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Cumulus International Association of Universities and Colleges of Art, Design and Media Secretary General Eija Salmi, PO Box 31000 0076 Aalto Finland

Dear General Secretary Eija Salmi, dear Cumulus members,

As the professor at School of Design, Hunan University (Changsha, Hunan, China) and a member of Cumulus Association, I am very pleased to write this reference letter for Prof. Lorenzo Imbesi to become the next President of Cumulus for the years 2022–2025.

I personally know Prof. Imbesi and I am following his activities since a long time, when he was a Graduate Chair at Carleton University in Canada and I can witness his active contribution in our Cumulus Community and his long-standing efforts in internationalization. At the moment he is Full Professor at Sapienza University of Rome, leading as Director of Sapienza Design Research and I can witness he is an important and proactive member of our Association, while chairing the Working Group on Design Research, initiating the Cumulus PhD Network and Co-Chairing the Cumulus Roma 2021 conference "Design Cultures", which had an extraordinary success in terms of scholar content and participation.

I strongly believe that Prof. Imbesi has the capacity as leader to drive our Association in decision-making and at the same time implementing the initiatives of Cumulus for the next three years to come. Since he is a recognized Scholar and Professor, also chairing and acting as keynote in international conferences, I am sure that he will be able to speak the language of Cumulus and in enlarging our scientific and research network worldwide with other Academic and Scientific Associations, so helping to reinforce Cumulus reputation.

Based on my personal knowledge and his longstanding international experience among the Academic Institutions in Europe, North America, but also Asia, I am giving my highest support to Prof. Imbesi without any reservation, to be elected as next President of Cumulus and more.

Should You have any further questions, please do not hesitate in contacting me. Sincerely yours,

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