



Report on the AITA/IATA Council Meeting 3 December 2024 by Zoom

Dear National Centre & Associate Members

Introduction - On 3 December 2024, AITA/IATA Council members held a Council Meeting by Zoom. President Aled Rhys-Jones chaired the meeting. Contact details of Council Members are on the AITA/IATA Website [HERE](#).

1. *AITA/IATA Council Meeting 16 – 19 January 2025, Brixen Sud-Tyrol* - Council reviewed the arrangements for the first face-to-face meeting to be held since November / December 2023 meeting held in Texas, USA in. At the January meeting, Councillors to look at: Marketing & AITA/IATA Merchandise; Fundraising; and the future composition of Council in the light of the 2025 General Assembly.
2. *Children & Youth* – Sofia Wegelius noted the success of the Zoom forum discussion with young people. It was clear they wanted future events to be face-to-face and not online. Council discussed the option of bringing them together alongside the 2025 EDERED Encounter being held 14 – 24 August 2025 in Brixen, Italy and travelling on to Monaco to perform at the AITA/IATA Mondial du Theatre. A costed proposal will be considered by Council at the January meeting.
3. *Legal and Finance* – Council considered a document drafted by Dirk De Corte, former AITA/IATA Treasurer, which outlined the various legal requirements and documents that an asbl registered in Belgium was required to adhere to and complete. Council also noted that the AITA/IATA finances were on track and that invoices for the 2024 – 2025 Fees would go out in January 2025.
4. *New Members* – Sofia suggested that new Members of AITA/IATA were asked to produce a short video in which they could say a little about themselves and why they wanted to join an international organisation. Aled was encouraging the FITAS Festival in Agadir Morocco to become an Associate Member and hoped the festival's director would visit to the Mondial du Theatre in August 2025 and speak about his festival.
 - a. Council reviewed the applications for Membership of AITA/IATA received since the last meeting and agreed that they were suitable candidates and should be sent an invoice for the fee. Information about all Members who had joined since the last GA would be put to the 2025 GA for formal acceptance by delegates.
5. *Masterclass programme 2024 / 2025* – Sofia confirmed the next online event would be held on 25 January 2025 on *The Different Phases of Theatre Writing* presented by Jean-Paul Alègre. The following event would be in Spanish and was being organised through Councillor Carlos Taberneiro.



6. *AITA/IATA Mondial du Theatre, Monaco* – Aled reported that AITA/IATA had been represented on the Selection Committee by himself, Sofia, Patrick Schoenstein, and Kelly McCloud-Schingen. Monaco was represented by Pierre, Patrice, and Béatrice Cellario and Hélène Piel-Laureti, Administrative Secretary. The 71 applications from 47 countries were all carefully considered, and 18 groups were selected with a further three in reserve. It had been possible to select a wide range of good quality productions, and all were now listed on the Mondial website.

a. One of the two workshop leaders had been selected. The colloques would be led by Sanna Saarela, who had led them in Debrecen, and Lilian Lloyd who held events at the Avignon festival.

b. The Monaco draft programme was on the Mondial website and showed the General Assembly to be held on Saturday 23 August with the Red and White Soirée that evening. The closing Soirée would be on 27 August with departures on 28 August. Only two venues would be used, the Princes Grace Theatre and the Théâtre des Variétés.

7. *AITA/IATA Elections* - Council noted the existing empty place on Council and that three serving Councillors were up for re-election. They needed to inform Council by the end of the year if they wished to re-stand. Aled wished to encourage candidates to consider standing.

8. *AITA/IATA Festival 2027 – Wellington New Zealand* - the event had been proposed by Paul Percy of Theatre New Zealand and arrangements were in the early stages, but an outline budget had been drawn up. This would also be the 75th anniversary of AITA/IATA and Council noted the need to involve AITA/IATA Members in such an event. Aled would visit New Zealand in February to review the venues and arrangements and gather information.

9. *Lingen Festival of Children's Theatre, 27 June – 4 July 2025* – Aled thought that the 15-strong selection panel, which included from AITA/IATA Aled, Sofia, and Heidi Troi had chosen a good geographic spread of groups of good quality and he anticipated a good festival. Joke Quaghebeur of Opendoek had attended as part of her preparation for hosting the AITA/IATA World Festival of Children's Theatre in Antwerp 2026.

10. *Future meetings* – After the January 2025 Meeting, a Zoom meeting to be held in late spring to confirm arrangements for Monaco.

The Council of AITA/IATA offers best wishes and good health to all Members.

The Council of AITA/IATA

December 2024