

REPORT OF THE CATALOGUING COMMISSION  
TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
Berlin, May 14 - 16, 1987

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In addition to the points raised in our Commission's report to the Annual Congress, we would like to raise the following issues:

A. Publications.

1. Costs and Publicity: Owing to the continuing devaluation of the dollar, Brigitte van der Elst is preparing a new price list in Belgian francs for our publications. Wolfgang Klaue reported that we have been invited by IFLA and ICA to prepare information about our publications which they will disseminate to their members. We will prepare descriptive paragraphs for each and send them to Ms. van der Elst.

2. New Publications: We anticipate that we will have both the cataloguing brochure and the "Guidelines for Technical Data" ready for publication this year. Details on publishing will be worked out with Ms. van der Elst.

B. Commission Membership.

The Commission has decided to propose Vladimir Opela of the Czech Film Archive as a replacement for Martha Luttor, who resigned last year. At our meetings last week, we received an additional resignation from Roger Holman of the National Film Archive in London. We have not yet decided upon his replacement, but will do so during the coming year. Our discussions concerning Commission membership brought us into a discussion of the problems of participation from developing archives, and I have been asked to pursue this issue with you, presenting our concerns to the Executive Committee here in Berlin.

C. FIAF Cataloguing Rules.

The Commission would like to hold an additional meeting in the autumn for the specific purpose of reviewing the now complete and integrated draft of the FIAF cataloguing rules. Owing both to the press of other business and to the fact that I was unable to complete and distribute this draft in advance, we were unable to review it during our Berlin meetings. If we hold this meeting, we would need to use the funds from the FIAF budget which have been allocated for Cataloguing Commission work - as yet unused this year because our host in Berlin, the Staatliche Filmarchiv der DDR, generously covered our costs from their own budget. If the meetings are held in Belgium, all Commission members, except those from the United States, believe that they will be able to obtain travel funds from their own archives. We ask therefore if it would be possible to use our funds for an autumn meeting and, additionally if necessary, to help the U.S. members defray their travel costs.

D. IFLA 1987 meetings.

Wolfgang Klaue has informed us that the audiovisual working group of the International Federation of Library Associations will hold sessions on the bibliographic control of audiovisual media during their next meetings in Brighton in August. We would like to send Roger Smither of the Imperial War Museum to represent the FIAF Cataloguing Commission and to make a presentation of our behalf. Mr. Smither believes that his archive will be able to cover the costs for his attendance, but we would like to ask FIAF to be prepared to cover costs unpaid by the Imperial War Museum. Any such costs should be very minor.

E. Symposium topics with bearing on Commission matters.

Symposium topics Our Commission seeks improved communication and collaboration between archives ~~on~~ for FIAF Annual Congresses. We therefore request that the members of the Executive Committee scrutinize and analyse all such proposals to see whether projected symposia topics contain strong elements (either stated or implied) of areas within the responsibility of Commissions. Whenever symposia topics do contain such elements, we further request that the Commissions involved be given as early notice as possible, with the understanding that Commissions should have the right and the responsibility to collaborate on the preparation of FIAF symposia falling under their areas of expertise. This practise should benefit the quality of symposia by assuring that presentations incorporate state-of-the-art information and that they do not advocate methods, theories, or practices which are in direct contradiction to stated FIAF guidelines and principles for archival activities.

F. ISIS

Our Commission has been asked to take an official position concerning the use of ISIS software by FIAF archives. Since none of the Commission members has any hands-on experience with ISIS (including MINISIS and MICRO-ISIS), we are unable and unwilling to do so at present.

The Cinemateca Brasileira however has written an extensive report on their use of ISIS, and Roger Smither (IWM) has agreed to study it carefully, presenting his findings to our next Commission meetings. We will then decide what position we can take on this issue.