



**12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the European Dyslexia Association  
24<sup>th</sup> of September 2011  
at the  
Publications Office of the European Union 2, rue Mercier, L-2985 Luxembourg**

**The Chairman's (Annual) Report 2010  
by SR Michael Kalmár**

**1. WELCOME**

Welcome to all attending presidents and delegates of the EDA's member organisations.

**2. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

As of the General Assembly on 24<sup>th</sup> of April 2010 in Bruges, the EDA Board of Directors consists of

A. Persons elected on 15.11.2007 and finishing their term with this GA 2011

SR Michael Kalmár (Chair),  
Karin Brünger (Vice-chair),  
Raymond Claes (Vice-chair),  
Lars Sander (Administrator).

B. Persons ratified as Board Directors on 24.4.2010, finishing their term at the GA 2014

Prof. Giacomo Stella (Administrator),  
Dr. Anne-Marie Montarnal (Secretary),  
Rudy Vandevoorde (Treasurer)

C. At this General Assembly 2011 in Luxembourg following persons were validly nominated for the election to the Board for 4 years (2011 to 2015) by Effective Members:

.) Dr. Kate Saunders (KS), nominated by the British Dyslexia Association (UK)

.) Christine Sczigiel (CS), nominated by the Bundesverband Legasthenie und Dyskalkulie (Germany)

.) Iannis Karagiannakis (IK), nominated by the Association of parents and guardians with children with dyslexia and learning difficulties of Thessaloniki and Northern Greece (Greece)

- .) Raymond Claes (RC), nominated by DYSPEL Luxembourg
- .) Lars Sander (LS), nominated by the Ordblinde/Dysleksiforeningen i Danmark
- .) Michael Kalmár (MK), nominated by the Österreichischer Bundesverband Legasthenie (Austria)

On January 7<sup>th</sup> 2011 the Board designated Brigitte Kalmár (BK) as Volunteering Assistant to the EDA. Approx. yearly compensation: 400€ (from 2011).

By eMail decision in summer 2011 the Board designated Karin Brünger as the EDA's Liaison Officer to the European Disability Forum (EDF) and to UNESCO.

The GA 2010 in Bruges elected Sven Eklöf (FMLS) as external auditor.

### 3. **BOARD MEETINGS**

Since the Board Meeting in Berlin in 2008 the Board informs the member organisations about the main EDA Board's agenda points and decisions via an official communiqué.

Following the 11<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Assembly (24<sup>th</sup> of April 2010, Bruges) the Board has met

- .) from 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> of November 2010 in Brussels (Belgium)
- .) from 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> of January 2011 in Vienna (Austria)
- .) from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2011 in San Marino
- .) briefly on 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 2011 in Luxembourg

To save money and time, there were a high number of telephone meetings and – often several daily – contacts via e-mail.

The Board agreed future Board meetings at the following dates & venues (subject to change by the Board):

- .) 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> of November 2011 in Copenhagen
- .) 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> of January 2012 in Växjö/Sweden
- .) 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> of June 2012 in San Marino

I want to emphasize the fact that all the Board Directors are volunteers which do their duty for the EDA only in their time off and in their leaves. They do not receive any compensation for their work in the EDA. Their travel and accommodation costs are covered by their nominating association. Some of them even pay travel and accommodation for Board Meetings and General Assemblies partly or completely themselves. Only a small compensation for their expenses like telephone, postage and Internet bills can be paid.

All the administrative work, which normally in such a Europe wide NGO like the EDA is fulfilled by experienced staff, is done by them. Their work is not comparable to those of many of our member organisations, that have official offices, paid staff and enough financial possibilities to pay external experts. Since January 2011 the EDA is assisted officially by Brigitte Kalmár as volunteer.

This affects the EDA's capability to join EU-granted projects, as most of them require - apart from financial contributions - formal employed staff. More about this issue later.

### 4. **COMMUNICATIONS**

#### **4.1 EDA-NEWS (LETTER)**

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank cordially the co-editors, Robin and Jennifer Salter, for their enthusiastic work in producing the EDA NEWS. Since April 2005 Robin produced the EDA NEWS electronically as a PDF file and e-mailed them to all EDA members.

The content of the current newsletter, however, is still a problem because the vast majority of member associations do not send in information for publication. The Board repeats asking every member association to send information about their own association and their activities directly to the chairman on a regular basis. All information of common interest which reaches the chairman is regularly forwarded straight to the member organisations. Although a translation into English improves the impact of your information, the EDA will publish it in your native language as well.

Please use the EDA Newsletter to advertise your conferences and later to report on them. If anything of interest in the field of dyslexia appears in your newspapers, please send it to the chairman.

All member associations should be aware that they are free to translate the newsletter or any part of it into any language but should acknowledge the source.

There is a strong desire expressed by many member organisations to receive abstracts or minutes from National Conferences or other important events organised by EDA members via the EDA Newsletter.

#### **4.2 WEBSITE**

The website [www.dyslexia.eu.com](http://www.dyslexia.eu.com) will be discontinued soon. Until the end of this year it will be linked to the new EDA-website [www.eda-info.eu](http://www.eda-info.eu). Please use this new website address and inform your members about this change. The site [www.europeandyslexiaassociation.eu](http://www.europeandyslexiaassociation.eu) has been given up.

Until now no EDA member has refused permission to implement a link directly from the EDA-Website to each member's site. There will be one part for links for the member homepages and another for external links. We also encourage the members to create a link to the EDA webpage on their own homepage.

The Website design has been completely renewed, but the content is not finished yet.

Future plans include information in a number of languages, conference papers and reports, lists of European activities and conferences etc.

#### **4.3 E-MAIL AND POSTAL ADDRESSES OF THE EDA MEMBERS**

We ask all the members of the EDA to inform the Board accurately and in time about changes of addresses of their Presidents, CEO's and other Board Members who are especially responsible for International Contacts and for Finances.

Without an employed staff the EDA-Board Directors are losing a lot of their limited time for the EDA, exhausting their private phone bills and even then sometimes do not find contact to some of our member organisation at once. Brigitte Kalmár, Volunteering Assistant to the EDA has already assembled the actual data of each member and will ask the members in future for clarifications and updates.

It is vitally important for the impact of the whole EDA to keep and to improve ameliorate the communication channels between the members and the Board.

## **5. EUROPEAN DYSLEXIA AWARENESS WEEK**

There exists an EDA brochure explaining the purpose of the week and giving suggestions of possible activities. Members can ask for a copy in MS-Publisher format or in .doc-Format from the Chairman or the Secretary of the EDA.

Regarding the next years the Board has worked out the following text which could be used as press release template for the member organisations in the following dyslexia awareness weeks:

### *More than 50 Million People with Dyslexia in Europe*

*The European Dyslexia Association (EDA), "The Voice of People with Dyslexia in Europe", is the umbrella organisation for Dyslexia in Europe. It represents 33 Dyslexia organizations in 24 European countries. Research findings indicate that at least 50 million people in Europe are dyslexic and may face impaired access to education and work.*

*Dyslexia is a difference, which makes the acquisition and use of reading, spelling and writing skills difficult. This difference is neurological in origin.*

*Central to many Specific Learning Difficulties/Disabilities (Sp.L.D.) is the role of cerebellar functioning and also the inhibition of primitive reflexes. This, along with cognitive, behavioural and environmental factors can lead to the co-existence or overlap between indicators of Sp.L.D. and is the reason why many labels may be attached to the same students. When this occurs (whatever the etiology) the label which best describes these students is the umbrella term Sp.L.D. Children with co-existing Sp.L.D. experience even more difficulties within the learning situation. Few countries accept that dyslexia is only one of a group of difficulties/disabilities which may also have varying degrees of co-existence, including:*

- *Dyslexia: (4 to 10% population)*
- *Dysgraphia: hand writing difficulty (10%)*
- *Dyspraxia: motor difficulties (2 to 10%); 50% dyslexia have some motor dysfunction*
- *Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD): concentration difficulties and impulsiveness. (3 to 9% school population); co-existence ADHD and learning disabilities 4%*
- *Dyscalculia: difficulties in maths calculations (3 to 6%); Dyscalculic children with ADHD 15 to 26%; 50 to 60% dyslexics have difficulties with maths*
- *Asperger's Syndrome: emotional behaviour & social communication difficulties. These learning difficulties typically affect a student's motor skills, information processing and memory. (1.5%)*
- *Specific Language Impairment (SLI): (1%); link between SLI and Dyslexia is well documented. Persons with Sp.L.D. will have average or above average cognitive functioning.*

*The cognitive difficulties which are underlying this difference can also affect organisational skills, calculation abilities and other cognitive and emotional abilities.*

*Dyslexia may be caused by a combination of difficulties in phonological processing, working memory, rapid naming, sequencing and the automaticity of the acquisition of literacy skills.*

*Researchers acknowledge that there are many contributing factors for dyslexia, but there is evidence that this can often involve a genetic element.*

*There is no relationship between a person's level of intelligence, individual effort or socio-economic position and the presence of dyslexia.*

*Despite increasingly better legislation and policy supporting equal opportunities in many European countries, the experience for many people with Dyslexia is an educational system that does not identify and meet their needs and are employers who are prejudiced.*

*The EDA ask to the European Commission to work with the EDA to make early identification of dyslexia across Europe the norm, lifelong learning opportunities a reality and to challenge the current discriminatory practice of many employers. The failure to have unbiased systems of assessment can mean that dyslexia is undetected in some cases and access to education and employment is further impaired by the person's country of birth.*

*In the 21<sup>st</sup> Century this lack of equal access is unacceptable and the EDA with the European Commission wants to eradicate prejudice, enable those who are responsible in the European countries to understand the specific learning differences of people with dyslexia and therefore to maximize opportunities for more than 50 million children, adolescents and adults across Europe.*

The text is at the disposal of the member organisations. Since 2005, the European Dyslexia Awareness Week has always been and will be as well in future the week beginning with the first Monday of October. October is designated as Dyslexia Month.

2011 – 3<sup>rd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> of October

## **6. MEMBERSHIP AFFAIRS**

Since the last General Assembly the following associations were accepted by the Board as Adherent Members: La Federation Française des DYS (France), Sprankel (Belgium), Eureka en Die-'s-lekti-kus (Belgium), Institut St. Charles (France) and Dislexia Canarias y Otras Dificultades de Aprendizaje-DISLECAN (Spain).

The Adherent Member DISFAM (Spain) has asked for Effective Membership.

All this has to be ratified by this General Assembly, provided a motion of the Board for ratification.

The Board has received and approved the application for Adherent Membership of Associazione Sammarinese Dislessia (San Marino) as well. As this application was submitted recently, it is not possible to present it to this General Assembly for ratification. It will be submitted by the Board to the General Assembly 2012.

The Board has been forced to decide termination of membership of the Kärntner Landesverband Legasthenie (Austria) due to serious offences. This motion will be submitted to this General Assembly for ratification.

After the confirmation of the new organisations and the ratification of the termination of membership the EDA will consist of 36 member organizations in 21 EU-countries plus Norway, Switzerland and Northern Cyprus.

## **7. OUTSTANDING FEES (by September 2011):**

Although there are improvements, the Board is still concerned about the amount of time and workforce the Board Directors – especially the Treasurer – have to spend contacting “forgetful” members to guarantee a financially healthy base for the EDA activities.

You will find updated details in the Treasurers Financial Report.

## **8. EDA's PUBLIC ACTIVITIES AND REPRESENTATIONS**

While a lack of finances and the regular vocational life of the Board Directors are restricting the EDA's activities, it has been possible to provide substantial activities and personal official EDA representations in some instances, especially when it was subsidised by member organisations.

### **8.1 THE 3rd ALL-EUROPEAN DYSLEXIA CONFERENCE IN BRUGES APRIL 2010**

It was a big success concerning the contents, the presentations and the EDA's reputation. As well a financial success.

### **8.2 THE 1st SUMMER SCHOOL OF THE EDA IN SAN MARINO 15th TO 18th JULY 2010**

Under the responsibility of the Board Director Prof. Giacomo Stella and in co-operation with the University of San Marino, the first Summer school of the EDA took place in the Republic of San Marino. The event itself was free of charge; attendants had to cover accommodation and travel themselves.

The working language was English; the invited speakers came from Italy, UK, Luxemburg and Germany.

The SUMMER SCHOOL included the following topics:

- How to develop national wide organisation.
- How to push public institution to create appropriate legislation.
- Relationship between the national health system, social security and school.
- Dyslexia at school.
- Dissemination and communication.
- How to make fundraising.
- Dyslexia and technology
- EDA news.

The SUMMER SCHOOL also provided a large free social program including a gala dinner.

### **8.3 THE 2nd EDA COMMUNITY SUMMER SCHOOL IN SAN MARINO 4th to 6th JULY 2011**

This event, organised again in collaboration with the University of San Marino, assembled 30 persons from 9 European countries including an UNESCO delegate and guest speaker from the European Blind Union. It was awarded by an audience for the attendants at the two Head of State of the Republic San Marino. The setting was perfect to exchange reliable information, to discuss without limit and to find common solutions.

Topics were:

- .) Early Recognition of Dyslexia
- .) Lobbying and Campaigning for European Solutions in favour of the citizens with DYS and other print/reading Disabilities
- .) Adult persons with Dyslexia in University and at Workplace

You find more information on the EDA Website including PP-presentations of the speakers, photos and videos following the link

The 3<sup>rd</sup> EDA Community Summer School will stage again from 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> of June 2012 in San Marino. As the Board wants to keep the structure and settings as they are, all attendants nominated by EDA-member organisations will be admitted but attendance will be restricted to a maximum 50 persons.

#### **8.4 EDA ATTENDANCE AT CONFERENCES/MEETINGS**

- a) On 14<sup>th</sup> of May 2010 the President spoke greeting words on behalf of the EDA at the opening ceremony of the Conference of our Portuguese member APDIS-DISLEX in Porto via Internet Video Recording.
- b) President Michael Kalmár and the two Vice-Presidents Karin Bruenger and Raymond Claes attended the signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding (14<sup>th</sup> of September 2010, see below) and a working Breakfast at the European Parliament (15<sup>th</sup> of September 2010) strongly underlining the EDA's position in the Book Famine/Books without Borders Campaign in cooperation with the European Blind Union.
- c) President Michael Kalmár was invited to lead a workshop about metaphonological intervention at the Convention of the German Deutsche Gesellschaft für Sprachheilpädagogik 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2010.
- d) President Michael Kalmár spoke greeting words on behalf of the EDA at the opening ceremony at the German BVL-Conference 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> March 2011. He invited the audience to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> EDA Community Summer School in San Marino July 2011 and led a workshop on metaphonological prerequisites for acquiring written language.
- e) Vice-president Karin Bruenger and Treasurer Rudy Vandevoorde represented the EDA at the European Disability Forum (More Agenda Point Report EDF).
- f) Vice-president Karin Bruenger represented the EDA at UNESCO in Paris (More Agenda Point Report UNESCO ).

#### **8.5 UNESCO**

Vice-President Karin Brünger is in charge of the liaison with this UN-Organisation in Paris. She is in contact with high officials and tries to construct strong ties between the EDA and UNESCO. With letter from 8<sup>th</sup> of January 2009 the EDA was informed by the Director General of the UNESCO admitting that the EDA is now "NGO in official relations with UNESCO" (More Agenda Point Report UNESCO) .

#### **8.6 EUROPEAN DISABILITY FORUM:**

The EDF is an organisation developed by the EU to act as an umbrella for all disability-related associations in the EU.

Since 2008 the EDA is listed as a Full Member of EDF.

EDA Board Director Karin Brünger was elected as Board Director of the EDF at the GA of the EDF in Athens April 2009. All costs for her duty are covered by EDF (More Agenda Point Report EDF).

#### **8.7 EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

All MEPs have received a common letter of the EDA and FFDys in English and French asking support for the proposed exemptions of the copy-right for print/reading disabled persons on EU and on WIPO-level.

Early September 2011 EDA and the European Blind Union has addressed independently, but coordinated, petitions to the European Parliament to influence the Commissions position about a worldwide Treaty in the frame of the World Intellectual Property Organisation.

On 9<sup>th</sup> of September 2011 the Coordinators of the European Parliament's Petition Committee have decided to accept this urgent appeal to place the petition on the Agenda of the next official meeting on October 3<sup>rd</sup> in the European Parliament. The position of the EU on the WIPO Treaty for the Visually Impaired and other print disabled will be discussed by MEPs, the European Commission, the European Dyslexia Association and the European Blind Union. The MEPs will then decide what further steps to take on the issue.

The EDA will be represented at this official meeting by Vice-President Raymond Claes.

I attach a strategic overview by David Hammerstein (former MEP) from 8<sup>th</sup> of September :

### **Will the EU support a World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) treaty to end the book famine faced by blind and print disabled people?**

Millions of EU citizens who are blind or have other disabilities preventing them from reading a standard print book face a "book famine". This is because 95% of all published works are never converted to "accessible formats" they can read such as braille, large print or audio.

The European Blind Union (EBU) has campaigned for some years for an international treaty at the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) to facilitate better access to books. The European Parliament has supported this campaign.

Since summer 2010 the EDA and some of its members supports active this campaign.

In May 2011 the European Parliament, in adopting its report "Unlocking the potential of cultural and creative industries", called for the EU negotiators to back a binding WIPO treaty. However, the EU Council and Commission have consistently opposed such a treaty.

Between June 15<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> the copyright committee of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO SCCR22) made great progress towards a law to improve access to books for blind and other print disabled people. At the Geneva meeting, countries as diverse as Argentina, Brazil, the EU, and the USA, supported a draft document which could form the basis of a treaty, giving exceptions to copyright so that print disabled people can make and share accessible books.

However, the European Union negotiators have consistently opposed the idea of such a text becoming a legally binding treaty. They maintain that a non-binding "recommendation" would be sufficient for print disabled people, though by contrast they are happy to support binding treaties to support rights holders' interests. By opposing such a treaty, the EU Commission and Member States are clearly failing to recognise and respect the right of persons with disabilities to benefit from measures designed to ensure their independence, social and occupational integration and participation in the life of the community. (Article 26 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, integration of persons with disabilities)

Furthermore, Article 30 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, "participation in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport", says "3. States Parties shall take all appropriate steps, in accordance with international law, to ensure that laws protecting intellectual property rights do not constitute an unreasonable or discriminatory barrier to access by persons with disabilities to cultural materials."

The next WIPO SCCR meeting takes place in November 2011. It is expected to finalise the draft document, and to decide on how and when it will become law. **The European Blind Union calls on the Commission and Member States negotiators to ensure that the EU goes to the November meeting ready to call for the finalised text to become a binding treaty, and in doing so to live up to its commitments under the EU Charter and UN Convention.**

## **8.8 EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

a) President Michael Kalmár and the two Vice-Presidents Karin Bruenger and Raymond Claes attended the signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding (14<sup>th</sup> of September 2010, see below) and a working



Breakfast at the European Parliament (15<sup>th</sup> of September 2010) strongly underlining the EDA's position in the Book Famine/Books without Borders Campaign in cooperation with the European Blind Union.

b) In accordance with the World and European Blind Unions the EDA suspended the attendance at the stakeholder meetings on EU and WIPO level relating to exceptions to the national copyright laws and free exchange of accessible format between countries in early spring 2011.

c) The Commissioner of Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth, Mrs Androulla Vassiliou has been invited to the 3<sup>rd</sup> EDA Community Summer School (see below)

## **8.9 WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANISATION (WIPO)**

Between June 15<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> the copyright committee of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO SCCR22) made great progress towards a law to improve access to books for blind and other print disabled people. At the Geneva meeting, countries as diverse as Argentina, Brazil, the EU, and the USA, supported a draft document which could form the basis of a treaty, giving exceptions to copyright so that print disabled people can make and share accessible books.

In order to support this common activities for print/reading disabled persons the President Michael Kalmár applied request for accreditation as an Ad hoc Observer in future sessions of the WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights. He intends to attend the next crucial November WIPO SCCR meeting.

The EDA members were informed via EDA-Newsletter about every step in this campaign.

## **9. PUBLICATIONS**

The EDA was invited by the British Dyslexia Association to contribute to the coming BDA "Dyslexia Handbook 2012". President Michael Kalmár submitted an article about the EDA, its members and activities.

## **10. EU-GRANTED PROJECTS**

### **10.1 GATE**

(2009-2011, understanding dyslexia phenomena between pre-primary and primary school)

The Board supported our member DYSPEL (Luxemburg) in the successful bid for this dyslexia related project with partners from Italy, Bulgaria, Turkey, UK. The EDA was supposed to be included in the dissemination process.

For many reasons DYSPEL left the project in spring 2011. So the EDA is not anymore involved in this project.

### **10.2 EUPALT**

(2011-2013, European Passport for the Education of Teachers/Therapists for People with Dyslexia)

The EDA has applied for this project led by VINCO (Austria) as partner in February 2010. This proposal was rejected by the Austrian Agency, but resubmitted in February 2011 and then approved in August 2011.

In a first step the project will investigate the legal situation in all the participating countries. Then it will specify a curriculum for teachers/professionals/therapists working with people with dyslexia. In a third step this will be transferred in the already existing online tool of EBIFF (former EU project led by Dr. Pretis, one of our partners), so that these persons would be able to control if their education and experience is enough to live up to the European expectations (what will have been created in the second step) (kind of certificate).

The Partners come from Austria, Germany, Turkey, Latvia, Portugal, Belgium and Italy)

The first budget for the EDA was 43 067€, which is planned to be used to subcontract those EDA-Members, which have a high financial impact to the EDA. The actual, now approved budget is 25 410€.

The person responsible at the Project Leader is Ms. Astrid Kottek-Saini, available under +43/3862/32332 or under [vinco@aon.at](mailto:vinco@aon.at).

### **10.3 README-PROJECT**

(Reading assessment with distributed multi-scale environments)

The EDA was invited to participate to propose this project.

Excerpt:

#### *"1.1.2 The challenge*

*The variety of factors involved in our understanding of what developmental dyslexia is about and the persistent difficulty to keep all variables under control and study their dynamic relationship in ecological conditions have been keeping alive the controversy as to whether dyslexia does indeed exist as a unitary clinical condition or rather simply reflects differences among reading strategies or developmental pace in the acquisition of strategic abilities. Given any two accompanying conditions - say poor phonological awareness and poor visual processing skill - it is often difficult to say which is the cause and which the effect, or even distinguish between causal relations and simple correlations. In current clinical practices and research studies, behavioural effects and internal causal relations are often investigated independently. Most commonly, only one causal factor at a time is focused on. There is nonetheless wide consensus that considerable progress in the field can be made through integrative, multi-scale research paradigms whereby multi-sensorial, multi-lingual evidence is concurrently monitored and tapped, and shared infrastructural environments make room for shared protocols for collection, analysis and modelling of experimental data. Only large-scale, multi-disciplinary initiatives can hold hope to meet this challenge, by promoting good practices, de facto standards and protocols, shared data, analytical tools and models. README is a concerted European initiative in this direction."*

The proposal to the EC has been submitted 13<sup>th</sup> of April 2010. Expected partners are

- 1 Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche CNR Italy
- 2 Centre for Research and Technology Hellas CERTH Greece
- 3 Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya UPC Spain
- 4 CreativIT s.l. CREATIVIT Spain
- 5 Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia UNIMORE Italy
- 6 Universität Tübingen UNITUBI Germany
- 7 University of York UNİYORK United Kingdom

The Budget submitted for the EDA is 120.000€.

This STREP Proposal has not been successful, but the leading partners will overwork and submit it again.

## **11. FUTURE ACTIVITIES OF THE BORD (IN PREPARATION)**

### **11.1 3<sup>rd</sup> EDA-COMMUNITY SUMMERSCHOOL San Marino 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> of June 2012**

I am glad to inform you that in co-operation with the University of San Marino the 3<sup>rd</sup> Summer school of the EDA will take place again in the Republic of San Marino.

Vice-President Raymond Claes invited European Commissioner Mrs. Androulla Vassiliou, in charge of Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth to give the opening speech on 6<sup>th</sup> of June.

The Cabinet of Commissioner Vassiliou answered, that the Commissioner is in principle positive to attend, however her attendance is subject to institutional obligations that might arise.

Topics (subject to change):

- a) Teacher and Adult Learner Training
- b) Adult Dyslexia II
- c) Dyslexia and IT (including typing as the 4<sup>th</sup> cultural ability)

As one of the days will be dedicated to Dyslexia and IT, it is intended to invite software specialists to present recent software for people with dyslexia.

Vice-President Raymond Claes will apply in Autumn 2011 for funding for participants in the frame of the Grundtvig Program.

The working language will be English.

The Board will hold a meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of June. There is a discussion in the Board about convening the General Assembly 2012 in the afternoon of the 8<sup>th</sup> of June.

As the Board wants to keep the structure and settings as they are, all attendants nominated by EDA-member organisations will be admitted but attendance will be restricted to a maximum 50 persons.

## **10.2 YEARLY GENERAL ASSEMBLIES OF THE EDA IN FUTURE**

Following the New Statutes the EDA will now hold a General Assembly every year. The Board discusses to include the GA 2012 into the 3<sup>rd</sup> EDA Community Summer School

## **10.3 4<sup>th</sup> ALL-EUROPEAN DYSLEXIA CONFERENCE in 2013**

The Board has already received proposals for cooperation from two serious possible partners, one in Germany and one in Sweden. At the moment the Board exchanges details with these institutions.

A final decision of the Board is expected at latest at the Board Meeting in January 2012.

The Board asks the member organisations not to plan any major events or conferences in early autumn 2013, expected date of the conference.

## **10.4 EXECUTION OF THE DECISIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2011**

## **10.5 PREPARING A DRAFT OF THE NEW BY-LAWS**

Discussion of and preparation in accordance with the New Statutes

## **10.6 TIMETABLE OF MAJOR DYSLEXIA RELATED EVENTS**

The target is that the EDA becomes an information centre for the planning of big events by other organisations related to Dyslexia like IARLD, IFLA, IDA and our member organisations to avoid time collision.

The time line will be available at the website.

This will provide more contacts to other organisations in our field and improve our role in the Dyslexia World.

**10.7 FURTHER ACTIVITIES IN THE BOOK FAMINE/BOOKS WITHOUT BORDERS IN COOPERATION WITH THE WORLD AND EUROPEAN BLIND UNION ON COMMISSION, PARLIAMENT AND WORKING COUNCILS ON THE EU-SIDE and ON UN-LEVEL (WIPO)**

**10.8 DEEPEN CONTACTS TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND TO THE EP "DISABILITY" INTERGROUP (PRESIDENT: DR. ADAM KOSA)**

## **11. THANK YOU**

to all of the Board Directors and member organisation' officials who have supported my chairmanship and enthusiastically pursued the objectives of the EDA.