

Dear Colleagues,

The Secretariat of FIAF has been notified that the 20th General Assembly of UNESCO, which has just finished its meeting in Paris, has approved the preparation of an international instrument on the safeguarding and preservation of moving images. This means that sometime during 1979, probably in the Spring, UNESCO will call a meeting of experts and perhaps also a meeting of representatives of member states to consider the exact wording of this instrument and to prepare a draft of it to be presented to the 21st General Assembly during 1980.

The members of the FIAF Copyright Commission and of the Executive Committee believe it is very important that every affiliate of FIAF immediately contact the UNESCO authorities in their country and offer assistance and advice in the preparation of your nation's position on the final wording of this important document.

Of course, it would be ideal if a member of your archive could be designated as the UNESCO advisor from your country and could, therefore, attend the meeting of experts in an official or an advisory capacity. The Copyright Commission believes it is important for as many members of FIAF as possible to participate in these important final discussions and in the preparation of the final draft of the international instrument.

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the Secretary General's letter to UNESCO of 12 October 1978 which offers the support of our Federation in this important work of UNESCO. Within the next two months, you will also be sent a copy of a summary of the reactions of FIAF members to the preliminary UNESCO study 104 EX/21 which was discussed at the FIAF Congress in Brighton and to which many members wrote reactions to the Secretariat.

Yours sincerely,

(dictated by) John Kuiper  
Chairman, Copyright and Legal Commission