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MONTEVIDEO CONGRESS

2nd MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
25 April 1992

Present:

Robert DAUDELIN  President
Ana-Lena WIBOM  Treasurer

Christian DIMITRIU  Vice-President
Maria-Rita GALVAO  Vice-President

Members
Michelle AUBERT
David FRANCIS
Clyde JEAVONS
Manuel MARTINEZ CARRIL
Vladimir OPELA
Guy-Claude ROCHEMONT
Bob ROSEN
Henning SCHOU

Commission Heads
Harriet HARRISON  Head of the Preservation Commission
Joao BENARD DA COSTA  Head of the Cataloguing Commission

Honorary Member
Wolfgang KLAUE

Secretariat
Brigitte VAN DER ELST  Assistant to the Executive Secretary
Beatrice TROUVEROY

Absent:

Eva ORBANZ  General Secretary
Ron MAGLIOZZI  Head of the Documentation Commission
SECOND MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
25 April 1992

Mr DAUDELIN welcomed Wolfgang Klaue in the Executive Committee as a Honorary Member. He again regretted the absence of the Secretary-General, Eva ORBANZ, and of the Head of the Documentation Commission, Ron MAGLIOZZI.

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The draft agenda prepared by Ms van der Elst and Mr DAUDELIN was adopted.

Mr DAUDELIN said the second point of future EC agendas should always be "matters arising" (from the minutes of the previous EC or GA), as discussed in the first EC meeting.

2. MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS

2.1. Central and Eastern European Film Institutes and Archives

Mr OPELA reported on his meeting in Budapest on April 9 with the representatives of Central and Eastern European Film Institutes and Archives. He commented on the situation of each archive (Romania, Bulgaria, Cesky Filmovy Ustav, Hungary, Poland, Slovenia), underlining the problems those archives were now facing. The participants had come to an "agreement of cooperation", which was to be ruled by a chart they had commonly drawn up. This agreement had several aims: to promote the exchange of films between the participating archives, to foster research work on film history and film theory by hosting the participating archives' delegates and to support the cause of the Central and Eastern European film journal MOVEST. The participants agreed to meet on a regular basis, namely during the Karlovi-Vary Festival. They also agreed it would help them to establish a possible Central and Eastern European Film Foundation. However, Mr OPELA said that real changes were not to be expected before at least two years.

2.2. Tirana

Mr DAUDELIN reported on the letter FIAF had received from Tirana, in which they explained they were going through very hard times and therefore asked if they could possibly be freed from the 1992 subscription.

Ms WIBOM said we should ask them in writing to pay part of their subscription and suggested to do the same for other archives with special financial problems.

Mr FRANCIS suggested to send out two different letters: the first letter, as a reminder, would ask the archive for what reasons they had not paid their subscription and once those reasons are explained, the Treasurer would send them a second letter asking them to pay as much as they can.

Decision: the Treasurer to write a letter to this end to the late-payers and especially to Albania.

2.3. Cinémathèque Universitaire

The EC members had already been informed of the situation by Ms AUBERT during the first EC meeting.

Decision: - Mr DAUDELIN to write a letter to Claude Beylie saying we would like to receive detailed information on the situation of the Cinémathèque Universitaire;
- Ms AUBERT to keep the EC informed of any development she would hear about.
2.4. New candidatures
It seemed there were now two emerging film archives in Santiago de Chile, the Cinemateca Nacional en Proyecto (Daniel Sandoval) and la Cineteca de la Universidad de Chile who had faxed an application to the EC in Montevideo. Ms GALVAO was asked to examine the situation. Further discussion was postponed to the next Executive Committee.

3. FINANCES

3.1. Fundraising Committee
Ms WIBOM reported on the fundraising meeting held the day before, which had been attended by Mr OHBA, Mr ROSEN, Mr JEAVONS, Ms BANDY, Ms AUBERT, Mr DIMITRIU and herself. She said the group had very positively reacted to the proposal to create a FIAF Endowment Fund. It was hoped that Mr DIMITRIU would work as a consultant for this group. Part of the group was to meet in Cannes on May 14. They had also agreed that the Berlin Film Festival would be a good opportunity to publicise the creation of the FIAF Endowment Fund. Ms ORBANZ was going to be asked to put on a FIAF show during the Festival. They were seeking close collaboration with Variety on this particular purpose. They had also agreed that the minimum contribution should be $ 25,000 per donor and the final target was to reach $ 1,000,000 in 1995. The annual interest on this amount would hopefully be sufficient to cover most office costs, so that the affiliates’ subscriptions could be used for special projects. A special FIAF letterhead with names of the sponsors should be produced.
Mr OPELA had suggested the Czesky Filmovy Ustav make a proposal to sell old Czech films (before 1945) it had in its collections (and for which it had the rights) and to offer the benefits from this to the Endowment Fund. Mr OPELA added he was going to try!

Ms AUBERT recalled her idea of surveying the collections, activities and typical problems of FIAF affiliates so as to present FIAF as the guardian of a huge treasure.
Mr ROSEN insisted such a general survey had to be very well coordinated, and in order to avoid duplication, the same questionnaires should be sent out in the different parts of the world. As such questionnaires had already been sent to approx. 20 European archives (for the EEC). Ms AUBERT suggested the same might as well be sent to the other continents, and she concluded she would be ready to organize the compilation of the survey’s response.

3.2. Working group on subscriptions
Ms WIBOM referred to the working group on subscriptions composed of Mr Jorge Nieto, Ms Ma. del Carmen Figueroa Perea, and Ms Thelma Mello de Souza. She thought we should further investigate Mr Gilmour’s proposal to adopt a sliding scale of subscriptions based on minimum national salary. Ms WIBOM suggested to appoint Mr Nieto as the Head of this working group. Mr FRANCIS said we should ask Mr GILMOUR to set up a series of possible models for his proposal and see which is acceptable for everybody. He was convinced that any new approach in that subject should be fully explained in a form for the affiliates.
Recalling Mr FRANCIS' suggestion in the first EC meeting, Ms WIBOM insisted that we should charge a Congress participation fee, to be included in the annual bill for subscription. This would enable the host archive to pay for staying costs of those who needed it. Mr JEAVONS deplored this fee would come as an additional burden for the Latin-American archives, especially in cases such as the present Congress. Mr FRANCIS agreed and said this proposal rather applied for Congresses in more developed countries.

Mr ROSEN thought it was a risky procedure and suggested a more flexible system by making this tax on Congress participation voluntary. Mr KLAUE agreed, saying we had to carefully keep the balance between increasing participation fees and loosing participants. Mr JEAVONS thought this voluntary basis had to be strictly determined before being instituted. One had to make clear in advance who is exempt and who is not. Mr ROSEN said we could tell some archives to ask for a waiver if it was too hard for them. Mr SCHOU remarked that some archives already contributed more than others to FIAF's budget by supporting part of Commission's activities (printing tests,...).

Ms AUBERT said we should be wary of the additional burden this system would generate for the secretariat. She believed we ought to find more Associates rather than imposing a participation fee.

Decision: It is premature to ask participation fees for the next Congress; discussion to be continued at the next EC meeting.

3.3. Accounts
Mr DAUDELIN wondered whether the accounts should not be presented in another form to the General Assembly. Mr KLAUE was in favour of explaining more in detail the allocation of our budget in order to provide satisfactory answers to the GA participants' questions.

Ms VAN DER ELST reminded that at the beginning of January each year, Commission Heads were requested to submit to the Treasurer proposed budgets (general expenses and publication expenses) for the year commencing the following January. Mr FRANCIS supported Ms WIBOM's proposal to establish a tax on non-payment of subscriptions within the first four months as it enabled us to know what to expect in terms of subscriptions. This was essential to have a sound discussion about our budget.

Ms VAN DER ELST recalled Ms BAYLIS's proposal to put between brackets the equivalent in US dollars of the amounts figuring on the budget, as an indication. It was generally agreed this was a very positive idea.

4. CINEMA CENTENARY
4.1. Working group
Mr DAUDELIN had a question on the actual existence of the working group on the cinema centenary.

Mr ROSEN was confident such a group could work successfully as long as it had a definite plan for implementation. He accepted to be the coordinator of this working group.

He then defined the 4-folded core of what he thought would be a successful preparation for the celebration of the cinema centenary:
1. to define the production and dissemination of our logo;
2. to define a calendar of projects and see how it will be operated;
3. to establish a procedure of "control" for the activities FIAF wants to be associated with;
4. to organize press relations and announcements around the event.
Mr FRANCIS agreed to collaborate in the working group. Referring to point 3 of the above enumeration, he felt the FIAF’s seal of approval (granting the right to use the logo and the poster) could only be given at the EC meeting prior to the 1995 Congress.

Decision: Working group for the preparation of the cinema centenary to include: Mr ROSEN, Mr FRANCIS and Mr JEAVONS.

4.2. Logo
The EC members were not too happy about the logo submitted by Mr DIMITRIU. Mr ROSEN was convinced we had to find a logo understandable in any language; he suggested to draw a logo made of three simple concepts: FIAF, 100, CINEMA.

Mr OPELA proposed to ask some graphists in Czechoslovakia to make a first draft. Ms VAN DER ELST said she could also ask the usual graphist of the secretariat in Brussels.

Decision: basic agreement for a logo with "FIAF 100 CINEMA"; any further suggestion to be addressed to the Secretariat; discussion to be continued at the EC meeting of New York.

4.3. Video
Mr JEAVONS explained this would be entirely a FIAF project, supported by money raised through FIAF itself. The working group should discuss the proposal and see how it could fit in the general approach of the celebration.

Decision: to be discussed more properly in New York.

5. GUIDELINES FOR THE COMMISSIONS

Referring to her written proposal, Ms AUBERT deplored the lonely situation of the Heads of Commissions and stressed the need for better communication between Heads of Commissions and the EC.

It was decided to delete the first sentence of the second paragraph of point 3: A FIAF executive should be nominated to oversee the work of the commissions and become, if necessary, another partner-in-hand for their president (even in the case when that president is an elected FIAF executive).

Decision: – Text agreed as amended.
- Reconfirmation of the Heads of Commissions to be put on the agenda of the next EC meeting in New York.

The EC members discussed Mr MAGLIOZZI’s wish to expand the brief of his Commission. Should we leave this re-shaping to him or make a decision in the EC? Mr ROSEN thought the Commission itself should make a proposal to the EC and he was convinced we should therefore make clear to Mr MAGLIOZZI our final decision as to the question of merging his Commission with another one. Mr DAUDELIN confirmed there was no merger foreseen. He would write a letter to Mr MAGLIOZZI to this end and ask him to draft a Commission proposal for the EC.
6. FUTURE CONGRESSES

Mr KLAUE agreed to coordinate a working group for the next symposium on "newsreels" with the following persons: Bob Rosen, Bill Murphy, Roger Smither, Michelle Aubert, and Arne Pedersen. (A sub-group would be created for North America). Mr KLAUE said he would approach the four Heads of Commissions to see how they could be involved in the preparation of this Symposium. Suggestions about the contents and the organisation of the symposium were made by some EC members (nearly inaudible). Mr JEAVONS namely suggested to invite the owners of newsreels collections (e.g. Pathé, Movietone, ...).

Bologna 1994
Mr ROSEN proposed "copyright" as a possible subject for the symposium in Bologna.

Everybody agreed that better conditions for hotel costs should be negotiated for this Congress.

7. RELATIONS WITH UNESCO AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

7.1. Unesco
As Mr DIMITRIU was no longer in a position to represent FIAF in our dealings with Unesco, a new representative should be appointed. The Secretary General and the President had thought Mr Wolfgang Klaue would be the right person to take up this role because he was well-experienced in this matter. Mr Klaue however felt that, as a Honorary Member, his possibilities of intervention were too limited for such a mission. Mr DAUDELIN suggested to ask Eva Orbanz to take up the role. Mr KLAUE said he would be ready to second her, namely by drafting a paper on what FIAF envisages to achieve with the support of Unesco. This paper, called the "10-year plan", would be debated in New York.

7.2. Other International Organizations
Mr ROSEN volunteered to try and re-open dialogue with CILECT, the International Association of Film Schools. This was agreed.

Mr JEAVONS agreed to represent FIAF at the FIAT meeting in Geneva in September.

Mr DAUDELIN agreed to represent FIAF in the General Assembly of ICA in Montreal in September.

8. PROJECTS

8.1. Statistics
Ms VAN DER ELST explained it was difficult to compile the returned data because in numerous cases, instructions were not followed. She wondered if the project was worth carrying on? Mr ROSEN, who believed statistics were vital for our Federation, said we should explain to the affiliates the importance of following those instructions.

8.2. Saur
Ms HARRISON commented on the difficulties the Cataloguing Commission had had with the publisher Saur concerning the publication of the Cataloguing Rules and Terms and Methods for Technical Archiving of Audiovisual Materials.
Eva Orbaz had already written a letter of protest to our contact man at Saur's about these problems.

Mr KLAUE reported the publication by Saur of the World Directory of Film, Television and Sound Archives was going on as expected. He recognized Saur was a business-minded company but after all nothing was binding us to them for our future publications.

8.3. Members' publications bibliography
Mr René Beauclair was ready to have this new issue published in Montreal.
Mr DAUDELIN asked Ms VAN DER ELST to make sure that the proposed price did not exceed the budget foreseen.

8.4. International projects
Ms WIBOM recalled her request for FIAF expertise in the Vietnam projects. She said there was now a political will in Vietnam to finance this kind of project and she believed it could grant FIAF an international reputation as an organization offering expertise.
Mr FRANCIS welcomed Ms WIBOM's request, saying this time FIAF would be financially rewarded for providing its expertise. He thought this project would be a very important test-case. Ms AUBERT felt we could easily recommend a consultant from the Preservation Commission, but he/she would need enough time to do useful work, i.e. to stay and train the personnel on the premises.

Decision: Mr SCHOU to advise on an expert to help Ms WIBOM
- the President to send a formal letter to the Swedish government confirming FIAF's support to the project.

Mr DAUDELIN said we should elect a coordinator for all the international projects. Michelle Aubert volunteered to take up this role and her candidature was welcomed.

Decision: Ms AUBERT to build up (in coordination with the Secretariat) a registry of international contacts that members have with new institutions in developing countries in view of FIAF support to new archives.

9. CINEMATHEQUE ROYALE/BRUSSELS

Ms CLAES had asked Mr DAUDELIN to submit to the EC the copyright-related problem she was encountering (cfr EC Minutes /Jerusalem, p. 21). Because FIAF had not yet adopted any official attitude to face this kind of problems, the EC was not in a position to provide Ms CLAES with firm advice nor recommendations. However, this showed again the need for FIAF internal rules in the field of copyright.

Decision:
- the Commission for Programming and Access to the Collections to examine the general issue more closely in view of further discussion in New York.
- Mr JEAVONS to contact a lawyer for such copyright problems
- Mr DAUDELIN to report to Ms CLAES and inform her there would be a copyright symposium in Bologna in 1994.
10. NEXT EC MEETING

Decision about:
1. the dates = 2-3-4 November
2. the place = Museum of Modern Art, New York

Further organizational details would be sent to the EC members later on.

11. MISCELLANEOUS

The question of Mr DIMITRIU's and Mr SCHOU's membership in the Executive Committee was raised. Mr DIMITRIU, who was leaving the Cinémathèque Suisse and Mr SCHOU, who now represented a second British vote force in the EC. It was decided that both would finish their mandate as elected members.