



Organisation Mondiale pour l'Éducation Préscolaire
Organización Mundial para la Educación Preescolar
World Organisation for Early Childhood Education
www.worldomep.org

2019: 7
July

European Newsletter - Boletín - Bulletin Thank you OMEP Panama!



Ulina Mapp President of OMEP Panama opens the conference.

Just back from Panama, a beautiful country with nature, flora and fauna very different from my Sweden and Europe.
IN this Newsletter I give you an express update of what happened during the World Assembly (WA), important decisions about more OMEP World projects and also the World Declarations on taking action following the Child Rights Convention. In the conference following the WA with the theme *Identities and Culture in Early Childhood Education*, there were 16 keynotes and central panel

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2019 OMEP WORLD DECLARATION ON TAKING ACTION FOR CRC

MINUTES FROM EUROPEAN REGIONAL MEETING IN PANAMA

contributions and 12 symposia covering the theme from all regions and continents.

This broad understanding of the importance of acknowledging context and culture was further displayed in 73 individual presentations and 36 posters. These contributions will be described elsewhere; in national journals and newsletters, in *IJEC International Journal of Early Childhood* and in *OMEP: Theory into Practice*.

It was a productive WA, with decisions about four new OMP projects and the election of a new World President and a new World Treasurer for OMEP, as well as a new VP for Latin America. To be continued on the next page

Ingrid Engdahl



- *Organisation Mondiale pour L'Éducation Préscolaire*
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**Short report by Ingrid Engdahl from
the OMEP World Assembly, July 22-23, 2019, in Panama**



Opening session Welcome greetings by World President Eunhye Park and Ulina Mapp President of OMEP Panama.

Roll call and appointment of scrutineers

There were 34 national committees present and 15 present by proxies. As scrutineers we chose Selma Simonstein, Chile, and Catherine Meehan, UK.

World President Eunhye Park

- **Three interesting introductory speeches were given by**
Rima Sala on *Building Peaceful Societies: Is Early Childhood Development and care the Beginning?*
 - Mercedes Mayol Lassalle on *The right to education and care in early childhood: Perspectives from Latin America and the Caribbean* and Ulina Mapp on *Early childhood education, care and development in Panama*.
- **Annual reports for 2018** are printed and you will find these reports also in the booklet and on the OMEP World website:
International Journal of Early Childhood – Eunhye Park
OMEP Annual Report and OMEP – Theory into Practice – Eunhye Park
 - OMEP delegation in UN in New York – Maria Pia Belloni
OMEP working with UNESCO in Paris – Lisbeth Gouin and Danièle Peruchon
Eurochild – Ingrid Engdahl
ASEAN – Udomluck Kulapichitr
 - Global Action Programme (UNESCO-GAP) and OMEP ESD travel awards – Ingrid Engdahl, reporting on the six ESD award winners of 2019. Four of them presented during the conference;
 - **The OMEP ESD Student Award 2019**
Hande Güngör, Pamukkale University, Turkey
Development of Ecological Footprint Applications and Sustainable Life Opportunities in a Preschool Education Institution



- *The 10th OMEP Award 2019*

Marit Heldal, Norway

Learning from Sustainable Early Childhood Education and Care in a Refugee Camp

Tuğçe Akyol, Turkey

Education for sustainable development: From theory to practice

Florencia Bournier, Verónica Larrosa, Fernanda Silva, Sylvia Zuccolo, Uruguay

Project Turtles: In search of a sustainable environment

Mie Oba, Japan

Peace education for young children and future early childhood teachers with an effective learning resource: Kamisibai of a story of Hiroshima

Sylvie Martel, Canada

CPE Tortue tête, sustainable childcare centre

- **Memberships in OMEP**

A) OMEP in Serbia was revoked by WA because they have not sent in annual reports and not paid their fees for some years. Treasurer Eli Bergsvik has not got any answers to her e-mails.

B) WA decided to welcome two new Preparatory Committees; Belgium and Paraguay

C) WA welcomed one new National Committee – Iran

- **Treasurer's report for 2018 and World OMEP's budget for 2019** were presented by Eli Bergsvik. She brought up the fact that around 3 600 USD of the expenses are bank fees for sending, receiving and changing money. WA endorsed that OMEP National Committees should pay these costs, if possible.

WA also accepted the budget for 2019, which is around 50 000 USD, a very small budget for all the things OMEP carries out.

- **Election and honorary members**

A) There were two candidates for World President Mercedes Mayol Lassalle (Argentina) and Nektarios Stellakis (Greece). WA elected Mercedes (39 votes) over Nektarios (9 votes) and 1 abstained vote. The period runs 1 Jan 2020 - 31 Dec 2022.

B) WA elected a new World Treasurer Elin Eriksen Ødegaard (Norway) 2020-2022.

C) WA re-elected Vice-President for Asia Pacific Udomluck Kulapichitr (Thailand) and elected Desirée López De Maturana Luna (Chile) as a new VP for Latin America 2020-2022.

D) WA recognized two Honorary members: Haydee del Carmen Araujo De Lucha (El Salvador) and Maria Del Consuelo Garcia Sierra (Mexico).

- **Regional meetings (regional reports)**

Two hours were set aside for regional meetings led by the VPs:

- A) Africa Region– Nyamikeh Kyiamah
- B) Asia Pacific Region– Udomluck Kulapichitr
- C) Europe Region – Ingrid Engdahl
- D) Latin America – Mercedes Mayol Lassalle
- E) North America and Caribbean – Christiane Bourdages-Simpson

- **Group meetings by theme**

Two hours were set aside for discussions on different themes

- A) GAP/ESD/ WASH – Selma Simonstein, Glynne Mackey

The group reported on a wish for a continued OMEP ESD World project focussing on the OMEP ESD Rating scale. This would also be the focus for OMEP's contribution to UNESCO after Gap. WE also need to develop an OMEP policy for sustainable conferences and meetings.

- B) Declaration of 2019 OMEP – Ingrid Engdahl, Mercedes Mayol Lassalle

The group discussed and gave valuable input to the draft for the World Declaration around the UN Convention on the rights of the Child, sending on a clear intent that it is high time for Governments and other stakeholders to take action.

- C) Youth and young professional involvement– Adrijana Visnjic Jevtic

Starting from the question 'What is the role for OMEP in the world?', this group suggested Education, A Community and A Shared voice. Step up with new things: , New perspectives, New directions, New knowledge and New visions! Use communication packages like webinars and forum, hand out welcoming packages to new members about OMEP and OMEP's policies and actions, especially at universities for teacher students and invite young professionals and students to volunteer at events, being recognized and inspiring, discount for these membership groups and most important, listening and giving voice to young members.

- D) UN Convention CRC - 30th anniversary – Elisabet Nyléus

Presented many ways to raise the awareness of the CRC, and its intergenerational and intercultural statements. Public attention, articles and conferences, sharing OMEP's messages on the situation for the world's children in media. The group proposed an OMEP World Art project starting this autumn, where children are invited to illustrate the different articles in CRC, to be coordinated by Maria Vassiliadou from Cyprus. The group would also like to see examples of ECE activities related to CRC on the OMEP World web site, inspiring and sharing good ideas.

- E) OMEP: Integration through research – Eunhye Park

OMEP stands on three pillars: Policy, Practice and Research, giving as a unique voice for children in the world. The group presented new communication strategies with more Webinars, with speakers relating to the three pillars. A mentor system for

writing and publication was put forward. OMEP Korea has got support financially and will launch an OMEP Young Scholars Award, based on the abstracts submitted to the World Conferences, starting by 2020 in Athens, Greece.

- **OMEP World Declaration 2019and Action plan 2019-2020**

The declaration was endorsed and to be finalized by Ingrid Engdahl and Nancy Green (English), Mercedes Mayol Lassalle (Spanish) and Christiane Bourdages-Simpson (French). The World Declaration will be announced at the closure of the World Conference in three languages and handed out as well as being put on the OMEP world website, to be spread through national initiatives.

Action plan WA made the following additions to the Action Plan that was decided in Prague 2018:

- a) A new world project for ESD and Global citizenship focusing around the OMEP ESD Rating scale, version 2.
- b) A planned set of OMEP webinars on policy, practice and research within OMEP
- c) Starting an OMEP Young Scholars award
- d) A new world project with children, who are invited to a creative process with pieces of Art related to different articles in the CRC.

- WA decided that the next WA and WC will be in Athens, Greece, 13-17 July 2020.

In September 2019, there will be a Regional OMEP Conference in Kyoto, Japan.

Future World Assemblies and Conferences are offered by OMEP Canada in Quebec in 2021, followed by Thailand or New Zealand in 2022

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Ready for Athens 2020

Eli Bergsvik, Norway

Sofia Saiti, Greece

Merceds Mayol Lassalle,
World President elect, starting 2020

Effrosyni Katsikonouri,
President OMEP Greece

Ingrid Engdahl,
OMEP VP Europe

Closure of the World Assembly

Eunhye Park gave some personal comments around her presidency at the closure, and handed over the traditional necklace to Mercedes Mayol Lassalle. WA thanked both Eunhye and world treasurer Eli Bergsvik for their outstanding achievements for OMEP.

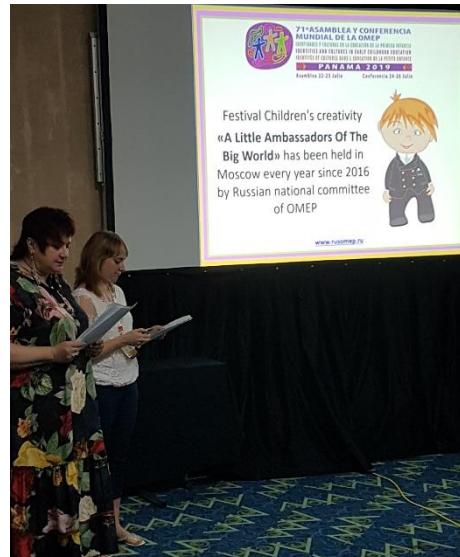


OMEP World Conference

The WA was followed by three days of World Conference around the theme *Identities and Culture in Early Childhood Education*.

There were 16 keynotes and central panel contributions and 12 symposia covering the theme from all regions and continents.

This broad understanding of the importance of acknowledging context and culture was further displayed in 73 individual presentations and 36 posters. . These contributions will be described elsewhere; in national journals and newsletters, in *IJEC International Journal of Early Childhood* and in *OMEP: Theory into Practice*



Larisa Shevchenko and Maria Gerasina Russia

Megan McGee
UK, Matteo
Corbucci and
Biagio Graziano
Italy and Eleni
Aliferieraki UK
and Greece

Maria
Vassiliadou
Cyprus and
Eleni at the
posters





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**DECLARATION
from the OMEP World Assembly in Panama, July 23, 2019**

**RENEW YOUR COMMITMENTS!
THIRTY YEARS AFTER THE ADOPTION OF THE CONVENTION ON
THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (CRC)**

We, members of the World Executive Committee of the World Organization for Early Childhood Education (OMEP), presidents and delegates of the National Committees present at the 71st World Assembly in Panama endorse our commitment to move forward in the realization and implementation of the CRC, always giving priority to the best interests of the child. The CRC proposes four guiding principles for its interpretation and application: the best interests of the child, the right to non-discrimination, the right to life, survival and development, and the freedom of expression and to be heard.

By ratifying the CRC, State parties are obliged to respect and protect all children, and to guarantee and promote the human rights of children. However, we recognize that there are still major challenges. The international context presents inequities and injustices to be faced in order to fulfil the rights of young children. Today, too many children around the world are living under conditions that deserve immediate action;

- children in poverty, inequality, famines and other difficult conditions, e.g. armed conflicts. For young children, every single day is of vital importance for their physical, emotional and mental health,
- children in migration in all regions of the world. There are displaced children living in camps, separated from their families, sometimes even imprisoned,
- children who are affected by climate change, pollution, environmental degradation and increased frequency of natural disasters,
- children affected by racism, xenophobia and gender discrimination,
- children suffering from sexual and labour exploitation.

Since 1948, OMEP has been working with education for peace and for the fulfilment of children's rights to education, health, well-being, food, housing, care and development from the earliest years.

According to the CRC, children have the rights to play, health, education and care, and it is our joint efforts that make this possible. Education relies on well trained and well-respected teachers. Children also have the right to express themselves in all matters that relate to them. Thus, children are important citizens with the right to participate in the development of our societies, and for a sustainable future. The Agenda 2030 is based on international human rights standards, with the goal of leaving no one behind, the imperative of equality and non-discrimination. The sustainable development goal No 4 addresses the availability, accessibility, affordability and acceptability of lifelong education for all. Education is a fundamental human right of every person, and the basis for the realization of all other goals and rights.

Now is the time for State parties to renew their commitments, redouble their efforts and take all possible actions to fulfil the rights of all children and especially for the most vulnerable and children at risk. We call on all governments to take immediate action to guarantee the children a safe life and for each boy and every girl to develop to their fullest potential, leaving no one behind.

OMEP is an international, non-governmental and non-profit organization concerned with all aspects of early childhood education and care. OMEP was founded in 1948 and has consultative status with UN, UNESCO and UNICEF. OMEP has 72 national committees in all regions of the world, www.worldomep.org



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**DECLARACIÓN
de la Asamblea Mundial de la OMEP en Panamá, 23 de julio de 2019**

**¡RENEVA TUS COMPROMISOS!
TREINTA AÑOS DESPUÉS DE LA ADOPCIÓN DE LA CONVENCIÓN SOBRE
LOS DERECHOS DEL NIÑO (CDN)**

Nosotros, miembros del Comité Ejecutivo Mundial de la Organización Mundial para la Educación Preescolar (OMEP), presidentes y delegados de los Comités Nacionales presentes en la 71a Asamblea Mundial en Panamá respaldamos nuestro compromiso de avanzar en la realización y la implementación de la CDN, siempre dando prioridad al interés superior del niño. La CDN propone cuatro principios rectores para su interpretación y aplicación: el interés superior del niño, el derecho a la no discriminación, el derecho a la vida, la supervivencia y el desarrollo, y la libertad de expresión y de ser oído.

Al ratificar la Convención, los Estados Parte están obligados a respetar y proteger a todos los niños/as, así como a garantizar y promover sus derechos humanos. Sin embargo, reconocemos que todavía hay grandes desafíos. El contexto internacional presenta inequidades e injusticias que se deben afrontar para cumplir los derechos de las infancias Hoy en día, en todo el mundo, demasiados niños/as viven bajo condiciones que merecen una acción inmediata:

- Niños/as en la pobreza, la desigualdad, las hambrunas y otras condiciones difíciles, por ejemplo, los conflictos armados. Para las infancias, cada día es de vital importancia para su salud física, emocional y mental;
- Niños/as en la migración en todas las regiones del mundo. Hay niños/as desplazados/as que viven en campamentos, separados/as de sus familias, a veces incluso encarcelados/as;
- Niños/as afectados por el cambio climático, la contaminación, la degradación ambiental y el aumento de la frecuencia de los desastres naturales;
- Niños /as golpeados por el racismo, la xenofobia y la discriminación de género, y
- Niños /as que sufren de explotación sexual o laboral.

Desde 1948, OMEP ha estado trabajando en la educación para la paz y en el cumplimiento de los derechos de los niños a la educación, la salud, el bienestar, la alimentación, la vivienda, la atención y el desarrollo desde los primeros años.

De acuerdo con la CDN, los/as niños/as tienen el derecho a jugar, a la salud, la educación y la atención, y son nuestros esfuerzos conjuntos los que lo hacen posible. La educación depende de educadores/as bien capacitados/as y respetados/as.

Los/as niños/as también tienen derecho a expresarse en todos los asuntos que se relacionan con ellos. Asimismo, los/as niños/as son ciudadanos/as importantes con derecho a participar en el desarrollo de nuestras sociedades y por un futuro sostenible. La Agenda 2030 se basa en las normas internacionales de derechos humanos, el objetivo de no dejar a nadie atrás y el imperativo de la igualdad y la no discriminación. El Objetivo de Desarrollo Sostenible ODS4 aborda la disponibilidad, accesibilidad, asequibilidad y aceptabilidad de la educación a lo largo de la vida para todos y todas. La educación es un derecho humano fundamental de toda persona, y la base para la realización de todos los demás ODS y derechos.

Ahora es el momento de que los Estados Parte renueven sus compromisos, redoblen sus esfuerzos y adopten todas las medidas posibles para cumplir los derechos de todos los niños y niñas, especialmente para los más vulnerables y los niños en riesgo. Hacemos un llamamiento a todos los gobiernos para que asuman medidas inmediatas para garantizar a los/as niños/as una vida segura y que cada uno/a se desarrolle al máximo, sin dejar a nadie atrás.

OMEP es una organización internacional, no gubernamental y sin fines de lucro que se ocupa de todos los aspectos de la educación y la atención de la primera infancia. OMEP fue fundada en 1948 y tiene estatus consultivo con las Naciones Unidas, la UNESCO y UNICEF. OMEP tiene 72 comités nacionales en todas las regiones del mundo, www.worldomep.org



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DÉCLARATION

de l'Assemblée mondiale de l'OMEP au Panama, 23 juillet 2019

RENOUVELLEZ VOS ENGAGEMENTS!

TRENTE ANS APRÈS L'ADOPTION DE LA CONVENTION SUR LES DROITS DE L'ENFANT (CDE)

Nous, membres du Comité exécutif mondial de l'Organisation mondiale pour l'éducation préscolaire (OMEP), présidents et délégués des comités nationaux présents à la 71e Assemblée mondiale à Panama, souscrivons à notre engagement de progresser dans la réalisation et la mise en œuvre de la Convention relative aux droits de l'enfant et de donner la priorité à l'intérêt supérieur de l'enfant. La CDE propose quatre principes directeurs pour son interprétation et son application : l'intérêt supérieur de l'enfant, le droit à la non-discrimination, le droit à la vie et à la survie, au développement, et à la liberté de s'exprimer et d'être entendu.

En ratifiant la CDE, les États parties sont obligés de respecter et de protéger tous les enfants, ainsi que de garantir et de promouvoir leurs droits fondamentaux. Cependant, nous reconnaissons qu'il reste des défis majeurs. Le contexte international présente des inégalités et des injustices auxquelles il faut faire face pour garantir les droits des jeunes enfants.

Aujourd'hui, trop d'enfants dans le monde vivent dans des conditions qui méritent une action immédiate :

- ✓ les enfants vivant dans la pauvreté, les inégalités, les famines et autres conditions difficiles, en particulier les conflits armés. Pour les jeunes enfants, chaque jour est d'une importance vitale pour leur santé physique, émotionnelle et mentale
- ✓ les enfants migrants dans toutes les régions du monde, les enfants déplacés qui vivent dans des camps, séparés de leur famille, parfois même emprisonnés
- ✓ les enfants touchés par le changement climatique, la pollution, la dégradation de l'environnement et la fréquence accrue des catastrophes naturelles
- ✓ les enfants touchés par le racisme, la xénophobie et la discrimination fondée sur le genre
- ✓ les enfants victimes d'exploitation sexuelle et / ou par le travail.

Depuis 1948, l'OMEP travaille dans le domaine de l'éducation à la paix et à la réalisation du droit des enfants à l'éducation, à la santé, au bien-être, à l'alimentation, au logement, aux soins et au développement, dès leur plus jeune âge.

Selon la CDE, les enfants ont le droit de jouer, d'être en bonne santé, de bénéficier de soins, d'être éduqués, et c'est ce que nos efforts conjoints rendent possible. L'éducation repose sur des enseignants bien formés et respectés. Les enfants ont également le droit de s'exprimer dans tous les domaines qui les concernent. Ainsi, les enfants sont des citoyens importants qui ont le droit de participer au développement de nos sociétés et à un avenir durable. L'Agenda 2030 est basé sur les normes internationales des droits de l'homme dans le but de ne laisser personne de côté, l'impératif d'égalité et de non-discrimination. L'objectif de développement durable n° 4 concerne l'accès à l'éducation pour tous, tout au long de la vie. L'éducation est un droit humain fondamental pour chaque personne et le fondement de la réalisation de tous les autres objectifs et droits.

Le moment est venu pour les États parties de renouveler leurs engagements, de redoubler d'efforts et de prendre toutes les mesures possibles pour faire respecter les droits de tous les enfants, en particulier des plus vulnérables et des enfants en danger. Nous appelons tous les gouvernements à prendre des mesures immédiates pour garantir aux enfants une vie sûre afin que chaque garçon et chaque fille puisse s'épanouir pleinement, sans laisser personne de côté.

L'OMEP est une organisation internationale, non gouvernementale et sans but lucratif qui s'occupe de tous les aspects de l'éducation et des soins donnés aux jeunes enfants. L'OMEP a été fondée en 1948 et a un statut consultatif auprès de l'ONU, de l'UNESCO et de l'UNICEF. L'OMEP compte 72 comités nationaux dans toutes les régions du monde, www.worldomep.org



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Minutes from European Regional Meeting, July 23, 2019, in Panama

VP for OMEP Europe Ingrid Engdahl welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

1. Meeting procedures

Agreed that Ingrid Engdahl would chair the meeting. Catherine Meehan act as secretary.

Attendance: Attendance list for individual attendees is attached to the Minutes in original. 31 persons from 14 committees were present; Croatia 4, Cyprus 1, France 2, Greece 3, Ireland 1, Italy 2, Norway 5, Poland 2, Russia 2, Sweden 4, Switzerland 1, UK 4.

2. Minutes from Lisbon May 16, 2019

Minutes accepted as an accurate record from Lisbon. It was noted that many countries delivered a written report in Lisbon, and these and coming updates are to be sent to Ingrid and will be included continuously in the European Newsletters.

3. Reports from national committees

The Norway committee are advocating for the ISIS children and women who are stuck in camps. They have had letters published in a newspaper, sent on the Lisbon declaration and they are continuing to lobby about the situation, urging the government to assure these children their rights and a safe life.

Switzerland OMEP is looking at how it can restructure to encourage more and younger members.

4. Other reports

North Macedonia is preparing to apply to become a preparatory committee of OMEP

5. Action plan for Europe 2019-20

a) UNCRC 30 years

Croatia is having a 30-year celebration in Zagreb. Contacting Ombudsman and trying to raise the profile of children's rights in Croatia. Camps on the borders of Croatia but migrants travel through Croatia rather than stay.

Norway initiated the EC Journal "Kindergarten People" (Barnehagefolk) to have a special issue about children's rights in recognition of the 30-year anniversary.

The CRC committee in Geneva reviews the reports of actions every five years. Every country needs to submit a report. OMEP Committees could align with other NGOs to submit an appendix to the report.

France 20th November there will be activities in preschool, and in December child presentations in the morning, round table with teachers and experts in the afternoon.

UK Annual General Meeting in October 12th in Portsmouth to raise awareness of vulnerable children and unaccompanied child migrants.

Sweden 10th October a half day seminar collaborating with other NGOs. Reprint pamphlet from 1990s for children about UNCRC to promote with children and teachers.

Russia- 20th November activities planned across Russia.

Poland all year activities with children about children's rights, conference and workshop for the teachers.

Cyprus, conference last year on Art, Play and the Child. Focus on children's right to participate in artistic activities. Offer workshops and children leading the way.

Greece- 7th September Greek national meeting, Pan-Hellenic conference in Patras in November.

Ireland launched a special issue of their Journal on CRC, annual meeting 9 November with the theme CRC, inviting children to participate.

Italy will work with public and private institutions to promote children's rights. Trying to promote a globalised view rather than local to regions.

Switzerland is working with other NGOs to celebrate. Working more on SDGs as a priority focus for the committee.



b) ESD projects

ESD rating scale to be discussed and possibly endorsed during the congress. National committees are encouraged to adopt.

UK- Catherine Meehan involved in a large-scale University of Portsmouth sustainability project an opportunity to pilot the ESD scale and an opportunity for other countries to join in the project. Catherine is leading on child and family participation, using education as a means for promoting a more sustainable future.

The OMEP ESD rating scale and tool kit

Early Childhood Education for Sustainability

Adapted 2019 from the original ESD Rating Scale and endorsed by
OMEP World Assembly and Executive Committee

Introductions will be sent out in September 2019

OMEP France is actively participating and coordinating some UNESCO activities

Norway- Marit Heldal and others have developed an outdoor environmental friendly playground on Lesbos for refugee children and together with Greek families on Lesbos (see 2019 ESD award).

OMEP we want sustainable OMEP conferences in the future to include sustainable sourced gifts and OMEP projects.

c) Other projects

Croatia- children and parents in transition to school, and a project around ICT in the early years.

Norway- Peace and children's rights as a European project with an aim to gain funding for global citizenship. Norway will lead on the project and circulate to European committees. England, Cyprus, Poland and Croatia declared interest.

Norway we support a Toy Library in Kenya, UK also supports a Toy Library project in Kenya. This might be a topic in European Newsletter. Ingrid discusses relevant information to share with Nyamikeh, the VP for the African region.

UK Human Security Group and work with OMEP to ensure children's rights are paramount at policy and practice level.

Russia continues to promote traditional toys and welcomed Italy with a traditional Babushka.

d) Future plans for OMEP Europe – towards 2030

- to be continued and discussed during informal meetings.

6. Any WA related topic

We discussed and will put forward the importance of walking the talk, which means that we should arrange OMEP sustainable conferences, e.g. not using disposable plastic units for serving coffee or lunch. We miss having Internet access.

There were some comments on the draft for a World Declaration: Add social emotional to the declaration. Lisbon declaration paragraph about children living in camps to be carried forward.

7. Any other business.

Three countries invite to host a European meeting, in 2021 or later: Sweden, Cyprus and Turkey. Norway is also willing to host a conference. Ingrid Engdahl will contact the national committees in order to sort this out. And establishing the order between these countries. The 2021 World conference is planned for Quebec, Canada, and maybe the 2022 World conference will be in Thailand.

8. Next meeting and closure

The 72nd WA and World conference will be in Athens, 13-17 July, 2020. This means there will not be a separate European conference in 2020. However, we would like to have a longer meeting than the two hours during the World Assembly. The Greek committee and Ingrid will try to arrange a longer meeting in Athens the day before the WA, on July 12, starting at 3 pm. More information will come.

Ingrid Engdahl thanked all for an inspiring meeting and closed the session.



Chair: Ingrid Engdahl

Secretary: Catherine Meehan (UK)

WELCOME to Athens 12-17 July 2020



The WA and the World Conference ended with an invitation to Greece 13-17 July 2020. The theme is

Early Childhood Education in the 21st Century: New perspectives and new challenges

When the World Assembly and World Conference is held in your own region, there is no separate regional meeting that year. However, to get more time, the OMEP European Regional Meeting in Panama decided to ask the organising committee for Athens 2020 to arrange more time for a European regional meeting. We will do our best to meet this wish, and for now the time we are considering is the day before the WA, on Sunday 12 July, starting at 3 pm. Follow all important information in Athens in the next OMEP European Newsletters.

Thanks to Elisabet Nyléus and Sofia Saiti who took the photos for this Newsletter.

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¿Qué pasa en Europa? Envíe su contribución al próximo boletín a ingridengdahl@gmail.com

Qu'est-ce qui se passe en Europe?
Envoyez votre contribution au prochain bulletin à ingridengdahl@gmail.com