



**ASSITEJ  
Executive Committee Meeting  
(Incoming Executive Committee)  
Cape Town, South Africa 2017  
May 26, 2017**

**Present:**

Yvette Hardie, President, South Africa (YH)

Louis Valente, Secretary-General, Denmark (LV)

Roberto Frabetti, Treasurer, Italy (RF)

Daniel H. Fernandez, Vice President, Argentina (DF)

Sue Giles, Vice President, Australia (SG)

François Fogel, Vice President, France (FF)

Bebe de Soares, Chile (BDS)

Stefan Fischer-Fels, Germany (SFF)

Pamela Udoka, Nigeria (PU)

Tatiana Bobrova, Russia (TB)

Ernie Nolan, USA (EN)

Manon van de Water, ITYARN (MvdW)

Cecilie Lundsholt, Norway (CL)

Sookhee KIM, South Korea (SK), deputy for Seok-hong KIM (SHK)

Henrik Køhler, CEO in Teatercentrum (TC), Denmark (HK)

Lea Motzfeldt, Executive Assistant, Denmark (LM)

## **Agenda**

1. Opening
2. Review of the Agenda
3. Apologies
4. Introductions of new EC
5. 2017 Congress:
  - 5.1 Co-opting of EC-members and/or adopting of counsellors
  - 5.2 Brief review of Congress
  - 5.3 What do we want to take forward?
  - 5.3 New networks
  - 5.4 New members
6. Working plan for 2017 -2020
7. Three year dramaturgy
8. Working groups: Do we want to retain or change?
  - Policies and protocols
  - Projects
  - Promotions
  - Publications
  - External Fundraising committee
9. Working group goals: flagging the important areas of work
  - 9.1 Policies and protocols:
    - National centre toolkit – case studies and support to national centres
    - Fundraising committee selection
    - Seedfunding programme for projects
    - Friends of ASSITEJ
    - Solidarity fund
    - International Associations relationships and other strategic relationships
    - Overcoming language barriers
  - 9.2 Projects
    - Regional Workshops
    - Online training/workshops/sharing of info
    - Next Generation residencies and placements
    - Artistic Gatherings 2018, 2019
    - Congress 2020
    - Activities in parts of the world where children are in need
    - Inclusion of children in artistic practice, celebration and decision-making
- 9 Publications and Archives:
  - Planning for 2018, 2019 and 2020 Magazines
  - On-line versions of everything

Publication of Advocacy tools  
ITYARN publications post-congress  
Publication of report on Congress 2017  
Assist Secretary-General with the upkeep of the Archives.

10 Promotions:

Take a Child to the Theatre Today Campaign – compelling media  
World Performance Week  
Inclusivity agenda and IIAN award  
Promotion of the 2017 World Congress achievements and new directions  
Website and newsletter  
Social media and innovative means to include people in conversation  
through technology  
ASSITEJ worldwide recognition of various national honours (e.g. Tony  
Mack, ASSITEJ SA, Kim Peter Kovak etc)  
Promotion of playtexts

10. Secretariat – relocation of the secretariat

11. Communication – how shall we communicate?

12. Next Generation: link to them and hear their plans

13. Next EC meeting (Italy): Mantova 28 October – 5 November 2017

14. Any other business

15. Closing

## **1. Opening**

YH stated that all members of the EC have to nominate a deputy for themselves, and that these needs to be communicated to LV.

CL asked whether the deputy had to be from the same country as the EC member. YH replied that it is an option to nominate a non-national deputy, but it is good practice to coordinate with the national centre or network who made the nomination.

### **Introduction from Henrik Køhler, Teatercentrum (TC):**

*Teatercentrum is the supporting partner in the operation of the new secretariat. Henrik Køhler was invited to introduce himself and Teatercentrum to the EC.*

YH welcomed HK and asked him to introduce himself and the partnership around the secretariat.

HK: ASSITEJ Denmark and TC are working closely together in the daily work and have done that since the late eighties where Michael Ramløse was Secretary General of ASSITEJ and CEO of TC. The responsibility of the secretariat is with LV, but TC will support him. TC will pay 1/3 of LVs salary. LV will be full-time employed, and work as the international coordinator for TC, and be responsible for the annual Danish Aprilfestival. HK believe these responsibilities will work well with the position as Secretary-General. HK emphasised that all TC resources will be available for LV (including staff). He said that ASSITEJ Denmark and TC had applied for funding, and at the moment TC will ensure that the first year is covered. For now LV has Lea Motzfeldt employed as a full-time intern/assistant, and there is a possibility to employ an assistant for LV in the future.

SFF asked who will pay the other 2/3 of LV salary. LV replied that it is paid by ASSITEJ Denmark which is funded by member fees and normal state support of ASSITEJ Denmark.

YH: asked about who will cover the travel money of LV. LV answered that he is expecting more funding, but will have to manage it step by step. HK stressed that TC will ensure parts of the travel costs for LV if needed.

YH expressed her appreciation for the support from TC. In relation to the hand-over of the secretariat from Mexico, she said that Marisa Giménez Cacho might have to come to Denmark, however most documents are digital.

LV said that he will contact Marissa Giménez Cacho when need be for any enquiries. Furthermore he will have a meeting with Marissa Giménez Cacho on the 27.05.2017 to organise the hand-over.

MvdW pointed out that everyone should let LV know their preferred email address.

### **ACTION**

- 1. LV will meet with Marissa Giménez Cacho to organise the hand-over of the Secretary-General post.**
- 2. EC members should let LV know who will be there deputy.**
- 3. EC members should let LV know their preferred email address.**

### **2. Review of the Agenda**

Point 12 (Next Generation) in the agenda will function as a separate meeting from 14:00.

Co-opting of EC-members and/or adopting of counsellors will be included as point 5.1.

### **3. Apologies**

Seok-Hong KIM apologised that he had to leave Cape Town earlier, however his deputy Sookhee KIM will be present instead.

### **4. Introductions of new EC:**

EC members introduced each other, on their personal and professional life.

### **5. 2017 Congress:**

#### **5.1 Co-opting EC members and/or adopting counsellors**

YH pointed out that the EC is one member short, and that it would be preferable to have a full EC especially due to the large amount of work, but also to have an uneven amount of voting members.

According to the constitution the EC have two choices:

- 1) Co-opt a member (with full voting right)
- 2) Adopt a counsellor(s) (with no voting right). However, the President can have two votes during a strict vote. The counsellor(s) can work for a whole term, or in rotation.

FF suggested Kenjiro Otani from Japan as a Counsellor, due to the congress in 2020. MvdW suggested Japan as a Co-opted member.

RF said it would be good to have a member with fundraising skills, and that the EC could also consider leaving the place open, as they have to think about the next president.

SFF agreed that it could be useful with a skilful Counsellor for the fundraising committee. And that it would be a tactical offer to elect Japan.

SK said that Japan might also consider a younger English speaking EC candidate, and that she would advise to choose Japan for the EC. SG emphasised that it would be good to have another EC member from the Asian region.

LV pointed out that it is also possible to have three counsellors from the Asian region – however he addressed the concern that this might create a lack of continuity in the work when the person changes each year. YH replied that it would perhaps still create continuity in the sense that all three counsellors would represent the *Asian network*. She suggested that China could function as the counsellor for the first year, then India and then Japan towards the congress. YH pointed out that China and Japan would be invited anyway due to the artistic gathering and the congress.

SFF emphasised how a Co-opted member would be an advantage as this would ensure that the member would do its best for the organisation. He said that as far as he knows, there was no candidate in India who could really go for the international position.

LV asked whether the EC could defend to Co-opt a member who was not a candidate for the EC. YH replied that this would not be a problem, as it is the duty of the EC to think of what/who is most suitable for the organisation, and that it had been the case with MvdW after the congress in 2014. It is also in some ways preferable to Co-opt a person who hasn't received less than 50% of the votes in the elections at the General Assembly, which would often be the case with a person who had presented a candidacy to the General Assembly.

RF pointed out that a Co-opted member will have to pay for his/hers own travel fees whereas for the Counsellor ASSITEJ pays. And that a larger EC implies more expenses for the hosts of the EC meetings.

BDS asked whether the 13<sup>th</sup> member had to be from ASSITEJ, otherwise she would suggest Olga Garay (Cuban/American) as a candidate or as part of an external fundraising committee. YH responded that the 13<sup>th</sup> member could be from outside of ASSITEJ. MvdW said that she do not think it is a good idea to have three US based people within the EC.

SG suggested that all EC members should search for a candidate with international experience in fundraising.

RF suggested that all EC members should make a call within the national centres for relevant members of the external fundraising committee. SFF emphasised the need for a specific profile on this/these counsellor(s). RF will think of specific criteria's for the call.

YH summed up the options discussed:

- 1) Invite possible candidates for the next EC meeting
- 2) Rotating Asian counsellor(s)
- 3) Co-opt someone with specific criteria

YH concluded that the vote on the 13<sup>th</sup> candidate would be decided later on.

### **ACTION**

**1. BDS will contact Olga Garay as a possible candidate for the external fundraising committee or for the EC.**

**2. All EC members should research for a good candidate, preferably with fundraising skills.**

**3. RF will define specific criteria for an open call regarding possible members of the external fundraising committee.**

## **5.2 Brief review of Congress**

YH mentioned how it was challenging to put the Congress together, especially financially. The performances had sold tickets, and more registrations were received, however she is not sure whether there is a shortfall yet, but will have a clear indication of this by the end of the following week. YH feels proud of the work put together for the Congress, and said it was a new era for African participation in particular. 'Dialogue' has been reporting throughout the festival, and gathered a lot of records, surveys etc. which will be presented to the EC in the form of a report, at the next EC meeting. She said that there was a very specific purpose in terms of ASSITEJ SA and generally, to plan the Congress so that it would change something, both in the local environment and in the Association as a whole.

## **5.3 What do we want to take forward?**

YH asked EC members what they wanted to take away from the Congress/festival.

SFF applauded the effort that was put into teambuilding. SG said that the emotional level was high, and that it was exciting to experience a different critical response.

CL added how she thought the 'cultural hub' was an interesting idea, and thought it would be relevant to introduce the notion of a 'cultural hub' in different festivals and other national contexts.

MvdW commented that it was an ambitious and very full programme, and that the 'producers bazar' and 'cultural hub' started too early (in the day).

EN said that the 'open-space day' was fantastic, but that it should have been taking place earlier. YH replied that the 'open-space day' was placed on the third day of the congress, because it gave the delegates a chance to engage with the people they could

vote for. EN pointed out how social apps could be used to engage and interact with each other throughout the congress.

CL commented that members should know where the festival hub is, and that it would be nice to meet the EC the first day. She suggested that new members should be introduced at the general assembly. RF added that 'Next-generation', 'organisers' etc. could be included in these 'open-spaces'.

PU mentioned that the programme should include a "day-off" where delegates attending the congress could have time to enjoy the area.

#### **5.4 New networks, new members**

YH stressed that everyone should think about how to encourage new memberships of ASSITEJ coming out of Cradle.

#### **6. Working plan for 2017 – 2020**

*Due to lack of time the working plan wasn't discussed.*

#### **7. Three year dramaturgy**

The following ideas for the three years dramaturgy were developed at the Open-Space discussion:

1. Looking to the past, present and future
2. Looking at skills
3. How to make Theater?

RF commented that 'looking to the past' should be considered as a 'memory' of the past. YH added that with for instance China it is perhaps more relevant to look to the future.

MvdW mentioned that it is relevant to consider how the link is made to the future, as something that is learnt from the past. SFF emphasised the need to recognise history as a way to learn, and the importance of how this is framed. SG added that it depends on

who writes the history. She suggested that language could be a whole focus of the description part, and added how China have just started to open up about audience approaches etc.

YH mentioned how it is important to consider what is brought to the region that will change something for them, for instance in investigating different ways of exploring TYA.

SFF commented that delegates from China are very fascinated about the idea of bridging traditional Chinese theatre to the contemporary.

YH suggested that a new 'slogan' could be along the lines of: "Past, present, future: describing theatre (or) dreaming theatre (or) making theatre.

LV mentioned that the more concrete the slogan is, the better, and that it should be reflected on the stage.

CL emphasised that the topic should be discussed in the context of a collective organisation.

## **8. Working groups: Do we want to retain or change?**

YH asked whether the EC should look at other ways of organising the groups.

RF commented that the proposal of the solidarity fund need to be defined in regards to what projects would be funded by the fund etc. This should be defined no later than October if the proposal is to be a success.

YH commented that the external fundraising committee in her understanding should consist of 5-6 people who are not part of the EC and at least one person from the EC managing the group. She also emphasised that it is about expanding reach and capacity.

FF emphasised that it is important to figure out who is in charge; he referred to how during the last term, the Publication group was under-loaded, and the Project group was overloaded.

YH emphasised how there is a need for broader economic support to the Secretary-General and the officers. She mentioned how at the moment she can only travel when invited, which is not always serving the agenda of the association, but rather the host. It should be a goal to be able to strategize where to go, which requires enough means to be able to include more travel money in the budget of ASSITEJ.

RF mentioned that it would be good to contact UNESCO before October. YH replied that Wolfgang Schneider already explored this and that the support from UNESCO was very little, however she is happy to try again. MvdW commented that she would contact the UNESCO chair in Arts and Learning, Larry O'Farrel, (as she knows him).

FF commented that there is a need to find a more focused view on engineering in the networks already existing. YH suggested making a 'Project and Network' group, and a 'Publication and Promotions' group.

SFF asked what would change his work with a "Project/Network group". YH replied that it would focus more on communication of and with networks, and development of new networks. The group should think about regional networks in part of the world where these do not exist. She emphasised how it is necessary to go against the trend of 'nationalism' that are happening in Europe at the moment, and focus on how for instance UK, France and Poland could become part of a network. She emphasised how Regional networks cannot apply for ASSITEJ membership (due to voting issue), but that networks function as useful tools to support activity.

CL commented that she feels there is something wrong in the way networks are divided into blocks within a region, especially thinking about Europe. YH replied that it also depends on what the national and regional need is. TB emphasised that centres cannot be dictated to form/join a certain network, as it is their own decision. RF mentioned that the different blocks/networks formed within Europe are an outcome of common needs and focal points.

YH suggested that the EC decided on what working group they would be in.

MvdW commented that she would like to be within Publications but that she cannot do it by herself. FF: wish to work with policies and protocols, but will continue on the communication tasks.

## **9. Working group goals: flagging the important areas of work**

### **9.1 Policies, Protocols & Fundraising**

YH explained how this is the philosophical pillars, that determines how the organisation operates. Here there is a focus on how to support the national centres (toolkit, fundraising). And there is focus on how to build relations with international associations and build various structures.

SG commented that it is important to make real specific goals for each year, focusing on areas of improvement from the suggestions gathered from the members, eg: inclusivity year 1, language year 2, child-participation year 3.

YH added that these goals should feed into the project groups. It will also link to the External Fundraising committee, and consider the practical implementation of systems such as the Solidarity Fund, the Seedfunding project, etc.

### **9.2 Projects & Networks**

YH explained how this group will focus on the activities of the association, such as Next Generation, Regional Workshops, activities where children are in need, Artistic Gatherings, Congress, inclusion of children in the policies (this would perhaps start in the protocol and then move to projects). They will also focus on online training, digital workshops, and consider other ways to share information.

### **9.3 Publications and Archives:**

YH explained how this includes what is recorded and published such as the annual magazine, brochures, research publications etc. Advocacy tools should be considered in a downloadable form. All national centres and networks should continue to archive and make data accessible. It should be considered and developed how to promote new publications. There is also a task to promote the invitation to writers on unfinished plays. New initiatives are coming out of the congress that the EC needs to follow through on. YH have thought of calling this group “publications and archives”.

MvdW commented that she will have a meeting to look at the website and ensure that publication links can go straight to the website.

MvdW commented furthermore that a lot of the publication group work is made before the meeting in contrary to the project group, which is an advantage for the Secretary General as he/she could do more work during the meetings and ‘float’ between the groups.

#### **9.4 Promotions**

YH explained how this involves the way we advocate and speak about the association. Communication tools and compelling media should be considered. New awards for IIAN, ITYARN – consider how to present these and how to attract the right people to these awards.

The conclusion of point 8. and 9. was to establish three working groups: Protocols, Policies & Fundraising; Projects and Networks; Publications and Promotion.

The distribution of EC-members between the groups was decided to be the following:

##### **Protocols, Policies & Fundraising**

- BDS
- YH
- SG
- RF

##### **Projects and Networks**

- EN
- DF
- CL
- PU
- SFF

### **Publications and Promotions**

- MvdW
- FF
- TB
- SHK

(It was decided that LV can be allocated in one of the groups later, when he has a better sense of the work as Secretary-General).

### **ACTION**

- 1. MvdW will have a meeting to look at the website and ensure that Publication links can go straight to the website.**
- 2. MvdW will contact the chairman of UNESCO**

### **10. Secretariat – relocation of the secretariat**

*This subject was not discussed here, but in the beginning of the meeting due to the presence of Henrik Køhler.*

### **11. Communication – how shall we communicate?**

YH mentioned that the EC holds a shared drop box folder, and that a new one should be created for the new EC. She mentioned different tools which could be used such as Google drive, Skype, WhatsApp, Google Hangout, Facetime. She emphasised that LV needs to know what communication tools each EC member prefers and are familiar with and that the EC also needs to decide on how to communicate collectively.

YH will Skype LV to talk about specific tasks prior to the October meeting. Suitable timeframes and a basic plan needs to be considered.

MvdW asked to discuss the openers for the newsletter. YH explained that the opener for the newsletter is written from someone from the EC. She suggested that the new EC members should start with these.

The opener for the newsletter was decided to be in the following order:

- LV (July 2017)
- EN (August)
- BDS (September)
- CL (October)
- PU (November)
- TB (December)
- RF (January 2018)
- FF (February)
- SFF (March)
- DF (April)
- MvdW (May)
- YH (June)
- SG (July)

YH stated that EC members should contact LV if they know of any specific dates where they are not available.

### **ACTION**

- 1. LV will find out what communication channels the EC should use.**
- 2. EC members should contact LV if there are any particular dates where they will not be available.**
- 3. LV and YH will have a meeting on tasks for the EC meeting in October.**
- 4. Openers for the newsletter will be written according to the order defined above.**

### **12. Next Generation: link to them and hear their plans**

The EC met all the participants of the Next Generation Program at Cradle of Creativity and heard about their experiences of and feedback concerning the Program. This section formed the ending of the meeting and is summarized in addendum C.

### **13. Next EC meeting (Italy): Mantova 28 October – 5 November 2017**

#### Issues concerning the meeting in Italy:

RF can arrive on the 30<sup>th</sup>

BDS cannot attend

CL can attend until the 1<sup>st</sup>

YH said that it is problematic if some EC members are missing the first meeting, and stated that everybody need to send definite dates to LV about the first EC meeting.

YH wondered whether the EC should make a pitch for an EC meeting in Croatia. She also referred to the Artistic Gathering in China, where the EC have to decide on whether they have to meet beforehand; however the EC will have to get back to this when they know the definite dates for the Artistic Gathering.

SFF addressed having three EC meetings in a year was problematic. YH replied that it should be two. SFF stressed the importance of having all EC members present. He suggested having a short meeting in Mantova and then set up a meeting in Jan/Feb, since people often have time during these months.

#### **ACTION:**

- 1. All EC members need to inform LV about the specific dates they are available for the first EC meeting in Mantova.**
- 2. LV will find the dates for the Artistic Gathering in Beijing in order to define if a meeting between the October meeting and the Artistic Gathering is needed.**
- 3. SFF will explore the possibility of Panoptikum in Germany in January for an EC meeting.**

### **14. Any other business**

No other business was discussed.

## **15. Closing**

## **Addendum A**

### **ASSITEJ International Association of Theatre for Children and Young People Association Internationale du Theatre pour l'Enfance et la Jeunesse**

#### **WORKING PLAN 2017 - 2020**

Approved by the General Assembly of ASSITEJ in Cape Town, South Africa, May 2017.

#### **Article 2 – Aims**

- 2.1 To work for the rights of children and young people to artistic experiences especially designed and created for them.
- 2.2 To work for the recognition and acknowledgement of theatre for children and young people.
- 2.3 To work for improvement of the conditions of theatre for children and young people all over the world.
- 2.4 To improve the common knowledge of theatre for children and young people worldwide, thus drawing the attention of international and national authorities to the importance of taking children and young people and the artistic work created for them seriously.
- 2.5 To give people working with theatre for children and young people the opportunity to learn about the work of colleagues from other countries and cultures, thus enabling them to enrich theatre for children and young people in their own country.
- 2.6 To help to form in all countries, ASSITEJ centres and networks which function in accordance with the mission, constitution and policies of the Association. These centres and networks shall unite all theatres, organizations, and people interested in theatre for children and young people.
- 2.7 To help to establish international artistic networks that work on a multinational basis on different aspects of artistic work for young audiences to increase the artistic competence of the artists and for their benefit.

#### **Article 3 – Means**

The means of achieving these aims will be:

- 3.1. Organization, promotion and support of national, regional, and international programmes, congresses, conferences, festivals, study tours, exhibitions, and other activities. ASSITEJ will
  - 3.1.1 Strategically support regional initiatives and development, particularly using EC meetings and members as a mechanism.
  - 3.1.2 Implement Regional workshops as requested by members, to fulfil the needs of ASSITEJ centres in a region, and to share expertise and experience;
  - 3.1.3 Provide support for members through letters of support on request, according to the protocol for Support.
  - 3.1.4 Support and promote international Projects through giving the designation of ASSITEJ International Project.
  - 3.1.5 Organise annual international meetings (Artistic Gatherings); and develop a three year artistic dramaturgy for these, in order to promote exchange, building of networks and new directions in TYA.
  - 3.1.6 Initiate, and adopt as members, new artistic networks, as these seem necessary and desirable.

3.1.7 Initiate and organize projects in cooperation with theatres, networks, national and regional centres.

3.2 Promotion and support of exchange of experiences between artists from all countries. ASSITEJ will

3.2.1 Create a seedfunding programme for collaboration projects between members, who will apply responding to criteria specific to bridging relationships between countries or regions through the artistic exchange.

3.2.2 Maintain the Next Generation residencies programme and encourage similar programmes of exchange on a national and regional basis.

3.2.3 Collaborate with the Next Generation network to support a Placements programme managed by the network, to encourage younger artists to gain experience in different parts of the world.

3.2.4 Devise educational and training projects for skills development and mentorship in order to develop theatre for children in the countries and regions that have need of such a development, through the establishment of Regional Workshops and other programs.

3.2.5 Initiate and support international and intercultural theatre projects of cooperation and exchange using international meetings and festivals as platforms.

3.2.6 Develop marketing and fundraising strategies to promote and fund such projects.

3.2.7 Create a series of case studies of national centres, and share this information to assist in the running, maintaining and development of national centres.

3.2.8 Strategise to create informal partnerships or networks to strengthen the capacity of national centres to be more inclusive, vibrant and active with ongoing communication between members of the association and the EC.

3.3. Encouragement of circulation and exchange of plays, texts, and other literature pertaining to theatre for children and young people. ASSITEJ will

3.3.1 Support “Write Local. Play Global” and “ITYARN” to ensure that texts are circulated, and to support the dissemination and translation of plays.

3.3.2 Provide spaces at Artistic Gatherings, and other ASSITEJ events, as well as on the website, to promote and share plays and texts.

3.4. Collection of material and documentation on theatre for children and young people. ASSITEJ will

3.4.1 Continue the upkeep of the ASSITEJ Archives, focusing on making this more user-friendly and accessible for all members of ASSITEJ and all those interested in research.

3.4.2 Collect and share abstracts and research findings to demonstrate the breadth and depth of research currently available.

3.5. Promotion of theatre for children and young people through all media. ASSITEJ will

3.5.1 Maintain and produce the Website, the monthly Newsletter, an annual Magazine and ASSITEJ-related books and other publications.

3.5.2 Maintain a proactive and vibrant social media presence which reaches out to all and is inclusive.

3.5.3 Produce compelling media around the Take a Child to the Theatre Today campaign.

3.5.4 Promote the ASSITEJ World Day for Theatre for Children and Young People, globally, through continuing and growing the 'Take a Child to the Theatre Today' campaign.

3.5.5 Develop strategic cooperative ventures with other international associations to lobby more broadly for the necessity of theatre for all children and young people.

3.5.6 Promote the ASSITEJ Award for Artistic Excellence, the Applause for Lifetime Achievement Award, the Inspirational Playwrights Awards and the ITYARN Research Award, in order to put focus on theatre for young audiences both inside and outside the association.

3.6. Co-operation with other international organizations with related interests. ASSITEJ will

3.6.1 Continue to seek connections and collaborations with other international theatre organizations;

3.6.2 Build on the World Performance Week as a mechanism for cooperation between the international associations;

3.6.3 Develop strategic relationships with non-theatre based NGOs, institutions or peak bodies which share common values and interests.

3.7. Introduction and support of proposals made by centres and networks in order to advance the work of theatre for children and young people to appropriate national and international authorities and agencies. ASSITEJ will

3.7.1 Work for recognition of theatre art for young audiences as an intrinsic part of the life-long artistic education of children and young people.

3.7.2 Advocate for theatre for young audiences as a basic human right, and the right of every child.

3.7.3 Promote and advocate for theatre that is inclusive of and sensitive to people of all abilities (theatre for, by and with).

3.7.4 Raise awareness of children's rights through developing activity in parts of the world where children need this activity most.

### **3.8 Organisational Work: 2017 - 2020**

3.8.1. ASSITEJ will work on strategies and practical projects for Fundraising or income generation to ensure the sustainability of the association, and its members, including creating an independent fundraising committee linked to the regions. Concrete proposals include a Solidarity fund, ASSITEJ Auctions, Friends of ASSITEJ and other initiatives, both local and global.

3.8.2 ASSITEJ will explore and experiment with different ways of approaching translation and overcoming language barriers at Artistic gatherings and Congress.

3.8.3 ASSITEJ will actively recruit new memberships from countries currently not represented in the international body and assist them to be active, participative and communicative members of the association.

3.8.4 ASSITEJ will find innovative online means to include in conversation, and exchange knowledge and expertise with, members from countries who struggle to participate in person at events: livestreaming, podcasts, online radio, online workshops, documentation etc.

3.8.5 ASSITEJ will explore methods to include children to participate in the life of the association, in artistic practice, celebration and decision-making.

## **Addendum B**

### **WORKING PLAN IDEAS FROM OPEN SPACE SESSION AT CONGRESS 2017**

#### **T1: BUDGET & FUND-RAISING**

Moderator: ROBERTO

#### **T2: NEW IDEAS, DREAMS AND QUESTIONS**

##### **ADVOCACY & RESEARCH AGENDA:**

Pulling together the evidence for benefit of arts around the world into ASSITEJ website as a central place.

- Focus on disappearance of arts in education globally
- Partnership with ITYARN to summarize findings for easy access
- develop tools for advocacy for members
- align to countries government policies more closely – ASSITEJ can help you succeed in your aims.
- Mentor Next Generation to engage with research and advocacy

##### **ASSITEJ role in activism around common issues in the world – poverty, democracy, environment, racism, access.**

- Placing ASSITEJ festivals within places where children don't have rights or where children need it most.
- ASSITEJ becomes more visible in its protest against injustice or inequality
- ASSITEJ becomes more visible full stop

#### **T3: REGIONAL WORKSHOPS.**

Every region needs development! What would a regional workshop be for you? Ideas for development!

Moderator: DANIEL + FRANCOIS.

#### **T4: ASSITEJ CENTERS AND MEMBERSHIP**

How can they be more inclusive? How can they communicate with ASSITEJ International AND with members? How can emerging centres be developed? Best practice examples, ideas etc.

Moderator: YVETTE.

- Translate the toolkit into national languages
- Create an online calendar which collects everything in one space
- Persons given responsibility within national centre for parts of working plan and for connections to networks
- On joining, all members presented in membership documents, automatically are included in mailing list
- Concrete practical projects and regional workshops can be used as member benefits.

#### **T4: ASSITEJ CENTERS AND MEMBERSHIP (cont.)**

Practical assistance for members without resources

- Template for website that can be downloaded
- National Centres able to piggyback on ASSITEJ website so host costs are not incurred
- Tools for greater visibility
- Sharing expertise – a members' Expert Bank so people can connect to those willing to help or share
- Focus on 2020 – ask Japan to consider a source of funds to enable all members who cannot afford it to attend the Congress and including countries not yet engaged.

#### **T5: ARTISTIC ENCOUNTERS AND GATHERINGS.**

Expectations? Changes? Constructive Criticism? How can we develop this means of communication? Ideas.

Moderator: VIGDIS.

- Encounters should preferably not clash with any other events at the Artistic gathering / congress. We should need to make a choice between other events and the encounters. 'Be more scientific about the **scheduling**.

- It is our duty to try harder to **overcome language barriers** at ASSITEJ events. We should experiment more with formats of translation. Delegates can help each other.  
IDEA: Give people badges to wear, showing which languages they speak.
- Gatherings should have more focus on learning and **professional development** (more focus on workshops).
- Create regular spaces (for example each morning) for **creative interaction** of artists at gatherings.
- Successful **regional workshop** models could be brought to congress to allow a wider group of artists to enjoy.
- Offer **'Open Space'** where anything can be discussed.
- The **informal social meeting places** and events are as important as the programmed events.
- IDEA: Smaller **Regional gatherings** rather than international gathering in the year after congress. Then an international gathering in the lead-up to congress.

#### **T6: DRAMATURGY OF 3 YEARS.**

Japan says for 2020: „For the unknown Future“. How does this affect the dramaturgy for the next three years?

Moderator: STEFAN + FUJITA/KENJIRO.

##### 1. Looking to the past present and future

- Looking to the past: where we come from, what achievements, what mistakes.
- Looking to the present: what time are we living in. What do we need as mirror of time?
- Looking at Future: how will it be?

2: Looking at skills, like perspective of Text / context ; acting ; directing: traditions, contemporary discourses etc.

##### 3. How to make Theater?

- How to look at and describe Theater?
- How to dream Theater for young audiences.
- These are only keywords to be worked out creatively by the Executive Committee.

## **T7: INCLUSIVITY AND REPRESENTATION IN ASSITEJ.**

How can ASSITEJ be more inclusive? What languages do we speak within the organisation? What about translation? Ideas and suggestions.

Moderator: NINA.

### **1) Aims of ASSITEJ**

Where appropriate;

- make a commitment to promoting the values of diversity (ethnicity, disability, gender, background, sexuality etc.) as distinct from anti-discrimination.
- reference these identities in relation to the needs and rights of children and young people as well as artists.

### **2) Inclusion of members:**

- continue to work on schemes which remove or address economic barriers such as the solidarity fund to ensure the inclusion of all members
- consider the language of the host country as the main working language, extending options for translation
- offer an accessible and safe space during festivals as a social hub and meeting point for members

### **3) Representation in programme:**

- Empower IIAN to have a stronger role in the organisation of festivals with responsibilities for accessibility and representation across the programme. Including;
  - accessibility of venues
  - need for captions, signed performances, printed materials
  - balance of presenting individuals (ethnicity, gender, disability etc)
  - performances (e.g ensuring there are shows with disabled performers)

### **4) Inclusion of local communities**

- Ensure local communities are present at Gatherings as participants and audiences

### **5) Inclusion of children**

- Enable children to have a role within ASSITEJ festivals as young artists and decision makers (e.g contributing to programming, as young critics, in project activity).

### **Children's participation in the centre of the Association:**

- at festivals and congress – actively encouraging child delegates,

- In the EC as consuls
- a children's board
- children as activists
- drawing together methods from members of how to include children's voices in your practice, celebration and decision making.

### **Inclusion**

- Next Generation includes one participant with a disability
- inclusivity as a theme for a whole year, adding to the dramaturgy for the three years. Focusing EC's work on goals for change for that year. another year language, another year child participation
- Budget for access costs for Congress if needed e.g: Interpreters for Deaf, signing opening and closing ceremony, ramps etc.
- program multisensory experiences
- ASSITEJ works to show itself to the world as an inclusive Association through images and visible presence.

### **T8: NETWORKS.**

What is their function within ASSITEJ? Emerging Networks? Ideas for new networks?

Moderator: MANON + DIANA.

- The network meeting of ITYARN should be clearly announced as part of the Congress, and included in all advertisement as such.
- ASSITEJ Artistic Projects should be listed as such on the website, perhaps under a special tab.
- Forms for application for and report on ASSITEJ Artistic Projects could be simplified and less formal
- Networks should communicate more frequently with the national centers about what they are doing
- New networks should show a clear need for why they cannot be part of other networks or National Centers, so we do not get so many that the whole gets diluted.
- Goals for the networks as formulated in Cameroon should be included in the working plan – these should be external to themselves.

## **T9: WORLD DAY**

Let us collect Best Practice Examples! What about “Performance Week”? Ideas and suggestions.

Moderator: IMRAN

- ASSITEJ should use World day not only as a celebration for young audiences and artists, but also to advocate for ASSITEJ as a global association of theatre. To emphasize our presence in 90 countries. This will help in fundraising, projects and also to national centres on ground level.
- ASSITEJ should look at the possibility of playing the World Day

## **Addendum C**

### **Feedback from the participants of Next Generation Programme (summary)**

YH opened the encounter by explained how the EC is interested in getting feedback from the present participants in the Next Generation Programme and by encouraging the participants to comment on how ASSITEJ and the EC can support them in their future work and engagement in TYA.

The following comments were presented (here in condensed form):

- The first comment expressed a need for more independence and flexibility and that the programme was too tight. It was suggested that a local participant should be attached to the group to generally coordinate (taking care of personal issues, illness etc.); this could perhaps be a volunteer.

- Beautiful journey, ideas moving forward, team giving me opportunity and hope. Sharing ideas etc. will make us give back something unique. Meeting people with vast professional experience was very useful. (Ghana)

- Got a 'full package' - privilege, making presentations, workshops and having children from my own organisation to perform, moving around in every circle, great package. Opened up my mind, appreciation of TYA. Being around one another has been amazing. Trying to plan how to move forward, children need to understand the appreciation of TYA as well. (Zimbabwe)

- Felt here I am an artist, how to manage festivals, collaborations – creating opportunities. (South Africa)

- Fun to share room with other countries, learn a lot – realising similarities. Nice to have time to watch productions. Meeting people from around the world. Giving me more confidence.

- Impressed about the power of ASSITEJ, issues in Switzerland – want to go back and tell them about the power and value of this organisation. Thank you for your openness and respect, really felt like an artist. (Switzerland)

- Appreciated the effort and ‘flat’ structure when having problems with passport and visa. Great organisational commitment.

- I had issue of networking - ‘not a talker, a performer’ – there is magic in the group, which gave me the confidence to all of a sudden network. Opportunity to network with peers. Feeling like I did not know about TYA – became inspired to do this.

- From Europe it is interesting to keep in touch with African artists.

- I questioned if theatre matters, this experience answered this question right away, the global aspect, and the commonality and why we are drawn to this has been amazing. Fireback to Canadian ASSITEJ of what it could be. (Canada)

Question: This is a massive festival, how was the decision made as to how the Next Generation was included, what we could/ could not access.

YH: Logistical thoughts, we wanted you to have the Congress experience and knowledge of ASSITEJ, to feel part of a broader community. Exposure to inclusivity is important, how you think of TYA is important. In regards to the productions, we wanted you to see a variety of (ages, cultures, styles) – however not too set – giving you choices also.

- The historical aspect, being in SA – has been good. Experience of doing something, not just talking. Quality time to really see our talents, and connect with each other. E.g. disability work – not so present in Chile, here I have the change to connect with my peers who knows about this. Maybe we could have two days just ‘working together’, maybe on a theme ‘the music, dance etc. of the specific country’ (Chile).

YH asked whether they did not share skills etc. during the tools workshop.

- participants replied that there was not enough time for this.
- It was nice to see the methodology the directors were using and draw these skills/tools to ones own toolkit
- How people move, approach physical task was amazing.
- Being connected across borders is powerful.

**Question: How will we fit into ASSITEJ in our country, what about collaborations for the future?**

YH replied that it is important for the NG to think about how to energize the national centres, helpful to get your feedback, which we can send to the national centres, so that you can become part of the national centres. Encourage the centres to work with you.

Issue of closed/conservative centres → Be open about this, communicate with EC about these issues – idea of inclusivity is important. You can be the key to making the centres more functional. There is also the placement programme, find spaces that can offer these spaces, in a production office for instance. Think about hosting someone in your network. Think of what you want to apply for – work for.

**Issue in Ghana...**

YH: what you can do is to connect to other artists from Ghana, apply to ASSITEJ as an individual artist. Later on you might be able to launch a national centre. Request a regional workshop. What is strategic for your environment, who could support you? Request this to the EC.

FF: presented the Cameroon workshop – mostly addressed to French speakers but 50 English speakers. PU: encouraged Next Generation to link up, ASSITEJ is for all. YH presented PACE – space for collaboration. MvdW: presented Newsletter, pointed out that they should individually sign up for this, if centres do not publish it. Imran Khan presented festival in Delhi – looking for two to lead the Next Generation in Delhi. You can help us connect with more artists from your region.