

F.I.A.F.

FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE

DES ARCHIVES DU FILM

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

VIENNA, 17 - 20 October 1980

CONFIDENTIAL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HELD IN
VIENNA, 17 - 20 October 1980

Present: Members: W. KLAUE, President
E. BOWSER, Vice-President
D. FRANCIS, Vice-President
R. DAUDELIN, Secretary-General
J. DE VAAL, Treasurer
T. ANDREYKOV
R. BORDE
F. BUACHE
G. COMENCINI
J. STENKLEV

Observer: G. CINCOTTI

Honorary members : E. LAURITZEN
H. VOLKMANN

Executive Secretary: B. VAN DER ELST

Interpreter: J. JOHNSON

FIRST SESSION

After welcoming every delegate in Vienna, the President, Mr Klaue, thanked especially Mr Bienert as representative of Oesterreichisches Film Archiv, for his hospitality and all the preparatory work he had done for the meeting.

Apologies for absence had been received from:

Mr Kuiper, Mr Tikhonov and Mr Alves-Netto.

Mr Cincotti would arrive later and Mr Pogacic would come if the UNESCO meeting in Belgrade which he was attending on behalf of FIAF was over on time.

I. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA.

The President suggested some changes in the order of the agenda:

- Mr Cincotti being there on Sunday only, the discussion on the Italian situation and the organisation of the Congress in Rapallo should be postponed until his arrival.
- As there was a small chance that Mr Pogacic might be coming in Vienna, Mr Klaue suggested that two other points should be postponed until the Monday session, i.e.: point 5, relations with UNESCO
point 8, FIAF's activities towards archives in developing countries.
- Mrs Bowser asked to add a few specific projects to point 9.

The following agenda was then unanimously adopted:

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Approval of the minutes of the preceding meetings in Karlovy-Vary.
3. Membership questions:
 - reconfirmation of 5 members: Berlin SDK - Istanbul - Lausanne - Pyongyang - Washington AFI.
 - reconfirmation of observers. Status of Tehran and Sydney.
 - New candidatures; Puebla - Manilla - Luanda.
 - report by D. Francis and J. de Vaal on their visit to the Imperial War Museum and to the Chinese archive.
 - declaration of principles on Observer Status.
 - miscellaneous: report on the fire at the Cinémathèque Française.
 - discussion on the Italian situation: - proliferation of archives // Sunday
- exclusivity rule // afternoon
4. Report of the Treasurer.
5. Relations with other international organisations.
6. Organisation of the Congress in Rapallo.
7. Relations with UNESCO. New projects and contracts.
8. Report of the specialized Commissions

9. Projects and Publications underway: - the Bulletin
 - FIAF Brochure
 - Handbook (French and Spanish versions)
 - Volume of annual reports.
 - Publications of the Symposiums
 - Embryo 3.
 - Summer school
 - Questionnaire on viewing facilities.
 - Appeal to colour film manufacturers
10. Future Congresses (1982 - 83 - 84)
11. Varia: World History of the Cinema project.
 Respect of the copyright on member's papers and publications.
 Next meeting of the Executive Committee.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PRECEDING MEETING.

All the members had received the minutes of the two executive meetings held in Karlovy-Vary.
 Mrs Bowser asked to change in the bottom paragraph of page 15, the word "Documentation" in "Cataloguing commission".
 There being no other comments or modifications, the minutes were adopted unanimously.

3. MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS.

The President gave the word to the Secretary - General for this part of the agenda.

A. Reconfirmation of 5 members.

All the members of the Executive had received the documents requested by the Rules for the 5 - yearly reconfirmation of the following archives:

- Berlin/ Stiftung Deutsche Kinemathek.

Mr Daudelin recapitulated the history of the archive, and asked Mr Klaue to comment on the German language documents which had been submitted. Mr Klaue had no comments except on the budget, especially on the last page of the report (8-9) concerning the expenditures ("ausgaben"). When comparing point 4 (expenses for preservation) with the other budget points, it appeared to be very low. The reason might be perhaps a division in tasks between the Bundesarchiv and other German archives. Mr Daudelin said it did not seem to be a reason for rejecting S.D.K.'s reconfirmation as member but the question should be raised in the letter of reconfirmation and they should be asked to increase the amount of money for preservation.

A formal vote on the reconfirmation of Stiftung Deutsche Kinemathek was then taken, with the following result: yes, unanimously.

- Istanbul/ Sinema Televizyon Enstitüsü

Mr Daudelin recalled that this was a little known member with which FIAF had very little contacts.

It is mainly an institute that regroups different functions of film production, distribution, showings, etc... but that it does not spend enough money or time for the preservation of films.

Even with some additional information given by Mr Andreykov, on the difficulties encountered by this Institute, it seemed a question of principles: comparing with other decisions taken for other organisations such as B.F.I. - Svensk Filminstitutet and I.W.M. we should recommend that only the archive part of the Institute were to be a member and not the whole institute.

Mr Francis who went to visit Istanbul a year ago, thought they had a very good laboratory aimed mainly at the printing and production of films that could earn them some money, but not at all suitable for the preservation nor the restoration of their collection.

Mr de Vaal and Mr Stenklev said they were alarmed by this report because there was very little sign of preservation activities. The S.T.E. seems to put the accent mostly on education and laboratory work and their activity appears to be very commercial.

Mr Stenklev therefore proposed to postpone their reconfirmation until at least we know about their preservation work and their preservation facilities. Mr Francis added that we should know the way they operated their distribution service.

In conclusion, Mr Daudelin proposed that we ask for:

- a detailed budget of the organisation;
- how many members of the staff work in each section;
- on what basis does the laboratory work?
- film production: what kind?
- what is the legal basis of their distribution activities?

The members agreed on this proposal and voted unanimously to postpone the reconfirmation of Sinema Televizion Enstitüsü.

- Lausanne/ La Cinémathèque Suisse

The documents sent in by Mr Buache were very complete. Mr Daudelin underlined it was easy to realise that Cinémathèque Suisse was a real archive devoted to conservation and acquisition.

A few questions were asked concerning the functioning of the Cinémathèque. Mr Buache confirmed that they were at present completely changing the legal structure of the cinémathèque. It will not be an association anymore but rather a "foundation", which should give it an even bigger autonomy.

The Cinémathèque will also be housed on other premises much larger and better adapted to its activities. The new buildings will be inaugurated next October. Mr Buache took advantage of this announcement to invite the Executive Committee for its fall meeting on the new premises of the Cinémathèque Suisse.

After a formal vote, the Cinémathèque Suisse was unanimously reconfirmed by the Executive Committee.

- Pyong-Yang/Choson Minjujui Inmingonghwaguk Kugga Yonghwa Munhongo

The Film Archives of the D.P.R. of Korea are a state archive that benefits from the national production's legal deposit. Their autonomy regarding the Ministry of Culture is quite satisfactory. They have important and modern technical installations. However as their budget and organigramme were missing, Mr Daudelin suggested to wait for those documents before reconfirming their status. This proposal was accepted by unanimous vote.

- Washington/ American Film Institute/ Archives.

There was a question raised about the organigramme; the total personnel for the archive consists of 5 people. A detailed budget was missing. Mrs Bowser added that the A.F.I. Archives had done a lot of progress in the field of preservation because they were very well administrating the funds they received and some of those funds were also used for the acquisition of films.

About their autonomy, Mrs Bowser also explained that it had increased a lot due to the fact that the Archives could now keep the funds they received for their own purposes.

Mr Daudelin still recommended to postpone their reconfirmation until they had sent in their financial report.

This recommendation was accepted by a unanimous vote.

B. Reconfirmation of Observers.

Mr Daudelin recalled that the reconfirmation of a few Observers had been postponed in Karlovy-Vary because, either they had not sent in their annual report or their case was not quite clear and some supplementary information was needed.

The Secretary General reviewed them one by one:

Lyon:

The report had now been received. It confirmed what Mr Borde had told the Executive Committee of the unchanged situation at the Comité de Fondation de la Cinémathèque de Lyon, and of Dr. Genard's expectancies. The Executive Committee decided to reconfirm this Observer for another year.

Caracas:

No report had been received. It was decided that the Executive Secretary would make another urgent request to Mr Izaguirre for this report, as well as for their annual subscription which had been unpaid for two years.

Sydney:

The Association for a National Film and Television Archive in Australia had written to the Secretary-General informing him of its reluctant decision to withdraw from FIAF, mainly due to financial difficulties. The Executive Committee could only accept this resignation, on the condition that the Association pay its one year overdue subscription (which they had promised to do); the Secretariat in Brussels would inform all the FIAF affiliates of this decision.

Tehran:

Mrs van der Elst had contacted the Iranian Embassy in Brussels and had informed some "officials" there of FIAF's wish to learn what had become of Filmkhanneh Melli Iran since the revolution in Iran. She had been assured that some research would be done and that the Secretariat would be informed in due course.

Mr Buache who was still in contact with Mr Gaffary in Paris proposed to keep him as a kind of correspondent for Iran until the situation was clarified, but the other members thought that this was impossible. Mr Stenklev proposed to keep the status of this observer pending and Mr Francis offered to try to obtain some more information through the British correspondents of the BBC in Tehran.

Both these suggestions were unanimously accepted.

C. New candidatures for observership.Luanda: Instituto Angolano de Cinema.

Mr Daudelin had met Mr Luandino Vieyra who had confirmed that I.A.C.'s candidature to FIAF was in preparation and would certainly be ready before the next Executive meeting.

Cinemateca Luis Bunuel/ Puebla.

The members all had in their files a very detailed candidature from this small mexican archive which Mr Casanova himself had described to Mr Daudelin more as a "prolongation of a ciné-club".

The problem was that FIAF already had two members in Mexico and that Cinemateca Mexicana del INAH, if it re-applied to FIAF, would have better qualifications to obtain the Observer status than this cinemateca.

Both Mr Francis and Mr Klaue knew Mr Osorio, the director, as a very serious, dedicated and enthusiastic young man but there was absolutely no need for FIAF to favour the creation of yet another film archive in Mexico, considering furthermore that Cinemateca Luis Bunuel was not even a specialized archive. It collected films of general interest like many other archives. It was clear that in the context of FIAF's discussion on the proliferation of film archives, the Executive Committee could not accept this candidature in the Federation..

Mr Daudelin's proposal to write Mr Osorio a friendly letter of refusal, but offering him FIAF's help in documentation, technical information etc..., was therefore accepted.

Manilla: Film Center of the University of the Philippines.

This candidature had already been discussed at length in Karlovy-Vary, and the only new development since that meeting was the sending of a cheque of 350 Swiss Francs for payment of the subscription. All the members agreed however, with Mr Daudelin, that it would be premature to accept this organization in FIAF as observer. They were far from being a film archive, all their activities seemed concentrated in film showings and even though FIAF had no affiliate in the Philippines, the U.P. Film Center did not yet seem to be the appropriate candidate. It was decided therefore to write to Mrs Moreno explaining FIAF's reasons for rejecting her candidature and to reimburse the subscription paid in advance.

D. Confirmation of members.

Imperial War Museum/ London.

Mr Francis had visited the premises of the I.W.M./ Film Department on behalf of the Executive Committee of FIAF. He had distributed a very favourable written report on this new member in London. The membership could therefore formally be confirmed. The Secretary General would inform Mr Coultass officially in writing.

The Chinese Film Archive/ Beijing.

Mr de Vaal had, in the same manner visited the premises of the Chinese Film Archive in Beijing, as requested by the Statutes to support their candidature as member. He had been quite impressed by the efforts of "re-construction" of the archive which seemed to have suffered quite much from the Cultural Revolution, but was now in a new active phase of development. Brand new buildings and vaults were being constructed. The archive also disposed of a quite important and modern laboratory. The film collection presently amounted to 8.300 titles, mostly chinese. The staff of the archive counted 130 members. Mr de Vaal therefore strongly recommended the final confirmation of this archive as member of FIAF. To a question of Mrs Bowser on the respect by the Chinese Film Archive of copyright laws and on the way the collections were used, Mr de Vaal replied that the collections were mainly used for educational purposes, for film-makers and for the film school. By unanimous vote, the membership of the Chinese Film Archive was then confirmed.

E. Declaration of principles on the status of observer.

Mr Stenklev had distributed a draft declaration of principles on the status of Observer, which he had been asked to prepare by the General Meeting in Karlovy-Vary. He had therefore based his paper on the discussion and the

principles which had been evoked at that General Meeting. Mrs Bowser and Mr Borde both started by suggesting a phrase of introduction to Mr Stenklev's text.

Mr Klaue thought one should define better what kind of organizations had the necessary qualifications to become Observers in FIAF but, while the members agreed on this suggestion, they were not able to draft a clear definition of the "sample Observer".

Mr Francis was reluctant to soften the original by including too broad a definition of potential Observers, but he proposed to add in annex a list of possible examples, for the internal guidance of FIAF's Executive Committee. This was agreed on and Mr Francis was asked, with a few other members, to prepare such a list.

Mr Stenklev concluded by saying he would redraft his original text for the "declaration" in time for the next meeting in Rapallo.

F. Membership miscellaneous.

Fire at the Cinémathèque Française.

Mr Borde had bought with him copies of the most significant articles which had appeared in the French press after the fire which had destroyed one of the C.F.'s film vaults in last August..

After a short discussion, it was agreed that Mr Borde would prepare a report on the fire and its causes for the next issue of the FIAF Bulletin, excluding any kind of considerations on the policy of Cinémathèque Française regarding film preservation.

Contacts with other archives.

National Library of Malaysia: contacts have been established with FIAF. A representative of Malaysia was at the last Summer School in Berlin.

Brazzaville: The Cinémathèque has now become a department of the Office National du Cinéma.

Buenos Aires: Cinemateca Argentina expects help from FIAF for its common laboratory work with the Cinemateca Uruguaya. We need more information.

Iceland: expects help from FIAF for the restoration of the old cinema building in Reikjavik.

Jakarta: would like an exchange of books and films. Maybe some members could individually help the film archive on Indonesia in this field.

4. REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

A. Finances of FIAF. Cash flow problem.

All the members had in their files an interim report (Jan-Sept.80) on the financial situation of FIAF down to September 30th, 1980.

The main problem according to the Treasurer, Mr de Vaal, was a problem of cash-flow, due mainly to the using up of the reserves in B.F. (Not the Reserve Fund), accumulated since the last raise of subscriptions and the fact that the members were too far behind in their payment of the FIAF dues, and in some subscriptions to the P.I.P.

In the short term, the following steps had to be taken:

1. Send reminders to member archives who still owe their membership fees. They should be paying in the next two months.
2. Send invoices for the membership dues of 1981 right away in order to get some funds as soon as possible, or at least at the beginning of 1981. The problem of cash-flow should be mentioned in the invoice letter in order not to force anybody.
3. To effectuate savings in the 1981 budget wherever possible.

In the longer run, the Committee decided that a more long-range financial policy was needed and the Treasurer should propose some changes, after further discussion with the Executive Committee.

B. Problem of the P.I.P.

Mr Comencini having underlined that it was mainly the difficulties of the Periodical Indexing Project to establish itself as a self-supporting project which had burdened FIAF's finances, Mr Francis explained very clearly the present situation of the P.I.P.

He had brought with him several budgets and other documents prepared by Frances Thorpe.

There were two main problems:

- a current cash-flow problem.
- a potential income problem.

Although sufficient funds to solve point 1 were expected, it was unlikely that they would be in the hands of the Secretariat before the end of the year, which meant that we would have to borrow money from the Reserve Fund in Swiss francs in order to fill the gap until all due payments were encashed. Mr Francis underlined that if one looked at the 1981 budget of the P.I.P., we would have a balance, provided an increase in subscriptions to the card indexes was accepted.

Another proposal was to delete printing the 1980 volume of the Index until the Congress of Rapallo, when we would have better information on the success of our sales in the U.S. and in Australia.

However if we do that, we must have various plans organised to bring into operation according to our findings in that occasion.

Eileen Bowser explained the different alternatives if we realise in April 81 that the P.I.P. is not self supporting in its actual state:

either we drop the whole project or we alter it drastically:

- we do not publish the 1980 volume.
- we have to propose the card subscription figures on a purely cost basis. We should therefore find out whether there are sufficiently interested archives to pay greatly increased costs.
- we must have figures ready for the cost of stopping the project altogether at that point.

Jon Stenklev pointed out that we are now at a point of no return. If we stop now it will cost more than if we go on. But to continue we must draw on the Reserve Fund.

Mr de Vaal said he found himself in a difficult position. He reckoned it would mean to take 40% of our Reserve Fund which he found was impossible to do unless he had the promise this would be repaid to the R.F. before the Congress. He did not want to be in a position to have to tell the members that he had borrowed 40 % of our Reserves.

Mr Klaue having replied that 40% would be a maximum limit loan but that most probably we would not have to borrow as much from the Reserve Fund, and anyway there was no alternative solution, he asked to come back to the fundamental problem of the P.I.P. It seemed we always postponed the real decision about this project. There was always an excuse for going on with it. What would happen when the Bulgarian grant was over ? What would we do then?

Mrs Bowser agreed but said there was no point in taking the decision of stopping the project now, as the money for the 1979 volume was already spent and we could now expect to see the income from its sales coming in. The result of these sales could only be evaluated in a few months' and that is why she suggested to wait until Rapallo to make the final decision.

After some more discussion, Mr Stenklev summarized the decisions taken by the Executive Committee concerning FIAF's finances in the immediate future :

- to borrow, if necessary, a maximum of 800,000 Belgian Francs from the Reserve Fund with the intention to reimburse these funds before the 1982 Congress. There was no voting on this point but a unanimous decision.
- The P.I.P. should not be subsidized by FIAF any more from 1982 onwards. The printing of the 1980 volume will be deleted until the Congress of Rapallo. The Documentation Commission will prepare a detailed report on the various alternatives for the continuation of the project to present to the General Meeting.

The Executive Committee also agreed to rediscuss the P.I.P. situation very carefully before the Congress of Rapallo.

C. Other points to discuss on FIAF's financial situation

Mr Klaue then proposed to examine some ways of increasing the income of FIAF:

- Through the sale of FIAF publications : some funds could be raised that way, but not much, and certainly not more than the actual cost of publishing.
- by increasing the number of members and observers: this was not useful because the subscription fee of the observers barely covers the costs of what FIAF gives them.
- by charging a fee for advertisement in the Bulletin : this was acceptable, but it would still mean petty cash!
- by organising some prestige operations to raise funds, for instance a film première for the benefit of FIAF, but this solution also seemed rather impractical.

The Executive Committee then examined all possible ways to reduce FIAF's expenses, resulting in the following decisions :

- to hold only one Executive Committee meeting between General Meetings, and in exceptional cases to hold restricted meetings.
The idea to hold the General Meetings every second year only was rejected unanimously.
- Commissions : the three main commissions of FIAF announced they would each hold one meeting in 1981.
- Summer School : it was decided that this item would remain on the budget.

Finally, it was decided that before sending the 1980 accounts to the members and observers, the Treasurer would prepare a draft budget for 1982, excluding the P.I.P., and send it out first to the E.C. members for their approval.

5. RELATIONS WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

International Council of Archives (I.C.A.)

David Francis attend a part of the meeting of ICA held in London on 15-19 September. He reported that the interest of ICA in audiovisual archives was minimal and only a very small part of the agenda was devoted to our interests. Sam Kula presented a paper for the brief session dedicated to film, tv and radio. David Francis learned that at another session he could not attend there had been a proposal to hold a meeting of all international bodies concerned with media, including of course FIAF.

International Federation of Television Archives (FIAT)

The FIAT General Assembly was organised by Sam Kula in Ottawa in October 1980 and was attended by David Francis as representative of FIAF. Mr Francis made a very interesting report on this meeting, which will be published in the FIAF Bulletin. The Executive Committee decided that the Preservation Commission should invite a representative of FIAT's Preservation and Cataloguing Commission to attend its next meeting to be held at Versailles, and that the Cataloguing Commission will send the FIAT Commission its draft for an international list of cataloguing terms and their definition.

CILECT

The CILECT General Assembly met in Edinburgh in the autumn and Wolfgang Klaue had a report from Manuel Gonzalez Casanova. Their Executive Committee has asked for a future meeting with FIAF's Committee, but as no subject has been proposed for this meeting, no definite plans were made to have one.

THIRD SESSION

19 October, 3 - 6 p.m.

3. MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS (Cont'd)

g) Discussion on the Italian situation

Mr Comencini reported further details of the situation regarding proliferating film archives and cinémathèques in Italy and the problem of film piracy which create serious problems for FIAF's Italian members.

The main problem is that there is a big broadcasting of films through television (public and private), which leads to piracy, blackmarket, etc...

The second problem is that the municipalities which had ignored the archives before, suddenly discover the influence they can have through film showings and want to create their own cinémathèque, without bothering too much about copyright.

There are also the "cinéclubs" who, in order to make money and get some subsidies, try to organise big retrospectives which again leads to piracy and blackmarket.

Finally, there are the private collectors collecting films of questionable origin. They lend or rent films to the television or to municipalities, etc...

For all these reasons, the film producers in Italy are more and more reluctant to deposit their films in the archives, even the old established FIAF members of Milan, Rome and Turin. Mr Comencini added that his colleagues and himself's only hopes were two bill drafts presently under study :

one on film copyright, against piracy and film counterfactors;

the second concerning regional cinémathèques, ruling that the "Regions" may open their own cinémathèque but only to collect films concerning their own region

Mr Comencini thought FIAF should be more strict when admitting new Observers.

He suggested that one of the ways FIAF should look at potential candidates to join the Federation is to determine the number of regularly employed staff in an archive, to avoid the setting-up of archives which were really the property only of one private collector. FIAF should be very careful especially in countries where there are already established FIAF members.

Mr Buache agreed with the existence of this problem in Italy and said he could feel it very strongly, being geographically close to that country. He insisted on the respect by all members of FIAF's exclusivity rule.

Mr Andreykov asked Mr Comencini whether he thought these cinémathèques and cinéclubs would ask to join FIAF. Mr Comencini said he did not think so but, the next General Meeting being in Rapallo, there would certainly be some approaches made. He did not want to put a veto on all those possible demands but FIAF had to be very careful to know who it was dealing with.

Coming back to the question of the Exclusivity Right, Mr Comencini proposed some addition to article 104 of the FIAF Rules in order to clarify the position of two or more members in one same country: every member wanting to apply art. 104's procedure with one of several members of a given country should inform the other members of that country by written notice (simple copy of the letter). If no objection is raised within a reasonable time, the member could then proceed with his project. Mr Borde agreed with Mr Comencini's proposal.

But Mrs Bowser, although she agreed on the principle, said the Northern American members would oppose this proposal because they are short of staff and most of those decisions are taken by phone, not in writing. She thought it was up to each archive from one country to know whether they should inform their fellow archives about the project and not the other way around.

Mr Francis agreed with her but added that there should at least be a positive or negative answer to the request and not just a "delay" that would open the way. Mr Comencini however did not agree with Mrs Bowser's approach.

Mr Klaue said that, in general, it should be the archive or the organisation requesting the film that should do all the secretarial work involved by art. 104 when applied in "multi-members" country. Further more, he thought that with Mr Comencini's procedure, there was a risk for some archives to see their international exchanges being blocked if one of its fellow archives wanted to bother it.

Mr Daudelin asked to come back to the basic problem which was not so much a problem between two FIAF archives, but well between one FIAF and one non-FIAF organisation, as was the case between the Museum of Modern Art and Cineteca Griffith. Mr Klaue underlined that this case was a particular accident, showing that art. 104 was not sufficiently clear. He said there was no real way out because there were only two possibilities in countries where several members were established : either to use the exclusivity rule individually or to share it. This had been rejected by the General Meeting in Mexico because it was contradictory to the principle of exclusivity itself. The new proposal was again a step in the direction to share that right

The Committee discussed this at some length but could not arrive at a new formulation of article 104 that would be satisfactory in all situations. Therefore, it was decided that two or more formulations would be sent by individual members to all FIAF members for their consideration and discussion in Rapallo.

Concerning the precise problem of Cineteca Griffith, Mr Comencini said he agreed to withdraw his complaint against MOKA but he asked Mrs Bowser not to send any more films to Mr Homouda without the permission of Cineteca Italiana.

In connection with the question of the Italian situation, a short discussion was held on the project of meeting organised by the Biennale di Venezia. Mr Cincotti had held discussions with Carlo Lizzani concerning the Bologna conference last year and clarified the position and purposes of FIAF. Following Martin Scorsese's appearance at the Venice Film Festival to promote the solutions to the colour film preservation problem, the Venice Biennale decided to hold a conference next January on the subject of "Film as a cultural property", with two archival sessions, including a color preservation symposium. FIAF has now been invited to participate. It was decided that the Italian members should represent FIAF there, as well as Vladimir Pogacic in his position as Vice-President of FIAF. Individual members were now also allowed to attend if they wished, contrary to the decision made at the Congress of Karlovy-Vary.

6. ORGANISATION OF THE FIAF CONGRESS IN RAPALLO

Guido Cincotti, of the Cineteca Nazionale in Rome, was invited to attend the Vienna meeting to discuss the plans for Rapallo.

The dates of the various meetings were confirmed, other concrete details were settled, but the main discussion centered around the organisation of the two Symposiums.

It was decided that the one-day Symposium on Colour Preservation could not be a technical demonstration (this needed a much longer preparation and special equipment which Rapallo did not have), but rather an introduction to the subject with exchanges of experiences and ideas amongst members and possibly a few non-members, leading to a further much better-prepared seminar, perhaps with the help of other organisations, film manufacturers, UNESCO, etc... The title of this first Symposium in Rapallo was chosen as follows : "A progress report on colour preservation" and David Francis volunteered to prepare a questionnaire which could bring in series of initial reports to elucidate what members' experiences were, in a broad sense. He also agreed to chair this Symposium.

As for the historical Symposium, Mr Cincotti confirmed that it was being organised by his archive on the subject already chosen of : "The white-telephone comedy in Europe, 1936-1940", and that he had appointed a committee of Italian historians to make a selection amongst the films proposed by the FIAF members. It would unfortunately be impossible to provide for simultaneous translation of this Symposium and of the films, but detailed summaries of the scenarios as well as some historical comments would be prepared in writing and distributed to the audience.

7. RELATIONS WITH UNESCO

Mr Klaue reported on the contacts FIAF had had with UNESCO since the Congress in Karlovy-Vary. A \$5000 contract had been signed for the publication of the French version of the "Handbook for Film Archives" and for its distribution to film organisations in developing countries. The question was put whether to send this expensive publication systematically to all the institutions whose addresses were collected at the FIAF Secretariat or to ask them first whether they were interested in the project. Mrs van der Elst having given all details on the cost of publication of both English and French version, it was decided to limit the publication of the French version to 300 copies and to send a letter to the film organisations in the developing countries to explain FIAF's aims and activities and to ask for more details on the activities and scope of the said organisations before sending them a free copy of the Handbook.

Mr Klaue also reported on the progress of the proposals we had sent to Unesco for their working schedule for the next few years. Mrs van Vliet had explained that most of our proposals will have to be applied for again through the national commissions of Unesco (in the frame of the participation programme) in the country where the project will take place, and in a few cases, another department of Unesco must be applied to (e.g. support for support for meetings to prepare international standards for film cataloguing).

It was also decided that, when in Paris, David Francis would visit Mrs van Vliet to learn more about the structure and possibilities of Unesco for our proposals.

8. REPORT OF THE SPECIALISED COMMISSIONS

a) Report of the Preservation Commission

Mr Volkmann had distributed the following report in writing :

"The Preservation Commission is preparing its next session which will take place in Versailles (France) from 23 to 25 November 1980.

Since we will discuss the whole popular version of the Preservation Manual, there is not only a lot of editing but also much technical work to be done. Nearly 90 pages have to be translated into English, 590 pages must be multiplied and more than 8000 pages have to be distributed to the participants of the meeting. I hope that everything will be ready on time.

During the session, I will meet Mrs van Vliet of Unesco in Paris in order to give her a manuscript of the Manual and to negociate about a partnership for the publication. The manuscript will be ready for printing in spring next year. "

Mr Volkmann added that, in view of the Symposium due to be held in Rapallo, the Commission would again discuss the problems of colour preservation. The Executive Committee asked the Preservation Commission to concentrate on the popular version of the Preservation Manual so that it could be ready for Rapallo and perhaps even for the Venice Symposium referred to above.

It was also decided that FIAF should be at work on its own plans for a more scientific international workshop on the urgent problem of colour preservation, probably to be held separately from our annual meetings. The plans for such a workshop will be discussed as part of the technical Symposium to be held at Rapallo.

b) Report of the Documentation Commission

Mrs Bowser had distributed a written report giving details of the activities of the Commissions on the following points :

1. International Index to Film Periodicals
2. International Directory to Set and Costume Designers
3. International Directory of Film and TV Documentation Sources.
4. Workshop on the Classification of Film and TV Literature.
5. Documentation Summer School, to be held in Los Angeles in 1982.

This report will be published in extenso in Bulletin n° XIX.

The Executive Committee authorised the use of the 1981 Summer School funds for the specific purpose of bringing participants from developing countries to the Workshop on the Classification of Film and TV Literature, to be held in Madrid next autumn.

c) Report of the Cataloguing Commission

In the absence of Harriet Harrison, Mr Klaue reported that the Cataloguing Commission will hold its next meeting in late April 1981 in London. The meeting will be jointly sponsored by the National Film Archive and the Imperial War Museum. The major topics for discussion will be the completion of work on the bibliography of filmographies useful in film cataloguing work, the cataloguer's film term polyglot glossary, and international rules for filmcataloguing. The Executive Committee approved the appointment of a new member in the Commission: Ani Velchevska from Bulgarska Nacionalna Filmoteka.

9. PROJECTS AND PUBLICATIONS UNDERWAY

a) FIAF Bulletin

Following up the discussion in Karlovy Vary about the possibilities of broadening the scope and the readership of the Bulletin, Mrs Bowser, Mr de Vaal and Mr Daudelin, the editors, reported their study of the situation. They underlined that the present financial situation of FIAF makes it difficult to widen the purpose of the Bulletin. A couple of alternative solutions to making the information more widely available were discussed, but no decision was made. It was proposed for instance to divide the Bulletin in two parts : one for FIAF affiliates only and a second part containing the information which could be made available externally;

Or : the contributing archive could indicate whether the information provided should be restricted to members or distributed more widely, and a special sign would mark these articles in the Bulletin. One could also publish one edition of the Bulletin a year that would regroup the articles which were not confidential and make this edition open to anyone interested.

Finally, it was decided that the Bulletin would be kept as it is until the next congress and the various alternatives would be discussed with the entire membership.

b) FIAF Brochure

The requested copies of the Brochure are now being mailed out to those members who asked for them. It was also decided to settle the question of payment of the remaining £ 600 to the designer of the Brochure in London.

c) Handbook for film archives

This publication has now been sent to all members requesting the English version. The French version is being prepared and should be ready for the end of this year. 22 copies of the English version have already been sold by the Secretariat without having had any publicity. It was decided to limit the total of review copies to 5 and to spend no money on advertising it.

d) Volume of annual reports

This publication has become so heavy that the postage for mailing it to the FIAF affiliates has become very costly. Brigitte van der Elst reported on the methods of publication in a lighter way which she had been investigating but none of these resulted in any savings for FIAF. It was finally decided to limit the reports of each member to 4 sheets of paper that might be printed on both sides, in order to reduce the size of the volume.

e) Publication of the Symposium papers

1. the Selection Symposium at Karlovy Vary had been transcribed by the Czech archive and Mr Daudelin agreed to try to edit and publish it in time for Rapallo.
2. the Brighton Symposium (Early Cinema 1900-1906) has now been transcribed and edited but information for the filmography is still being gathered, which already makes it a very thick publication (400 pages). David Francis was afraid that the costs of publication were going to become too important. Mr Daudelin suggested to postpone the decision on methods of publication until Rapallo, when we would be better informed on the situation of FIAF's finances regarding publications and especially the P.I.P.

f) Summer School on Documentation

The American Film Institute has proposed to organize a documentation Summer School in Los Angeles in 1982, a two-week international conference designed for librarians and documentation specialists working in archives throughout the world. The organisers were hoping to attract a lot of Latin American and Asian participants because of its location. It would also be open to some people outside of member archives.

The topics covered will be : cataloguing, acquisitions, references, periodicals, etc...

The Documentation Commission will give the needed help to the organizers. FIAF would be asked to nominate some possible attendees from Third World countries.

g) Embryo 3

Mrs Bowser reported that only 21 replies had been received so far. The decision was taken to take animated films among the short silent fiction films. A list of questions has been prepared to put on the forms which will also be put in the Bulletin as a reminder.

h) Enquiry on viewing facilities for research purposes

About 23 replies to the questionnaire for this study had been received until now at the Secretariat. Some more were expected. Mrs Bowser agreed to compile the results for discussion at Rapallo.

h) Letter to colour film stock manufacturers

Robert Daudelin had drafted a letter to follow up the letter prepared by Martin Scorsese and his colleagues to Eastman Kodak, calling attention to the problem of color dye fading and asking for help, to be addressed to all manufacturers.

The Executive Committee accepted the draft which should now be translated into English and sent out, signed by President Wolfgang Klaue.

10. PLANS FOR FUTURE CONGRESSES

Robert Daudelin had written to all the candidates that had offered their archives for future Congresses when in Karlovy-Vary, saying that their candidature would be examined at the next meeting. The only answers had come from Vienna and from Canberra. Nothing was heard from Athens, Stockholm or West Berlin.

The following venues were then confirmed : Mexico (UNAM) for 1982; and New York for 1985.

The Australian Film Archive wanted to organise the FIAF Congress in 1983 and Ray Edmondson had submitted very detailed plans to the Executive Committee. They would also be submitted to the entire membership in Rapallo.

As for Vienna, the two Austrian archives had proposed to host jointly the 1984 Congress. They had already made plans for three Symposiums which they explained. The Executive Committee declared itself very favourable to this candidature and will recommend it at the General Meeting in Rapallo.

11. VARIA

Respect of the copyright on members' papers and publications

Following an incident regarding some papers of the Brighton Symposium which had been reproduced in Bulgaria without permission, Mrs Bowser reminded the members that all papers prepared by or for FIAF should be considered as under international copyright, and she asked the members to refrain from translating and publishing them in their own countries until they had obtained the permission of FIAF or the author in each case. She added that the authors would certainly give their permission and would not ask for payment, but it was quite necessary that permission should be asked.

Mr Andreykov apologized to Mrs Bowser and added that the article in question had been had been published in Bulgaria for inside use only and not at all for selling purposes. He had translated it mainly because very few people would have understood it in English.

Mr de Vaal agreed to publish a reminder on this question in the Bulletin.

World History of the Cinema Project

Mr Daudelin attended a meeting on behalf of FIAF in Varna at the end of September. Some important facts were retained that might concern FIAF :

- The initiative Committee made clear that the Bulgarian government would keep its promise to subsidize the project. And from now on the start of the project will definitely be accelerated.

- The Secretariat would be remodeled into a permanent secretariat composed of 3 secretaries who could concentrate on all the information.
- Mr Daudelin told the committee members that if they wanted a real help from FIAF members, they should inform FIAF more regularly about the progress of their project, so that a regular note could be published in the Bulletin about it. Mr Andreykov agreed on this.

Mr Daudelin finally asked to find another FIAF member to attend the next meeting of the project in Bulgaria because it was too time consuming for him, although this did not diminish his interest in the project.

The whole project will be rediscussed in Rapallo, but sufficient time should be allowed in the agenda of the General Meeting to discuss it seriously.

This ended the business of the Executive Committee in Vienna.

The President thanked the two directors of OESTERREICHISCHES FILMARCHIV for their kind help and their warm hospitality and convened everyone for the next meeting in Rapallo, before the General Meeting.
