

Record of the 15th Meeting of the General Assembly (20 December 2024)

On 20 December 2024, the General Assembly of the Global Network of Water Museums met online, starting at 2 pm CEST, to discuss the following Order of Business:

1. Opening of the meeting and appointment of the Chair
2. Approval of the Record of last General Assembly (June 2024)
3. Presentation of and welcome to new WAMU-NET Members (2nd semester 2024)
4. Summary report on the main achievements and activities carried out in 2024
5. Activities planned for 2025
6. Start of two new EU-funded projects: 'Soil Tribes' (Horizon) and 'AquaMotion' (S+T+ARTS)
7. Approval of 2025 annual Memberships
8. Status of 2024 annual Membership contributions (received until Nov. 30th)
9. Approval of the Forecast Budget for the year 2025 (art.16)
10. AOB - Proposals and suggestions from the members
11. Closing of the meeting

Members who are present (online):

Ahmed Sara, Living Waters Museum, India; Ambrosi Turbay Luisa, Yaku Parque Museo del Agua, Ecuador; Anguiano Gomez Alan Jazael, Museo Interactivo del Agua 'Iurhekua', Mexico; Bangde Yang, Baiheliang Underwater Museum, China; Pena Naval Liliana, Brazilian Water Museum, Brazil; Calvi Benigno, Martesana Ecomuseum, Italy; Cernelic Kroselj Alenka, The Posavje Museum Brežice, Slovenia; Croitoru Victor Lucian, Water Museum 'Leonida Truta', Romania; Crowe Deirdre, Water Museum of Ireland; De Laet Hilde, Hidrodoe Pidpa, Belgium; Hendrick Aude, Brussels Sewer Museum, Belgium; Italy; El Mandour Abdennabi, Musée Mohamed VI de la Civilisation de l'Eau au Maroc 'Mohammed VI', Morocco; Eulisse Eriberto, Water Museum of Venice, Italy; Fernandes Ruben, Parque das Águas, Águas e Energia do Porto, Portugal; Capati Alessandro, Hydra Multimedia Museum of Marmore Waterfalls, Terni, Italy; Herrerias Gisela, Museo del Agua 'Agua para Siempre', Mexico; Elham Raei, Yazd Water Museum, Iran; Kabir Farah, Water Museum, Bangladesh; Snabilie Hugo, Broekerveiling Water Museum, The Netherlands; Laforgia Domenico, Water Palace / Apulian Aqueduct, Italy; Lee-Ninioja Hee Sook, Subong Aqua Flores, Indonesia; Leordean Loredana, Aquatim, Romania; Marquisio Caceres Adriana, OSE Water Museum, Uruguay; Martinez Torres Osvaldo, National Institute of Hydraulic Resources (INRH), Havana, Cuba; Maruškić Kulaš Margarita, Aquatika Karlovac, Croatia; Moors Eddy, IHE Delft, Unesco C2C, The Netherlands; Rashad Salim, Safina Projects, Iraq; Rodes Javier, Museos de Mequinenza, Spain; Rovira Pujol David, AGBAR Museu de les Aigües, Spain; Alexander Borg, GHAIN - National Conservation Awareness Centre, Malta; Schultz Ellen Freedman, Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center, Philadelphia, USA; Schwartzstein Judith, Catskill Water Discovery Center, USA; Scoullios Michael, HYDRIA Network, Greece; Tosi Antonio, TE.AM International Study Center for Territory and Environment, Naples, Italy; Christopher Wilkie, Canadian Museum of Water, Port McNicoll, Canada; Wieriks Koos, Nederlands Watermuseum, Arnhem, The Netherlands; Yongming Chen, National Water Museum of China, Hangzhou, China; Rosso Rogerio, International Water Memorial, MINA- ADASA, Brasilia, Brazil; Daniela Fajardo, Parque Ambiental Corazón de Pance, Cali, Colombia; Daniel Manyaka, Musée de l'Eau de Siga-Bonjo, Cameroun; Ai-Lin Chen, Museum of Drinking Water, Taipei, Taiwan; Alioune Deme, Musée de l'Eau de Dakar, Senegal; Kerr-Wilson Ian, Canada; Ruf Thierry, France.

Members who are not present (justified absentees):

Almenar Cubells Francisco, Tribunal de les Aigües de la Vega de Valencia, Spain; Becker Christoph, Historisches Klaufwerk Krefeld, Germany; Bernabè Tonino, IDRO-Ecomuseum of Ridracoli / Acque di Romagna, Forlì-Cesena, Italy; Bernardi Massimo, MUSE Science Museum of Trento, Italy; Boaretto

Emanuele, Y-40 The Deep Joy and Spa, Montegrotto Terme, Italy; Bolognesi Andrea, Opificio delle Acque / Water Factory of Bologna, Italy; Braun Ralf, Water Museum of Bavaria 'Haus am Strom', Germany; Bresciani Carmela, Ecomuseo delle Judicarie, Italy; Buisman Jurjaen, Museum Geelwinck, The Netherlands; Castro-Henriques Mariana, Museo de l'Agua, Lisbon, Portugal; Chilesi Barbara, Museum of the Rice Fields, Rivers, and Rural Landscape of Mantua, Italy; Damon Betsy, Keepers of the Waters, USA; Dodiță-Farcaș Daniel, Casa Apei / House of Water, Romania; Dragone Simone, Milan Water Plant; Frangin Claude, Water in Lyon and the Cornish Pump, France; Fusco Fabiana, University of Udine, Italy; Galeazzo Lamberto, MAAP Environmental Archaeological Museum of the Waters of Padua, Italy; Galli Marco, Ecomuseo Adda di Leonardo, Italy; Gargano Massimo, ANBI, Italy; Gatti Giovanni, ADEP / Autonomous Province of Trento, Italy; Gottardi Marco, Regional Park Po Delta, Veneto, Italy; Haliori Ketii, World Water Museum, Greece; Horvath Istvan, Duna Museum, Hungary; Hügli Regina, One Body of Water Association, Austria; Hulshof Harry, Water Museum of Den Bosch / Kring Vrienden van 's-Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands; Iamiceli Marco, Paese dell'Acqua, Sassinoro, Italy; Iovine Raffaele, Water Museum of Naples 'Lapis', Italy; Jiroušková Šárka, Historical Wastewater Treatment Plant, Czech Republic; Kiselinov Nicola, Water Museum of Ohrid, Macedonia; Li Kathryn, Museums Victoria, Bunjilaka Aboriginal Culture Centre, Melbourne, Australia; Lynge Hein David, Grundfos Museum, Denmark; Londinsky Nicolas, Musée des Egouts, Paris; Marbaix Julie, Musée de l'Eau et de la Fontaine, Belgium; Marchi Luca, The Valley of Mills, Castelnuovo Magra, Italy; Mikolji Yelka, Green Earth Alliance, USA; Mizzan Luca, Natural History Museum of Venice, Italy; Ottaiano Giuseppe, MUMAC Multimedia Museum of Campania's Waters, Naples, Italy; Pagano Fabio, Campi Flegrei Archaeological National Park, Naples, Italy; Poelina Anne, Martuwarra Fitzroy River, Australia; Razzini Andrea, The Aqueduct Museum of Venice / Veritas, Italy; Said Al-Mesnad Fatima, Kahramaa Water Awareness Park, Qatar; Samoura Alassane, Musée de l'Eau de Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso; Sciarra Marco, The Well of the Quarry, Italy; Serra Giménez Eudald, Museu de l'Aigua i el Textil, Spain; Sharroks Amy, Museum of Water, UK; Singha Sushmita, Water Museum of Udaipur, India; Tardani Roberta, Pozzo di San Patrizio, Orvieto, Italy; Topcu Ercan, Serra Giménez Eudald, Museu de l'Aigua i el Textil, Spain; Sharroks Amy, Museum of Water, UK; Singha Sushmita, Water Museum of Udaipur, India; Tardani Roberta, Pozzo di San Patrizio, Orvieto, Italy; Topcu Ercan, Isum Istanbul Su Müzesi, Turkey; Ulliana Maurizio, River Navigation Museum of Battaglia Terme, Italy; van Beek Peter, Biesbosch Museum Eiland, The Netherlands; van Melis Elise, Haarlemmermeermuseum De Cruquius, The Netherlands; Van Pee Lode, The Nile Institute, Rwanda; van Staveren Martijn, IHP-HWRP Netherlands National Committee, The Netherlands; Vignarca Roberto, Natural Reserve 'Spagna Highlands and Mezzola Lake', Italy; Wang Xianping, Yellow River Museum, China; Wechsler Tanja Andrejasic, I Am Water, USA; Widadi Ismail, Mandala Mathika Subak Museum, Indonesia; Wundsam Karin, Water Adventure Mini-Danube, Austria; Xiang Cui, Museum of the Grand Canal, Liaocheng, China; Yiping Li, Hohai University, China; Zhixin Yu (Loretta), Changjiang Civilization Museum, Wuhan, China; Capaldo Stefania, Italian Federation of Spa Hotels; Shan Qiangsheng, The OujiangBoat Fellowship Museum, Lishui – China; Costea Gabriela, Healthy Danube Network, Austria; Guzman Octavio, Museo Vivo del Agua y la Biodiversidad en el Macizo Colombiano, Cauca, Popayan, Colombia; Bertolucci Stefano, Italy; Boyle Michelle, Ireland; De Vries Sandra, The Netherlands; La Spada Giuseppe, Italy; Lessa Joana, Portugal; Mikolji Ivan, Venezuela; Siampani Maria, Greece; Wilmott Christopher, UK; Zheng Xiao Yun, China.

1. Opening of the meeting and appointment of the Chair

The President Eddy Moors is appointed as Chair of the meeting and opens the General Assembly.

2. Approval of the Record of last General Assembly (June 2024)

The record of the previous General Assembly is read and unanimously approved by the present members, with the abstention of those who were not present.

3. Presentation of and welcome to new WAMU-NET Members (2nd semester 2024)

Ivana Kaleb Vuletic and Lucio Bonato present the new members who joined WAMU-NET in the second semester of 2024 (nine members in total from Austria, Brazil, China, Cameroon, Italy, Senegal, Taiwan and two members from Colombia).

4. Summary report on the main achievements and activities carried out in 2024

The director Eriberto Eulisse introduces the Summary Report Activities ([attachment no.1](#)) which reports the following main activities implemented in 2024:

- ✧ the 5th WAMU-NET Conference in Porto, Portugal, titled “Cities of Water”;
- ✧ WAMU-NET’s Contribution to the 10th WWF (Indonesia) with the immersive video-installation “The Voices of Water”;
- ✧ WAMU-NET’s Contribution to the COP16-UNCCD in Saudi Arabia on AHTs;
- ✧ the new edu-tool for online coloring AQUAPLAY (implemented through the EU-funded project CREDIT) that is available for free to all members;
- ✧ Joint communication activities with Museum Week for the IMD;
- ✧ Quarterly newsletters (3) and social media activities (Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn).

Now, all videos related to the Bali installation are available through a digital exhibition consisting of 8 short films that all members can freely use if reporting the correct copyrights/credits:

<https://www.watermuseums.net/campaigns/the-voices-of-water/>

LTAW is widely disseminating WAMU-NET’s The Voices of Water in various international film festivals. The President, Board members and Members congratulate the hard work and achievements in the face of not always adequate financial resources.

5. Activities planned for 2025

Director Eriberto Eulisse illustrates the next activities planned for 2025, including:

- the 6th Youth Contest TWWW
- a webinar hosted by UNESCO-IHP on the IMD
- a webinar for the inauguration of the web site livingwaterheritage.org (curated by Martuwarra Fitzroy River Council, in cooperation with Living Waters Museum India)
- 22 March, WWD: opening of the new WAMU-NET branch office in Ala, Trento, and launch of the Water Film Prize ‘Back to Our Future’ in cooperation with Let’s Talk About Water
- 11-13 June, Paris: side event for the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of UNESCO-IHP
- November: 6th WAMU-NET conference in Brasilia, Brazil

6. Start of two new EU-funded projects: 'Soil Tribes' (Horizon) and 'AquaMotion' (S+T+ARTS)

The EU-funded projects 'Soil Tribes' (Horizon programme) and 'AquaMotion' (S+T+ARTS programme) will impact considerably on the WAMU-NET budget in the next 3 years, as WAMU-NET is the beneficiary of these projects. Both projects focus on innovative water-related art practices and will provide considerable financial resources to implement the planned activities including exhibitions and art residencies. Thus, these projects will bring the opportunity to have additional working staff. Considering the opening of a new office in Trento, that will support more structured operations with additional staff, Director Eulisse emphasizes that 2025 will mark a new phase for WAMU-NET.

7. Approval of 2025 annual Memberships

Annual memberships for the year 2025 are approved as reported in [attachment no.2](#).

8. Status of 2024 annual Membership contributions (received until Nov. 30th)

Director Eriberto Eulisse illustrates the status of Membership contributions received until November 30th. The missing memberships for 2024, totaling € 3.175, are from museums of the following countries: China, Italy, Macedonia, UK, USA and Uruguay (6 out of 122 members).

9. Approval of the Forecast Budget for the year 2025 (art.16)

The forecast budget for the year 2025 is planned to balance incomes and expenditures and it is approved as reported in attachment no.3.

10. AOB - Proposals and suggestions from the members

The Council of the Autonomous Province of Trento approved the Provincial Law No. 13/2025, Article 15, which provides for the secondment of its staff 'free of charge' at 'flagship initiatives' of UNESCO-IHP, such as WAMU-NET. This law affects the position of Mr. Eulisse as Director of WAMU-net: from March, he will be formally seconded by the Province to the new WAMU-net office in Ala (Trento), without the obligation to reimburse his salary, for the next two years. This key achievement is the result of the dedicated efforts of Dr. Giovanni Gatti, the Executive Director of the Sewage Agency of Trento, where Eriberto Eulisse is actually detached.

In view of the 3rd Conference of water museums in Latin America Countries that will be organised in Mexico (the so-called LAC chapter of WAMU-NET) it is stressed the need to develop more synergies with WAMU-NET, instead of developing parallel activities as an independent network in LACs. The presence of Eriberto Eulisse and Gisela Herrerias at the planned conference in Mexico City will be instrumental to ensure the importance of better coordination with the network of LACs.

11. Closing of the meeting

The meeting closes at 16,30 CET.

Venice-Trento, 20 December 2024

The President
Eddy Moors

The Executive Director
Eriberto Eulisse

Attachments:

Attachment no.1: Summary Report Activities 2024

Attachment no.2: Annual memberships for the year 2025

Attachment no.3: Forecast budget 2025