercher passed the chair to the new President, Pepetto Di Bucchianico, who proposed the confirmation of Pete Kercher as EIDD-Design for All Europe Ambassador. The General Assembly voted its approval.

10.7 Appointment of Honorary Members

Pete Kercher then moved that the Former President, Onny Eikhaug, be elected a Honorary Member of EIDD – Design for All Europe, joining all the other past presidents of the association. The proposal was seconded by Rama Gheerawo and approved unanimously by the General Assembly.

11. Objectives and priorities for the years 2021-23

The President, Pepetto Di Bucchianico, introduced the working document outlining his priorities for the next two years and his proposals for working responsibilities also among non-executive members. He invited members to react in the coming period (Appendix 5).

12. Date and venue of the Next General Assembly

EIDD – Design for All Europe has been invited to hold an event in Kaunas, Lithuania, in October next year, in the framework of Kaunas European Capital of Culture 2022. Every effort will be made to organise a stimulating event in presence, pandemic permitting. However, the General Assembly cannot be delayed until the end of the year, as ordinary administration requires the approval of Annual Report and the budget within the first six months of the year. For this reason, the General Assembly will be held in the usual time frame: if all goes well with the health emergency, EIDD will be able to hold two major meetings in presence in the course of 2022.

However, since the pandemic situation is still not completely clarified, the General Assembly mandated the Executive Board to evaluate all the possibilities and to decide in good time. The format that has now been established, with the possibility of live online participation, will be maintained even if the General Assembly can be held physically. This is intended to facilitate participation from our members around the globe and to focus any expensive travel on the major event in Kaunas in October.

13. Any other business

There was no other business.

14. Meeting closed

The President Pepetto Di Bucchianico thanked participants for a stimulating and successful General Assembly and closed the 2021 General Assembly at 16.30 CET.