



**MAIN DECISIONS**  
**taken at the Executive Committee Meetings and the**  
**General Assembly in Prague – Czech Republic**  
**18 – 22 and 24 April 1998**

The Executive Committee met in Prague, Czech Republic, on April 18 - 20 and 24 1998. The General Assembly took place on April 21 and 22. All Members of the Executive Committee were present: Michelle Aubert (President), Roger Smither (Secretary General), Mary Lea Bandy (Treasurer), Vittorio Boarini, Paolo Cherchi Usai, Gabrielle Claes (Deputy Secretary General), Nelly Cruz Rodríguez, Hervé Dumont, Clyde Jeavons, Peter Konlechner, José María Prado, Steven Ricci (Deputy Treasurer) and Iván Trujillo (Vice-President). Gabrielle Claes attended as Executive Committee Member and as Head of the Programming and Access to Collections Commission. The other Commission Heads were present: Ann Baylis (Documentation and Cataloguing Commission), and Henning Schou (Technical Commission) ; as well as Christian Dimitriu (Senior Administrator) and Sophie Quinet (Assistant to the Senior Administrator) of the Brussels Secretariat. The second Executive Committee meeting took place on April 24, after the General Assembly. At the opening of the meeting, Ms Michelle Aubert expressed her gratitude to Mr. Vladimir Opela for his invitation to hold the Executive Committee meeting in Prague.

## **AFFILIATES**

### **1. Reconfirmation of Members**

The Executive Committee examined and unanimously approved the reconfirmation applications of the NFTVA (London), the Fimoteca de la UNAM (Mexico), the Cineteca Nacional (México), the Danske Filmmuseum (Kobenhavn). The General Assembly has been officially informed about these decisions.

The Executive Committee discussed the case of the National Center for Film and Video Preservation of the American Film Institute (Los Angeles) and concluded by a formal vote that this institution qualifies as an Associate, rather than a Full Member.

The reconfirmation of the following archives will be considered at the San Juan de Puerto Rico Executive Committee meeting: the Fundación Cinemateca Argentina (Buenos Aires) [which couldn't present its reconfirmation papers for Prague in time], the MoMA (New York), the Museo Nazionale del Cinema (Torino), the Audio-Visual Sector of the National Archives of Canada (Ottawa), the Motion Picture Department of the GEH (Rochester), the Cinemateca Uruguaya (Montevideo), the National Film Center of the National Museum of Modern Art (Tokyo).

### **2. New applications of archives wishing to become Provisional Members or Associates**

The Membership Sub-Committee has examined no new applications for the status of Provisional Member- or Associateship.

### **3. New Members**

Further to the recommendations of the Membership Executive Sub-Committee, following archives have been put to vote for full membership to the General Assembly by the Executive Committee: the Hong Kong Film Archive (Hong Kong), the Etablissement cinématographique et photographique des Armées-ECPA (Ivry), and the Sound and Image Archive of the National Library (Mo i Rana).

- The HONG KONG FILM ARCHIVE, Hong Kong, has been accepted as a FIAF FULL MEMBER by 53 votes in favour, 3 abstentions and 1 against.
- The ETABLISSEMENT CINEMATOGRAPHIQUE ET PHOTOGRAPHIQUE DES ARMEES, Ivry, has been accepted as a FIAF FULL MEMBER by 53 votes in favour, 2 abstentions and 2 against.

- The SOUND AND IMAGE ARCHIVE OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY, Mo i Rana, has been accepted as a FIAF FULL MEMBER by 50 votes in favour, 5 abstentions and 2 against.

An archive visit to the Slovenski Filmski Arhiv, Ljubljana, has been foreseen, their application being complete.

#### **4. New Honorary Member**

Following the unanimous recommendation of the Executive Committee, the proposal of the nomination of Mr. Raymond Borde as a new Honorary Member has been put to the General Assembly.

The General Assembly has designated Mr. RAYMOND BORDE as a FIAF HONORARY MEMBER by 54 votes in favour, 3 abstentions and 0 against.

#### **5. Issues raised by affiliates.**

The Executive Committee has entrusted the Secretariat in Brussels to centralise all requests and queries issued by FIAF affiliates and keep the Executive Committee and concerned affiliates informed through e-mail and regular mail.

#### **6. Changes of Statutes and Internal Rules of FIAF.**

A paper on election procedures produced by Roger Smither and Clyde Jeavons on behalf of the Executive Committee, was circulated before the meeting, in English and French language, and discussed at the General assembly. It was in the end decided to withdraw the proposals for changes to the Statutes and Rules governing the election of the Secretary General and the Treasurer without putting the issue to a vote. Some minor changes, to correct a long-standing printing error in the published rules, and to adopt the formula «Chef de Commission» rather than «Président de Commission» in the French version (in order to avoid confusion with the President of FIAF position), were unanimously accepted.

### **FUTURE OF FIAF**

FIAF members have achieved the FIAF Code of Ethics taking into account the comments presented after the Cartagena Congress, further discussion at the Executive Committee and the redrafting by Roger Smither after Beijing. Minor changes, as well as French and Spanish language versions have been completed in Prague. The General Assembly, at a very strong majority, has adopted the finished text by show of hands. The text will be published in English, Spanish and French both on paper and via the Internet within the next weeks.

Following discussions at the Executive Committee meeting and the General Assembly, work on new Membership structures continues. Roger Smither and Clyde Jeavons have reviewed sections of the Statutes and Rules governing conditions of membership. The General Assembly has debated, without a vote, the election procedure proposals as they were presented. The membership proposals were simply introduced, without much discussion, and the Executive Sub-Committee was mandated to continue the Executive Committee's efforts to develop a new structure.

A new Executive Committee Sub-Commission including Vittorio Boarini, Paolo Cherchi Usai, Gabrielle Claes, Roger Smither and Iván Trujillo will study how to implement the mandate of the General Assembly about the Membership structure. Based on the discussion paper elaborated by Roger Smither and Clyde Jeavons, the Treasurer and the Senior Administrator will continue to explore questions relating to the affiliation fee structure and propose different scenarios to the working group.

The new draft contract covering relations between film archives and FIAPF has been discussed at a special workshop organised to this end during the Congress in Prague.

The Executive Committee has asked Steven Ricci to form a working group in order to develop a proposal for redefining the role of the Vice-President of FIAF.

## **OTHER MEETINGS DURING THE PRAGUE CONGRESS**

Several important meetings have taken place in Prague, additionally to the Congress and Symposia, in particular:

- the meetings of regional groupings of FIAF archives, such as ACE, CLAIM and CNAFA,
- the meetings of the FIAF Publications Committee and the Editorial board of the Journal of Film Preservation,
- the presentation of the P.I.P. and the CD-ROM projects by the new Editor to the P.I.P. Supporters.
- the second Executive Committee meeting,
- the Eureka meeting of Central and Eastern European Archives.

## **NEXT CONGRESSES**

### **1. Madrid, 11 – 18 April, 1999**

José María Prado circulated the *Newsletter #1* of the **FIAF Madrid'99 Congress**. This Newsletter will be included in the Congress Report. Mr. Prado furthermore reported on the advancements made for the preparation of the Congress and the Symposium and presented a detailed budget of the Congress to the Executive Committee. A skeleton budget has been worked out by our colleagues of Madrid and is available to future Congress organisers, as a model. The symposium *A Century of Cinema/A Century in Cinema* is being prepared carefully. The technical symposium *History of Raw Stock Manufacture* is also underway.

### **2. London, June, 2000**

Clyde Jeavons and Roger Smither reported on their draft plans of the preparation of the Congress and the Symposia, that will be hosted and organised by the National Film and Television Archive in collaboration with the Film and Video Archive of the Imperial War Museum.

The two main symposia proposed are The Last Nitrate Picture Show (to be accompanied by a book, the concept for which was presented by Roger Smither in a paper that will be included in the Congress report) and The Archive of the Future (presented in a previous paper by Clyde Jeavons).

### **3. Rabat, April, 2001**

Abdallah Bayahia, our colleague from Rabat, has presented in writing his project for the 2001 FIAF Congress to be hosted in Morocco. His Congress plans, as well as the projects of two symposia have encountered a positive reaction during the General Assembly. Further details will be presented to the Executive Committee in November. The definitive project will be put to the vote of the General Assembly in Madrid.

### **4. Further plans (2002 and later)**

Several proposals have been considered unofficially for the year 2002. Concrete projects should enable the Executive Committee to evaluate the different possibilities and to put a final proposal to the General Assembly.

Paulina Fernández Jurado made a first offer to hold the 2003 Congress in Buenos Aires. A formal offer should enable the Executive Committee to evaluate this venue and to put the proposal to the General Assembly.

## **FINANCES**

### **1. Financial Report 1997.**

The FIAF - P.I.P. 1997 Financial report (as per 31.12.1997) has been examined and approved unanimously by the Executive Committee. Some changes in the presentation and the periodicity of the financial reports allow for a better financial and budgetary control of both the general accounts and the special funds. After a short discussion, the General Assembly approved unanimously the 1997 financial statement.

## **2. Budgets 1999 and 2000**

The Executive Committee decided to establish a 1999 Business Plan following the principle of a "zero" budget (no deficit - no surplus) recommended by the Treasurer. Following the model adopted since 1995, thirty Members have again agreed to pay an extraordinary membership fee for 1997. The 1999 FIAF P.I.P. Budget submitted by the Secretariat has been discussed carefully at the Executive Committee. A modest compensation of the Belgian inflation rate has been proposed starting in 1999 and 2000. The Budget 1999 has been put to the General Assembly and approved unanimously.

## **IMAGE AND PROMOTION OF FIAF**

Our three South Californian archives are carrying out the image and promotion campaigns of FIAF through Internet. Since April 1996, some 7000 users have accessed the web-site developed by our colleagues of the Academy Film Archive, the American Film Institute and UCLA. The Information Task Force, in close co-operation with the FIAF Secretariat has undertaken new actions.

## **PROJECTS AND PUBLICATIONS**

The Executive Committee acknowledged with gratitude the generous gift of the remaining stock of *The American Film Index* by Mr. Einar Lauritzen. The two volumes have been offered free of charge to the participants to the Congress in Prague (archives who wish to receive these volumes by regular mail will be charged for the shipping costs).

Following projects have been given special attention:

- The organisation of the **1998 FIAF Summerschool** at the George Eastman House - Rochester.
- The improvement of the concept and marketing of the *FIAF International FilmArchive CD-ROM* (development of the content, adoption of a windows version, creation of a new leaflet, mailing campaign, etc.) by the Secretariat, with the assistance of a temporarily appointed external consultant.
- The *Journal of Film Preservation #56* will be published in June. Call of contributions to the **Journal of Film Preservation #57** will be initiated soon after the circulation of #56.
- The Spanish language version of the *FIAF Cataloguing Rules*, by Filmoteca de la UNAM and Archivo de Imágenes en Movimiento del Archivo General de Puerto Rico has been published and presented to the General Assembly in Prague.

## **COMMISSIONS**

The heads of the Documentation and cataloguing commission, the Technical commission, and the Commission for programming and access to collections submitted their reports.

### **1. Documentation and Cataloguing Commission.**

Ann Baylis, Head of the Documentation and Cataloguing Commission, presented the commission report to the Executive Committee and to the General assembly. The yearly Commission meeting took place on April 17 - 17 in Prague. The full commission report will be circulated with the Prague Congress Report.

### **2. Programming and Access to Collections Commission.**

Ms Gabrielle Claes, Head of the Programming and Access to Collections Commission, presented the commission report to the Executive Committee and to the General assembly. The yearly Commission meeting took place on December 15 - 16 1997 in Paris. The full commission report will be circulated with the Prague Congress Report.

### **3. Technical Commission.**

Dr Henning Schou, Head of the Technical Commission, presented the Commission Report to the Executive Committee and to the General assembly. The Main Commission meeting took place on January 9 - 11 1997 in Berkhamsted. The North-American Technical Subcommission (NATS) met on November 1997 in Bethesda. Other meetings took place during the year. The full report will be circulated with the Prague Congress Report.

#### **4. Information Task Force**

Steven Ricci, the head of the Information Task Force, has presented his analysis and recommendations concerning the FIAF and P.I.P. offices in Brussels that he had visited in December 1997.

#### **5. Future of the Commissions**

The future relationship between the commissions, the Executive Committee and the affiliates of FIAF was discussed. Proposals for a revised procedure for the appointment of heads of commissions, the supervision of commission work by the Executive Committee, and the reporting of commission activities to the Executive Committee and to the General Assembly will be made in Puerto Rico and put to the General Assembly in Madrid.

#### **NEXT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held at the Archivo de Imágenes en Movimiento / Archivo General de Puerto Rico, in San Juan, on November 2 – 4, 1998.

The Congress Report of the 55<sup>th</sup> FIAF Congress in Prague will be compiled and circulated during the Summer.

At the end of the meeting, Michelle Aubert, President of FIAF, on behalf of the Executive Committee, closed the working sessions thanking warmly Mr. Vladimir Opela for his hospitality and the quality of the Congress and meetings.

CD - June 1998