



ENVITER



Memorandum of Agreement between Enviter and ICEVI

Introduction

Both ICEVI and Enviter are important Networks for the reason that their goals for improving services to, and better living standards for, blind and visual impaired people in Europe are similar. The way they want to achieve these goals is different. The question now is how both networks can have profit by cooperation between each other.

It is suggested that the best approach is to take advantage of the specific strengths of each Network.

Strengths of ICEVI

- large number of members
- part of a worldwide network
- well known and well attended congress every 4 years, more frequently regional conferences and teacher training conferences
- widespread information letter
- principal focus on children; also focus on adults and elderly people

Strengths of Enviter

- strong structure of meetings
- deeply involved members with participation of management and staff
- a lot of experience with European projects
- exchange of expertise by visits/meetings and projects
- focus on children, adults, and elderly people

Accordingly, in order to explore ways in which closer cooperation between the networks can take place, it is agreed that specific actions will include:

1. ICEVI and Enviter will frequently informing each other about developments, strategic plans and concrete activities, so that they can find opportunities for joining and working together. As a concrete aim we can start by organising a formal, active links between both networks:
 - The president of ICEVI and the president of Enviter will have meetings every 6 months.
 - A representative and member of each board will take part in 2 board meetings a year of the other network.
 - On both the ICEVI and Enviter (board) agendas there will be feedback from these meetings.
 - The minutes of board meetings will be exchanged;
2. Enviter (and its members) actively participates in ICEVI congresses by bringing results of their projects, or holding interesting workshops by experts; as a concrete result Enviter will participate in the ICEVI congress in Istanbul with a full presentation of topics and projects, maybe in the way of organising a "marketplace".
3. ICEVI and Enviter members will get the opportunity of exploring together needs and getting into contact with Enviter members by this means.
4. Important announcements, information, results of projects etc. will be communicated by ICEVI and Enviter by using their newsletters and websites.
5. On both websites there will be a link to the other network.
6. Important European developments, for example information by the EASPD, will be exchanged and communicated in both networks.
7. ICEVI will be used, if possible and useful, in the implementation of the Enviter European projects.



ENVITER



These are examples of ways in which areas of closer cooperation will be explored; they are not exclusive and they will be increased as opportunities arise.
This Memorandum of Agreement will be reviewed and progress evaluated annually.

Signed

Steven Scheffer
President Enviter

Signed

Hans Welling
President ICEVI

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