**AITA/IATA asbl**
Legal address :
MAI, Rue Washington, 40 – 1050
Brussels, Belgium

**To Promote Understanding and Education Through Theatre**

# Report on the AITA/IATA Council Meeting 3 February 2026 held ONLINE

Dear National Centres & Associate Members

Introduction - On 3 February 2026, AITA/IATA Council held an Online Council Meeting, two councillors, Patrick Schoenstein and Cândido Sobreiro were excused from the meeting. President Sofia Wegelius chaired the meeting. Contact details of Council Members are on the AITA/IATA Website **HERE**.

1. *Finance and administration*

The collaboration with **Officium B.V.** will be formally terminated due to lack of competence and delayed action; the final small invoice will be paid to close the matter. The **Membership Solidarity Contribution** initiative (voluntary donation option for members) was approved, including transparency measures and public acknowledgement of contributors (with consent). AITA/IATA needs to **apply for the NGO discount for MailChimp** following changes to the free plan limits and once application is accepted AITA/IATA will subscribe for the cheapest package possible as it is sufficient for the association. Dropbox has been cancelled to reduce costs, Google Drive (included in **Google Workspace for Nonprofits** package) will replace Dropbox.

2. *Events*

AITA/IATA is not able to **provide financial support to the 26th Drama in Education Conference in Austria** this year. The reasons include the fact that in 2024, the amount used from the Canadian fund had to be repaid from the budget of AITA/IATA, the association paid two secretaries for two months due to the change of secretariat, as well as the costs incurred due to the website shutdown and restoration (consequences of the unresolved website domain), and the increase in service and mandatory registration fees. Instead, AITA/IATA agreed to further promote the event with a **special offer** advertised on social media.

Criteria for **future financial support to events or participants** will be discussed and developed at a future council meeting.

The next **AITA/IATA** online Masterclass is being scheduled with Sanna Saarela from Finnish National Centre of AITA/IATA and Lilian Lloyd, a Paris-based playwright, artist and director.

*3.* *New Members* – Council approved several new associate members from: Senegal, USA, Bulgaria, United Kingdom

*4.* *World Theatre Day*

The council decided to **further promote the World Theatre Day Call** to a wider audience in a letter sent to its members, and share video promotional content, for which the **recently registered free Canva Non-profit AITA/IATA account** can be used.

5. *AITA/IATA International Amateur Theatre Festival in February / March 2027 Wellington, New Zealand*

Council agreed to hold **regular monthly meetings with the New Zealand Festival organiser** to support planning toward the 2027 AITA/IATA World Festival in Wellington.

6. Communication: The **email system will be reviewed** so that Council members and secretariats also receive secretariat's emails sent to members.

7. *Future meetings –*

The **next online Council Meeting** will take place on **3 March at 17:00 CET**. The next **physical Council Meeting** is scheduled during the **Louder Together Festival in Antwerp (August 2026)**. Council accepted the invitation to hold a **Council Meeting in France in December 2026** (hosted by the Treasurer, Patrick Schoenstein), the date to be specified during next council meeting.

The Council of AITA/IATA offers best wishes and good health to all Members.

The Council of AITA/IATA

3 February 2026