

**De :** Magritte Olivier

**Envoyé :** lundi 14 décembre 2020 10:21

**À :** 'Catherine Naughton' <[catherine.naughton@edf-feeph.org](mailto:catherine.naughton@edf-feeph.org)>; Albert Prévos (CFEH) ...

**Cc :** Loredana Dicsi <[loredana.dicsi@edf-feeph.org](mailto:loredana.dicsi@edf-feeph.org)>; muriel davia <[muriel.davia@edf-feeph.org](mailto:muriel.davia@edf-feeph.org)>

**Objet :** RE: EDF board- for your decision: postponement of EDF elections for one year, holding of extraordinary AGA online and holding of ordinary AGA online in 2021

Bonjour Catherine.

Vu la situation sanitaire, le report des élections en 2022 et les mesures transitoires proposées sont tout à fait logiques.

Gisèle Marlière marque donc son accord.

Pour Gisèle Marlière

Olivier Magritte

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**De :** Catherine Naughton <[catherine.naughton@edf-feeph.org](mailto:catherine.naughton@edf-feeph.org)>

**Envoyé :** vendredi 11 décembre 2020 15:06

**À :** Albert Prévos (CFEH) <[albert.prevos@gmail.com](mailto:albert.prevos@gmail.com)>; Ana Pelaez Narvaez, ...

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**Objet :** EDF board- for your decision: postponement of EDF elections for one year, holding of extraordinary AGA online and holding of ordinary AGA online in 2021

**Importance :** Faible

Dear Board Members,

I hope this email finds you all well.

EDF completed its 2021 planning before the summer, having the workplan approved during our online AGA this year. At that point we anticipated a normal year in 2021, in terms of EDF governing body meetings and other events and advocacy. Since then the Covid-19 pandemic has not left us, but rather given us a second wave, and a new set of lockdowns, the promise of a return to a new normal seems far off.

Currently, and for the coming months, there is no possibility for EDF to organise face-to-face events/meetings. Right now, all staff and many members, are obliged by their governments to work at home. Travel is not possible, except for essential purposes.

For 2021 the executive committee believes that it will be better not to take risks of planning physical meetings until we are sure it is possible. The EDF executive committee has decided not to plan large in-person meetings until this has been deemed

possible and completely safe for all EDF delegates, staff, guests and people that accompany delegates to EDF meetings.

The 2021 AGA should have been the moment for a full set of elections (the President, the Board, the Executive Committee and all of its specific mandates, statutory committees, are all elected).

The AGA is a gathering of often more than 150 people from across Europe. The elections are complex, and take place in several phases, beginning with the nomination of delegates, candidates, and then voting physically at the AGA. Following the AGA our youth committee and women's committee are also reestablished. This series of elections needs to be fully accessible, and for all contested positions it is conducted by secret ballot. It should be noted also that the different posts for the Board are elected by membership category- National Councils elect national council members, etc. The executive committee is elected by the Board once the new Board has been elected.

The AGA would not be possible to run as a face-to-face under the present Covid-19 conditions. These conditions will hopefully improve but this improvement is unpredictable now. Online elections are not desirable because of the election process which we have.

The Executive Committee discussed this in detail in its meeting of November 27<sup>th</sup> and decided:

- Given the complexity of our elections, online /virtual elections will be very challenging
- Given the pandemic, we cannot anticipate fully safe and inclusive AGA and face to face meetings in May, with all members in attendance and able to vote in person
- Given that we are in a pandemic situation it is not a good moment to propose a full change in leadership of the organisation

**To consult with you and ask for your approval to convene**

- **an extraordinary AGA in early 2021 in order to ask EDF membership to extend the mandates of its Board of Directors, Executive Committee, President and statutory committees by one year. We would plan to run the elections in May 2022. This will also imply an extension in the mandates of the youth committee and the Women's committee.**
- **An ordinary AGA in 2021, online in order to conduct the statutory business of EDF** (Approval of 2020 audited financial reports, approval of 2020 annual report, discharge of the Board, designation of internal auditors for 2022, approval of the 2022 work programme, approval of 2022 budget,)

Currently the EDF secretariat is preparing for the extraordinary AGA and the ordinary AGA to be in an online email forum, with a Belgian Lawyer, so that everything is in line with our statutes and the Belgian Law.

The EDF executive committee asks you to let us know if you, as Board members agree to the postponement of elections till 2022, and the holding of online extraordinary, and ordinary AGAs in 2022.

Please confirm if you agree as soon as you can by email, and we will count the votes for this decision on January 4<sup>th</sup>. Do not hesitate to contact me and Loredana if you have any questions or concerns at all about this. We will of course organise online Board meetings and conferences and workshops throughout 2021. We will propose a full planning of that in January.

Best regards,

Catherine

**Catherine Naughton**

Director

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