Council Members

Haydee Beckles, Self-advocate Regional Representative, from Inclusion Inter-Americana, Panama, Americas.
Mia Farah, Self-advocate Regional Representative, from Inclusion Middle East North Africa, Lebanon.
Yves Giraud, Regional Representative, from Inclusion Africa and the Indian Ocean, Mauritius.
Raquel Jelinek, Self-advocate Regional Representative, from Inclusion Inter-Americana, Mexico, Americas.
Ingrid Körner, Regional Representative, of Inclusion Europe, Germany.
Robert Martin, Self-advocate Regional Representative, from Inclusion Asia Pacific, New Zealand.
Quincy Mwiya, Self-advocate Regional Representative, from Inclusion Africa and the Indian Ocean, Zambia.
Nagase Osamu, Regional Representative, from Asia Pacific, Japan.
Zdenka Petrovic, Self-advocate Regional Representative, from Inclusion Europe, Croatia.
Roland Tamraz, Regional Representative, from Inclusion Middle East and North Africa, Lebanon.

Raquel Gonzalez, Administrator/Coordinator.
Connie Laurin-Bowie, Director, Policy and Programmes.

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WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE STAND FOR

Inclusion International is a global federation of family-based organizations advocating for the human rights of people with intellectual disabilities worldwide. For over forty years Inclusion International has been committed to the promotion of these human rights and our organization now represents over 200 member federations in 115 countries throughout five regions including the Middle East and North Africa, Europe, Africa and the Indian Ocean, the Americas, and Asia Pacific.

OUR VISION

A world where people with intellectual disabilities and their families can equally participate and be valued in all aspects of community life.

OUR MISSION

With its member societies, Inclusion International acts as an agent for change on the basis of four main principles affecting the lives of people with an intellectual disability and their families:

• Inclusion in all aspects of everyday society;
• Full citizenship which respects individual human rights responsibilities;
• Self-determination in order to have control over the decisions affecting one’s life;
• Family support through adequate services and support networks to families with a disabled member.
PRESIDENT’S REPORT

It was an honour for me to be re-elected President of Inclusion International at our General Assembly in Acapulco in 2006. The past two years have sped by as our activities have expanded to keep pace with increased demands and opportunities.

We launched our global report on poverty, “Hear Our Voices” in Acapulco, and this was followed by the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in March 2007. Together, these have provided a framework for our activities. The phrase “Linking Local Action to Global Change” has been the motto for my activities, which have focused on three main areas:

1. Negotiation and implementation of the United Nations CRPD
2. Supporting and strengthening our members

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Our success in influencing the text of the CRPD was the result of our combined efforts around the globe. All our key issues were addressed. Most important was the recognition of the family, the rights to education, living in the community and legal capacity. We achieved our goals by developing clear positions to share with other disability organizations and governments, by having self advocates involved in the negotiations, and by taking advantage of the close relationships between our members and their governments.

Now we are collaborating with other disability organizations in the CRPD Forum to monitor and implement the convention.

Supporting and strengthening our members

I have visited all our regions since the last General Assembly, and met many members to discuss how the work of Inclusion International can contribute to achieving the goals of individual members at local and national levels.

Strengthening our infrastructure

We have been working to strengthen the infrastructure of Inclusion International and to secure funding for our projects. Much of the day-to-day work on securing projects has fallen to Connie Laurin Bowie, our Director of Policy and Programs, and the work of improving our internal operations has been done by Secretary-General Ralph Jones. I hope over the next few years to diversify our funding base and expand the network of volunteers to improve the sustainability of our work and create financial stability.

The year ahead

The year ahead looks like a busy one. We are fortunate that one of our funders has agreed to provide us with funding to increase volunteer and committee involvement. We are planning a major conference to mark the 15th anniversary of the Declaration of Salamanca to take place in Salamanca, Spain, October 21-23, 2009. We will be producing a global report on inclusive education for this event.

We have achieved a lot since our last General Assembly, and thanks to the other officers, members of Council, and small but dedicated and hard-working staff. I thank you, all our members and the privilege of serving as President and, if I am reconfirmed in this role by the General Assembly for a final two years, I pledge my continued commitment and energy towards achieving our goals.

Diane Richler
SECETARY GENERAL’S REPORT

2007 was a busy year for the Secretariat and this has continued throughout 2008. Particular emphasis has been on strengthening our organisational infrastructure and capacity in the following areas:

**Systems & Procedures**

We have continued to focus on the secretarial and administration functions of the London office to better support the members and Officers of II. We have reviewed the various systems and procedures and documented as many of them as possible. The aim is to plan and prepare more effectively for meetings (particularly the General Assembly and Council meetings) and to assist with succession planning for various roles in II (staff and Officers).

**Investing in the Communication Strategy**

The Secretariat has been concentrating its efforts on strengthening its communication strategy by improving the website and the newsletter as well as updating the database. However, up until now we didn’t have the necessary tools and resources to do so. Some of the communication initiatives are as follows:

We are reviewing our website and plan to develop a completely new website that meets our communication needs and purpose in a simple, clear, and efficient way. We aim to launch the new website at the next Council meeting in 2009. We have invested in publishing software that will allow us to produce our own publications and cut down expenses over time.

We have commenced a review of II’s membership database and are in the process of reviewing database software. The entire II membership address book has been entered into the database to determine its suitability. A decision on whether to proceed with this system will be made early next year.

We have been using SKYPE to save on phone calls. The service is free for Skype to Skype and offers cheap rates on calls from Skype to mobiles and landlines.

**Review Inclusion International’s Constitution (Memorandum & Articles of Association)**

We have undertaken a brief review of the Constitution and tidied up its layout and structure. It is planned to register an amended Constitution after the changes to the UK Companies Act come into effect in early 2009.

**Council Handbook**

To assist Councillors, we have written a Council Handbook. This is a reference manual that we will keep updated and should be of benefit to both new and longer standing Councillors.

**Financial Systems**

Jointly with the Treasurer we have been reviewing Inclusion International’s financial delegations and responsibilities and have assigned more day-to-day accounting tasks to the Administration Office. This will free up the Treasurer to maintain oversight of the finances and prepare the management and year-end financial reports and budgets.

We have also introduced a new general ledger that provides more detailed reporting on projects and the secretariat activities. These changes will be bedded in by March 2009 after which we expect the financial reports to the Officers and other members to be available on a more regular basis.

Other changes have been initiated to reduce costs of the Secretariat including shifting offices within the University of East London.

**Ralph Jones**
PROJECT UPDATE

GUATEMALA
Achieving Inclusive Education for All (UNESCO)

NICARAGUA
Achieving Inclusive Education for All (UNESCO)

PANAMA
1. Panama Without Barriers (Government of Panama)
2. Disability and Climate Change: Building a Policy Agenda for Disability and the Environment

COLOMBIA
1. Promoting Inclusive Education (Teacher training and parent mobilization) (Government of Colombia)
2. Promoting and Validation Models and Best Practices in the UN Convention (United Nations)

CANADA (OTTAWA)
Transforming Rights Into Action General Assembly and International Forum to Promote the UN Convention

NEW YORK (UNITED STATES)

UNITED KINGDOM (LONDON)
Supporting Our Members

GENEVA
UNESCO International Conference on Inclusive Education “Inclusive Education the Way of the Future”

SALAMANCA SPAIN
A Global Conference on Inclusive Education, October 2009 (Inclusion Europe)

UGANDA/NAMIBIA/SWAZILAND/SOUTH AFRICA/ZANZIBAR/TANZANIA/MALAWI/LESOTHO/ZIMBABWE
Promoting Self-advocacy and the UN Convention (NFU, Inclusion Africa and the Indian Ocean)

COLOMBIA
1. Promoting Inclusive Education (Teacher training and parent mobilization) (Government of Colombia)
2. Promoting and Validation Models and Best Practices in the UN Convention (United Nations)
**PROJECT UPDATE**

**GERMANY (BERLIN)**
- 2010 World Congress of Inclusion International

**HUNGARY**
- Promoting and Validation Models and Best Practices in Supported Decision Making the UN Convention (United Nations)

**INDIA**
- Promoting and Validation Models and Best Practices in Supported Decision Making the UN Convention (United Nations)

**THAILAND (BANGKOK)**
2. Thailand (Bangkok) Regional Workshop for Networking and Collaboration on Intellectual Disabilities (Asia Pacific Centre on Disabilities)

**ETHIOPIA**
- Promoting and Validation Models and Best Practices in the UN Convention (United Nations)

**JORDAN**
- Panel of Experts Meeting with the Special Rapporteur on Disability

**NEW ZEALAND**
- Strengthening our International Infrastructure (IHC New Zealand)
Inclusion International Priorities and Initiatives

Inclusion International projects, initiatives and partnerships assist the organization to achieve its strategic objectives as outlined in the strategic plan adopted by the General Assembly in 2004.

II’s strategic plan is based on the UN Millennium Development Goals as a framework to address poverty and exclusion of people with intellectual disabilities and their families. This framework has helped us to draw attention to the crosscutting issues of exclusion and it has enabled our members to work in areas where in the past people with intellectual disabilities and their families have been ignored.

Hear Our Voices (2006): the global report on the poverty and exclusion faced by people with intellectual disabilities and their families, provided an opportunity to bring together the voices of those who have gone unheard for so long and to validate their experiences and perspectives.

At the II World Congress in Acapulco in 2006 families and self-advocates identified five priority issues that require specific attention in order to address exclusion and poverty: education is a key determinant of poverty and exclusion for individuals and for families; the structural causes of extreme poverty (development policy that excludes the people with disabilities); policies that ignore and undermine the role that families play in promoting and supporting inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities; acceptance of the right to make decisions and of legal capacity is a fundamental issue for people with intellectual disabilities and exclusionary policies that separate people with intellectual disabilities from their communities in institutions.

Over the past two years since the World Congress in Mexico, Inclusion International has been building on a two track agenda; on the one hand building on the work of our members that was done on poverty and exclusion and on the other hand contributing to the development and future implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

In order to effectively contribute to global processes such the Convention and poverty reduction initiatives, II has engaged in initiatives that strengthen the capacity of member organizations on the Convention; built opportunities for exchange of information between member organizations and with other disability groups and developed resources and tools for use by our membership.

Since the World Congress in Mexico our efforts have been focused on securing initiatives that assist our member organizations and regional associations to build on the findings of Hear Our Voices and to promote and implement the UN CRPD.

In 2009 and 2010 Inclusion International will focus on the implementation of the Convention as a tool for addressing poverty and exclusion generally and with specific attention to these priority issues. The new UN Convention is a new human rights instrument, one that is not only a set of societal responsibilities but also a tool for development. The Convention is meant to enable inclusion by reaching beyond entitlements and seeking to address the systemic causes of exclusion in society.
TREASURER’S REPORT

This report is to be read in conjunction with the Trustees’ Report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2007

Financial Activities

The financial activities for the year ended 2007 (with 2006 comparative figures) is summarised as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership fees</td>
<td>118,222</td>
<td>173,899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants for Projects</td>
<td>170,816</td>
<td>216,589</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>19,132</td>
<td>32,947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>1,185</td>
<td>1,154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>309,355</td>
<td>424,589</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Costs</td>
<td>33,935</td>
<td>157,192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Costs</td>
<td>124,250</td>
<td>103,189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications</td>
<td>20,049</td>
<td>11,342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>178,234</td>
<td>178,137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net incoming/outgoing resources</strong></td>
<td><strong>(67,492)</strong></td>
<td><strong>35,658</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An overall operating deficit (net outgoing resources) of €67,492 (2006: €35,658 surplus) was recorded for 2007. The adverse result was directly attributable to a decline in membership fees and project income carried forward into 2008 to cover future costs in taking the projects to completion.

All expenses were closely monitored during 2007 with a slight decline of €12,084 (3%) achieved over the previous year.

A breakdown of our Income and Expenses is represented in the graphs below:

Balance Sheet

The financial position as at 31 December 2007 (with 2006 comparative figures) is summarised as follows:

**Balance Sheet**

As at 31 December 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed assets</td>
<td>844</td>
<td>1,689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debtors</td>
<td>80,086</td>
<td>26,449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at bank</td>
<td>36,692</td>
<td>157,192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>117,622</td>
<td>185,330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities &amp; Funds</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creditors</td>
<td>70,583</td>
<td>70,799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted funds</td>
<td>(15,865)</td>
<td>103,189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted funds</td>
<td>62,904</td>
<td>11,342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities &amp; Funds</strong></td>
<td>117,622</td>
<td>185,330</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fred Heddell
Treasurer
Berlin, Germany, 16 – 19 June 2010

The worldwide movement of Inclusion International meets. Organised by Inclusion Europe and the German National Association Lebenshilfe for People with Intellectual Disabilities e.V.

The United Nations has adopted a Convention for the protection of the rights of people with disabilities. Now we have to make sure that it becomes reality for people with intellectual disabilities.

This has produced an attractive, informative and interactive programme:

People with intellectual disabilities of all ages and degrees of disability and their families are at the core of the programme. The topics cover all aspects of life from childhood to old age:

- The right to live in dignity;
- People with disabilities having legal capacity (the right to make decisions for themselves);
- The right to be included in the community;
- The right to inclusive education;
- The right to live without poverty;
- Protection from discrimination;
- The fight against social exclusion.

The worldwide bond is created by:

- A programme reflecting the lives of people with intellectual disabilities and their families in the whole world – their rights, their wishes, but also their problems;
- Speakers and moderators from many countries;
- A broad spectrum of different opinions and international competence, with examples of good practice and international participants.

An attractive programme with interesting and dynamic speakers

The Congress offers leading presentations in many important areas and allows for personal exchange of experiences. It will include a lively mix of plenary sessions, exchanges in smaller groups and possibilities for discussions at poster presentations.

Accessibility

The Congress offers an interesting programme with simultaneous interpretation in four languages: English, German, French and Spanish. Further languages will be available if required by a sufficient number of participants.

The Congress will follow the international rules for accessibility of conferences for persons with intellectual disabilities. They will be implemented by a trained team of moderators. At all times there will be programme choices at three levels of accessibility:

- Easy to understand presentations;
- Presentations that may require some support;
- Presentations that may be more difficult to understand.

Participants with severe or multiple disabilities can also participate with further information.

Venue

The Estrel Hotel Berlin is Europe’s largest hotel with 1,125 rooms, 5 restaurants, 2 bars, a beer garden and a daily live show called “Stars in Concert”.

Further information

Those interested in attending can find further information about the programme, participation fees, travel information and booking possibilities on the Congress website at www.inclusion2010.de. Please register your interest at the website to regularly receive further information about the Congress.
We thank our sponsors and donors:

- Anonymous Foundation
- The Arc of the United States
- The American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
- The Canadian Association for Community Living
- Colombia National Ministry of Education
- Fundación Saldañiaga Concha
- IIHC New Zealand
- Norsk Forbund for Utviklingshemmede (NFU)
- People First of Canada
- Rosemary F. Dybwad International Fellowship Trust Inc
- SHIA (Solidarity, Human Rights, Inclusion, Accessibility), Swedish Organisations’ of Persons with Disabilities International Aid Association
- UNESCO
- United Nations Voluntary Fund

We thank all of our partners for their collaboration and support:

- Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Education Directorate, Special Needs Students/Partnerships.
- Global Partnership on Disability and Development (GPDD)
- International Disability Alliance (IDA)
- United Nations Panel of Experts on Disability (UN Special Rapporteur on Disability)
- SENADIS, Government of Panama
- UNESCO Education For All Flagship
- West Montreal Re-adaptation Centre
- SHIA (Solidarity, Human Rights, Inclusion, Accessibility), Swedish Organisations’ of Persons with Disabilities International Aid Association
- UNESCO
- United Nations Voluntary Fund