Annex 4

AGENDA #7: commission reports

REPORT FROM THE FIAF DOCUMENTATION COMMISSION

Executive Committee meeting, Moscow, January 1977

The subcommission for the set designer's index met in Rome in October 1976, and the subcommission for the PIP met in Amsterdam at the end of the same month. The next full meeting of the commission is scheduled for August 12-14, 1977, in Copenhagen, immediately before the FIAF Summer School on Documentation, with the intention that commission members will remain to help with the instruction in the school.

The publication of the 1975 International Index to Film Periodicals was delayed by the publishers, and is now announced for publication on 31 January. St. James has reported the total sales for the 1974 volume to the end of 1976 to be 950 copies, 333 of which were sold by St. Martins in the United States. The publisher is encouraged because, while no copies were sold in the United States during the summer, at the beginning of autumn, a steady number of 5-10 copies have sold each month since. A staff member from London has been sent to St. Martins in New York with the task of promoting their reference publications, including ours. The relatively poor showing of sales in the United States so far might be for the reason that this publisher has previously handled only sales to the trade, and had no knowledge of how to proceed to sell to libraries. We now have reason to hope that situation will improve.

The PIP appears to be meeting its budget for the moment, chiefly due to the fall of the British pound. Therefore the subcommission decided to postpone a raise of subscription prices for another year, when it may be more essential. A new lease was signed for the London office.

Eileen Bowser