

F.I.A.F.

FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE

DES ARCHIVES DU FILM

THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

LAUSANNE, 4 June 1979.

CONFIDENTIAL

## MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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All members of the newly elected Executive Committee were present, except two reserve members : Mr Tikhonov and Mr Comencini.

The President, Mr Klaus raised a problem of priority among the reserve members since Mr Kuiper and Mr Tikhonov had obtained the same number of votes at the election.

Mr Stenklev proposed as a solution to take, as an indication of the General Meeting's wish, the number of votes which these candidates had obtained during the first round of elections, i.e. Mr Kuiper : 21 votes and Mr Tikhonov : 17 votes.

This was agreed and Mr Kuiper could now be considered as first reserve member.

### 1. Appointment of the Executive Committee Officers.

By unanimous decision, the appointment of the Officers resulted in the following :

Vice-Presidents : Eileen Bowser  
David Francis  
Vladimir Pogacic

Deputy Secretary-General : Raymond Borde

Deputy Treasurer : Jon Stenklev

### 2. Membership questions.

#### Status of the Imperial War Museum

As a result of the General Meeting's decision to modify the Statutes and Rules and to suppress the category of Associates, the status of the I.W.M. in FIAF was at present rather problematic. Mr Coultass had clearly indicated the archive's unwillingness to become an observer and its intention to apply as full member in the near future.

Mr Klaus felt they should be authorized to become member without passing by the stage of observership like other new applicants. But they should of course fulfill all the other requisites of FIAF to become a member.

Their preservation activities were excellent and even better insured by governmental subsidies than those of the N.F.A., said Mr Francis, who also recommended that FIAF already consider this archive as if it had formally submitted its candidature so as not to leave them between two stools.

Mr Stenklov underlined that they should normally be able to use all the rights they had as an Associate until their new status was settled since they had been forced into this new position without any fault on their part.

Mr Klaus concluded by proposing to invite them to officially submit their application as soon as possible. Mr Francis added that the N.F.A. would support this application.

The Executive Committee agreed to the proposal.

#### Cinemathèque de Grèce/Athens

Mr Dorde and Mr Daudelin had, as decided by the former Executive Committee, met with Mrs Mitropoulos during the Congress to discuss the candidature of her archive and ask her for more information. They had asked her to send to the Secretariat a list of the feature films in her collection, a description of the archive's preservation facilities and more details on the archive's budget.

Mrs Mitropoulos had confirmed that the cine-clubs were part of the cinémathèque and that the members' subscriptions came into the cinémathèque's budget.

Cinémathèque de Grèce is clearly a Federation of film societies. Mr Dorde and Mr Daudelin added that Mrs Mitropoulos did not seem to understand the real aims and duties of FIAF.

Mr Francis, who occasionally met her in London, said he would again try to explain them to her.

The other members (Mr Pogacic, Mr Buache, Mr Andraykov) who had, in the past, had some working contacts with Mrs Mitropoulos and the cinémathèque, were rather dubious on its possibilities to fulfill FIAF's conditions even as an Observer, and felt the Executive Committee should be careful.

The Secretary-General said he would write Mrs Mitropoulos to confirm the Executive Committee's request for further information.



### Cinemateca Uruguay/Montevideo.

Mr Daudelin had also met with Ms Ferrari and had asked her some questions on the archive's annual report of activities for 1978 following the wish of the former Executive Committee. One phrase in particular ("la présentation de films en exclusivité, en concurrence avec les salles commerciales...") had worried the Executive Committee.

It now seemed that this was just an error of translation and that "en concurrence" should have been translated by "en concomitance" (simultaneously). It meant that the archive's cultural activities and showings had at least as much importance for Montevideo as the commercial cinemas.

There was nothing illegal anyway in their programming. Mr Daudelin had therefore asked Ms Ferrari simply to be careful in the future in the drafting of the archive's report and to insist more on their preservation activities.

Mr Alves Netto underlined that, in Latin American countries, it was essential for a cultural organization to have public activities in order to get official recognition and subsidies.

Cinemateca Uruguay's public activities were very important for the cultural life in the whole Uruguay because almost nothing else existed in the country in the cultural field.

To conclude, Mr Daudelin said that Ms Ferrari had proposed to write a letter to FIAF to correct the wrong impression given by Cinemateca Uruguay's report, and he would write her to accept this proposal.

### Kinemathekverbund in West Germany.

Following the decision of the former Executive Committee, Mr Pogacic and Mr Stenklev had a conversation with Mr Pöschke and Ms Orbanz to get better information on the new association of film archives established in West Germany. They learned that the agreement only concerned the German films and that both the Deutsches Institut für Filmkunde and Stiftung Deutsche Kinemathek would continue to preserve their collection of foreign films.

All three archives remain independent and can therefore be individual members or observers in FIAF.

The D.I.F. is in the process of moving to Frankfurt because it has to leave its present location, the "Schloss", in Wiesbaden, but it remains in the same State.

#### Motion Picture Division/Library of Congress.

Referring to the problem of the autonomy of the M.P. Division within the Library of Congress (cf. minutes of Ljubljana), Mrs Bowser and Mr Kuiper had met Mr Spuhr who had given them some further information on the reorganization which was still taking place at the Library of Congress. He had also promised to send, among the documents requested for the archiv 's five-year reconfirmation, the "Library's procedures and rules for recommending officers" which was a good résumé of the rules of the filmarchive's function within the Library of Congress.

Mrs Bowser said we should now wait for this reconfirmation and not rush any other intervention on the part of FIAF.

All the other members agreed to this.

#### 3. Definition of the status of Observers.

Mr Klaus proposed to postpone the discussion on this point until the next Executive Committee Meeting and to ask the Statutes committee to prepare this discussion by compiling the ideas on this point which had been put forward by various members during the General Meeting. This was agreed.

It was also decided that the four new observers which had been admitted into FIAF just before the General Meeting were still subject to the old rule of one year observership before they could apply for membership, and not two years.

#### 4. Relations with other international organizations.

##### UNESCO.

Mr Pogacic and Mr Klaus both explained that some difficulties had arisen concerning FIAF's candidature for B-status in Unesco, mainly because Unesco's policy was at present to restrict the number of organizations with which it established formal links and I.F.T.C. was using this reason to try to defeat our application.

The Executive Committee decided to ask each FIAF member whose country had a representative and explain to him our position. Mr Klaus will draft a letter to this end.

As regards the Unesco Recommendation on Preservation of Moving Images, the Executive Committee had, at its meeting in Brussels, decided that it was necessary for FIAF to hire the services of a knowledgeable legal expert and the name of Mr Streckow had been put forward.

Mrs Van Vliet (from Unesco) also recommended a Dutch lawyer, Mrs Klawer.

After some discussion about the qualities which FIAF should look for when hiring a legal expert, it was decided that, in the beginning, we should give him/her a limited charge only : to give in writing specific comments on the new draft of the Recommendation, and to be ready to give advice on any legal problem that may arise.

Mr de Vaal was then authorized to contact Mrs Klawer and to hire her services within the limits mentioned here above.

It was also decided that all negotiations with Unesco should be conducted by Mr Klaus with the help of the secretariat.

#### C.I.C.T. / I.F.T.C.

Mr Vardone, President of I.F.T.C. and participating in this year's Symposium here in Lausanne, had met with Mr Borda and with Mr Klaus successively and had informed them of I.F.T.C.'s wish to keep some form of collaboration with FIAF.

Mr Klaus had replied that we could undertake nothing before Unesco had voted on FIAF's candidature for D-status.

#### 5. Specialized Commissions/Confirmation of the posts of Chairmen.

The Executive Committee confirmed Mrs Bowser as Chairwoman of the Documentation Commission, Mr Volkmann as Chairman of the Preservation Commission, Mr Pogacic as Chairman of the Commission for archives in Developing Countries. As for the Cataloguing Commission, Mr Klaus said he accepted temporarily to remain Chairman, but that, due to his numerous other tasks, he would prefer to be only a member of this commission. He will try to make a proposal for a new Chairman at the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

Regarding the leadership of the Copyright Commission, Mr Kuiper said that, as long as the tasks of this commission consisted mainly of FIAF's negotiation with Unesco, he found it very difficult to properly fulfill his post of chairman from the distance of Rochester. He wanted to refrain from accepting this post again until the Executive Committee had clearly defined the tasks of the Legal and Copyright Commission.

The members agreed to put this discussion on the agenda of the Executive Committee's next meeting.

## 6. Organization of FIAF's next Congress.

### a) Karlovy-Vary's Symposium (1980).

The Executive Committee asked Mr Dorde, who confirmed his intention to attend the Festival of Annecy on animation films, to meet there with the Czech delegates of ASIFA, to inform them of our projects for the Symposium and, with them, to contact the Executive Committee of ASIFA and ask for their official support.

The following experts were suggested to take part in the Symposium :

André Martin (France)

John Canemaker (USA)

S. Asenin (USSR)

R. Servais (Belgium)

G. Randolino (Italy)

The following names could also be considered :

R. Munitis (Yugoslavia)

Louise Beaudet (Canada)

Bruno Edera (Swiss)

Todor Dinov or Kr. Guartcheva (Bulgaria)

Chuck Jones (USA) to represent the working animators

Mark Lainer (USA)

and, of course, an expert from Czechoslovakia.

A special committee for the organization of the Symposium was then appointed, comprising Mr Daudelin, Mr Dorde and Mr Francis. Their main task was to help the Czech Archive to organize the Symposium, especially to understand and realize the wishes of the General Meeting concerning the theme of the Symposium.

Mr Levy will be asked to send out a circular letter to all members repeating the list of requests he made during the last session of the General Meeting. He will also be asked to present a new budget for the Congress at the next meeting of the Executive Committee where he will be invited.

## b) Rapallo (1901).

Mr Cincotti had written a letter in which he detailed the suggestions of Cin-teca Nazionale for FIAF's Congress in 1901. Two important questions appeared from this letter : the theme of the Symposium and the problem of the meeting room.

### a) Theme.

Mr Cincotti proposed a Symposium about "the European comedies of the thirties".

Most of the members agreed with Mr Alves Netto who found this theme too trite and already quite researched.

He would prefer a historical Symposium on less well-known cinematographies such as those of Mexico, Brasil, India, Central Europe, etc...

Mr Andreykov suggested a theme which would coincide with the project of a "General History of the Cinema" or with part of it.

Mr Francis thought we should take advantage of the country where the symposium was held and find a theme more related to that country.

Mr Daudelin agreed to write Mr Cincotti and explain to him the Executive Committee's reactions to his proposal.

- b) He would also explain to him the great difficulties which would arise from holding the General Meeting in a theater-like meeting room, such as Mr Cincotti offered for the Congress in Rapallo.

## 7. Projects and Publications.

### a) Embryo.

The Secretariat must write a circular letter to all members who participated in the Embryo Catalogue, asking for their permission to make it more widely available.

### b) FIAF Brochure

Should the list of Observers be published in the FIAF brochure together with the list of full members?

Mr Francis thought it should not, because the Federation is not as responsible for its Observers as it is for its Members.



On the other hand, the list of Observers would demonstrate the wide geographical representation of FIAF and be more convincing for the authorities in most of the developing countries which we wanted to reach with that brochure.

A compromise was finally accepted by which the countries in which FIAF Observers already existed would be mentioned, but the names of these organisations would not be published.

### c). Basic Manual

Mrs Bowser and Mr Kuiper proposed to change the name of this publication into "A Handbook for Film Archives". This was agreed.

### d). Miscellaneous.

Mr Klaus reminded us of the invitation made by Fundacion Cinemateca Argentina for a member of the Executive Committee to attend the celebration of the archive's 25th anniversary in Buenos Aires.

He suggested to delegate Mr Pogacic as being Vice-President of FIAF and also Chairman of the Commission for Archives in Developing Countries. This proposal was unanimously accepted.

As far as possible, Mr Pogacic will also take this opportunity to visit some other FIAF archives in the neighboring countries, and this on FIAF's costs.

Mr Berda then asked for the Executive Committee's authorization for him to explore FIAF's archives in Brussels, as he intended to write a book about the origins of the film archive movement. This was agreed.

He also reminded us of a proposal which had been made by Mr Junck, director of the Cinematheque de Luxembourg, to take advantage of the new European Parliament and to make a group of the film archives existing in the nine countries of the E.E.C. (European Economic Community) to obtain some subsidies.

The Executive Committee was, on the whole, against this idea, because they feared such an association might soon have political implications, and we wanted to avoid that at all costs.

Mr Klaus then read out a letter from Mr Casanova (Filmoteca de la UNAM) who explained that he was organizing a meeting of the Latin American film archives in Mexico City in October of this year, linked with a kind of Summer School for archive staff. He asked for the support of FIAF for this course, and especially for the sending of three FIAF experts at FIAF's cost.

The Executive Committee agreed that FIAF could give its moral support to this meeting but that nothing was foreseen in the budget to send experts to Mexico for this course, and that we must therefore decline this invitation.

## 2. Next Executive Committee Meeting.

Several members had been approached by the delegates of our member archive in Pyong Yang who had told them of their wish to invite the Executive Committee for one of its next meetings in the D.P.R. of Korea. They had even made this invitation officially to Mr Klaus.

But Mr Klaus felt it was too early to make a decision. Too many problems still remained unsolved between some of the members and North Korea. He therefore advised each of the Executive Committee members to put the question of the possibility for him to attend such a meeting to his own Board. The problem would then be raised again at a future meeting.

Mr Stankov then repeated his invitation to hold the next Executive Meeting in Oslo.

This invitation was gratefully accepted and the dates chosen were :  
13 - 15 November, with arrival of the delegates on the 12th and departure on the 16th.

Mrs Bowser already extended an invitation to hold the Spring Meeting of the Executive Committee at the beginning of April in New York. Precise dates would be given later. This invitation was also accepted on principle, with many thanks.

There being no other points to discuss, the President closed the meeting and thanked all participants.

