

LOS ANGELES CONGRESS

1st MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 20-22 April 1995

Present :

Robert DAUDELIN	President
Eva ORBANZ	Secretary-General
Clyde JEAUVONS	Treasurer

Members

Hoos BLOTKAMP
José Manuel COSTA
Jan-Christopher HORAK
Jorge NIETO
Vladimir OPELA
José Maria PRADO
Steven RICCI
Guy-Claude ROCHEMONT
Roger SMITHER
Ivan TRUJILLO

Commission Heads

João BENARD DA COSTA	Programming and Access
Harriet HARRISON	Cataloguing
Ronald MAGLIOZZI	Documentation
Henning SCHOU	Technical

Honorary Member

Wolfgang KLAUE

Secretariat

Christian DIMITRIU	Senior Administrator
Brigitte VAN DER ELST	Executive Secretary

FIRST MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

20 - 22 April, 1995

Mr Daudelin formally opened the meeting and passed the floor to the co-organizers of the Congress, Michael FRIEND, Greg LUKOW and Steven RICCI who welcomed the members of the Executive Committee.

M. Friend and G. Lukow then left the meeting room, together with the Heads of Commissions who were meeting in a different room for the first session.

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Pt 6 : Membership questions : The Secretary-General asked to add under a new pt 6.2. the candidature for full membership of Archivo de Imagenes en Movimiento in San Juan (Puerto Rico), and to add a second candidate for affiliation under the new pt 6.3., i.e. : the Satyajit Ray Archive, in Calcutta.

The proposed agenda was then formally adopted.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING IN TUNIS

Page 9, 3d paragraph, on Election Procedures : Mr JEAUVONS said he did not recall having promised to come up with "a more detailed set of recommendations". He therefore asked to suppress this paragraph from the Minutes.

P. 24, line 6 : replace "1994" by "1996".

P. 26, 1st full paragraph : Mr JEAUVONS did not recall that the EC had reached this conclusion. He asked this paragraph to be changed in the sense that : "the EC would try to persuade UNESCO to help finance a two persons research trip round some existing African archives or countries which had ambitions to establish film archives."

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE TUNIS MINUTES

Pages 7-9 : Election procedures

Further to his correction (see above) of the Minutes on this topic, Mr JEAUVONS underlined that the revision of election procedures was still under discussion and the group (R. Daudelin, J.M. Costa and himself) should be kept alive if the new EC agreed on its brief. This should be proposed at the next meeting.

A long discussion followed on the proposal made in paragr. 5 of p. 8: "*In the case of unopposed candidates for Executive Officer posts, there should be no NO vote.*" Having agreed that it was too late to implement any such changes for the elections at this Congress, several members led by Mr OPELA argued that to delete the NO vote would deprive the General Assembly of the possibility to express its opinion unequivocally. This point should at least be discussed in the General Assembly even if it did not ask for a change in the Rules.

H. BLOTKAMP also asked not to delete completely her idea of appointing the EC officers from among the group of 13 elected EC members.

It was generally agreed that, as regarded the election of Honorary Members, once recommended by the EC, they should be elected by acclaim and not voted "for" or "against" in open session. The Rules should nevertheless be checked on this point.

Beijing - Taipei situation (p. 13 & 23)

The Secretary-General, Eva ORBANZ summarized the extensive exchange of correspondence between Beijing, herself and Taipei on the issue of the name of the Taipei Film Archive during the whole of the preceding year. This had culminated by a letter from Beijing, dated April 4, 1995 and sent to the whole membership except to Taipei, in which the Chinese Film Archive confirmed they would be unable to organize the 1996 FIAF Congress because of this "name" problem, although they would nevertheless co-organize with UNESCO the Symposium on "Film archiving in Asia" which had been foreseen in conjunction with that Congress and in which FIAF had already started to play an active role.

Meanwhile, in the last weeks preceding the meeting in Los Angeles, the Secretary-General and Mr Ray Jiing, head of the film archive in Taipei, had managed to come up with a new name which might be accepted by Beijing, i.e. the name of CHINESE TAIPEI FILM ARCHIVE, and on April 13 Ms Orbanz had informed the archive in Beijing of this last proposal, expressing the hope that the organization of the Congress in Beijing could now be resumed. The reaction of Beijing had not yet come to the Secretariat but it was significant that the Chinese colleagues had not even registered for the Congress in Los Angeles.

The members of the EC felt very perplexed and upset about this whole situation which, obviously, was mainly a matter of principle dictated by governmental policy.

After a long discussion, it was decided to send a last and urgent fax to Mr Chen Jinglian asking him to state clearly, within the next 24 hours, whether they intended to organize the Congress as announced in Bologna. If not, the EC should start immediately preparing for another venue. Mrs van Leer was ready to propose an invitation on behalf of the Jerusalem Cinematheque and she should be able to inform the EC on the details of this invitation before the end of the present meeting. The EC also decided not to link the question of the Congress with that of the proposed Symposium in Beijing which was less urgent but nevertheless worrying. This would be rediscussed later.

4. LONG TERM PLAN FOR FIAF

On behalf of the working group concerned with this topic, Chris HORAK reported that H. BLOTKAMP, W. KLAUE, R. SMITHER and himself had met informally in Berlin last February and discussed the papers which they had all prepared following the decision of the General Assembly in Bologna. So many important issues were brought up in these papers that the group found it difficult to produce one common paper which would summarize them. They decided rather to propose several broad directions that FIAF could take and ask the EC and the General Assembly to decide on these broad issues first. All other particular points would eventually derive from this decision.

Three models were then elaborated.

Hoos BLOTKAMP was asked to describe and elaborate on an expanded FIAF based on criteria which, beyond film preservation, would move us more towards film culture. The new FIAF could then include all non-commercial institutions that are in one or the other way dealing with the moving image, such as film departments of universities, non-commercial TV archives, non-commercial exhibitors and technical research institutions.

Chris HORAK wrote a paper on the model of a limited FIAF that returns to its original principles, caring for film on celluloid exclusively.

Roger SMITHER's paper described a compromise position between the above two extremes, while Wolfgang KLAUE wrote about the necessity for FIAF to broaden its membership throughout the Third World, which was not incompatible with any of the three first models.

While everyone agreed that all these papers, which had now been read by the EC members, were extremely well thought and articulate, Mr RICCI warned against the danger of analyzing those models as "either/or" positions. He hoped that the discussion would rather underline the benefits and drawbacks of each and maybe find the best hybrid combination to move the largest number of archives forward.

For Roger SMITHER, these papers suggested three or four main principle topics to discuss before getting down to practicalities.

- a) the relative weight in our activities between film preservation and film culture;
- b) the importance that we may or may not attach to ethics of preservation;
- c) the definition of "film" in the name of FIAF. Are we all in agreement with its definition in art. 1 of the Statutes?

A wide discussion followed, which Clyde JEAVONS summarized as follows: It is important to restate once and for all, quickly and concisely, what FIAF's fundamental principles are, see whether we want to keep those fundamentals, whether they are clear to everyone in FIAF (and also to the public at large, added J.M. COSTA), whether they are generally followed in a satisfactory way, and then add layers to accommodate the changing nature of the media and the reality of the outside world.

After the interventions of V. OPELA, Ch. HORAK, J.M. COSTA, E. ORBANZ and H. BLOTKAMP, it became clear that the majority agreed on opening FIAF to institutions that cared also for other material than celluloid film as long as it was original material; also that FIAF should make a clear distinction between all these media and set standards to define the various forms in which audiovisual media could appear so that there could be no confusion in the public at large, make this public more aware of the original theatrical experience and convince them of the value of preserving this original experience. This was also a propaganda problem.

W. KLAUE concluded by saying that FIAF must adapt to the evolution of its membership and even change article 1 of its Statutes to bring it closer to reality. This meant also acknowledging the situation of archives in developing countries where the local audiovisual production is almost totally on video.

It was decided later that Mr HORAK would make a progress report on the Future of FIAF and on this discussion at the General Assembly. The same working group should continue their task even though all its present members may not be on the next Executive Committee.

It was also suggested to publish the four discussion papers in the next issue of the FIAF Journal.

5. COMMISSIONS AND WORKING GROUPS

The four Heads of Commissions had now joined the meeting.

The written reports of the Commissions and of the P.I.P. will be annexed to the Minutes of the General Assembly.

5.1. Proposal for a rotation system of Commission Heads and members

The EC resumed its discussion already started in Tunis on the renewal of Commissions' Heads and members. Mr KLAUE and all four Commission Heads in general, while agreeing that fresh ideas and new members would be beneficial to the Commissions' work, were against an artificial rotation system because of the difficulties already pointed out by Mr SMITHER in Tunis (see Minutes, p. 7).

Ms BLOTKAMP repeated her suggestion to have a "project-based" approach, defined by the membership and more precisely by the EC, and then to assign either a Commission or an individual person to work on each approved project. Mr COSTA agreed and suggested further that the EC should identify and concentrate on key projects, such as the CD-ROM, strongly encouraging each FIAF member to follow and to support these projects. Also, in order to encourage Commission members in their totally voluntary work, he advocated to organize once in a while a forum of all Commission members in the frame of a Congress or a Symposium.

Ms ORBANZ said she would like to come back to Ms BLOTKAMP's proposed "Survey" of projects and publications, as described at the EC meeting in Rome in 1994.

The Treasurer, Mr JEAVONS agreed that FIAF could be more flexible in the funding of Commission activities.

Considering that Commission Heads would like a more active involvement and support from the EC and the EC's wish to set priorities for the work of Commissions, Mr RICCI said one should create a mechanism whereby those two aspirations could meet.

Coming back to the suggestions already made by Mr KLAUE in Tunis to :

1. identify issues which have to be tackled by the Federation and examine how far they can be channelled through the Commissions,
2. discuss possible solutions to renew or enlarge the membership of the Commissions,
3. discuss these issues in the next EC meeting with the Heads of Commissions and come to a general agreement,
4. present the results of this debate to the whole membership,

it was decided to ask the new Executive Committee to appoint a new working group for this task. The W.G. on the "Future of FIAF" had started to examine those issues but had been overwhelmed by the numerous questions already placed before them and had not yet been able to produce a paper on the subject. Some of these points were nevertheless incorporated in the papers which had been presented above.

5.2. Report of the Technical Commission

Mr SCHOU commented on the written report which he had prepared for the General Assembly. In particular, he had some questions to the EC on Commission membership issues. João Socrates de Oliveira, formerly in Brazil, was now working at the NFTVA in Berkhamsted and could therefore not formally remain a member of the Commission. The EC suggested to ask Mr Francisco Gaytan, from Mexico, to replace him on the Commission.

The North-American sub-commission (NATS) now consisted only of Bob Gitt (chair) and Peter Williamson. Mr SCHOU was urged to ask them to expand their membership to include people from the Preservation working-group of AMIA. This group not only incorporates members of FIAF but also representatives of the whole preservation community in the US. Mr HORAK felt that the NATS members should at least attend AMIA meetings.

Mr SCHOU was also encouraged to create very soon a European technical sub-commission. He promised to work with the FIAF Secretariat to start canvassing European archives for nominations. The possibility of entwining the work of the FORCE technical group (a project from the European Union which included several FIAF members) was also evoked.

The project of J.P. Verscheure's book on "the identification of image and soundtrack formats" seemed to have come to a halt because of a translation problem of the test chapter. This being a simple matter to settle, Mr SCHOU was also urged soon to organize a meeting with J.P. Verscheure in the UK and to push the project forward.

On the **Joint Technical Symposium**, Mr JEAUVONS who had attended the highly successful JTS held in London in January '95, observed that technology was developing very rapidly and continuously. He therefore felt one should seriously consider holding more such events with shorter intervals between them. Reading that the organizers of the JTS, the TCC (Technical Coordinating Committee of which FIAF was one of the pillar members) were asking for funding, Eva ORBANZ asked for a proper agenda of their activities in order to judge the necessity for this funding by FIAF and the other NGOs. Mr SCHOU said he would try to provide one.

Finally, Mr SCHOU having complained repeatedly about the lack of interest apparently shown by the FIAF members for all the publications issued by the Commission, it was agreed that all archives should be requested to list the name of their Preservation officer in the FIAF list of addresses so that technical papers could possibly be mailed to them directly.

5.3. Report of the Cataloguing Commission

Harriet HARRISON, Head of the Commission, briefly commented on her written report. Answering a question of H. BLOTKAMP on the project **Intellectual access**, she said the Commission only needed a venue for the workshop to bring this project to a start.

Clyde JEAUVONS having asked whether this Commission, with or without the Documentation Commission, would be prepared to take on the long-awaited project of a **Centralized Database of FIAF Holdings**, Ms HARRISON said she thought the time was now ripe for this. The Documentation Commission had made a good start on this type of database with the ongoing so-called "Treasures" database on which Ron MAGLIOZZI and Susan DALTON collaborated.

A long and passionate discussion then followed on the numerous problems which such a project would present but also on its necessity and its advantages.

Questions raised by J.M. COSTA, V. OPELA, H. BLOTKAMP and W. KLAUE ranged from :

What kind of database do we want? how comprehensive? for what goal or usage?
Are the members ready to collaborate?
to: the necessary common format, the very important legal problems, the possibility to use Internet, the necessary degree of accuracy, etc...

Mr JEAUVONS, Ms BLOTKAMP and Mr RICCI insisted on the importance and the urgency of this project. Such a database could partly stand as a justification of FIAF's existence towards the outside world and would be a major commitment of FIAF in this year of the Centenary.

Mr KLAUE proposed to establish a working group responsible for the preliminary study and preparations and for drafting a project description to submit to the General Assembly either next year or the year after. Mr JEAUVONS felt one should start immediately and ask both the Cataloguing and the Documentation Commission to steer such a group, possibly with additional staffing to work specifically on this project, to make an analysis of where we are at the moment, what already exists, to list some of the main problems logistically and legally.

Both H. HARRISON and R. MAGLIOZZI agreed in principle but asked for a better definition of the scope of the projected database, the nature of the end product and its ultimate use.

Decision on this was postponed, at the request of Mr MAGLIOZZI, until after the report of the Documentation Commission and the CD-ROM demonstration. The next day, it was again decided that both the Cataloguing and the Documentation Commission would come up with some recommendations for the appointment of a few persons which they considered best suitable to work on this group. Mr JEAUVONS was designated to report on the project at the General Assembly.

The members of the EC then moved to another room to attend a demonstration of the FIAF CD-ROM and the Treasures database by Michael MOULDS and Susan DALTON.

5.4. Report of the Documentation Commission

Susan DALTON and Michael MOULDS attended this part of the meeting.

Ron MAGLIOZZI had sent a written report which he now commented briefly and updated, based on the agenda of the last Commission meeting held a week earlier in Berkeley.

The Commission proposed to investigate the nomination of a new member, Fortunée SELLAN, from the Bibliothèque de l'Image in Paris with whom Michael MOULDS recently had very profitable contacts.

Some projects other than the P.I.P. were briefly evoked.

Handbook for film archives : there exists a 28-page outline for such a book. R. MAGLIOZZI regularly uses it to explain the work of a Film Documentation Department to outsiders, but the Commission has no time to work on the project at present.

Possible new project : **Holdings catalog of silent film scores**.
R. MAGLIOZZI knows a US scholar who would be ready to help on this project.

Bibliography of FIAF and FIAF members' publications. This Bibliography will be converted and added to the CD-ROM in the Spring 96 edition. The 1994 issue is almost ready.

Latin-American Filmography (Teresa Toledo). The bibliographic part of this project includes 2 sections: monographs and periodicals. The first are ready to be added to the CD-ROM in November '95.

The **Directory of Film and TV Documentation Collections** will also be converted into a database to be added to the FIAF CD-ROM.
The Commission asks FIAF to fund the conversion of these three publications for a total amount of £4,000.

International Index to Film / Television Periodicals. M. Moulds had distributed a written report. Further to the demonstration of the CD-ROM which he made the day before, the editor of the P.I.P. came back to his financial requests. The computer needed to be replaced for lack of memory space (cost: £ 1,400) while £10,000 were needed for the addition (keyboarding and proofreading) of all previous indexing to the database.

Cost of developing and producing the CD-ROM meant that once again the P.I.P. office could not break even without help from FIAF. Nevertheless, M. MOULDS felt the future was very promising.

Susan DALTON then described the "Treasures from the Film Archives" database project. She explained its background, described its content (various catalogs e.g. Ron Magliozzi's "Treasures" catalog for the Documentation Commission, the AFI catalog plus many others which were converted and integrated) and enumerated the advantages of the software used for this database. For instance, it is completely word searchable and has already allowed S.D. to identify several so-called "lost" films which were not lost at all. She also described the biggest problems she had met in the integration of the various catalogs. She also admitted that converting databases from computer to computer was far from being easy and sometimes more time-consuming than keyboarding the whole database by hand.

A demonstration of the Treasures database was foreseen during the General Assembly.

The part which concerned "Holdings of Silent Films in FIAF Archives" had been added to the Spring 1995 edition of the CD-ROM with a substantial increase of the number of records offered in the published volume (Scarecrow, 1988). Twenty-five archives cooperated in the process of adding and updating records.

Ron MAGLIOZZI, who paid homage to S. Dalton for the huge amount of personal time which she had put into this work, felt it could be a perfect model for the projected Central Database of FIAF Holdings if every archive agreed to cooperate fully and resources in staff were available for regular updates and verifications.

S. RICCI asked for some clarification on the legal ownership of all the very valuable information which had now been put together in S. Dalton's database. As concerned the FIAF CD-ROM, copyright belonged to FIAF but all the other data which S.D. had gathered simply belonged to her personally, not even to the AFI. She also had no intention of giving this information out except perhaps to FIAF. Parts of it, like lists of holdings, would only be added to the CD-ROM if and when rights had been cleared with the original owners of this information.

H. BLOTKAMP and J.M. COSTA then explained how this very complex legal problem of the ownership of data, especially when it became international, had been tackled for the European Filmography now being prepared by the LUMIERE group.

Ch. HORAK having asked the reason for the £10,000 deficit of the P.I.P. and how they proposed to deal with it, C. JEAVONS explained that this amount represented part of the costs for developing the CD-ROM. FIAF had agreed to support this product and to invest on it in the expectation that it would slowly earn its money back. This is why, as Treasurer, he had agreed to loan this sum to the P.I.P. and this had been approved by the General Assembly. The deficit was therefore accounted as a rolling debt to the parent body.

Ch. DIMITRIU added that he would gladly help the Documentation Commission and the P.I.P. office to market their product.

5.5. Report of the Commission of Programming and Access to the Collections

The Chairman of the Commission, J. BENARD DA COSTA commented on his written report and summarized the various projects which were by now completed or nearing completion :

- the **Survey on Programming and Access in Film Archives** had been published and the Commission now proposed to undertake a comparative study of FIAF archives' programming from 1990 to 1995.
- the results of the **Categories Game** were also about to be published in a book sponsored by Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian.
- the **Manual for Access to Collections** would be presented to the General Assembly under the form of a loose-leaf manual in English (60 pages + various annexes) and the members would be invited to comment it. Mr BENARD DA COSTA insisted that it was more a book about "passive" access to collections rather than active access.

The Commission also wanted to address the question of standards of projection in FIAF archives. G. CLAES would make a presentation on this issue during the workshop "How to use our collections" and discuss **Guidelines for the circulation of copies among FIAF archives.**

Finally, in connection with the workshop here in Los Angeles, the Commission proposed to rediscuss the concept of a "cinematheque" as film museum in the wider sense.

Having now completed the goals which the Commission had set itself in 1991, its members wanted to hear from the General Assembly and the Executive Committee what they expected for the near future. In that respect, the workshop on April 29 would be a significant event.

C. JEAVONS said he was concerned that the Commission hadn't started to address the problem of access to non-fiction material, and not only newsreels. The reason he wanted to unlock this issue is that it leads to some more contentious areas of programming in the widest sense, other forms of use and outlet including sometimes commercial questions such as using in film extract form on TV, re-use by producers, etc... We should not avoid those issues. He also suggested that the Commission appoints a new member with specific expertise to represent this area of the film collection. J. BENARD DA COSTA totally agreed with the importance of the problem and hoped that, during the Commission workshop, some members would come up and express their expectations on this point.

5.6. Working group on training

C. JEAVONS reported that nothing new had happened since the Bologna Congress when the group had last met and defined its objectives. He asked to be discharged from his task as Head of the group for lack of proper time to make it active and recommended W. KLAUE (who reluctantly accepted) to chair it with the practical assistance of the Senior Administrator.

The 1996 Summer School was now well under preparation. A report on this would be distributed in the pigeon holes at the General Assembly. Some financial support was expected from UNESCO but had not yet been confirmed.

W. KLAUE reported on a meeting he had attended in Vienna, organised by the NGO Round Table with the support of UNESCO, on Curriculum Development for Archival staff. This was the second meeting of its kind. It gathered representatives of training committees of such NGOs as FIAF, FIAT, IASA but also IFLA and ICA which already had established training facilities and centers. The group had developed a training concept trying to integrate the education of AV archivists into existing related study centers or training facilities. This second meeting was the beginning of a dialog with representatives of these archive schools, library schools, centers for the restoration and conservation of other forms of art, etc...

W. KLAUE felt that progress would be slow but that such a dialog was indispensable. Summer Schools or in-house training were not enough to educate the quantity of staff needed for the preservation of AV material. UNESCO agreed to continue supporting further meetings of the group and the compilation of a reader on AV archiving (contract with IASA). It was urgent for FIAF to establish its own training group. He finally recalled the recommendations which he had prepared for his paper on the Future of FIAF, which read as follows :

The working group for training should:

- establish contacts with CILECT (film schools) and discuss the possibility of integrating courses on film archiving in the curriculum for film schools;
- prepare a list of publications as recommended teaching aids for film archivists;
- compile and distribute the experience of in-house training
- analyse the publication policy of FIAF under a training point of view;
- search for possible places which could hold regional training courses, summer schools, etc.

Finally, he advocated that FIAF, at one of its future Congresses, dedicate a one-day Symposium on archive staff education, based on a study prepared by the working group on training.

This was agreed by the Executive Committee.

5.7. Reconfirmation of Commission Heads

The four Commission Heads having left the room, the EC discussed of their formal reconfirmation for another period of two years. They were reconfirmed as a group but the EC decided it was urgent to establish a working group to study, within the frame of the larger issue of the future of FIAF, ways and means to develop different models for the work of the Commissions. Several problems were raised which this group would have to examine carefully, e.g. the issue of the access by FIAF to the expertise within member archives. Mr SMITHER said the mechanism for this was now in the hands of the Commissions. One should find out if there are alternatives and perhaps make a search outside FIAF in related areas, not forgetting the financial implications.

C. JEAVONS recalled that training should be a crucial part of Commission work, not just internal training on the Commissions but the will to act as teachers and models in a broader sense.

The working group was established as follows : Hoos BLOTKAMP, Chris HORAK and Jorge NIETO. Wolfgang KLAUE agreed to act as a consultant with the proviso that he did not have the backing of an archive to support his travels. More members could be added later on if necessary. It was suggested that a first meeting be held in Munich. The group should also work in close cooperation and perhaps even merge with the "Long term plan" group.

They were asked to compile all the ideas already debated here or in previous meetings such as Tunis and to come up soon with new suggestions.

6. MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS

R. SMITHER, deputy Secretary-General reported on this matter.

6.1. Reconfirmation of Members

Some reconfirmation of Members were pending from the meeting in Tunis. Missing documents from those members (Prague, Saõ Paulo, Stockholm and Warsaw) had now been received and approved. They were therefore reconfirmed for another period of five years.

Three other Members had to undergo the procedure of reconfirmation. They were the archives in Madrid, Seoul and Wellington. R. SMITHER had examined their files which all the members had also received. There being no particular problem, they were all formally reconfirmed for another period of five years.

6.2. Admission of new Members

a) Archivo de Imagenes en Movimiento (San Juan de Puerto Rico)

This archive which had been admitted in FIAF in 1991 now asked for full membership and was supported by David Francis who had visited it three years ago together with Mr Trujillo.

Their file was formally complete. It was a small archive, a department within the bigger National Archive of Puerto Rico and the Secretary-General knew very little of their activities.

While Mr HORAK had encountered some difficulties with them, Mr TRUJILLO said they cooperated regularly with the other Latin -American archives. While Mr SMITHER underlined that formally they did not seem to enjoy the autonomy requested in the FIAF Rules, Mr KLAUE said this case once again raised the problem of the Rules which do not adjust to the reality of some archives.

It was suggested that the Secretary-General and/or the President try to interrogate Mr Rosario on some unclear points of his file here in Los Angeles, but meanwhile a vote was taken to recommend their candidature as full Member to the General Assembly. Results of the vote : 8 Yes

5 Absentions

6.3. New candidatures

The **Latvia National Cinematheque** in Riga had submitted an application as Associate. Their report showed that this single name for a rather abstract entity covered three organisations, the National Cinema Center, the International Center of New Cinema and the Riga Cinema Museum. What they did or what they had was not very clear but, under the difficult circumstances in which they worked, Mr SMITHER thought one could reasonably admit them as Associates in order to encourage them.

Ms BLOTKAMP and Mr OPELA whose archives had been in active contact with this organisation both felt they had good possibilities. Their admission in FIAF as Associates would enable us to help them establish themselves on a stronger basis.

Decision : The Executive Committee (with two members absent from the room) voted unanimously in favour of the admission of the Latvia National Cinematheque as Associate.

Satyajit Ray Film Archive (Calcutta, West Bengal).

This application had been received several months ago and our Member in India had been asked to comment on it. Mr CHABRIA's reply showed some reluctance to accept them as "Observer" because he said they were not yet a fully-fledged archive, they had only a collection of viewing prints and one should therefore wait for them to develop a better preservation program.

Mr DIMITRIU however had visited this archive the year before (but not under the auspices of FIAF) and he felt they could qualify as Associates. He believed they owned more than a collection of S. Ray viewing prints. He was shown holdings of a quite comprehensive collection of West-Bengal production that needed special preservation measures. J.M. COSTA suggested that Suresh Chabria's objections may originate from his ignorance of the criteria which FIAF requested from potential Associates.

E. ORBANZ and R. SMITHER proposed to postpone the vote on this candidature which was formally incomplete (several documents were missing), to talk again with Suresh Chabria and to defer the matter to the next Executive Committee. It was also decided to examine the whole case together with the restoration project of Satyajit Ray's filmography in which this archive was one of the actors.

6.3. Miscellaneous

Ms ORBANZ informed the EC that Fundacion Carmen Toscano (Mexico) which had been admitted as Associate in Tunis had now, as requested, sent their list of films to the Secretariat.

She also reminded the EC that all the **Associates** were due for **reconfirmation** in 1996.

Due to the temporary absence of Mr JEAVONS, pending **reconfirmation of Provisional members** would be examined under Pt 8. : Financial Report, because it was linked with non-payment of membership fees.

7. FINANCES

7.1. Reconfirmation of Provisional Members

The Treasurer, Mr JEAUVONS raised the problem of unpaid subscription fees by some Provisional Members and Associates.

Following art. 16 of the Rules, the archives in Luanda, Bogotá (Cinemateca Distrital) and to a lesser degree La Paz, Quito and New York (Anthology F.A.) must be deleted from FIAF.

J.M. COSTA had recently received a letter from **Luanda** reporting on their very difficult situation (war was still raging in Angola) and pleaded for more patience from FIAF. Cinemateca Portuguesa undertook to pay part of Luanda's debt. Nevertheless, the Angolan Archive should be asked to provide a more detailed report. Their situation would be reviewed again at the next EC meeting.

Mr NIETO reported on the situation of his colleagues in **Bogotá**.

After several years of instability, a new director had now been appointed. He promised to pay the Cinemateca's debts to FIAF with the administrative help of the Secretariat and through the intervention of Mr NIETO. This was agreed. They were given another 6 months to pay their dues.

Mr TRUJILLO undertook to explain the cases of **Quito** and **La Paz**. There again, he promised to intervene and asked for a last delay before deleting these archives.

Mr COSTA recalled that this whole matter was one of the reasons why he would propose, with Mr DIMITRIU, a plan for a new scale for membership fees (see pt 7.4). As for **New York** (Anthology), the Secretariat had recently received their payment for 1993 and the promise to pay dues for 1994 and 1995 before the end of this year. They had also sent in their Activities Report.

7.2. Approval of FIAF's current accounts (1994)

C. JEAUVONS briefly reviewed the 1994 FIAF accounts. The situation was still satisfactory though we made a smaller profit balance than in previous years and a substantial deficit had to be projected for 1995. It was now essential to find new ways of raising money or of cutting expenses since, for the first time in its history, FIAF would have to break into its Reserve Fund.

Mr KLAUE insisted that the whole membership must be clearly informed of this situation. One should also evaluate the cost of our commitments in the eventuality of FIAF's bankruptcy!

7.3. Draft budget for 1996

A draft 1996 budget had been submitted to all members and would have to be formally approved by the General Assembly.

Mr JEAUVONS underlined that another deficit was projected and again insisted on the urgent need to raise new income.

H. SCHOU asked to include a sum for the publication of J.P. Verscheure's book under "Special Publications". The Treasurer said this was a typical project to be sponsored.

7.4. Proposal for a new scale of membership fees

Mr COSTA commented on the paper: "Towards an equitable scale for membership fees" which he had prepared together with Mr DIMITRIU. This was the result of several discussions and proposals made over the last two years, in particular by Graham GILMOUR (Canberra 1993).

The proposed model was based on a voluntary contribution by some of the richer archives to create a Fund which would allow the Treasurer to support some real hardship cases. While this proposal was accepted by the majority, at least as a temporary measure, Mr NIETO felt it was still discriminatory and unrealistic and he asked to pursue to idea of a sliding scale of membership fees

Secondly, the paper suggested a campaign to increase the number of "Subscribers", a non-member category open to any individual or interested institution. For a modest contribution, Subscribers could benefit from several services from the Federation and its members. The participation of our affiliates would be asked to make this Service attractive. The Senior Administrator was asked to study this proposal more in detail, examine which services could be offered and also their limits, and to start implementing it.

Ms BLOTKAMP underlined that fresh funds would be welcome not only to support failing members in paying their fees but mainly to give a new impetus to projects and activities helpful to the membership in their daily activities.

8. REPORT OF THE SENIOR ADMINISTRATOR

Ch. DIMITRIU had prepared a written report about his first term at the FIAF Secretariat and a second paper stating his views on FIAF's objectives and strategies. This second paper was deferred to the working group on "Long Term Plan" as it was based on ideas already put forward by the group and the EC on previous occasions.

In his report "January - April 1995", the Senior Administrator addressed the following issues :

- a) organisation of the Secretariat
- b) relations between the Secretariat and the membership
- c) relations with FIAF Commissions
- d) relations with UNESCO and other international organizations
- e) participation of the SenAd in other external activities
- f) fundraising activities.

Mr DIMITIRIU commented on all the points which had not been covered previously during the meeting.

The main discussion concerned his proposals to raise funds for FIAF by
1. developing some services which we could try to sell. The Secretariat is already offering some services but they are financially non-profitable. They should be either

charged or included in a "package" of goods and services which can be sold to **Subscribers**, an already existing category of institutions or individuals which the Senior Administrator proposed to develop on a large scale.

2. Sponsorship and private fundraising. This goal was more difficult to achieve because of the lack of concrete projects to offer to sponsors and the risk of competing for funds with the local members of FIAF.

Mr KLAUE suggested as third source of income, for him the safest and most realistic : an active membership policy.

But this needed clear guidance from the Executive Committee and the General Assembly. It fell again into the realm of FIAF's Future Policy group. This topic had been on the table for several years now with the Centenary Year as deadline.

Mr NIETO agreed with him that it was time to come to a decision. So did Ms BLOTKAMP but she suggested to start at least making a concrete list of services and goods which FIAF could submit to sponsors and another list for the category of Subscribers.

Mr RICCI cited the following activities where concrete actions should be taken immediately:

- the FIAF Journal : find sponsorship and more publicity;
- FIAF publications : establish a better distribution system, possibly by subcontracting to a professional publisher;
- FIAF Congresses : more parts of our congresses could be sponsored;
- a solidarity fund that would help out in membership dues problems.

The plan to test a **Subscriber service system** was formally approved.

Mr DIMITRIU then commented on his idea to move the FIAF office to another place where it could expand not only in space but also in the creation of new activities.

He was asked to come to the next EC meeting in the Fall with a business plan, a report on the financial and organisational situation of FIAF and a plan of action.

9. PREPARATIONS FOR THE LOS ANGELES CONGRESS

Mr RICCI commented and answered questions on the program of the Congress which everyone had received. He gave detailed information on the welcoming reception, the press conference, other sponsored receptions, etc...

The EC felt very enthusiastic about the whole program and congratulated the organizers.

10. FIAF PUBLICATIONS

10.1. Agreement with Flicks books on FIAF publications

Further to the discussion already held in Tunis on this topic, Mr SMITHER reported that no progress could be reached on the proposal to distribute the FIAF publications. Mr Stevens wanted exclusiveness on the sale of all our publications

including the P.I.P. and Michael Moulds did not agree on this. He explained the reasons for this.

The Executive Committee therefore decided not to pursue our negotiations with Flicks Books except for the publication of the **Newsreels Symposium** which could serve as a test case for possible future publications. Distribution of our publications should be further investigated, perhaps with some University Press.

10.2. FIAF Journal

Mr DAUDELIN reported that the Editorial Board was going to meet in LA during the Congress and that meanwhile he had nothing to report. Problems of the Journal's distribution would certainly be discussed. Number 50, a special Centenary issue, had just been published. A few copies were circulated among EC members.

Mr DAUDELIN also evoked the possibility of publishing a FIAF Newsletter, something which would be simpler, with only FIAF inside information, and which would appear more often than twice a year. Several members gave the AMIA Newsletter as a good example.

11. FUTURE CONGRESSES

11.1. Jerusalem - 1996

After the withdrawal of Beijing as host of the 1996 Congress, Ms VAN LEER had generously invited FIAF to meet in Jerusalem for that occasion. She now joined the EC to discuss possible dates, modalities for the program and the organisation of the Congress, topic of the Symposium, etc...

Proposed dates : early or middle April, to be confirmed as soon as possible.

It was decided that the main Symposium would treat of legal problems, or rather: Archival Rights, and that the Cinematheque would try to organise a workshop or a 1/2 day Symposium on the topic of Palestinian Cinema. A working group would be established within the EC to prepare the main Symposium.

H. HARRISON recalled the wish of the Cataloguing Commission to organize a workshop on "Intellectual Access" with examples illustrated by film clips.

Ms VAN LEER undertook to start preparations as soon as she returned to Jerusalem and to keep the EC informed.

11.2. Cartagena - 1997

Mr NIETO reported that Fundacion Patrimonio Filmico Colombiano had started preparing the 1997 Congress, seeking the collaboration of the other FIAF affiliate in Bogotá. He suggested two topics for the Symposium or extended workshops :

a) A historical symposium linked with the centenary which, for Latin America, would happen only in 96/97.

b) A symposium on the importance of amateur films or home movies in regions, such as his, with no real film industry in the early years and on the various aspects of collecting this type of material.

This second theme was strongly supported by Mr HORAK, Mr JEAVONS, Mr SMITHER, Ms BLOTKAMP, Mr KLAUE and Mr OPELA who all underlined the pertinence of this topic. Amateur films (or home movies) were of growing interest also to historians, sociologists, ethnologists, etc... While it was relevant to all four FIAF commissions, their preservation, cataloguing and access needed special treatment, often different than that of feature films. It was a topic which now concerned every archive, whether national or regional. Mr SMITHER said the workshop on "Non-fiction Film" which was to take place in two days would certainly demonstrate the many serious issues which it raised.

J.M. COSTA and E. ORBANZ who had corresponded to discuss topics for future Symposia, doubted that this topic was global enough to interest every member. Mr COSTA suggested a Symposium on the dialog between archives and Museums (other arts) and Museums' organizations such as ICOM on all aspects of acquiring, preserving and presenting cultural goods, including ethics of restoration, new restoration technology, etc...

Ms ORBANZ also insisted that Symposia, on whatever topic, must be prepared at least three years in advance not only by a working group but also by discussions and papers among archives and with external specialists. This was unanimously agreed. Considering the great interest of the whole discussion on amateur films already here, Mr RICCI wondered how one could maintain this discussion going over time, taking stock of all the basic arguments put forward here and there, so that in the end we have a much richer kind of Symposium.

It was decided to ask the new EC to establish a working group already next week and to start working immediately on the preparations of a symposium on "amateur" films with a clear definition of the meaning of the term. At the General Assembly, the members would be asked to contribute ideas on this topic.

Mr NIETO suggested to treat his suggested topic of the Centenary in Latin America for a workshop with a historical perspective.

The new EC should also prepare for Cartagena a workshop on the use of new technologies in film preservation and restoration as a follow-up to the JTS of January 95.

Dates of the Congress: Mr NIETO asked to have it as early as possible in the year.

11.3. 1998

As the year slot was still available, it was agreed that this year would be proposed to Beijing for a possible replacement of the 1996 Congress. In the event that this suggestion is not picked up by Beijing, Mr OPELA invited FIAF to meet in Prague. It was also urgent to find a topic for the Symposium in 1998.

11.4. 1999

Madrid had confirmed their invitation for that year. They would seek the collaboration of the two other Spanish affiliates, Barcelona and Valencia.

12. CINEMA CENTENARY

12.1. Calendar of FIAF events

Everyone had received, here in Los Angeles, the fourth issue of this Calendar which had been put together as before with the very efficient help of Cornelia EMERSON from the UCLA Film Archive. One more and last issue was foreseen to come out in the Fall of 1995.

12.2. UNESCO / FIAF Fund

A report by Ch. DIMITRIU had been distributed on this topic.

The EC discussed the evolution of this projected collaboration with UNESCO. Results were not very encouraging. The last draft we had received on the structure and the functioning of the Fund did not even mention FIAF as an equal partner anymore. The name of FIAF had been dropped from the title altogether!

Robert DAUDELIN reported on the meeting held at UNESCO last January to launch the Fund. Several FIAF members attended this meeting during which the Director-General, Mr Federico Mayor, had committed himself to obtain \$100,000 as seed money to start the Fund. It had finally been agreed that 50% of this sum would be kept as seed money while \$30,000 were allocated to the restoration of "Le Mandat", the first Black African fiction film directed by Sembene Ousmane, and \$20,000 would possibly go to FIAF to start an African Filmography. However, Mr DAUDELIN insisted that this was still very vague since no contract had been signed as yet and the whole procedure of administering this Fund-to-be seemed very unclear.

Mr OPELA and Mr KLAUE also mentioned another much bigger project of UNESCO, i.e. the "Memory of the World" project, for which FIAF members had been asked to send lists of films in danger. Mr KLAUE explained that even though the project's aim was mainly to digitize billions of documents related to the world heritage and the project was only slowly starting, we should be kept informed of its development and remain present to voice our own concerns. We were invited to a meeting of the project to be held in Paris on May 3/4 but unfortunately no-one from the EC was able to attend it.

Mr RICCI expressed the concern of the North-American FIAF members that the large-scale fundraising activities of UNESCO might compete with the archives' own efforts for fundraising. He wondered how this could be kept under control.

Ms BLOTKAMP briefly reported on a meeting of the PGI (Programme General d'Information) which she had attended at UNESCO Headquarters on behalf of FIAF.

13. RELATIONS WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

13.1. Annual Round Table of the AV Archives Organisations

R. SMITHER and Ch. DIMITRIU attended this annual meeting which took place in London in January 1995. Ch. DIMITRIU distributed a written report and briefly commented on it. Two small projects funded by UNESCO had been entrusted to FIAT and IASA at the meeting. One of the main topics also raised during the meeting

was the **European Draft Convention on the Protection of the Audiovisual Cultural Heritage**. The Round Table strongly urged AV archives' organisations to adopt a common stand on the issues raised by the Draft Convention, otherwise we would be totally pushed aside in this negotiation by the Associations representing the various fields of the AV industry.

Recalling what was decided in Tunis regarding this Draft Convention (Minutes, p. 26), J.M. COSTA reported on a meeting he and G. CLAES recently attended in Strasbourg at the Council of Europe where compromises on the main text could be reached. However, the Annexes to the Convention were still unacceptable for the European archives and we should continue to exert some pressure on the drafting group, asking them to organize a special meeting with FIAF archives to discuss the text in details. It was urgent that FIAF determine and make known a strong common stand for its principles, even if different positions exist among our members, for instance on the question of legal deposit. Thanks to this European discussion, the archives in LUMIERE now realize that even the countries most progressive in archival legislation have not yet obtained what we consider should be our rights. We should fight for it and there are grounds to be optimistic. But we'll never have a strong position towards the outside world if we don't clarify our position internally.

Mr KLAUE agreed and reminded that this suggestion was made repeatedly in several of the papers prepared on the "Future of FIAF" but without any visible progress. It was one of the most urgent tasks of the EC.

As regarded the European Convention, there was some urgency to define our position before the end of 1995. This task could remain with the European archives of FIAF. It was decided that Mr COSTA would draft a letter on behalf of the EC expressing in general terms our dissatisfaction with the present draft Convention and have it signed by the FIAF President here in LA.

As for the wider issue of archival legislation, Ms BLOTKAMP, Mr KLAUE and Mr COSTA insisted that it concerned the whole FIAF membership. All three suggested that **Archival rights** should be the topic of one of the next Symposia.

Coming back to the NGOs Round Table, Mr SCHOU wanted it to be recorded there was an excellent spirit of collaboration within the group of the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) who were the organisers of the Joint Technical Symposium.

13.2. International Federation of Film Societies

The FICC recently had a Congress in Switzerland. They wrote to FIAF through Ch. DIMITRIU asking to reinforce the contacts between the two organisations. This request was certainly not new and FIAF had always replied to it by advocating collaboration on a national level rather than internationally.

E. ORBANZ now wondered if we shouldn't reply positively to their request. FIAF was strong enough to defend its position if necessary and, as the discussion on the Future of FIAF had showed we wanted to develop the Federation in the direction of increased film "culture", such a move would be welcome.

Mr OPELA and Ms BLOTKAMP supported this point of view, reporting how their respective archives already collaborated with Film Clubs. Several other archives, to their knowledge, were also active in this field.

Ms ORBANZ added that, in the same line, FIAF was now also strong enough to resume communication with FIAPF, the producers' association. This would be beneficial for our mutual understanding.

14. REVIEW OF THE REMAINING POINTS ON THE AGENDA OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The draft agenda for the General Assembly was reviewed point by point mostly to allocate rapporteurs to each item.

The EC also decided who would chair each session of the GA.

Pt. 5 Report of the President

The members made some remarks and suggestions on the draft report submitted by Mr DAUDELIN. He would incorporate those suggestions in his final text.

Pt. 8 Relations with UNESCO

Mr NIETO having asked what our position was towards the draft proposal sent by UNESCO for its Fund to safeguard the cinematographic heritage, the President replied that we could only wait for a concrete proposal to be made for a contract on some of the envisaged projects. FIAF's name was not even mentioned as a full partner in this draft and it had yet to be approved by UNESCO's Executive Board. We could also, if we felt it was better, ask for our name to be withdrawn completely from the draft! No representative from UNESCO was expected to attend the Congress.

Pt. 16 Projects and Publications

The EC established the following list of projects and publications to be distributed for discussion at the General Assembly :

1. FIAF Journal of Film Preservation (Rapp. P. Cherchi Usai)
2. The identification of image and soundtrack formats (H. Schou)
3. Proceeding of the 1993 Newsreels Symposium (R. Smither)
4. FIAF 1996 Summr School (C. Jeavons)
5. FIAF CD - Rom (R. Maggliozi)
6. Central Database of Archive Holdings (C. Jeavons)

Pt. 20 Elections

The Members must be reminded that candidatures for the EC elections were still needed. This must be done at the very beginning of the GA or even by a printed reminder in the pigeonholes.

Pt. 21 Long term plan for FIAF

Ch. HORAK was asked to report on the activities of the working group during the year. The new Executive Committee would be asked to endorse the reconduction of the group for another year.

After a few "technical" informations on the programme of the next days were given by S. RICCI, the President formally closed the meeting.