

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF  
MICHELIN CITIES (INMC)**

**03 DECEMBER 2021**

**4 PM (PARIS TIME)**

**VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**Agenda:**

- 1- Activity report
- 2- Financial report
- 3- Organisation of the 3rd INMC Conference in Querétaro (MEXICO)
- 4- Any other business

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Due to the Covid crisis, the General Assembly was held virtually, at 4 pm (Paris time), to enable as many cities as possible to participate.

38 people (including 7 mayors) from 17 cities attended the meeting.

**1-** The meeting was opened by Olivier BIANCHI, co-president of the Network, who expressed his pleasure in seeing the participants again. He outlined the agenda and handed over to Hélène LUCCHESI who delivered the activity report.

**2-** Before reporting on the network's different activities in 2021, Hélène LUCCHESI, who is responsible for the coordination and organisation of the International Network of Michelin Cities in the City of Clermont Ferrand, recapped the Network's objectives:

- To develop and share innovative public policies.
- To share expertise, skills and experience in the interest of sustainable development in the member cities.

**AGENDA**

**1- Activity report:**

Ms LUCCHESI reported on 2 highlights of 2021:

**1-** the virtual conference on "Urban Resilience" organised on 24 January 2021 to replace the 3rd Conference in Querétaro which had to be postponed on account of the pandemic.

She mentioned the internationally renowned speakers who participated in the conference alongside the following cities in our Network: Bridgewater, Vitoria-Gasteiz and Guarulhos.



2- the organisation, in Clermont-Ferrand on 12 and 13 October 2021, of 9 hybrid themed workshops where participants could plan for the next conference in Querétaro.

This was followed by a presentation of the various completed and ongoing collaborative projects.

## **2- Speech by Jérôme AUSLENDER, Deputy Mayor of Clermont-Ferrand:**

Mr AUSLENDER thanked the cities and people who involved themselves so actively in the Network during this difficult health crisis. In spite of the ban on international travel, which is vital for promoting networking and international relations, this rich and diverse activity report shows that the Network has demonstrated its political and social usefulness and that, in spite of everything, it has operated more collaboratively.

Mr BIANCHI then asked if any of the cities wished to comment on the activity report. No requests for changes, additions or comments were made.

## **2- Financial report:**

David MITCHELL, INMC Treasurer and Mayor of Bridgewater (CA), was invited to give his report. Mr MITCHELL reported on the INMC's accounts, the payment made to the city of Vitoria-Gasteiz, as approved at the last General Assembly, and the situation with regard to membership fees. Currently, out of 35 member cities, only 14 cities have paid their membership fees - that is 41%, as opposed to 43% in 2019. 56% have never paid their membership fee. As things stand, the fees received are insufficient to cover the cost of the conferences and other programmes which the network would like to organise.

Mr MITCHELL, therefore, suggested that the matter be given some reflection, reminding everyone that, for the last 2 conferences, participants were not asked to pay attendance fees - as is the case for national and international conferences - because they were deemed to be covered by membership fees.

This raises several questions:

- should a city which has never paid or participated be considered a member of the network?
- can a city whose membership fee has not yet been paid take part in the Conference?
- if it is decided that they can, could they be charged an attendance fee for the conference and how much would it be?

Mr MITCHELL reiterated the importance of paying membership fees to ensure that the network can continue to operate effectively and organise the upcoming Conference in Querétaro, which we are all looking forward to after the recent health crisis.

So, looking ahead to the upcoming conference, Mr BIANCHI suggested that an email signed by the two co-presidents and the treasurer should be sent to all cities, together with the provisional



conference programme and a reminder of the conditions of membership and the requirement, if they wish to be a member of a network, to make a contribution (including a financial one) to it. So the Querétaro conference might be an opportunity for the cities which have not yet held the relevant discussions to take part and pay their membership fee. Therefore, for the 4th Conference, any city which has not paid the fee would be deemed to have decided not to join the Network.

Mr MITCHELL invited any city which wished to do so, to contact him directly by email, if they have any questions or wish to check their payment status.

David.mitchell@bridgewater.ca

#### **4- Organisation of the 3rd Conference in Querétaro (MEXICO)**

Luis Bernardo NAVA GUERRERO, Mayor of Querétaro, was invited to speak.

Before showing a video about Querétaro, Mr NAVA GUERRERO greeted the Mayors in attendance at the General Assembly and expressed his wish that this conference be used as a opportunity to evaluate the network's collective achievements and, for the first time, involve young people, the "leaders of the future", in events so as to pave the way for long term collaboration.

Mr NAVA GUERRERO , therefore, suggested that the cities in the Network award a grant to two of their students to enable them to attend the next conference and participate in a special programme of lectures and workshops where they can meet one another and start to work towards a better future together.

Mr NAVA GUERRERO reminded those present that the network is a forum for sharing and learning from one another and expressed his hope that these conferences will become the epicentre of bilateral and multilateral projects.

In keeping with the SDGs, which were approved at the last AGM, and the common battle against climate change, this INMC conference will provide a means of combining different possibilities for developing new circular economy models and driving responsible economic projects.

Mr BIANCHI offered his congratulations and thanks for this inspiring programme which reminds us how important it is for us to meet one another in person. This conference will be a wonderful opportunity to do so. Mr BIANCHI confirmed his presence along with Luis NAVA GUERRERO, and suggested that the programme be attached to the invitation email and that cities be asked to confirm their participation and the number of people who will attending as soon as possible.

#### **Decision of the General Assembly:**

An email signed by the Network's two co-presidents and treasurer will be sent out with the following attachments:

- the financial report
- the programme for the upcoming conference in Querétaro
- the call for membership fees



A comment was made by Mr Terence ROBERTS, Mayor of the City of Anderson (SC- USA).

Mr ROBERTS asked that the outline of the programme and the Querétaro video also be sent out to cities.

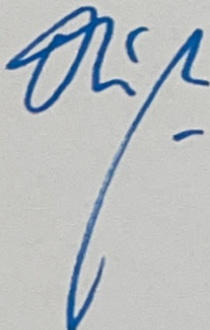
The General Assembly ended at 5.30 pm (Paris time).

Surname: BIANCHI

Forename: Olivier

Position: Co-president

Date and signature:

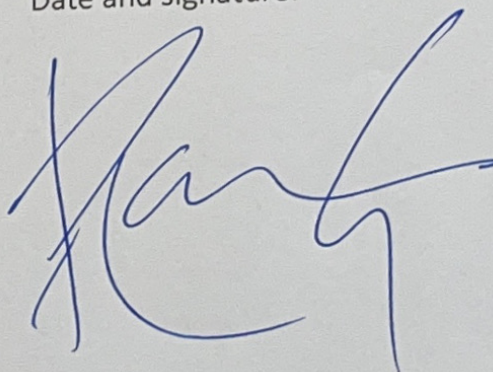
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Olivier B.', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Surname: NAVA GUERRERO

Forename: Luis Bernardo

Position: Co-president

Date and signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Luis Nava', with a large, stylized 'N' and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.