

**Minutes of the On-line Meeting of the IATC Executive Committee  
February 27, 2021**

1. Presences and absences

Present: Margareta Sörenson (President), Michel Vaïs (Secretary General), Octavian Saiu (Adjunct Secretary General), Jean-Pierre Han (France), Irina Gogoberidze (Georgia), Deepa Punjani (India), Mariko Anazawa (Japan), Savas Patsalidis (*Critical Stages/Scènes critiques*), Zuzana Uličianska (Slovakia), Ivan Medenica (Serbia), Ragip Ertugrul (Turkey), Jeffrey Eric Jenkins (USA), Emmanuel Dandaura (Nigeria), Natalia Tvalchrelidze (Adjunct to Ragip Ertugrul)

Absent: Stéphane Gilbert (treasurer), Peng Tao (China). Both are excused.

Invited: Tasos Paschalidis, webmaster of *Critical Stages/Scènes critiques*.

Margareta welcomes everyone, and introduces Tasos, who will clarify some essential technical aspects of the online 30<sup>th</sup> congress.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda is adopted as below.

3. a) Presentation of the general assembly on-line plan (May 15, 2021) by Tasos Paschalis

Tasos provides a detailed presentation of the technicalities involved in an on-line General Assembly. The main issue is that Zoom's own election system can include lists of maximum 10 candidates, so for ExCom elections another platform will be used: < electionbuddy.com >. Only the delegates will therefore be allowed to participate in the Zoom meeting, while the rest can watch via another platform, like Facebook. If there are candidates with the same number of votes, then there will be a second round. Simultaneous interpretation will be offered.

Natalia wants everyone to know that, for the live-streaming on Facebook, only one language will be available.

Margareta wants to find out more about the rehearsal for the General Assembly. Tasos suggests early May, but Jeffrey considers that it should be done earlier. It is agreed that ExCom members should participate.

As Tasos mentions that there is a possibility for the voting process to start before the General Assembly, a discussion follows on this topic. Eventually, it is decided that the voting will only take place during the assembly, so that the Election Officers can attend to the possible dysfunctionalities.

Zuzana wants to know if Election Buddy requires a separate application downloaded on the computer, and Tasos explains that it is not the case.

The ExCom members thank Tasos for his great professional service.

b) Other aspects of the general assembly

As all national sections participating in the General Assembly must be in good standing, the issue of money transfers is brought up. Deepa wants to know the exact issue with regard to the French phone number that is demanded by the bank, and asks specifically if Jean-Pierre can help. Jean-Pierre is willing to help, but it depends on the specific requirements of the bank. Michel considers

that this aspect should be the mission of the next ExCom, because for now, the issue is resolved. Emmanuel wants to ask for a different payment method for sections such as the Nigerian one, in order to avoid stiff bank transfer fees. Michel reminds everyone that according to Stephane there are other available platforms (paypal.com and transferwise.com), which Emmanuel replies are equally difficult for Nigerians. So an alternative needs to be found.

c) The official call for the general assembly will be launched before March 15.

4. Adoption of the minutes of the meeting of January 23.

Adopted with the following note from Deepa Punjani:

*In the 12th December 2020 meeting, the Excom voted if the Congress should be held online. Deepa Punjani abstained from the vote. Deepa's abstention from the vote was noted in the Minutes of 12th December 2020 but her reasons were not noted. These are her reasons:*

*Deepa Punjani in the discussions for the online Congress would have preferred to have had the views of the representatives/heads of the National Sections vis-a-vis the online congress versus the physical congress before the decision was put to vote in the Excom. This is because in Deepa's opinion, this is an extraordinary situation, of which the IATC statutes are silent about. She felt that a larger consultative process involving the national sections would have been better rather than putting the matter to a simple vote in the Excom. Hence, she has abstained from the vote.*

*In the subsequent Excom meeting on 23rd January 2021, Deepa said that while she has abstained from the vote, she has accepted the majority vote, and extends her support to the online congress.*

*Since this was not clear in the Minutes of the earlier meetings, that is 12th December 2020 and 23rd January 2021, this issue is being clarified in this Minutes, and is now closed.*

5. Website (Michel and Octavian)

Octavian informs the ExCom that steps are being taken to remake/update the website in order to meet the demands of the preparatory process for the general assembly (reports and candidacies with written statements, photos, videos) and other related events. The website activities will be completed by the information emailed to the membership and posted via social media.

6. Conference: Suzuki and the Thalia prize (Ivan)

Ivan presents the outline and the lineup of the IATC Conference dedicated to Tadashi Suzuki, the 2020 Thalia prize laureate. The event during which the Thalia trophy will be presented to Suzuki will take place in Japan, so Mariko will be in charge of the planning, and the Romanian Section (Theatre Studies) will be responsible for sending the trophy to Tokyo.

7. Young critics workshop (Jean-Pierre)

Jean-Pierre is currently preparing a new model for the workshops, adapted to the current global circumstances. He will present it to the ExCom during the next meeting.

8. *Critical Stages/Scènes critiques* (Savas)

Savas informs the ExCom about his efforts to have the journal included in some major international databases, particularly Scopus.

9. Other questions

Margareta opened the floor to Octavian on a sensitive issue about which he had sent a message to the ExCom members shortly before the meeting started. This is about the possible reintegration of a former person in charge within the IATC. The ExCom members expressed that this case is closed. A heated discussion still followed between Octavian and one of the ExCom members, which could not be ended until the zoom host muted them and the president was able to finally close the meeting.

10. Next ExCom meeting will take place on-line on March 27, 2021.

11. End of meeting

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**Octavian Saiu**  
Adjunct Secretary General

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**Michel Vaïs**  
Secretary General