



# Annual Report 2017

**Inclusion  
International**



# Message

## from the President



**THROUGHOUT 2017**, Inclusion International and our global networks have helped to lead change and build more inclusive communities. Our accomplishments have made a difference in the lives of people with intellectual disabilities and their families.

Through our Membership Review, we have modernized our movement and strengthened our network. Our Membership Review was more than a counting exercise; it was an opportunity to engage with you about who we are, what we want to be, and how we can be the global network that families and self-advocates need. It helped us to better understand ourselves and to unite us. Through our Statement of Unity, we have reaffirmed what matters to our movement – the full inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities and their families.

At our core, we are a movement of self-advocates and families. Our global network is led by their voice and supporting individuals and families is central to our work. It has been an honour to meet families and self-advocates around the world and to see the impact our movement is having. Whether at the local level or the international level, our network is working to ensure the voices of families and self-advocates are being heard.

The following report highlights key achievements in the past year. We successfully achieved our 2017 advocacy targets and have been building new programmes, in particular our Catalyst for Inclusive Education and Empower Us initiatives, that are responsive to the needs families and self-advocates have identified.

We look ahead to 2018 with excitement for our 17<sup>th</sup> World Congress, **Learn, Inspire, Lead** in Birmingham UK. This spring, 30 May – 1 June 2018, we will come together - united by our Statement of Unity and our shared vision for inclusion - to build a better tomorrow for all. Join us and help lead the way to inclusion.

Klaus Lachwitz  
President

# Who We Are &



# What We Stand For

**INCLUSION INTERNATIONAL** is the international network of people with intellectual disabilities and their families advocating for the human rights of people with intellectual disabilities worldwide. For over fifty years Inclusion International has been committed to the promotion of these human rights; our organization now represents over 200 member federations in 115 countries throughout five regions, including the Middle East and North Africa, Europe, Africa, the Americas, and Asia Pacific.

*We the members of Inclusion International* are committed to advancing the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

**Our vision** is of a world where people with an intellectual disability and their families can participate on an equal basis and be valued in all aspects of community life.

## As an international network, we are actively committed to the following principles of inclusion:

- **Inclusion** supports people with intellectual disabilities to have control over their lives and to make choices and decisions in their lives.
- **Inclusion** requires that people with intellectual disabilities be accepted as equal members of their family and community.
- **Inclusion** requires the removal of barriers that prevent people with intellectual disabilities from full and equal participation in all aspects of life.
- **Inclusion** is about full and equal participation in community with full access to mainstream systems and services.
- **Inclusion** is NOT consistent with segregation or segregated facilities.
- **Inclusion** celebrates diversity and equality as the key to building stronger and better communities for ALL.

# Delivering Our Strategic Plan

## Inclusion International's strategic plan for 2016-2020 is designed to:

- Ensure that the voices of our members are heard in the on-going work of implementing the CRPD and in the global Sustainable Development Goals of Agenda 2030
- Enable shared learning and collaboration throughout the network between members and allies
- Support the work of members in the implementation of the CRPD and inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities in the SDGs



## Strategic Priorities

### Inclusive Education

**Goal:** Learners with intellectual disabilities have access to inclusive quality education.

### Inclusion in the Community

**Goal:** People with intellectual disabilities live and are included in their communities.

### Supported Decision Making

**Goal:** People with intellectual disabilities have access to supports to make decisions and have their decisions respected.

### Inclusive Development

**Goal:** The 2030 Agenda, and other mainstream global development agendas, have specific commitments and measurable benchmarks for people with disabilities.

### Leaders for Inclusion

**Goal:** People with intellectual disabilities and their families are at the core of our movement, and the unique support needs for people with intellectual disabilities and their families are woven throughout our efforts.

**The human rights commitments of the CRPD combined with priorities for action in the Sustainable Development Goals provides a platform for the achievement of our vision as a global network.**

# Global Advocacy



**Our advocacy efforts as a global network have ensured that important issues affecting people with intellectual disabilities and their families are heard at the UN and in global processes.**

## 2017 Advocacy Goals

## Our Success

### LIVING IN THE COMMUNITY:

The CRPD Committee drafted a General Comment (GC) on living and being included in the community. Our goal was to make sure it was progressive and reflected what our members have been calling for.

✓ Through our efforts, including hosting side events at the UN in New York and Geneva, participating in UN meetings, submissions to the CRPD Committee, and a petition signed by almost 1000 people, our global network secured a GC that:

- respects the right to choose where you live,
- rejects institutions,
- recognizes that families need support,
- links the right to live in the community with other important issues like education, employment and poverty.

### SUPPORTING FAMILIES:

Multiple UN Agencies were addressing the role of families. Our goal was to build awareness of the role of families in supporting a family member with an intellectual disability and get recognition of families' need for supports.

✓ The development of a discussion paper on families helped the international community and the UN better understand what families need.

✓ Our participation in the UN Human Rights Council's intersessional seminar of families secured support from States Parties about the need to support families.

✓ Our engagement with UN DESA family unit secured recognition that families supporting a family member with disability need distinct supports.

### INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT:

The Sustainable Development Goals represent the largest development agenda in history. Our goal was to ensure that people with intellectual disabilities and their families were not left behind or excluded.

✓ Our participation in the Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities made sure that the issues facing people with intellectual disabilities and families were captured in the briefing papers developed for the High Level Political Forum (HLPF).

✓ Our participation in regional consultations helped highlight our issues nationally and regionally with governments and civil society.

✓ Our presence at the HLPF ensured the voice of our global network was heard within civil society and by States Parties.

# Supporting the Work of our Members: *Inclusive Education*



**THE CATALYST FOR INCLUSIVE EDUCATION** is a programme designed to assist our members with initiatives that build on larger education reform efforts and support the development of leaders to effectively bring about inclusive education and the inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities and their families. In its first year, Catalyst for Inclusive Education increased the knowledge of our member organizations and other stakeholders as related to Article 24 and General Comment No.4 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Catalyst also increased knowledge as to the complex process required to transform existing education systems.

## In 2017, key Catalyst for Inclusive Education achievements include:

- Global team development, including Regional Response Team orientation and training and the establishment of an Expert Advisory Group of technical advisors
- Scoping missions in Paraguay, Peru, and Nepal to analyse how Catalyst can best support our members to make change at the local, national, or regional level
- Learning exchange between members in Nepal and New Zealand
- Inclusive education resource development
- Legislation analysis and review in Colombia
- Legislative analysis and member survey on inclusive education in Africa
- Analysis and webinar presentation of the World Bank Development Report and the Global Education Monitoring Report
- Court intervention in Romania to support an education case at the European Court of Human Rights

Discover Catalyst for Inclusive Education:  
[www.catalystforeducation.com](http://www.catalystforeducation.com)



*The Catalyst mission in Peru was key to influencing change. As a consequence the Ministry of Education is now in the process of developing an Inclusive Education Policy.*

SOCIEDAD PERUANA  
DE SINDROME  
DE DOWN

# Supporting the Work of our Members: Self-advocacy

Empower Us is a global resource led by self-advocates to help build self-advocacy and inclusion around the world. Empower Us programmes support self-advocates, supporters, families, and organizations around the world to strengthen the voice of self-advocacy.



#EmpowerUs

to make inclusion a reality

www.selfadvocacyportal.com

**EMPOWER US** builds from years of self-advocacy work and is a direct result from our Global Report on Self-Advocacy. Empower Us responds to the demand for more information and practical tools and tips to support building self-advocacy for change.



## In 2017, key Empower Us accomplishments include:

- Developing and sharing Empower Us resources and how-to guides on supporting self-advocacy and inclusion. Including guides on what good support looks like and how to host inclusive meetings.
- Delivering a self-advocate led 2-day training on self-advocacy and human rights that was piloted in Togo, West Africa with a group of self-advocates from the region.
- Growing our global Action Team who will be able to give advice and support to self-advocates, supporters, families, and organizations on self-advocacy and its development around the world.

Discover Empower Us: [www.selfadvocacyportal.com](http://www.selfadvocacyportal.com)

# Global Network in Action



## AMERICAS

1. **Panama** Sustainable Development Goals Workshop; Ending Violence against Children: Faith Communities in Action conference
2. **Colombia** Expert Group meeting: Enhancing Major Groups and Other Stakeholders Engagement in National Level Reviews
3. **Canada** SUMMITS 101: Civil society info session about the Summits of the Americas
4. **United States** World Bank Meeting; United Nations Conference of States Parties; High Level Political Forum (2030 Agenda) (HLPF); UNICEF Accessible Textbooks initiative
5. **Mexico** Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting for HLPF
6. **Peru** Ministry of Education workshop on inclusive education policies
7. **Chile** National Board of Early Education Conference on Inclusive Education
8. **Brazil** 1st Latin American Seminar on Inclusion; Latin American campaign on the right to education
9. **Paraguay** Fundación Saraki conference on inclusive education

## EUROPE

1. **Malta** European Disability Forum's Board meeting
2. **Switzerland** Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Role of the Family meeting; 17th session of the CRPD Committee; International Disability Alliance-International Disability and Development Consortium Bridge training; International Disability Alliance Board Meeting
3. **UK** Meeting of Catalyst Regional Response Team
4. **Austria** Zero Project conference on Employment
5. **Greece** International Disability Alliance Project meeting; International Disability Alliance Board Meeting
6. **Germany** The Right to Work for People with Disabilities – International Perspectives conference
7. **Czech Republic** Europe in Action conference
8. **Norway** International Disability and Development Consortium meeting
9. **Belgium** Inclusion Europe leadership training
10. **Spain** Autonomous University of Madrid inclusive education training

## ASIA PACIFIC

1. **Thailand** 4th Session of the Working Group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022; Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development 2017; UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for HLPF; 2017 IASSIDD 4th Asia-Pacific Regional Congress
2. **China** 2nd Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) High Level Meeting on Disability; Visit to Inclusion China and China Disabled Persons' Federation
3. **India** Self-Advocates Forum of India
4. **Bangladesh** 23rd Conference of Asian Federation on Intellectual Disabilities

## AFRICA

1. **South Africa** Inclusion Africa General Assembly
2. **Kenya** West East Africa Bridge Training module 2; Africa Child Policy Forum (ACPF) - Violence Against Children
3. **Ethiopia** Inclusion Africa Board meeting; Inclusive Education Conference
4. **Togo** Inclusion Africa Self-advocacy Event

## MENA

1. **Egypt** INTERACT *Inclusion Why* conference; Interact and LASA - Supporting the creation of a self-advocacy group in Alexandria
2. **Lebanon** LASA, UNICEF, WRC and the Ministry of Social Affairs - End violence against children and women with intellectual disabilities; Lebanon LASA - Working with refugees with intellectual disabilities in Beirut



# Treasurer's Report and Financials

## SUMMARY FINANCIALS

This report to be read in conjunction with the Audited Trustee Reports and Financial Statements for 2016 and 2017, which are available on our website [www.inclusion-international.org](http://www.inclusion-international.org)

## FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

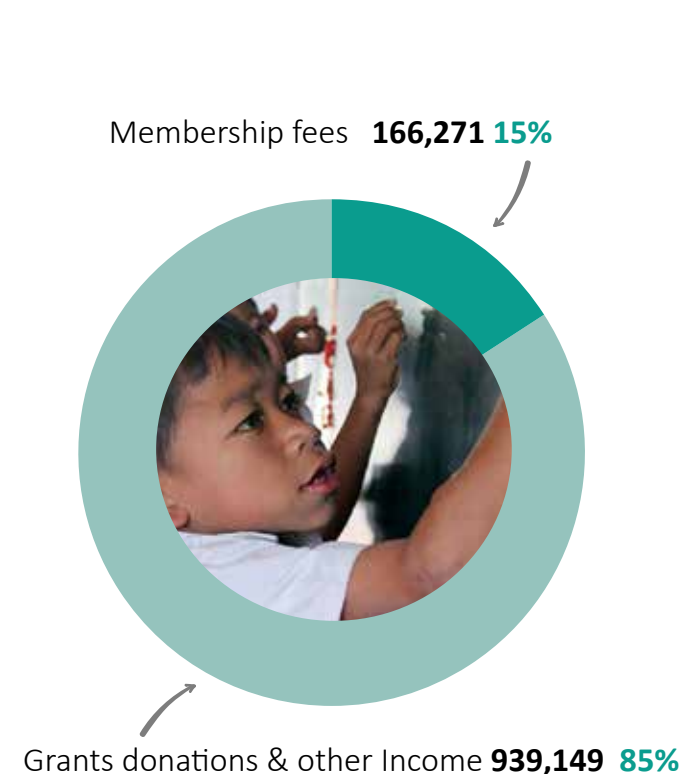
All figures in Euros

Financial Activities for the years ending 31/12/16 and 31/12/2017 are summarised as follows:

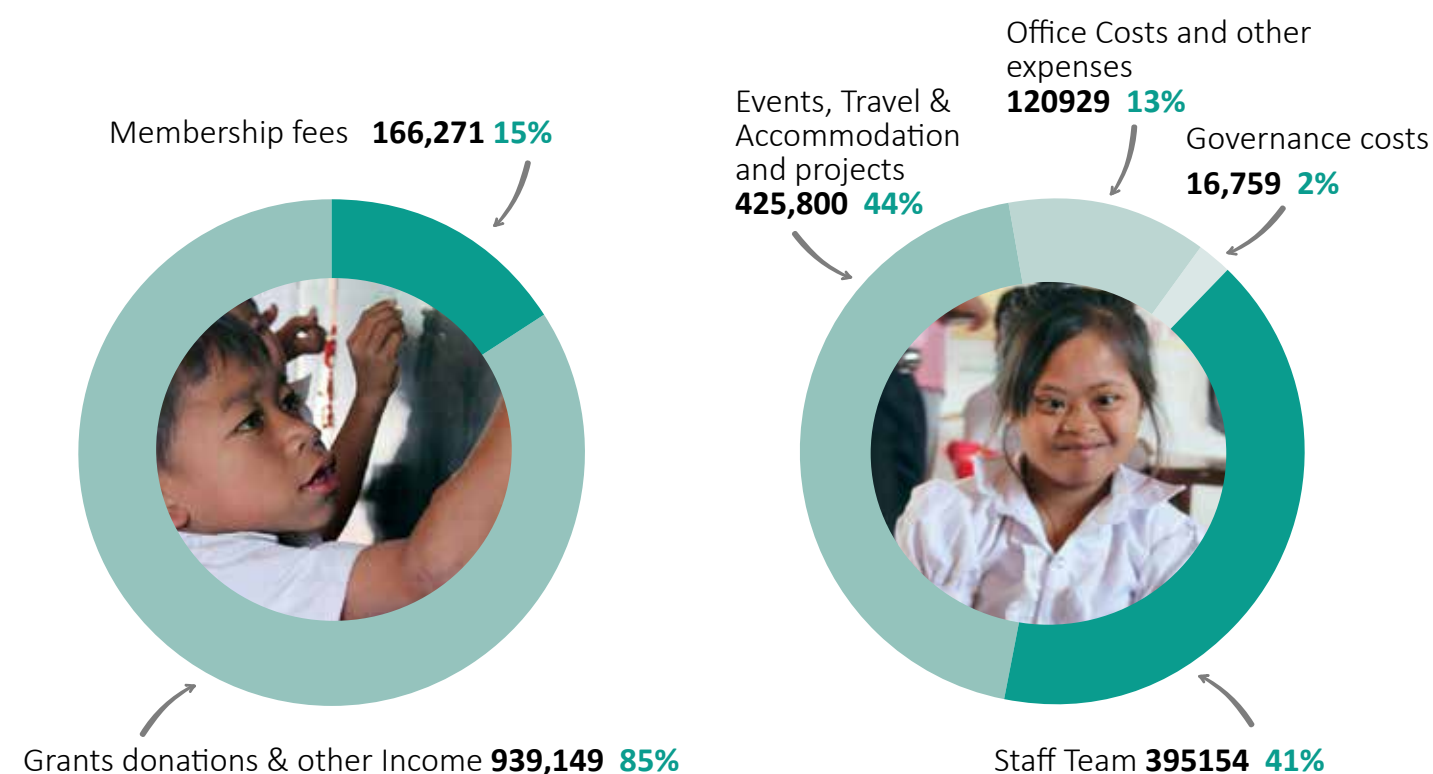
	2016	2017
<b>Income</b>		
Membership fees& donations	166,545	166,271
Grants	834,008	939,136
Other Income	39	13
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,000,592</b>	<b>1,105,420</b>
<b>Total Expenses (after FX adj)</b>		
	912,702	958,642
<b>Net Incoming/ (outgoing) resources</b>	<b>87,890</b>	<b>146,778</b>
<b>Funds at 31<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<b>572,662</b>	<b>719,440</b>

	2016	2017
<b>Assets</b>		
Debtors	260,313	248,368
Cash at Bank	650,881	590,393
<b>Less Liabilities and Funds</b>		
<b>Creditors</b>	<b>(338,532)</b>	<b>(119,321)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>572,662</b>	<b>719,440</b>
<b>Un-restricted Funds</b>		
Restricted Funds	394,758	541,970
Designated Funds	76,474	76,430
<b>Total</b>	<b>572,662</b>	<b>719,440</b>

## INCOME

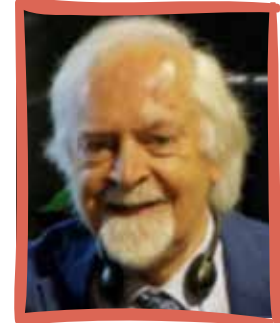


## EXPENSES

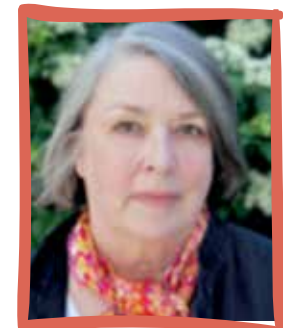


# Officers and Council Members

## Officers



**Klaus Lachwitz**  
President



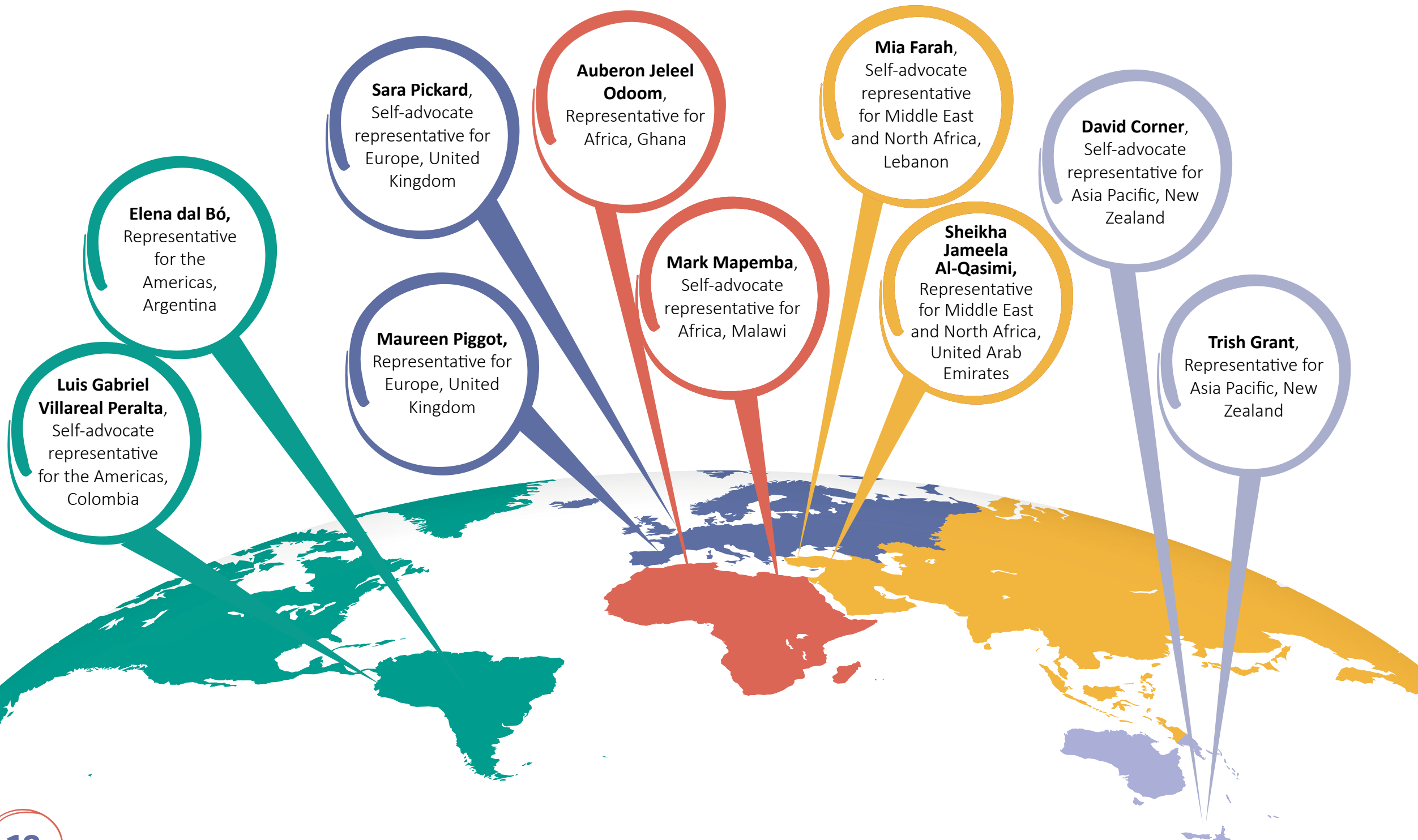
**Sue Swenson**  
President-Elect



**Fauzia Haji**  
Secretary General



**Tim Gadd**  
Treasurer



# Thanks to our Donors and Supporters

**Open Society Foundation**

**Anonymous Donor**

**IHC New Zealand**

**NFU**

**UK DFID**

**We thank all of our members and partners for their collaboration and support. Together, we can build a global society where everyone is included.**

# Staff and Contact

[www.inclusion-international.org](http://www.inclusion-international.org)



## Staff

**Connie Laurin-Bowie**, Executive Director

**Mohammed Al-Emran**, Event Coordinator

**Ines E. de Escallon**, Regional Coordinator for the Americas

**Raquel Gonzalez**, Coordinator, Administrator

**Fatma Haji**, Regional Coordinator Inclusion Africa

**Ailis Hardy**, Self-Advocacy Coordinator

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**Liz Haverda**, Communications Coordinator

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