

10<sup>th</sup> of April 2012

**Subject: Election of a new Governing Board, deadline 11<sup>th</sup> of May 2012**

Dear ALDA members,

In accordance with Articles 13 and 15 of the ALDA Statute and as announced earlier a new Governing Board will have to be elected at the General Assembly in Udine, Italy, on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of June 2012.

The time has therefore come to issue a call for candidates to stand at these elections. On behalf of the present Governing Board I hereby encourage you to think about the possibility of representing your local authority or NGO on the new Board but individual members are of course also welcome as candidates. This call is being issued sufficiently early for you, should you be interested, to obtain the necessary backing, incl. freedom to attend meetings, from the authority or organisation you would represent in case it is elected. Formally, it is namely the organisation (Local authority, NGO) that is elected, represented however by a person that would follow the activities with continuity.

So what is required of a member of the Governing Board? You know that ALDA has seen a continuing increase in its activities over the past four years and the next four years will be equally important for the Association. Consequently, candidates for the Board should be prepared to make a constructive contribution to the setting out of the political guidelines which are at the base of our work. There are usually three meetings a year of the Governing Board: in January-February where the budget and action plan are finalised for approval by the General Assembly and annual LDA Labels are awarded to the Agencies; in May-June just before the General Assembly; and again in October-November when the first draft of budget and action plan for the following year are discussed. The languages used during the meetings are mostly English, French and Italian.

A maximum of nine active members shall be elected to the Governing Board, however, an amendment to the Statute would - if approved by the Extraordinary General Assembly in June - raise the maximum to 12 members. In a second step, the Governing Board shall elect a Bureau from among its members, comprising a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

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It is obviously important that you will be able to attend the Board meetings which are often hosted by a member of the Board in order to draw attention locally to the positive involvement in our kind of decentralised diplomacy. This has meant more media interest than we could expect if meetings were held every time in Strasbourg or Brussels. However, it can also mean that a little more time is required for travelling to and from the meetings. Within certain limits ALDA is able to bear the costs of travel and accommodation for the meetings.

**The deadline for submission of candidatures is 11 May 2012.** They should be addressed to the undersigned [per.vinther@aldaintranet.org](mailto:per.vinther@aldaintranet.org) with a copy to Stefania Toriello, [stefania.toriello@aldaintranet.org](mailto:stefania.toriello@aldaintranet.org). Each candidate may include a one page presentation and photo of her/himself which will be published on the ALDA website. In addition, the election proper will be preceded by a brief oral presentation by each candidate her/himself in front of the members present at the General Assembly.

I hope to have provided you with a reasonably succinct picture of what is required and how elections will proceed. If in doubt you might consult the ALDA Statute available on the website: [www.alda-europe.eu](http://www.alda-europe.eu). It remains for me to encourage you to consider seriously the possibility of a candidature bearing in mind that there will be rights and responsibilities should you be elected.

Yours sincerely



Per Vinther  
ALDA President

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