



AITA/IATA asbl

General Assembly Book

Lingen, Germany, 28 June 2018

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Programme of the 34th AITA/IATA asbl General Assembly

28 June 2018

Venue:

IT Centrum, Lingen,
Kaiserstraße 10b,
49809 Lingen (Ems)
Germany

08:30	Delegates arrive and collect voting slips for General Assembly from Villy Dall
09:30	Formal welcome and opening by President Rob Van Genechten
10:45	Coffee break
11:05	General Assembly continues
12:30	Lunch
14:30	General Assembly continues
15:30	Coffee break
15:50	General Assembly continues
17:00	General Assembly ends

Agenda of the 34th AITA/IATA asbl General Assembly

Date 28 June 2018 ¹

1. Official Opening of the 34th General Assembly
2. Introduction and Welcome from the President of AITA/IATA asbl, Rob Van Genechten
3. Appointment of the Presiding Chair of the 34th General Assembly Vote of GA
4. Appointment of Tellers and Drafting Committees Vote of GA
5. Roll Call of Members present or represented
 - a. Confirmation of voting rights
 - b. Notification of proxy's
6. Confirmation that the GA is quorate
7. Ratification and / or expulsion of Members 2017 - 2018 Vote of GA
8. Approval of the Minutes of the 33rd General Assembly, Monaco, 2017 Vote of GA
9. AITA/IATA asbl Review 2018 – 2019
 - a. Council's Review by the President Rob Van Genechten Vote of GA
 - b. Financial Review by the Treasurer Villy Dall
 - i. Approval of the Financial Report Vote of GA
 - ii. Proposal to change the Solidarity Fund Vote of GA
 - c. Discharge to Council Vote of GA
10. Regional Committees
 - a. ARC
 - b. CARA
 - c. CEC
 - d. CIFTA
 - i. CIFTA claim GA Monaco 2017
 - e. NEATA
 - f. NARA
11. Standing Committee for Children and Youth
12. Confirmation of host venue for 35th World Forum and GA in 2019
13. Announcement of the 16th World Festival of Children's Theatre in 2020
14. Call for preliminary proposal to host 17th World Festival of Children's Theatre in 2022
15. Other proposals submitted for consideration by the General Assembly Vote of GA
16. Proposed AITA/IATA asbl Constitution
 - a. Introduction, questions and answers
 - b. Vote on Proposals 1, 2 & 3 Vote of GA
 - c. Vote on Proposal to change Article 2 – change of Registered address Vote of GA
17. Comments on the voting results and planning 2018 - 2019
18. Budget for 2018 – 2019 Vote of GA
19. Other business
20. Closing of the 34th General Assembly of AITA/IATA asbl

¹ 08:30 – 09:15 - the nominated delegate of each National Centre and Affiliate Member to register and collect 6 voting books (2 for an Affiliate Member), from Villy Dall in the small meeting room next to the GA hall.

Standing Orders of the General Assembly

1. NOTIFICATION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 1.1 Preliminary notification should be sent about six (6) months ahead.
- 1.2 Two (2) months ahead is the deadline for the official notification including the agenda. (See Article 10 of the Bye-laws)
- 1.3 The official notification shall include:
 - a Date, place and time of meetings.
 - b Standing Orders
 - c Deadline for proposals to the General Assembly
 - d Names of and statement from the individuals nominated for election to the Executive Board
 - e Working plan for the next period
 - f Registration form for naming official or proxy delegates

2. MEMBERSHIP OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 2.1 The General Assembly is composed of all Full and Affiliate Members present or represented. It has power of final decision. AITA/IATA asbl Associate Members may attend and speak, but have no voting rights. (Art. 6 of the Bye-laws)
- 2.2 **Voting Rights:**

Full Members (6 votes) and Affiliate Members (2 votes) will have full voting rights provided that they have paid their membership fee before the deadline, 31 March. (See Art. 28 of the Bye-laws)
- 2.3 **Voting by Proxy:**

Those members who are prevented from attending a General Assembly may arrange to delegate their voting rights to another member. This delegation must be signed by the Chairman of the body represented. No member can carry more than one such delegation of authority. (Art. 11 of the Bye-laws)

Members of the Executive Board may not accept proxy duties from any member of the Association. (Art. 11 of the Bye-laws. Effective post Congress 1995)².
- 2.4 **Voting Procedures:**

All delegates shall register with the Secretariat before the commencement of the business of the General Assembly. On registration, paid-up members shall be issued with voting papers. Members holding proxy votes must also register at this time.

3. CHAIRING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 3.1 The President opens the General Assembly and proposes, on behalf of the Council, a Chairperson in accordance with Articles 6b+8c of the Bye-laws
- 3.2 Following ratification, the presiding Chairperson takes immediate responsibility for chairing the meeting.
- 3.3 The Chairperson declares the Assembly's legitimacy, thereby allowing decisions and on behalf of Council, proposes a Tellers Committee and eventually other appointments, when necessary. The Tellers Committee gather and count ballots.
- 3.4 Regarding the accuracy of translation, Chairperson must enquire at regular intervals if further clarification is necessary.

² **NOTE: Voting by Proxy:** Present members of the Council may not accept duties from any member of the Association.

- 3.5 The Chairperson shall secure that every member obtains a fair hearing. He/She shall decide questions of order that may arise and the regularity of all proposals or amendments submitted.
- 3.6 The Chairperson must remain neutral in all discussions. Failure to comply with this, means, that he/she must vacate the Chair. In this case the President takes over and asks for a vote to clear the situation, which requires a two-thirds majority of the given votes.
If the vote is carried, the President then asks for new candidates for Chairperson. He/She can also take over the Chair, if the Assembly is in agreement (Simple majority).
- 3.7 Following his/her ratification as independent Chairperson the Chair will invite members of the General Assembly to submit questions for electoral candidates. (See Art.4.1 of the Standing Orders of the General Assembly).

4. ELECTIONS

- 4.1 Questions from the General Assembly to electoral candidates must be presented in writing in advance to the independent Chair immediately following his/her election to the Chair. Or questions can be presented directly from the floor to the candidates following his/her spoken statement of intent. Candidates are under no obligation to answer any questions posed. The independent Chair will ensure that each candidate receives an equal allocation of time.
- 4.2 A secret ballot is required at elections of the Executive Board.
- 4.3 The Chairperson will call each national delegation by name to cast their vote in turn into a closed box.
- 4.4 The result is given to the Chairperson, who announces the outcome, including the number of votes given to the candidate/s.
- 4.5 To be a member of the Board of Representatives, each Regional Representative shall be elected by his/her Regional Assembly. The Chairperson must receive an official statement, signed by two members of the Regional Board, to be attached to the Official Minutes of the AITA/IATA asbl General Assembly. (See Art. 17 of the Bye-laws)

5. PROPOSALS/AMENDMENTS

- 5.1 The announced deadline for receipt of proposals to the General Assembly must be adhered to. There will be no voting on proposals not meeting this requirement.
- 5.2 Amendments shall be proposed and cannot be withdrawn without the consent of the Assembly and the proposer.
- 5.3 Whenever an amendment to an original proposal has been proposed, the text of this amendment must be drafted in writing in all three official languages and the Chairperson must ensure that it is understood by every member of the Assembly.
- 5.4 No second or subsequent amendment shall be proposed until the first amendment shall have been disposed of.

6. GENERAL

- 6.1 Members shall stand and identify themselves and their National Centres when speaking and addressing the Chair.
- 6.2 Members elected to the Board of Representatives may carry the mandate of their Regional Assemblies to present their Regional views to the General Assembly on any item of the Agenda. (Art. 11 of the Bye-laws) However, Regions of AITA/IATA asbl are not eligible to vote.
- 6.3 In order to avoid misunderstanding at General Assembly, it is essential that translation is accurate and that translators know the subject, ie drama/theatre

This UK Standard English version of the AITA/IATA asbl Constitution is a translated version for information only. In cases of difficulty of interpretation, the only legally binding Constitution is that in the Standard French language.

AITA/IATA asbl CONSTITUTION

International Amateur Theatre Association

CHAPTER 1 - Name, Registered office, Objectives, Duration

Article 1

The association is named "AITA/IATA asbl", referred to hereafter as the Association.

Article 2

The registered office of the Association is established at Maison de la Bellone, rue de Flandre, 46 B-1000 Brussels, Belgium.

Article 3

The Association is formed for the purpose of:

- a. Fostering dramatic art by all theatrical groups of the world devoted, without remuneration, to artistic and cultural aims;
- b. Promoting by permanent international contact and relationships those activities common to its members;
- c. Co-ordinating the actions of its members in their purpose of enriching human experience and educating through the medium of theatre;
- d. Facilitating international exchanges between all groups belonging to amateur theatre.

To establish these aims, the Association will employ the following means:

- a. The organisation or participation in the organisation of international congresses, conferences, seminars, festivals, courses, exhibitions and any other activity;
- b. The publication or assistance in the publication and distribution of books, periodicals and stage plays;
- c. The maintenance of one or more information centres or study centres on amateur theatre;
- d. Co-operating with other international organisations having similar aims or devoted to theatre and culture in general.

The Association may undertake or support any initiative and organise any activity that may contribute to establishing its aims or objectives.

Article 4

The Association has been constituted for an unlimited period of time.

CHAPTER 2 - Members, Appointments, Resignations, Fees

Article 5

The number of Members of the Association is unlimited. Its minimum is fixed to three.

Article 6

The composition of the Association is based on the principle of national representation.

The Association recognises Full Members and Affiliate Members.

A Full Member is an officially appointed national centre representing amateur the totality of theatre activity on a national basis. An Affiliate Member is a federation, a committee or a similar body representing a part of the amateur theatre activity in a country, in which no officially appointed national centre has yet been established but can be considered to be in the process of growth.

Each Affiliate Member shall work towards the establishment of such an officially appointed national centre. Full Members, whose fees are in order, are entitled to six votes. Affiliate Members, whose fees are in order, are entitled to two votes.

Article 7

The admission, the resignation, the suspension and the exclusion of Members are decided by the General Assembly of the Association by a simple majority, following the proposition of the Administrative Council. Every request for admission to or resignation from the Association will be made to the President of the Association and addressed to the Secretariat of the Association.

Article 8

Resigning, suspended or excluded members, as well as their heirs or those having rights over a deceased member, have no rights over the social funds. They cannot claim or request statements, rendering of accounts, nor affix seals and inventories.

Article 9

Each year the members will be required to pay their membership fee, which is to be determined by the General Assembly of the Association. The maximum amount of this membership fee is set at Euro 50.000. In addition to the payment of their membership fee, all members will, within their capacities, provide the Association with their active assistance and their commitment.

CHAPTER 3 - Administration, daily operations

Article 10

The GA delegates the governance and day-to-day management of the Association to the Council. The GA will, through an election process, appoint one (1) President and a maximum of eight (8) Councillors.

The President and the Councillors jointly form the Council. Their mandate ("the Mandate") is not remunerated by the Association.

The Council has the authority to appoint and dismiss from among the Councillors, officers as appropriate ("the Officers"), for example: Treasurer, Secretary, or any other function Council considers appropriate.

Officers may resign or be dismissed from their assigned functions without effecting their Mandate as a Councillor.

The President and the Councillors of the Association are natural persons.

Article 11

The President of the Association and Councillors are elected for a mandated period of four (4) years ("the Mandate Term").

An individual can serve a maximum of three (3) consecutive Mandate Terms on Council, of which a maximum of two (2) consecutive Mandate Terms as Councillor, or a maximum of two (2) consecutive Mandate Terms as President.

In exceptional circumstances, the GA can extend the Mandate Term of the President, a Councillor and/or several Councillors, for a period to be decided by the GA. This decision requires a majority of two thirds (2/3) of the Members in attendance at the GA (present or represented).

The Mandate of a Councillor and/or the President will cease:

- a. At the end of the Mandate Term;
- b. Should the GA decide to end the Mandate. This decision requires a simple majority by the GA;
- c. Upon receipt of a written resignation (by letter, email or any other form of text message) to the Council.

Should a Councillor (including the President) be unable to complete their Mandate irrespective of cause, this Mandate will count as a fully completed Mandate Term.

Should a position on Council become vacant, owing to the death, incapacity or resignation of an appointed Councillor, Council may appoint a temporary replacement until the following GA. The appointee will function as a Councillor without voting rights.

Article 12

The Council is called together by the President of the Association by the means of normal mail, by electronic mail or by fax addressed to each Council Member and will convene at least twice in each period between meetings of the General Assembly of the Association. The agenda for the meetings of the Council has to be declared in the communication calling the meeting.

Article 13

The Council has unlimited executive powers relating to the administration and the management of the Association.

The Council appoints either itself or by proxy all deputies, all employees and members of staff of the Association and dismisses them; it determines their job description and their salary.

Unless a power is explicitly stated under Belgian Law, under this Constitution or under the Bye-laws of the Association, to belong exclusively to the General Assembly of the Association, all powers are considered to be under the authority of the Council.

Article 14

The Council has the right to delegate the daily management of the Association, including the authority of signature in relation to the daily management, to a Secretary General whose powers, salary and benefits will be determined by the Council.

Article 15

Legal actions, whether as plaintiff or defendant, are instigated or supported by the President or the Secretary General of the Association, in the name of the Council of the Association.

Article 16

The Association is represented in legal agreements, including those where a public officer or a law official intervenes, and in legal actions:

- Either by the President of the Association, or in his absence, by the Vice-President of the Association, if one has been elected;
- Or by two Council Members;
- Or, for all financial operations, solely by the Treasurer of the Association.

CHAPTER 4 - General Assembly

Article 17

The General Assembly has legislative power within the Association. Powers that are reserved for the General Assembly of the Association are the following:

- a. Alterations to the Constitution and the Bye-laws;
- b. The election and dismissal of Council Members, including the President of the Association;
- c. The approval of the budget and the accounts;
- d. The voluntary dissolution of the Association;
- e. The admission, the resignation, the suspension and the exclusion of members of the Association.

Article 18

The General Assembly of the Association is convened by the Council by the means of normal mail, by electronic mail or by fax addressed to each member, at least two months before the General Assembly and signed by the President, in the name of the Council. The agenda for the General Assembly of the Association has to be declared in the communication convening the Assembly. Each proposition signed by at least one twentieth of the Members of the Association is added to the agenda of the General Assembly of the Association. The General Assembly of the Association cannot vote on any issues that are not included in the agenda.

Article 19

The Council or at least one fifth of the Members of the Association may call for an Extraordinary General Assembly of the Association at any time. Each Extraordinary General Assembly will be held on the day, the hour and the location mentioned in the communication calling the Assembly. All members of the Association need to be invited to an Extraordinary General Assembly.

Article 20

Each member has the right to attend every General Assembly of the Association and may be represented by proxy. All Members, that have paid their membership fee for the corresponding year, have the right to vote, each having the number of votes appropriate to their membership category.

Article 21

The General Assembly is chaired by the President of the Association or by any other chair elected by the General Assembly at the beginning of the Assembly.

Article 22

The General Assembly is validly composed irrespective of the number of members present or represented, unless Belgian Law dictates otherwise. All decisions are taken by a majority of votes unless they relate to the Constitution, the Bye-laws or the dissolution of the Association. All decisions of the General Assembly are recorded in the form of minutes and signed by the President of the Association and a Secretary. The record is kept at the registered office, where all members and third parties may consult it.

Article 23

The decisions taken by the General Assembly of the Association and relating to the Constitution are dictated by Article 8 of the Law of 27th June 1921 and all later changes made to this law. Therefore, they require a majority of two thirds of the members present at that General Assembly of the Association.

The decisions taken by the General Assembly of the Association and relating to the dissolution of the Association require a majority of three quarters of the members present at that General Assembly of the Association.

The decisions taken by the General Assembly of the Association and relating to the Bye-laws require a majority of two thirds of the members present at that General Assembly of the Association.

CHAPTER 5 - Financial Year, Accounts and Balance

Article 24

The financial year will run from 1st January until 31st December of each year. Every year on 31st December a statement of the accounts of the past year will be produced together with the budget for the next year.

Both the statements of the accounts and the budget will be presented for approval to the next General Assembly of the Association.

CHAPTER 6 - Dissolution, Liquidation

Article 25

In case of voluntary dissolution of the Association, the General Assembly will appoint two liquidators and determine their powers.

Article 26

In any case of voluntary or judicial dissolution of the Association, at any time and for any reason, the net assets of the disbanded Association will be allocated to an association involved in similar works and with similar aims to the disbanded Association, as agreed by the General Assembly of the Association.

Article 27

All that is not explicitly stated in this Constitution or the Bye-laws of the Association, will be determined by Belgian Law, ruling non-profit organisations.

CHAPTER 7 – Language**Article 28**

The languages to be employed in all official business conducted by the Association are French, English, and Spanish. In case of difficulties of interpretation of the Constitution and/or official documents of the Association, the French language will take precedence.

It is the responsibility of Council to ensure that sufficient skills are available in Council in order to address the Association's official languages and cultural issues.

Made in Monaco on 25 August 2017

Robrecht VAN GENECHTEN, President of AITA/IATA asbl

Bye-laws of AITA/IATA asbl

International Amateur Theatre Association

**Modification of Articles 19 and 24 adopted by the
General Assembly 2013, Monaco**

I. OBJECTIVES - MEANS

Article 1

AITA/IATA asbl is formed for the purpose of:

- a. - fostering dramatic art by all theatrical groups of the world devoted, without remuneration, to artistic and cultural aims.**
- b. - promoting by permanent international contact and relationships those activities common to its Members.**
- c. - co-ordinating the action of its Members in their purpose of enriching human experience and educating through the medium of the theatre.**
- d. - facilitating international exchanges between all groups belonging to amateur theatre.**

Article 2

In furtherance of these aims, the Association will establish a Council of Administration, designated "The Council", and composed in accordance with Articles 13-21. Its aims will be achieved by:

- a. - the organisation or participation in the organisation of international congresses, conferences, seminars, festivals, courses, exhibitions and all other activities useful in carrying out the Association's aims;**
- b. the publication or assistance in the publication and distribution of books, periodicals and stage plays;**
- c. the maintenance of one or more centres for documentation and studies of amateur theatre;**
- d. the participation in the work of other international organisations pursuing similar aims or devoted to theatre and culture in general.**

Article 3

The Association has been constituted with no political, racial, sexist or religious commitment. It will not interfere in any national activity.

II. COMPOSITION

Article 4

The composition of the Association is based on the principle of national representation.

Article 5

AITA/IATA asbl is composed of National Centres or similar groups devoted to amateur theatre, which have been properly constituted and whose affiliation has been confirmed by the General Assembly. These may be classed as Full Members or Affiliate Members.

a. Full Members / National Centres

- (1) A Full Member is a National Centre, the recognised body representing amateur theatre on a national basis.
- (2) AITA/IATA asbl, without interfering in the internal politics of any country, will endeavour to obtain the Constitutions of National Centres which represent amateur theatre movement in their respective countries. After a period of at least two years as an Affiliate Member and subject to approval by the General Assembly, an Affiliate Member becomes a National Centre and thereby a Full Member of AITA/IATA asbl.

b. Affiliate Members

In the case where a National Centre has not yet been established, the General Assembly can accept as an Affiliate Member any federation, committee or similar body representing the amateur theatre activity of a country which can be considered to be in a process of growth. Such a Member shall work towards the swift establishment of a National Centre.

If an Affiliate Member does not succeed in establishing a fully representative national organisation within the period of 4 years after its admission, its affiliation to AITA/IATA asbl will be automatically cancelled unless the General Assembly decides exceptionally to extend its membership by another 2 consecutive years.

In some specific cases of autonomous territories, the representative organisation of the Territory can be granted the status of Affiliate Member. The Member States of a National Federation or a National Confederation are not considered as autonomous territories for the application of this article. The autonomous territories are not affected by the provision of 4 years as defined above.

III. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Article 6

- a. The General Assembly of AITA/IATA asbl is composed of all Full Members and Affiliate Members - whose Membership Subscriptions are in order - present or represented. It has the power of final decision. It will meet every two years. AITA/IATA asbl Associates may attend.
- b. The Council of AITA/IATA asbl constitutes the Organising Committee and nominates the Chairman of the General Assembly. This nomination is subject to ratification by the General Assembly at the opening of the session. (See Article - d).

Article 7

An extraordinary General Assembly will be held within three months whenever one-fifth of the Full Members express such a wish in a written application to the President with a copy to the Secretary General (if appointed). Such application must clearly define points on which the General Assembly must decide.

A General Assembly may also take place whenever the Council considers it necessary.

Article 8

Amongst other duties, the General Assembly will be required to:

- a. elect every four years the President of the Association and every two years half of the members of the Executive Board in compliance with Article 14
- b. ratify the election of representatives from the Regional Committees in compliance with Article 17;
- c. receive reports from the Council and, subject to approval, accept them;
- d. ratify the nomination for Chairman of the Assembly at the opening of the session (See Article 6b);

- e. ratify decisions taken by the Council concerning the admission of new Members. This act of ratification must feature as a separate item for each candidate on the agenda of the General Assembly;
- f. decide its two-yearly programme.

Article 9

The languages to be employed in all official business conducted by the Association are French, English, and Spanish. In case of difficulties of interpretation, the French language will take precedence.

Article 10

The Council is responsible for communicating to all Members the agenda of the next General Assembly, at least two months before the date on which it will be held.

Article 11

All decisions of the General Assembly, except in the case of Articles of the Constitution, unless otherwise specified, will be taken by a simple majority. Equal votes, for and against, will be considered as a rejection of the motion.

Full Members, whose Membership Subscriptions are in order, are entitled to 6 votes.

Affiliate Members, whose Membership Subscriptions are in order, are entitled to 2 votes.

Those Members who are prevented from attending a General Assembly may arrange to delegate their voting rights to another Member. This delegation must be signed by the chairman of the body represented. No Member can carry more than one such delegation of authority.

An elected Member of the Executive Board (as defined in Article 14a) may not be a delegate of his/her country at the General Assembly and may not accept any proxy duties from any Member of the Association.

Any person elected to the Board of Representatives (as defined in Article 17) may carry the mandate of his/her Regional Assembly to present the Regional views to the General Assembly on any item of the agenda.

Article 12

The decisions legally taken by the General Assembly are binding for all Members of the Association, including those absent at the time the decisions were taken.

The minutes of the General Assembly will be prepared by the three Secretaries and communicated to each Member within 3 weeks of the first meeting of the Executive Board following the General Assembly. After ratification by the next General Assembly, they will be signed by the President.

IV. COUNCIL AND GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF AITA/IATA asbl

Article 13

The Council of AITA/IATA asbl consists of two chambers: the Executive Board and the Board of Representatives.

Article 14

a. Executive Board - The Executive Board, elected by the AITA/IATA asbl General Assembly, is composed of The President and Officers as described below:

i. The President

The President of the Association, elected two years ahead of taking office and who will serve for a single term of four years (See Article 14 c).

Following his/her election as President Elect and before commencing his/her term of office as President, he/she has the right to attend all meetings of the Association.

ii. Officers

Officers specifically elected by the General Assembly for a period of four years for the following functions:

- a Vice-President, who has delegated authority from the President when necessary;
 - a Treasurer;
 - three Secretaries, English-speaking, French-speaking, and Spanish-speaking;
 - a Co-ordinator for the Standing Committee for Children and Youth.
- b.** Candidates for all these functions require authorisation from their own National Centre or an Affiliate Member in their country (see Article 5b), and support from at least two other Members (see Article 5a + 5b). Only individuals involved in the amateur theatre of their own country are eligible.
- c.** The mandate of the President of the Association is not renewable consecutively. In exceptional circumstances, the General Assembly may extend the mandate of the President by a maximum of two years up to the next General Assembly. This decision requires a two-thirds majority of those Members present or represented.
- d.** At every General Assembly, half the officers of the Executive Board as specified in Article 14 a ii must stand down. They are available for re-election for one consecutive four-year term only. An individual who has served two consecutive terms as an officer of the Executive Board is eligible for election as President.
- e.** An elected individual may only have their mandate removed on grounds of serious misconduct. Any dismissal requires a 2/3 majority of the Members present or represented at the General Assembly. The Council can take preliminary measures by removing the responsibilities of this individual. Any such measures require a 2/3 majority of Council Members, awaiting confirmation by the next General Assembly.
- f.** No nation may have more than one elected individual on the Executive Board.

Article 15

The Executive Board will carry the mandate of the AITA/IATA asbl General Assembly and Council to implement all adopted decisions. Further, it will prepare policy and programme proposals for approval by the plenary session of the Council.

It will meet no less than twice a year.

Article 16

If a seat on the Executive Board becomes vacant, the Council may make a temporary replacement - without voting rights, which will be valid until the next General Assembly.

Article 17

The Board of Representatives is composed of: one Representative, democratically elected by each AITA/IATA asbl Region, for a term of four years. Representatives are available for re-election for one consecutive term only. The Representatives of the Regions will take office in Council following ratification of their election by the next AITA/IATA asbl General Assembly.

If a Regional Representative is not present or represented at two consecutive plenary sessions the Regional Committee may be required by Council to elect another Representative to fill the vacancy without voting rights. This Representative will take office in Council subject to ratification by the following AITA/IATA asbl General Assembly.

Article 18

The plenary session of the Executive Board and the Board of Representatives constitutes the Council of the Association.

The Council is convened no less than twice between AITA/IATA asbl General Assemblies, for the purpose of:

- a.** approving the report of the Executive Board for the past period;

- c. deciding on proposals coming from the Executive Board;
- d. deciding on proposals coming from the Regions;
- e. discussing questions of general policy concerning the Association as a whole;
- f. deciding on the Standing Orders of the AITA/IATA asbl General Assembly;
- g. drafting changes to the Constitution and Bye-laws of AITA/IATA asbl.

For Council recommendations and decisions to be valid they require the voting presence of at least 2/3 of the Regional Representatives, and at least 2/3 of the Executive Board.

In the event of a Regional Representative being unable to attend a Council meeting a proxy may be given to another member of the Council or he/she can ask the Regional President to represent him/her with voting rights at the meeting.

In between two formal meetings, the President may consult the Council Members by electronic mail and/or fax messages in order to pass an urgent decision. In addition, should a minimum of 50% of Council Members require a decision on an urgent matter, to be communicated to the President in writing (E-mail or fax is acceptable), this consultation will take place within 15 days. To be valid the decisions require the same quorum and qualified majority as in formal meetings. Any such decision will be incorporated in the minutes of the following Council meeting.

Article 19

The Council will create a team composed of two account controllers in agreement with the rules applied in Belgian asbl associations and, when necessary, appoint an independent Auditor, in application of the law governing the asbl. These nominations will have to be ratified by the General assembly of AITA/IATA asbl.

The Council can invite the Auditor to attend plenary sessions of the Council without voting rights. Duration of the mandates of the controllers will be 4 years, renewable by half at each General Assembly (every two years). A draw for the first one to be replaced will take place after the vote in the 2013 General Assembly.

Article 20

If necessary, the Council will appoint a Secretary General. He/she will attend meetings of the Executive Board, as well as plenary sessions of the Council, without voting rights.

The Secretary General will be responsible to the Executive Board for the implementation of international policies and decisions as adopted by the General Assembly of AITA/IATA asbl.

Article 21

The Council may grant provisional admission to new Members, which must, however, be ratified by the next General Assembly, as provided for in Article 8 e.

The Council can nominate - with a majority of 2/3 of the present or represented Council Members - one or more co-ordinators to carry precise duties. These co-ordinator(s) can be called by the President to participate in an advisory capacity to Executive Board meetings and/or Council plenary sessions. All nominations can be withdrawn by Council with a majority of 2/3 of the present or represented Council Members or by the dismissal of the person involved.

V. REGIONAL COMMITTEES / CONTINENTAL SERVICE CENTRES

Article 22

Members of AITA/IATA asbl belonging to one particular geographic entity or a common culture will be grouped into Regional Committees. The General Assembly of AITA/IATA asbl must decide upon the necessity for these committees and their composition. Regional Committees shall aim at studying, in accordance with the aims of AITA/IATA asbl, particular problems of their regions and cultures and ensure the realisation of decisions taken by the Association.

Regional Committees will make their own articles to which the AITA/IATA asbl General Assembly should give approval. The Council will ensure that none of the activities of Regional Committees can endanger the international unity of the Association.

Article 23

Each of the Regional Committees elects, in accordance with Article 17, a Representative to the Council.

Article 24

AITA/IATA asbl will, wherever possible, establish on each continent, upon the request of the Regional Committees, a Continental Service Centre (CSC), which in no way affects the autonomy or the responsibilities of the existing Regional Committees. In order to allow the access of this continental centre to specific subsidies, the General Assembly of AITA/IATA asbl may grant this continental centre the necessary legal status by declaring it as a wholly-owned subsidiary of AITA/IATA asbl or the relevant territory; allowing the continental centre to be covered by the registration of AITA/IATA asbl.

Each Centre will be supervised by a Steering Committee composed of the Presidents (or their representatives) of the established Regional Committees within the Continent, the President and/or the Secretary General (if appointed) of AITA/IATA asbl and the Director of the Centre. The rotating Presidency of the Steering Committee will be renewable every two years and taken up by one of the Regional Presidents (or their representatives).

The Steering Committee of the Centre will meet at least once every year to discuss and approve the work and the programme of the Centre.

VI. ASSOCIATES

Article 25

Any organisation, federation, festival or similar body, or any individual pursuing amateur theatre activity, wanting to establish operational relations with AITA/IATA asbl, can apply to be granted the status of AITA/IATA asbl Associate outside national representation. An AITA/IATA asbl Associate should inform the National Centre of its own country (where a National Centre is in existence), of its involvement in an official event of AITA/IATA asbl. Associates are accepted by the Council of AITA/IATA asbl following the payment of an annual fee and after consultation with the Regional Committee (where in existence).

AITA/IATA asbl Associates do not have voting rights.

VII. COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES

Article 26

AITA/IATA asbl Council can create, at any time, one or more Standing Committees or Sub-Committees, possibly chaired by a Co-ordinator. Council can terminate the creation of any Standing Committee or Sub-Committee at any time.

If Council decides to create a Standing Committee for Children and Youth, this Committee will be chaired by the Co-ordinator for Children and Youth, elected Officer of the Board (as defined in Article 14a ii and Article 14d of the AITA/IATA asbl Bye-laws).

Article 27

An appointed member of any Standing Committee or Sub-Committee, who is appointed by AITA/IATA asbl Council, stands for a 4-year term. An appointed member of any Standing Committee or Sub-Committee of AITA/IATA asbl may be re-appointed by Council for one further 4-year term. Council can terminate the appointment of any appointed member of any Standing Committee or Sub-Committee at any time.

Any candidate for a Committee or Sub-Committee of AITA/IATA asbl must have the support of their National Centre, if existing, before appointment.

VIII. RESOURCES

Article 28

The funds of the Association may consist of Membership Subscriptions and Associates' Fees, as fixed at the General Assembly and by other sponsorship, contributions, gifts or subsidies.

Article 29

Membership Subscriptions and Associate Fees must be paid before **March 31st** of the relevant year. Non-payment in due time will entail cancellation of the Member's voting rights and access to the activities of AITA/IATA asbl.

In exceptional circumstances, the Council will consider a partial exemption of fees to certain Members.

Article 30

The Council may proceed to the expulsion of Members or Associates for the following reasons:

- a.** failure to pay the subscription or fee, entailing expulsion one full year after the first date on which the said subscription or fee is payable. In such cases, expulsion of Members or Associates does not require ratification by the General Assembly, as it only constitutes an administrative measure;
- b.** in cases of serious offences against the discipline of the Association, or acts liable to be detrimental to its good name, proper functioning or vital interests.

In cases concerning a National Centre, the procedure will be as follows:

- it will be invited by the Council to settle the matter itself
- where there is no conciliation possible, the Council may proceed with the expulsion.

Appeals against expulsion under sub-paragraph b., may be brought to the General Assembly (restricted to Members).

IX. DISSOLUTION

Article 31

Dissolution of the Association can only be declared by an Extraordinary General Assembly, specially convened for the purpose and comprising 2/3 of the Members. This decision may only be taken by a majority representing 3/4 of the votes.

If the number of delegates present is less than the required two-thirds, a new Extraordinary General Assembly must be convened within three months, and the decisions at this Assembly will be taken on the basis of an absolute majority, regardless of the number of delegates present or represented.

Article 32

In the case of dissolution, the General Assembly shall decide upon the disposal of funds of the Association.

X. INTERPRETATION AND MODIFICATIONS OF BYE-LAWS

Article 33

The interpretation of the present Bye-laws of AITA/IATA asbl is the responsibility of the Council. Cases not covered by the Bye-laws will be decided by the Council and submitted for ratification by the next General Assembly.

Article 34

These Bye-laws may be modified only by the General Assembly, by the majority of 2/3 of the voting power present or represented. The text of any proposed modification must be submitted to all Members at least two months in advance of this Assembly.

Article 35

Each time that, in these Bye-laws or in the Constitution, a quorum or a qualified majority is expressed by a fraction (2/3 or 3/4) this has to be understood as a percentage ratio, even if the result is not a whole number of persons. At least 2/3 is equivalent to greater or equal to 66.66% (66.66%) and At least 3/4 is equivalent to greater or equal to 75% (75%). As example the attendance of at least 2/3 of the 8 regional representatives for a Council to take valid decisions requires the participation of 6 representatives, in person or by proxy (5 representatives being only 62.50% of the Board of Representatives).

Article 36

These Bye-laws will come into force as from September 2013.

This is a comprehensive text based on the original constitution of the "de facto" association "International Amateur Theatre Association AITA/IATA" of 1969 – Monaco, and taking into account the amendments adopted in the following General Assemblies: 1975 (Oklahoma City), 1977 (Monaco), 1979 (Blagoevgrad), 1991 (Halden), 1993 (Monaco), 1995 (Ankara), 2001 (Monaco), 2003 (Halifax), 2005 (Monaco), 2007 (Masan), 2009 (Monaco), 2011 (Tromsö), 2013 (Monaco), 2015 (Belgium, Flanders), 2017 (Monaco).

Furthermore, it takes into account decisions of the General Assembly of AITA/IATA in Halifax, July 2003 voting on the foundation of AITA/IATA asbl, legal body, rue de Flandre 46, Brussels, Belgium, and on the adoption of the constitution of the "de facto" association "International Amateur Theatre Association AITA/IATA" as being the Bye-laws of the AITA/IATA asbl.

Minutes of the 33rd AITA/IATA asbl General Assembly

Friday 25th August 2017

1. Official opening of the 33rd General Assembly – Patrice Cellario, General Commissioner welcomed delegates to the 33rd General Assembly and welcomed delegates to the 60th anniversary of the first visit to Monaco. He noted the strong links between AITA/IATA asbl and the Mondial du Théâtre following the signing of the AITA/IATA Statutes in 1952 and the continued support from the Grimaldi Family, shown by the presence of Madame La Baronne Elizabeth-Ann De Massy, President of the Honorary Committee. He paid tribute to the foresight of those who had created an event run by volunteers and particularly to the remaining founder Max Brousse who received a standing ovation. Patrice Cellario hoped that the example of Max Brousse's modesty and inspiration would pave the way for AITA/IATA asbl to celebrate its 65th birthday and hoped that all Members would show wisdom and inspiration to promote diversity from around the world. He wished delegates a good General Assembly.

Madame La Baronne Elizabeth-Ann De Massy officially declared the 33rd AITA/IATA open.

2. Introduction and welcome from the World President of AITA/IATA asbl - President Rob Van Genechten welcomed Hon President Jacques Lemaire and other distinguished guests. He referred to the historical inspirations of AITA/AITA and of the Mondial du Theatre and thanked those individuals and organisations who had contributed significantly to the success and development of AITA/IATA asbl. The following were honoured:

- Alfred Meschnigg – appointed Honorary President of AITA/AITA and received AITA/AITA Anniversary Recognition for his work as a founding father of the Drama in Education Congress, presented by Mr Josef Hollos.
- Béatrice Cellario – received from King Philippe of Belgium the rank of Knight in the Order of Leopold, bestowed by Kristof Lataire, President of Opendoek Flanders, Belgium for her work as Secretary General of the Mondial du Théâtre and President of Studio de Monaco. She also received an AITA/AITA Anniversary Recognition as President of the Studio de Monaco, organiser of the Mondial du Théâtre presented by Tim Jebesen.
- Norbert Radermacher - received from King Philippe of Belgium the Knight of the Order of Leopold, bestowed by Kristof Lataire, President of Opendoek Flanders, Belgium in recognition for his work as founder of the Lingen Welt-Kindertheater-Fest.
- Nils Hanraets – received the AITA/AITA Anniversary Recognition for his work with the city of Lingen and TPZ Lingen as organisers of the Lingen Welt-Kindertheater-Fest, presented by Villy Dall.
- Hiroshi Koizumi - received the AITA/AITA Anniversary Recognition in recognition of the work of the Organising Committee of TIATF in Toyama, Japan, presented by Mary Pears.
- Josef Hollos - received from King Philippe of Belgium the rank of Knight in the Order of Leopold, bestowed by Kristof Lataire, President of Opendoek Flanders, Belgium in recognition of his work over many years, in particular for his work as the Co-ordinator of the Standing Committee for Children and Youth.
- Alla Zorina - received from King Philippe of Belgium the rank of Knight in the Order of Leopold, bestowed by Kristof Lataire, President of Opendoek Flanders, Belgium in recognition for the numerous events she has organised and in particular the Seminar on the Stanislavsky System.

- Pierre Villers - received from King Philippe of Belgium the rank of Officer in the Order of Leopold II, in recognition of his work as Director of Les ESTIVADES Festival and this will be presented to him at the next ESTIVADES Festival in August 2018.
- Murray and Lori Chase (past President of AACT and organisers of the Venice Theatre Festival) & Julie Angelo (outgoing Executive Director of AACT) – received an AITA/AITA Anniversary Recognition, in recognition of the work of AACT in organising the yearly AACT festival, presented by Cyril Walter.
- Kristiina Oomer (President of NEATA) and Hilmar Joensen (Vice President of NEATA) - received the AITA/AITA Anniversary Recognition for their consistency in hosting Regional Festivals, meetings and other international events, presented by Béatrice Cellario.
- Lenka Lázňovská (President of CEC) and Karel Thomas (Secretary of CEC) - received the AITA/AITA Anniversary Recognition for consistency in hosting Regional Festivals – Hronov in particular – and other events and for inviting AITA/IATA groups, presented by Kathleen Maldonado.
- Josef Krasula and Sasa Stefkova - received the AITA/AITA Anniversary Recognition in recognition of their work on the “Scenic Harvest” summer Festival in Martin, Slovakia celebrating 95 years, presented by Sofia Wegelius.
- Mohamed Benjeddi - received the AITA/AITA Anniversary Recognition in recognition of his work for the Festival International de Theatre Comedrama, Oujda, Morocco and his personal support for new talent and youth initiatives and the FITAS Festival in Agadir, Morocco, presented by Aled Rhys-Jones.

Istvan Szabo, internationally famous Hungarian film director since the late 1960s and best known for his work on *Mephisto*, was invited by President Rob Van Genechten to make the keynote presentation. He was followed by the new AITA/AITA Hon President, Alfred Meschnigg, Austria, who thanked AITA/IATA for bestowing such an honour on him.

Ending of the opening of the General Assembly.

3. Appointment of the Presiding Chair of the 33rd General Assembly – Council proposed José Badia, a member the organising committee of the Mondial, a former Ambassador to Belgium and Spain and fluent in both French and Spanish.

Unanimously approved by a show of hands

4. Appointment of Tellers and Drafting Committees – Council proposed:

- Tellers committee – Christiane Ledoupe, Hilmar Joensen, Lori Chase and Gilles El Zaïm.
- Drafting Committee – Dirk De Corte, Aled Rhys-Jones, Carlos Taberheiro Rodriguez, Béatrice Cellario.

Unanimously approved by a show of hands

5. Roll Call of Members present or represented (under current Constitution); confirmation of voting rights & notification of proxy's – The Presiding Chair confirmed that the GA was quorate and that delegates had received their election papers. Villy Dall confirmed that delegates from the following 29 Full Members (NC) and Affiliate Members were present and entitled to vote (166 votes):

Bangladesh – 6 votes; Belgium (Flemish) – 3 votes; Belgium (French) – 3 votes; China³ – 2 votes; Cuba – 6 votes; Czech Republic – 6 votes; Denmark – 6 votes; Estonia – 6 votes; The Faeroes – 2 votes; Finland – 6 votes; France – 6 votes; Germany (BAG) – 3 votes; Germany (BDAT) – 3 votes; Great Britain – 6 votes; Hungary – 6 votes; Iceland – 6 votes; India – 6 votes; Ireland – 6 votes;

³ China & Sri Lanka were confirmed as Affiliate Members and received 2 votes

Italy – 6 votes; Japan – 6 votes; Lithuania – 6 votes; Monaco – 6 votes; Morocco – 6 votes; Russia – 6 votes; Slovakia – 6 votes⁴; Slovenia – 6 votes; Spain – 6 votes; Sweden – 6 votes; Switzerland – 6 votes; Uganda⁵ – 6 votes; USA – 6 votes.

Proxies had been received from a further 11 Full Members (NC) and Affiliate Members (62 votes):

- Austria 6 votes by proxy to Hungary
- Indonesia 6 votes by proxy to India
- Israel 6 votes by proxy to France
- South Korea (Rep of) 6 votes by proxy to Japan
- Latvia 6 votes by proxy to Lithuania
- FYROM 6 votes by proxy to Denmark
- Mexico 6 votes by proxy to Monaco
- Poland⁶ 6 votes by proxy to Belgium (Flanders)
- South Africa 6 votes by proxy to Ireland
- Sri Lanka⁷ 2 votes by proxy to China
- Zimbabwe⁸ 6 votes by proxy to Great Britain

Following the ratification of new Full Members and Affiliate Members it was confirmed that there was a total of 228 votes and 152 votes would be needed for a 2/3 majority.

6. Ratification of New Members 2015 - 2017 – Council proposed that the following countries be ratified as Affiliate Members and once ratified, received two votes:

- Sri Lanka
- China

Unanimously approved by a show of hands

7. Ratification of Affiliate Members to Full Membership 2015 – 2017 – Council proposed that that following Affiliate Members be ratified as Full Members (NC) and once ratified received a further four votes:

- Poland (proxy to Belgium)
- Uganda
- Zimbabwe (proxy to Great Britain)

Unanimously approved by a show of hands

8. Call for written questions to Candidates for election to the Executive Board – there were no written questions for the candidates.

9. Approval of the Minutes of the 32nd General Assembly, Belgium 2015 – there were no questions or comments to the minutes.

Unanimously approved by a show of hands

⁴ Slovakia could not be present on the second day of the General Assembly and gave their 6 votes by proxy to Czech Republic

⁵ Uganda was ratified as a Full Member and received a total of 6 votes

⁶ Poland was ratified as a Full Member and received a total of 6 votes

⁷ Sri Lanka and China were ratified as Affiliate Members and received 2 votes.

⁸ Zimbabwe was ratified as a Full Member and received a total of 6 votes

10. AITA/IATA asbl Review 2015 – 2017

a. Council's review by President Rob Van Genechten - Rob Van Genechten noted that Vol I and II of the Forum Book were available online and included the review by Council of the past two years. He noted the need for a host for the 2019 AITA/IATA General Assembly (GA) and Festival which he hoped would be outside Europe and asked all Members to search for suitable hosts. Japan and Hungary had both been considered without success. A venue is also sought for the 2020 World Festival of Children's Theatre (WFCT). Rob Van Genechten asked the **GA to agree to mandate the AITA/IATA Council to seek a venue for the 2019 GA and Festival.**

Council's Report approved by a show of hands with one abstention

b. Treasurer's review by Treasurer Villy Dall – Villy Dall referred delegates to the Forum Book Volume II pages 25 – 29 and thanked: the Danish NC for their bookkeeping tasks; fellow Councillors for their support on financial matters; Account Controllers, Dympna Murray and Dirk De Corte for their assistance and co-operation; and the Secretariat, Anne Gilmour for her assistance and guidance on finance matters. He also thanked those who had enabled Council to hold meetings: the organisers of the WFCT in Stratford; Studio de Monaco; The Questors Theatre, London; and Meginfelag Áhugaleikara Føroya (MÁF) in the Faroes. He asked delegates to let Anne Gilmour know if they wished to host a Council meeting.

The Treasurer noted that AITA/IATA needs a yearly income of Euro 20,000 to break-even. Two years ago, the GA agreed to reduce the Membership Fee and Subscription, which had resulted in 42 Associates joining AITA/IATA since August 2015.

AITA/IATA's net worth of over Euro 105,500 enabled it to meet the goals set by the GA, but it was neither rich nor poor.

The entire AITA/IATA archive was now in the offices of BDAT in Belin and he thanked Stephan Schnell and Mrs Reet Schmidt for their assistance. He also thanked Kristiina Oomer for her work in Tallinn, the former home of the archive and Josef Hollos for his assistance and Norbert Radermacher, BDAT for agreeing to host the archives, which were an important record of the organisation. Stephan Schnell was working on a project with the University of Leipzig about the history of amateur theatre in Germany and hoped to find a student to work on the archive.

He noted the Standing Committee for Children and Youth (SCCY) annual budget of Euro 1,000 was not always fully utilised every year, so Council has seen the allocated amounts over a two-year period.

Villy Dall was delighted to report that Associate and SCCY Member Ron Dodson from Canada, had confirmed to Council that the 2016 WFCT Steering Committee wished to donate \$10,000 CDN (approx. Euro 6,700) to AITA/IATA. They request that the money should be used to support children's companies whose financial circumstances make it difficult for them to attend a WFCT and that when used, the 2016 WFCT should be credited as a financial supporter. Council will write to Ron thanking the steering committee for their generous donation.

Both the Treasurer's Report and the Financial Report with Associated Accounts were unanimously approved

c. Discharge to Council – As delegates had approved the reports he asked delegates to confirm that they give their Discharge to the Council.

Unanimously agreed by a show of hands

11. Notification of changes to Regional constitutions – for practical reasons it was proposed to take this item after the vote on the new Constitution and would be dealt with as a new item 18.

Unanimously agreed by a show of hands

12. Approval of host venue for 34th World Forum and GA in 2019 – Rob Van Genechten had covered this in his Council Report: there was no host venue yet.

13. Confirmation of host for 35th World Forum and GA in 2021 in Monaco – Béatrice Cellario confirmed that all delegates would be most welcome to come to Monaco in 2021 for the 37th Mondial du Théâtre.

14. Announcement of the 15th World Festival of Children's Theatre in 2018 in Lingen, Germany – Nils Hanraets, TPZ Lingen, formally announced the 15th World Festival 22 – 29 June 2018 in Lingen. On behalf of TPZ and the city of Lingen he invited all delegates to attend. The theme was *Children Move the World* and he drew the attention of delegates to the festival website.

15. Call for preliminary proposals to host 16th World Festival of Children's Theatre in 2020 - Rob Van Genechten reminded delegates of the possibility of a festival hosted by Associate Artscape in S Africa.

16. Other proposals submitted for consideration by the General Assembly – No proposals were submitted by the deadline.

Break for lunch

17. Proposed AITA/IATA asbl Constitution – the Presiding Chair José Badia opened the discussions on the proposed constitution and noted there would be a 3-minute limit on contributions from the floor.

a. *Introduction* - Rob Van Genechten's brief introduction listed the key areas to consider. These were: Articles with no change on which delegates would be asked to vote; Articles that needed minor modifications or technical changes but which did not change the substance or meaning; and Articles with major changes where delegates needed to pay close attention and which had a wider impact on the role of the President, the number of Councillors, and made more fundamental changes to the structure and membership.

Dirk De Corte addressed the GA. He referred to the amendments made as a result of the Forum workshops over the previous two days. Block III Change 6 (All Members to be accepted by Council) would not be proposed by Council as a result of the introduction of the vote multiplier, possibly resulting in different categories of members having a different number of votes. The final proposal to GA will show that GA decides on acceptance and dismissal of members.

Delegates agreed to this change

Dirk De Corte noted that in Block III, Change 1 (No more President Elect) was straightforward. Regarding Change 2 (Number of Councillors reduced from 15 to 8 - and no more Executive Board) and Change 3 (Council consists of 1 President and 8 Councillors directly elected by the GA), it was important to understand that each GA would only ever elect four Councillors to join the four existing Councillors. Candidates would continue to need the support of three National Centres. If there were more than four candidates, the election would take place in two rounds: in round one, the top two candidates would be elected, which would enable the GA to see the profile of the, by then, six Council Members. In the second round the GA would vote for the remaining two members of Council, which would give the GA the opportunity to properly consider issues such as the diversity, Regional and gender balance of the Council.

Dirk turned to Change 4 (Current Associates become Standard Members) and Change 5 (Hub Members and National Centre Members will form a Membership Category. Both are "Connectors") and noted that the text of Change 5 had changed further. The impact of Change 4 would be that paid-up Associates would become Standard Members of AITA/AITA asbl. Change 5 had changed in response to the issues raised during the Forum. Council now proposed three categories of Membership – National Centre Member, Hub Member and Standard Member. The related revised text of Article 6 of the draft Constitution was on the AITA/AITA website. This very recent change meant that National Centre Members would be Full Members with full voting rights, while Hub Members and Standard Members would be grouped together as Adherent Members who would have one vote (like National Centres) but the vote would be multiplied (the "Multiplier").

The "Multiplier" (which could never be less than one) would make sure that the total number of votes cast by Full Members (National Centre Members) would at least equal the total number of votes cast by Adherent Members (Hub Members and Standard Members together). Dirk provided an example: there were 200 National Centres, 300 Hub Members and 300 Standard Members, Hubs and Standard Members together equalled 600 votes but a Multiplier (in this example $600 \div 200 = 3$) would ensure that the total National Centre votes would at least equal those of Standard Members and Hub Members together. National Centres would get 3 votes each which would ensure that National Centres were protected and could not be ousted by the combined votes of the Hub and Standard Members.

Change 7 which had read that all "Members have one vote", should now be considered to say that the votes of the National Centre to be multiplied by the multiplier of the sum of the votes of the Hub and Standard Members, divided by the number of National Centres.

Dirk noted that the time to vote had arrived and reminded delegates that an abstention vote was a no vote. There were 228 votes and a 2/3 majority would be 152 votes, which would mean that a proposal was accepted: a simple majority would be 115. He asked if there were any questions.

A more detailed record of the discussion is available in English only on request to the Secretariat.

Break

Rob Van Genechten confirmed that the General Assembly would vote on the text of the Constitution published the previous evening which reflected the introduction of the formulae: that the votes of the National Centre would at least equal the sum of the votes of Standard Members and Hub Members.

Whilst Council was proposing a vote by show of hands on Block I and II, one member - FNCD Belgium (French Speaking Region) demanded a vote by secret ballot on both Blocks.

b. *Voting* - Delegates were asked to use voting slips to vote on Block I and Block II (unchanged content, changed language and / or clarified) at the same time and Rob stressed that an abstention was a vote against. Delegates then voted on Block III Change 1; Block III Change 2 & 3; Block III Change 4 & 5 and Block III Change 7.

End of Day 1

Day 2

Friday 25th August

The meeting opened at 09:00 and Rob Van Genechten read the results of the previous day's voting and noted that a void ballot was a No vote. He reminded delegates that a minimum of 152 votes was needed for a motion to pass and, therefore,

Block I	Yes 179	No 46	Void 3
Block II	Yes 150	No 63	Void 15
Block III –			
Change 1	Yes 155	No 70	Void 3
Change 2 & 3	Yes 178	No 49	Void 1
Change 4 & 5	Yes 148	No 67	Void 13
Change 7	Yes 144	No 81	Void 2

Block I was adopted
Block II was not adopted
Block III Change 1 was adopted
Block III Change 2 & 3 were adopted
Block III Change 4 & 5 were not adopted
Block III Change 7 was not adopted

The outcome meant that the post of President-Elect no longer exists and from hereon in, the President will take office immediately after election. Also, the number of Councillors will be reduced to eight with only a Council and no Executive Board. Council will have 1 Chair (President) and 8 directly elected Council Members. There will no longer be elected representatives from the Regions on Council.

All other proposals were rejected. *For clarification, it was confirmed that Président élu/President Elect should be translated to mean that the President is elected two years before taking office. Incorrect simultaneous translation during GA, had caused confusion among Members about the meaning of the term.*

Break

The General Assembly prepared to vote for candidates to the new format Council of 8 + 1 President with each National Centre to carry 6 votes and each Affiliate Member 2 votes (including the Faroes). A candidate will need at least 115 votes to be elected and appointed as a Councillor. Candidates were Pierre Cellario, Villy Dall, Christel Gbaguidi and Harald Volker Sommer.

Break for delegates to collect second book of votes

Regional Statutes/Constitutions

Rob Van Genechten stressed that although the new Council had no direct Regional Representation, Regions were still part of AITA/IATA and the Constitutions put forward by CIFTA and CEC could be approved and would continue to function if positively assessed by Council. Given the outcome of the vote, he repeated that these Regions might wish to reconsider their constitutions and they would be discussed in the next day's Council meeting. It was confirmed that the CEC Constitution had been agreed but both the CEC and CIFTA needed to revise their Constitutions to reflect issues relating to the election of a Regional representative.

Patrick Schoenstein asked about the role of the Regions who were no longer required to send a Representative to Council. What was the place of Regional Centres? Rob Van Genechten confirmed that for now, there was no change and he went on to remark that as AITA/IATA is a registered NPO, CIFTA would be required to leave the umbrella of AITA/AITA if they also wished to register as an NPO. The matter would need to be discussed by the new Council.

Results of the voting

Rob Van Genechten summarised the voting on the Constitution. He was surprised by the 46 votes against Block I which was to approve Articles that were totally unchanged. He was surprised and disappointed by the 63 votes against Block II which were only about minor changes to language to clarify the current Constitution and to make it legal under Belgian Law. The largest part of these changes would need to be re-presented and voted on as soon as possible because they were requirements under Belgian Law and AITA/IATA cannot continue to operate illegally.

In respect of Block III Change 1 which had been passed by 155 votes, Rob noted that candidates to be his successor would be sought in late 2018 to be appointed at the 2019 General Assembly. Candidates to succeed the Councillors appointed in Ypres in 2015 would also be sought and those whose first mandate would expire in 2019 could re-stand. Because of the outcome of the vote on the new Constitution, the GA would proceed under Option 2 of the GA Agenda and move onto voting for members of Council. Candidates would need 115 votes to be elected (half + 1).

18. Preparation for the Elections

Statements of Intent from the candidates - Candidates to elections were invited to speak briefly. A summary of their comments is available in English only on request to the Secretariat.

19. Voting

The outcome of the vote was as follows:

- | | | | |
|------------------------|---------|-------|----------------|
| • Villy Dall | 228 yes | | |
| • Pierre Cellario | 216 yes | | 12 abstentions |
| • Christel Gbaguidi | 189 yes | 21 no | 18 abstentions |
| • Harald Volker Sommer | 167 yes | 52 no | 9 abstentions |

The four candidates were elected to Council. They replaced the outgoing members – Béatrice Cellario, Josef Hollos, Izumi Yoshida, Mary Pears and Kathleen Maldonado. The President thanked them for their activities and invited them to say a few words. Each had been presented with a small gift of thanks for their services to AITA/AITA during the Council meeting prior to the GA.

Rob Van Genechten further noted that Dirk De Corte had worked tirelessly with Council on Renewal and it seemed likely that this would continue. He had been of great assistance to AITA/IATA and although not on Council he had made himself and his contacts – especially the Professor of Law at Antwerp University - available to the AITA/IATA Council. He presented him with a gift from Cuba – a box of Cigars. Dirk thanked Rob and said how much he had enjoyed the work and the workshops and the discussions.

Revisions to the Constitution

As a result of the vote on the proposed changes to the Constitution and the Council Elections, the changes shown in **Appendix A**

will be published in the Belgian Moniteur:

The General Assembly went into recess to allow the retiring Executive Board and Council members to leave and to be replaced by the newly elected Councillors. The General Assembly resumed with the new Council.

20. Ratification of Regional Representatives to Council - Rob thanked all the delegates who had supported Renewal and noted that the proposal had only fallen short by a very small number of votes so there remained the possibility to progress with renewal. Council

would meet, and he was sure that there would be meetings in the Regions to discuss the future direction of AITA/IATA. The Association would proceed with networking and finding meeting places and hosts for events and festivals, but the focus would be different, and Council needed to discuss a new Mission. In response to a question from Stephan Schnell, Rob hoped that Council would let National Centres and Regions know about the future as soon as possible and after Council had met.

The delegate from Cuba, Rolando Boet asked about communication with the Regions. And asked if this would be more difficult without representation on Council. The President responded that it was not for AITA/IATA to make a Region work, it was up to the Region to organise itself and to provide information to the network.

Kevin Dowsett, President of the GB National Centre and new CEC General Secretary and Treasurer, suggested that the Council consider supporting one delegate from each Region to attend events and network. The President noted that that one of the delegates from Africa had received support to attend the General Assembly.

In response to a question from Patrick Schoenstein about inviting Regional Presidents to a Council meeting to discuss topics of interest to that Region, Rob Van Genechten noted that the CIFTA President had attended the Council meeting before the General Assembly and this option was always open. There was also a direct line of communication via email or phone through the Secretariat to Council for any Region, and he asked that it be used. The Secretariat had many contacts from around the world which was why there were so many new members since the General Assembly in Ypres in 2015. Roger Ellis, USA appreciated the willingness of Council to want to open up the organisation and he wished to reinforce the comments by Kevin Dowsett and Rolando Boet that the reduction in Council numbers may encourage organisations to host Council. He hoped that Council would consider over the next two years how individual members could have a stronger voice, perhaps a vote, in the organisation and thanked Council for their work.

21. AITA/AITA asbl working plan and vision statement 2017 – 2019 – Rob noted that key issues had been covered in his earlier presentations, but it had not been possible to draw up a working plan and vision statement before knowing the outcome of the vote on the Constitution.

22. Election of Account Controller Villy Dall asked delegates to acknowledge the work of Dymrna Murray, Ireland who had put in a lot of work over four years to ensure the probity of the finances. Council wished to propose Mats Wenlöf, Sweden as her successor. He would join Dirk De Corte who would continue as the second Account Controller for a further two years. The Presiding Chair proposed that Mats Wenlöf be ratified as Account Controller for four years.

Unanimously ratified

23. Budget for 2017 - 2019

Villy Dall reminded delegates that Council members paid for their own travel and sometimes for their hotel room and food. The accounts showed there was Euro 12,000 in the Solidarity Fund which had not been reviewed as Council had wanted to wait for the outcome of Renewal. The fund was traditionally to be used for Waivers but there had been no recent requests, possibly because of the reduction in the Membership Fee. The new Council would need to decide how to use this money and would put forward a proposal at the next General Assembly.

a. Members and Associates Fees and Subscriptions for 2018 – 2019 – Treasurer Villy Dall proposed that AITA/AITA should continue with the Fee Structure agreed by the 2015 General Assembly. If delegates were in agreement, AITA/AITA would proceed on the basis of

the budget on the left-hand side of the table on pages 34 and 35 of the Forum Book. There were no questions.

The Presiding Chair asked the General Assembly to vote on the proposed Budget.

The budgets were unanimously approved

24. Closing remarks from the floor

The Presiding Chair invited any further comments from the floor. Hilmar Joensen, Faroes spoke from the stage. He noted that the Faroes had become an Affiliate in 1999 and a member of NEATA. He was extremely disappointed by the outcome of the vote on renewal, which meant that The Faroes were prevented from becoming a full Member of AITA/IATA and were limited to 2 votes despite paying a full Membership Fee. Their status as an autonomous Region of the Danish Kingdom meant that, like Aruba, they could not become a National Centre because there was an existing Danish National Centre.

José Badia thanked delegates for their attendance and attention given that the discussions had often been complex, and he wished everyone every success for the future. The General Assembly closed at midday.

The changes to the Constitution and the Council Elections, published in the Belgian Moniteur

AITA/IATA asbl

Maison de la Bellone, 46, rue de Flandre, B-1000 Bruxelles Belgique

Num. Rég. : 863683050

OBJECTS OF THE ACT:

CHANGE OF STATUTES, RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS, COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL

The General Assembly decided to change articles of the Association's Statutes, as follows:

CHANGES OF STATUTES

The General Assembly decided to change articles of the Association's Statutes, as follows:

Art. 10.

The General Assembly delegates the governance and day-to-day management of the Association to the Council.

The General Assembly will appoint through an election process one (1) President and a maximum of eight (8) Councillors. The President and the Councillors jointly form the Council. Their mandate (the Mandate) is not remunerated by the Association.

The Council has the authority to appoint and dismiss from among the Councillors, officers as appropriate (the officers), for example: Treasurer, Secretary, or any other function Council considers appropriate.

Officers may resign or be dismissed from their assigned functions without effecting their Mandate as a Councillor.

The President and Councillors of the Association are natural persons.

Art. 11.

The President of the Association and Councillors are elected for a mandated period of four (4) years.

An individual can serve a maximum of three (3) consecutive Mandate Terms on Council, of which a maximum of two (2) consecutive Mandate Terms as Councillor, or a maximum of two (2) consecutive Mandate Terms as President.

In exceptional circumstances, the GA can extend the Mandate Term of the President, a Councillor and / or several Councillors, for a period defined to be decided by the GA. This decision requires a majority of two-thirds (2/3) of the Members in attendance at the GA (present or represented).

The Mandate of a Councillor and / or the President will cease:

- a) at the end of the Mandate Term
- b) should the GA decide to end the Mandate. This decision requires a simple majority by the GA.
- c) upon receipt of a written resignation (by letter, email, or any form of text message) to the Council.

Should a Councillor (including the President) be unable to complete their mandate, irrespective of cause, this Mandate will count as a fully completed Mandate Term.

Should a position on Council become vacant owing to the death, incapacity or resignation of an appointed Councillor, Council may appoint a temporary replacement until the following GA. The appointee will function as a Councillor without voting rights.

Art. 28.

The languages to be employed in the official business conducted by the Association are French, English and Spanish. In case of difficulties of interpretation of the Constitution and / or official documents of the Association, the French language will take precedence.

It is the responsibility of Council to ensure that sufficient skills are available in Council in order to address the Association's official languages and cultural issues.

2. RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

a) Withdrawals:

The General Assembly took note of the resignations for reason of completion of the mandate of the following Councillors:

- Béatrice CELLARIO, née CRIVELLO, administrator, 4 rue des Spélugues, MC 98000 Monaco, née à Toulon (France), le 08/01/1960 ;
- Villy DALL, journalist, Birkeparken 14, DK-7760 Hurup, Thy, Denmark, born in Vejle (Denmark), le 28/01/1955 ;
- Mary Brigid PEARS, retired, 63 Oaklawn West, Leixlip, Co. Kildare, Ireland, born in Liatroim (Ireland), le 15/11/1942 ;
- Josef HOLLOS, retired, Walfischgasse 14, A-1010 Vienne, Austria, born in Budapest (Hungary) le 03/04/1944 ;
- Kathleen MALDONADO, retired, 103 Purple Sage Place, Alto, 88312 N. Michigan, USA, born in York (USA), le 24/12/1941 ;
- Izumi YOSHIDA, University Professor, 887 Hamakurosaki, 931-8414 Toyama City, Toyama, Japan, born in Toyama (Japan) le 15/12/1949.

b) Appointments:

- The General Assembly has reappointed as Councillor:
- Villy DALL, journalist, Birkeparken 14, DK-7760 Hurup, Thy, Denmark, born in Vejle (Denmark), le 28/01/1955 ;

The General Assembly has appointed as Councillors:

- Pierre CELLARIO, director, 21 rue de Millo, MC 98000 Monaco, born in Monaco (Monaco) le 11 September 1963 ;
- Gbenakpon Christel GBAGUIDI, employee, Stresemannstrasse 64, D-10963 Berlin, Germany, born in Bohicon (Benin) le 27 mars 1979 ;
- Harald Volker SOMMER, Administrator, Pappelweg 7, 49808 Lingen, Germany, born in Vienne (Autriche) le 30/06/1970.

3. COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL

Now the General Assembly has appointed the Council which is composed as follows:

- Councillor, President, Robrecht VAN GENECHTEN, retraité, Hallebaan 9, 2520 Ranst, Belgique, born in Berchem-Antwerpen (Belgique) le 02/12/1953 ;
- Councillor, Pierre CELLARIO, director, 21 rue de Millo, MC 98000 Monaco, born in Monaco (Monaco) le 11/9/1963 ;
- Councillor, Villy DALL, journalist, Birkeparken 14, DK-7760 Hurup, Thy, Danemark, born in Vejle (Denmark), le 28/01/1955 ;
- Councillor, Timothy Paul JEBSEN, Administrator, 4415 Fairbanks Drive, Midland Texas 79707, USA, born in Ohio (USA) le 14/2/1967
- Councillor, Gbenakpon Christel GBAGUIDI, employee, Stresemannstrasse 64, Berlin D-10963, Germany, born in Bohicon (Benin) le 27/3/1979 ;
- Councillor, Robert Aled RHYS-JONES, Administrator, 12 St. Patrick's Court, Linnet Close, Cyncoed, Cardiff CF23 7HG, Wales, UK, born in Newport (UK) , le 11/4/1960 ;
- Councillor, Harald Volker SOMMER, Administrator, Pappelweg 7, 49808 Lingen, Germany, born in Vienne (Austria) le 30/06/1970 ;
- Councillor, Cyril WALTER, employee, Lieu-dit Rieucau, 46400 Saint-Vincent-du-Pendit, France, born in Toulouse (France), le 5/11/1977 ;
- Councillor, Alexandra Sofia WEGELIUS, employee, Kaptensgaden 2C11, 00140 Helsinki, Finland, born in Sibbo (Sweden), le 1/8/1981.

Council appointed following Councillors:

- With the responsibility of Vice-President, Timothy Paul JEBSEN;
- With the responsibility of Treasurer, Villy DALL.

So done in Monaco, 25 August 2017

Robrecht VAN GENECHTEN – President AITA/IATA asbl

Report and strategic options for the period 2018 - 2019

Dear colleagues,

Last year, General Assembly (GA) decided not to accept Council's proposal to accept Hubs as an additional kind of membership alongside National Centres (NC). GA also refused to grant membership status to Associates. That is what was proposed and that was what was rejected. Other proposals that were voted down in some way related to the appearance of other options for membership.

GA accepted the proposal to downsize Council, which resulted in no direct Regional representation nor any representation from internal working groups/committees on Council. This does not mean that these proposals have to be left aside for the next 65 years... Let's not forget that 2/3 of the membership minus 4 votes agreed with the proposed membership changes...

As a result of the 2017 voting, Council rearranged all existing texts (Constitution, Byelaws and Standing Orders) in a way that they are in compliance with the decisions taken in Monaco. The result of this work is new texts that are clear and transparent. All Members should be treated in the same way, based on the same rules, with no exceptions. The aim here is to end the discussion and endless interpretation of parts of our rules, as has taken place in the past.

On the other hand, Members should understand that one of the intentions of opening up the organisation's membership system, was to raise the number of Fee paying Members. More Members in the proposed additional categories (HUBs and Standard Members) would mean more possibilities to motivate new Members to host festivals, meetings and other events. Council can assure Members that the organisation has lost organisers of future events because of the decisions taken during the Monaco GA. Who would want to organise events open to AITA/IATA Members knowing that these same Members refused to accept the organisers as colleagues in the organisation? China who had already organised an event in May 2017, and was certainly prepared to do that again, didn't renew its membership in 2018. When the Council's delegation arrived in Saint John, New Brunswick in Canada to discuss the possibilities for hosting the 2019 festival, one of the first issues that came on the table was: "Do you have a NC in Canada? and if not, how can we apply to become that NC for the country?" But the outcome of the 2017 GA meant the answer had to be no. A representative from Saint John will be in Lingen and the decision on hosting the 2019 event in Canada will be taken during his visit or shortly after.

I therefore hope that the current Members will acknowledge the problem that the organisation is facing when it comes to finding hosts for our events. As I have mentioned many times, the networking that comes with finding these meeting places is one of Council's main objective. A huge amount of time and resources have been invested over the past years to achieve this.

Looking back on who has organised the larger festivals over the past decades, few candidates have come from the long-standing Members of the association. Our gratitude and our respect go to those NC's who have made the effort to host larger events. We also thank these NC's who supported AITA/IATA by organising meetings and small-scale festivals. Unfortunately, so far, many have not organised anything at all.

Since the 2015 General Assembly in Ypres Belgium, Council has been able to create links with organisations in countries and parts of the world that weren't covered at all before.

- a) We established a stronghold in Shenyang (China) and in Colombo (Sri Lanka) at the occasion of the Drama in Education workshops in Shenyang (May 2017). Later this year an event of the same kind is planned in Colombo. At the Lingen Festival, a first contact meeting is planned with a delegation from the City of Rizhao (China) that expressed interest in organising a Children and/or Youth festival over the coming years.
- b) Efforts were made, with success, to relaunch the cooperation with the Caribbean region, supported by the Casas de Cultura in Cuba. A new restructured AITA/IATA NC was created in Havana with representations in all Cuban provinces. The Vice-President of the NC will be attending the Lingen Festival. A yearly international festival will be organised in Fomento (Central Cuba Sancti Spiritus area), open to AITA/IATA Members.
- c) Prior to the Monaco Mondial in 2017, a contact has been established with the Corredor Latinoamericano de Teatro (CLT) that has antennas all over South and Central America: Chile, Argentina, two in Brazil, Colombia, El Salvador, Mexico and one in Spain. The organisation is currently exploring the possibilities for cooperation with Cuba and the Caribbean countries. As an external partner to our organisation, you will find all the information on CLT activities on the AITA/IATA new website, where the organisation is listed as a network alliance.
- d) A new festival has entered into a cooperation with AITA/IATA. FITAG, the well-known amateur theatre festival in Girona, Catalunya (Spain) became an AITA/IATA Associate this year. They participated in the Fomento festival in Cuba 2018 and are open for cooperation and receiving performances from AITA/IATA Members for the 2019 edition of FITAG.
- e) The second edition of the FITAS festival in Agadir Morocco was quite successful this spring and the festival received the full support of the city and the government to further develop the event on an international scale by putting the festival on our AITA/IATA agenda.
- f) We suppose all Members noticed the launch of the new AITA/IATA webpage in the fall of 2017. We invite the membership to use this tool for as many purposes as possible, especially to communication about festivals and events.
- g) Following the vote in General Assembly in Monaco 2017, Council reworked the constitution and prepared one proposal combining the Constitution, Bye-Laws and Standing Orders into one text. More information on this follows.

Necessary changes to the constitution resulting from decisions made in Monaco 2017 GA

The proposed changes are the logical result of the voting in Monaco 2017. Council is composed without direct representation from the Regions, nor from any kind of internal AITA/IATA committee.

It is time to familiarise IATA/IATA Members with a yearly GA's. We started to discuss this many years ago and time has now come to do it. The principle of yearly GA's is set in stone in many countries' legislation, including the Belgian Law which forms the basis of our Association's legal structure. In the organisation's interest, any GA can take, and should be able to take, any decision they want, including changes to the constitution, provided that the necessary majorities of attendance and voting majorities are respected.

Council reworked the current 3 tier system of: Constitution, Bye-laws and Standing Orders. That is what **Proposal 1** is about. Unfortunately, the lack of clarity has been troubling our functioning since it was put in place in 2003. For 15 years, the existing incoherence between practice and texts has been an excuse to continue circumnavigating the current Constitution by allowing exception after exception... Furthermore, parts of the current Bye-Laws are not in compliance with Belgian law.

As a result of that situation, combining the 3 texts into one correct document is urgent and necessary.

For the membership, there is nothing really new in Proposal 1. Of course, some will claim that Article 18 about Networks and Committees (including Regional Committees and Standing Committees of any kind) is new, but basically, it is not. It is a combination of what was already there in the Bye-Laws and the results of the 2017 GA. Creating and terminating Regional Committees belonged to the authority of the GA because it automatically gave Regional Committees the right to a seat on Council and appointing Councillors is, by Belgian law, the exclusive authority of the GA. As there is no longer any direct representation from Regional Committees on Council, these decisions should return to be at Council's discretion. Deciding on composing other internal committees or working groups remains with Council as it was in the past. In the interest of the Association, Proposal 1 deserves the GA's full support. If approved, the document can last for decades and will allow AITA/IATA to finally function properly within a legal and consistent framework.

In **Proposal 2**, terminating the Affiliate Member category does not affect full Members and greatly simplifies our membership system. Over the past 3 years we experienced no need to continue the current model with "test-casing" new Members by calling them an Affiliate Member. With most information available online, it became quite easy to fully assess candidates. This has been done many times in the recent past.

If we want to be fair to ALL Members and be honest to ourselves, Proposal 2 is also essential. Without enforcing a change upon the membership, Proposal 2 simply reflects and seals the way the organisation has functioned for the last 65 years. We have been respectful to organisations in self-governing parts of countries, granting them the autonomy they deserved. The proposals to the GA in Monaco 2017 included a solution to this problem, but these proposals were not approved. The remark made by Hilmar Joensen from the Faroe Islands at the end of the Monaco Assembly last year, spoke for itself: "Shame on you for not granting my NC full rights as a member of this organisation..." He couldn't have been clearer. It is time to acknowledge that in a quite large number of countries the word "National" does not have the same meaning as it did 65 years ago, certainly not when we are talking culture. In too many countries the political structure within the country has been changed, resulting in far greater developed self-governance. AITA/IATA should grant these Members and future new Members, the same kind of autonomy and full rights that come with the status.

Proposal 3 is only a variant, reducing the number of votes for each Member to one and will make work easier when counting votes in GA's.

A new attempt has recently been made to fog the debate and to bring doubt into people's minds. Some seem to have a completely different agenda, far away from making necessary progress in AITA/IATA.

Nevertheless, I hope that the Lingen General Assembly will clear everyone's mind and that all Members will back the proposals. They have only one goal, which is making the organisation a worldwide network for everyone involved in amateur theatre.

See you all in Lingen later this month.

Rob VAN GENECHTEN

President of AITA/IATA asbl

Email: president@aitaiata.net

Mobile: +32 498 562653

AITA/IATA asbl - Non-Profit Organisation

DRAFT CONSTITUTION Proposal 1

DRAFT CONSTITUTION – Proposal 1 - GA Lingen June 2018

Based on Block II proposals Monaco 2017, combining old constitution, byelaws and standing orders where possible, including decisions of GA Monaco 2017, NOT including any kind of change in the membership system. Legally fully correct and **showing in yellow the inconsistencies and possible simplifications**, as a result of comparing the existing situation in IATA and the rules laid out in the existing constitution.

I. NAME, REGISTERED OFFICE, PURPOSE AND DURATION

Article 1

The association is named "Association Internationale du Théâtre Amateur - International Amateur Theatre Association - Asociación Internacional del Teatro Amateur", in short "AITA/IATA asbl", hereinafter referred to as "the Association".

Article 2

The Association is constituted as a Belgian non-profit organisation, according to the Belgian Law of non-profit organisations (asbl-vzw) of 27 June 1921, as amended on 2 May 2002 (hereinafter referred to as "the Belgian Law of non-profit organisations").

The registered office of the Association is established in Belgium, at B-1000 Brussels, Maison de la Bellone, 46 rue de Flandre, in the judicial district of Brussels.

The registered number of the Association is 0863.683.050.

Article 3

The Association is formed for the purpose of:

- a) Fostering dramatic art by all theatrical groups of the world devoted, without remuneration, to artistic and cultural aims;
- b) Promoting by permanent international contact and relationships those activities common to its members;
- c) Co-ordinating the actions of its members in their purpose of enriching human experience and educating through the medium of theatre;
- d) Facilitating international exchanges between all groups belonging to amateur theatre.

To establish these aims, the Association will employ the following means:

- a) The organisation or participation in the organisation of international congresses, conferences, seminars, festivals, courses, exhibitions and any other activity;
- b) The publication or assistance in the publication and distribution of books, periodicals and stage plays;
- c) The maintenance of one or more support, information or study centres on amateur theatre;
- d) Co-operating with other international organisations having similar aims or devoted to theatre and culture in general.

The Association may undertake or support any initiative and organise any activity that may contribute to establishing its aims or objectives.

Article 4

The Association has been constituted for an unlimited period of time.

II. MEMBERSHIP

Article 5

The number of members of the Association is unlimited. Its minimum is fixed to three (3).

Article 6

The composition of the Association is based on the principle of national representation.

The Association recognises Full Members and Affiliate Members, jointly composing the General Assembly of the Association (hereinafter referred to as the GA).

A Full Member is an officially appointed national centre representing the totality of amateur theatre of a country.

An Affiliate Member is a federation, a committee or a similar body representing a country, in which no national centre has yet been established, but can be considered to be in the process of growth.

The admission of Members is decided by the GA following the proposition of the Council. The Council may grant provisional admission to new Members, which must, however, be confirmed at the next GA.

Article 7

All Members are required to pay the appropriate annual Membership Fee, relevant to their Membership category, as determined by the GA. The maximum amount of this Membership Fee is set at five thousand (5,000) Euro.

Non-payment of the Membership Fee will result in resignation by default of the Member.

III. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Article 8

A Full Member who is up to date with their membership payments is entitled to six (6) votes in the GA. An Affiliate Member who is up to date with their membership payments is entitled to two (2) votes in the GA.

A Member can delegate their votes by proxy to another Member. Each Member is limited to carrying one proxy.

A natural person can represent a maximum of two (2) Members.

Article 9

Resigning and resigned, suspended or expelled Members, as well as their heirs or those having rights over a deceased Member, have no rights over the assets of the Association. They cannot reclaim Membership Fees, claim or request statements, rendering of accounts, nor inventories. Neither can they affix seals or proceed to precautionary attachment ("saisie conservatoire").

Article 10

The legislative power of the Association is held by the GA. In accordance with Article 4 of the Belgian Law of non-profit organisations, powers that are exclusively reserved for the GA are the following:

- a) Alterations to the Constitution;
- b) The appointment and dismissal of Councillors and of the President of the Association;
- c) Granting discharge to Councillors regarding their obligations as Councillors of the Association;
- d) The approval of the budget and the accounts of the Association;
- e) The dissolution of the Association and the destination of the net assets of the Association following such dissolution;
- f) The expulsion of Members of the Association;
- g) The conversion of the Association into a company with a social purpose;
- h) All cases required by the articles of the Association.

In addition to the powers mentioned above, it is the authority of the GA to appoint one or more independent persons, who cannot be Councillors, as "third party" examiners of the accounts.

Article 11

The GA is chaired by the President of the Association or by any other chair appointed by the GA at the beginning of the GA.

Article 12

The President of the Association, on behalf of the Council, or upon request of at least one fifth (1/5) of the Members of the Association, will convene the GA by any appropriate means of communication as agreed by the Council. In both cases, notification which will include the draft agenda of the GA, will take place at least eight (8) weeks before the GA.

Any proposal to be considered by the GA must be supported by at least one twentieth (1/20) of the Members of the Association before it can be added to the agenda of the GA. Proposals must reach the Secretariat not later than four (4) weeks before the GA. The final agenda of the GA, containing all proposals by Members and all relevant documents, will be distributed to Members not later than two (2) weeks before the GA.

The GA can be held in any physical or digital format considered appropriate by Council. Voting procedures and/or systems in the GA are decided by the Council. Voting may be manual, postal, electronic or digital or by any means that the Council considers to be appropriate.

Abstentions and/or invalid votes are not taken into account when counting the votes and/or when defining majorities. Abstentions and/or invalid votes are not counted as a negative vote.

The GA can vote only on issues that are included in the Agenda.

Article 13

A - Attendance in the GA

Regardless of the number of Members in attendance (present or represented), the GA is **constitutionally valid**, except for the decisions relating to:

- a) alterations to the Constitution;
- b) changing the purpose of the Association
- c) the dissolution of the Association.

Decisions relating to alterations to the Constitution and the dissolution of the Association require the attendance of at least two thirds (2/3) of Members (present or represented).

A second GA may be called if, in compliance with Article 8 of the Belgian Law of non-profit organisations, the abovementioned attendance criteria are not met, regardless of the number of Members in attendance (present or represented). Such a second GA may not be held within sixteen (16) days following the first GA.

B - Decisions in the GA

All **decisions** are taken by a simple majority (fifty percent (50%) plus one (1)) of the votes of Members in attendance at the GA (present or represented), except, as is compliant with Article 7 of the Belgian Law of non-profit organisations, for decisions relating to:

- a) the expulsion of Members;
- b) alterations to the Constitution;
- c) changing the purpose of the Association;
- d) the dissolution of the Association.

Decisions relating to the expulsion of a Member, as well as decisions relating to alterations to the Constitution, will be taken by a majority of two thirds (2/3) of the votes of the Members in attendance (present or represented).

Decisions relating to alterations to the Constitution concerning the purpose of the Association, as well as decisions relating to the dissolution of the Association, require a majority of four fifths (4/5) of the votes of Members in attendance (present or represented).

IV. THE COUNCIL, COMMITTEES AND NETWORKS

Article 14

The GA delegates the governance and day-to-day management of the Association to the Council. The GA will, through an election process, appoint one (1) President and a maximum of eight (8) Councillors.

The President and the Councillors jointly form the Council. Their mandate ("the Mandate") is not remunerated by the Association.

The Council has the authority to appoint and dismiss from among the Councillors, officers as appropriate ("the Officers"), for example: Treasurer, Secretary, or any other function the Council considers appropriate.

Officers may resign or be dismissed from their assigned functions without effecting their Mandate as a Councillor.

The President and the Councillors of the Association are natural persons.

Article 15

The President of the Association and Councillors are elected for a mandated period of four (4) years ("the Mandate Term").

An individual can serve a maximum of three (3) consecutive Mandate Terms on the Council, of which a maximum of two (2) consecutive Mandate Terms as Councillor, or a maximum of two (2) consecutive Mandate Terms as President.

In exceptional circumstances, the GA can extend the Mandate Term of the President, a Councillor and/or several Councillors, for a period to be decided by the GA. This decision requires a majority of two thirds (2/3) of the Members in attendance at the GA (present or represented).

The Mandate of a Councillor and/or the President will cease:

- a) At the end of the Mandate Term;
- b) Should the GA decide to end the Mandate. This decision requires a simple majority by the GA;
- c) Upon receipt of a written resignation (by letter, email or any other form of text message) to the Council.

Should a Councillor (including the President) be unable to complete their Mandate irrespective of cause, this Mandate will count as a fully completed Mandate Term.

Should a position on the Council become vacant, owing to the death, incapacity or resignation of an appointed Councillor, the Council may appoint a temporary replacement until the following GA. The appointee will function as a Councillor without voting rights.

Article 16

The Council is convened by the President of the Association by any means that the Council considers appropriate and will meet at least twice between two GA's. The Council is constitutionally valid (quorate) if 5 out of 9 Councillors are present or represented.

Council meetings can be held in any physical or digital format considered appropriate by the Council. Voting procedures and/or systems during Council meetings are decided by the Council. Voting may be manual, postal, electronic or digital or by any means that the Council considers to be appropriate.

A Councillor can delegate their vote by proxy to another Councillor. Each Councillor can carry only one proxy.

Article 17

The Council has unlimited executive powers in matters relating to the governance and day-to-day management of the Association.

Unless a power is, under the Belgian Law of non-profit organisations or under this Constitution, explicitly stated to belong exclusively to the GA, all powers are under the authority of the Council. The Council may appoint any contracted individual and determine their job description and remuneration.

The Council has the right to delegate the day-to-day management of the Association, including the authority of signature in relation to the day-to-day management, to any contracted individual.

Article 18

a) External relations

The Council can establish or terminate any operational relationship, at any time, with any appropriate party, natural person, de facto association or legal entity, in the interest of the Association. These operational relationships are called **Networks**.

b) Internal relations

The Council can establish or terminate, within the organisation, one or more **Committees**, where appropriate chaired by a coordinator or coordinating team. The Council will approve a Committee's internal rules.

The Council will appoint the members and the coordinator of any Committee. The Council can terminate the appointment of any coordinator or Committee member, at any time.

V. LANGUAGE

Article 19

The languages to be employed in all official business conducted by the Association are French, English and Spanish. In case of difficulties of interpretation of the Constitution and/or official documents of the Association, the French language will take precedence.

It is the responsibility of the Council to ensure that sufficient skills are available in the Council in order to address the Association's official languages and cultural issues.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

Article 20

The Association is represented in legal agreements, including those where a public officer or a law official intervenes, and in legal actions, either by the President of the Association or by two Councillors.

Article 21

The financial year will run from 1 April to 31 March of each year.

Article 22

In case of voluntary dissolution of the Association, the GA will appoint two (2) liquidators and determine their powers.

Article 23

In case of voluntary or judicial dissolution of the Association at any time and for any reason, the net assets of the Association will be allocated to an Association involved in similar works and with similar aims to the Association, as agreed by the GA.

This decision will be taken by a simple majority (fifty percent (50%) plus one (1)) of the votes of the Members in attendance (present or represented).

Article 24

All decisions of the GA and of the Council are recorded in the form of minutes and signed by the President of the Association. The record is kept at the registered office where all Members and third parties may consult it.

Article 25

All that is not explicitly stated in this Constitution will be determined by Belgian Law, in particular the Belgian Law of non-profit organisations.

Made in Lingen (Ems), Germany, 28 June 2018

AITA/IATA asbl - Non-Profit Organisation

DRAFT CONSTITUTION Proposal 2

DRAFT CONSTITUTION – Proposal 2 - GA Lingen June 2018

Based on Block II proposals Monaco 2017, combining old constitution, byelaws and standing orders where possible, including decisions of GA Monaco 2017. This proposal solves the existing inconsistencies and adds simplifications. It includes the removal of the Affiliate Membership category. With the ability to research a prospective member online, and to assess their suitability for membership, this category is no longer considered necessary. In addition, inconsistencies of terminology between the current situation in the organisation and the current constitution - such as 'nation', 'country' and 'self-governing territories' have been removed. Further simplification is still possible as each member still has 6 votes in the GA.

I. NAME, REGISTERED OFFICE, PURPOSE AND DURATION

Article 1

The association is named "Association Internationale du Théâtre Amateur - International Amateur Theatre Association - Asociación Internacional del Teatro Amateur", in short "AITA/IATA asbl", hereinafter referred to as "the Association".

Article 2

The Association is constituted as a Belgian non-profit organisation, according to the Belgian Law of non-profit organisations (asbl-vzw) of 27 June 1921, as amended on 2 May 2002 (hereinafter referred to as "the Belgian Law of non-profit organisations").

The registered office of the Association is established in Belgium, at B-1000 Brussels, Maison de la Bellone, 46 rue de Flandre, in the judicial district of Brussels.

The registered number of the Association is 0863.683.050.

Article 3

The Association is formed for the purpose of:

- a) Fostering dramatic art by all theatrical groups of the world devoted, without remuneration, to artistic and cultural aims;
- b) Promoting by permanent international contact and relationships those activities common to its members;
- c) Co-ordinating the actions of its members in their purpose of enriching human experience and educating through the medium of theatre;
- d) Facilitating international exchanges between all groups belonging to amateur theatre.

To establish these aims, the Association will employ the following means:

- a) The organisation or participation in the organisation of international congresses, conferences, seminars, festivals, courses, exhibitions and any other activity;
- b) The publication or assistance in the publication and distribution of books, periodicals and stage plays;
- c) The maintenance of one or more support, information or study centres on amateur theatre;
- d) Co-operating with other international organisations having similar aims or devoted to theatre and culture in general.

The Association may undertake or support any initiative and organise any activity that may contribute to establishing its aims or objectives.

Article 4

The Association has been constituted for an unlimited period of time.

II. MEMBERSHIP

Article 5

The number of members of the Association is unlimited. Its minimum is fixed to three (3).

Article 6

The admission of National Centre Members is decided by the General Assembly (hereinafter referred to as the GA) following the proposition of the Council. The Council may grant provisional admission to new Members, which must, however, be confirmed at the next GA.

A National Centre Member (hereinafter referred to as a Member) is a network, a concentrator of activities, local and global, working proactively in the field of amateur theatre and an official body representing amateur theatre activity on a national basis, where "national" indicates a "nation" or "self-governing territory".

Article 7

All Members are required to pay the appropriate annual Membership Fee, relevant to their Membership category, as determined by the GA. The maximum amount of this Membership Fee is set at five thousand (5,000) Euro.

Non-payment of the Membership Fee will result in resignation by default of the Member.

III. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Article 8

A Member who is up to date with their membership payments is entitled to six (6) votes in the GA. A Member can delegate their votes by proxy to another Member. Each Member is limited to carrying one proxy.

A natural person can represent a maximum of two (2) Members.

Article 9

Resigning and resigned, suspended or expelled Members, as well as their heirs or those having rights over a deceased Member, have no rights over the assets of the Association. They cannot reclaim Membership Fees, claim or request statements, rendering of accounts, nor inventories. Neither can they affix seals or proceed to precautionary attachment ("saisie conservatoire").

Article 10

The legislative power of the Association is held by the GA. In accordance with Article 4 of the Belgian Law of non-profit organisations, powers that are exclusively reserved for the GA are the following:

- a) Alterations to the Constitution;
- b) The appointment and dismissal of Councillors and of the President of the Association;
- c) Granting discharge to Councillors regarding their obligations as Councillors of the Association;
- d) The approval of the budget and the accounts of the Association;
- e) The dissolution of the Association and the destination of the net assets of the Association following such dissolution;
- f) The expulsion of Members of the Association;
- g) The conversion of the Association into a company with a social purpose;
- h) All cases required by the articles of the Association.

In addition to the powers mentioned above, it is the authority of the GA to appoint one or more independent persons, who cannot be Councillors, as "third party" examiners of the accounts.

Article 11

The GA is chaired by the President of the Association or by any other chair appointed by the GA at the beginning of the GA.

Article 12

The President of the Association, on behalf of the Council, or upon request of at least one fifth (1/5) of the Members of the Association, will convene the GA by any appropriate means of communication as agreed by the Council. In both cases, notification which will include the draft agenda of the GA, will take place at least eight (8) weeks before the GA.

Any proposal to be considered by the GA must be supported by at least one twentieth (1/20) of the Members of the Association before it can be added to the agenda of the GA. Proposals must reach the Secretariat not later than four (4) weeks before the GA. The final agenda of the GA, containing all proposals by Members and all relevant documents, will be distributed to Members not later than two (2) weeks before the GA.

The GA can be held in any physical or digital format considered appropriate by Council. Voting procedures and/or systems in the GA are decided by the Council. Voting may be manual, postal, electronic or digital or by any means that the Council considers to be appropriate.

Abstentions and/or invalid votes are not taken into account when counting the votes and/or when defining majorities. Abstentions and/or invalid votes are not counted as a negative vote.

The GA can vote only on issues that are included in the Agenda.

Article 13

Attendance in the GA

Regardless of the number of Members in attendance (present or represented), the GA is **constitutionally valid**, except for the decisions relating to:

- a) alterations to the Constitution;
- b) changing the purpose of the Association
- c) the dissolution of the Association.

Decisions relating to alterations to the Constitution and the dissolution of the Association require the attendance of at least two thirds (2/3) of Members (present or represented).

A second GA may be called if, in compliance with Article 8 of the Belgian Law of non-profit organisations, the abovementioned attendance criteria are not met, regardless of the number of Members in attendance (present or represented). Such a second GA may not be held within sixteen (16) days following the first GA.

Decisions in the GA

All **decisions** are taken by a simple majority (fifty percent (50%) plus one (1)) of the votes of Members in attendance at the GA (present or represented), except, as is compliant with Article 7 of the Belgian Law of non-profit organisations, for decisions relating to:

- a) the expulsion of Members;
- b) alterations to the Constitution;
- c) changing the purpose of the Association;
- d) the dissolution of the Association.

Decisions relating to the expulsion of a Member, as well as decisions relating to alterations to the Constitution, will be taken by a majority of two thirds (2/3) of the votes of the Members in attendance (present or represented).

Decisions relating to alterations to the Constitution concerning the purpose of the Association, as well as decisions relating to the dissolution of the Association, require a majority of four fifths (4/5) of the votes of Members in attendance (present or represented).

IV. THE COUNCIL, COMMITTEES AND NETWORKS

Article 14

The GA delegates the governance and day-to-day management of the Association to the Council. The GA will, through an election process, appoint one (1) President and a maximum of eight (8) Councillors.

The President and the Councillors jointly form the Council. Their mandate ("the Mandate") is not remunerated by the Association.

The Council has the authority to appoint and dismiss from among the Councillors, officers as appropriate ("the Officers"), for example: Treasurer, Secretary, or any other function the Council considers appropriate.

Officers may resign or be dismissed from their assigned functions without effecting their Mandate as a Councillor.

The President and the Councillors of the Association are natural persons.

Article 15

The President of the Association and Councillors are elected for a mandated period of four (4) years ("the Mandate Term").

An individual can serve a maximum of three (3) consecutive Mandate Terms on the Council, of which a maximum of two (2) consecutive Mandate Terms as Councillor, or a maximum of two (2) consecutive Mandate Terms as President.

In exceptional circumstances, the GA can extend the Mandate Term of the President, a Councillor and/or several Councillors, for a period to be decided by the GA. This decision requires a majority of two thirds (2/3) of the Members in attendance at the GA (present or represented).

The Mandate of a Councillor and/or the President will cease:

- a) At the end of the Mandate Term;
- b) Should the GA decide to end the Mandate. This decision requires a simple majority by the GA;
- c) Upon receipt of a written resignation (by letter, email or any other form of text message) to the Council.

Should a Councillor (including the President) be unable to complete their Mandate irrespective of cause, this Mandate will count as a fully completed Mandate Term.

Should a position on the Council become vacant, owing to the death, incapacity or resignation of an appointed Councillor, the Council may appoint a temporary replacement until the following GA. The appointee will function as a Councillor without voting rights.

Article 16

The Council is convened by the President of the Association by any means that the Council considers appropriate and will meet at least twice between two GA's. The Council is constitutionally valid (quorate) if 5 out of 9 Councillors are present or represented.

Council meetings can be held in any physical or digital format considered appropriate by the Council. Voting procedures and/or systems during Council meetings are decided by the Council. Voting may be manual, postal, electronic or digital or by any means that the Council considers to be appropriate.

A Councillor can delegate their vote by proxy to another Councillor. Each Councillor can carry only one proxy.

Article 17

The Council has unlimited executive powers in matters relating to the governance and day-to-day management of the Association.

Unless a power is, under the Belgian Law of non-profit organisations or under this Constitution, explicitly stated to belong exclusively to the GA, all powers are under the authority of the Council.

The Council may appoint any contracted individual and determine their job description and remuneration.

The Council has the right to delegate the day-to-day management of the Association, including the authority of signature in relation to the day-to-day management, to any contracted individual.

Article 18

a) External relations

The Council can establish or terminate any operational relationship, at any time, with any appropriate party, natural person, de facto association or legal entity, in the interest of the Association. These operational relationships are called **Networks**.

b) Internal relations

The Council can establish or terminate, within the organisation, one or more **Committees**, where appropriate chaired by a coordinator or coordinating team. The Council will approve a Committee's internal rules.

The Council will appoint the members and the coordinator of any Committee. The Council can terminate the appointment of any coordinator or Committee member, at any time.

V. LANGUAGE

Article 19

The languages to be employed in all official business conducted by the Association are French, English and Spanish. In case of difficulties of interpretation of the Constitution and/or official documents of the Association, the French language will take precedence.

It is the responsibility of the Council to ensure that sufficient skills are available in the Council in order to address the Association's official languages and cultural issues.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

Article 20

The Association is represented in legal agreements, including those where a public officer or a law official intervenes, and in legal actions, either by the President of the Association or by two Councillors.

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Made in Lingen (Ems), Germany, 28 June 2018

AITA/IATA asbl - Non-Profit Organisation

DRAFT CONSTITUTION Proposal 3

DRAFT CONSTITUTION – Proposal 3 - GA Lingen June 2018

Based on Block II proposals Monaco 2017, combining old constitution, byelaws and standing orders where possible, including decisions of GA Monaco 2017. This version seals the proposals of Proposal 2. It adds an ultimate possibility to considerably simplify GA's by attributing one vote to each member in the GA.

I. NAME, REGISTERED OFFICE, PURPOSE AND DURATION

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Decisions relating to alterations to the Constitution and the dissolution of the Association require the attendance of at least two thirds (2/3) of Members (present or represented).

A second GA may be called if, in compliance with Article 8 of the Belgian Law of non-profit organisations, the abovementioned attendance criteria are not met, regardless of the number of Members in attendance (present or represented). Such a second GA may not be held within sixteen (16) days following the first GA.

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IV. THE COUNCIL, COMMITTEES AND NETWORKS

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The GA delegates the governance and day-to-day management of the Association to the Council. The GA will, through an election process, appoint one (1) President and a maximum of eight (8) Councillors.

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The Council has the authority to appoint and dismiss from among the Councillors, officers as appropriate ("the Officers"), for example: Treasurer, Secretary, or any other function the Council considers appropriate.

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In exceptional circumstances, the GA can extend the Mandate Term of the President, a Councillor and/or several Councillors, for a period to be decided by the GA. This decision requires a majority of two thirds (2/3) of the Members in attendance at the GA (present or represented).

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A Councillor can delegate their vote by proxy to another Councillor. Each Councillor can carry only one proxy.

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The Council has unlimited executive powers in matters relating to the governance and day-to-day management of the Association.

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The Council has the right to delegate the day-to-day management of the Association, including the authority of signature in relation to the day-to-day management, to any contracted individual.

Article 18

c) External relations

The Council can establish or terminate any operational relationship, at any time, with any appropriate party, natural person, de facto association or legal entity, in the interest of the Association. These operational relationships are called **Networks**.

d) Internal relations

The Council can establish or terminate, within the organisation, one or more **Committees**, where appropriate chaired by a coordinator or coordinating team. The Council will approve a Committee's internal rules.

The Council will appoint the members and the coordinator of any Committee. The Council can terminate the appointment of any coordinator or Committee member, at any time.

V. LANGUAGE

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The financial year will run from 1 April to 31 March of each year.

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In case of voluntary dissolution of the Association, the GA will appoint two (2) liquidators and determine their powers.

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In case of voluntary or judicial dissolution of the Association at any time and for any reason, the net assets of the Association will be allocated to an Association involved in similar works and with similar aims to the Association, as agreed by the GA.

This decision will be taken by a simple majority (fifty percent (50%) plus one (1)) of the votes of the Members in attendance (present or represented).

Article 24

All decisions of the GA and of the Council are recorded in the form of minutes and signed by the President of the Association. The record is kept at the registered office where all Members and third parties may consult it.

Article 25

All that is not explicitly stated in this Constitution will be determined by Belgian Law, in particular the Belgian Law of non-profit organisations.

Made in Lingen (Ems), Germany, 28 June 2018

AITA/AITA Registered Address in Article 2 of the Constitution: council's proposal for change

On 11 June Members received an email about a revision to the AITA/IATA asbl change of address which is detailed in **Article 2** of the Proposed Constitution (and also in **Article 2** of the current Constitution).

Because the current Registered Address of B-1000 Brussels, Maison de la Bellone, 46 rue de Flandre no longer functions, Council proposed to revise **Article 2** to read as follows:

Article 2

The Association is constituted as a Belgian non-profit organisation, according to the Belgian Law of non-profit organisations (asbl-vzw) of 27 June 1921, as amended on 2 May 2002 (hereinafter referred to as "the Belgian Law of non-profit organisations").

The registered office of the Association is established in Belgium, Rue Washington, 40 – 1050 Brussels, in the judicial district of Brussels. It is at Council's discretion to change the Registered address of the Association if necessary, subject to the approval of the General Assembly following the change.

The registered number of the Association is 0863.683.050.

This address is the office of FAIB - Federation of European & International Association established in Belgium, to which AITA/IATA will become a Member and who will forward all mail addressed to AITA/AITA.

The AITA/IATA Solidarity Fund - Council's proposal for change

The Solidarity Fund was first established by the GA 1999 in El Jadida, however, the purpose has not been changed since then, i.e. to enable Council to waive membership fees for national centres and affiliate national centres which are not able to pay, once or more. Procedures and financing of the Fund have changed several times during these almost 20 years.

It is the position of the present Council that after the considerable lowering of fees by the GA 2015 in Ypres, there is no need for a Solidarity Fund with that specific purpose. It does not mean that a national centre in urgent need of funding will not be able to ask for a waiver, however, it should be a decision that Council will show in the Profit & Lost accounts of that particular year and motivate in connection with the approval of these accounts.

The present provision in the Solidarity Fund amounts to Euro 12,698 as of 31 December 2017, and of today.

Council proposes:

- a. that the GA decides to change the purpose of the Solidarity Fund
- b. that the new purpose is to support specific actions to further the mission of AITA/IATA in connection with important events throughout the world such as festivals, workshops, courses, meetings, provided they are of international importance
- c. that the primary focus of the Solidarity Fund will be countries or areas in category II, III, and IV of the membership fee levels
- d. that grants to events in category I countries or areas can only be provided under extra-ordinary circumstances or when Council consider the specific action to be of decisive importance to the world associations and its mission

Villy Dall,

Treasurer

AITA/IATA asbl Council 2017 - 2019

Council

President	Rob Van Genechten (Belgium, Flanders)
Councillor (Vice President)	Tim Jebesen (United States)
Councillor (Treasurer)	Villy Dall (Denmark)
Councillor	Aled Rhys-Jones (Great Britain)
Councillor	Pierre Cellario (Monaco)
Councillor	Cyril Walter (France)
Councillor	Sofia Wegelius (Finland)
Councillor	Christel Gbaguidi
Councillor	Harald Volker Sommer

AITA/IATA asbl Council Meetings 2017 – 2018

Since the last World Congress in Monaco, in August 2017, the Council of AITA/IATA asbl has met:

- August 2017 Monaco (post-GA Council meeting)
- November 2017 Prague, Czech Republic
- February 2018 Sancti Spiritus & Fomento, Cuba
- May 2018 London, England
- June 2018 Lingen (pre-GA Council meeting)

Current Membership of AITA/IATA asbl

AITA/IATA asbl Membership Figures at 1 June 2018⁹:

- National Centres 31 Paid by 31 March 2018 or, with the agreement of Council, by an extended deadline of 1 June 2018
- Affiliates 2¹⁰ Paid by 31 March 2018 or, with the agreement of Council, by an extended deadline of 1 June 2018
- Associates 54 Paid by 31 March 2018, or with the agreement of Council by an extended deadline of 1 June 2018

Countries and territories represented 55

Associates to 1 June 2018:

Since the end of July 2017, 14 new Associates have joined AITA/IATA asbl

New Membership Applications 2017 – 2018 to be Ratified by the General Assembly:

Nigeria: ASSITEJ Nigeria

Affiliates to be Ratified as a National Centre:

None

⁹ Payments accepted until 1 June 2018 with the agreement of Council. No payments will be accepted in Lingen.

¹⁰ Includes The Faroes, a permanent Affiliate

AITA/IATA asbl Finance 2017-2019

To delegates at the General Assembly 2018

Statements of Profit & Loss as well as Balance for 2017

- The Statement of Profit & Loss for 2017
- The Statement of Balance as of 31 December 2017
- The Account Controllers' reports for 2017

On behalf of the AITA/IATA asbl Council as Treasurer, I submit the accounts for your approval.

Membership Fees for 2018 and 2019

NB: Council's proposal of revised budgets for 2018 and 2019 is based on the membership and subscription fees that were approved by the 2017 General Assembly.

At the 2015 GA, Council proposed a reduction in the Membership Fee and Associate Subscription Fees in order to attract more members and to ensure affordability for members during the coming years. We may conclude that this decision has been successful, even though the level of income has not yet reached the previous level.

It will take some years to attract the same amount of income as was previously achieved as fees. However, at present, the Association has sufficient reserves to support the situation until 31 December 2019.

Proposed Revision of Budgets for 2018 and 2019

As you will observe from the balances in the above-mentioned documents, AITA/IATA asbl is still in relatively good financial health, however, its assets would run out in less than five years without a source of income. To maintain the status quo, the Association needs an annual income of approximately € 20,000.

Attached please find Council's proposed revision of the budget for 2018 and 2019 as they were approved by the 2017 General Assembly. The revisions are based partly on new information and partly on the fact that the Association is now going to have an annual General Assembly regardless of the decision on constitutional changes.

In particular, the budget for 2018 is – as well as the accounts for 2017 – affected by the necessary investment in preserving the Association's archives for all its 66 years of existence.

Hurup Thy, Denmark, 6 June 2018

VILLY DALL

Treasurer

AITA/IATA asbl Income & Expenditure 2017

<i>All amounts in Euros €</i>	INC/EXP 2017
<i>INCOME</i>	
SUM Membership fees	€ 11,700.60
National centres	€ 10,525.00
Affiliated members	€ 1,175.60
Waivers granted	€ -
SUM Subscription fees	€ 3,838.11
Associated groups	€ 3,128.11
Associated persons	€ 710.00
SUM Financial income	€ -
General grants	€ -
Earmarked grants	€ -
SUM Financial income	€ 68.89
Bank interests (after tax)	€ 68.89
Realised exchange gains	€ -
SUM Extraordinary Inc	€ 6,593.26
Income from Festivals	€ 6,593.26
Other extraordinary Income	€ -
TOTAL Income	€ 22,200.86
<i>EXPENSES</i>	
SUM Personal	€ 12,000.00
Salaries	€ -
Subcontracting	€ 12,000.00
Other expenses*	€ -
SUM Office expenses	€ 5,948.31
Housing	€ -
Office expenses	€ 75.00
Stationery	€ -
Printing costs	€ -
Postage & freight	€ 93.06
Telephone	€ 526.41
Internet & Web	€ 949.27
Archives	€ 4,304.57
SUM Running costs	€ 4,129.21

Registration Belgium	€	150.00
Auditing	€	-
Congresses	€	3,829.21
Translations	€	-
Other organisations	€	150.00
Other expenses	€	-
SUM Operation costs	€	8,152.60
Meeting expenses	€	3,555.11
Travel expenses & grants	€	3,312.42
SC Children & Youth	€	1,285.07
Representation	€	-
SUM Expenses from Alloc Funds	€	2,500.00
Expenses C & E Fund	€	2,500.00
Expenses Solidarity Fund	€	-
Expenses SCCF	€	-
SUM Financial costs	€	428.37
Interests	€	(25.18)
Fees	€	362.06
Realised exchange losses	€	91.49
SUM Depreciation	€	195.41
Depreciations	€	195.41
TOTAL Expenses	€	33,353.90
Profit or Loss	€	(11,153.04)

The Statement of Balance at 31 December 2016 & 2017

<i>All amounts in Euros €</i>	BAL 2017	BAL 2016	Change
ASSETS			
SUM Fixed assets	€ -	€ 195.41	€ (195.41)
Tangible assets	€ -	€ 195.41	€ (195.41)
SUM Current assets	€ 117,827.07	€ 127,126.97	€ (9,299.90)
Investments	€ -	€ -	€ -
Bank 1: Current account	€ 6,460.76	€ 1,700.21	€ 4,760.55
Bank 2: Special account	€ -	€ -	€ -
Bank 3: Savings account	€ 110,799.12	€ 124,705.05	€ (13,905.93)
Cash Treasury	€ 81.62	€ 368.92	€ (287.30)
Cash Secretariat	€ 73.39	€ 73.39	€ -
Differences	€ -	€ -	€ -
PayPal account	€ 412.18	€ 279.40	€ 132.78
SUM Accruals	€ -	€ 1,855.75	€ (1,855.75)
Accruals	€ -	€ 1,855.75	€ (1,855.75)
TOTAL ASSETS	€ 117,827.07	€ 129,178.13	€ (11,351.06)
LIABILITIES			€ -
SUM Net worth incl Desig Funds	€ 113,684.08	€ 124,837.12	€ (11,153.04)
Net worth ingoing	€ 105,647.08	€ 113,142.07	€ (7,494.99)
Profit and loss outgoing	€ (16,254.30)	€ (7,494.99)	€ (8,759.31)
Old USD account cancelled *	€ -	€ -	€ -
SUM allocated Funds	€ 24,291.30	€ 19,190.04	€ 5,101.26
Funds Culture and Education	€ 5,000.00	€ 6,492.00	€ (1,492.00)
Funds Solidarity Fund	€ 12,698.04	€ 12,698.04	€ -
Funds SCCY	€ 6,593.26	€ -	€ 6,593.26
SUM Debts	€ -	€ -	€ -
Long term debts	€ -	€ -	€ -
Short term debts	€ -	€ -	€ -
SUM Accruals	€ 4,142.99	€ 4,341.01	€ (198.02)
Accruals	€ 4,092.99	€ 4,216.01	€ (123.02)
CEC Fees	€ 50.00	€ 125.00	€ (75.00)
TOTAL LIABILITIES	€ 117,827.07	€ 129,178.13	€ (11,351.06)

RESULT ATTRIBUTION	
Profit or Loss	€ (11,153.04)
SUM Withdrawals from allocated funds	€ 2,500.00
Withdrawals C & E Fund	€ 2,500.00
Withdrawals Solidarity Fund	€ -
Withdrawals SCCY	€ -
SUM Transfers to allocated Funds	€ 7,601.26
Transfers C & E Fund	€ 1,008.00
Transfers Solidarity Fund	€ -
Transfers SCCF	€ 6,593.26
Profit or Loss Carried forward BY	€ (16,254.30)
Profit or Loss previous years	€ 105,647.08
Total Profit or Loss Carried forward	€ 89,392.78

Cash Statement at 31 December 2017

Cash Position start Bookyear		€ 127,126.97	X
Tot MF	€ 11,700.60		
Tot Subs	€ 3,838.11		
Tot Fin Inc	€ 68.89		
Tot Extraordinary Income	€ 6,593.26		
Tot Pers	€ (12,000.00)		
Tot Office	€ (5,948.31)		
Tot run	€ (4,129.21)		
Tot op cost	€ (8,152.60)		
Tot expenses from Funds	€ (2,500.00)		
Tot fin costs	€ (428.37)		
Total cash movements inc/exp		€ (10,957.63)	A
Change accruals assets	€ 1,855.75		
Change accruals liabilities	€ (198.02)		
Total cash movements balance		€ 1,657.73	B
Total cash movements bookyear	€ (9,299.90)	€ (9,299.90)	Y = A+B
Cash Position end Bookyear		€ 117,827.07	X+Y
Cash Position in Balance sheet		€ 117,827.07	
		€ -	CHECK
allocated Ch & Edu			
start book year	€ 6,492.00		
addition to fund	€ 1,008.00		
withdrawal from fund (ÖBV)	€ (2,500.00)		
end book year	€ 5,000.00		
total change fund	€ (1,492.00)		AA
allocated SF			
start book year	€ 12,698.04		
addition to fund	€ -		
withdrawal from fund (ÖBV)	€ -		
end book year	€ 12,698.04		
total change fund	€ -		BB
allocated SCCY			
start bookyear	€ -		
addition to fund	€ 6,593.26		
withdrawal from fund	€ -		
end book year	€ 6,593.26		
total change fund	€ 6,593.26		CC
TOTAL allocated FUNDS			
start bookyear	€ 19,190.04		
addition to funds	€ 7,601.26		
withdrawal from funds	€ (2,500.00)		
end book year	€ 24,291.30		
total change fund	€ 5,101.26		AA+BB+CC

Account Controllers' Reports 2017

Background

Article 19 of the Bye-Laws was revised at the 2013 General Assembly to introduce two account controllers to oversee the finances of AITA/IATA asbl. Ivar Christiansen and Dympna Murray were both ratified to the roles at the General Assembly. A draw took place and it was agreed that Ivar would serve for two years and Dympna for four years. Dirk De Corte was ratified at the 2015 General Assembly to serve for four years. Mats Wenlöf was ratified as a replacement for Dympna Murray at the 2017 General Assembly.

###---###

Dirk De Corte, Belgium, and Mats Wenlöf, Sweden, confirm:

Ghent/Stockholm, 4 May 2018

Dirk De Corte/Mats Wenlöf

We have examined the financial statements of AITA/IATA asbl for the year ended 31 December 2017 which comprised the Profit and Loss Account, The Balance Sheet and related notes together with supporting accounting reports and copies of Bank Statements. We have also been supplied with copies of all Council Meeting Minutes which outlined decisions taken in regard to financial transactions in 2017.

We have obtained all the information and explanations that we considered necessary to carry out our role as Account Controller and can confirm that proper books of account have been kept by AITA/IATA asbl, the financial statements are in agreement with the books of accounts, and that those financial statements are compliant with Belgian Accounting Practices for Not for Profit Organisations (*verenigingen zonder winstoogmerk-associations sans but lucratif*).



Signature
Dirk De Corte



Signature
Mats Wenlöf

Council's Proposed Revision of AITA/IATA asbl Budget

Profit and Loss 2018-2019

	Approved 2018	Approved 2019	Proposed 2018	Proposed 2019
INCOME:				
Fees National Centres	€ 11,000.00	€ 11,000.00	€ 11,000.00	€ 11,000.00
Fees Affiliated Members	€ 700.00	€ 700.00	€ 700.00	€ 700.00
Grants	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -
Waivers granted	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -
SUM Membership fees	€ 11,700.00	€ 11,700.00	€ 11,700.00	€ 11,700.00
Fees Associate Groups	€ 2,500.00	€ 2,500.00	€ 3,300.00	€ 3,300.00
Fees Associate Individuals	€ 500.00	€ 500.00	€ 700.00	€ 700.00
SUM Subscription fees	€ 3,000.00	€ 3,000.00	€ 4,000.00	€ 4,000.00
Bank interests	€ 300.00	€ 300.00	€ 50.00	€ 50.00
Realised exchange gains	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -
SUM Financial income	€ 300.00	€ 300.00	€ 50.00	€ 50.00
TOTAL Income	€ 15,000.00	€ 15,000.00	€ 15,750.00	€ 15,750.00
EXPENSES:				
Subcontracting Secretariat	€ 10,000.00	€ 12,000.00	€ 12,000.00	€ 12,000.00
SUM Personnel	€ 10,000.00	€ 12,000.00	€ 12,000.00	€ 12,000.00
Misc Office Expenses	€ 50.00	€ 50.00	€ -	€ -
Stationery	€ 50.00	€ 50.00	€ -	€ -
Printing	€ 100.00	€ 100.00	€ -	€ -
Postage & freight	€ 200.00	€ 200.00	€ 100.00	€ 100.00
Telephone	€ 400.00	€ 400.00	€ 500.00	€ 500.00
Internet & web	€ 200.00	€ 200.00	€ 400.00	€ 400.00
Archives	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€ 6,600.00	€ -
SUM Office expenses	€ 2,000.00	€ 2,000.00	€ 7,600.00	€ 1,000.00
Registration Belgium	€ -	€ 150.00	€ 150.00	€ 150.00
Auditing	€ -	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00
Forum/congress	€ -	€ 1,800.00	€ 1,800.00	€ 1,800.00
Other organisations	€ 125.00	€ 125.00	€ 150.00	€ 150.00
Other expenses	€ 100.00	€ 100.00	€ 75.00	€ 75.00
SUM Running costs	€ 225.00	€ 3,175.00	€ 3,175.00	€ 3,175.00
Meeting expenses	€ 5,000.00	€ 5,000.00	€ 5,000.00	€ 5,000.00
Travel expenses & grants	€ 5,000.00	€ 5,000.00	€ 5,000.00	€ 5,000.00
SCCY	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00
Representation	€ 500.00	€ 500.00	€ 500.00	€ 500.00
SUM Operation costs	€ 11,500.00	€ 11,500.00	€ 11,500.00	€ 11,500.00
Bank fees	€ 300.00	€ 300.00	€ 300.00	€ 300.00
Realised exchange losses	€ 150.00	€ 150.00	€ 150.00	€ 150.00
SUM Financial costs	€ 450.00	€ 450.00	€ 450.00	€ 450.00
Depreciations	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Expenses	€ 24,175.00	€ 29,125.00	€ 37,225.00	€ 37,225.00
DEFICIT	€ (9,175.00)	€ (14,125.00)	€ (21,475.00)	€ (14,875.00)
(Net worth at December 31, 2017: EUR 89,393)				



CEC – Central European Committee Report August 2017 – June 2018

Dear Friends and Colleagues from around the World,

In August 2017 in Monaco at the CEC AITA GA, the new Board of CEC was selected. The members of the new CEC Board are:

Alla Zorina, Russia – President

Kevin Dowsett, Great Britain – Secretary General and Treasurer

Janos Regös, Hungary – Artistic Coordinator

For such a short period of time we managed to do the following:

- in November 2017 in Prague there was a meeting of the new Board with the former President of CEC Lenka Laznovska and former Secretary General of CEC Karel Tomas. The next meeting of the Board will be held in June in Lingen, Germany within the framework of the World Festival of Children's Theatre;
- in Lingen we will present the Honorary Diploma of CEC (est. 2017) to the former President of CEC Lenka Laznovska for her longstanding work in the Central European Committee of AITA and personal contribution to the development of international cooperation in the field of amateur theater;
- at the suggestion of CEC, the International project 'Playing one play' started, and it will continue in 2018 and 2019. This project is based on the play 'Jubilee' by Anton Chekhov. Theatre companies from Russia, Latvia and Lithuania announced their participation in this project;
- at the suggestion of CEC, on 21-27 August 2018 in Finland there will be held International practical training 'Method of Konstantin Stanislavsky Today'. The participants will be from Germany (8 people), Great Britain (2), Russia (6), Finland (5), Greece (1), Denmark (1), USA (2), Canada (3);
- the CEC Board selected the theatre company from Great Britain which will represent CEC at the NEATA festival in Lithuania in August 2018;
- representatives of the CEC Board will take part in the CIFTA and NEATA festivals in August, 2018.

President of the CEC AITA

Alla Zorina



NARA – North American Theatre Alliance Report

USA

The American Association of Community Theatre (AACT) International festival will take place for the third time at Venice (Florida) Theatre from June 18-23, 2018. Twelve troupes from around the world will present productions, and the AACT board and committees will hold their summer meetings.

Canada

The 14th Biennial Liverpool International Theatre Festival will take place 18 – 21 October 2018. The four-day festival showcases outstanding amateur theatre from across North America and around the world. In past years participants from Japan, Belgium, Ireland, Georgia, Italy, Russia, Denmark, Germany and many other countries, have performed in Liverpool.

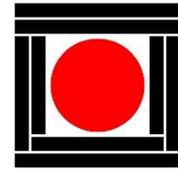
NARA is represented on the council by Tim Jebsen.

Timetable 2018

To prepare for the General Assembly of 2018, Council will proceed according to the following timetable, which is limited to change only within the Articles of the Bye-laws and the Standing Orders of the General Assembly.

- **25 February 2018:** date by when Members received the first call of the General Assembly by email.
- **20 April 2018:** date by when proposals to the General Assembly must be made.
- **27 April 2018:** date by when the statutory documents (in accordance with the Standing Orders of the General Assembly) were sent to Members.

Delegates official nomination form: AITA/IATA asbl 34th General Assembly, June 2018



Each National Centre or Affiliate Member can nominate delegates to the 34th General Assembly of AITA/IATA asbl.

Under the current constitution, each delegation of a National Centre that has paid its 2017 and 2018 membership fees, will carry 6 votes for all proceedings, regardless of the number of delegates attending. Under the current constitution, each delegation from an Affiliate Member, in order with its 2017 and 2018 membership fees, will carry 2 votes.

Please list the delegates attending the General Assembly below and validate this by the signature of the President or Secretary General or Treasurer of your organisation. **The name of the delegate entitled to receive the voting slips must be underlined.**

Please return the voting slips by 9 June 2018

List of delegates

1

.....

2

.....

3

.....

4

.....

5

.....

6

.....

7

.....

8

.....

Certified by

Name :

Signature :

Position :

**Voting by Proxy: 34th AITA/IATA asbl
General Assembly June 2018,**



To: President Rob Van Genechten

I write on behalf of the Member of AITA/IATA asbl who is not able to attend the Forum and General Assembly of AITA/IATA asbl in Lingen, Germany.

.....
(name of Member not able to attend)

I declare that the Member has paid the 2017 and 2018 Fee.

On behalf of the Member I would like to delegate our / my vote(s) by proxy to the following Member who **has agreed that** they are willing to carry our votes¹¹

.....
(name of the Member who will carry the proxy votes)

Signed :

Position in Organisation (if applies) :
(President or Secretary)

Date :

Please email this form to the AITA/IATA asbl Secretariat secretariat@aitaiata.org by **15 June 2018**

Anne Gilmour
Secretariat AITA/IATA asbl
secretariat@aitaiata.org

¹¹ Please note that AITA/IATA asbl Council Members may **not** receive proxy votes under the current Constitution. If you need assistance to identify or to contact a representative from a National Centre or Affiliate Member who will attend the World Congress and General Assembly in Lingen, please contact the Secretariat.