

EUD

Minutes

16th General Assembly

23-25 March 2001

FINAL VERSION

EUROPEAN UNION OF THE DEAF

MINUTES
of the
16th General Assembly Meeting

23-25 March 2001

“Duinse Polders”
Blankenberge, Belgium

AGENDA

Friday afternoon 23 .03.2001 & Saturday 24 .03.2001 & Sunday morning 25.03.2001

1. Welcoming address
2. Roll call
- 2.A Election procedure
3. Adoption of the Minutes of the General Assembly 2000 in Gent, Belgium
4. Adoption of the EUD Annual Report 1999-2000
5. Presentation and adoption of the Financial Reports 1999-2000 (following Co-ordination contract 1999-2000).
6. Presentation of the Preliminary Financial Report 2000
7. Summary overview of EUD activities in 2000-2001
8. Presentation and adoption of the EUD application for EU co-ordination grant 2001-2002 (if any is made)
9. Discussion and adoption of new vision and related objectives for EUD
10. Presentation of proposed EUD Work Programme for 2001-2002 & Discussion
- 10.A Resolution from EUD Seminar on Sign Languages in Lund: discussion and adoption
11. Project applications submitted or to be submitted
 - 11.1. Co-ordination programme 2001-2002
 - 11.2. Easy Euro project (PRINCE Programme)
 - 11.3. Advancing the Idea of Europe project – aimed at NADs in EU applicant countries
12. Discussion of framework for Pan-European co-operation (EUD, Central European Regional Secretariat [CERS], and Eastern European and Middle Asia Regional Secretariat [EEMARS]). Agreement on common strategy regarding meeting in Roma, Italy, in November 2001
13. Ratification of EUD Internal Rules as proposed by EUD Executive Committee
14. Motions tabled: discussion and voting
15. Election of EUD Board (composed of EUD President, EUD Vice President and 3 Board Members)
16. Any other business:
 - 16.1. Items from previous meetings
 - 16.2. Other items as raised by delegates

MINUTES

Friday afternoon 23 .03.2001 & Saturday 24 .03.2001 & Sunday morning 25.03.2001

1. Welcoming address

The President, Knud SØNDERGAARD (KS) opened the meeting and welcomed delegates to this, the 16th General Assembly of the European Union of the Deaf.

2. Roll call

The following were present:

2.1. Delegates:

Helene JARMER (ÖGLB-Austria), Alfred FIEVET and Johan VAN LANDUYT (BDF-Belgium), Anne VIKKELSØ and Dan OLVHØJ (DDL-Denmark), Håkon WESTERHOLM (FAD-Finland), Adrien PELLETIER and Isabelle SEAU (FNSF-France), Rudi SAILER (DGB-Germany), Giannis CHRISTODOULAKOS (HFD-Greece), Eddie REDMOND and Brian CREAM (IDS-Ireland), Sebastiano MANCIAGLI (ENS-Italy), Jacques BRUCH and Roger HUBERT (VGSL-Luxembourg), Amilcar MORAIS and Arlindo OLIVEIRA (FPAS-Portugal), Luis J. Cañón REGUERA and Alfredo FERNANDÉZ (CNSE-Spain), Lars-Åke WIKSTRÖM and Elisabeth T-LUNDQUIST (SDR-Sweden), Lorna ALLSOP and Terry RILEY (BDA-United Kingdom).

Gerlinde GERKENS, second German delegate, was excused at the last minute - due to heavy snow fall she could not depart for Belgium.

Dovenschap (The Netherlands) was unable to send delegates to the GA.

2.2. Observers:

Martine FRAITURE and Pierre DEWIT (Belgium), Paulo COSTA (Portugal), Tord LIND (Sweden).

2.3. Executive Committee:

Knud SØNDERGAARD (President), Markku JOKINEN (Vice President), Andre LATHOUWERS (Treasurer), Helly CHRISTOPOULOU

Apologies were received from Ida COLLU

2.4. Staff:

Helga STEVENS (Director), Lorraine LEESON (Administrator), Wendy Van MANSVELT (Intern), Johan WESEMANN (Advisor).

2A. Election Procedures (new item on agenda)

Election Procedures were discussed and agreed upon.

The President proposed the outgoing Executive Committee member, André LATHOUWERS (AL) chair the election procedure. This was voted on and agreed unanimously by the delegates.

Three counters were nominated and approved: Giannis CHRISTODOULAKOS (Greece), Eddie REDMOND (Ireland) and Luis Cañón REGUERA (Spain).

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the General Assembly 2000 in Gent, Belgium

KS pointed out that at the GA 2000, delegates had agreed that their comments regarding the draft minutes from the GA 2000 would be forwarded to EUD within two months of receipt of the original draft minutes. Their comments would be incorporated and forwarded to the Executive Committee which was mandated to then deal with the minutes on behalf of the GA. These minutes were then forwarded to all NADs for their reference.

KS called on the GA to formally adopt the minutes of the 15th GA of EUD, 2000. The minutes were adopted.

KS added that GA 2000 agreed that from 2001, written comments regarding the draft minutes should be forwarded to the EUD office within 1-2 months (as per agreed deadline). If no comments are received, the minutes will be approved. If there are comments, they will be integrated into the minutes and a second draft version will be distributed. NOTE: minor amendments such as the change of a delegate's name, corrections of wording, etc. will not result in the minutes being redistributed. Only where there is a disagreement regarding a decision, discussion, etc. will the redrafted minutes be distributed again.²

4. Adoption of the EUD Annual Report 1999-2000

The President called for the delegates to adopt the Annual Report 1999-2000. He noted that this had been sent to all NADs in August 2000. The UK abstained from voting as the UK delegates had not seen the report. All other delegates voted to adopt the Annual Report.

5. Presentation and adoption of the Financial Report 1999-2000 (following co-ordination contract 1999-2000).

The president clarified that this report was part of the EUD Annual Report 1999-2000, but needed to be adopted separately.

Helga STEVENS (HS) explained that previously, EUD's accounting year had run from 01/04 – 31/03 (12 months), thus this report covers the period 01.04.1999-31.03.2000. Under the new statutes (version 2000), the accounting period has changed and the accounting year now is the same as the calendar year: 01/01- 31/12.

Ireland raised a query regarding Point 3, Expenses (Posters). HS explained that advertising for the Gent Conference (2000) had cost more than originally budgeted for.

The UK raised a question regarding the percentage of funding received from the European Commission. HS explained that 70 % co-funding had been made available on a maximum sum of 100.000,00 Euros. The UK asked what the reference to "advisor" entailed. HS replied that Johan WESEMANN functioned in the role of advisor to EUD following his resignation as Director. Johan WESEMANN, acting in his capacity as advisor, offered her support when she was promoted to the position of Director of EUD. The UK also raised a question regarding the treatment of interpreting

fees. HS responded that interpreting fees were considered as part of EUD's own contribution to co-funding, since these costs were paid for by the Flemish and Dutch government.

Denmark raised a query with respect to Point 3, and a figure of -9.000,00 Euros. HS explained that there had been an error made in the original financial budget with respect to the telephone budget. What should have read 5.000,00 BEF was entered as 5.000,00 Euros. The European Commission auditors had been advised of this error and the figures have been corrected accordingly.

KS called for delegates to adopt the Financial Report 1999-2000. France abstained as the delegates stated that they had not seen the Financial Report prior to the meeting. KS reminded delegates that all relevant documentation had been sent to NADs in August 2000 and that the NAD's were responsible for ensuring that their delegates received all relevant documentation. All other delegates voted to adopt the Financial Report 1999-2000.

6. Presentation of the Preliminary Financial Report 2000

Note: The Preliminary Financial Report was distributed to delegates only a few moments prior to the beginning of the GA.

HS outlined why there had been delays in presenting the Preliminary Financial Report 2000. EUD's accountant had been unable to update the books at EUD since November 2000 due to grave family circumstances. An interim accountant had provided the Preliminary Financial Report presented today.

As mentioned earlier, in the statutes (version 2000) the accounting year has been changed to follow the calendar year. To be able to start the new accounting year on 01.01.2001, it was decided to close the accounts for 2000 on 31.12.2000. Thus the Preliminary Financial Report 2000 covers the period 01.04.2000-31.12.2000. It follows the budget outline of the co-ordination contract for 2000-2001 as signed by the European Commission.

Sweden raised a query regarding the administrator's salary. The delegate noted that in 1999-2000, the salary had been 26.000,00 Euros while in 2000-2001 the figure listed is only 11.000,00 Euros. HS noted that in 1999-2000, she had worked full-time as Administrator, while the new Administrator works part-time. She also reminded delegates that these were not figures for the entire year – only for the year to date. KS reiterated this point and noted that the final accounts would be brought to the GA 2002 for approval.

The UK asked for clarification regarding the current financial situation between EUD and DDL. HS responded that without the support of DDL, EUD would not be able to continue to exist. She noted that EUD has budgeted 25.000,00 Euros that is earmarked as rent for building to DDL this year. This ensures that the amount that remains outstanding on the loan from DDL is decreasing steadily. The UK asked how much is still outstanding. KS responded that 40.561,44 Euros remain to be repaid (as of 31.12.01).

Sweden noted that there was a sum totalling 30.000,00 Euros that had been received as gifts/ donations to EUD. The delegate asked for clarification regarding who had contributed to this sum. KS noted that in future the accounts would clearly outline a breakdown of such sums.

Denmark asked if each full member had paid their membership fee and/or another contribution. The delegate asked for a breakdown to be provided in future accounts. The President agreed that this would be the case in future financial accounts.

France asked that the accountant prepare a calendar year overview of the accounts of 1999 and 2000 if possible, to be able to compare expenses and income over the same yearly periods, and to be able to

have a clear yearly overview of expenses and income. The reason for this was that due to the changes in the accounting periods, an overall view on the costs and income was lost. The President agreed and said that the accountant would be requested to prepare such overviews as requested.

7. Summary overview of EUD activities in 2000-2001

HS explained that like last year, only a summary overview of EUD activities for 2000-2001 had been provided to the GA, since the activity period was still running and Annual Reports were usually prepared during the quiet Summer time, after the end of the activity period which follows the co-ordination grant period. A proper Annual Report covering the period June 2000 - May 2001 will be drafted in June-July 2001. HS ran through the range of activities that have been carried out this working year to date. She made particular reference to the development of the EUD expert list and called on NADs to become more pro-active in their response to EUD queries. She gave examples of the slow response that had been received from NADs when EUD requested nominations for the Expert List and EUD Contact Persons working in each NAD.

KS reminded delegates that EUD's website is now up and running at www.eudnet.org KS asked if NADs can translate material forwarded by EUD into their national sign/ spoken languages to ensure that EUD information is made available to the largest number of Deaf Europeans possible. HS noted that machine aided translation may assist NADs in the first instance in accessing English-based information. HS also suggested that countries that share a common written language work together and share responsibility for translating documents (e.g. Austria, Luxembourg and Germany; France and Wallonia, The Netherlands and Flanders). Denmark asked if EUD can add topic specific pages to the EUD website (e.g. a page on telecommunications, a page on education, etc. etc.)

Following from the points raised in the overview of EUD activities, Spain raised some queries and concerns with respect to (1) the dissemination of EUD information to young Deaf Europeans, (2) FEPEDA and (3) the growing strength of national disability umbrella organisations and national disability councils. Regarding (3), the delegate noted that it is essential that we strike a balance at EU level with respect to umbrella disability organisations like EDF to ensure that EUD is not overlooked in European Institution level consultation processes. He asked for clarification regarding how EUD is preparing to ensure that they will not be bypassed. HS responded regarding (2) and (3) in tandem. She told of a situation that had arisen the previous weekend when she had attended an EDF seminar on the European Commission's Social Exclusion Programme where following a FEPEDA comment re: mainstreaming and the "world of opportunities offered by medical interventions such as Cochlear Implants", EDF Director Stefan TRÖMEL has literally stated that EDF would listen to all organisations – not just EUD! HS noted that she had spoken with Mr. TRÖMEL following this exchange and stated that she felt his comments had been inappropriate. Spain asked that KS follow up on this matter at EDF Board level.

Further discussion occurred regarding the EDF comment and the fact that FEPEDA are now Full members of EDF as a representative organisation of parents of deaf children. Markku JOKINEN (MJ) asked that EDF be requested to provide a clear overview of who can become members of EDF as representatives of which groups of disabled people. MJ noted specifically that it is clearly acceptable that people with autism or those with learning disabilities who cannot represent themselves be represented by advocates/ parents. However he questioned the issue of other groups being adequately represented by parents associations.

Sweden proposed that more Deaf people stand as candidates in future EDF elections and that Deaf people become more involved in EDF activities to ensure that there is a clear Deaf presence in the organisation. The delegates agreed with this point.

The issue of which NADs are members of national disability associations/ Government appointed National (Disability) Councils was raised. The majority of NADs report being involved in either umbrella organisations and/ or Government appointed councils.

The UK noted that regarding the Charter for Regional or Minority Languages ("CRML"), the UK government had advised the BDA that they will not include BSL when they ratify the CRML for the UK. The UK asked why EUD's Year of Languages proposal had been unsuccessful. Lorraine LEESON (LL) and HS noted that the European Commission reported finding EUD's proposal very interesting, but stated that they cannot fund projects that will be of benefit to the European Institutions themselves.

Denmark asked if it would be possible to propose changes to the EUD statutes at some future time. HS noted that the possibility existed.

France proposed establishing a sign language users association in each member state. Sweden noted that they already had such an association, and that it was very positive.

Spain asked if there was the possibility for EUD to arrange a meeting of ENGOs interested in deaf-related issues where the possibility of a working agreement could be discussed. HS suggested that it may be possible to ask representatives of the deaf-related ENGOs to attend a half-day meeting prior to the next EDF GA. This would mean that the ENGOs would not have to carry the costs of coming together as they would already be paid to attend the EDF GA. This proposal was approved.

Ireland raised the suggestion that EUD should consider hosting European congresses from time to time to encourage interaction and sharing of experiences at European level. HS noted that the Gent conference in 2000 was such an event. KS noted that the Irish suggestion was good but encouraged the Irish delegates to consider planning and hosting such an event in Ireland.

Both the UK and the Austrian delegates called on the GA to consider the financial situation of EUD. They noted that action costs money. The Austrian delegate encouraged other delegates to consider the past financial expertise and knowledge of candidates standing for election to the EUD Executive Committee when voting. JW responded to this, explaining how funding from the European Union works. He pointed out that at European Union level, a major issue for EUD is that (cash) co-funding is required. He stated that regardless of the expertise/ knowledge of the EUD Board members, this practical issue remained.

8. Presentation and adoption of the EUD application for EU co-ordination grant 2001-2002 (if any is made)

KS noted that the starting date for all agreed European Commission/ ENGO 2001/2002 contracts will be 01/09/2001. The change in the contractual period will have financial consequences for EUD. He noted that the details of the call for applications had not been publicised yet, but it was anticipated that the European Commission would co-fund 90% of costs to a maximum of 100.000,00 Euros. This would allow for funding of a maximum of 10 ENGOs, if previous funding allocations remained unchanged. KS outlined the budgetary constraints that the change in contractual date would have for EUD. He noted that there would be at least a three month gap in funding that would not be covered retrospectively by the European Commission contract. He estimated that the following costs need to be covered by EUD from our own resources (contributions, gifts, etc.):

Budget 01/06/2001-31/08/2001:	
	<i>Euros</i>
Salaries	16.000,00
Travel	1.000,00
Rent	6.000,00
Maintenance	1.000,00
Tel/ e-mail	1.500,00
Office	500,00
Total	€ 26.000,00

HS noted that EUD had informed NADs of proposed funding cuts to disability ENGOs late last year and had provided model letters for NADs to use. EUD had asked NADs to contact their national level representatives to reconsider the implications of cutting funding to disability ENGOs like EUD. She noted that some NADs had forwarded us copies of their follow-up actions on this matter, but the majority had not.

The UK asked what contingency plan was in place for EUD. KS noted that the implications would be that membership fees would rise and that the NADs would be required to financially support the work of EUD. The UK asked that a long-term financial strategy be put in place and made available to the NAD boards for their approval. KS noted that it may be possible that EUD asks NADs for support along the following lines:

Financial Support Requested from NADs to EUD:

To cover minimum costs for 3 months(June-July-August 2001): 1.700,00-2.500,00 Euros per NAD

If co-ordination funding is awarded by the European Commission for the period 01.09.2001-31.08.2002: 2.500,00 Euros per NAD

If no co-ordination funding is awarded by the European Commission: 6.000,00 – 7.000,00 Euros per NAD

Ireland commented that a once-off contribution of support of 1.500,00 Euros may be possible, but they argued that this could not be repeated throughout 2001/2002 as it would total 6.000,00 Euros per NAD over the course of the coming financial year. KS responded stating that without coordination funding, the EUD office will close for a time or will cease to exist as the organisation would not be able to continue to pay staff.

9. Discussion and adoption of new vision and related objectives for EUD

MJ outlined the process that led to this revision of the EUD vision that dates from Lisbon (1996). MJ noted that there is a need to develop a vision that will inform the work and management of the EUD office. HS noted that there is a small budget allocation for the development of a working group to revise the EUD Vision. Such a group would ideally comprise 3 people who could meet twice and in the interim, work via e-mail. This group would develop a draft vision statement and bring it to the Board, and finally to the GA 2002 for approval. This was agreed. The following people were suggested for such work: Liisa KAUPINEN, Nicola BEDLINGTON, a Swedish/Finnish expert and/or a Spanish expert (names to be provided). It was agreed that EUD should write to these people and invite them to participate in the Vision Development working group.

10. Presentation of proposed EUD Work Programme for 2001-2002 & Discussion

HS outlined the following as the work priorities for the coming year:

10.1. Year of Languages and Language Related Issues: EUD propose hosting a conference to coincide with the Official Closing of the Year of Language events in Brussels in December 2001. This is scheduled to take place around the 5-7 December 2001. This would be a high profile event aimed at making sign language users visible. EUD propose that NADs make contact with their MEPs with respect to inviting them to attend this event. HS called for NADs to propose ideas for this event – e.g. presenters for the conference, ideas to capture the imagination of participants, e.g. a march where all participants wear white gloves.

EUD to continue to work with respect to the Council of Europe's Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (CRML) in cooperation with WFD, EEMARS and CERS.

10.2. Euro Changeover: EUD to continue liaising with the Central Bank regarding moves to ensure that promotional videos for the changeover are also made available in the respective sign languages of the countries involved. EUD also to implement the PRINCE project, "Not Deaf to the Euro". Each delegate already has a copy of the application.

10.3. E-Learning: EUD to consider how Deaf people can be involved in this development. EUD to seek advice from NAD IT experts who are willing to cooperate with EUD.

10.4. Education: Really, education policies are implemented at national level, but EUD will support NADs and inform them of developments/ new programmes arising at EU level.

10.5. EU Enlargement: EUD have submitted a project application regarding "Promoting the Idea of Europe". HS outlined the aims and objectives vis-à-vis accession countries. Each delegate was given a copy of the application at the GA.

10.6. Pan-EU cooperation: HS outlined the development of the working agreement between CERS, EEMARS and EUD following the Pan-European Congress in Slovenia in 2000.

Germany requested that EUD put a list of which order each country holds the Presidency of the European Union on the EUD website. This was agreed. Spain noted that often the specific priorities for each Presidency were not revealed until close to the Presidency changeover date. KS noted that for the foreseeable future, the issues of enlargement and the Euro changeover procedure will be on the agenda for forthcoming Presidencies. It was also noted that Sweden currently holds the Presidency of the EU. Their website lists the current priorities at www.eu2001.se

KS asked if the delegates would like to add any other priorities to the list. Spain proposed that the issue of fund-raising be addressed. Johan WESEMANN (JW) noted that previous attempts to fund-raise for EUD had not been successful as the majority of funding available was for use at national level only and funds could not be used to support a European level organisation. Spain also suggested adding the issue of Employment policy to EUD's work priorities for the coming year. He particularly suggested that EUD adapt the EDF employment policy to the needs of Deaf people in the EU. HS made reference to the social exclusion programme that has been launched at EU level and noted that while EUD may wish to participate, the European Commission's decision to co-fund only 50% makes it impossible for EUD to participate.

10A. Resolution at EUD Lund Seminar on Sign Languages

KS called on the delegates to adopt the resolution passed by the participants at the Lund seminar in February 2001. There was a great deal of discussion regarding the appropriateness of the term "sign language user", with Ireland and the UK expressing grave concern with inclusion of the term. Following lengthy discussion, the president called on delegates to vote for the resolution. Italy had left early. Ireland and the UK voted against the adoption of the resolution as it was worded. The remaining 22 delegates voted to adopt the resolution. Therefore the resolution was adopted.

11. Project applications submitted or to be submitted

- a. Co-ordination programme 2001-2002 – yet to be submitted.
- b. Easy Euro project (PRINCE Programme) – submitted – copy provided to delegates.
- c. Advancing the Idea of Europe project – aimed at NADs in EU applicant countries – submitted – copy provided to delegates.

HS noted that the projects had already been referred to with respect to Agenda Point 10.

12. Discussion of framework for Pan-European co-operation (EUD, Central European Regional Secretariat [CERS], and Eastern European and Middle Asia Regional Secretariat [EEMARS]). Agreement on common strategy regarding meeting in Rome, Italy, in November 2001

HS outlined the background to the Slovenia meeting and the follow-up concerning issues of EU enlargement, cultural and political differences (e.g. work priorities, etc.) between Central & Eastern European Regional Secretariats of WFD and EUD.

Spain raised the question of how any potential discord would be addressed. HS noted that the working agreement allowed for the introduction of an arbitrator should any conflict of interests arise between EUD, CERS and EEMARS. For example, WFD might function as arbitrator in such a situation. KS noted that this was a first step in a process of co-operation and mutual support.

The UK asked about the financial implications of the working agreement and any related responsibilities that EUD would take on. HS noted that the financial obligations were minimal, as a roving responsibility has been proposed: each secretariat will take on responsibility for the practical role of support on a two year basis. HS noted that it is essential for EUD to forge links with the accession countries now as this will also have implications for future funding possibilities for EUD: i.e. if EUD were to represent only 50 % of NADs in an enlarged Europe, the European Commission would not support EUD's application for co-ordination funding.

Ireland asked if the overriding aim was to amalgamate the three regional secretariats in the future. KS replied that that is not the intention. The aim is to promote better cooperation amongst the regional secretariats in Europe.

The delegates adopted the draft agreement in principle and, in addition, agreed to let the EUD Secretariat, in consultation with EUD Board members, refine/clarify certain aspects of the draft agreement, especially on points regarding responsibility for costs and conflict resolution.

13. Ratification of EUD Internal Rules as proposed by EUD Executive Committee

Each NAD had already received a copy of the proposed Internal Rules in advance and had the opportunity to send comments. Some countries have proposed changes which were incorporated into the proposed Internal Rules.

Membership fees as proposed by the EUD Executive Committee:

Membership category	Membership fee
Full Members	1.000 €
Affiliated Members	300 €
Associate Members	200 €
Sponsoring Members	Minimum 1.000 €
Individual Members	50 € (students 30 €)

Sweden noted the importance of having internal rules to assist in the smooth running of an organisation like EUD. They called for election procedures to be added to the draft Internal Rules that have been presented.

Spain asked that the specific reference to Hotel Chelton on page 10 of the draft Internal Rules be removed, and a more generic wording put in place with respect to hotel costs.

Greece made reference to the Annex to application for membership and asked that paragraph 2 be reworded (re: "and other disabled people"). The delegate asked that a reference to the importance of sign languages be added and that the reference to "disabled people" be removed, to bring the Internal Rules in line with the wording of the statutes. Spain suggested using the wording of Article 13 of the Amsterdam Treaty as a guide to wording the relevant sections of the Annex.

Luxembourg asked that the details of membership fees be added to the annex regarding membership applications. In addition, it was agreed that the cost of membership must also be laid down in the Internal Rules, following the procedures laid down in the Statutes.

The UK asked how EUD will determine that the boards of applicant organisations meet the criteria laid down in EUD's statutes. HS noted that criteria for membership was explicitly laid down in the statutes and that the annexed declaration (to membership application) states that new members must have written permission from EUD before they can state that they have the right to represent EUD in any issue. Spain asked that the wording of this declaration be strengthened.

It was agreed that the Board will follow up on work to finalise the Internal Rules. The delegates ratified the proposed membership fees.

14. Motions tabled: discussion and voting

The following resolutions were brought to the meeting:

Re: Swedish motion on TV: It was agreed that EUD should contact the European Commission DG Culture regarding current/ recent work on broadcasting and TV. The UK reminded delegates not to overlook the need to demand that sign languages be provided on TV – and not just subtitles.

Re: Swedish motion on mobility: HS noted that social policy is implemented at national level not EU level. However, she suggested that EU rights to mobility can be stressed in national level work. Denmark noted that there is a need to examine the EU Charter on Social Rights with respect to considering whether legal action can be taken with respect to Deaf people's rights to mobility in the EU. She gave the example of how Danish Deaf people's rights to free movement are restricted by the Danish government's refusal to cover interpreting costs incurred outside of Denmark.

Re: Finnish Motion on Education: The Finnish Association asked the question of what measures the EUD has taken in terms of carrying out a survey on Deaf education in Europe as proposed by the Finnish Association of the Deaf in 1999. HS responded that there were no resources available to EUD to carry out such a project as education is typically a national-level enterprise. However, HS did note that the EUD office had attempted to move forward on correspondence with the NADs, but typically NADs are very slow to respond. Many do not respond at all. She gave the examples of the EUD's office attempts to identify a contact person in each NAD and EUD's attempts to establish an Expert List for consultation, where very few NADs responded. This hampers attempts to remain up to date on developments across Europe.

15. Election of EUD Board (composed of EUD President, EUD Vice President and 3 Board Members)

Following the revised EUD statutes (version 2000), the EUD Board is to shrink in size (from 15 to 5 Members) and the Executive Committee is to be abolished. This GA must elect a new Board under the revised statutes.

André LATHOUWERS (AL) outlined the election procedures. He noted that voting would take place to elect (A) a President, (B) a Vice President and (C) three Board members. The following had been nominated as candidates for:

President:	Mr. Knud SØNDERGAARD (Denmark) (current President of EUD)
Vice President:	Mr. Markku JOKINEN (Finland) (current Vice President of EUD)
Board:	Ms. Helly CHRISTOPOULOU (Greece) (current Board Member of EUD)
	Mr. Amilcar MORAIS (Portugal)
	Mr. Terry RILEY (UK)
	Ms. Isabelle SEAU (France)
	Mr. Johan WESEMANN (The Netherlands)

Mr. WESEMANN decided to withdraw from the election. Germany, who has proposed Mr. WESEMANN, accepted his withdrawal.

Mr. SØNDERGAARD was unanimously re-elected as President. Mr. JOKINEN was unanimously re-elected as Vice President. Ms. Helly CHRISTOPOULOU, Mr. Amilcar MORAIS and Mr. Terry RILEY were elected as Board Members. The President welcomed the new Board and noted the return of Mr. RILEY (formerly a Vice President of EUD) to the Board.

The new Board was welcomed by the GA. The President thanked the Board and Executive Committee for their hard work over the past 4 years and wished the Executive Committee members who did not stand for election to the Board all the best.

16. Any other business

16.1. Items from previous meetings

None raised.

16.2. Other items as raised by delegates

KS proposed that at future GA's, delegates should choose a chair for each day or per half day of the GA. This would increase the democracy of the GA, he noted.

France proposed that all five Board Members take a central position at the next GA. This was supported by Spain. MJ noted that the Board support the President from their places in a more effective manner, without disruption to the proceedings, which would be affected if all Board Members were to the front of the meeting. This issue was referred to the Board for further discussion.

Germany noted that a new Deaf Centre will be officially opened in Munich in June 2001. The delegate invited EUD to host their next GA in the Deaf Centre in Munich. Ireland suggested that the hosting of GAs follow the rota of the European Presidency, i.e. whoever holds the Presidency at the time of the GA also hosts the EUD GA. Belgium (Fr.) proposed that a roving responsibility for hosting the GA be introduced. This would entail a twelve year cycle between commitment to host the GA by any one country. These suggestions are to be placed on the agenda of the next Board meeting for deliberation.

KS closed the GA 2001. He thanked all NADs and their delegates for their presence at this GA and their constructive contribution to the discussions. He again thanked the outgoing Executive Committee for their commitment and work and welcomed the New Board. He also thanked HS, LL and Wendy VAN MANSVELT, EUD Intern, for all their work throughout the year.

* * *

Minutes drafted by Lorraine LEESON, EUD Administrator.
Revised by Helga STEVENS, EUD Director, and Knud SØNDERGAARD, EUD President.

Note: This GA was also videotaped.

Signatures:

Knud SØNDERGAARD, EUD President

Helga STEVENS, EUD Director

Revisions made following comments from KS – 22.04.01

C2: doc\eut00-01/GA/minutes GA2001 (2v) (28.03.2001, 11.04.2001, 19.07.2001)

EUD GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2001:

MOTIONS

MOTIONS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED TO EUD BY:

- Finnish Association of the Deaf;
- Swedish Association of the Deaf

Their motions are attached.



ONTVANGEN 12 FEB. 2001

Leksand, February 8th, 2001

EUD
Rue Franklinstraat 110
B-1000 Brussels

Swedish National Association of the Deaf (SDR) would like to submit the following motion to be considered by the EUD GA:

Motion no 1

SDR suggest that EU through EUD work for making TV-broadcast in Europe accessible.

A first step is that EU should accept a resolution imposing all TV-companies in each country to subtitle their programs in order to make them accessible for deaf persons.

Motion no 2

One of EU's fundamental principles is the free mobility.

Free mobility for persons is about the right for EU-citizens to travel and stay in another EU-country to work, study, look out for job, start business of one's own or to live there as a pensioner.

This principal is valid for everyone – also for the deaf.

SDR propose that EUD work for that EU pay attention to the right for the deaf that this mobility gives deaf EU-citizens possibilities seen from their conditions.

Every EU-country should therefore be aware of the fact that sign-language is the first language for the deaf and that deaf EU-citizens are offered a chance to use the free mobility from this point of view. This means that every EU-country should open their borders and make it possible for deaf to participate by using respective country's national sign-language.

Another condition is that the education for the deaf in every EU-country is given in sign-language so that the education is on a level with other EU-citizens.

Ingvar Edwall
Vice-chairman

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ANNEX 3: MOTIONS FORM
FOR
EUD GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2001

(Blankenberge, Belgium)

The Finnish Association of the Deaf (name of NAD)

QUESTION

would like to submit the following MOTION to the EUD secretariat to be presented to the EUD General Assembly 2001 convening on 23-25 March 2001 in Blankenberge, Belgium.

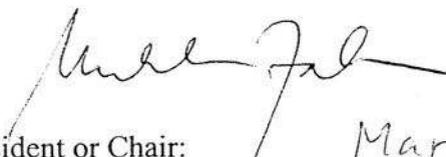
(MOTION PROPOSED:) QUESTION:

(Please use one form per motion, please. Copy this form as much as needed).

What measures has the EUD taken to carry out a survey on Deaf education in Europe proposed by the Finnish Association of the Deaf in 1999.

Signed by:

Name of President or Chair:


Markku Jokinen

Please fax or post this form to EUD, rue Franklinstraat 110, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium, fax: +32 2 735 53 54, **before Friday 9 February 2001.**

EUD GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2001:
Candidates nominated for EUD Board

PRESIDENT:

Knud SONDERGAARD (proposed by DDL, SDR, DGB) – C.V. attached

VICE PRESIDENT:

Markku JOKINEN (proposed by FAD, SDR, DGB) – C.V. attached

BOARD MEMBERS (listed in alphabetical order):

- Helly CHRISTOPOULOU (proposed by HFD) – C.V. attached
- Amilcar MORAIS (proposed by FPAS) – C.V. to follow
- Terry RILEY (proposed by BDA) – C.V. attached
- Isabelle SEAU ((proposed by FNSF) – C.V. to follow
- Johan WESEMANN (proposed by DGB) – C.V. to follow

C.V. of KNUD SØNDERGAARD

President of the Danish Deaf Association

Born 20 March 1936 in Denmark
Deaf at age 4 (unknown how)

Languages:

Danish (spoken and Danish sign language)
English (spoken and American sign language)
Swedish (spoken and Swedish sign language)
German (reading)

Education:

1 year in a hearing school (1943-44)
6 years at the School for the Deaf, Nyborg (1944-50)
5 months youth school (1951-52)
Danish Folk High School 6 months (1955-56)

Farmer's winter-school 1957-58
The Royal University of Agriculture, Copenhagen, 1958-61

Graduated as Candidatus Agriculture 1961 (= Masters Degree)

Employment:

1950-57 Farmer (breaks for winter schools - see above)
1961-1985 Scientific Assistant at the State Department of Agriculture (scientific assistant in agricultural economic statistics.
1985 - 99 Executive Director of the Danish Deaf Association
(see below under Danish Deaf Association)

Sports:

Active swimmer (15 years) and handball player (35 years) from 1948-1983

Leader:

1953 Elected leader for handball in a local club (hearing club)
1955 Regional officer for handball (Regional hearing sports organisation)

1958-62 Handball leader of Døvania (local Deaf Sports club in Copenhagen)
1962-67 President of Døvania
1962-70 Secretary of the Danish Deaf Sports Association
1970-78 President of the Danish Deaf Sports Association

1967-71 CISS Technical Delegate for Swimming
1971-73 Executive Committee Member of the Comité International Sports des Sourds (CISS)
1973-97 Secretary-general of the CISS

1973-81 President of the Nordic Deaf Sports Council

1984-92 Member of the Board of the International Coordinating Committee (Paralympics)

Deaf Association, Disabled organisation etc.:

1971-78 Member and vice-president of the board of the Danish Deaf Association
1978-85 President of the Danish Deaf Association
1985-99 Executive Director of the Danish Deaf Association
1999- present President of the Danish Deaf Association

1972 - present Member of the board of the Danish Disabled Federation (DSI) and
1977 - present Member of the Executive Committee of DSI

1980- present Member of the Danish Council of Disabled (appointed by the Government)
1995- present Member of the board of the "Centre for Equal Opportunities of Disabled People"

1977-91 Member of the board of the Døvefilm Video
1978-82 Member of the board of the "Institute for the Deaf" (350 employed - hearing and deaf)
1982- present President of the board of the "Institute for the Deaf" – now "Center for the Deaf"

1980-93 President of the board of "Social Workers for the Deaf" (a state welfare service)
1973- present Member/president/secretary of Døvefonden (fund supporting the Deaf)

1994- present Board Member of the "Centre for Sign Language and Sign-supported Communication"

International:

EUD:

1985-90 Member of the EUD board
1990- present President of the EUD

Helios II:

1993-96

EDF:

1997 - present Board member
2000 - present Member of the Membership and Credentials Committee

CURRICULUM VITAE

NAME Markku Juhani Jokinen

DATE & PLACE OF BIRTH 20th June 1959, Jämsänkoski, Finland

WORK ADDRESS Teacher Training Programme for Finnish Sign Language Users
Department of Teacher Education
Faculty of Education
PB 35
40351 Jyväskylä, Finland
e-mail: majokine@edu.jyu.fi

Finnish Association of the Deaf
PB 57
00401 Helsinki, Finland
e-mail: markku.jokinen@kl-deaf.fi

HOME ADDRESS Ruulahdentie 6 as 8,
40520 Jyväskylä

EDUCATION Graduation, Jämsänkoski Secondary School (Senior High) 1980

M.A. in Education, Certified Teacher of Comprehensive School, University of Jyväskylä 1991

Certified Teacher of the Deaf, Department of Special Education, University of Jyväskylä 1992

Post Graduate Studies in Linguistics, Psycholinguistics and Sign Language Linguistics, University of Rochester, N.Y., USA 1992-1993

FURTHER QUALIFICATIONS Diploma, Tutor of Finnish Sign Language, Finnish Association of the Deaf 1982

Diploma, Trainer in Deaf Awareness, Finnish Association of the Deaf 1986

EMPLOYMENT

Acting Youth Affairs Officer Finnish Association of the Deaf	1980 - 1981
Research Assistant, National Board of Social Welfare and University of Jyväskylä	1982 Fall - 1983 Spring
Sign Language Dictionary Assistant, Finnish Association of the Deaf	1987 Summer - 1988 Spring
Researcher, Nordic Council of the Deaf and Finnish Association of the Deaf	1993 Summer
Senior Lecturer in Finnish Sign Language, University of Jyväskylä	1993 - 1994
Project Officer, Finnish Association of the Deaf	1994 Fall
Acting Head of Sign Language Center, Finnish Association of the Deaf	1995 Spring
Acting Head of Library and Information Service, Finnish Association of the Deaf	1995 Summer
Acting Head of Educational Planning, Finnish Association of the Deaf	1995 - 1996
Teacher of the Deaf, Albert School of the Deaf, Helsinki	1996 - 1997 Fall
Project Planner, Teacher Training Programme for Finnish Sign Language Users, Teacher Education Department, University of Jyväskylä	1997 Fall - 1998 Spring
Project Co-ordinator, Teacher Training Programme for Finnish Sign Language Users, Teacher Education Department, University of Jyväskylä	1998 Fall -

ADDITIONAL
ACTIVITIES AND
EXPERIENCES

Trainer of Finnish Sign Language Tutors	1983 -
Trainer in Deaf Awareness	1987 -
Visiting trainer of Sign Language Interpreters	1983 -
Visiting teacher at Folk High School of the Deaf, Helsinki	1988 -
Visiting lecturer of Basic Level of Finnish Sign Language, Open University of Jyväskylä	1993 -
Board member of the Finnish Association of the Deaf	1981 - 1984 and 1993 - 1994
President of the Finnish Association of the Deaf	1997 -
Chair of the Finnish Sign Language Board, The Institute of Domestic Languages, Ministry of Education	1997 -
Vice member of National Council of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	1997 -
Chair of Finnish Sign Language Committee, The Finnish Association of the Deaf	1988 -
Chair of the Committee on International Affairs, The Finnish Association of the Deaf	1999 -

INTERNATIONAL
EXPERIENCES

Member of Sign Language Committee of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD)	1987 - 1991
WFD Expert on Deaf Education, Sign Language and Deaf Culture	1991 -
Executive Committee Member of the European Union of the Deaf (EUD)	1995 -
Vice President of the EUD	1998 -
Steering Group Member of Sign Language Project of EUD	1996 - 1998

WFD representant in UNESCO Conference
On Special Need in Education,
Salamanca, Spain

1994

World Congress of the Deaf

1983 Palermo

1987 Helsinki

1995 Wien

1999 Brisbane

Speeches and lectures in several international
conferences, seminars and congresses as
WFD Expert and Deaf education expert all over
the world

1988 -

C.V. of Terry Riley

Positions of Office Held

Been a member of the British Deaf Association (BDA) for over 25 yrs

Served as the First Chairman of the North West Region of the BDA

Served on to the Executive Council of the BDA 1987-1999

Served as a National Councillor of the BDA 1990-1999

BDA Delegate at WFD Congresses

Finland

Japan

Austria

Member of BDA Team Bid for 2004

Australia.

EUD Delegate 1990-1998.

Elected to EUD Executive Council 1992 -1998

Vice President EUD 1994-1998

On a Regional Level, been heavily involved in Training and Campaigning.

Set up courses on Management, Training, Campaigning, Assertiveness, Empowerment

At National Level of BDA, set up various courses as above

Member of the BDA Executive Council

Management Committee (FGP)

BDA representative to BDSC.

Addressed Parliamentary Committees on TV Sign Language

At European level, been involved in setting up and teaching

Training

Management

Assertive

Empowerment

Chair of TV & Video Committee

Given numerous Presentations at Various International Conferences.

Was involved in the EUD Executive Council (Board) which was instrumental in giving support and assistance to the NAD of East Germany when it became independent, and amalgamated with West Germany.

If elected I feel that I have a wealth of experience to give to the Board of the EUD due to my many years of experience at National & European Level and, more importantly, at Local level, as I still maintain my strong contacts with the community.

Terry Riley

BDA Nominee to the Board of EUD

Helly Christopoulou

- Born** 5 October 1970, Athens
- Studies** Graduate of the *Panteio University of Social and Political Sciences*, Athens
- Degree in Sociology
 - Specific in the sector of General Sociology
- Foreign language** English, *Certificate Lower of Michigan*
- Profession** *Income Audit* at the Finance Department of the *Hilton Athens*
Qualified teacher of *Greek Sign Language*
- Activities done** 1988 till now
- Participant in *IV Euro Youth Deaf Camp*, Portugal 1988
 - Participant in *Euro Youth Deaf Leadership Training*, UK 1989
 - Chief co-ordinator in *Euro Youth Deaf Leadership Training*, Greece 1991
 - Delegate of Greek Youth in *Euro Youth Deaf Council (EYDC)*, 1990-1991
 - President of *Greek Youth Deaf Commission*, 1990-1992
 - Member of the *Youth Steering Group in European Community Regional Secretariat (ECRS)*, 1992-1993
 - Board member of *Youth Commission-European Union of the Deaf (YC-EUD) and EUYD*, 1993-2000
 - Board member of the *Hellenic Federation of the Deaf (HFD)*, 1993-1998
 - Board and Executive member of the *European Union of the Deaf (EUD)*, 1997-2001
- Seminar(s)/course(s) attended**
- *SL Teachers Training Project, Horizon--1992-1993*
 - *Leadership Training, Gallaudet Project --1993*
 - *Youth Work for young Deaf People in Europe, Petra/Youth Bureau Project--1993*
 - *Deaf People, Education and Community--1994*
 - *Deaf Animateurs Project--1998/99*
 - *Deaf Empowerment Project--1999, etc.*