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ASSOCIATION
OF CITIES
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FOR RECYCLING
AND SUSTAINABLE
RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT

ASSOCIATION
DES CITÉS
ET RÉGIONS POUR
LE RECYCLAGE
ET LA GESTION
DURABLE
DES RESSOURCES

ASOCIACIÓN
DE CIUDADES
Y REGIONES PARA
EL RECICLAJE
Y LA GESTIÓN
SOSTENIBLE
DE LOS RECURSOS

MINUTES OF ACR+ GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2011

27 October 2011, Genoa, Italy

Members attending:

Pinuccia Montanari, Municipality of Genoa (IT)
Riccardo Casale, AMIU (IT)
Roger Croughs, INTRADEL (BE)
Cédric Hedont, SEMARDEL (FR)
Simone Orsi, AMSA (IT)
Fatiha Balkoula, Municipality of Rabat (MA)
Tarek Mehri, Municipality of Sousse (TU)
Ignasi Puig Ventosa, Fundació ENT (ES)
Alfred Vara, Catalan Waste Agency (ES)
Svend Poulsen, Odense Waste Management (DK)
Teresa Tena, Diputación de Castellón (ES)
Eric Chevaillier, Lucie Prétel, Région Ile-de-France (FR)
Mieke De Schoenmakere, OVAM (BE)
Vincent Magri, WasteServ Malta (MT)
Roberto Cavallo, COVAR 14 (IT)
Paula Mendes, LIPOR (PT)
Antigone Dalamagas, ECOREC (GR)
Emanuela Rosio, AICA, (IT)
Jean-Pierre Hannequart
Represented: Nantes Métropole, ORDIF, Milton Keynes

ACR+ Staff: Olivier De Clercq, Jean-Jacques Dohogne, Philippe Micheaux-Naudet, Hara Xirou, Alexia Ripoll

The ACR+ President, Jean-Pierre Hannequart, opened the meeting at 16:25.

Jean-Pierre Hannequart starts the meeting by a **tribute to Kit Strange**, who passed away on August the 12th and is deeply missed. Jean-Pierre wants to continue Kit's work and proposes a reflection on the future of the Warmer Bulletin, (WB) and the need for an international magazine on waste and resource issues.

Approval of the [agenda](#)

- 1- Activity report 2011
- 2- Work programme 2012
- 3- ACR+ Med Network: approval of next steps
- 4- Financial report 2010
- 5- Budget 2012
- 6- Renewal of the Board of Directors

The agenda was approved.

1. Activity report and ACR+ Accomplishments in 2011

1.1. Implementation of the 2011 work programme (Olivier De Clercq, Secretary General)

Olivier De Clercq presented an overview and status of 2011 activities with the Activity Report going through the following topics:

- Waste Reduction
- Sustainable Consumption
- Waste Collection and Treatment
- Legal and Economic Instruments
- Euro-Med Network
- Information Center

Download the Activity Report [Presentation](#) by Olivier De Clercq

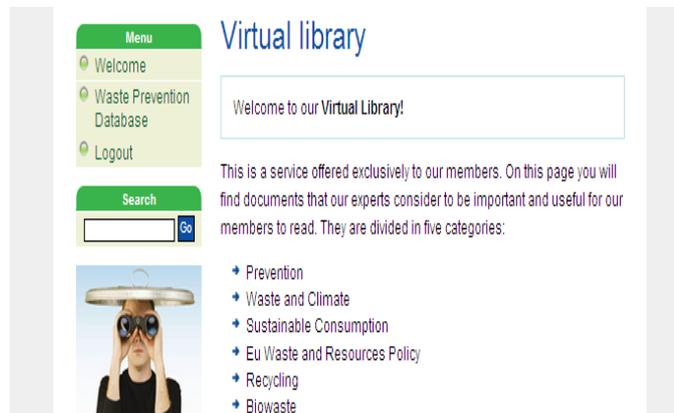
Download the full version of the [Activity Report 2011](#) in www.acrplus.org/work_programme

Activity Report 2011 available in English and French

1.2 Other achievements and new items in 2011:

Olivier De Clercq presented the statistics related to the visits to the ACR+ website.

He introduced the ACR+ [Virtual Library](#), a new service to members, available on our website, on www.acrplus.org/virtual_library.



He presented the "[Member of ACR+](#)" logo, to be used by all members in their stationery and website.



1.3 Remarks from Jean-Pierre Hannequart, President:

Despite the small size of the ACR+ Secretariat team (5 permanent staff + interns), a huge amount of work has been done. He highlighted the excellence of the ACR+ team.

He explained that ACR+ is increasingly recognized as an expert network, and more in demand for co-funded projects.

The challenge remains the number of ACR+ members, which remains stable but that means it has not increased. And yet, the strength of the ACR+ network lies in the exchange of experiences coming nurture the network.

More efforts will be done in order to attract new members and increasing the exchange between and services to members.



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2. Work Programme proposal for 2012

Jean-Pierre Hannequart presented the proposed Work Programme for 2012 and 2013 following these main axes:

- Waste prevention
- Waste recycling
- Economic instruments
- Euro-Mediterranean network for recycling
- Information services and networking

Download the Work Programme [Presentation](#) Jean-Pierre Hannequart

Download the full document [Work Programme 2012](#) in www.acrplus.org/work_programme

Work Programme 2012 available in English, French and Spanish (NEW)

DEBATE

All participants were invited to provide feedback about the proposed work programme for the next two years. All participants endorsed the proposed working lines. Individual comments included:

Diputación de Castellón, ES (Teresa Tena)

- Genoa is Castellon's first General Assembly after joining ACR+ in April 2011. Willing to learn more about the network and get involved in the projects, Castellon is interested to join the Observatory of municipal waste recycling performances.

ECOREC, GR (Antigone Dalamagas) is interested in ACR+ Med Network.

- Prevention and Reuse are a priority. Mentioned the "Zero waste" project they are working on. Possibility to link ACR+ and RREUSE in a meeting on the place of reuse to be held in April or June 2012.

OVAM, BE (Mieke De Schoenmakere)

- Congratulated ACR+ for the good work done and the ambitious work programme.
- Interested in Resource efficiency
- Found webinars very useful and should be continued.

SEMARDEL, FR, (Cédric Hedont)

- Interested in recycling, particularly in the Observatory.
- Interested in the issue of costs and funding as well as the economic aspects of recycling.
- Question of the territorial planning and the local adaptation of the waste services: need to compare what can be compared since each country or region has different realities
- Suggested democratizing the ACR+ information, make it more accessible to a large audience. In particular using the ACR+ website.

Région Ile-de-France/ORDIF, FR (Eric Chevallier)

- Also interested in the question of costs but should be envisaged in relation to the question of downstream markets and positive aspects of recycling.
- Raised the need to envisage waste management from a concrete and not so « philosophical » point of view.

AMIU/GENOA, IT (Riccardo Casale)

- Found the Work Programme 2012-2013 very encouraging.
- Underlined the importance of the climate change issue (benefit of recycling) and the economic crisis
- Highlighted the importance of creating links with the southern shore of the Mediterranean.
- Agreed with Eric Chevallier on the need to take into consideration the practical and economic aspects in the waste management

Odense Waste Management, DK, (Svend Poulsen)

- Interested in ACR+ focus on prevention.
- Raised a question for reflection: does consuming less mean staying longer in the financial crisis?
- Explained that the problem with the proposed work program is that ACR+ members do not have enough time to follow all the events, even when held online.
- Proposes to host an ACR+ Observatory workshop in Odense in 2012

AMSA/MILAN, IT (Simone Orsi)

- Very interested in the proposed work programme. Waste prevention program in Milan to be implemented. Interested by ACR+ activities on this topic.

FUNDACIÓ ENT, ES (Ignasi Puig)

- Joined ACR+ in May, first meeting for them. Came to Genoa to get more familiar with ACR+ work and projects. Will make sure they get more involved from now on.
- Stressed the high quality of all the material provided in publications.
- Considers the issue of the economic instruments very relevant.
- In addition to economic instruments, finds economic analysis important : for instance how will the expected increase of energy prices and/or price of rare materials affect the waste sector (reuse might benefit from it, but not all the aspects of the sector should be affected positively).

AICA, IT (Emanuela Rosio)

- Raised a suggestion about the Observatory: it would be interesting to be able to compare the costs of the actions presented in the project, and not only the technical data. The communication aspects should also be examined.

Municipality of Sousse, TU (Tarek Mehri)

- Explained that after 4 years as an ACR+ member, this is the first time that the Municipality of Sousse participated in the General Assembly. Appreciated the opportunity given to expose their waste management policy.
- Recalls Sousse was involved with ACR+ in the SHAMS project and the GODEM project which allowed to implement pilot schemes respectively for selective collection and civic amenity sites. The challenge is now to transfer those experiences to other Tunisian cities.

Municipality of Rabat, MA, (Fatiha Balkoula)

- Very interested in the ACR+ Med network, in North-South and South-South exchange and cooperation.

WasteServ Malta, MT (Vincent Magri)

- Malta is facing difficulties due to financial crisis.

- Raised the question of the certification of the work force in Malta in the waste field. Suggested that ACR could organize a unified certification label at European level to guarantee the qualification of the work force.

LIPOR, PT (Paula Mendes)

- The economic crisis now plays a major role in implementing policies in Portugal and in Europe
- Congratulates the ACR+ team for the impressive work.

Catalan Waste Agency (ARC), ES (Alfred Vara)

- Enjoyed the event, which filled him with optimism thanks to the great work already done, and the amazing work programme and the importance of the contribution of Jean-Pierre Hannequart as ACR+ President.
- Thinks that the Observatory should be a reference at EU level and the developments of indicators is key.
- Prevention and Economic instruments are the most relevant topics to him.
- Interested in the issue of CO2 emissions
- ARC has some experience in the closing the loop of products and generate markets for recyclables. They organize the “recycling awards” in this sense
- Need to exchange more information, core of ACR activities. Not only in conferences, but in more informal and more immediate way and more often. ACR+ members should make the effort to explain what they do, whereas they are often more interested in hearing what others do.
- Suggested the more intensive use of social networks.
- Interested in resource efficiency, rare materials (chemical elements management)
- Euro Med: he finds the project very interesting. But he wonders what the aim of ACR+ is: create a structure? Of what kind? Moreover, other networks already exist like Medcities (at country level)
- Should we collaborate with them instead of creating a new one?

INTRADEL, BE (Roger Crouchs)

- Considered this an ambitious Work Programme.
- Underlines the need to pursue the work in the Observatory, and to add economic data.
- Stressed the relevance of the economic aspects of the waste sector

- Request not to appear as director of COPIDEC, but as director of INTRADEL in the Board of Directors

COVAR 14, IT (Roberto Cavallo)

- Will send his reflections via mail.
- Emphasized how important it is for ACR+ to increase the number of members, in particular thanks to ACR+ Med, which could be an opportunity. Moreover each member of ACR+ should act as a missionary of the network.

Feedback from Jean-Pierre Hannequart: acknowledged the importance of including economic data in Observatory, but underlined the difficulty to get accurate information about costs (for instance, in Brussels it is impossible to know the cost of an incineration plant).

3. ACR+ Med Network: approval of next steps

Jean-Pierre Hannequart presented briefly the idea and background for the creation of the ACR+ MED network, [see background document here](#) (or click in www.acrplus.org/general_assembly_2011, 3° point Agenda)

The approved planning for next steps is the following:

- November 2011: call for interest and co-leaders
- June 2012: official launch of the ACR+ MED network in a conference, creation of the ACR+ Med structure.
- Establish a specific programme of activities and associated functioning and funding for ACR+ MED
- Call for interest to participate in the ACR+ Med Network

4. Financial report 2011

Approval of the 2010 Financial Report (Olivier De Clercq, Secretary General, on behalf of Andy Hudson, Treasurer)

Olivier De Clercq presented the final financial report for 2010 for approval by the General Assembly and it was agreed on unanimously.

Download [Financial Report 2010](#)



5. Budget proposal for 2012

Update financial situation for 2011, and approval of the 2012 Budget Proposal (Olivier De Clercq)

Olivier De Clercq presented the proposed budget breakdown for 2012.

In order to take into account the inflation and related costs, **an increase of 5% in the membership fees for 2012** is proposed. As a reminder, current membership fees were approved by the ACR+ General Assembly on November 20, 2008 and have remained unchanged since then.

The budget and the increase in the fees were approved unanimously.

Download [Budget proposal 2012](#)

6. Renewal of the Board of Directors

The candidates are the following:

ORGANISATION	NAME
ARC Catalonia (ES)	CHIVA, Pilar
Brussels-Capital Region IBGE (BE)	HANNEQUART, Jean Pierre
INTRADEL (BE)	CROUGHS, Roger
COVAR 14 (IT)	CAVALLO, Roberto
Diputaci3n Foral Gipuzkoa (ES)	ANSORENA, Javier
Dublin City Council (IE)	COUGHLAN, Hugh
GENOA, AMIU, IT	CASALE, Riccardo
ISR (ES)	MARTINEZ, Carlos
LIPOR Porto (PT)	LEITE, Fernando
Milton Keynes Council (UK)	HUDSON, Andy
Nantes M3tropole (FR)	GRESSUS, Mich3le
Odense Renovation A/S (DK)	POULSEN, Svend B.
R3gion Ile-de-France, FR	CHEVAILLIER, Eric
Region Rabat-Sal3-Zemmour-Za3r (MA)	BERKIA, Abdelkebir
Rennes-M3tropole (FR)	MERRIEN, Jean-Louis
Sousse (TU)	Lamjed AMMAR
Walloon Region (BE)	GILLET, Martine
WasteServ Malta (MT)	Saviour Abela

The Board of Directors was renewed unanimously.



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Download the new composition of the [Board of Directors](#)

The new Board of Directors will hold its first meeting on 16 January 2012. More information will follow.

End of the General Assembly at 18:20.