



President and CEB Report 2022-2025

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1. Introduction: Reflecting on Our Journey Together

Human-centered design thinking, when rooted in universal and sustainable principles, has the power to fundamentally improve our world. It can deliver economic, ecological, social and cultural benefits to all people, improve our quality of life and create optimism about the future, and create individual and shared happiness. (The Kyoto Design Declaration, 2008)

As we approach the conclusion of the 2022-2025 mandate for the Cumulus Executive Board VIII, it is with great pride and gratitude that we present this report reflecting on our collective journey. These three years have represented a period of extraordinary growth, transformation, and resilience for our association. Throughout this journey, we have maintained a dual focus: developing ambitious strategic perspectives while ensuring their concrete realization through operational work. From the post-pandemic recovery to our establishment as an independent association, from expanding our global footprint to reimagining our foundational principles, the Cumulus community has demonstrated remarkable solidarity and vision.

Our association has continued its impressive growth trajectory, now approaching 400 members from 71 different countries across five continents. This expansion is not merely numerical but represents the increasing recognition of Cumulus as the preeminent global platform for design education and research. The diversity of our membership—spanning large and small institutions, public and private entities, universities, colleges, and specialized academies—constitutes the true richness of our network.

Throughout this mandate, we have been guided by our Strategic Plan 2022-2025, which emphasized enhancing member engagement, strengthening our organizational infrastructure, fostering collaborative governance, and supporting underserved design communities. As we prepare for the transition to a new Executive Board and presidency, we can look back with satisfaction at significant achievements across all strategic areas while recognizing the ongoing work that will carry Cumulus forward.

This report documents our collective accomplishments during the three years 2022-2025 of our mandate, while providing a holistic overview of our journey. It highlights both the continuation of our established traditions and the introduction of transformative new initiatives that will shape Cumulus's future.

2. Reimagining Our Foundation: From Kyoto to Nantes

One of the most significant undertakings of our mandate has been the participatory process to revisit and expand the Kyoto Design Declaration. This foundational document, drafted in 2008 by Cumulus founder Yrjö Sotamaa, has served as a pillar for our association's values, advocating for design's role in building sustainable, human-centered creative societies.

Recognizing the profound changes in our global landscape since 2008, we embarked on an ambitious two-year participatory process to co-create a new Cumulus Design Declaration. This process reflects our commitment to collaboration and inclusivity—core values of our association.

Under the supervision of our Cumulus Executive Board member and Vice-President Roberto Iniguez Flores, the extensive engagement has been remarkable: online surveys, six in-person workshops at conferences, two online workshops across different time zones, Executive Board workshops, Working Group discussions, and CirroCumulus involvement. With over 250 participants contributing their perspectives, we have created a declaration that truly represents our diverse global community.

This collaborative approach has led to a profound evolution in our thinking: from human-centered design to planet-centered design, acknowledging the essential interdependence between humans and non-humans in our shared home. The emerging declaration reflects this paradigm shift, recognizing that every design action affects the whole system of life on Earth. It calls for design that resonates with nature's rhythms, embraces regenerative approaches, and acknowledges our symbiotic relationship with all living systems.

The draft declaration addresses several critical dimensions: reframing sustainability beyond the SDGs framework, championing inclusiveness and

togetherness, and acknowledging the plurality of design knowledges—from indigenous wisdom to scientific innovation. In addressing disruption, particularly the emergence of artificial intelligence and biological ethics, it positions designers as critical agents in leveraging change toward preferred futures. The culmination of this journey will take place at the Nantes Cumulus Conference, June 3-7, 2025, where we will formally present and sign the new Cumulus Design Declaration as part of our 35th anniversary celebrations. This timing is particularly significant as it marks not just a milestone in our history, but the beginning of a new chapter in our collective commitment to design's role in shaping a better future.

3. New Initiatives: Building for the Future

During this mandate, the Cumulus Executive Board VIII has launched several innovative initiatives that respond to emerging needs and opportunities within our community. These new programs expand our services to members while reinforcing our commitment to inclusivity, knowledge sharing, and global cooperation.

Cumulus PhD Network

Recognizing the growing importance of doctoral education in design, we established the Cumulus PhD Network to connect PhD students, supervisors, and programs across our global community. Since its inception, this network has:

- organized specialized tracks at Cumulus conferences, including the upcoming Nantes conference where 33 papers were selected from 81 submissions;
- created a dedicated platform for knowledge exchange among doctoral researchers;
- facilitated discussions on methodologies and practices in design research;
- connected emerging researchers with established scholars across institutional boundaries.

The network has been particularly valuable for members in regions where design doctoral education is still developing, providing models and mentorship

opportunities that strengthen the global research ecosystem.

Cumulus Student Talent Camp

The Cumulus Student Talent Camp embodies our core identity as a student-centered association and represents a significant investment in the next generation of design talents. During this mandate, we made it a strategic priority to create tangible, transformative opportunities for students to experience the international dimension of design education beyond the confines of their home institutions.

This initiative brings together students from all around the world once a year for an intensive week-long workshop, creating a unique space where they collaborate across cultural and disciplinary boundaries while learning from local design experiences and sharing different cultural perspectives.

The Talent Camp series has successfully expanded across continents:

- the inaugural Talent Camp was hosted by ARCH College of Design & Business in Jaipur, India (2023), under the leadership of CEB member Archana Surana. This pioneering event brought together students to explore traditional craft heritage and contemporary design approaches in the vibrant cultural context of Rajasthan.
- the second edition was held in Pordenone, Italy (2024), organized by Pordenone Design Week. This European iteration focused on integrating design thinking with regional industrial expertise, creating valuable connections between educational institutions and local creative economies.
- the third edition, hosted by Africa Design School in Cotonou, Benin (April 12-19, 2025), under the coordination of Cumulus Board member Natacha Lallemand, has focused on “Design and Local Craftmanship: Innovative Solutions for Sustainable Impact.” This groundbreaking event has united young creative talents in a collaborative exploration of African design heritage and sustainable practices.

The geographical progression from Asia to Europe to Africa demonstrates our commitment to ensuring that these opportunities are truly global, exposing students to diverse design contexts and challenges. By rotating locations annually, we ensure that different regional perspectives are centered and celebrated, while also making international experience more accessible to students who might otherwise face barriers to global mobility.

By immersing students in real-world challenges and cultural exchange, the Talent Camp embodies our commitment to both educational excellence and cross-cultural understanding. Participants not only develop design skills but also forge meaningful connections that transcend national borders, preparing them to be truly global citizens in the design field.

Cumulus Regional Meetings

To make Cumulus more accessible and responsive to regional needs and to support those who cannot travel, we have introduced a series of Regional Meetings. These more intimate gatherings complement our biannual conferences by:

- addressing region-specific challenges and opportunities;
- reducing travel barriers and carbon footprints;
- strengthening local and regional networks within the global Cumulus community;
- providing platforms for members who may not regularly attend international conferences.

During this three-year mandate, the Cumulus Regional Meetings have had a strategic focus on the Far East, under the coordination of our Executive Board member Miaosen Gong, with successful events in China and Japan, thanks to our CEB member Makoto Watanabe, that have strengthened our presence in this dynamic region:

- Nanjing, China (June 2023): “Internationalization in a New Era” hosted by Nanjing University of the Arts, serving as the inaugural regional seminar;
- Tokyo, Japan (October 2023): “Bridging Horizons: International Cooperation in Design Education”, hosted and organized by Chiba University;
- Wuxi, China (November 2024): “Design Education in the Tide of Globalization” organized by the School of Design at Jiangnan University;
- Suzhou, China (November-December 2024): “Design for Intercultural Innovation” hosted and organized by Xi’an Jiaotong-Liverpool University.

Looking ahead, we’re pleased to announce that the next Cumulus Regional Meetings is planned to take place in Indonesia, hosted by Universitas Ciputra and focused on “Designing Tomorrow: Local Roots in an Interconnected and Ubiquitous World,” continuing our strategic engagement with the Southeast Asia region.

These seminars have proven particularly valuable in regions with growing design education sectors, where they have fostered new collaborations and membership growth, while allowing us to respond more directly to local and regional challenges and opportunities.

Cumulus Passport

The Cumulus Passport initiative is a symbolic response to our return to face-to-face meetings following the COVID-19 pandemic. This physical passport strengthens the sense of identity and belonging among Cumulus members. It represents:

- a tangible record of participation in the global Cumulus network;
- a symbol of Cumulus' transnational identity, belonging to no single nation but embracing the entire world;
- a personal registry of each member's journey through Cumulus conferences and events.

At each conference, participants receive a stamp in their passport, creating a visual testimony of their involvement in the global community. The passport includes spaces for personal information, details about Working Groups they participate in, and other activities within the association.

This simple yet meaningful tool symbolizes how Cumulus transcends national boundaries, allowing its members to 'travel' peacefully throughout the worlds through design and education. It serves as a powerful metaphor for our mission of creating international connections and promoting global collaboration in the field of design.

Design Cultures for Peace

Since the beginning of our mandate, we have recognized the challenges facing international design education in an era of increasing global tensions. We have consistently emphasized Cumulus's role in promoting dialogue, empathy, and peaceful cooperation across cultural and political divides.

Throughout our term, we have actively responded to global crises. The "Cumulus for Ukraine" initiative demonstrated our community's solidarity with Ukrainian colleagues and students affected by conflict. Simultaneously, our thoughts have extended to all regions suffering from war and humanitarian crises, including

Gaza, where ongoing conflicts continue to impact communities and educational institutions.

Our commitment to peace has culminated in organizing the “Design Cultures for Peace” roundtable at the upcoming Nantes Atlantique conference, in collaboration with the DESIS Network. Led by Ezio Manzini and myself and under the coordination of Teresa Franqueira, this session will bring together design leaders and students to address how international design organizations can respond effectively to geopolitical tensions and human crises.

The roundtable will explore critical issues including: fostering open communication across political and cultural divides; empowering affected communities through design education; promoting culturally sensitive peaceful resolutions; and developing cooperative models for design-led peace-building efforts.

This initiative reflects our fundamental belief that international design communities have both an opportunity and an obligation to apply their networks toward positive social action. In a time when division often overshadows unity, we remain committed to building a global design community united through shared values and a common vision of a more peaceful, sustainable future.

Design with Africa

Africa has been elevated to a strategic priority under this mandate, with the highest levels of engagement on the continent ever. Beyond the Benin Talent Camp, we have:

- helped plan the Cumulus conference at the University of Johannesburg in partnership with Cape Peninsula University of Technology (November 2025);
- strengthened our partnership with the Pan Afrikan Design Institute (PADI), and we look forward to the upcoming PADI Conference in Kumasi, Ghana (July 2025);
- drive to increase African membership in Cumulus.

Thanks to our CEB member Monica Di Ruvo, these initiatives reflect our commitment to an inclusive, diverse design education ecosystem where African perspectives and insights are at the heart of the agenda. Looking ahead, we recognize the importance of developing an equity model for the future that considers the specific needs and contributions of the Global South and

underserved regions, ensuring that access to design education and collaboration opportunities is not limited by economic or geographical barriers. This includes evolving toward a balanced financial model to better serve regional design partners across the continent and in other developing regions.

Design Research

During this mandate, we started supporting our Cumulus members in their research projects applications, recognizing the strategic importance of funding for advancing design research and education. Thanks to our Board members Teresa Franqueira and Nicola Morelli, we have developed a framework to facilitate members' participation in consortia, provided guidance on proposal development, and leveraged our extensive network to create stronger multi-institutional partnerships. This initiative has already yielded positive results, with some successful applications from member institutions and increased visibility of design-led research within funding mechanisms. Our involvement in these projects strengthens our position as a key stakeholder in shaping research agendas related to design, creativity, and innovation. Moving forward, we plan to expand this support system with dedicated workshops, mentoring programs, and a platform for sharing best practices among members through the Reveda Working Group on design research.

4. Strengthening Core Programs: Building on Our Heritage

While introducing new initiatives, we have remained committed to strengthening the established programs that form the backbone of Cumulus's service to members. These core activities have seen significant development during our mandate.

Cumulus Working Groups

The Cumulus Working Groups continue to serve as vibrant communities of practice where members collaborate around shared interests and expertise. During this mandate, we have:

- supported the formation of new Working Groups in emerging areas with a new call;
- provided structural support and guidance for Working Group activities;
- facilitated Working Group sessions at conferences;
- encouraged publication and dissemination of Working Group outcomes with a new call for CWG publications.

The Working Groups represent the intellectual vitality of our community, and their continued growth reflects the breadth and depth of interests within Cumulus.

Cumulus Green Competition

The Cumulus Green Competition has evolved to become an increasingly significant platform for sustainable design thinking. It engages students from our member institutions to develop innovative solutions to significant environmental and social challenges, celebrating the transformative power of design in addressing complex global issues.

The latest iteration, “Designing Healthy Future,” reflects our commitment to connecting design education to society’s most urgent needs. The 2024 competition, chaired by our Cumulus Executive Board member Anne Pikkov and Angela Giambattista, the Chair of the Cumulus Working Group on Design for Health, Wellbeing and Aging (DEHA), asked students to explore the relationships between human health, environmental sustainability, and community well-being through the lens of SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being.

The response was exceptional, with 293 submissions from across the globe (266 successfully submitted and 246 approved for round one). The geographical distribution demonstrated the competition’s truly international reach, with 114 submissions from Europe, 83 from Asia, 43 from America, 9 from Oceania, and 8 from Africa.

From this impressive pool, 34 outstanding projects were selected as finalists, with prizes awarded to projects that demonstrated exceptional creativity, research rigor, and innovative approaches to health challenges. The competition featured a distinguished international jury of experts in design, health, and sustainability, ensuring that selected projects demonstrated desirable, viable, and feasible designs with evidence of rigorous research processes and innovative solutions.

Over our mandate, we have:

- expanded the competition's reach and participation;
- strengthened partnerships with industry and sustainability organizations, including The One Club for Creativity in the US;
- increased the visibility of winning projects through global showcases;
- keeping connecting competition themes with global sustainability challenges.

Looking ahead, we are pleased to announce that the theme for Cumulus Green 2026 will focus on another critical Sustainable Development Goal: Quality Education (SDG 4). This theme will challenge students to explore how design can “ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.” Participants will address issues of educational accessibility, new learning spaces, technologies for diverse learning needs, and the visualization of complex information to enhance learning outcomes.

The Cumulus Green Competition continues to serve as both an educational tool and an advocacy platform, demonstrating to wider audiences how design education contributes to solving urgent planetary challenges.

Student Ambassador Program

The Cumulus Student Ambassador Program has continued to serve as an important bridge between the association and the student community. Launched in 2015, this merit-based initiative recognizes exceptional student talent from member institutions, offering selected students the opportunity to act as global envoys at Cumulus conferences.

During our mandate, we have maintained this valuable program, allowing ambassadors to immerse themselves in our international design community, develop leadership skills, and contribute to Cumulus activities through social media engagement, documentation, and peer networking. The program creates pathways for emerging designers to connect with the global design education ecosystem while bringing fresh perspectives to our association's work. The ambassadors represent the future leadership of our field, and their energy, creativity, and insights have continued to enrich Cumulus events and communications. While temporarily paused during the pandemic period, the program has resumed with the return to in-person conferences, contributing once again to the vibrancy of our global community.

Publications and Academic Recognition

We have made significant strides in enhancing the academic quality and recognition of Cumulus publications:

- implemented DOI certification for conference proceedings, beginning with the Budapest conference;
- improved peer review processes for conference submissions;
- enhanced quality control measures for conference proceedings to ensure consistently high standards;
- continued the Working Group “Think Tank” Series with the publication of “ReVeDA: An Investigation of Research by Art, Design and Media in Cumulus Association”;
- worked toward supporting new proposals for future publications in the “Think Tank” Series.
- Enhanced digital accessibility and archiving of Cumulus publications

These improvements strengthen the scholarly impact of our community’s work and provide valuable platforms for knowledge dissemination.

Cumulus Conferences: Gathering Our Community

Our biennial meetings remain the clearest outward reflection of Cumulus’s community and mission. Throughout our mandate, we have succeeded in welcoming great meetings which contributed to intellectual debate of our discipline and social contacts of our network. The sequence of the conferences during our mandate has underscored Cumulus’s genuinely international dimension and intellectual vibrancy.

- Detroit Conference (June 2022)

The Detroit conference, hosted by the College for Creative Studies in collaboration with AICAD, was the beginning of our mandate with the title of “Design for Adaptation.” The conference explored how design can respond to rapidly changing environments and social circumstances, emphasizing resilience, equity, and innovation. The conference was a very significant event to gather in person once again as we emerged from the pandemic lockdowns.

- Antwerp Conference (April 2023)

The Antwerp conference, organized by the University of Antwerp in close collaboration with the Royal Academy of Fine Arts, focused on “Design for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.” It looked at how design contributes to making our societies more inclusive and addressing systemic inequities. The conference featured breakthrough keynotes, workshops, and exhibitions that challenged our community to reflect on the ethical dimensions of design.

- Beijing Conference (October 2023)

The Beijing conference, organized by Central Academy of Fine Arts CAFA, focused on “Design Education in the Age of Artificial Intelligence.” This timely exploration of the relationship between design and emerging technologies drew a stunning international following and sparked vital debates about pedagogy, practice, and ethics in the midst of accelerating tech change. The conference supported Cumulus’s networks across Asia and demonstrated our commitment to working with the latest issues.

- Budapest Conference (May 2024)

The Budapest conference, hosted by Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design (MOME), was a milestone event with its exploration of “Design for Resilient Communities.” With its unprecedented number of participants, papers, working groups, and keynote speakers, the conference gave evidence of the dynamism and intellectual vigour of our global design community. The conference incorporated novel formats for knowledge sharing and community formation.

- Monterrey Conference (October 2024)

Monterrey conference, hosted by Tecnológico de Monterrey and Universidad de Monterrey, stretched our presence in Latin America with the theme of “Design Futures: Innovation for Societal Transformation.” The event witnessed intriguing dialogues on how design can be used to tackle challenging societal challenges, particularly in the emerging economies. The event further strengthened bonding among our group and re-focusing Cumulus on geographical diversity.

- Future Nantes Atlantique Conference (June 2025)

The following Nantes Atlantique conference, hosted by L’École de Design Nantes Atlantique, represents a culmination of efforts by our mandate. Under the title “Ethical Leadership: A New Frontier for Design,” this conference will:

- celebrate Cumulus's 35th anniversary;
- formally sign the new Cumulus Design Declaration;
- deal with major issues such as Digital Ethics, Food Transition, Care and Public Action, Regenerative City, Informational Issues, and Design Entrepreneurship;
- organize the Cumulus General Assembly and elections for the new Executive Board and President

With 189 papers selected from 573 submissions to the main tracks, and a further 33 in the PhD Network Track, this conference will be a outstanding showcase of intellectual energy within our community and a fitting conclusion to our mandate's journey.

5. Global Advocacy: Representing Cumulus Worldwide

A key focus of this mandate has been to strengthen Cumulus's global presence and influence through strategic advocacy efforts. As President and together with our Cumulus Executive Board, I have had the privilege of representing our association at numerous international forums, spanning from the Far East to the Far West, creating valuable opportunities to strengthen our network, forge new connections, and amplify our shared vision for design education on the world stage.

The scope of this advocacy work has been truly remarkable, with appearances at over 40 international conferences in 15 countries across 4 continents during the 2022-2025 period. This extensive activity reflects our commitment to establishing Cumulus as the leading international voice for design education and research.

The geographical distribution of these advocacy interventions demonstrates our global perspective:

- Asia: 15 presentations and keynotes, including events in China (Beijing, Shanghai, Wuhan, Wuxi, Nanjing, Taipei), Singapore, Japan, India, and the Philippines
- Europe: 18 speeches and participations in Finland, Spain, Portugal, Belgium, Italy, Germany, France, Latvia, Hungary, and the UK
- North America: 4 keynotes and panel discussions in the United States and Mexico

- Middle East: 2 presentations in the United Arab Emirates and Turkey

At all these events, from keynote lectures to panel discussions and roundtables, we have articulated Cumulus's vision of design education as a force for international cooperation, social innovation, and sustainable development. These advocacy activities have not only enhanced Cumulus's visibility but also created valuable contacts with potential members, partner institutions, and leading stakeholders in the international design community, furthering our mission of global engagement and exchange.

6. Organizational Development: Securing Our Future

The past three years have seen significant developments in Cumulus's organizational structure and operating capacity, positioning the association for long-term growth and impact.

Independence and Governance

One of the most important achievements of our term has been our transition to becoming an entirely independent association. This transition, initiated at the beginning of our term, is a transformation of huge importance to Cumulus's future independence and viability.

Cumulus was founded in 1990 by Aalto University (formerly University of Art and Design Helsinki), and the Secretariat has been located there ever since. After detailed planning and in full cooperation with Aalto University, we undertook a carefully guided process of transformation that enabled us to maintain our historic premises at the university where Cumulus was born, while simultaneously registering as an independent association in Finland. The road to independence has been achieved by a series of important steps:

- legal registration as an independent association according to Finnish law, giving Cumulus its own legal personality;
- negotiation for a new service contract with Aalto University, preserving our historical connection while formalizing our relationship as independent partners;

- establishment of an independent bank account and financial arrangements, having complete control of our finances;
- phased transfer of secretariat activities from Aalto University to Cumulus Association, both human resources and administrative procedures.

Throughout this complex process, we have kept our members completely informed with complete transparency, reporting regularly in General Assembly meetings as well as through our communication channels. We have also worked extensively with legal and financial professionals to ensure total compliance with all applicable legislation. We wish to express our sincere appreciation to our Treasurer Satu Miettinen and Secretary General Eija Salmi, whose professionalism, commitment, and close attention to detail played a crucial role in successfully managing this challenging transition. We are also grateful specifically to Cumulus founder Yrjö Sotamaa for his wise counsel and strategic direction, which has guided us during our journey, so that the path to autonomy honors the founding vision and ethos under which Cumulus was first established.

The transition allows valuable tax advantages along with the upkeep of our own premises in Aalto University—a situation which honors our past but welcomes our international future. We view this transition as an expression of mature governance and responsible stewardship of the association’s assets. Notably, this new framework will enable us to more effectively deploy staffing resources in the future mandate, enabling us to enhance our ability to provide improved services to our members. The Cumulus Secretariat is the activity center of our association and deserves full attention and resources to better serve our members. The culmination of this process positions Cumulus for long-term growth in the decades ahead, with open governance frameworks that can adapt with our growing global reach.

Financial Health

Cumulus is experiencing a period of good financial health, thanks to our Treasurer Satu Miettinen and our Secretary General Eija Salmi. Our prudent economic strategy, supplemented by income from European research projects, has positioned us to:

- build the foundation for investing in Secretariat development in the next three years;
- enhance services to members;

- reinforcing our technological infrastructure and communication strategy;
- initiate new programs;
- establish reserves for long-term sustainability.

Such economic stability gives us the luxury of looking towards the future with confidence, trusting that the association has the finances to continue its mission and respond to future challenges.

7. Looking Forward: Challenges and Opportunities

As we seek to transition to a new Executive Board and presidency, we need to acknowledge both the achievements of the past three years and the challenges and opportunities for Cumulus in the future.

Emerging Challenges

- Our practice and our association are faced with several significant challenges:
- meeting the challenge of artificial intelligence to design education and practice;
- addressing the climate emergency through regenerative design strategies;
- providing access to design education on an equal basis in international contexts;
- addressing geopolitical tensions that affect international cooperation;
- sustaining growth balanced with member and community involvement and solidarity;
- balancing global and local dimensions in building the internationalization of design education systems and in our association's commitment;
- ensuring equitable opportunities, while acknowledging and accommodating diverse contexts;
- defending a shared space for collective intelligence to be inclusive, open and dynamic.

Strategic Opportunities

Alongside these challenges, we also have wonderful opportunities for Cumulus: expanding our global network to address complex planet-wide issues; building influence in new regions for design education; enhancing collaboration with industry, government, and civil society; enhancing the research potential and contribution of our community; developing new models of knowledge exchange and collaboration; taking advantage of technology for improving networking and knowledge sharing.

Recommendations for the Future

Based on our experience during this mandate, we set out the following proposals for future development in Cumulus:

- invest more in digital infrastructure facilitating member communication and collaboration;
- reinforce our Secretariat and the Cumulus personnel to provide better services to our members;
- developing an equity model for the future considering the specific needs and contributions of the Global South and underserved regions;
- enhance regional networks with a view to international coherence;
- strengthen strategic partnerships and develop joint initiatives with our sister organizations in the global design ecosystem;
- develop models of sustainable funding of strategic projects;
- develop a comprehensive Sustainability Strategic and Action Plan to ensure that ethical and environmental values remain at the heart of all association activities.

Acknowledgments and Gratitude

None of the successes listed in this report would have been possible without the outstanding dedication and collaboration of all the Cumulus community.

We would like to offer our most sincere gratitude to:

- all Cumulus members worldwide who trust and inspire our association;
- our Secretary General Eija Salmi, whose tireless work has been essential to

- our journey;
- our Cumulus Coordinator Justyna Molik, for her patient and dedicated daily work;
 - the Cumulus Executive Board VIII: Monica Di Ruvo (South Africa), Teresa Franqueira (Portugal), Miaosen Gong (China), Roberto Iñiguez (Mexico), Natacha Lallemand (France), Satu Miettinen (Finland), Nicola Morelli (Denmark), Anne Pikkov (Estonia), Archana Surana (India), and Makoto Watanabe (Japan);
 - our Treasurer, Satu Miettinen, for her careful financial management and her crucial contribution to our association's stability;
 - our Vice-President, Roberto Iñiguez Flores, whose remarkable leadership in co-chairing the Design Declaration process since its start;
 - our Vice-President, Archana Surana, for initiating the Cumulus Talent Camp project since the beginning of our mandate;
 - the Cumulus Founder Yrjo Sotamaa and our Honorary Presidents Christian Guellerin, Luisa Collina and Mariana Amatullo;
 - all hosts of the conferences, Working Group coordinators, program leaders, and volunteers.

Let us raise a glass with Cumulus Association and to the forthcoming years—may they be peaceful, joyful, and sustainable.

Warm regards from Roma,
Lorenzo Imbesi
President, Cumulus Association
May 2025