

**14th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
of ASSITEJ International  
July 23rd, 24th, 25th and 26th  
2002**

**SEOUL, KOREA**

**Centres present:**

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroun, Canada, China, Croatia, Czech republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Israel, Japan, Kenya, Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Malaysia (corresponding member), Namibia, the Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Russia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Turkey, Uganda, USA, Vietnam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

**By proxy:**

Bolivia, France, Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Peru, Slovenia.

*Kim Woo-Ok, President of ASSITEJ Korea*, welcomed all the delegates to Seoul, Korea, for the 14th General Assembly, and gave his sincere wishes for a succesfull event.

*The President, Harold Oaks*, welcomed all the delegates to the 2002 General Assembly and Congress in Seoul, Korea, and thanked ASSITEJ Korea for hosting the meeting and the Japan centre for assisting. Harold Oaks continued with reading out a letter of greetings by *Honorary President Ilse Rodenburg* wishing for sucess and good outcomes.

*The Secretary General, Niclas Malmcrona*, expressed his thanks to all the centres for coming to the 14th General Assembly and gave a short presentation of the Executive Committee members present.

**1. Nomination of Voting Commission. Verification of the centres´ right to vote. Proxies.**

On the recommendation of the Executive Committee the General Assembly agreed to the voting commission as follows:

<i>Michael Ramlöse</i>	<i>(Denmark)</i>
<i>Eckhardt Mittelstädt</i>	<i>(Germany)</i>
<i>Robyn Flatt</i>	<i>(USA)</i>
<i>Kim van der Boon</i>	<i>(the Netherlands)</i>

Verification of centres´ right to vote:  
The total number of votes came to 139  
Simple majority: 70 votes  
Total number of centres: 38

Proxies:  
Iceland to Sweden  
Ireland to Great Britain  
Slovenia to Croatia  
France to Belgum

Georgia to Russia  
Italy to the Netherlands  
Bolivia to Brazil  
Peru to Canada  
Greece to Germany

## **2. Approval of the minutes from the General Assembly 1999 in Tromsø.**

No comments or questions were made to the minutes.

The minutes was unanimously adopted.

## **3. Report from the Executive Committee**

President´s report: *Harold Oaks* gave his report to the General Assembly. He thanked the members of the Executive Committee for their hard and efficient work during the last three years. *Harold Oaks* also expressed his gratitude to the Nordic countries for their funds to the General Secretariat, and thanked *Niclas Malmcrona* for his hard work during the last three year period on behalf of ASSITEJ International. He continued with talking about the seminars organised by the Artistic Commission and commented on how they contribute to ASSITEJ International´s work. *Harold Oaks* also talked about the importance of further developments to the website and the internet, as this contributes enormously to the possibilities of having contacts with centres all over the world. *Harold Oaks* closed the presentation of the President´s report with some suggestions for the new Executive Committee to work on:

I Funding for the General Secretariat: *Harold Oaks* mentioned the difficulties with finding fundings for the General Secretariat, and stressed the importance of looking in to different ways of funding the next General Secretariat in time.

I New members will need encouragement and help from old centres: *Harold Oaks* underlined the importance of reaching out internationally and nationally to the new members of ASSITEJ International. He also mentioned the outmost importance of a global perspective.

I Support each other in political changes: As an example of support between different countries *Harold Oaks* mentioned ASSITEJ Sweden´s exchange with the African countries. He stressed the need to extend and continue this kind of work internationally as well as nationally.

I Subscriptions: Each country must be better to pay their membership fee. *Harold Oaks* also mentioned the vital importance of finding new fundings from external forces.

**Report from the General Secretariat:** *Secretary General Niclas Malmcrona* presented the report from the General Secretariat and thanked all the delegates for their support during the last three-year period. *Niclas Malmcrona* expressed his joy over the fact that the Executive Committee meetings during this period has been held in different places around the world, and continued with thanking the centres of each country for hosting the meetings. He also mentioned the seminars /symposiums held in Tokyo, Japan, and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, during the Executive Committee meetings, and commented on the way events of this kind contributes to the work of ASSITEJ International. *Niclas Malmcrona* expressed his gratitude to ASSITEJ Germany for hosting and organising several of events of this kind. *Niclas Malmcrona* continued with expressing his greatfullness for the members from Africa being able to participate in the General Assembly, and stressed the need of taking care of the 15 new centres that has joined ASSITEJ International during the last three-year period.

**Report from the Finance and Statue Commission:** The report was presented by chair of Finance and Statue commission, *Harold Oaks (USA)*.

### **Report from the Communication and Publication Commission:**

The report was presented by chair of Communication and Publication Commission, *Niclas Malmcrona (Sweden)*. He presented the new brochure of ASSITEJ International, "*The*

*Blue Brouchure*", and spoke about the *Theatre for Children and Young People World day* and commented that the day is becoming more and more recognized. Two information packages concerning this day has been sent out to all the centres.

Niclas Malmcrona continued with reporting that the General Secretariat still makes a Festival Guide, and that this has been updated and sent to all the centres. The Festival Guide can also be downloaded on the web.

The General Secretariat has also produced a number of Newsletter during the last three-year period, and will continue to do so. The Newsletter can be found on the website. Niclas Malmcrona closed the presentation with urging all the centres to please keep in contact with the General Secretariat, since communication with some centres is a reoccurring problem.

*Eckhard Mittelstädt (Germany)* handed out a paper with notes on the ASSITEJ Annual to all the delegates present and commented briefly on this.

*Klaus Eggert (Denmark)* reported on behalf of counsellor *Peter Manscher* about the work and the development of the web-site during the last three years.

*Niclas Malmcrona (Sweden)* thanked Peter Manscher and Bjarne Tanning for their work on developing the website.

Report from the Artistic commission: The report was presented by chair of Artistic Commission, *Wolfgang Schneider (Germany)*. Wolfgang Schneider thanked all the members of the Artistic commission for their efficient work during the last three-year period and continued with expressing his gratitude for being able to have the Forum during the General Assembly. Wolfgang Schneider explained that the Artistic Commission's work during the last three years had the survey "Why ASSITEJ" presented in Tromsø 1999, as it's starting point. Wolfgang Schneider concluded the presentation with stressing the importance of continued discussions on artistic topics, and underlined that debates of this kind should be linked with performances during the meetings so that everyone can have the same basic experience. Wolfgang Schneider also mentioned the need of conferences and symposiums as the one held in Zurich, and stressed the importance of creating meeting points in between the Congresses. Wolfgang Schneider also reminded of the importance of documenting the meetings and conferences.

*Michael Ramløse (Denmark)* commented on a good work done during the last three-year period. He then raised the question if the survey "Why ASSITEJ" presented in Tromsø 1999 was used by the Executive Committee, and if so, in what way.

*Harold Oaks (USA)* answered that the survey was used as a starting point when forming the different commission's and their working plans.

*Niclas Malmcrona (Sweden)* responded that the survey emphasized the need of good communication between the centres, and that work has been done on this matter (the website, newsletter etcetera). He continued with explaining that the respons from the centres has been lower then expected. Niclas Malmcrona proposed using the survey as the starting point for the coming three-year period (forming the new working programme etcetera).

*Wolfgang Schneider (Germany)* replied that the Artistic Commission started their work with going through the survey, and that some of the subjects discussed in the Artistic commission came from the survey. Wolfgang Schneider stressed the fact that communication needs two partners, and that the respons from the centres has been lower then expected.

*Lou Westbury (Australia)* commented on the need of finding forums for meetings more frequently then every other three years, and underlined the importance of closer contact between the centres. Lou Westbury proposed having a commission completely concentrating on the survey, working with following it up.

*With no further comments or questions the reports was unanimously adopted.*

#### **4. Accounts 199-2000-2001-2002**

The accounts was presented by *Treasurer Vicky Ireland (Great Britain)*. She commented on the accounts which has been distributed to all the centres in advance. Vicky Ireland recommended the new Treasurer to form better guidelines for the centres for when to pay their membership fee, what to pay, time subscriptions to pay and excuses for payment. Vicky Ireland also recommended that every centre get a package containing materials about how to pay, when to pay etcetera. Finally she asked all the centres to please inform the Secretariat when centres change address, fax, phone and so on, since communication with the centres is vital.

*Niclas Malmcrona (Sweden)* added that the budget for running the General Secretariat is separate from the budget presented by Vicky Ireland.

*With no further comments or questions the accounts was unanimously adopted.*

## **5. Forum: "Artistic Development of Theatre for Children and Young People in the World"**

Presented by the Artistic commission

1) What is the impact of Modern Dance on the Artistic Development of Theatre for Children and Young People ?

*Introducers: Kim van der Boon (The Netherlands) and Remi Boucher (Canada).*

2) What is the Impact of Theatre with Puppets and Objects on the Artistic Development of Theatre for Children and Young People ?

*Introducers: Ivica Simic (Croatia) and Peter Rinderknecht (Switzerland).*

3) How to Study Theatre for Children and Young People ?

*Introducers: Jan Skotnicki (Poland) and Jeremy Turner (Great Britain).*

4) Theatre Arts and the Educational System: In Harmony or Conflict ?

*Introducers: Vicky Ireland (Great Britain) and Hagit Rehavi Nikolayevsky (Israel).*

There was a short summarize of the forum held by Kim van der Boon (1), Ivica Simic (2), Jeremy Turner (3) and Vicky Ireland (4). The forum was closed by chair of the Artistic Commission, Wolfgang Schneider.

1) *Kim van der Boon (the Netherlands)* commented on a wonderful discussion, and briefly concluded some of the issues debated. Questions that was raised was among others "what is modern dance?". The tradition of modern dance was also discussed, where different perspectives was shared, especially through comparing African and Western tradition. Another topic that was discussed was if there is any difference in modern dance for Children and for Adults, with different answers. Dance in school was also debated, where the question if dance is taken up in the curriculum in schools was asked. Also here the answers was different. A question raised in... with this, was if dance should be presented as an artform or as an educational tool. Finally there was a discussion of how to confront young people with modern dance. Also here different perspectives was shared. In Kenya, for example, they use modern dance as a way of getting the young people to the church. Kim van der Boon concluded the short summary with presenting some ideas on how to continue the discussion about modern dance, among this was a proposition for a future seminar in Kenya where further exchanges could be done between African and Western perspectives on modern dance.

2) *Ivica Simic (Croatia)* started with thanking all the people that participated in such a creative way in the discussions, thereby contributing with lots of different ideas and perspectives on the topics debated. He remarked that it is obvious that theatre with and without puppets are melting together and that it is hard to draw a line between the two. Ivica Simic continued with saying that this brings with it the need of awareness of reasons why to use puppets in performances and how they are used, where the responsibility of the artist was addressed. Ivica Simic also mentioned the fact that a lot of artist that use puppets dont have an education for this. He closed the short summary

with stressing the fact that the using of puppetry has to have a deeper need, and a deeper sense for why they are used in the performance, and that discussions like this should be continued.

3) *Jeremy Turner (Great Britain)* started with concluding some of the general points of the discussion held. Questions like if there is a difference between training actors and actors for Children's Theatre was debated with different answers given. There was also a long and rumbling discussion about the age of the actors, concluded with agreeing on the fact that if an actor is good and encompass his/her ideas, the public will accompany him/her. Another question that was debated was if young people should be included in Theatre for Children and Young people, where different perspectives was shared and discussed. A main point of the discussions held was the question of how to communicate with the Young Audience. Answers like refinding your own childhood was given, where the difference between being childlike and childish was stressed. Another point given was the importance of talking to children and other people, as this gives a deeper knowledge. Finally the question if Children are able to accept the conventions of Theatre was debated, with the answer given that they are able and willing if the world presented is clear and has integrity.

4) *Vicky Ireland (Great Britain)* started with saying that most of the discussion held dealt with the different conflicts between Theatre Arts and the educational system. One problem issued was that teachers often sees the performance as a teachers tool rather than an artistic event. Teachers can be very protective of the children, and can be very oldfashioned about titles etetera. Teachers can also be rigid about the agegroup. *Janet Pilai (Malaysia)* stated that theatre releases children in many ways, while the educational system is locking the children in. A main point given in the discussion was the importance of training teacher's in drama, where Vicky Ireland stressed the fact the the educators needs to be eduacted about the passions and the needs of the artistical work, thereby changing attitudes etetera. Vicky Ireland closed the short summary with giving some recommendations:

| The need to introduce theatre into teachers training

| Theatre art form has to be seen in it's own right and as a children's right.

| More debates and discussions on this topics should be held internationally and nationally

| The art is getting marginalized, the importance of Theatre for Children and Young People needs to be adressed on an international basis.

*Wolfgang Schneider (Germany)* thanked everyone for participating in the forum, and commented on it as a fruitful and important event. He then closed the session with three remarks to be considered for the coming working programme:

| To promote modern dance and the use of puppets in theatre for Children and Young people in order to give this branches more acceptance with the organisers and to be able to gain new companies for young audiences.

| To promote theatre for children and young people, to continue the discussions through giving seminars and forums.

| To promote theatre for children and young people as part of teachers programme and to present good examples of art.

## **6. Influence of etichal and economic crisis in Latin American ASSITEJ centres - Argentina, Peru.**

### **Children's theatre in Southern Africa and its need for financial support - Zimbabwe.**

*The Secretary General* read out a paper sent by *Myriam Reategui (Peru)* containing the question if ASSITEJ may continue the promotion of the children and young theatre without bearing in mind the criticize situation of the theatre for children and young in Latin America. The Secretary General continued with reading some proposals from Myriam Reategui on how the relation between the ASSITEJ centres in stable conditions and the Latin American centres could be arranged, and how the Executive Committee could

encourage the development of the Latin American centres. The Secretary General then asked *Luiza Monteiro (Brazil)* to elaborate it.

*Luiza Monteiro (Brazil)* stated that she in this discussion not only represent ASSITEJ Brazil but also ASSITEJ Bolivia, and that an analysis of the proposals given by Myriam Reategui (Peru) had been done during the Executive meeting in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. Luiza Monteiro continued with saying that the paper should be read carefully and paid attention to, even though the Brazilian and the Bolivian centre does not share all the points raised in the paper. The proposal from the Brazilian and the Bolivian centre for the issues raised in the paper, given by Luiza Monteiro, was to form a link between ASSITEJ International to the Latin American centres to encourage the work being done by the centres.

*Niclas Malmcrona (Sweden)* said that he, as Secretary General, feels frustrated when reading the demands given by Myriam Reategui (Peru) in her paper. He continued by saying that ASSITEJ International cannot give financial support to the Latin American centres. There are two reasons for this, primarily because ASSITEJ does not have the financial funds for it, secondly because ASSITEJ cannot prioritize some centres over others.

*Michael Ramløse (Denmark)* agreed with the Secretary General and commented that it is important to remember that where there is a problem there is also a challenge. He continued with emphasizing that the different centres should help each other in times of need.

*Wolfgang Schneider (Germany)* commented on the paper as important, as it gives the cultural and political statement of an important region of the world, and that he after the Executive Committee Meeting in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, feels that many of the questions and perspectives touched in the paper is shared by several centres over the world. Wolfgang Schneider continued with saying that on the other hand he agrees with Niclas Malmcrona and Michael Ramløse on the fact that ASSITEJ cannot give special support to the Latin American centres since ASSITEJ do not have the financial funds for that. Wolfgang Schneider further stated that it is important to find ways of coming together beneath the Executive Committee meetings, and that he hopes that the Latin American centres will be able to join in on this.

*Niclas Malmcrona (Sweden)* commented that the Executive Committee invited several Latin American centres to the E.C Meeting in Rio de Janeiro, and that the only responds to the invitation was from Bolivia and Argentina.

*Elisabeth Kabasa (Zimbabwe)* addressed the Assembly on the matter of children's theatre in Southern Africa and its need for financial support. She explained that in Zimbabwe there is a developing organisation for theatre for young people and that in the effort of establishing the centre she wanted to give her warm thanks to Niclas Malmcrona (Sweden) for his efforts and hard work. Elisabeth Kabasa continued with expressing her gratitude to SIDA and for the funds from Sweden. She stated that theatre is not a priority in Africa, and that the efforts to promote the need of theatre for children and young people has to be continued, and that in this the Southern African centres needs help and support.

*Tony Mack (Australia)* said that a number of Australian companies already works with Latin American and African companies, and that if Elisabeth Kabasa could give him addresses to other African companies maybe this could be a start for building a even bigger network.

*Tülin Saglam (Turkey)* continued with saying that it helps just being a part of ASSITEJ, and gave a short summary of the exchange work between Denmark and Turkey. She further said that the idea of network projects between different centres/different countries within ASSITEJ should be encouraged and develop further.

*Luiza Monteiro (Brazil)* stated that during the Executive Meeting in Harare she had the opportunity to see some of the work the Southern African centres do with children, and that she was impressed by the high standard of this work. She continued with encouraging the idea of network projects of all kind to strengthen the Southern African centres work.

*Kim Peter Kovac (USA)* commented the proposals from Southern Africa and Latin America as important and stressed the need of extending the exchanges between the different centres over the world.

*Cheela Chilala (Zambia)* thanked Elisabeth Kabasa for drawing attention to the problems in Southern Africa. He continued with emphasizing that the centres not only need help, they also need to learn how to stand on their own two feet. One way to reach this could be through co-operations and networks between different centres/countries. Cheela Chilala further proposed that the Southern African and the Latin American centres should start an exchange project, where different ideas and experiences could be exchanged.

*Bernt Höglund (Sweden)* commented on the exchange work between Sweden and Southern Africa, underlining the importance of sharing different views and perspectives on making theatre.

*The President* closed the debate by saying that the discussion had been beneficial and that it is important to find new ways for networks and exchange programmes within ASSITEJ International. He stated that it is important that the centres do what they can on a national level. Harold Oaks continued with explaining that since the proposals given by Myriam Reategui (Peru) and Elisabeth Kabasa (Zimbabwe) demands a change in the constitutions before they can be properly addressed, the proposals should be deferred and handed over to the Executive Committee to be discussed further.

*The General Assembly unanimously endorsed the proposal.*

## **7. Working Programme 2002-2005**

*The President* asked the Assembly to bring up further questions or proposals to the draft for a Working programme 2002-2005 as outlined by the Executive Committee.

*Luiza Monteiro (Brazil)* proposed for the Artistic commission to work with educational questions, theatre as a tool, and to build a network of exchange around this matter.

*Lou Westbury (Australia)* continued with saying that the commissions mentioned in the draft for a working programme is only to be seen as proposals for different working groups.

*Michael Ramløse (Denmark)* encouraged all the participants of the Assembly to give their ideas for the new working programme. He continued with proposing making an ad hoc commission to write all the ideas down and out of this make a new draft for the working programme to vote on by the General Assembly.

*Helge Andersen (Norway)* raised a question about the future of the Annual, and stressed the fact that something has to be done about the financial situation with the Annual.

*Judy Potter (Australia)* continued with saying that the survey presented during the General Assembly in Tromsø 1999 needs to be used in the new working programme.

*Jeremy Turner (Great Britain)* said that he thinks the Annual is important in an academic way, but he also feels that there is a problem with the financial situation surrounding it. He continued with saying that one solution could be to only publish it on the website.

*Jan Skotnicki (Poland)* referred to the draft of the working programme 2002-2005 by saying that it may look short and condense on paper, but it is not so in the reality. He stressed the need of continuing the promotion of theatre for children and young people, and underlined the importance of events like the symposium in Zurich in doing so.

*Klaus Eggert (Denmark)* said that several issues on the draft for the working programme is and should be linked to the continued development of the website, since the website is essential for an international organisation like ASSITEJ. He urged all the centres to keep in contact with the General Secretariat and ASSITEJ Denmark who will continue to develop the website, and to please not hesitate to contact him if there any questions.

*Niclas Malmcrona (Sweden)* continued with saying that many of the issues adressed in the survey presented in Tromsø 1999 is included in the draft for a working programme 2002-2005, and that the survey should be continued to be used during the coming three years.

*Kim Peter Kovac (USA)* talked about the Annual and the problems adressed by Helge Andersen (Norway). He stressed the fact that the Annual may cost a lot to print, but that it fulfills a purpose in communicating with art councils and fundings.

*Wolfgang Schneider (Germany)* commented that in forming a draft for a working programme one needs to look at the big picture instead of the small details. Decisions like what to do with the website and the Annual should be left to the Executive Committee to decide upon, while subjects like what moves one and what one wants to work with should be adressed.

*Kim Wo-Ok (Korea)* stated that the Finance and Statue Commission is important to emphasize in the draft for a working programme, because it has to do with fundraising and support for centres with financial problems. He continued with saying that the next Executive meeting should concentrate more on issues like the one adressed by the Latin American centres and the Southern African centres.

*Hagit Rehavi Nikolayevski (Israel)* stressed the fact that in most countries theatre for children and young people are being marginalized, and therefore things like the Theatre world day needs to be emphasized in the working programme.

*Michael Ramløse (Denmark)* opposed the idea of ASSITEJ working with fundraising for some centres and not for others. Instead, he proposed, fundraising should be done on a national level.

*Jackson Ndawula (Uganda)* underlined the importance of collaborations between ASSITEJ International and other sister organisations, since this could be one way to strenghten the organisation.

*Ivica Simic (Croatia)* commented the draft for a working programme as rich in different possibilities, and emphasized that the plan should reflect the global opinion of the Assembly. He spoke about the problems of Eastern Europe wich in many ways resemble the problems adressed by Latin America and Southern Africa and stressed the fact that ASSITEJ cannot answer to all the expectations and demands made on it. He continued with saying that fundraising is important and vital for the future of ASSITEJ, and that this can be one way to help the different centres in need of financial support. Ivica Simic further said that he feels that the working programme is in a critical point, and that changes are needed to be done in order to have a more active association instead of a passive organisation.

*The President* closed the discussion by saying that the proposals given in the debate called for an *ad hoc commission* to work on a new draft for a working programme 2002-2005 to be presented to the General Assembly for consideration. He also reminded that the purpose of the *ad hoc commission* was not to make a new working programme, but

rather to rework the programme in accordance to the guidelines given by the discussion held.

On proposals from the members of the congress the General Assembly agreed to the ad hoc commission as follows:

*Robyn Flatt (USA)*

*Tony Mack (Australia)*

*Paul Harman (Great Britain)*

*Jackson Ndawula (Uganda)*

*Janet Pilai (Malaysia)*

*Lauris Gundars (Latvia)*

*Ivitzia Simic (Croatia)*

*Jan Skotnicki (Poland)*

*Wolfgang Schneider (Germany)*

The *ad hoc* commission withdraw and brought back a reworked draft for a Working programme 2002-2005 to be considered by the General Assembly. The president asked the Assembly to endorse the working programme 2002-2005 as proposed by the ad hoc commission.

*The proposed working programme 2002-2005 was unanimously adopted.*

## **8. Subscription**

On behalf of the Executive Committee *the Secretary General* recommended a continuation of the current system for the next three-year period up to 2005 with a minimum subscription of \$100 and with the encouragement to pay more - up to \$500. The outgoing Executive Committee also recommended that the new Treasurer and the new Executive Committee to look into the current system and to work out a draft for a new subscription system to be presented at the General Assembly 2005. This should be done since the current system does not work efficiently.

*Michael Ramløse (Denmark)* commented that if a system does not work there are two options: either to change it or to make it work. Personally he was in favour of keeping the "system of solidarity" and make it work. Michael Ramløse strongly called upon the richer centres to live up to the words and ideas of solidarity as a basis in the organisation.

*With no further comments or questions the proposal to continue the subscription system was unanimously accepted.*

## **9. Budget 2002-2005**

The President proposed keeping the current budget as a guideline for the next three-year period.

*The proposed budget 2002-2005 was unanimously accepted.*

## **10. Presentation and election of the place of Congress 2005**

*The Secretary General* was pleased to welcome three proposals to host the next congress:

**a) Aberystwyth, Great Britain.** *Jeremy Turner* presented the invitation from Great Britain: Great Britain, who is one of the founder members of ASSITEJ, has never before hosted the World Congress. The Congress would take place during the month of June 2005 in Aberystwyth, Wales, in the west of Great Britain. Aberystwyth is a sea-side town, where everything can be easily reached on foot, by car or by regular public transport. It offers excellent facilities for the congress and international festival. The campus of the University of Wales Aberstwyth, which is only 10 minutes from the town centre, offers conference facilities for the General Assembly, and one of the best and

busiest arts centres in the UK. There is a variety of performance venues in Aberystwyth ranging from the popular Aberystwyth Arts Centre to the Arts Centre in the Department of Theatre Film and Television Studios to other studio theatres and halls in the town. The International Festival would be co-ordinated by APT/ASSITEJ GB and AGOR DRYSAU-OPENING DOORS International Festival of Theatre for Young Audiences. In many cultures, the work for young audiences is often seen to be the fringe of cultural activity and the young audiences are sometimes regarded as being on the edges of the society. The suggested theme of the festival would therefore be 'On the Edges'. Aberystwyth, Great Britain, have the necessary fundings to organise the General Assembly 2005 and is supported by the Assembly Government of Wales and the art council of Wales among others.

**b) Adelaide, Australia.** *Judy Potter* put forward the invitation from Australia: The congress would take place during the month of March 2005 in Adelaide in South Australia. Australia is a wonderful country, brave and courageous and with the structure to make people come together. The global context is important, and Australia is unique in its blend between the culture of Asia and of the Pacific. Adelaide is known for its festivals as well as for its childrens festival, and exceptional work is being done here in the field of theatre for children and young people. Australia have partnerships all over the world and would very much like to elaborate this. The congress would be a partnership between ASSITEJ Australia and the Australian Festival for Young People (Come Out). The Festival would offer a multicultural theme, working with scales (small and big performances) and different forms of arts. Australia has the necessary fundings to organise the Congress 2005 and offers excellent facilities for the congress as well as for the festival.

**c) Montreal, Canada.** *Remi Boucher* presented the invitation from Canada: The congress would take place during the month of May 2005 in Montreal, Quebec. Montreal, with its districts blends European charm and North American modernity, is the ideal city for for a congress of this importance. It is a fascinating city that features a wealth of cultural and sports activities, as well as international-calibre festivals and other world-class gatherings year round. Four main elements are proposed for the 15th Congress: 1) The General Assembly, including all the important components relating to the life of the association 2) The performing arts festival that will take place at the same time as the General Assembly, with companies from all five continents 3) A colloquium, that would focus on the major issues faced in our millennium 4) An exposition area would be available to all the ASSITEJ centres, that would give the opportunity of sharing artistic and theatrical traditions. Canada has the necessary fundings to organise the Congress 2005 and is supported by the Prime Minister of Canada, the Minister of Canadian Heritage and the Minister of state for International Relationships among others. Canada offers excellent facilities for both the Congress and the Festival.

*The President* thanked the three centres for their fine invitations and asked the Assembly to vote on the matter.

The result of voting was:

82 votes to Montreal, Canada

48 votes to Aberystwyth, Great Britain

9 votes to Adelaide, Australia

Montreal, Canada, was elected to host the 2005 ASSITEJ Congress.

## **11. Presentation of the candidates for the Executive Committee and for the Offices of the Secretary General and the Treasurer.**

The candidates for the the office of the Secretary General, Treasurer and for the Executive Committee presented themselves:

### **Candidate for the office of Secretary General:**

Niclas Malmcrona (Sweden)

**Candidates for the office of Treasurer:**

Klaus Eggert (Denmark)

**Candidates for the Executive Committee:**

Tony Mack (Australia)  
Stephan Rabl (Austria)  
Luiza Monteiro (Brazil)  
Remi Boucher (Canada)  
Iviza Simic (Croatia)  
Klaus Eggert (Denmark)  
Katariina Metsälampi (Finland)  
Wolfgang Schneider (Germany)  
Jeremy Turner (Great Britain)  
Kim Woo-Ok (Korea)  
Lauris Gundars (Latvia)  
Myriam Reategui (Peru)  
Jan Skotnicki (Poland)  
Michael Bartenev (Russia)  
Niclas Malmcrona (Sweden)  
Peter Rinderknecht (Switzerland)  
Jackson Ndawula (Uganda)  
Kim Peter Kovac (USA)  
Cheela Chilala (Zambia)  
Elisabeth Kabasa (Zimbabwe)  
Hagit Rehavi Nikolayevski (Israel)  
Yuriko Kobayashi (Japan)  
Tülin Saglam (Turkey)

**12. Elections**

*The President* explained the procedure of elections: Candidates receiving 70 votes or more are elected. Candidates receiving less than 70 votes are not elected. He also noted that only 15 or less of the candidates for the Executive Committee can be voted on for each ballot.

**a) Election of Secretary General**

The outgoing Executive Committee had nominated *Niclas Malmcrona (Sweden)* for the office of Secretary General 2002-2005.

The result of the vote:

Yes: 136 votes

No: 1 vote

Abstentions: 2 votes

*Niclas Malmcrona was elected as Secretary General 2002-2005.*

**b) Election of Treasurer**

The outgoing Executive Committee had nominated *Klaus Eggert (Denmark)* for the office of Treasurer 2002-2005.

The result of the vote:

Yes: 123 votes

No: 9 votes

Abstentions: 7 votes

Klaus Eggert was elected as Treasurer 2002-2005.

**c) Election of the Executive Committee**

The centres was asked to vote for the remaining members of the Executive Committee.

The result of the vote:

Tony Mack	(Australia)	80 votes	elected
Stephan Rabl	(Austria)	86 votes	elected
Luiza Monteiro	(Brazil)	101 votes	elected
Remi Boucher	(Canada)	100 votes	elected
Ivica Simic	(Croatia)	97 votes	elected
Katarina Metsälampi	(Finland)	67 votes	not elected
Wolfgang Schneider	(Germany)	124 votes	elected
Jeremy Turner	(Great Britain)	86 votes	elected
Kim Woo-Ok	(Korea)	86 votes	elected
Lauris Gundars	(Latvia)	56 votes	not elected
Myriam Reategui	(Peru)	11 votes	not elected
Jan Skotnicki	(Poland)	59 votes	not elected
Michail Bartenev	(Russia)	81 votes	elected
Peter Rinderknecht	(Switzerland)	101 votes	elected
Jackson Ndawula	(Uganda)	66 votes	not elected
Kim Peter Kovac	(USA)	69 votes	not elected
Cheela Chilala	(Zambia)	69 votes	not elected
Elisabeth Kabasa	(Zimbabwe)	66 votes	not elected
Hagit Rehavi Nikolayevski	(Israel)	85 votes	elected
Yuriko Kobayashi	(Japan)	117 votes	elected
Tülin Saglam	(Turkey)	69 votes	not elected

The following candidates was elected as Executive Committee 2002-2005:

Tony Mack	(Australia)
Stephan Rabl	(Austria)
Luiza Monteiro	(Brazil)
Remi Boucher	(Canada)
Ivica Simic	(Croatia)
Wolfgang Schneider	(Germany)
Jeremy Turner	(Great Britain)
Kim Woo-Ok	(Korea)
Michail Bartenev	(Russia)
Peter Rinderknecht	(Switzerland)
Hagit Rehavi Nikolayevski	(Israel)
Yuriko Kobayashi	(Japan)

**d) Election of the President**

*The Executive Committee* retired and brought back the nomination for Presidency. On behalf of the Executive Committee *Niclas Malmcrona (Sweden)* nominated Wolfgang Schneider (Germany) for the office of president of ASSITEJ.

The result of the vote (one centre not present):

Yes: 112 votes

No: 26 votes

Wolfgang Schneider (Germany) was elected the president of ASSITEJ 2002-2005.

### **e) Election of Vice-Presidents**

*The Executive Committee* retired and brought back the nominations for the Vice-presidents. Following four candidates was nominated for the three posts as Vice-presidents:

Tony Mack	(Australia)
Luiza Monteiro	(Brazil)
Remi Boucher	(Canada)
Hagit Rehavi Nikolayevski	(Israel)

*The Secretary General* pointed out that in order to be elected the candidate must get more than half the votes present. If more candidates get more than half the votes the one with the most votes are elected - up to the number of offices vacant.

Result of the vote (one centre not present):

Tony Mack	(Australia)	95 votes
Luiza Monteiro	(Brazil)	102 votes
Remi Boucher	(Canada)	89 votes
Hagit Rehavi nikolayevski	(Israel)	70 votes

*Vice-presidents of ASSITEJ 2002-2005 are Tony Mack (Australia), Luiza Monteiro (Brazil) and Remy Boucher (Canada).*

### **13. a) Honorary President - Michael FitzGerald, Australia**

On the recommendation of *the Executive Committee* it was proposed that Michael Fitzgerald should be given the title Honorary President of ASSITEJ International. *Harold Oaks (USA)* spoke on behalf of the Executive Committee warmly of Michael FitzGerald's extraordinary work in the service of theatre for children and young people. Michael Fitzgerald served as the President of ASSITEJ International for two terms, and during this period of time he moved the organisation forward in a crucial way. His devotion and dedication to the organisation is outstanding.

*Michael FitzGerald was made Honorary President of ASSITEJ by a unanimous vote.*

### **14. a) Honorary Membership - Ann Shaw, USA - Orna Porat, Israel - Kazuto Kurihara, Japan - Rose-Marie Moudouès, France**

On the recommendation of *the Executive Committee* it was proposed that Ann Shaw (USA), Orna Porat (Israel), Kazuto Kurihara (Japan) and Rose-Marie Moudouès (France) should be given the title of *Honorary Member of ASSITEJ*.

*Harold Oaks (USA)* spoke on behalf of the Executive Committee of Ann Shaw's extraordinary work in the service of ASSITEJ USA and ASSITEJ International.

*Ann Shaw was made Honorary Member of ASSITEJ by a unanimous vote.*

*Hagit Rehavi Nikolayevski (Israel)* spoke on behalf of the Executive Committee of Orna Porat's hard and admirable work for establishing Theatre for Children and Young people in Israel and her outstanding service to ASSITEJ International.

*Orna Porat was made Honorary Member of ASSITEJ by a unanimous vote.*

*Yoshishige Kagawa (Japan)* spoke on behalf of the Executive Committee of Kazuto Kurihara's hard and efficient work as President of ASSITEJ Japan and his outstanding service to ASSITEJ International.

*Kazuto Kurihara was made Honorary Member of ASSITEJ by a unanimous vote.*

*Remi Boucher (Canada)* spoke on behalf of the Executive Committee of Rose-Marie Moudouès' dedication and devotion for Theatre for Children and Young people. Rose-Marie Moudouès was one of the founding members of ASSITEJ International, and worked as Secretary General for the organisation for several years.

*Rose-Marie Moudouès was made Honorary Member of ASSITEJ by a unanimous vote.*

## **15 A. o. B.**

On this item the deaths among our colleagues in the theatre world since the last Congress in Tromsø, 1999, were honoured with a silent moment.

<i>Penny Bernard</i>	<i>(Great Britain)</i>
<i>Maria Clara Machado</i>	<i>(Brazil)</i>
<i>Hans Snook</i>	<i>(the Netherlands)</i>
<i>Ray Nüsselein</i>	<i>(Denmark)</i>

- *Ouyang Yibing (China)*, Director General of the China National Children's Art Theatre briefly presented the work of ASSITEJ China.

- *Vladimir Hulec (Czech Republic)* invited all the members of ASSITEJ to the Prague quadrennial 2003, the 10th International Exhibition of Scenography and Theatre Architecture. The event is to be held in Prague on the 26th to the 29th of June 2003.

- *Kim Peter Kovac (USA)* announced that the Kennedy Centre in USA is sponsoring Arts Managers to Washington DC for a year to study various aspects of the work inside the centre. The invitation is open for all countries, and information on this programme can be found on the Kennedy Centre website.

- *Lou Westbury (Australia)* invited all the members of ASSITEJ to get to know more about Australia's richness in performing Arts practice for Children and Young people. For more information on this matter log on to [www.ypaa.org](http://www.ypaa.org)

- *Vicky Ireland (Great Britain)* read out a letter of greetings from Rosie Belton (New Zealand) sending her apologies for not coming to the Congress, and wishing for success and good outcomes.

- *Halina Machulska (Poland)* invited all the members of ASSITEJ to the 6th International Festival of Theatres for Children and Young People "Korczak 2002" to be held in Warszawa on the 16th to the 21st September 2002.

- *Violeta Podolskaite (Lithuania)* invited all the members of ASSITEJ to the International Festival for Children and Young People to be held in Vilnius in the month of April, 2003.

- *Jeremy Turner (Great Britain)* announced that Vicky Ireland (Great Britain) has been given the "Member of the British Empire" by the Queen's Jubilee Honours list for services for Theatre for Children and Young People.

- *Harold Oaks (USA)* presented and handed out a paperback book "Outstanding plays for Young Audiences" to the Assembly. The book is volume seven in the International Bibliography ed. by ASSITEJ USA.

## **16. Closing Session**

On closing the General Assembly *the President Wolfgang Schneider* thanked Harold Oaks for his hard work as president during the last three-year period.

He continued with giving his thanks to ASSITEJ Korea for their good work in organising a wonderful Congress and a outstanding Festival.

A special thank was adressed to Kim Woo-Ok for making the visit to Seoul, Korea possible and to Niclas Malmcrona for his efficient and good work as Secretary General.

The President continued with expressing his warm thanks to the outgoing Executive Committee and to its counsellors for their hard and dedicated work during the last three-year period and to the *ad hoc commission* for their work during the Assembly.

He also thanked all the centres and the delgates for coming to the Congress.