

Sub-Committee on TRANSED Conference Planning

Monday 12th January 2015

19.30 – 21.30

Marriott Marquis, Supreme Court, Washington DC

ABE60(5) Minutes

Attendance

Nina Frid Co-Chair ABE60(5)
Canadian Transportation Agency,
Canada, **Meeting chair**

Ann Frye, Co-Chair ABE60(5),
Ann Frye Ltd, UK

Eileen Lu Eden Social Welfare

Lalita Sen, Texas Southern
University, USA Foundation, Taiwan

Tom Rickert Access Exchange
International, USA

Campbell McKee Motivation, UK

Claude Marin-Lamellet, IFSTTAR,
France

Joe Nien-Tsu Wang, Eden Welfare
Foundation, Taiwan

Anabela Simoes, Portugal

Russell Thatcher TranSystems Corp,
USA

John Schoon University of
Southampton, UK

Subash Chandra Vashishth,
Svayam, India

Rosario Macario, University of
Lisbon, Portugal

Vasco Reis University of Lisbon,
Portugal

Shuchita Rawal, Svayam, India

Bruno Aguiar, University of Lisbon.
Portugal

Mary Crass International Transport
Forum, France

Ling Suen ICSA Inc, Canada

Lilian Salazar Tecnologico de
Monterrey University, Mexico

Luis N Filipe, University of Lisbon,
Portugal

James Marston, Research Scientist,
U.C.SR&SK, USA

Abha Negi Svayam, India

Rex Luk Hong Kong Society for
Rehabilitation, Hong Kong

1. After call to order, the Minutes of the last meeting held on January 14th, 2014 were passed without further comments. Suggestion was made to circulate minutes prior to the meeting or bring copies to remind members of the issues discussed.
2. Item three on the Agenda – update on preparations for TRANSED 2015 in Lisbon. Update was provided by Rosario Macario, Professor of the University

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of Lisbon and main organizer of the conference. Rosario explained that the members of the Scientific and the International sub-committees will be asked to review the papers to be presented at the conference. The members already indicated the topics they are comfortable reviewing. The Abstracts have been reviewed by the internal group of the University of Lisbon. Members of the steering committee might be asked to pre-select the topics. The deadline for the submission of papers is **March 1, 2015**. While the deadline for the presentation of abstracts has passed, some are still being submitted and the organizers did not reject those that were strong and interesting. In total, 241 abstracts were received. The following dates were provided by Rosario: April 28 deadline for the full review and May 31 for the final full submissions.

The Star Alliance had agreed to be a sponsor of the conference and is offering a 20% discount on the tickets. The full program has been posted on the web site. Several partners expressed interest but the sponsorship remains low due to economic conditions. So far, 130 participants have registered but not all have paid the fees. The conference organizers require at least 400 registrations to hold the conference at the venue advertised. If the number is lower, the conference will be held at the university. All were urged to register and pay the fee. Rosario also confirmed that the city of Porto will offer a post conference tour.

Claude announced that he will hold a separate workshop on July 28th on the margins of the conference. All are welcome to attend.

3. Next item on the agenda was discussion of bids for Transed 2018. Nina and Ann reported that Australia and Jamaica have withdrew their bids, leaving only Taiwan in the running. Taiwan submitted a detailed proposal which was carefully reviewed. Several strong points were noted, specifically the support from some government departments, the attention to accessibility of the venues, the preliminary program, the proposed registration fees, the timeline for the conference and others.

Several areas requiring further clarification were also noted. These include:

- the requests for Eden Foundation, the main sponsor of the conference, to establish a link with academia and enhance the research angle for the conference program;
- another suggestion was to include showcase for new technology solutions and universal design implementation;
- Eden was also asked to explain why the World Trade Centre was chosen as a venue. It seems that several hotels are at a distance from the main conference venue (at least 20 min.) and while Eden plans to provide shuttles, the location of the hotels vs the conference venue might present a difficulty especially for persons with disabilities.

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- The committee would like to see a clear indication of government's support for the conference, including federal and local. This could be done by providing support letter or other indication.
- The committee wanted to understand whether Eden plans to engage other similar organizations who provide support to people with disabilities. The committee would feel more confident in seeing an integrated approach to the conference by all key players.
- Committee members expressed their willingness to work with Eden and refine the main theme of the conference so it will reflect continuity and progress from the last event.
- Similarly, committee members expressed their willingness to work with Eden and refine the program. Currently, the program seems too short, providing only two days for workshops and presentations. To have a comprehensive conference to attract academics, policy makers, private business and government officials, the program needs to be broad and comprehensive, which would be a minimum of three work days.
- Regarding transportation, the proponent was asked to provide the map of metro and other public transportation to allow participants to assess accessibility and make a decision about the place to stay. In general, more information about accessibility of various transportation options would be appreciated.

Overall – Eden's proposal was accepted with thanks. It was approved and Eden was asked to refine it, addressing the points outlined above, and re-submit by March 31, 2015.

Given the delay in providing these point to Eden, the committee is asked whether March 31 deadline should stay or should be extended till end of April.

Action: member of the committee are kindly asked to make their views known regarding the deadline for Eden to submit a revised proposal.

There was no other business and the meeting adjourned.