

ASSITEJ Executive Committee Meeting Yaoundé, Cameroon November 12-17, 2016

Present:

Yvette Hardie, President, South Africa (YH)
Marisa Giménez Cacho, Secretary General, Mexico (MGC)
Roberto Frabetti, Treasurer, Italy (RF)

Stefan Fischer-Fels, Vice President, Germany (SFF) Asaya Fujita, Vice President, Japan (AF) Vigdís Jakobsdóttir, Vice President, Iceland (VJ)

Daniel H. Fernández, Argentina (DF) François Fogel, France (FF) Sue Giles, Australia (SG) Manon van de Water, USA (MvdW) Razi Amitai, Israel (RA)

Mark Powell, standing in for Nina Hajiyianni, UK (MP) Ashish Kumar Ghosh, standing in for Imran Khan, India (AG)

Marissa Garay, Executive Assistant, Mexico (Maui) Kenjiro Otani, Translator, Japan (KO)

Hamadi Dimassi, African Counselor, Tunisia (HD)

November 13:

Etoundi Zeyang, FATEJ, Host Cameroon (EZ) Karin Serres, Regional Workshop, France (KS) Pascale Grillandini, Regional Workshop, France (PG) Gustave Akakpo, Regional Workshop, France (GA)



AGENDA

- 1. Welcome from President and Host
- 2. Apologies
- 3. Proposal and Approval of Agenda
- 4. General Reports:
 - 4.1 President's Report
 - 4.2 Secretary General's Report
 - 4.3 Treasurer's Report
- 5. Specifics of Working Groups (Reports)
 - 5.1 Publications
 - a. Magazine
 - b. Newsletter
 - 5.2 Promotions
 - a. World Day Campaign
 - b. Promotion of Congress
 - 5.3 Projects
 - a. Regional Workshops
 - b. ASSITEJ Playground and Encounters
 - c. Auction
 - d. EU Funding Project
 - 5.4 Protocols, Policies and Fundraising
 - a. General Assembly Processes
 - b. Awards update on applications received; policy to be developed around ASSITEJ Applause for Lifetime
 - c. National Centers Handbook
 - d. Advocacy
 - e. Friends of ASSITEJ
 - f. World Day
- 6. "Shaping Stories Construire des histoires" Laboratory
- 7. African Counselor Presentation
- 8. Reports from the Regional and Professional Networks
- 9. Work in the Working Groups
- 10. Reports from the Working Groups
- 11. Memberships
 - 11.1 New Member Applications
 - 11.2 Problematic Memberships
- 12. Specific Items of Business
 - a. Cradle of Creativity



13. Next EC Meetings

- a. South Korea ASSITEJ Korea Winter Festival, January 2017
- b. Cape Town, South Africa ASSITEJ Congress, May 2017
- c. Future Possible Meetings

14. Any Other Business

- a. Adding Dance Network to Website
- b. Function of Networks
- c. Support for ASSITEJ Cameroon
- d. Role of the Networks within the EC
- 15. Closure

*The meeting began on November 12 with Working Group Reports, but the welcome took place on November 13, since the President YH had not arrived beforehand. The comments made at this previous meeting are distributed throughout their corresponding topics.



1. Welcome from President and Host

EZ welcomed and thanked the EC for being present during the 35th edition of FATEJ. He informed the EC they would be meeting with authorities from Yaoundé, but it wasn't concrete; he wrote to five different ministries and received answers from four. EZ talked about the workshops and meetings that would be happening that week.

SG asked what the support was from the authorities. EZ informed they had lent the space and the Ministry of Culture had also promised 3,000 EUR.

YH asked if they would be supporting Cameroon to attend the Congress in Cape Town to which EZ said this was the time to talk about the Congress with them. YH shared that there would be a Next Generation participant from Cameroon, as well as the Cameroonian coproduction with Magnet Theatre, in the Congress.

She then asked if the EC was being hosted mainly with the ASSITEJ grant that ASSITEJ Cameroon received and EZ affirmed this was the situation at the moment, but he hoped the visit to the Minister of Arts and Culture would help with funding as it did in 2008 when lyica Simic visited Cameroon.

2. Apologies

Apologies from SFF who would be arriving two days late.

DKT was not able to attend due to the lack of financial support for travel expenses from funding in Serbia.

3. Proposal and Approval of Agenda

The agenda was revised, seeking to establish a timetable for activities that had not yet been set, such as performances, the workshop VJ and SFF would be imparting, and the visit to the Ministry of Arts and Culture.

4. General Reports:

4.1 President's Report

(See full report as Addendum A)

YH gave her report, which consisted of the following points:

ASSITEJ Related Business:

-International co-operation between the associations.

- - YH attended the IATC congress in Belgrade to strengthen the ties with ASSITEJ. IATC agreed to host a panel during ASSITEJ's Congress next year.
 - -Support to ASSITEJ Serbia at BITEF Polyphony, as well as meetings in African museum in Serbia looking into some collaboration for the Congress.
 - -Correspondence with members and following up on African membership status.
 - -Main focus at the moment is Congress.
 - -Participated in Webinar with TYA USA with about 15 participants, and which is now a podcast that people can download and listen to.

Travels:

- -Romania for 100, 1000, 1000000 Stories Festival to take part in the jury. There seemed to be a little of estrangement between the company leading the festival and ASSITEJ, but the conversation successfully opened up and reconnected them.
- -Many travels within South Africa.

ASSITEJ South Africa News:

-Kickstarter Project coming to an end and will be reported on at Congress. ASSITEJ South Africa in a precarious position as all funding for projects will come to an end in <December 2016.

-Cradle of Creativity:

Uncertainty of funding has made the process of negotiating with companies difficult as well as accepting conference proposals, but the funder that supported Kickstarter Project will be supporting Cradle of Creativity, and the Department of Arts and Culture has now confirmed their grant. There is also strong support from cultural agencies and embassies. Conference selection process is moving forward with a lot of people involved. There has been an online process of reviewing abstracts, and deciding if and where they should go.

VJ asked what proportion of the proposals did not seem to be useful, to which YH responded that a very small one, since out of about 270 applications, 150-180 have been shortlisted.

YH mentioned that since the National Research Foundation support is for African participation, there is no confirmed funding for anyone who isn't African at the moment, and they may know only in February/March. People may be invited and asked to understand that the Congress may not be able to support them, so they may need to source their own funding.

Call for productions and festival has been extremely challenging with almost 1,000 applications and a very small staff of which several are part-time and volunteers. Receiving this many applications has been spectacular and has given an idea of who is creating TYA in

the world as well as having access to their work. It creates a significant archive to be sent to Germany, but it also presents a wide range of work to be showcased at the Congress.

There is now a basic program of 50 productions, 15 from South Africa, 10 from the rest of Africa and 25 from the rest of the world, although not necessarily all will be able to perform; there are many things to take into consideration like the South African audience, showcase for South African artists, regional representation, disciplines, how things relate to Focus Days, representing all ages, possibilities of staging within budget, etc.

YH proposed that the Protocols, Policies and Fundraising working group should look at a curatorial protocol for future congresses.

Regarding Next Generation, there were 270 applications received for 30 available places. Ten participants will be from South Africa, 8 from the rest of Africa and 12 from the rest of the world.

VJ inquired about the possibilities of the EC to help with fundraising.

YH said that the visit that MGC will make right after the meeting in Cameroon will be very important, because it makes a difference to have an international presence. She also said that an official letter from MGC, after her visit, to various funders would be helpful.

YH said the EC could help in finding support from national institutions to support those wanting to attend the event.

She mentioned that for now, the majority of funding comes from different levels of government, there is one corporate funder, hotels and other companies have offered discounts, and one of the main theatres has donated the theatre and its staff.

MvdW asked to have a list of people and countries in order to send letters of invitation that could help to obtain government funding. YH said she would send out initial letters after the meeting if the EC agreed on the inability to commit to support at this point.

4.2 Secretary General's Report

(See full report as Addendum B)

MGC gave her report, which consisted of the following points:

Communication with the Centers:

- -Day to day email communication
- -Official letters (Chile- support letter; Uruguay- Regional Workshop in Colonia; there was an initiative by María Inés Falconi to send a letter to Iberescena to consider Theatre for Children and Young People as something specific with a specialized jury and funding; India and UK- for AG and MP to attend the EC meeting; Cameroon- FATEJ support letter; Mexico-invitations to Congress; Korea- invitation to Kim Sookhee as jury for the Honorary

- President's Award; Cuba- invitation and support letter for Congress; Lithuania- invitation and support letter for Congress; Colombia and Paraguay- expulsion as National Centers; Israel- change in EC representative; Tunisia- African counselor, Hamadi Dimassi).
- -Received On The Edge report from Steve Ball.

New applications:

- -Palestine (accepted by online EC vote)
- -Pakistan (to be discussed in this meeting)
- -Hong Kong (to be discussed in this meeting)
- -Interest from Ukraine and Burundi.

Networks:

- -IIAN Declaration to be discussed in this meeting.
- -Gabi dan Droste has been working hard on moving the Dance Network forward.
- -Put Meike Fechner in contact with an Albanian artist who has interest in launching a musical theatre network.

EU Funding Project:

- -Not as much communication from Dirk Neldner with the Secretariat lately, despite having requested information.
- -YH mentioned she had received news from Dirk that the meeting SFF was supposed to attend had changed dates.

World Day:

- -Adjusted logo to theme of intercultural exchange.
- -Updated toolkit with help of Promotions working group.
- -Francisco Hinojosa, well-known Mexican writer specialized in children and youth's literature, was chosen for message by EC online vote.
- -RF informed that payment to Jeremiah Ikongo, from ASSITEJ Nigeria and in charge of the video, was recently made.

Website:

- -Honorary Members section will continue to improve with help from National Centers.
- -Magazine 2016 was uploaded.
- -Updated Next Generation Prezi.

Newsletter:

-Sent on a monthly basis.

Magazine and Leaflet:

-2017 leaflet must be updated.

-Call for magazine advertisements will be launched in December.

Archives:

- -Ivica Simic's archives have been sent and receipt was confirmed. A second version catalogued by years will be sent before the end of 2016.
- -May 2015-2016 will be sent to YH for revision in January.

Office in Mexico City:

- -Last funding from the Ministry of Culture (CONACULTA) was received in November.
- -Have had talks with artists and representatives of cultural institutions regarding the future of Mexico within ASSITEJ, but still no conclusions.

International Invitations:

- -JIENKYO (Japan)
- -19th edition of the Festival de Teatro de Camagüey (Cuba), National Theatre Festival.
- -Congress Site Inspection (South Africa)

IberoAmerican Centers:

- -ASSITEJ Ecuador would like information from RF on how to pay their fees via Western Union.
- -Susana Romo (Next Generation participant from Linz) organized the 1st Festival for Early Years in Mexico.

4.3 Treasurer's Report

(See full report as Addendum C)

RF gave his report, which consisted of the following points:

Budget and Accounting:

- -RF clarified that the accounting is in EUR, but the budget is in USD.
- -Positive results are still true.
- -A grant of about 3,000 USD was transferred to FATEJ by Western Union to support the costs of the EC meeting in Yaoundé.
- -The only cost not yet included is the Regional Workshop that will be held in Uruguay.
- -ASSITEJ can guarantee its members that we take care of our reserves and are able to eventually pay debts and solve things.
- -The 2017 Secretariat grant will be included in the 2017 profit.
- -The projection for member fees 2015 only includes 30% of the group that has to pay more than one year. 2016 includes the group who only have to pay 2016, as well as part of those who have to pay 1-2 years. 2017 is 90% of the total amount for 2016.
- -The projection for the 2017 magazine is the same amount as the 2016 magazine.

- -Donations increased since Friends of ASSITEJ received support from Kim Sookhee and Katariina Metsalampi after Birmingham.
- -Four out of five Next Generation grants have been paid.
- -The 2016 World Day video was paid to Jeremiah Ikongo, but was a complicated transfer and long process.
- -Archive digitalization should be formalized to see if it will be paid and how much the real amount is.
- -There is a net profit of 8,000 USD in the general budget. Where and when to allocate the money must still be discussed.

YH mentioned that some of the net profit could be used to cover costs of the Congress.

FF explained that the website's only expense this year will be hosting, which is less than the 6,000 EUR allocated. For now, the website is on a collective web server that lessens activities, but it can be put on a proper web server that would increase capacity. This would cost about 500 EUR.

RF agreed to change this in the budget to 550 USD.

Membership and Member Fees:

- -Currently there are 103 members, which are made up of 78 National Centers, 5 Networks, and 20 Individual Members, from 95 countries.
- -Group 1 (those who still owe 2016) has two members in critical situations; Turkey and Serbia. China has said they will pay.
- -There is no sense in keeping Group 3 (those who owe more than 3 years); this amount is not in our account.

The Resources for ASSITEJ:

-Next budget must be built, and RF will present a new proposal for level of fees.

75% of the budget is supported by only 77 members.

RF showed the current amount of payments and proposed new increased amounts. This new structure would cover the unpaid amount with those members that do pay. He asked to evaluate if the change is appropriate or not because members belong to different financial levels. Members may not accept the proposal, but it is important to define it by the next EC meeting in Seoul.

MvdW suggested that instead of increasing all the fees by \$50 USD that it could be done percentage-wise. It would be simpler for smaller centers to pay a percent increase because \$50 could be too much, while bigger centers could probably afford to pay more. YH then suggested that the minimum level could remain the same and only increase the rest of the fees, although SG pointed out that the minimum payment level is the largest group. RF

expressed it is important to reduce the level of fees between full members and corresponding members. They could be unified, since there are only 10 corresponding members of whom 4 make regular payments. All members must have the same rights and opportunities according to the Italian law regarding non-commercial structures.

RF explained that the current constitution lacks a requisite to be considered under the Italian law as completely non-commercial. The actual structure is partially non-commercial and it would be better to be considered non-commercial and close the VAT position. If/when the treasurer is out of Italy, it won't be easy to follow the Italian law so it is better to simplify the bureaucracy now.

MvdW inquired about the advantages of being a full versus a corresponding member and RF said there wouldn't be any; it would just be the configuration of the structure.

YH asked for the EC's opinion of RF's proposals. Should the increase be by the same amount or in proportion? Should ASSITEJ remain as a partially non-commercial organization or become completely non-profit? If there is a reconstitution, RF suggests corresponding members have three votes and individual members become known as observers.

RA observed that the biggest group of members is the one that pays \$150, and they can hardly pay this fee already. Under these is a group that doesn't pay at all, so the minimum should not be raised. If there are structures, rules and forms then everyone should know money is a key part.

MGC suggested making it optional to pay more, since some of these centers could easily pay \$50 more.

SG stated that it was reasonable to raise the fees since they haven't been changed since 2008.

YH clarified that under this scheme, a corresponding member would pay \$100, those who could not afford to go up from \$150 to \$200 could become corresponding. If the constitution is not changed then this would only mean they would have less of a vote. Members have been able to change the status of their membership in the past, so they could always become full members later on.

YH also commented that there are many members that could be full members on the basis of their membership, but decide to become corresponding only because of the fee.

FF also asked considering doing something towards better management and YH agreed and said this speaks toward the idea of the National Center's Handbook.

Whatever decision is made, the General Assembly will have to approve it and generally there is not much change that gets accepted. It is very important for the EC to be committed to the final decision and to explain it clearly at the Congress.

MvdW stressed that the increase should be proportional.

Regarding the organization's status YH inquired what the percentage for commercial purposes was for a partial status. RF explained that all the income that does not come directly from members or a grant is commercial. If you are a non-commercial organization then you cannot go beyond the limit of 200,000 EUR of commercial activity per year. He also mentioned that bureaucracy and levels of revision are different, and when not everything is completely clear, the responsibility falls on the president. This would not be a problem if we were a non-commercial organization. RF would support this change.

YH asked for ideas of commercial activity if ASSITEJ remains with a partial status. VJ mentioned publishing a handbook for TYA companies, to which SG agreed and also suggested a book sale. RF said it would be better to find a publisher that pays an income and if there is a net profit, then he could make a donation to ASSITEJ.

MGC expressed those members who pay more would probably not agree to have the same rights as those who pay much less, to which RF responded that it is a matter of solidarity. MvdW then said that if so, the term of corresponding member should just be removed and AG agreed that if the rights are the same it is better to simply club everyone together as full members.

VJ suggested presenting the raise in a different way by raising the top three levels by \$50, which would go directly to the Solidarity Fund that struggling members could apply for.

YH said the greater problem was in calling individual members 'observers' because the idea behind this type of membership was to make them feel part of the organization and help them towards building a National Center. The terminology should be discussed.

VJ asked about diverting individual members by engaging them through networks and YH agreed this could be a possibility, although we must then ensure the new networks can happen (producers, dance, education, music), so there can be a place for everyone. Individuals should be directed into a network if there is no center, while they are also encouraged to build a National Center with people from their nation. YH then raised the counter-argument that individual members have had a direct link with ASSITEJ and this would be lost with the networks. YH then reminded everyone that individual members are only members for one term and then they must reapply or start building a center, so the strategy has to be clear.



MGC suggested information should begin to be spread before the Congress. This could be through the newsletter so that people can start hearing about it and use a simple language so everyone can understand. This would also include the financial activity that is important so that people can react on how ASSITEJ receives money. RF agreed to discuss the contents for these notes.

The Administrative Transparency of ASSITEJ:

- -Ratification of relevant acts gives certainty that the EC agrees and shares responsibility on decisions.
- -Creation of Assembly Book (regarding General Assembly at Congress), EC Book (one for the whole period) and Members Book (situation of each member and contact details). The EC decided to adopt the creation of the three books.

MGC asked if the EC's signatures could simply be added to the minutes, but RF said the EC Book is more a synthesis that includes decisions and would be very useful for those for whom English is not their first language. The documents would be created after the meeting and then signed at the following meeting and kept in Italy, as well as uploaded to the website. RF insisted this was something important and simple that could be shown during inspections, as well as to simplify the EC handover.

YH said that in each meeting the idea is to sign the documents from the last meeting as well as from the period in between so that RF would constantly receive an updated hardcopy at each meeting. RF proposed starting with the first EC meeting in Warsaw.

YH said the Protocols, Policies and Fundraising working group would work on a template and then allocate volunteers to work on gathering the information from each meeting.

YH pointed out that this doesn't address how to treat confidential or sensitive information; the idea is not to hide anything, but to see how much we are obliged to reveal and how to present it. MvdW suggested using closed sessions without minute taking, but simply having personal notes taken.

VJ explained she was on a Board where they use two separate documents; one is the minutes and another a book of confidentiality; the minutes only mention topics that were discussed and the actual discussion is in the confidential book. AG also suggested mentioning in the minutes that the matter was discussed, but the details remain personal or that a decision is deferred for the time being. MvdW asked if this was in the constitution because by following *Robert's Rules of Order*, this couldn't be done and sensitive confidential information cannot be recorded. RA said there could be a decision on what to record within an off-the-record discussion, so that members are able to trust ASSITEJ in what will be internal and what will go out.

On this, MGC brought up the issue of Maurice Yendt being included or not on the Honorary Members section of the website. Maurice Yendt was made Honorary Member and expelled

later on, so MGC questioned if he and/or ASSITEJ France would complain. MvdW said he is still considered an Honorary Member since it was really ATEJ that was expelled and not him as an individual, although he happened to run the organization.

YH went back to the idea of using off-the-record or *Robert's Rules of Order* as protocol. VJ did not agree and said it was better to have a double system: full minutes and minutes for the website. This is because some of the information can be very important in the future. MGC reminded everyone that the minutes are always sent out for revision before being public and very seldom is anything changed. She asked RF if it was more an issue of financial sensitivity, but RF claimed it was very important to publish all the data to demonstrate that everything is legal and correct.

ACTION:

- 1. RF will help write a couple of small notes for the newsletter regarding ASSITEJ's financial activity and the new ideas of membership.
- 2. Protocols committee will work on template for EC book and share with EC.
 - 5. Specifics of Working Groups (Reports)
 - 5.1 Publications

a. Magazine

The magazine received articles from South Africa, Germany, Singapore, USA, Argentina/Spain, UK and Denmark. A Google Spreadsheet was created with this information. The selection of articles will be made during the meeting in Cameroon.

The working group proposed a working timeline that included:

- -English corrections of selected articles (December 30)
- -Pictures and original language corrections (January 30)
- -Materials sent to designer (February 1)
- -Approval of layout proposal (February 20)
- -First proof to editors (March 5)
- -Second proof to editors (March 10)
- -Third proof to editors (March 15)
- -Final sign-off for printing (April 5)

The leaflet will be updated.



b. Newsletter

These have been sent regularly, and the article section "Knowledge, Experiences and Reflections" was kept.

5.2 Promotions

a. World Day Campaign

Nina and FF have been in communication with Hilde Annette Aakre from ASSITEJ Norway regarding the video, and have sent a draft brief based on previous conversations. Brief and timeline of video must still be agreed upon with ASSITEJ Norway.

The toolkit was updated alongside the Secretariat.

The working group will work on the World Day Press Release, as well as develop a social media campaign.

b. Promotion of Congress

The working group will create a plan to support promotion of the World Congress, working with ASSITEJ South Africa.

MvdW commented that all ASSITEJ's work and the promotion for the Congress are laying on the internet, and we must be aware that in many countries internet is not available for everyone and ASSITEJ must do something in this regard. She proposed something similar to a WeChat.

5.3 Projects

a. Regional Workshops

FF commented that the support for the workshop that Karin Serres, Pascale Grillandini and Gustave Akakpo would impart was obtained and everything was ready for it to take place. KO agreed to take pictures of the workshop.

DF shared that the Uruguay Regional Workshop received 20 applications from Uruguay, 6 from Argentina, 2 from Chile, 2 from Brazil, 2 from Venezuela, 1 from Spain, and 3 from Cuba. These last will not be able to attend due to a lack of funding for airfare.

b. ASSITEJ Playground and Encounters

VJ explained that what had been previously known as Open Space in past Congresses, where the idea is to break the ice and have delegates meet one another, will change for the next Congress and be called ASSITEJ Playground. This will be much more fun and entertaining and participants will be invited to play. The Playground will be one of the first activities of the Congress, and VJ proposed herself as responsible.



VJ commented that some of the ideas for the Encounters that could be developed were 'ethics' and 'practicality', but that she would wait to delve on this further when YH and SFF arrived.

The Open Space will now happen within the period of the Artistic Encounters.

c. Auction

SG confirmed the participation of her husband Ian for support in the organization of the auction. However, she feels it is necessary to establish in which context it is going to be driven. There will be an open call for donations in March.

d. EU Funding Project

VJ inquired about the project lead by Dirk Neldner and MGC responded that after a couple of emails sent to Dirk asking for an update, there has been no answer yet. It seems that the new deadline for delivering the project is November 25.

5.4 Protocols, Policies and Fundraising

a. General Assembly Processes

YH shared that General Assembly processes have been reviewed but not done in terms of detail yet, and if the EC decides to suggest constitutional changes, that will require different protocols.

Congress registration fees have been adjusted to: Cradle of Creativity Registration, Congress Registration, ITYARN Conference Registration, Festival Registration and Focus Day Registration. Once people register, they will receive a code to book theatre tickets on a separate booking website. Fees for delegates from developing countries and students are being subsidized in great part, not covering some basic costs and international delegates are paying more than the basic cost. EC members will receive a Cradle of Creativity Registration for free and people involved in Focus Days events will receive that specific day for free.

The EC agreed to sign off the registration fees presented. (See Addendum D)

December newsletter can make an announcement to view this information on the Congress website and that registration will be available in January.

b. Awards – update on applications received; policy to be developed around ASSITEJ Applause for Lifetime

WLPG will have a postponement to November 30 for their nominations since there are only five European nominees at the moment. ITYARN will have a postponement to December 15.



Nominations for Award for Artistic Excellency are from Armenia, Australia, Belgium, China, India, Iran, Ireland, Namibia, Palestine, Russia, Scotland, Sri Lanka and Sweden.

Nominations for ASSITEJ Applause for Lifetime Achievement are from Germany, Israel, Korea and Small Size.

YH mentioned the Protocols, Policies and Fundraising working group needed to look at the way the EC will decide on the Applause for Lifetime Achievement award and make recommendations. All awards will be decided in Korea.

Kim Sookhee and Razi Amitai were invited to be part of the jury for the Artistic Excellency award along with three EC members. Both the Award for Artistic Excellency and ASSITEJ Applause for Lifetime Achievement deliberations will happen at the same time.

YH suggested that people on a panel come from the same working group so that not every group looses one person.

MGC asked to be part of the committee, as well as MvdW. It was suggested to Diana Krzanic-Tepavac to also take part, and if she's not prepared, FF will take her place. The rest of the EC will deal with the Lifetime Achievement award.

c. National Centers Handbook

Will discuss developing a Member's Toolkit around how to use the association for their growth and development.

d. Advocacy

Will discuss new networks (education, dance, music, festival, Asian independent artists/producers). Must look at how to activate Education Network and find right driver.

e. Friends of ASSITEJ

Look at how to activate it more, perhaps look for friends using the Next Generation participants for Cape Town.

f. World Day

Information for proposal on campaign is available in Toolkit. Maybe the magazine could mention something on World Day.

MGC proposed asking ASSITEJ Norway to donate the money ASSITEJ had offered to collaborate with for the World Day video, to the Solidarity Fund. VJ agreed and said maybe this money could be used specifically to send people from the Baltic countries to the Congress, for example.



VOTING:

1. In favor of signing off registration fees for Congress? (UNANIMOUS)

ACTION:

1. Announce in December Newsletter that registration fees are available on Congress website and that registration will be open in January.

6. "Shaping Stories – Construire des histoires" Laboratory

The speakers of the Cameroon Regional Workshop on playwriting, Karin Serres, Pascale Grillandini and Gustave Akakpo attended the meeting to report on this workshop that was already halfway through. KS explained that the workshop is called "Shaping Stories" so it is not only about writing dialogues but any kind of stage writing. The general aims of the workshop were developing a research group and building a network in French-speaking Western Africa. This research group is meant to be developed in other parts of the world.

Daily aims of the workshop

-First day (2.5 hours):

Make acquaintances; experimental group with questions and skills to share. It is meant to be a circle of people working together and not a teaching structure. KS said their first surprise was that the talks became questions and it was not about presenting themselves, but about sharing what is deep inside and finding equals. The second surprise was finding out how low theatre is perceived, especially TYA, and how brave the people who make theatre are. Everyone has a different job apart from theatre, and there are very few women because in some cultures it is not allowed for them to be on stage or do things connected to stage.

The main issue was the question of language and how to combine the intimate needs of the artist and the young audience addressed, in an area where there are different languages spoken. Some years ago, it was prohibited for children to speak African languages so they grew up not knowing them and now the government wants them to learn these. There is a lost generation in there, so if a performance is done in any of these languages, the parents would understand it and buy tickets for the children who will not understand.

There is a huge need for encounters and being a part of networks, and a need for materials, especially books. A long-term proposition is to build a network of books and libraries.

There was a discovery in the richness of interactivity and the dialogue you can have with a young audience.

The workshop leaders created a list of questions that go beyond geographic area and TYA, which they will later share with the EC.

-Second day (2.5-3 hours):

Feel the strength of the work and share it by collective readings.

Read beginnings of plays from different countries and for different ages.

Thought about how you launch a play, how to hook children and build bridges with them. KS expressed that sharing emotions and doing something together, connected the group immediately; collective thinking then came out of intimate sensations.

Met a real open mind and no prejudices; there was a real commitment from everyone.

-Third day (would happen Nov. 13):

The group will pursue talk about four different texts, as well as the beginnings of their own work and how to put it on paper; how to proceed so that the play and performance come from the heart. They will have a playful experiment of writing in a sensorial way, always building a collective base to talk from.

-Fourth day (would happen Nov. 14):

There will not be a final product of a performance, but rather a sharing of collective research that is beginning.

-Long term:

Develop links on an international level.

Think about how and who keeps it alive and how to connect this to other networks like ASSITEJ and WLPG. Think about how to combine the circulation of books.

YH asked if it could be PDF documents and KS answered that physical books seemed to mean a lot to them, but it could be a combination.

GA had the idea for each participant to bring a suitcase of books from their country and FF shared that when they met with the French Foreign Affairs administration, he said they were seeking for cultural programs based on the French language as a cultural influence, programs that can be used in French cultural centers and educational places using languages, and this suitcase could be a way to involve institutes and schools abroad.

KS added that this is a question of TYA theatre books being available to companies and schools.

KS expressed that now the feeling is there will be a need for funding and literary translators, because the French-speaking area is small so it should be translated into English to connect with other parts of the world. This could be done by mutual translation, taking the opportunity to have a gathering of playwrights speaking different languages to

have mutual translation moments, help each other and connect people to create interactivity and creativity.

KS also shared that they are working on a resource page for French-speaking TYA that could be on the ASSITEJ, ASSITEJ France and WLPG websites.

As a conclusion, KS said this was a way to measure strengths of shared artistic experiences, always caring about the equity amongst everyone.

To this, VJ commented that it was exactly what a Regional Workshop was meant to do. This is ASSITEJ's first Regional Workshop, although mostly funded by ASSITEJ France, and it is important to promote it like this. MvdW suggested having a feature in the newsletter. VJ also mentioned that the Projects working group had worked on a questionnaire for the workshop participants about the shape and form of the workshop, to help in organizing future workshops, and told the speakers they would also be asked for some feedback.

FF said the next step was having a second session at Cape Town, so there will be an open call for this to try and reach and involve people from other countries and build a representative and balanced group. The idea is for the call to be launched through WLPG. FF mentioned there were participants from 1 day 1 play that could be invited to Cape Town.

MGC proposed including Equatorial Guinea since they are the only Spanish-speaking country in West Africa and probably some speak French as well.

FF also shared that the French Ministry of Culture supports the project, which is recognition of international projects in support of our organization. For 2016 and 2017 they supported with 20,000 EUR and there is also a specific program to support mobility inside Africa for artists. About 4,500 EUR were collected in plays from five different publishers of France and Belgium. The question is how to make this support useful to all of ASSITEJ and how to proceed so the development benefits more people.

YH also added that the bigger question is with WLPG because at the moment it is an international association of individuals that does not go beyond internet activity and events at the ASSITEJ annual meetings. She suggested maybe start thinking of regional/linguistic substructures, mechanisms that could help in linking people together. KS commented that the Anglo predominance comes from a huge amount of work being done by English organizers, so we need to find other committed people as well. FF suggested it might be important to have a proper French-speaking network in Africa so they don't feel isolated. RF said the role of the translator was very important, since literary translation also has to do with culture and context, not only language and YH agreed that this should be within WLPG as a focus area.



FF said there was a blank space within the project where African National Centers were concerned. Many young artists have said they need a new generation of managers and representation in the centers. It would also be good to involve the centers because to apply for an international commission of French-speaking theatre, there must be two partners from different countries so this could be a way for them to be involved in the project.

7. African Counselor Presentation

Hamadi Dimassi, from Tunisia presented himself and his festival "Festival International Neapolis du Théâtre pour Enfants", which began in 1985 and is one of the biggest children's festivals in Africa. The government in Tunisia mainly supports the festival, although there is also private sponsoring. This helps to host professional companies from around the world providing everything but flights, as well as international guests to lead training sessions. The festival takes place every year in December and has five venues of which three are private spaces and two are public; they seat from 150 to 750 people.

YH asked about TYA work outside of the festival.

HD shared that theatre universities in Tunisia have a department for TYA and there is also a theatre program in high schools. About 100-200 professional companies are playing for children in Tunisia, as well as several non-professional companies.

YH then asked if the theatre companies would be interested in joining ASSITEJ and if so, why it hasn't happened until now.

HD said they had tried to join for a long time with help from Paul Harman and Niclas Malmcrona, but the main problem is that they are not able to send money out of the country easily. However, they still follow ASSITEJ's activity and HD would like to present a candidacy as individual member to see if it can be the seed to building a National Center.

FF asked if there is any group of professionals who have joined an international TYA organization and HD clarified that as Honorary President of the Neapolis Festival, he synthesizes links to all the festivals and this is how relations are possible; TYA in Tunisia is well supported and has several international links.

Since there is support from the government, YH asked if there was any possibility of Tunisian participation at the Congress, maybe as festival delegates or a student group. HD agreed to dispatch information in order to have more participation with ASSITEJ, not only in the Congress.



8. Reports from the Regional and Professional Networks

IIAN (International Inclusive Arts Network)

SG read the IIAN Declaration, which the network had previously sent for the EC to discuss.

MGC pointed out that many countries couldn't afford to have accessible installations/facilities, so there should be a proposal on what these countries can do. SG expressed the opinion that there were also cultural contexts where disability was not even officially recognized.

YH indicated this was a vision statement and not something that has to happen; maybe there can be a note about finding creative solutions.

MvdW identified that the language should be modified and VJ agreed that it was not very accessible to a limited English-speaker so it should be shorter, in a simple language and with concrete examples.

RF also indicated that not everything is applicable to all countries; for example, in Italy there are no special schools (as mentioned in the Declaration) because all children are included in regular schools. He then inquired about psychological problems and if these were included. YH expressed this was her biggest issue with the statement, that it speaks specifically to physical disability only.

MGC expressed the Declaration was very complete and a very good starting point, with many things that could inspire others, but the trick is in integrating other people to have this discussion.

MvdW stated there are also different levels of awareness in each culture. For this, YH suggested separating the principle/vision from the specifics. SG also suggested getting input on the language from countries that don't have any infrastructure for this.

AG noted there is a basic contradiction in the statement because it talks about inclusivity but has been framed from the side of disability, and it should include different dimensions.

FF mentioned he would like to include an accounting of the website on accessibility by Seoul, to see if there is enough time and means to do something before Cape Town.

RF said actors must also have the correct instruments. For example, there may be a child with sight problems in the audience and the teacher doesn't say anything about it and the child may be suffering under the light. The idea is that they are all equal, but their needs aren't, so there should be a way of acting in the best manner for the child to see and

understand the performance. YH suggested this could be some kind of toolkit that speaks to different mechanisms or strategies to include and communicate better knowing the issues beforehand.

AG said one way of approaching the whole thing would be to see it as an entry to different types of theatre communication rather than a problem.

Ibero-American Network

DF shared that the network had met twice, first during On The Edge and then in the 4th International TYA Critics and Research Forum in Buenos Aires.

Three main events:

- -Schoolyard Stories took place in October.
- -The Uruguay Regional Workshop will take place in December.
- -A publication from the Forum will be presented at the Congress.

YH proposed asking different members and centers if they have specific publications they would like to launch during the Congress and have a space for books and magazines.

ACTION:

- 1. FF will look into accessibility for the website before the Congress.
- 2. Secretariat will ask members if they have publications they'd like to launch at the Congress.
 - 9. Work in the Working Groups
 - 10. Reports from the Working Groups

Projects

-Regional Workshops:

The working group created the questionnaire for the Regional Workshop participants and will be adding one more question for the Spanish version that will be used in Uruguay. Will gather all the information from the workshop as well as pictures from KO to present as a report in Korea and for the next EC to work further on this. The group will speak with ASSITEJ France on writing news reports for Facebook and the newsletter.

YH shared that the Publications working group would also be asking KS for an article for the ASSITEJ Magazine about the African writing workshop, with contributions from the participants.

FF also mentioned he would be creating a report for the Ministry of Culture, so he would translate the main points for the EC. VJ asked if it could be ready for the December newsletter and FF agreed and said it would also include the call for the next workshop.

DF will make sure that there is documentation of the workshop in Uruguay.

The working group spoke about ideas for future fundraising for the workshops like using part of the Solidarity Fund or pairing stronger centers with those who don't have as much access to resources; this way it can also be an initiative from the centers.

DF used the example of Cuba, from where three people applied but have no money for their flights, so this is where a Solidarity Fund would have worked.

-ASSITEJ Playground:

It is more or less done, but still need people who will run it and work out who will be master of ceremonies (probably SFF and someone from Africa).

There can be eight stations around the space, each with a different country and someone who could teach the game. There would be an activity for everyone to do together at the beginning and then show the games before the people walk around and try all the games.

The end will probably be with the same activity as the beginning. The master of ceremonies must tell people that the idea is to learn the games, but also to get to know people. Games must be monitored beforehand to make sure they are not too similar. Hopefully names and countries will be ready by Korea to follow up. VJ said she had spoken to ASSITEJ China to be part to engage with them more personally.

-Auction:

SG's husband has kindly offered to be the auctioneer and has sent information on how he thinks it could best be organized. Diana will be his contact to gather and organize information. Call for objects will hopefully be made in December/January newsletter. AG will look into getting a storytelling scroll from India. A contribution from YH's husband's artwork may also be an option. YH said there is also African wirework like children's toys or jewelry that could be auctioned; crafters in Cape Town are very aware they will have international attention, so they are working on objects.

VJ explained that when donations are asked for, people will have to send photos of the objects and the story behind the objects, in a few words.

Once objects are selected, there will be a Facebook event (preferably created by Cradle of Creativity), where people can flick through photos and stories and begin thinking about bidding on something.

YH suggested having participants from Next Generation say something about what the program means to them, since these donations go directly to fund this particular program.

A possible space would be Artscape, which has a bar and side-space so it can happen somewhat closed-off.

-Awards Ceremony:

There will be a host performer, some entertainment and a director that can come from other regions of South Africa.

A new structure will be made up since there are now four awards to present.

Projects working group will create a document that says what has to happen and in what order.

Regarding presenters of the award, VJ shared that the ceremony will begin with the ITYARN award that will be given by Geesche Wartemann. The following award will be WLPG, given by three people from the network. The Artistic Excellence award will be given by the jury and the Applause for Lifetime Achievement will be the final award presented by YH. All nominations will be read out loud with 150 word statements, probably by performers.

YH asked EC to think of what will be done as recognition and how people will be highlighted.

-Encounters:

The working group is taking into account the different themes that came out in the call for papers and are brainstorming on the idea of intercultural exchange.

SFF clarified that they took intercultural exchange to mean an exchange of communities and not countries/nations necessarily. This idea leads to the first game of mapping; there are hundreds of communities building networks in the world that are supranational. The idea is to hear different voices and then go deeper to personal intercultural life-changing experiences.

DF proposed making it more dynamic so people who know the structure don't get bored of it; it can start with a big group and get smaller until it becomes a one on one. RA also suggested dividing into small groups where one person tells a story and then somebody else presents it, telling the essence and what his/her impression was.

SG also recommended adding written words and feedback at the end.

SFF also commented there was an idea of making a lunch break as a big intercultural event maybe with catering, but someway simple. Then a second part after lunch could lead into saying what wishes people have for intercultural exchange in TYA and if this could lead to the working program of the new EC.



-National Centers Handbook:

The members' handbook should be a simple online document that does not prescribe anything, but gives examples and selects different types of centers to talk about their pros and cons. It must also show examples of projects that a center could run and how to do this; case studies with information being as simple and straightforward as possible.

-Membership Fee Proposal:

The rationale of the first idea of a policy change to increase the memberships is that there has been no increase since 2011, and 75% of the funds arrive from these fees and go directly to projects and promotion. The EC therefore suggests increasing across all levels to support direct action, specifically Solidarity Funds, Regional Workshops and Next Generation.

The motion is that the EC recommends an increase across all levels to be ratified at the General Assembly by ASSITEJ members.

The rationale for the constitutional change is that ASSITEJ is currently partially non-commercial and this double activity is problematic. If the treasurer changed, the handover would be very complex. The magazine is ASSITEJ's only production and is given away for free and available online. The EC intends to make the accountability as transparent as possible, becoming entirely non-commercial. Currently, ASSITEJ is subject to Italian legal systems, and the legal requirement is to have equal voting rights.

The motion is that ASSITEJ becomes completely non-commercial and all members are called members with equal voting rights. This would mean that the status of corresponding members falls away and we are left with only full membership or individual participation. Current corresponding members will have the choice to become either full members or individual participants with no rights and no fee. If members are unable to pay, they will be able to apply for the Solidarity Fund. Individual members will no longer have to pay, but may donate if they wish to do so.

Some actions that need to be taken are exploring the commercial possibilities before relinquishing the current status. RF will provide details on administration of current financial system and the difference if ASSITEJ becomes non-commercial.

Each corresponding would be asked if they want to become full members or individual participants. It would still be a motivation to renew individual participation in every term or work towards a membership through a center or network.

If ASSITEJ decides on this route, then all this would be an informal back office process, and the information would be sent out in February on the proposed constitutional changes. We must also provide a template for the new constitution that accommodates the changes, as well as in the Policies & Protocols Handbook.



Regarding the Solidarity Fund, ASSITEJ would inform how much there is available and those countries that need it can apply for it, keeping in mind they must pay back 50% before being able to receive the fund again.

DF disagreed on increasing the minimum for membership fees since there are many countries that pay the minimum and it won't be possible for them to keep being members; they should pay the \$50 more only if it is within their possibilities.

YH explained that the majority of what will be in the fund is going to be raised by those who will be going from \$150 to \$200.

MvdW agreed that a 25% increase could be too much for some countries.

YH then said that strategically \$150 would not help with the fund although it may help in keeping those countries as members.

VJ suggested taking DF's idea and asking the members to send in some kind of justification if they wish to remain in the lowest step; those centers that can pay won't go through the length of sending a letter.

MP inquired about the possibility of asking the top payers to pay above the \$50 extra, or give them the option of paying an extra if they are in the possibility of doing it. For example, if TYA UK asked its members to donate for the Solidarity Fund and this would demonstrate their solidarity and the fund's politics.

RF said that in this case it would be better to keep the old system and have a goal of \$22,000 instead of \$25,000 and keep the Solidarity Fund completely voluntary.

DF said that another possibility could be to keep the minimum fee of \$150 but raise the rest by 20%, but RF said that currently 9 members support 32% of the fees and it is not correct to ask them to pay 20% more.

MvdW on the other hand agreed, and said it was like progressed tax, the more you earn, the more you pay, so a percentage increase would be fair.

YH mentioned that if corresponding members are removed it might be useful not to have another discussion about fees. Perhaps it would be better to have a statement that says fee increases were discussed and we noticed they haven't changed since 2011 but countries will only be invited to pay more towards the Solidarity Fund.

The first target of the fund should be to assist those corresponding members who are not able to become full members, and then think about workshops, attending the Congress, Next Generation, etc. RF said this could be done but the regulations studied in Birmingham would have to change.

SFF expressed that maybe members could give money towards the development of a region, because you may not know that a member is proving that they can pay or not;

maybe some people would like to prove their solidarity by taking an action, and not supporting member fees.

VJ asked for it to be specified that the raise in fees will go directly to the fund. On the other hand, she also said it would be important not to raise the first step into the association if we want the current corresponding members to become full members.

RF suggested keeping the old system and inviting people to give more; he will send members a request to increase their fee.

A formal decision will be taken in Seoul, but the majority of the EC inclines towards keeping the current fees but providing people with more options/levels, and having the Solidarity Fund as completely voluntary.

YH suggested looking at running the promotion of the donate button on the website in the run-up towards Cradle of Creativity, and this way fund to support those centers who can't otherwise get to the Congress. VJ asked if people could donate when registering.

MGC expressed that it seems it's not very clear to everyone what membership fees are used for. Donations should be used for concrete projects so that people are not confused. One concrete project could be bringing people to the Congress and this would help them to understand that members pay to belong to ASSITEJ.

RF said it was also a question of global solidarity and supporting those members who are serious and active in ASSITEJ.

SFF said that whatever the fund is used for, transparency is the most important issue. Solidarity is about giving strength to others but also getting something back in exchange.

-EC Book:

The working group used RF's headline suggestions to create the EC Book summary of the Kristiansand minutes. RF will put together the legal terminology for the EC to sign it off and YH will put together a table for the EC members to help with the rest of the minutes.

The group will continue to work on a proposal for the International Associations and the proposal for language communication during the Congress. This will be sent to presenters and can also go out as part of the registration.

Promotions

-Website and Social Media:

The working group will send the EC an email to remind of monthly participation on social media, and the contents.

FF will review the website to find out of necessary changes, in particular regarding accessibility; Nina or MP will contact Diana for recommendations. The website will also be prepared for the EC, Assembly and Members Books.

FF will talk to Nina regarding the YouTube channels with ASSITEJ centers.

-World Day:

There needs to be a communication plan for World Day. Google analytics will be inserted for World Day activity.

MGC shared that Hilde Annette had written an email saying they had spoken to a filmmaker who agreed to make the World Day film, and asks for ASSITEJ to support with 1,500 EUR. MGC proposed asking her to give this money towards the proposed Solidarity Fund instead and the EC agreed.

Regarding dates, it was decided that the messages would be launched in early February so that they could be translated and included in printed material. The film should be launched around 10 days before World Day.

-Congress:

Working group will obtain ongoing information from the organizers and this way rank the different events; social media doesn't have to carry the same messages as the website.

With the help of Yusrah Bardien, the relevant news for social media, newsletter and press release will be ready for December.

In mid February, a twelve-week social media campaign will begin.

The Prezi will also be updated with the perspective of the Congress.

MGC asked when the AAG16 OTE column on the website should be changed for the Congress and the EC agreed on January.

Publications

-Magazine:

There are two articles that were previously selected from the material of last year's magazine (from Denmark and Italy). About eight more articles have come in and two have already been chosen. There are plans to get more articles from Africa; YH will look for articles from South Africa and working group will ask KS about an article from the Cameroon Regional Workshop that includes the participants' voices. Everything will be finalized by the meeting in Korea.

MGC said that it was a problem that the Ibero-American region is not represented. There were three articles received (Argentina, Spain, Mexico), but they are not very related to the theme.

YH suggested asking someone from the *Zapato Busca Sapato* coproduction (Brazil-Mexico-Mozambique), since it will be at the Congress and is very intercultural.

Another proposal was asking Brazil and Germany to write something on the project presented by PAIDEA and GRIPS. SFF said he would contact Aglaia Pusch to work on an article with her.

AF suggested asking for a short and unfinished play (about 500 words) from South Africa, preferably about colonialism issues, and then invite people at the Congress to write their own endings in English and their own languages. Afterwards, these endings can be collected and sent to the Secretariat to publish some/all in the newsletter. YH agreed to ask some people in South Africa to begin writing the play; AF can write a note/introduction explaining what the project is about.

ACTION:

- 1. FF will write a note on the Regional Workshop in Cameroon for the December Newsletter, as well as the call for the next workshop.
- 2. DF will write a report on the Uruguay Regional Workshop.
- 3. ASSITEJ France and Argentina will make posts on Facebook/Twitter regarding the Regional Workshops.
- 4. Projects will send call for auction objects for December/January newsletter.
- 5. Create platform for specific Congress-related issues (e.g. Trello).
- 6. Promotions will send EC members an email to remind of monthly participation on social media.
- 7. Promotions will insert Google Analytics for World Day activity.
- 8. World Day message must be ready in early February.
- 9. World Day video must be ready by March 10, 2017.
- 10. Promotions will update Prezi with perspective of Congress.
- 11. Secretariat will change the AAG16 OTE column for the Congress in January.

11. Memberships

11.1 New Member Applications

Pakistan:

The EC reviewed the application for National Center received from Pakistan.

RF mentioned that the out of the two current individual members, The Little Art never pays their fee and Maas Foundation always pays.

KO shared that they had met them all during the Asian Network meeting in Sri Lanka and they all seem very active and The Little Art had worked on the network website.

RF said that if they are accepted, they should pay their debt. KO agreed to ask them directly about making their past payments.

AG shared that Imran Khan has been in touch with them for a long time and it hasn't been easy; Shoaib Iqbal has been the main leader and it is essentially all based in Lahore but they are trying to spread out. SFF agreed to ask a couple of groups from Karachi about joining them.

Since Aamir Nawaz from Maas Foundation sent the application, YH suggested telling him that although we've received consistent payment from Maas, we haven't from Little Art and we don't want this to be the situation. Therefore, they should sort out prior individual memberships.

MGC said they would not receive any official acceptance letter until they have paid.

RF proposed voting to accept them under the condition they pay something retrospectively. He said not to be completely rigid, but touching the subject that they have been members for two years without paying.

Hong Kong:

The EC reviewed the application for Individual Membership received from Hong Kong (Shakespeare4All).

YH mentioned there were two main issues, the first is the political issue within the status of Hong Kong in relation to China and the second is that Fiona Kaaka states there is no children's theatre in Hong Kong, while Simon Wong reported that there were many children's theatre groups established in the 1990s; it seems Shakespeare4All is not aware of the other things happening around TYA. Hong Kong to a large extent is not represented by ASSITEJ China who essentially represents the state theatre of China. This is one of the main reasons the independent producers network was suggested, so these other companies and festivals have a chance to interact.

RA commented ASSITEJ could have two components of Chinese theatre if we receive several individual applications apart from the National Center. YH agreed but also explained that it has been more difficult than was anticipated, since A.S.K Theatre from Shanghai withdrew their application after finding out that ASSITEJ China would be informed of their interest in joining.

YH also commented that another interesting situation will be with Ivica Simic's theatre; he has been part of the EC and Secretary General so how can he be denied access?

MvdW suggesting contacting Ivica to make sure the Producers' Network can still be strong and independent.

AG said there needs to be a strategy around negotiating with countries where the state controls their activity.

Shakespeare4All must be informed of the process. We will let ASSITEJ China know of their interest and if they are not invited to become members, then we can give them the individual membership.

AF expressed that for the next 2-3 years Japan, China and Korea are thinking of having collaboration within the Asian festival that Japan will have next year. In last year's summer festival in Seoul, there were several Chinese companies, so ASSITEJ China is aware there are other companies working. AF said he had more of an opportunity to talk to Mr. Xiaodong as ASSITEJ Japan. ASSITEJ China was not present during this year's Asia meeting because their festival was happening at the same time, and they claim not to have been informed of the previous meeting in Chennai.

VJ shared that when she attended the Drama Salon at their festival, it had felt much more like an ASSITEJ National Center event than an international event. However, Mr. Xiaodong really wants to be part of the EC, so it is one of his drives.

SG asked to take into consideration that Hong Kong is a separate culture to Mainland China. YH also mentioned that there haven't been any other applications from Hong Kong, but Shakespeare4All should be aware of the other theatre companies and we should try to encourage more dialogue between them.

YH proposed holding the decision of their membership until Seoul to have communication with different players of the story like Simon Wong. MvdW agreed to be in communication with him.

VOTING:

1. Do you support the application from Pakistan for Full Membership? (UNANIMOUS YES)

ACTION:

- 1. MvdW will talk to Simon Wong regarding the Hong Kong membership and the relevance to the network.
- 2. SFF will contact groups from Karachi to join ASSITEJ Pakistan.

11.2 Problematic Memberships

This time, the issues were not regarding non-payment, but more internal.



Iran and Turkey:

An independent Iranian company, member of ASSITEJ Iran, sent a letter to ASSITEJ complaining of a very bad experience. There was a call through their website about the Bursa festival in Turkey to which they sent documents and were told their show had been accepted. They received a formal invitation so they translated their script and tour information and booked flight tickets. Later, they received a call from ASSITEJ Iran saying another non-ASSITEJ group had replaced them in the Festival program. After this, they wrote a letter to the president of the International Bursa Theatre Festival for Children and Young People in Turkey who told them to speak with ASSITEJ Iran instead of them. The festival manager told them it was due to contact problems and they confirmed a different group who had paid their flights; they had not been rejected but because of the situation of the country they had to finish the program quickly. Even though the initial letter mentioned ASSITEJ Turkey, they later said it was none of their business and that it depended on the president of the festival. ASSITEJ Iran later said it was the festival that decided to reject the play.

MvdW shared she had faced something similar as a graduate student and the person had been made to pay for the expenses, so maybe ASSITEJ Iran or Turkey could pay for these expenses.

MGC also shared an experience, where a Mexican company received an official invitation from Jason Cross to perform in the 16th ASSITEJ World Congress and Festival in Adelaide, and after they had raised money for the trip he cancelled, saying he could only host the director, but the play couldn't be in the program.

RF said the behavior of ASSITEJ Iran was not justifiable, but to consider that Turkey is currently in a very unfortunate situation.

RA considered there were political interests present, but that ASSITEJ should not intervene regarding the conflicts with the festival (inviting, cancelling, changing). The festival has the freedom to make last-minute changes. The main concern is with ASSITEJ centers that are linked to each other, to try and have better communication between them. VJ agreed and said that ASSITEJ's name is behind this, so there needs to be a professional code of conduct. All ASSITEJ can do is communicate with the centers and point out that this is not good for the association to be mixed into bad management like this. YH agreed but said the letter must not be accusatory. This is a member of ASSITEJ Iran so we can suggest they look at this with more care and reflect on how this situation can be averted in the future or how they can support this member to feel better about being part of ASSITEJ.

RF suggested asking the person who wrote the letter if she agrees that this is diplomatic, because it may create more conflict.

MGC and YH will work on something diplomatic for the Iranian and Turkish ASSITEJ centers.



Korea:

YH informed that Young Ai proposed a student group to attend the Congress from the University of Korea, and the organizers said they would arrange a showcase as a side program and maybe their performance could be shown at a school. Kim Sookhee is uncomfortable because Young Ai has not paid the fee for many years and is not a member of ASSITEJ Korea. However, she is on the board of ITYARN so she is a member of ASSITEJ, and she has also been very active in research and the network. The University of Korea is one of the few who offer an MFA in TYA and engagement with them could encourage students to become members.

Another complaint from Kim Sookhee was that many Korean applicants for Next Generation were not members of ASSITEJ Korea and she felt that only those who were members should be put foward. Sookhee said that many non-ASSITEJ members had participated in Poland and then never joined.

YH asked the EC for their views on this.

AG expressed that it was not a problem of non-members participating, but that at times nobody knew who the participants were and it becomes and individual applying in the name of ASSITEJ, getting selected and the center doesn't even know.

RF said that for official events like the Artistic Gatherings and Congress ASSITEJ delegates the role of promoting ASSITEJ to the organizers. It is not correct for the center to be involved in the selection. For the host to create the best program, ASSITEJ delegates to the host and for promotion projects like Next Generation, it is good for new people to be involved. You only have to be an ASSITEJ member for the Placement program, but not for the Residency.

RA commented it was very hard to run a National Center, and that it's not a question of controlling, but we should help centers stay united and not lose their functions. YH said the problem is when centers act as gatekeepers and this gives them license to cherry-pick people. This time, the Cradle of Creativity organizers asked for feedback when there were various applicants from one country, but did not let them pick.

AF expressed that since Sookhee would be stepping down from her position soon, she is probably trying to protect the members and justify their membership.

VJ mentioned there is tension between being open and welcoming everyone, and wanting people to pay memberships. She remembered that in the past, other centers would always inquire about Icelandic participants.

MvdW agreed that ASSITEJ should be open, but there should also be something that the organization in each country is doing.

YH said that there were instances when this wasn't an option. For example, a participant from Honduras applied to the Next Generation program in Cape Town, but there is no individual member nor center in Honduras; this person is however a potential new member.

RF expressed that Next Generation was a different issue because its purpose is not necessarily to create members, but young artists who work for children. It is clear that we have to support ASSITEJ and its members, but it must not work like a protected family. RA agreed and suggested that even if they are not members, maybe they could apply through the centers, like has happened with ASSITEJ Germany's International Directors' Seminar.

MGC agreed and shared that a Mexican participant from Birmingham was chosen and she was never asked about this. She is an amateur artist who also applied and was chosen for a Placement grant in Croatia. Although MGC said she would've probably recommended someone else, two ASSITEJ experiences may be a great experience for this girl to move forward with TYA in Mexico.

YH disagreed specifically for the Next Generation program. She proposed that the participants could be endorsed by their center, network or by an institution or theatre company, this would be part of the application since the beginning, so the applicant would be in charge of obtaining the letter of endorsement, and then the host would communicate with the center. FF then proposed having a list of people or institutions that could endorse participants, or that the host simply validates the application by checking the participant's background. FF and RF agreed that in principle, when one country is chosen to organize an international event, other countries should not interfere.

DF expressed that each project had its own requirements. The Taboo Workshop does not require people to be members of ASSITEJ, but it became a generator for ASSITEJ centers in different countries. On the other hand, the Regional Workshop in Uruguay was only for ASSITEJ members. There should always be opportunities for those who don't have representation so they are included.

AF agreed not to make distinctions between those who have centers and those who don't. He mentioned that ASSITEJ Japan asks for a \$200 contribution from individual members and \$1000 from companies. How can we invite people to take part in ASSITEJ activities if they can't pay a membership fee?

SG said the strategy and vision of the centers should be respected, but they should also follow a code of conduct.

MvdW suggested that people apply on their own, but once they are accepted, they are asked to become members if they aren't already. YH agreed and said those who don't have

a center or network that speaks to them would be approached to discuss potential membership.

Non-paying Members:

RF informed he would write to the members explaining their particular situation and then attach a letter signed by RF, YH and MGC. The letter will ask members to pay their debts before the end of the year so that the cash flow can be used to support struggling centers at the Congress.

ACTION:

- 1. YH and MGC will work on something diplomatic regarding the unfortunate issue with ASSITEJ Iran and ASSITEJ Turkey.
- 2. RF will send a letter to members with arrears with support from YH and MGC.

12. Specific Items of Business

a. Cradle of Creativity

YH gave a report on Cradle of Creativity consisting of the following points: (Full report will be shared after Congress.)

Finance & Funding

The funding situation was discussed; there is a shortfall, but funding decisions are expected in February and March, and there are potential sponsors still coming on board.

Registration

YH expressed that ASSITEJ should not deny participation in the Congress to those who cannot pay. Of course if you are able to pay you do, because there is value in what you are receiving, but if you are not able to pay, the EC gives permission for one delegate to attend. RF asked about the selection of those who would be supported and YH mentioned there would have to be a policy and strict criteria that is transparent.

SG asked if people with a Festival Registration would be able to buy tickets for symposia and YH responded they would be able to attend Focus Days on a first come, first serve basis, although they won't receive the lunch and performance that are part of this particular program; for workshops, they will have to register and pay separately.

Program

The festival selection situation was discussed.

There are three main venues for Cradle of Creativity:

-Baxter (Early years focus); under 700 seats, about 300 on flipside, small studio space with 300 seats and smaller space with 50 seats.

-City Hall (Primary school/family audience focus) has space for Congress and conference; two main venues with fixed seating and one flexible.

-Artscape (teen/youth focus); about 600 seats and Arena with 120 seats but some accessibility problems.

City Hall and Artscape are 20 minutes walking distance or 10 minutes by bus.

City Hall and Baxter are 20 minutes apart (depending on traffic).

Baxter is a venue where people should plan on spending the day or going at times when traffic eases.

Hotels are all within the city center and Baxter will be slightly further away; there will be transportation available for Opening Ceremony.

There will be a Producers' Bazaar during the second week for South African artists to present extracts of productions, network with one another and meet international people.

YH said there was an idea to create a document similar to the *ITYARN Context* where IATC could also be involved.

In 2009 in Linz, MvdW, Niclas Malmcrona and Mary McAvoy worked on a booklet that gave contextual information on productions that came from critics or academics from each particular country.

MvdW agreed to talk with her students and see if she can get any help.

MvdW suggested including some kind of guide on the website that explains things as people scroll down. VJ then suggested this could be a video of YH speaking as the host and briefly pointing out each point, and can include subtitles in different languages.

Regarding inclusivity, YH informed that basically everywhere is wheelchair accessible. There is only one space at City Hall that has a problem with accessibility that they are trying to solve, and one venue at Artscape, where a back entrance has to be used. There will probably be South African sign language for some productions.

Translation will be available in French and Portuguese, and there may be a possibility for Spanish. YH asked for ways to strategize with big delegations that may require translations and if people within the groups can serve as translators.

SG inquired about the possibility of having simultaneous translation and YH said it could be done but there is a cost for additional booths and translators. If there is a sizeable group, it may be worth for them to work on translation funding.

VJ said she had spoken with Mr. Yin Xiaodong from China and would follow up to see if they would bring a translator or pay for one in Cape Town.

YH said there were two basic options; Cradle of Creativity provides the booth and the group provides the translator, or the group pays for a translator based in Cape Town.

RF asked for people to keep in mind that not the whole community speaks English as well and it is not always easy to follow the conferences, Congress, etc. YH agreed and said people would be asked to make everything more visual, clear and short. SG suggested pacing and using slides.

YH proposed looking into a toolkit for creating accessibility to foreign language listeners, for presenters. VJ agreed to help in thinking about the Congress in this sense and help to frame the agenda and think about headlines and main points of discussion.

RA recommended using the South African volunteers that speak other languages, as chaperones to explain to groups of people. YH agreed to explore the idea and to consult embassies for help.

AG reminded to keep in mind how to tackle discussions and interventions.

YH suggested proposals that don't fit in the Conference or Focus Days, but are about intercultural exchange, could be part of the Artistic Encounters.

VJ said this would go back to the old format and would not take into account what needs to be discussed. YH expressed that these were themes people want to talk about and would like to be part of conversations, so it can become an interactive dialogue.

The Honorary Member's tribute can happen during the Congress, Awards' Evening, or Closing Ceremony. We need to decide which would be most appropriate.

ASSITEJ Networks will receive the material that was put forth for the Conference and Focus Days that is relevant to each particular network.

YH asked the EC to decide on an event for the magazine launch, which could be before the Auction.

MGC mentioned Steve Ball wanted to report on the AAG16 and proposed asking ASSITEJ Germany to report on the AAG15 as well. YH mentioned these should be short 5-10 minute reports.

Marketing and Communications

YH asked for help from the Promotions working group in this regard.

Yusrah Bardien is in charge of coordinating with the publicist so she will be the contact for cross-pollinating and promoting content.

YH also suggested approaching Lynn Gardner.



The idea is for people to stay within the city center because this is potentially within walking distance to venues and bus route, but it is also expensive.

Hotel options will be on the Congress website and delegates will have the option to book themselves or through ASSITEJ South Africa and CONFCO with a cost. Performers will be accommodated by ASSITEJ South Africa; for speakers it is still unknown whether we can accommodate them, but will be clear in March.

Visas and Logistics

YH said visas were a concern and people need to apply with enough time so that the Department of Arts and Culture can support them. It will be clear on the website that there are visa requirements and that the visa must be obtained before traveling.

Next Generation

Selection was difficult; decisions made trying to have as much diversity as possible.

The network will have their own meeting and activities, so previous participants can gather together. There will be 2-3 participants from Birmingham as hosts, although the final selection hasn't been made yet.

National Centers will receive a composite with everything that was received from their country for the Congress.

EC arrival date will be May 16, to start meeting on the 17th. May 18 and 21 will also be EC meeting days and the Congress will be on May 22-25. Those who don't stand for another term can leave after the 25th. The new EC will meet on May 26.

MvdW asked EC members to think about arriving the 15th so they can attend the ITYARN Conference on the 16th. YH mentioned current EC members will be hosted throughout the entire period (11 days) but do not necessarily have to stay.

Congress minutes will be the responsibility of the Secretariat until the fourth day of Congress. The current EC is responsible of making sure record is kept until the end of the Congress.

YH asked to know by Korea if people would be standing again or not. Submissions for the next EC must be put in by early February.

ACTION:

- 1. VJ will follow up with ASSITEJ China regarding Chinese translation in the Congress.
- 2. MGC will ask ASSITEJ Germany to make a short report on AAG15 at the Congress.
- 3. Promotions Working Group/Secretariat will be in contact with Yusrah Bardien for promoting Congress content.



a. South Korea – ASSITEJ Korea Winter Festival, January 2017

MGC shared the team from ASSITEJ Korea seem to be very well organized and have already sent a first draft of schedule for the EC.

There was some confusion because Sookhee had written saying they could extend the EC stay to two more nights but then stepped back. The dates remain the same as were established in the beginning; January 4 is arrival date and January 10 is departure date. MGC announced she would be staying an extra day to work on next year's Summer Festival, which will have a focus on Mexico.

ASSITEJ Korea will be submitting a candidate for the next EC.

b. Cape Town, South Africa - ASSITEJ Congress, May 2017

Arrival date is May 16 and departure date May 25, for those who don't stand for another term and would like to leave before the end (May 27).

Solidarity Fund will be proposed in Congress to the General Assembly, so it will be part of then new membership system.

YH suggested using the profit that RF mentioned in his report, towards the Congress. This would be particularly useful for supporting those members who find it difficult to attend, or pay the registration for those who can't pay it but can come to the Congress.

VJ asked how these members would be selected.

YH used Cuba's example. Their vice-president has been chosen for the Next Generation Residency and they have asked for help with the registration fee, so ASSITEJ Cuba would apply for support. MGC added that they were also asking for support with accommodation and meals. YH said that this particular case was no problem since Next Generation would take care of accommodation and per diems, but there should be criteria for similar cases. This option will only be for developing countries or those with difficulties at the moment (like political issues).

YH said delegates from developing countries would need to pay about \$215 for registration, so maybe ASSITEJ could support with \$500 to cover this fee and some other costs. The criteria could be: first- developing countries or those in difficulties, second-official delegates to the Congress, third- only one person per country, and fourth- if your country won't be otherwise represented.

RA proposed asking for the flight as a receipt and a way of ensuring the person would show up. RF also proposed paying the registration fee directly to South Africa and giving the

delegate's center \$250 for other costs. YH said they would still have to register online, but once the money has been received on their behalf, they will receive their registration code.

Members who announce beforehand that they will pay in cash at Cape Town will be able to do so on Saturday, during registration.

YH proposed having a double system. Those who are up to date with their fees will receive the registration and \$250 upon arrival. Those who are not paid up will be registered but won't receive the second part of the grant until they have paid their fee.

MGC said people with big debts should be offered a discount because they will probably not pay otherwise. Most disagreed saying the \$500 is already help and it is not fair to other centers that are in order with their payments.

RF asked for a decision to be taken in Seoul regarding if the grants would be created using the net profits or with the reserve.

SG suggested announcing the grant slightly after the registration has begun. It was decided the announcement would go out in the February newsletter, with a deadline at the end of March.

c. Future Possible Meetings

There is still the possibility of an EC meeting in January 2018 at the Panoptikum Festival in Germany, but YH mentioned this seemed too late for the new EC to meet as a first meeting, so something between August and October would be necessary. HD said he would look into proposing a meeting in Tunisia.

RF and FF both opted for meetings in October because September is a very busy month in Europe.

MGC asked the EC if anyone knew of possibilities in their countries.

MvdW said USA would only be possible in early May during One Theatre World or January at IPAY. DF said he would look into a possible festival that will take place in July or August in Cordoba, Argentina.

FF proposed asking Segni di Infanza that takes place in the end of October/beginning of November in Mantova, Italy. SFF also proposed the Export – Import Festival in Brussels, Belgium at the end of October. YH asked for people to explore both options.

Regarding the first Artistic Gathering, USA will be making a proposal for early May 2018. Mexico is also looking into it but cannot confirm yet for 2018.

ACTION:

- 1. Maui will work out a schedule of things that must happen before Korea with deadlines.
- 2. Congress grant for registration will be announced in February/March newsletter.
- 3. DF will look into the possibility of meeting in the Cordoba Festival.



- . SFF will look into the possibility of meeting in the Export Import Festival in Brussels.
- 5. FF/RF will look into the possibility of meeting in Segni di Infanza in Mantova.

14. Any Other Business

a. Adding Dance Network to Website

Gabi dan Droste has asked if we could include the Dance Network on our website. RF disagreed saying it doesn't really exist yet, and the network should exist previously, with a relation between the people who are already doing something together.

YH suggested rather including a page for proposed networks, networks in formation, or emerging networks. This could function as a call for participation with the networks that have currently been proposed. The section could state that these are still networks in formation and not yet members of ASSITEJ, but are calling for participation so people can contact them if they're interested. There is currently much interest of dance companies from Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, India, Jerusalem, Netherlands, Nigeria, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Scotland, Slovenia, Sweden, UK, and Uruguay.

The idea is for the prospective members to meet and agree to a structure and constitution in Cape Town. They may develop in Cape Town but not necessarily be ready to join ASSITEJ, so they can apply when they're ready for full membership.

b. Function of Networks

YH read the current requirements and prerequisites of ASSITEJ networks.

VJ expressed it had always been clear that Next Generation was not a network by these standards.

YH suggested speaking to the network and saying they have been given time and there is no evidence of them working as a network, so while we encourage them to keep networking as a community within ASSITEJ, we would like to remove them as official network of ASSITEJ.

RF said he had talked with Nina after Berlin about the difference between a community and a network in common action, which needs a strong external focus that can be accessible for outsiders.

RF agreed to share his reflection on networks with the EC.

YH suggested for the EC to decide if Next Generation hasn't met the standards of a network and give them until Seoul to say why they should remain as a network. Then the EC will take a decision in January.



c. Support for ASSITEJ Cameroon

RF mentioned Theatre du Chocolat had previously asked for \$5,000 USD of support from ASSITEJ. Since the budget does not permit this, the answer was that we would support with \$3,000. ASSITEJ Cameroon has a lot of economical problems and they are very active and always pay their fees.

Because of this, RF proposed increasing the grant by \$500 more, which he could pay in cash, and suggesting ASSITEJ could cover part of Cameroon's fee for next year.

YH agreed that this was a kind of thank you for having hosted the meeting.

FF informed the EC that he had spoken with EZ and ASSITEJ France would be covering the price of the hotel rooms for the workshop leaders, which was about \$800.

YH expressed that if people had financial difficulties resulting of having to pay meals during their stay at Cameroon, RF could reimburse the costs.

d. Role of the Networks within the EC

MvdW raised the issue by mentioning she had been appointed to the EC as an ITYARN representative, and although she would like to stand again, by the constitution she cannot run for another period. She said there is already a democratically chosen candidate from the USA and she does not wish to compete with him because there can't be someone from a network if there is already someone from the same country. MvdW expressed that it takes time to learn things within ASSITEJ and RA agreed that the second term is usually more productive for EC members.

YH reminded the EC that this had been a strategy to get centers to support networks as members. When looking at the ITYARN board, all represented countries are putting forth a candidate, so they would have no potential for representation. This may be a constitutional issue in the long-term.

RF asked about creating an amendment for having two people from one country since they would be separate entities. YH agreed this could be a potential change and should be proposed to the General Assembly for the longer term, although MvdW could not be a candidate under the current constitution.

SFF suggested that ITYARN should outline the problem formally, saying they would like MvdW to represent them so there is a problem to be solved.

SG expressed that the inclusion of networks brings a broad voice to discussions because it's about areas of exploration and not only countries; it would be a shame to miss it across all networks. YH agreed and said it would be good to have at least one network represented.

• VJ suggested the amendment say there is one spot for a network and this is voted on separately. This way, each network can nominate someone and that representative would have obligations to all networks and would be the main link.

The idea would be to have 14 EC members from centers and the 15th member would be from a network. There may be several options or none, or someone who represents both things like RF (Italy and Small Size).

Three concrete proposals came up:

- 1. Keeping things as they are.
- 2. Creating some kind of mechanism about the number of EC places that can be held by centers and by networks. This would require a constitutional change by vote.
- 3. A constitutional change that says networks can put forward a candidate from anywhere. In the final makeup there can only be a maximum of two members from one country.

VJ expressed that what makes the ASSITEJ EC so wonderful is how well represented it is across the globe, while many networks are mainly driven from the west.

Then she proposed the idea of having a rotating network counselor, to make sure they are represented some way.

YH asked everyone to give the matter consideration because the role of the networks within the EC is very important.

VOTING:

- 1. Do you agree that we proceed in informing the Next Generation Network we feel there are some problems in operating as a network and we need a rationale by the Seoul meeting as to why keep considering them as a network? (UNANIMOUS YES)
- Does everyone agree to support ASSITEJ Cameroon with \$500 USD of which \$170 will go towards their fees and the rest in cash to deal with expenses? (UNANIMOUS YES)

ACTION:

1. Secretariat will let Next Generation representatives know they haven't met the standards of a network and must say why they should remain an ASSITEJ Network.

15. Closure



PRESIDENT'S REPORT Cameroon, November 2016

1. ASSITEJ-related business:

a. International co-operation between the associations:

I attended the IATC Congress in Belgrade and have agreed to host an IATC panel on our Conference as a way to strengthen bonds. IATC may also run a Next Gen critics residency at the Congress, along with our young critics programme. Funding still needs to be found for this. I was able to present on the Cradle of Creativity to the Congress and there was a lot of interest and engagement from members.

For discussion: We need to invite International Associations to cooperate for 2017 World Day/Performance Week, and would also like to invite them to the Congress for a meeting to align activities and goals. Can ASSITEJ assist with supporting their stay in any way?

- b. I also was able to support ASSITEJ Serbia and their activities at BITEF Polyphony during the BITEF festival. I made a visit to the Ministry of Culture with Diana, which seems to have brought some relief in terms of her situation. There seemed to be a lot of interest in collaboration and they were interested in partnerships.
- c. I have engaged in general correspondence with members; responding to queries and communicating about the state of membership of several of the African centres/individual members.
- d. World Congress 2017 is the main focus of my work at the moment. It has been a very busy and stressful time preparing for the Congress, and I will report on that separately.
- e. Participated in a Webinar for TYA USA to promote the Congress, and contributed to an interview for their magazine, which will focus on South African theatre.

2. Travels:

- a. On the Edge, in Birmingham, UK, in July
- b. Serbia for BITEF Polyphony and IATC International conference (27-28 September) & Next Generation Critics
- c. Budapest for 100, 1000, 1 000000 Stories Festival, where I was on the Jury: 1-8 October; this was also a good opportunity for learning more about the situation in Romania and the ASSITEJ Romania centre and how it operates.
- d. Cameroon for EC meeting (FATEJ): 11-18 November
- e. Various internal trips within South Africa: to KZN, Gauteng etc.

3. ASSITEJ SA News:

a. National:

• **Kickstarter Project:** Arts education project in 20 schools in 4 districts and 2 provinces; the pilot study in the benefits of the arts and of theatre for children over a 2 year period, which trains up artist-facilitators, teachers and children directly, and which brings theatre

productions into schools –This project is nearing completion and we are hoping to be able to propose a 3 year model to funders on the basis of its success.

- Showcases of work in different parts of the country at National Arts festival (July), Hilton Arts Festival (September), Cape Town Fringe Festival (September), Muizenberg Festival (October), Wushwini Festival (October) and (upcoming) Vrygrond Family Festival (1-4 December).
- Ongoing mentorships of ten companies and touring their work to schools

b. International:

- Assisting Pillowfort Productions with tour to Iran (December)
- Assisting Mother to Mother with tour to Rwanda: Ubumuntu festival (July)

c. Cradle of Creativity:

- The uncertainty around funding has been extremely difficult and has influenced processes considerably. This has been exacerbated by the fact that ASSITEJ SA is coming to the end of various projects all at the same time, and therefore also to the end of funding timelines, and we have put all efforts into Cradle of Creativity with little focus on our own sustainability outside of that. This has meant uncertainty for staff, lack of income for some of us (myself, primarily) and a loss of focus due to the challenges of keeping going.
- However, there is good news. Funding from the Department of Arts and Culture (national) as well as from the provincial arts council has been secured. We have also secured a grant from Rand Merchant Bank which will support our core expenses through 2017, as well as certain aspects of South African participation in the Congress. We have secured certain in-kind donations and discounts on technical equipment and hotels, which is helpful to the budget. We are awaiting news on funding from the City of Cape Town, the National Lotteries Commission, the National Heritage Council and UNESCO's IFCP fund, amongst others.
- Conference selections are in process, and invitations will start to go out in the next week. I hope to work with Manon on the programme while we are here in Cameroon. We have had strong engagement with the various universities that are partnering on the project, and with ITYARN.
- Call for productions: It was very challenging dealing with almost 1000 applications with a very small staff and with several of them being part time and volunteer. The South African advisory committee was busy and often hard to access, and their input was erratic. The International advisory committee was willing and responsive, mostly, but there was some dissatisfaction with the way the process has worked. It has certainly been less than perfect. We have been dictated to to some extent by the need to make some choices based on where we have reasonable anticipation of funding support. It has been a juggle to construct a programme that we all feel happy with, but we are pleased with many of the choices, and while there is still no final clarity as to which productions will come we are looking at around 20 productions from outside of Africa and 25 from Africa (including of course, South Africa). The focus days are coming together quite nicely and most of them have strong work in the programme to complement the days.
- It would be good to consider whether we would like to consider creating a curation protocol for future Congresses, given the difficulties we have experienced, and whether this would be useful or a strait jacket for hosts.



- Next generation selections: We had 270 applications for 30 positions at Next Generation. I
 have a final list, but have asked for Diana's input before publicizing it. It will be released to
 the participants this weekend, however.
- A full report on all aspects of Cradle of Creativity will be given separate to this President's report.

REPORTED BY: Yvette Hardie, President

1 November 2016



Secretary General Report

Yaoundé, Cameroon 11-17 November 2016

Generals from July 2016 to November 2016:

Communication with the Centers

Communication with members is done day by day via emails (responding to different inquiries).

The following official letters were sent from the Secretariat since July:

- 1. Chile Supporting letter for a funding project of TE veo Chile for Iberescena.
- Uruguay- Letter of acceptance of the regional workshop to be hel in Colonia as an ASSITEJ Project.
 Letter of acceptance their requirement of Assitej support with funding
- 2. **Iberoamerican Network-** Signature of ASSITEJ Secretary in a letter to Iberescena asking for support to Children's theatre projects.
- 3. India and UK- Invitation letters for Ashish Gosh and Mark Powell to participate in the EC meeting in Cameroon.
- 4. Cameroon- Supporting letter for FATEJ to host the EC meeting
- 5. **Mexico** Thank you letter to Mexican cultural authorities for supporting the Secretary office and invitatition to ASSITEJ World Congress.
- 6. **Korea** Invitation letter to Sookhee Kim to be part of the Honorary President's Award.
- 8. UK- Thank you letter to Thomasina Carlyle for her professional work in ASSITEJ magazine 2016
- Cuba- Supportin letter to Cuban authorieties to fund the travel costs of Cuban delegate to the ASSITEJ Congress
- 10) **Lithuania-** Supporting letter for funding their assitance to the ASSITEJ CongressInvitaciones al congreso: Cuba y Lithuania.
- 11- Colombia-Expulsion letter for Colombia as a National Center- Invitation to become individual member
- 12- Paraguay Expulsión de Paraguay as a National Center- Invitation to become individual memeber.
- 13- **Israel** -Comunications with Razi Amitai about Ady's situation , from now till the end of the term Razi will be the Israel representative in the EC

14- **Tunicia**- Comunications with Hamadi Dimassi regarding his presence as African Counsellor in Cameroon meeting.

15- UK-Comunications with Steve Ball regarding pending subjexts of the Gathering.

New Applications

We received membership applications from:

Palestine: online votation accepted

China- Individual member to be discussed

Pakistan - to be discussed

Emails

Ukraine- We received a requirement from asking how to become a member of ASSITEJ. We ask him to help contacting the people from ASSITEJ Ukraine that host the EC meeting in 20111

Burundi- We received a requirement from Burundi on how to become a member of ASSITEJ.

Networks

IIAN- send their Declaration to be discussed in this meeting.

Dance Network- Promotion of it in Mexico and Latin America, regular communication with Gaby dan Droste. They want to be included in the website before it is launched in the Next Congress.

Music Theatre Network. We put Meike in contact with an Albanian Artist that is launching a Musical theatre Network.

EU Funding Project

We have not had that much information from Dirk Neldner regarding the development of the EU funding project *The Life of the others*. Stefan Fisherfelds was not required for the project meeting in September. We asked for information on this meeting but haven't got a response yet.

World Day

World Day logo was adjusted to theme of intercultural. Uploaded in the web page with a file available for adapting the text in different languages.

Toolkit was updated with help from Promotions Working Group and it has being launched in the newsletter and website.



On line votation for the Children's literature writer Francisco Hinojosa to write the world Day message 2017. Result-Yes

Communication with Jeremiah Ikongo through Nina regarding the payment for the World Day Video 2016, which is still pending.

Minutes

Minutes from EC meeting in Birmingham were done and sent for revision to EC members and uploaded on the website.

Website

New sections:

Honorary Members – To be improved.

We asked the centers to check up and improve (if needed) the information and portraits missing.

On the Edge section- nurtured as much as possible with the information sent by the organizers, networks, pictures from Kenjiro and a report received from Steve Ball few days ago.

Homepage:

-Magazine 2016 uploaded to the website

We improved a draft Prezi explaining Next Generation Residencies versus Placements

We have been constantly updating the information on the website and including as much as possible Spanish translations

Newsletter

We have been responsible for editing, formatting and sending it to Yvette and François for final revision.

There has been improvement in centers sending information, however usually they are the same.

The newsletter has been posted on Facebook and Twitter.



We have been translating the most important material into Spanish as well.

Magazine/Leaflet

Magazine information is detailed in the publications report. For 2017 leaflet content must be updated with Promotions

Calls and other materials sent to the centers

All the calls for participation in the Congress have been sent several times to all the centers and distributed widely in the social networks.

The calls for the newsletter have been sent regularly.

Monthly newsletters are sent through Send In Blue.

Call for ASSITEJ Magazine.

Call for Magazine advertisements. To be launched in December newsletter

ITYARN Call for papers – ASSITEJ World Congress (sent in English and Spanish).

Baku International Theatre Conference Invitation

Call for Schoolyard Stories Project

Twitter and Facebook

Updates and posts of the main calls and events have been made constantly, and we have shared information from other events.

ASSITEJ Archives

- We have been working on the file for Ivica's period it is finished but it needs a last revision it will be send before the end of the year.
- We have been working in the Archive May 2015- May to 2016, will be send to Yvette for her revision January next year.

Office in Mexico City

We've been in constant communication with the people from the Ministry of Culture (Conaculta) who give us funding; sending regularly reports to sustain this funding we send



them copies of our meeting minutes and full reports of what we do for them to see and understand the work we do.

We received at the beginning of November the funding for 2016, (almost 9,326. dlls) it seems that it is going to be the last one till the end of this term. It will allow us to cover Maui's salary from January to June 2017 and some other expenses (Logos and leaflet design 2017) and hopefully something else.

I had two meetings with authorities from the Ministry of Culture and from Conaculta regarding the future of Mexico in ASSITEJ and the organization of the ASSITEJ Artistic Gathering 2018, we haven't arrive to a conclusion this will be done by the end of the year.

International Invitations

- I was invited by **JENKIO** (Japan Union of Theatrical Companies for Children and Young People) to give two lectures; ASSITEJ its main projects and the upcoming Congress and the Theater for Children and Young People in Mexico a historical perspective, in addition to a talk about Seki Sano Japanese master of the Mexican Theater.
- **JENKIO** showed great enthusiasm for the ASSITEJ Congress and proposed to bring a 100 Japanese delegates to the ASSITEJ Congress in Cape Town
- I also visited the city the city of Hamamatsu, with Fujita san and Kenjiro, as an observer of a rehearsal of the company Tampopo. The play was directed by Kenjiro with de supervision of Fujita san. The following day the work was represented for a school, almost 500 children attended, it was interesting experience to observe an example of theatre for schools in Japan.
- Invitation as an observer of the 19th edition of the Festival de Teatro de Camagüey in Cuba. Several performances for children were presented. We had a Forum of ASSITEJ Cuba with the exposure of a research project from Esther Suárez Durán, a reading of a play (result of the work on a playwright workshop with Mexican playwright Berta Hiriart)and meeting with Cuban artist, I had a presentation on Mexican TYA and on ASSITEJ, mainly on the possibilities of exchange that ASSITEJ offers. ASSITEJ Cuba, Esther Suárez is doing a great effort in
- participating in our activities despite their budget restrictions. They asked for support for meals and loge for the Cuban delegate to the Congress.



- Visit to **Cape Town**, South Africa for the Site Congress Inspection will take place after our Cameroon meeting

I was not able to attend because of budget restrictions:

- -China Children's Theatre Festival, but Vigdís Jackobsdottir went representing ASSITEJ will be going.
- Baku International Theatre Conference.

IberoAmerican Centers/Report

- Contact with Lola Lara regarding ASSITEJ Congress translation into Spanish.
- Contact with María Inés regarding her initiative of sending a letter to Iberescena asking for more support for Children's Theatre projects (Interest, funds and specificity) and a specialized Jury on TYA to qualify the projects. The letter sent was signed by ASSITEJ: Argentina, Chile, Cuba ,España, México and Uruguay
- An Ecuadorian artist of Asoecena del **Ecuador** visited Mexico city, Zeydum I met him and we talked about ASSITEJ projects and the ways of payment of their debt. Few days ago I received some information on a Festival they are organizing.

ASSITEJ MEXICO:

- The première of the coproduction between Mexico, Brazil and Mozambique took place in the Festival International Cervantino October 22, previous meeting and rehearsals in Uberlandia, Brazil, wit the attendance o Rogerio Manjate from Mozambique. They also gave 4 performances in Mexico city. They decided to have two productions one in Brazil an another in México.
- Three Mexican artists (Michel Guerra, Enrique Olmos and Yoloxochitl García)
- attended the Iberoamerican Research Forum in Buenos Aires.

Two Mexican young artist attended the project Patios del Recreo in Buenos Aires

- We have tried to make particular emphasis in promoting ASSITEJ calls for the activities of the Congress among Mexican artists.



- Theatre for the early years (Babies) is becoming more known and popular, the next issue of the magazine Paso de Gato will include a dossier on the subject with articles from ASSITEJ and Small Size members as: Roberto Frabetti, Jànos Novak and Ben Fletcher Watson.
- The company Teatro al Vacío will go back to Bologna next year to the Festival Visioni di Futuro, Visioni di Teatro to continue developing their work with a onemonth residency at in Bologna.
- Georgina Saggiante Montero, next gen Birmingham got ASSITEJ grant for the a placement in Croatia.
- Negotiations towards the presence of Mexico in the 2018 ASSITEJ Korea Festival.
- As a result of the project Theaterwelt, (readings of plays written in German) the play *Only One Day*, by Martin Balscheit, with the company Finisterra will be produced.

Marisa Giménez Cacho



TREASURER REPORT - EC YAOUNDE NOVEMBER 2016 1 BUDGET AND ACCOUNTING

TABLE 1. Balance sheet of the period 1st January 2016 – 4th November 2016. The rate USD /EUR (1,1064) is ECB rate on November 3rd.

<u>The positive result</u> is true because a large part of the costs are accounted for, including the costs for this present meeting. Part of the positive result is due to the difference of 5.636 USD between the Grant to the Secretary general Office and the relative costs. Some details:

ASSETS

- Other Credits: I had a problem of connections with the bank of Theatre du Chocolat, and the money was not transferred from Bank of France. We are waiting that the amount (2.979 USD) is returned to our bank account.

LIABILITIES

- Debts Conaculta Grant 2017 to the Secretary General. It is the amounted granted for the year 2017 on Nov, 2nd.
- C/Vat: Agenzia Delle Entrate Italy. It is the amount of the VAT for the costs in Birmingham.
- Debts: Assitej Magazine Advertisements. These are amounts already paid for the Magazines 2017 and 2018.

DALANCE CHEET		Rate
BALANCE SHEET		03/11/2016
Period: 1 January - 4 November 20	016	1,1064
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES	EUR	USD
ASSETS		
CASH ON HAND - EUR ACCOUNT	759,49	840,30
CASH ON HAND - USD ACCOUNT	1.496,75	1.656,00
BPM BANK - EUR ACCOUNT	51.232,82	56.683,99
PAY PAL ITALY - EUR ACCOUNT	5.568,21	6.160,67
PAY PAL ITALY - USD ACCOUNT	8.179,49	9.049,78
WESTERN UNION	0,00	0,00
CUSTOMERS	565,00	625,12
OTHER CREDITS	2.692,76	2.979,27
TOTAL ASSETS	70.494,51	77.995,13
LIABILITIES		
RESERVE FUNDS	46.720,72	51.691,80
DEBTS - CONACULTA GRANT 2017 TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL	8.381,66	9.273,47
DEBTS C/VAT: AGENZIA DELLE ENTRATE - ITALY	319,30	353,28
DEBTS: ASSITEJ MAGAZINE - ADVERTISEMENTS 2016-2017	850,00	940,44
DEBTS: ASSITEJ MAGAZINE - ADVERTISEMENTS 2017-2018	327,87	362,75
FEES PAID IN ADVANCE 2017	710,76	786,39
FEES PAID IN ADVANCE 2018	41,18	45,56



OTHER DEBTS	0,00	0,00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	57.351,49	63.453,69
BALANCE	13.143,02	14.541,44
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT	EUR	USD
PROFIT		
MEMBER FEES 2016	16.989,42	18.797,09
MEMBER FEES 2015	1.410,05	1.560,08
MEMBER FEES - Overdue amount	138,54	153,28

	BALANCE	13.143,02	14.541,44
	TOTAL LOSS	24.241,09	26.820,34
VARIATIONS OF RATE EXCHANGE		98,12	108,56
OTHER COSTS		1,00	1,11
BANK COSTS		615,74	681,25
NEW WEBSITE CREATION		0,00	0,00
NEWSLETTERS LICENSE		27,45	30,37
WEBSITE UPDATING & DOMINIO		132,00	146,04
PROMOTIONAL COSTS		294,89	326,27
PROJECT COSTS – GATHERING		204,08	225,80
NEXT GENERATION PLACEMENT - REIMBURSEMENT		895,27	990,53
EC TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENTS FOR EC MEMBERS		897,50	992,99
EC TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENTS FOR COUNSELLORS		840,84	930,31
COSTS FOR HOTEL EC MEMBERS & COUNSELLORS		2.700,00	2.987,28
ASSITEJ THEATRE DAY PROMOTION VIDEO 2016		1.333,00	1.474,83
ASSITEJ MAGAZINE 2016 – COSTS		7.345,07	8.126,58
SECRETARY GENERAL OFFICE EXPENDITURES		8.856,14	9.798,43
LOSS			
	TOTAL PROFIT	37.384,11	41.361,78
VARIATIONS OF RATE EXCHANGE		4,13	4,57
OTHER REVENUES		22,86	25,29
ASSITEJ MAGAZINE - ADVERTISEMENTS 2016		4.281,49	4.737,04
DONATION & FRIENDS OF ASSITEJ		851,46	942,05
CONACULTA GRANT TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL		13.686,17	15.142,37

TABLE 2. Mission budget (Period Warsaw-Cape Town)

This is the current situation of the Mission budget (in USD). The exchange rates are the ECB values on 31^{st} December for 2014 and 2015 and on 3^{rd} November for 2016.

You will find again the total amounts as "Actuals" in the next table (Table 3: Budget Projection), that allows us to have a clear overview of the situation.

In order to present the Mission budget and the respective Report in Cape Town, it is important to define the date of end of the period. This means we should also define the deadline for the payment of the fees to be admitted to vote at the Congress. If it is the first day of the Assembly, we have to find an easy way to manage the cash.

BUDGET	2014	2015	2016	TOTAL
Period: 5 June 2014 - 4 November 2016	(5 Jun -31 Dec)	(1 Jan - 31 Dec)	(1 Jan - 4 Nov)	PERIOD
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT	USD	USD	USD	USD
PROFIT				
MEMBER FEES 2014 - Overdue amount	552,42	239,51	153,28	945,21
MEMBER FEES 2015		18.536,52	1.560,08	20.096,61
MEMBER FEES 2016			18.797,09	18.797,09
CONACULTA GRANT TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL		16.629,40	15.142,37	31.771,78
ASSITEJ MAGAZINE - ADVERTISEMENTS 2014 (Overdue amount)		1.230,30		1.230,30
ASSITEJ MAGAZINE - ADVERTISEMENTS 2015		6.704,36		6.704,36
ASSITEJ MAGAZINE - ADVERTISEMENTS 2016			4.737,04	4.737,04
DONATION & FRIEND OF ASSITEJ	1.349,87		942,05	2.291,92
AUCTION IN SUPPORT OF ASSITEJ	994,33			994,33
OTHER REVENUES, INTERESTS AND ROUNDING	113,73	84,21	25,29	223,23
VARIATIONS OF RATE EXCHANGE		715,16	4,57	719,73
TOTAL PROFIT	3.010,35	44.139,46	41.361,78	88.511,59
LOSS				
ASSITEJ THEATRE DAY PROMOTION VIDEO 2015		1.677,58		1.677,58
ASSITEJ THEATRE DAY PROMOTION VIDEO 2016			1.474,83	1.474,83
EC TRAVEL REIMBURSE - SECRETARY GENERAL	7.125,75			7.125,75

SECRETARY GENERAL OFFICE EXPENDITURES		9.210,83	9.798,43	19.009,26
EC MEMBERS TRAVEL REIMBURSE	4.566,52		992,99	5.559,51
COSTS FOR EC MEETINGS: HOTEL EC MEMBERS & COUNSELLORS		967,63	2.987,28	3.954,91
COSTS FOR EC MEETINGS:TRAVEL COUNSELLORS		990,51	930,31	1.920,82
NEXT GENERATION PLACEMENT - REIMBURSEMENT		1.002,79	990,53	1.993,32
PROJECT COSTS – GATHERING			225,80	
COSTS FOR 50TH ANNIVERSARY		613,48		613,48
ASSITEJ MAGAZINE 2016 – COSTS			8.126,58	8.126,58
ASSITEJ MAGAZINE 2015 – COSTS		10.130,71		10.130,71
PROMOTIONAL COSTS		159,22	326,27	485,49
WEBSITE UPDATING & DOMINIO	190,16	190,08	146,04	526,29
NEWSLETTERS LICENSE		394,09	30,37	424,46
NEW WEBSITE CREATION		6.484,54	0,00	6.484,54
RENT OF EQUIPMENT FOR AWARD CEREMONY	501,34			501,34
COSTS FOR REGISTRATION	798,39			798,39
BANK COSTS	164,35	601,98	681,25	1.447,58
TRANSFER BANK FUNDS	95,89			95,89
ROUNDING AND OTHER LOSSES	144,25			144,25
OTHER COSTS			1,11	1,11
VARIATIONS OF RATE EXCHANGE		0,00	108,56	108,56
TOTAL LOSS	13.586,66	32.423,43	26.820,34	72.604,64



-10.576,31

11.716,03

14.541,44

TABLE 3: Budget Projection. It reports the Actuals amounts, compared with values of the New budget. The Projection is in USD. In Berlin we also defined some costs linked to some uncertain incomes (fundraising...), that should have been spent only in case we actually had those incomes (totally or partially).

This projection is to be analyzed and debated togheter: what is presented here is only a suggestion.

In particular, we have to debate if and where allocate the possible Net profit (and when: here in Yaoundé or in Seoul?).

The amounts indicated for the Member fees are linked to the table that you can read below.

PROJECTION	NEW BUDGET	ACTUALS	DIFFERENCE	Income risk & Costs	Note		PROJECTION	
Currency USD	Berlin 2015	4 Nov 2016		linked to this income		From Nov 2016 NoJul	FINAL	Differen
INCOME								
MEMBERSHIP FEES								
MEMBER FEES 2014 & Overdue amount	1.000,00	945,21	-54,79		0% group 3	0,00	945,21	-54
MEMBER FEES 2015	18.950,00	20.096,61	1.146,61		30% Credits group 2	397,50	20.494,11	1.544
MEMBER FEES 2016	18.950,00	18.797,09	-152,91		100% Creditd group 1 +	3.597,50	22.394,59	3.444
MEMBER FEES 2017	19.250,00	0,00	-19.250,00		90% FEES 2016	20.200,00	20.200,00	950
Total	58.150,00	39.838,91	-18.311,09				64.033,91	5.883
ADVERTISEMENTS & BOOKSALE								
ASSITEJ MAGAZINE - ADVERTISEMENTS	18.825,00	11.441,39	-7.383,61		Amount 2016	4.280,00	15.721,39	-3.103
ASSITEJ MAGAZINE ADVERTISEMENTS-Overdue amount	1.260,00	1.230,30	-29,70			0,00	1.230,30	-29
WEBSITE – ADVERTISEMENTS	500,00	0,00	-500,00		No income expected	0,00	0,00	-500
BOOKSALE	100,00	0,00	-100,00		No income expected	0,00	0,00	-100
Total	20.685,00	12.671,69	-8.013,31				16.951,69	-3.733
FUNDRAISING								
FUNDRAISING - SUPPORT FOR ASSITEJ PROJECTS	6.000,00	0,00	-6.000,00	6.000,00	No income expected	0,00	0,00	-6.000
AUCTIONS	995,00	994,33	-0,67		No income expected	0,00	994,33	-(
Total	6.995,00	994,33	-6.000,67	6.000,00			994,33	-6.000
FRIENDS OF ASSITEJ & DONATIONS								
DONATION	2.850,00	869,87	-1.980,13	2.000,00	No income expected	0,00	869,87	-1.980
FRIENDS OF ASSITEJ	1.000,00	1.422,05	422,05		No income expected	0,00	1.422,05	422
Total	3.850,00	2.291,92	-1.558,08	2.000,00			2.291,92	-1.558
OTHER INCOME								
VARIATIONS OF RATE EXCHANGE	895,00	718,63	-176,37		No income expected	0,00	718,63	-176
INTERESTS AND ROUNDING	360,00	223,23	-136,77		No income expected	150,00	373,23	13

Total	1.255,00	941,86	-313,14				1.091,86	-163
SUPPORT TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL								
CONACULTA GRANT TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL 14-17	17.340,00	31.771,78	14.431,78		In Liabilities	9.273,47	41.045,24	23.70
Total	17.340,00	31.771,78	14.431,78				41.045,24	23.70
TOTAL INCOME	108.275,00	88.510,49	-19.764,51	8.000,00			126.408,95	18.13
EXPENSES								
EC - CORE COSTS								
MEETINGS	10.000,00	5.875,72	4.124,28	3.000,00	Budget reduced (amount column "Risk")	1.124,28	7.000,00	-3.000
EC TRAVEL REIMBURSE	12.966,00	5.559,51	7.406,49		Total budget spent	7.406,49	12.966,00	(
BANK CHARGES	1.558,00	1.543,47	14,53		60/month	120,00	1.663,47	10!
WEBSITE HOSTING/DESIGN	5.300,00	6.484,54	-1.184,54		No costs expected	0,00	6.484,54	1.184
WEBSITE UPDATING - NEWSLETTER LICENSE	1.452,00	950,74	501,26		2016 costs	19,50	970,24	-482
ONLINE ACCOUNTING SYSTEM	0,00	0,00	0,00			0,00	0,00	(
COSTS FOR REGISTRATION	798,00	798,39	-0,39			0,00	798,39	(
ACCOUNTANCY FEES	1.000,00	0,00	1.000,00		Budget amount	1.000,00	1.000,00	(
OTHER (GIFTS ETC.)	500,00	0,00	500,00		Budget amount	500,00	500,00	(
RENT OF EQUIPMENT FOR AWARD CEREMONY	501,00	501,34	-0,34			0,00	501,34	(
ROUNDING AND OTHER LOSSES	444,00	144,25	299,75			50,00	194,25	-249
Total	34.519,00	21.857,98	12.661,02	3.000,00			32.078,24	-2.440
PROJECTS								
ITYARN AND OTHER NETWORKS	1.000,00	0,00	1.000,00		udget amount	1.000,00	1.000,00	(
NEXT GENERATION	2.499,00	1.993,32	505,68		udget amount - 1 support	500,00	2.493,32	-[
SUPPORT FOR PROJECTS	2.000,00	0,00	2.000,00		egional Workshop Uruguay	1.200,00	1.200,00	-800
PUBLICATIONS COSTS :	0,00	0,00	0,00				0,00	(
PRINT - SHIPPING - DESIGN	23.390,00	18.257,29	5.132,71		Extra budget	8.000,00	26.257,29	2.86
OTHER COSTS	3.000,00	0	3.000,00		Costs diverted to Magazine	0,00	0,00	-3.000
OTHER PUBBLICATION	3.000,00	0,00	3.000,00		Costs diverted to Magazine	0,00	0,00	-3.000
Total	34.889,00	20.250,61	14.638,39				30.950,61	-3.93
PR								
MARKETING AND PR	1.000,00	0,00	1.000,00			0,00	0,00	-1.000
PROMOTIONAL COSTS	455,00	485,49	-30,49			200,00	685,49	230
ASSITEJ THEATRE DAY VIDEOS	4.629,00	3.152,41	1.476,59		Budget amount	1.500,00	4.652,41	23
50th ANNIVERSARY	800,00	613,48	186,52			0,00	613,48	-186
Total	6.884,00	4.251,38	2.632,62				5.951,38	-932
CONGRESS: SUPPORT NEXT GENERATION	7.500,00	0,00	7.500,00	2.500,00	Budget reduced (amount column "Risk")	5.000,00	5.000,00	-2.500

Total	7.500,00	0,00	7.500,00	2.500,00			5.000,00	-2.500
FUNDRAISING								
COSTS FOR FUNDRAISING	2.500,00	0,00	2.500,00		Costs linked to income	0,00	0,00	-2.500
Total	2.500,00	0,00	2.500,00				0,00	-2.500
ARCHIVES								
DIGITALISATION	3.000,00	0,00	3.000,00		Budget amount	3.000,00	3.000,00	(
Total	3.000,00	0,00	3.000,00				3.000,00	(
6. SECRETARY GENERAL: OFFICE								
SECRETARY GENERAL OFFICE EXPENDITURES AND TRAVELS	17.340,00	26.135,00	-8.795,00		Income Amount	14.910,24	41.045,24	23.705
Total	17.340,00	26.135,00	-8.795,00				41.045,24	23.705
TOTAL EXPENSES	106.632,00	72.494,97	34.137,03	5.500,00			118.025,47	11.39
BALANCE	1.643,00	16.015,52	-53.901,54	2.500,00			8.383,48	6.740

2- MEMBERSHIP and MEMBER FEES

At 4th November we are 103 Members: 78 National Centers, 5 Networks and 20 Individual members of 17 different countries [Afghanistan (Afghanistan Bright Stars), Macedonia (Babec Theater Bitola & Buden Teatar) Nigeria (CHAIN), Namibia (Chinamibia), Uruguay (CUTDIJ), Venezuela (Dewis Alberto Duran Urbano), Bulgaria (Drama Theatre Targovishte & LIPA), Ghana (GADEC), Pakistan (Little Art & MAAS Foundation), Thailand (MAYA), Malawi (Nanzikambe), Georgia (Nodar Dumbadze Professional State Youth Theatre), Philippines (PETA), Kosove (Qendra Multimedia), Egypt (Rania Refaat/El-Pergola Marionettes Theatre), Portugal (Teatro Nacional D. Maria II), Malta (Ziguzajg International Arts Festival)].

The member fees 2016 were paid by 65 members: 51 National Centers, 4 Networks, 10 Individual

The member fees 2015 were paid by 75 members: 58 National Centers, 4 Networks, 13 Individual.

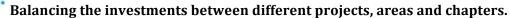
	FEES YET TO BE PAID								
		GROUP 1 - TO BE PAID: ONLY 2016							
		NATIONAL CENTRE	3.200	2016					
1	F	ASSITEJ ARGENTINA	150	150					
2	F	ASSITEJ ARMENIA	150	150					
3	F	ASSITEJ BRAZIL	150	150					
4	F	ASSITEJ CHINA	750	750					
5	F	ASSITEJ HUNGARY	250	250					
6	F	ASSITEJ KAZAKISTAN	750	750					
7	F	ASSITEJ LATVIA	150	150					
8	F	ASSITEJ PERU	150	150					
9	F	ASSITEJ SERBIA	350	350					
10	F	ASSITEJ TURKEY	300	300					
		INDIVIDUAL							

11	I	LIPA	50	50				
		GROUP 2 - TO BE PAID: 2015 & 2016						
		NATIONAL CENTRE	2.650	2016	2015	2014	2013	
1	F	ASSITEJ ANGOLA	300	150	150			
2	F	ASSITEJ KENYA	300	150	150			
3	F	ASSITEJ MOZAMBIQUE	300	150	150			
4	F	ASSITEJ NIGERIA	300	150	150			
5	F	ASSITEJ ROMANIA	300	150	150			
6	F	ASSITEJ RWANDA	300	150	150			
7	F	ASSITEJ ZIMBABWE	300	150	150	exem	exem	
		NETWORK						
8	С	Next Generation	150	75	75	exem		
		INDIVIDUAL						
9	I	Afghanistan Bright Stars	100	50	50			
10	I	Chinamibia Arts Education for Development	100	50	50			
11	I	Dewis Alberto Duran Urbano	100	50	50			
12	I	Little Art	100	50	50			

		GROUP 3 TO BE PAID: MORE YEARS							
		NATIONAL CENTRE	9.550	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
1	F	ASSITEJ UZBEKISTAN	400	150	150	100			
2	F	ASSITEJ BANGLADESH	450	150	150	150			
3	F	ASSITEJ CRNA GORA	450	150	150	150			
4	F	ASSITEJ BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	600	150	150	150	150		
5	С	ASSITEJ COLOMBIA-ACTI	450	75	75	150	150		
6	С	ASSITEJ SWAZILAND	450	75	75	150	150		
7	С	ASSITEJ UKRAINE	450	75	75	150	150		
8	F	ASSITEJ BENIN	750	150	150	150	150	150	
9	F	ASSITEJ UAE	3.750	750	750	750	750	750	
10	F	ASSITEJ PARAGUAY	750	150	150	150	150	150	
11	С	ASSITEJ ECUADOR – Asoescena	450	75	75	75	75	75	75
		INDIVIDUAL							
12	I	GADEC	150	50	50	50			
13	I	Nanzikambe Arts Development Organization	150	50	50	50			
14	I	Qendra Multimedia	150	50	50	50			
15	I	Teatro Nacional D. Maria II	150	50	50	50			

3- THE RESOURCES FOR ASSITEJ FIRST STEP TO BUILD THE NEXT BUDGET 2017-2020 & NEW LEVELS OF MEMBERSHIP FEES

My opinion is that in order to create the next budget we should operate on different aspects:



- Balancing costs and income concerning the same project.

Only one example for these 2 aspects. The incomes for the Magazine are the 19,6% of the total income (see table below), while the costs the 30,3% (again of the total income). These 10,7 points of difference mean about 9.000 USD, which represents the double of the costs for all other projects (Next Generation support, Regional workshops, ITYARN support...) we have in budget. There is no balance between different costs and between costs and incomes of the same project.

 Verifying if ASSITEJ can or cannot collect more donation and develop the fundraising activity.

Personally, in this moment, I have lot of doubts about the <u>traditional</u> fundraising for some objective problems:

For public or private grants, the international nature of the Association is a handicap; For the crowdfunding, we have an international target, but it is the same target of the donations;

The fundraising needs professionality, creation of relationships and often a lot of time; I think that we should be realistic, keeping in mind the volunteer nature of the EC member. If we want insert this kind of income in the next budget, I think that we have to create earlier realistic and operative plans of fundraising, finding new modalities.

Defining the level of the member fees, now the 75% of our budget (!)
As you can see in the Table below in our budget the income from Member fees covers a range percentage from 64% (New budget) to 75% (Final projection).
The increase of the percentage is determined by 2 factors: the absolute value (+6,600) and the decrease of the other possible incomes (-11,500).

	NEW BUDGET	% on Total Income	FINAL PROJECTION	% on Total Income
MEMBERSHIP FEES	58.150,00	63,95%	64.033,91	75,01%
MAGAZINE ADVERTISEMENTS	20.085,00	22,09%	16.951,69	19,86%
FUNDRAISING	6.995,00	7,69%	994,33	1,16%
FRIENDS OF ASSITEJ & DONATIONS	3.850,00	4,23%	2.291,92	2,68%
OTHER INCOME	1.855,00	2,04%	1.091,86	1,28%
TOTAL INCOME	90.935,00	100,00%	85.363,71	100,00%

EC -MEETING AND TRAVEL COSTS	22.966,00	25,26%	19.966,00	23,39%
NEW WEB SITE	5.300,00	5,83%	6.484,54	7,60%
EC -OTHER CORE COSTS	6.253,00	6,88%	5.627,71	6,59%
PROJECTS	5.499,00	6,05%	4.693,32	5,50%
MAGAZINE	29.390,00	32,32%	26.257,29	30,76%
PROMOTION	2.255,00	2,48%	1.298,97	1,52%
ASSITEJ THEATRE DAY VIDEOS	4.629,00	5,09%	4.652,41	5,45%

CONGRESS	7.500,00	8,25%	5.000,00	5,86%
COSTS FOR FUNDRAISING	2.500,00	2,75%	0,00	0,00%
ARCHIVES DIGITALISATION	3.000,00	3,30%	3.000,00	3,51%
TOTAL COSTS	89.292,00		76.980,23	
NET PROFIT	1.643,00	1,81%	8.383,48	9,82%

Now the total amount of the member fees is supported by 77 members.

There are 26 other members not included in this list because they have serious economical problems (this is a group of 11 members with 2 years of arrears, that includes 6 African countries) or because perhaps they are not effective members anymore (this is a group of 15 members with 3 years of arrears or more).

4 notes:

- -GROUPS 1, 2, 3 (24 members, the 31% of the payers) guarantee the 66% (2/3) of the fees.
- -GROUP 5 is the larger group (29 members, 38%) and guarantees the 20%.
- -GROUP 6 (individuals & corresponding) is important for the aims of the association, but it is non influential from the economic point of view.
- -The amount not-paid from the 26 members is 2.750 USD per year.

n° of members	In 2016	LEVEL OF FEE	TOTAL PAID (in USD)	%	Proposal New Fees	TOTAL (in USD	%
9	GROUP 1 – Full member	750	7.069	32%	800	7.626	30%
9	GROUP 2 – Full member	500-600	5.376	24%	600	5.689	22%
6	GROUP 3 – Full member	350	2.323	10%	400	2.655	10%
8	GROUP 4 – Full member	250	2.099	9%	300	2.592	10%
29	GROUP 5 – Full member	150	4.556	20%	200	6.140	24%
16	GROUP 6 – corresponding and individual	75 (corr.) 50 - 30 (ind.)	844	4%	100 (corr) 50 (ind)	1.053	4%
77	TOTAL		22.268	100%		25.756	100%

Exchange rate: Nov, 3rd (The total is different from Table 3, because I used the same Exchange rate for all 2016)

In Birmingham we discussed about the possibility to change the structure of the member fees.

So I propose you a new definition of the levels of fees (see above). This way:

- we can cover the not-paid amount (always hoping that everyone starts to pay) and increase the amount of the member fees for the 3 years (2017-2020) to 70,000 (prudent) or 75,000 USD.
 - This means 5-10.000 more, about 6-12% (which is the amount of all the projects and videos, for example)
- we can change the balance between the GROUPS 1, 2, 3 and GROUP 5 (from 66% vs 20%, it becomes 62% vs 24%)



We don't touch GROUP 6.

I'm starting from this issue because is delicate, and the members might not accept the proposal.

I think that the EC can be also a good target group where to evaluate if the change is acceptable or not, because its members belong to the different levels.

After this evaluation I think that we can start to work in order to collect all the other elements to build the budget.

To conclude this part I want come back to the sentence "non influential from the economic point of view" referred to GROUP 6, to remember you that our Constitution lacks a requisite to be considered, for the Italian law, completely non-commercial. The requisite is that all the members have the same rights/opportunities.

In our Constitution the full members have 3 votes, the corresponding 1, the individual none. To be considered totally non-commercial would be useful because we would have lighter bureaucracy, and for example we can close the VAT position if we have only the Magazine Advertisements as commercial income, because they are admitted if you have all the requisites. Simplifying the work of the administration would be very useful, in particular when I will not be the treasurer anymore.

Keeping the current situation (partially non-commercial) would be useful only in case we actually intend to pursue other commercial activities.

For this I propose you to discuss if it is possible to amend the Constitution in this way:

- The corresponding members have the same votes of the full members (3). The corresponding are only 10 members.
- The Individual are not members anymore, but "official observers" (or another definition): they don't vote, they don't pay the fee, but they are invited to donate. However, as I said before the loss is non influential from the economic point of view.

4- THE ADMINISTRATIVE TRANSPARENCY OF ASSITE

Before Cape Town, I think that it is important to care some aspects concerning the administrative transparency of ASSITEJ towards its members and third parties. **Administrative transparency means** to keep always in mind that all the deeds, actions, decisions of the governing body of the Association, including the ones directly taken on by the Officers, **should be sure for contents and timing and available to be examined** by members and third parties, including also official auditors, administrative inspectors, public administrations, stakeholders and financial institutions.

The website can offer trustworthy and real reports and data, but does not give the factual demonstration that the contents and timing are sure. Only a hard copy with original signatures can certify the **certainty of contents and timing**, **associated to specific responsibilities** (of the EC...).

I think that we must add to the Report on the website, very useful for the members and the EC, with

three Official company books for all the third parties, members included: **Assembly book, EC book, Members book.**

In the EC books for the different meetings we don't find all the discussions, as in the minutes, but only a synthesis with:

- the Agenda
- who is present



- who can vote
- the attestation that the session is regular
- all the deliberations
- the ratifications of all relevant acts of the Officers, during the period between 2 EC meeting
- the ratification of all decision adopted by mail during the same period (particularly for the admission of the new members; I think that also in the minutes we can insert these ratifications)
- the synopsis of the different work proposals, projects, topics...
- All the Reports (President's...), the MOU, the protocols and other documents examined are attached.
- When the annual statement is approved, we attach it and all the accounting to the EC book (using it also as accounting book)

The structure of the **Assembly book** is similar.

The Member book, printed 1 time every year, is the real situation of the association, with all the new admissions and the resignations, suspensions and expulsions. It reports the data /address and the data of the new admission or of the expulsion.

Thank you!!

Roberto



ADDENDUM D

POLICIES, PROTOCOLS AND FUNDRAISING WORKING GROUP: REPORT NOVEMBER 2016

Working group Name	Policies, Protocols and Fundraising		
Group	Yvette Hardie (chair); Roberto Frabetti (Treasurer); Sue Giles		

UPDATE:

ITEM	Description	Notes	Person Resp.	Due Date
World Congress 2017	Contracts	Assess where we are at in terms of MOU ASSITEJ- ASSITEJ SA 2017 i.e. review of milestones in the contract	PPF	Done
	General Assembly Processes	Review processes of the General Assembly and suggest adjustments for best flow and engagement from delegates	PPF / SG	Done
	Registration Fees	ASSITEJ SA has made some adjustments to the last proposal. See Addendum 1. Would like to release publicly during meeting.	Yvette /PPF	Done, will recheck in Cameroon.
Addition- al Awards	WLPG Playwriting Award ITYARN Research award	Playwriting award: deadline has been reached, May require a postponement for more applications to be presented ITYARN Research award – need status report from ITYARN.	PPF / NVNV PPF / ITYAR	End of Cameroon
	Lifetime Achievement Award	Need status report on awards.	N PPF	-
Members	Membership development	We want to develop a member tool kit around how to use the association for your growth and development. May include certain elements such as online conferencing, short videos etc.	PPF/ SG/	Main work of PPF this meeting. Plan to prese Congress in Cape Town
Advocacy	Networks	Five networks are currently in development: 1. Theatre as Education – with links to the EU project of Dirk – but also with possible links to IDEA, but with a very specific focus on professional theatre 2. Dance for Young Audiences – Gabi dan Droste as interim organiser 3. Music Theatre for Young Audiences – coming out of the Music theatre network in Germany,	PPF	Will discuss progress a present at end of Cameroon meeting.

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ITEM	Description	Notes	Person	Due Date
			Resp.	
Friends of ASSITEJ	Engagement	with lead from Meike Fechner, Annett Israel and Andrea Gronemeyer 4. Festivals network – no clear leadership of this, but would like to see another discussion in Cape Town which can be about focusing on the initiation of new festivals of theatre for young audiences in Africa 5. Asian Independent Artists/Producers? Network – as a counter to the Chinese ASSITEJ situation and a way to involve the artists directly in ASSITEJ – as a broader network than just China, we could begin to create a dynamic engagement for these artists with us Need to consider how to activate Friends of ASSITEJ more thoroughly – and how to publicise	PPF /	By end of Cameroon.
ASSITES		their role on our website	tions	
World Day	Proposal to support the campaign "Take a Child to the Theatre"	A draft proposal has been developed in this respect.	PPF	Done. Need to communicate with members.
	Proposed International Performance Week	Need to work on proposal to International Associations	PPF	By end of Cameroon.
ASSITEJ	EU project	Dirk has sent a basic report – to be discussed.	PPF	By end of Cameroon.
Fundraisi ng Projects	Other possibilities	To be discussed	PPF	By end of Cameroon.



Addendum 1: World Congress 2017 Adjusted Registration Fees

NOTE: RSA currency is volatile and has depreciated rapidly in the past year. The current rates may need to be adjusted for currency depreciation.

At present the exchange rate is, very approximately: 14 rand to 1USD, 15 rand to 1Euro, 17 rand to 1Pound.

With each of the packages, additional theatre tickets can be purchased: at cost of R100 (International Delegates), R75 (Developing countries), R50 (Students).

On the recommendation of the last meeting (Manon), we have included a Cradle registration which is for the entire event, and also a Festival registration, allowing for more flexibility.

Cradle of Creativity Registration:

Access to all aspects of Cradle: Congress, Conference and Festival (15 theatre tickets)

- R5000 for International Delegates
- R3500 for Delegates from Developing Countries
- R3000 for Students

Includes:

- Access to Opening ceremony, Awards evening, Closing ceremony, Africa Day events, Cultural hubs, Social events, Congress, Cradle bag etc, 8 x lunches & teas during Congress, ITYARN and Cultural hubs.
- Access to Focus day events on a first-come, first-served basis and without lunch vouchers (can be purchased separately).

Workshops will be charged extra, depending on length.

Congress Registration:

Access to all aspects of Cradle: 4 days Congress, 10 theatre tickets

- R4000 for International Delegates
- R3000 for Delegates from Developing Countries
- R2500 for Students

Includes:

- Access to Opening ceremony, Awards evening, Closing ceremony, Africa Day events, Cultural hubs, Social events, Congress, Cradle bag etc, 6 x lunches & teas during Congress and Cultural hubs.
- Access to Focus day events on a first-come, first-served basis and without lunch vouchers (can be purchased separately).

Workshops will be charged extra, depending on length.

ITYARN Conference Registration:

For delegates to the conference, excluding keynote speakers and ITYARN board, includes 5 theatre tickets

R3000 for International Delegates for 2-day ITYARN conference



- R2500 for Delegates from Developing Countries for 2-day ITYARN conference
- R2000 for Students for 2-day ITYARN conference

Includes:

- Access to Opening ceremony, Lunches and teas on Conference days, 5 performances,
 Access to social events, Cradle bag and information,
- Access to Focus day events on a first-come, first-served basis and without lunch vouchers (can be purchased separately).
- Access to selected Workshops as part of Conference.

Festival Registration:

For delegates to the festival, includes 10 theatre tickets, plus 2 days at Cultural hubs

- R2000 for International Delegates
- R1500 for Delegates from Developing Countries
- R1200 for Students

Includes:

- Access to Opening ceremony, Lunches and teas on Conference days, 5 performances, Access to social events, Cradle bag and information
- Access to Focus day events on a first-come, first-served basis and without lunch vouchers (can be purchased separately).

Focus day Registration:

For delegates to a Focus day, includes 2 theatre tickets

- R1000 for International Delegates for first registration
- R850 for Delegates from Developing Countries/Students for first registration
- R450 for International delegates for each additional day
- R300 for Delegates from Developing Countries/Students for each additional day

Includes:

- Access to Opening ceremony, Lunches and teas on Conference days, 2 performances per focus day, Access to social events, Cradle bag and information
- Access to selected Workshops as part of Focus days