Dear colleague,

The enclosed letter was sent to all FIAF subscribers in early April. If it did not reach you, please read it as an introduction to this proposal.

The proposed cooperative should be composed of those members with the strongest interest in the continuance of the P.I.P., i.e., those for whom its discontinuance in its present form would mean additional staff in their archives at costs higher than the project itself. The cooperative must have the continued support of those unwilling or unable to join the cooperative, in the form of continuing their subscriptions and their cooperation in indexing, if the P.I.P. is to be economically viable.

The cooperative intends to carry on the project in the same way it has existed for the past ten years. The only difference is that the members of the cooperative are prepared to pay the deficit, should there be one, divided among the cooperative members. FIAF must still stand behind the cooperative in a legal sense, to sign leases and contracts. Our cooperative cannot become a legal entity outside of the FIAF without incurring extraordinary expense and consuming too much time. We want to change nothing in the operation of the P.I.P. except to remove the financial burden from FIAF and assume it in the cooperative.
We enclose:
1) the letter already sent to FIAF subscribers
2) the P.I.P. budget for 1982.
3) a draft agreement for your consideration.

If we have sufficient potential members we will hold a meeting of the cooperative here in Rapallo to discuss the conditions of the final agreement with FIAF. Below you will find a form to fill out, which you may give to me or to the Executive Secretary.

Sincerely yours,

Eileen Bowser for the FIAF Documentation Commission

(tear off)

I am prepared to join the P.I.P. Cooperative if there should be (check one)

- 15 members (maximum cost in addition to subscription: BF 20,533)
- 10 members (maximum cost in addition to subscription: BF 30,800)
- 8 members (maximum cost in addition to subscription: BF 38,500)

signed ____________________________
name of archive ____________________________