

# F I A F

## Lisbon Congress

### First Meeting of the New Executive Committee Sunday, 23 April 1989

#### Members

Robert DAUDELIN	Montreal	President
Eva ORBANZ	Berlin - West	Secretary-General
Raymond BORDE	Toulouse	Treasurer
Wolfgang KLAUE	Berlin - East	Vice President
Hector GARCIA-MESA	Havana	Vice President
Anna-Lena WIBOM	Stockholm	Vice President
Eileen BOWSER	New York	<i>Absent</i>
David Francis	London	Deputy Secretary-General
Guido CINCOTTI	Roma	
Maria Rita GALVAO	Sao Paulo	
Luis DE PINA	Lisboa	
Christian DIMITRIU	Lausanne	Deputy Treasurer
Bob ROSEN	Los Angeles	
Executive Secretary		Brigitte VAN DER ELST
Interpreter & Minutes Secretary		Jill JOHNSON

# FINAL AGENDA

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**Annex** Recommendation from Programming Symposium

\* - Non-Agenda Item

# MINUTES

The Second EC meeting at Lisbon was held after the Congress on Sunday morning, 23 April, at the Novotel Hotel, with Mr DAUDELIN, the newly elected President, in the Chair.

## 1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The draft Agenda was adopted subject to the inclusion of a new point, designated 4a, "Programming" Working Group.

## 2 DESIGNATION OF VICE-PRESIDENTS, DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL & DEPUTY TREASURER

The following appointments were unanimously agreed:

- Vice Presidents Mrs Anna-Lena WIBOM  
Mr Wolfgang KLAUE  
Mr Hector GARCIA-MESA
- Deputy Secretary-General Mr David FRANCIS
- Deputy Treasurer Mr Christian DIMITRIU

## 3 MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS

### 3.1 New Observers

#### 3.1a Lima: Filмотека de Lima

This item was discussed in a separate EC meeting convened for the purpose a few days earlier. During the Congress, Mr CINCOTTI, Mr FRANCIS, and Mrs GALVAO had met with Mr Issac Leon Frias and also with Mr Joao Socrates of Cinemateca de Sao Paulo, and then the full EC had had a brief meeting with Mr Leon Frias and Mr Socrates before taking their decision. The following points were made.

Mr Socrates reported on his recent 11-day mission to Lima to provide basic training for the staff. It appeared that the Filмотека would act as a "centralising agent" for cinema people and several groups had agreed that it would be the place to house the national collection of films. There were 3 technical staff working in cooperation with a good laboratory and they expected to be able to transfer the nitrate films onto safety stock. They hoped to construct vaults to American standards on an identified site. They were seeking out unknown Peruvian films. Mr Socrates had not been able to see the nitrate collection of documentaries and newsreels held by the National Library. He had prepared a work plan for the archive.

Mr FRANCIS confirmed that after meeting Mr Leon Frias he was confident that the plans would materialise. Both he and Mr BORDE felt FIAF support would be an important factor.

**Decision:** Unanimously in favour.

### **3.1b Washington: National Archives of Recorded Sound**

During the Congress, Mr Bob Murphy had confirmed that it was the Archival Branch that was applying to join FIAF.

**Decision:** Unanimously in favour. Confirmation letter to include paragraph spelling out FIAF's policy to accept the archive, not the parent organisation.

### **3.2 Membership Group: Further Work**

Mr FRANCIS felt there should be some form of presentation to affiliates (ie everyone within FIAF) including some kind of formatted questionnaires. He felt it was important to explain why changes were considered necessary and invite suggestions from all Members and Observers.

He felt they could use the existing paper, divided into three parts:

- explanation of the issue
- possible solutions
- space for comments

Mrs WIBOM favoured a very detailed introduction to help the Members and Observers who were facing such problems for the first time so that the issues were clearly understood by all. Mr FRANCIS was pleased at the quality of questions raised after the presentation in the GA.

Mrs VAN DER ELST suggested the Group should meet for half a day in Helsinki before the EC meeting and perhaps once more in Brussels before Havana. Mr FRANCIS agreed to work on the draft with Mr ROSEN so the questionnaire could be distributed to the membership at the end of June with a request for reply by the end of September. It would include a section on preservation standards, drawing on Mr SCHOU's paper.

**Decision:** Working Group to discuss replies to questionnaire in Helsinki before EC meeting.

### **3.3 Annual Statistics: Additional Questions**

Mrs AUBERT felt the questionnaire was too complex, especially the section on acquisitions. It was suggested that the first question should be more general

**Decision:** Mrs AUBERT to be Project Manager and submit new draft to EC in Helsinki.

#### 4 FUND-RAISING COMMITTEE

It was recognised within the EC and by others (for example Mary Lea Bandy) that fund-raising was an urgent issue, especially as an increase in subscription would be poorly received and even less help could be expected from Unesco than previously. Mrs VAN DER ELST hoped Mrs WIBOM would join the Group as she had proved so effective at fund-raising for Paris.

Mrs WIBOM agreed to help as she had long been acutely aware of FIAF's need for more finance, in particular to help colleagues from developing countries. She felt it was important to distinguish between help needed by FIAF itself and help needed for specific projects (eg Havana) or special publications. She would also like to solve the problem of non-convertible currencies, perhaps with the help of an international bank to make it easier for members to pay their subscriptions.

Mr GARCIA-MESA said that with the crisis in Unesco the only solution for the next Congress was to raise money from private foundations. He was preparing a list of specific urgent projects and hoped the Fund-Raising Committee could be set up soon. Mr BORDE suggested the Group should include Mrs Bandy, Mr ROSEN, Mr DIMITRIU and Mrs WIBOM. There were two operational problems to solve: first, to identify and describe projects needing funding; second, to prepare a list of potential funding sources to be approached.

Mr ROSEN agreed to help but asked for a "shopping list" of urgent projects, with brief but precise project descriptions. Mr FRANCIS strongly supported this point as otherwise one can get involved in projects, perhaps suggested by the fundraisers, that are not your own priorities. The initial suggestions included Havana, PIP, symposia, the Bulletin, training courses. For Havana, it was suggested the airlines should be asked for help. Mrs GALVAO would send description of Latin American training seminar rejected by Unesco.

Mr GARCIA MESA asked if individual archives would have to approach the Group for help and whether the Group would decide priorities. Mr ROSEN felt it was more important to decide first on targets for FIAF as a whole and to seek funding for the Federation itself, rather than get involved in projects for individual members. It was agreed the Group would need Guidelines on priorities from FIAF. Mr BORDE suggested the Treasurer and the Secretariat could prepare some preliminary "dossiers".

**Action:** Mr ROSEN to contact Mrs Bandy.

**Decision:** Group to consist of Mrs WIBOM, Mr ROSEN, Mr DIMITRIU, Mrs Bandy and whoever else they decided to co-opt. Mrs WIBOM to be Project Manager for the first year. Group to meet in Helsinki before EC meeting.



#### **4a "PROGRAMMING" WORKING GROUP**

Mr DE PINA read out the Recommendation to the EC prepared by the participants of the second Lisbon Symposium (Annex 1) and asked that a Working Group be set up immediately rather than delaying by setting up a new Commission. Mr DAUDELIN asked that the Working Group prepare a detailed plan for discussion in Helsinki and work closely with the Membership Group to avoid contradictory recommendations.

Many members of the EC expressed their interest in the proposal and the issues raised but there was some doubt as to whether a new Commission was necessary. Mr SCHOU mentioned that some of the topics raised could be tackled by the existing Commissions (eg Guidelines for Print Quality, which Preservation Commission could prepare if the membership decided it was a priority).

Mr DAUDELIN and Mr DE PINA, who had both been actively involved in the preparation of the Symposium, volunteered to join the Group and it was suggested that Mrs Catherine Gautier be invited to participate. Mr FRANCIS felt that initially the Group should be EC members only, because first they had to agree some operational terms of reference in Helsinki before tackling questions relating to programming. Mrs WIBOM felt it was important to include an active programmer from the start to help clarify needs and study the extent to which these were being met by other Commissions. Mr ROSEN volunteered to prepare some initial terms of reference for Helsinki.

Mr FRANCIS felt it was a major decision to introduce another Commission. From the financial point of view, he was not sure the Federation could really cope with more than 3 Commissions. In addition to the cost of the meetings, the individual archives had to find the travel costs. He agreed with the rest of the EC that there were important programming issues that had to be addressed but felt that with the planned reorganisation of the Federation and the creation of special interest groups, the needs could perhaps be met in some other way without imposing extra financial burden. He mentioned that he would not want to change the relevant clause in the Membership proposals.

As an example of one of the major issues, Mrs AUBERT reported comments from BFI staff, David Meeker and Elaine Burrows, who found that in dealing with FIAF archives to get programming prints, they were very constantly frustrated by the variations in archives' standards, especially with respect to observation of copyright.

**Decision:** Mr DAUDELIN and Mr DE PINA were left to find a third member to prepare discussion paper for Helsinki.

## 5 PROJECTS UNDERWAY

### 5.1 Contract for the new edition of the Handbook

Mrs VAN DER ELST reported the proposed contract provided for FIAF to receive 75 free copies plus 10% royalties on sales. Mr KLAUE explained that, as was usual in such cases, the publishers reserved the rights to publish translations but this should not prevent individual archives producing translations for use in FIAF as long as they were not published. Mr SCHOU said that Mr Schmitt had asked to see any French version before publication and suggested that FIAF should have the option to vet the translations for technical accuracy before they were published.

Mr DAUDELIN reported that both Mrs BOWSER and Mrs Bandy were satisfied with the terms.

**Decision:** It was agreed that Mr DAUDELIN would sign on behalf of FIAF.

### 5.2 FIAF Bulletin

Mr DAUDELIN hoped that Mrs BOWSER would continue as Co-Editor and was pleased that Mr Jonathan Dennis had volunteered to help but he would have liked at least one more person. He would take care of the next issue (deadline: September) but would then resign as Editor and ask Mrs BOWSER if she would take over.

**Decision:** Agree on new Editor in Helsinki.

### 5.3 Negotiations with SAUR

Mr KLAUE confirmed that the next step was to await SAUR's proposal for a basic contract which he and Mrs ORBANZ would hope to bring to Helsinki. Several publication proposals had been put forward by individual members.

**Decision:** Consider contract in Helsinki.

### 5.4 Nitrate Shipment

Mr SCHOU agreed to prepare a basic text in discussion with Mr FRANCIS for distribution as soon as possible to meet the current urgent need. The text would stress that they were providing a safe and intelligent method of dealing with the problem which did not necessarily reflect international legislations. They would continue research into packing standards of other international organisations and perhaps send out a digest in a later supplement.

**Action:** Mr SCHOU and Mr FRANCIS to progress.

Mrs ORBANZ was surprised that the project was being virtually dropped whereas before they had been very keen to have FIAF involved. Mr DAUDELIN felt it was not being dropped, simply tackled in a different way: FIAF would provide the framework and encourage everyone to celebrate in their own way. Mr FRANCIS felt the list was a useful compilation of ideas but they should make some of them sound more exciting. Mr DIMITRIU felt they should find something that everyone could participate in, perhaps a publication with contributions by everyone, with funding found by the new Fund-Raising Committee. Mr DE PINA suggested FIAF should prepare a new letterhead with the FIAF logo and mention of the 100th Anniversary of the Cinema. It should also be mentioned in the Bulletin.

Mr BORDE and Mr FRANCIS both supported the idea of an anniversary period, say 1892 - 1897, rather than one date. Mr FRANCIS was willing to work on such a project.

Mr KLAUE asked if FIAF was going to define a policy for its members and the Federation as to how to celebrate the birth of cinema. They could compile a list of lost films still hoped for or one of preserved films. They had first to make a decision of principle: did they want to celebrate it or not ?

**Decision:** Discuss further in Helsinki.

#### **6.4 Annual FIAF Report**

During the above discussion, Mrs WIBOM asked that they should put on the Agenda the idea that the Federation's annual activities should be published in a more accessible form. Perhaps the best way would be for the Annual Reports volume to include in future the annual Reports from the Commissions and perhaps the EC Report to the GA.

**Action:** Add to Helsinki agenda.

## **7 LEGAL PROBLEMS IN FILM ARCHIVES**

Mr GARCIA MESA mentioned that the Latin American Film Makers' Committee had asked 2 lawyers (from Brazil and Venezuela) to look at legal problems in cinema and hoped they could exchange ideas with the Unesco Group.

Mrs WIBOM mentioned that the Council of Europe had produced a document which was more far-reaching than the Unesco document and she was representing Sweden in the group preparing a formal European Convention.

**Decisions:** Mr BORDE to represent FIAF at the informal meeting with Unesco in Paris and Mrs WIBOM to report on continuing work on the Council of Europe document.



## **8 FUTURE CONGRESSES**

### **8.1 1990: Havana**

Mr GARCIA MESA expressed his thanks for all the help given and promised for the Congress organisation. He would be attending the Commission meetings in Lisbon to work out more details and would be sending more information about the symposia for distribution by the Secretariat. He had confirmed assurance of funding from his government and would be receiving 600,000 Belg F from FIAF's Congress budget. He was advised he could count on the 120,000 Belg F in the Development Fund for the preparation of the symposia.

**Decision:** Development Fund allocation as above.

### **8.2 1991: Athens**

**Decision:** Mrs VAN DER ELST to visit Athens before the Helsinki EC meeting.

### **8.3 1992: Poona**

**Action:** Mrs ORBANZ to acknowledge Mr Nair's invitation and ask him to provide in time for the Helsinki EC meeting a formal written commitment signed by his government that the Congress can be held in Poona in 1992.

### **8.4 Other**

Madrid had withdrawn but the EC still had offers for subsequent years:

1993 Montevideo

1995 Berlin (East)

Mrs WIBOM mentioned the Chinese had talked of arranging a congress in the "not too distant future" and asked that they discuss in Helsinki new ways of organising congresses so there was less financial burden on the host and Mr DAUDELIN suggested they also look at the Congress Guidelines Document.

**Decision:** On Agenda for the Helsinki EC meeting.

## **9 NEXT EC MEETING: HELSINKI**

The original proposal for the meeting was November 14, 15 & 16. A final decision would be made when Mr FRANCIS had checked dates of the London Film Festival and Mr ROSEN had confirmed his availability.

*Transcriber's Note:* These dates were confirmed with sub-group meetings on November 13.

## **10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **10.1 Evaluation of Lisbon Congress**

Mrs WIBOM said she had enjoyed the Lisbon Congress tremendously but they had now reached the summit of hospitality following a trend started in Rapallo. She felt it was essential for FIAF to pay for its own Congresses and be self-sufficient. The present system was preventing many countries from offering to host congresses.

She also felt it was important to keep to the Agenda and the points they had agreed would be raised. She referred to the discussion on Latin American problems that should have been in Open Forum. Mr GARCIA MESA said it was taken out because the Latin American group thought they were not ready and that it would be better to postpone to the next Congress when it was hoped Mr Martinez Carrill of Montevideo and Mr Susz of Bolivia could be present. Mrs WIBOM regretted this decision had not been made known in advance as it made the Open Forum very thin and they could have prepared something else.

Mr KLAUE agreed with Mrs WIBOM's first point and entreated Mr GARCIA MESA not to attempt to imitate Lisbon. They needed to change not only the "financial aspects" but also the structure of the GA and its agenda. They should bear in mind that the GA were not as informed as the EC and items needed to be introduced more fully in advance and people given more time to think about them. It was clear from the basic questions he was asked by delegates that they had little understanding of the issues. The delegates tended to accept everything said at the GA as "information" rather than the opportunity for dialogue. In speaking to the GA, the EC members probably took too much for granted, without giving the background or even explaining terminology and abbreviations, and were not taking into account the difficulties of understanding in a foreign language or the extent of what might be getting lost in translation.

**Decision:** Managing GA Assembly on Helsinki agenda.

Mr ROSEN suggested there was a need to change the Election Rules to avoid the procedural problems they had just faced in the GA and Mrs VAN DER ELST agreed to examine the revised Rules and see where the problem lay. It was suggested to use the waiting time while votes were being counted to give out information rather than raise important questions needing full attention. Mrs ORBANZ pointed out that Observers were not present but it was felt the information could be repeated for them on another occasion.

**Decision:** Election Rules on Helsinki agenda.

## **10.2 Purchase of fax for Secretariat**

**Decision:** The Secretariat had been using a neighbour's fax and it was agreed that Mrs VAN DER ELST and the Treasurer would examine the costs of having a FIAF machine and possibly order one.

*Note:* FIAF Fax available from August 23

## **10.3 IASA meeting in Oxford, 27 August – 1 September**

**Decision:** Mr FRANCIS put in an appearance to represent FIAF.

*Note from the Editor:* This was later changed and Mrs Orbanz went to represent FIAF

There being no further business, the meeting was formally closed.