

## **Record of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the General Assembly (26 June 2020)**

On 26 June 2020, the General Assembly of the Global Network of Water Museums met through on-line and telematic meetings, from 2pm to 4,30pm CET (Central Europe Time) to discuss and approve the following Order of Business:

1. Opening of the meeting and appointment of the Chair
2. Approval of last General Assembly's Record
3. Approval of the Financial Statement of the year 2019
4. Status of annual membership contributions
5. Discussion on the updated Forecast Budget: financial situation of WAMU-NET
6. Ongoing and future activities: digital exhibition and campaign on social media "The Water We Want", next conferences and international meetings
7. AOB - new proposals and suggestions from WAMU-NET members
8. Closing of the Meeting

### **Management Board Members who are present:**

Ahmed Sara, Living Waters Museum, India; Becker Christoph, Historisches Klaerwerk Krefeld, Germany; Bricchetti Edo, Martesana Ecomuseum, Italy; Croitoru Victor Lucian, Water Museum "Leonida Truta", Romania; Crowe Deirdre, Water Museum of Ireland; Damon Betsy, Keepers of the Waters, USA; De Laet Hilde, Hidrodooe Pidpa, Belgium; El Mandour Abdennabi, Musee Mohammed VI de la Civilization de l'Eau, Morocco; Eulisse Eriberto, Water Museums of Venice, Italy; David Rovira Pujol, Museu de les Aigües, Spain; Raul Hernandez Garciadiego, Museo del Agua "Agua para siempre", Mexico; Hugo Snabilie, Broekerveiling Museum, The Netherlands; Kabir Farah, Water Museum, Bangladesh; Kerr-Wilson Ian, Canada; Leordean Loredana, Aquatim SA, Romania; Letizia Domenico, Italy; Maruskic Kulas Margarita, Aquatika Karlovac, Croatia; Moors Eddy, The Netherlands; Otte Alexander, International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO; Pritchard Dave (Advisory Committee); Rodes Javier, Museos de Mequinenza, Spain; Ruf Thierry, France; Samoura Alassane, Musée de l'Eau de Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso; Scoullou Michael, HYDRIA Network, Greece; Ulliana Maurizio, River Navigation Museum, Italy; Vallejo Guerrero Sofia Emilia, Yaku Parque Museo del Agua, Ecuador; van Melis Elise, Haarlemmermeermuseum De Cruquius, The Netherlands; Zhang Xiaowen, Changjiang Civilization Museum, Wuhan, China.

### **Members who are not present (justified absentees):**

Bangde Yang, Baiheliang Underwater Museum, Chongqing, China; Barlas Richard, Hamilton Museum of Steam and Technology, Canada; Boxer Graham, National Waterways Museum of Ellesmere, UK; Braun Ralf, Water Museum of Bavaria "Haus am Strom", Germany; Caravanti Wilgor, Brasil; Broek Emily, IHP-HWRP Netherlands Committee; Castro-Henriques Mariana, Museu da Agua, Lisbon, Portugal; Crijns Huibert, Municipality of 's-Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands; de Vries Sandra, The Netherlands; Deya-Canal Bartomeu, Spain; Dodiță-Farcaș Daniel, Aquaserv S.A., Romania; Haliori Keti, World Water Museum, Greece; Horvath Istvan, Duna Museum, Hungary; Lanzinger Michele, MUSE, Museo delle Scienze, Italy; La Spada Giuseppe, Italy; Lee Kyung-ho, Jeju Water Exhibition Hall, South Korea; Marbaix Julie, Musée de l'Eau et de la Fontaine, Belgium; Marchi Fabio, Consorzi dei Canali di Reno e Savena in Bologna, Italy; Mizzan Luca, Natural History Museum—Fondazione Musei Civici, Italy; Punt Aart, Waterlinie Museum, The Netherlands; Said S M Al Mesnad Fatima, Kahramaa Water Awareness Park, Qatar; Sanchiz Jose Font, Tribunal de les

Agues de la Vega de Valencia, Spain; Serra Giménez Eudald, Museu de la tecnica de Manresa, Spain; Steiner George, Tourism Board Linz, Austria; Sharroks Amy, Museum of Water, UK; Siampani Maria, Greece; Singha Sushmita, Water Museum of Udaipur, Rajasthan, India; Souquet Emmanuel, Musée des Egouts, France; Topcu Ercan, Ab-I Hayat Anatolian Water Civilizations Museum, Turkey; van Beek Peter, Biesbosch Museum Eiland, The Netherlands; Vallerani Francesco, University of Ca Foscari, Italy; van der Meer Jan, Kring Vrienden 's-Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands; Wang Jianping, Yellow River Museum, China; Wiersma Peppie, Ludwig, The Netherlands; Wundsam Karin, Water Adventure Mini-Danube, Austria; Zhang Zirong, National Water Museum of China, Hangzhou, China.

### **1. Opening of the meeting and appointment of the Chair**

The President Eddy Moors chairs the meeting. As the valid quorum of members is present, as set by the Charter, the President opens the General Assembly at 2.10 pm CET. The meeting closes at 4.30 pm.

### **2. Approval of the last General Assembly's Records**

The record of the previous meeting of the General Assembly is read and approved. Votes recorded during the meeting (see [Attachment n. 1](#)):

Votes in favor: 37

Not in favor: 0

Abstained: 0

### **3. Approval of the Financial Statement of the year 2019**

The Financial Statement of the year 2019 (at 31st Dec.) has been prepared by the external financial manager (Carlo Scotton) in cooperation with the Director Eulisse. The statement is presented by the Director. It is stressed how at present stage revenues derive basically from WAMU-NET annual memberships. Also, the conference organized in Valencia generated a small income, as part of the activities made by WAMU-NET for its preparation. For 2019, the final revenues are a bit higher than those originally foreseen (+ € 1,6k). However, they are paired by expenses. A final difference of (+) € 1.540 € is recorded, but this amount refers to the remuneration that is still due to the Communication Team for activities performed in 2019 (project of graphic design and implementation of the web site of the Global Network).

Also, it is stressed how the remuneration of both the Executive Director (to be paid as an annual fee of WAMU-NET to Civiltà dell'Acqua) and the Communication Team do not reflect real costs (n. of effective working days per week during the whole year). For next years, higher amounts should be considered to cover the real staff costs (working days devoted to WAMU-NET ordinary management).

Votes recorded during the meeting (see [Attachment n. 1](#)):

Votes in favor: 37

Not in favor: 0

Abstained: 0

### **4. Status of annual membership contributions**

The status of the annual membership contributions (received until June 24<sup>th</sup>) is presented and discussed with members. So far, annual membership contributions have been paid by 40 members out of 60. Generated revenues amount to € 13.765 (out of the total of € 18.300 expected from all members in 2020).

## **5. Discussion on the updated Forecast Budget (Profit & Loss at Mai 31<sup>st</sup>): financial situation of WAMU-NET**

Due to the cancellation of the activities scheduled for 2020 because of the Covid pandemics (with 2 conferences cancelled in Hangzhou and Wuhan, China) the project of an online communication campaign related to the Youth Prize Contest “The Water We Want” (TWWW) was submitted to the HWRP Netherlands National IHP Committee and to the UNESCO Office in Beijing and the National Water Museum of Hangzhou in order to generate new incomes. As a result, two new videos have been commissioned as part of the TWWW campaign. Thanks to additional revenues deriving from the institutional supporters of the TWWW campaign (generating an income of € 6.000 + USD 18.900), it was possible to counter-balance the loss of revenues caused by the Covid ([Attachment n. XX](#)).

Considering these incomes, an updated Forecast Budget (with profits and losses at Mai 31<sup>st</sup>) with a projection at December 12<sup>th</sup> 2020 (see [Attachment n. XX](#)) shows how the difficult situation can be exceeded with a balanced budget by the end of the year.

Members appreciate the special efforts made by the Director in this difficult situation. However, to overcome the vulnerability of the Network, it is suggested that all WAMU-NET members should explore the possibility to get funds at national level to engage both WAMU-NET and single members in developing specific projects. The situation is difficult for all, but there may be win-win funding solutions to consider and explore together and with the support of UNESCO-IHP.

The production of additional videos by the WAMU-NET Communications Team should also be considered as a possibility to generate more revenues for the Global Network. Prof. Scoullos (MIO-ECSDE, Greece) informs that he is currently exploring the possibility to commission the production of a video to WAMU-NET, possibly by the end of this year, focusing on topics related to a new water culture in the Mediterranean, in order to improve WAMU-NET’s financial situation.

Sara Ahmed, Betsy Damon, Raul Garciadiego and others stress that there are considerable resources also within the art communities, and that the Contest TWWW can be used as a platform for fundraising. Eddy Moors suggests that members should write suggestions for proposals of future activities and send them to the WAMU-NET secretariat, providing advice on how to proceed to get resources for new projects.

## **6. Ongoing and future activities: digital exhibition and campaign on social media “The Water We Want”, next conferences and international meetings**

Because of COVID, it is really difficult to plan any conference in the months to come. The national Water Museum of Hangzhou is planning a webinar by the end of the year. In principle, for 2021 the 5<sup>th</sup> conference of WAMU-NET should take place in Morocco, hosted by the National Museum of water Civilization in Morocco. Also, activities organized in cooperation with IHP are planned to take place at the next World Water Forum in Dakar, Senegal, although this is not confirmed yet. Despite the difficult context generated by the COVID, the participation of different water museums to the Youth Prize Contest TWWW enabled however to start planning a communication campaign on social media. This campaign was launched in May through a dedicated webinar involving the Secretary of UNESCO-IHP, prof. Filali-Meknassi, and other representatives from the IHP-HWRP Committee of the Netherlands, and representatives from the National Water Museum of China, the Changjiang Civilization Museum of Wuhan and other water museums. Two videos For the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of the year, all activities of WAMU-NET will be focusing on the social media campaign (a 4-5 month campaign) to be launched in English and Chinese languages. Abdennabi El



Mandour (National Water Museum of Morocco) confirms there was a considerable participation of local school in Morocco concerning the TWWW competition.

Different exhibitions organized by specific water museums at regional level using the TWWW materials followed especially in China and Europe. Vicky Malotidi (MIO-ECSDE, Greece) shows pictures of the exhibition held in the city of Eleusina related to the local TWWW contest and the pictures of the competition's winners.

#### **9. AOB - new proposals and suggestions from WAMU-NET members**

Edo Bricchetti (Martesana eco-museum, Italy) suggests launching in future activities the idea of building "maps of communities" within the WAMU-NET framework. Indeed the idea of involving further local communities to monitor the quality and quantity of local waters should be developed further by the Global Network. The idea is commented positively by many members.

Thierry Ruf suggests to create new connections between the museum of Marrakesh and the one to be created in Aix-en-Provence (France), linking also the related communities.

#### **10. Closing of the Meeting**

The President closes the meeting at 4,30 pm

Venice, 26 June 2020

The President  
Eddy Moors

The Executive Director  
Eriberto Eulisse