

4a "PROGRAMMING" WORKING GROUP

Mr DE PINA read out the Recommendation to the EC prepared by the participants of the second Lisbon Symposium (Annex 1) and asked that a Working Group be set up immediately rather than delaying by setting up a new Commission. Mr DAUDELIN asked that the Working Group prepare a detailed plan for discussion in Helsinki and work closely with the Membership Group to avoid contradictory recommendations.

Many members of the EC expressed their interest in the proposal and the issues raised but there was some doubt as to whether a new Commission was necessary. Mr SCHOU mentioned that some of the topics raised could be tackled by the existing Commissions (eg Guidelines for Print Quality, which Preservation Commission could prepare if the membership decided it was a priority).

Mr DAUDELIN and Mr DE PINA, who had both been actively involved in the preparation of the Symposium, volunteered to join the Group and it was suggested that Mrs Catherine Gautier be invited to participate. Mr FRANCIS felt that initially the Group should be EC members only, because first they had to agree some operational terms of reference in Helsinki before tackling questions relating to programming. Mrs WIBOM felt it was important to include an active programmer from the start to help clarify needs and study the extent to which these were being met by other Commissions. Mr ROSEN volunteered to prepare some initial terms of reference for Helsinki.

Mr FRANCIS felt it was a major decision to introduce another Commission. From the financial point of view, he was not sure the Federation could really cope with more than 3 Commissions. In addition to the cost of the meetings, the individual archives had to find the travel costs. He agreed with the rest of the EC that there were important programming issues that had to be addressed but felt that with the planned reorganisation of the Federation and the creation of special interest groups, the needs could perhaps be met in some other way without imposing extra financial burden. He mentioned that he would not want to change the relevant clause in the Membership proposals.

As an example of one of the major issues, Mrs AUBERT reported comments from BFI staff, David Meeker and Elaine Burrows, who found that in dealing with FIAF archives to get programming prints, they were very constantly frustrated by the variations in archives' standards, especially with respect to observation of copyright.

Decision: Mr DAUDELIN and Mr DE PINA were left to find a third member to prepare discussion paper for Helsinki.