

11th CONGRES OF THE
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF FILM ARCHIVES

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WARSAW.

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26 - 30 SEPTEMBRE 1955

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DECISIONS

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11th CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF FILM
ARCHIVES - WARSAW - 26 - 30 SEPTEMBER 1955

The following representatives of member archives took part:

BUACHE Freddy	Cinémathèque Suisse
COMENCINI Gianni	Cineteca Italiana (Milan)
EISNER Lotte	Cinémathèque Française
LANGLOIS Henri
Lauritzen Einar	Filmhistoriska Samlingarna (Sweden)
LAVIES Hanns-Wilhelm	DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FÜR FILMKUNDE (F.D.R.)
LINDGREN Ernest	National Film Archive (England)
POGACIC Vladimir	Yugoslovenska Kinoteka
PROLO Maria-Adriana	Museo del Cinema (Turin)
SCHMIDT Gertrud	Deutsches Institut für Filmkunde
THIRIFAYS André	Cinémathèque de Belgique
TUCEK Milan	Ceskoslovenský Státní Film
DE VAAL Jan	HET NEDERLANDS FILMMUSEUM
VILLA Mario	Cineteca Italiana
TOEPLITZ Jerzy	CENTRALNE ARCHIWUM FILMOWE (Poland)
BANASZKIEWICZ Wladyslaw
MICHALEK Boleslaw
BIRN Leon
DUNCAN Catherine	Executive Secretary

Also present were:

BERNSTEIN Rudolph	Staatliches Filmarchiv (D.D.R.)
HAHN Johann
BLEIER-BRODY Agnes	Osterreichisches Filmarchiv
GRIGAUT Jacqueline	Comité du Film Ethnographique
PHILIP Anne Nicole
GROSZEW Aleksandr	W.G.I.K. (U.S.S.R)
LEBEDIEW Nikolaj
LO Kuang-ta	China Film Distribution Corporation
CHEN Shou-lei
LUP Aurel	Rumania
CRISAN Dumitru
LAJTA Andor	Magyar Allami Filmarchivum (HUNGARY)
TARDOS Andor	Documentary Film Studio ..
WEBB Willard	Library of Congress (U.S.A.) ..
DREYER Regina	Polish Institut of Art
JACKIEWICZ Aleksandr
GAWRAK Zbigniew
LEWICKI Boleslaw	School of Higher Cinematographic Studies (Lodz, Poland)
JENSIEWICKI Wladyslaw
OZOGOWSKI Roman
Representatives of Latin America and the Popular Republic of Korea

Press:

BRUMAGNE Marie-Madeleine
 DUBREUILH Simone
 JUNGE Ewald
 STROBEL Hans Rolf

Switzerland
 France
 England
 Federal Republic of Germany

AGENDA26 September11 o'clock Official opening of the Congress

1. Opening speech by the General Secretary, Mr André Thirifays
2. Address of welcome by the President of the Central Office of Cinema at Warsaw, Mr Leonard Borkowicz
3. Speech by the President of the F.I.A.F. Mr Jerzy Toeplitz, tracing the history of the Federation and future tasks

17.40 hours Second Session of the Congress

1. Communication of telegrams received from: Det Danske Filmmuseum George Eastman House, Association Internationale du Cinéma Scientifique, Cinémathèque du Maroc, Osterreichisches Film Archiv, High Commissioner for Canada representing the National Film Office, George Sadoul, Sonika Bo of the Club Cendrillon
2. Address by the Vice-President, Mr Henri Langlois, on the history of the F.I.A.F.
3. Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Congress (J. Toeplitz=President; G. Comenicini and E. Lindgren= Vice-Pres.)
4. Report by the General Secretary on F.I.A.F. activities during 1954-1955, including a brief financial statement
5. Approval of the Congress agenda
6. Communication of the members and countries represented at the Congress

27 September9 o'clock First Session of the General Assembly

1. Approval of the General Secretary's report and the decisions taken by the Executive Committee in 1954-1955
2. General Questions: Respect due to the Statutes and Regulations

11 o'clock Third Session of the Congress

1. Questions on the reports of member archives

Deutsches Institut fur Filmkunde
 National Film Archive
 Cinémathèque de Belgique
 Cinémathèque Française
 Het Nederlands Filmmuseum
 Cineteca Italiana
 Museo del Cinema

16.30 hours Fourth Session of the Congress

1. Continuation of questions on members' reports

Filmhistoriska Samlingarna
 Cinémathèque Suisse
 Československý Státní Film
 Centralne Archiwum Filmowe
 Jugoslovenska Kinoteka

- 2 Reports by archives and countries invited to the Congress as observers

Osterreichisches Filmarchiv
 Peoples Republic of China
 Staatliches Filmarchiv

28 September

Third Session of the General Assembly

9 o'clock

1. General Questions:

Legal status of the F.I.A.F.
 Letter from the U.I.C.C.
 Official report of the Congress

2. New members

11 o'clock

Fifth Session of the Congress

1. Communication of a telegram received from Mr Chouhudry representing the Indian Cine Clubs
2. Questions on the report given by the Staatliches Filmarchiv
3. Continuation of observers' reports:

Latin America
 Library of Congress
 Rumania
 Hungary
 Ethnographic Film Committee
 International Federation of Films on Art

29 September

9 o'clock

Fourth Session of the General Assembly

1. Report on the Bieber affair by Dr; Bleier-Brody
2. Approval of the Agenda for the closing days of the Congress
3. Budget

11 o'clock

Sixth Session of the Congress

1. Communication of a telegram received from Mr Cohen Séat of the Institut of Filmology at the Paris University
2. Continuation of observers' reports: U.S.S.R
3. Report on film cataloguing by Mr Ernest Lindgren
4. Report on the International Library by Mr Freddy Buache

16.30 hours

Seventh Session of the Congress

1. Report on the International Bureau of Independant Films by Mr André Thirifays
2. Report on the International Institut of Cinema and the exchange of personnel, given by Mr Jerzy Toeplitz
3. General questions: Distribution of stills (Mr Ernest Lindgren)

30 September

8.30 hours

Fifth Session of the General Assembly

1. Continuation of the discussion on the Budget
2. Place of next Congress
3. Election of the Executive Committee

11 o'clock

Eighth Session of the Congress

1. Report received from the Cinemateca Uruguaya
2. Report on tge Bureau of Historical Research (Miss Lotte Eisner and Mr Henri Langlois)
3. Communication on the new members, the Executive Committee and the place of the next Congress (Mr Henri Langlois)
4. General questions: Contact between archives and historians
5. Closing address given by Mr Ernest Lindgren

RESOLUTIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

The General Assembly, having heard the report on F.I.A.F. activities for 1954-1955 given by the General Secretary, Mr André Thirifays, unanimously approves it.

The General Assembly then receives the financial report for 1954-1955 which is unanimously approved on the understanding that the two Supervisors of Accounts will go to Paris in October and complete their examination of the books and receipts. It is also agreed that a certain number of expenditures covered by the International Fund and made in the interests of the General Assembly shall, by authorisation of the members, be added as an annexe to the ordinary budget, these expenditures having already been verified at Warsaw by the two Supervisors.

The General Assembly records the reform of the International Secretariat which it unanimously approves, thanks Mr Gaffary for his work and regrets that he should have been obliged to resign his functions because of his return to Iran; thanks Mrs Duncan for the work she has already carried out so ably, and fully supports the letter sent by the Executive Committee to Mr Gaffary, expressing the Committee's regrets and hoping that Mr Gaffary will continue his collaboration with the F.I.A.F. in other ways.

MODIFICATION OF THE REGULATIONS

The General Assembly unanimously approves the modification in the order of succession of the paragraph relating to International Reserves in the Administrative Regulations. The paragraph will henceforth read as follows:

1. Sequestration Reserve
2. Collective Reserve
3. Circulation Reserve

(Decision of the Executive Committee Feb. 1955)

MEMBERSHIP OF OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

The General Assembly unanimously approves the decision taken by the Executive Committee at Wiesbaden, June 1955, following a request made by the Yugoslovenska Kinoteka to become a member of the International Federation of Libraries. Henceforth, any member of the F.I.A.F. may join an international organisation specialising in work of interest to the archives (library, museum, etc) on condition that such membership shall not imply in any way an infringement of the Statute of the F.I.A.F., particularly to those relating to the exchange of films and documents, or an infraction of affiliation to the F.I.A.F. That is to say, that the other international organisation should not be cinematographic in character with aims analogous or parallel to those of the F.I.A.F., or that by the scope of its aims it should claim to include the F.I.A.F. in the field of its activities.

DESTRUCTION OF FILMS

Following the proposal by Henri Langlois at the Executive Committee of February, that the F.I.A.F should study the best means for consolidating its relationship with the film industry, and in conformity with the wish expressed by Mr James Card at Wiesbaden, the General Assembly agrees that a campaign of action should be launched to draw attention to the criminal destruction of film, ~~which it considers as part of the cultural and artistic heritage.~~ To this end it approves ~~of~~ the publication of articles deploring the destruction of film, either in the F.I.A.F Bulletin or other journals.

To give effect to this resolution, the General Assembly recommends that its members draw up a report on the destruction already carried out in their countries, compiled with the help of the most eminent personalities of the cinema; that they should join to this a second report on the peril of systematic destruction prepared by qualified persons and with the advice of the highest authorities of the cinema. These collected reports will then be made public for the F.I.A.F. by the Executive Committee and International Secretariat, and given as wide a publicity as possible. They will also be brought to the attention of governmental and legislative authorities in the different countries, and may be used as the basis of articles to be published in cultural revues or trade journals.

In addition, following the discussion of the Executive Committee in February, it is recalled that the General Assembly at the Congress of Venice decided to draw up a list of films which are considered by the members of F.I.A.F as having such artistic and historic value that they are indispensable to the knowledge of the national and international history of cinema; that it should be indicated which of these films have already been saved and are in the possession of the F.I.A.F, and which have still to be saved, so the magnitude of the task may be made clear.

The General Assembly asks that the International Bureau ^{to} see that this work should be completed by the next Congress.

RELATIONS WITH THE FILM INDUSTRY

Having been informed of the wish expressed by Mr Lindgren and the Executive Committee at Wiesbaden that relations between the F.I.A.F and the film industry should be enlarged with a view to facilitating the tasks of preservation and cultural development, it is recalled that on several occasions preceding Congresses have considered establishing permanent contacts between the F.I.A.F and different international organisations of the professional cinema. In consequence, the Assembly unanimously agrees to place this question on the agenda of its next Congress when a decision can be made.

In order, however, that the discussions at the Congress may have a real value and reach a conclusion acceptable to everyone, the Assembly should be first informed of the contacts at present existing between each archive and the profession as the situation varies in each country and with each archive. It is therefore decided that all members of the F.I.A.F. including correspondants should, within a delay of six months, furnish the International Secretariat with a report on their relations with the industry, outlining the problems which exist on the basis of their activities within the F.I.A.F as well as the facilities already accorded them by the industry and public authorities in the accomplishment of their tasks.

NOTE ON THE ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The General Assembly notes the desire expressed by certain members of the Executive Committee at Wiesbaden, to see a more rapid rotation in the election of its officers.

Mr Langlois pointed out that the principle of rotation exists since the foundation of the Federation. He added, however, that practice had shown the necessity and the value of electing individuals for their ability and not in their quality of representatives of such and such an archive.

LATIN AMERICAN POOL

The General Assembly regrets that for material reasons Mr Sales Gomes, who was delegated to represent the members of the Latin American Section, was unable to come to Warsaw as he intended. The treasury of the Federation was unable to comply with his request for help in the payment of his travelling expenses.

In the absence of Mr Sales Gomes, Mr Lasala was appointed by the Cinematheca Uruguaya to be its representative and report on the foundation of the Latin American Section at the conference of Punta del Este, but Mr Lasala was also unable to be present.

In view of the absence of these two delegates, the Assembly considers that it is impossible to hold a discussion on the decisions taken at Punta del Este, the only complementary information at its disposal being that of the representative who visited Sao Paulo and Montevideo in 1954. In these circumstances it is decided that the Executive Committee should invite Latin American representatives living in Paris to take part in its next meetings to examine the question, and that if necessary an extraordinary Assembly should be called before the next Congress.

Should such an Assembly be convoqued it could at the same time examine the statuts and documents concerning the archives admitted to provisional membership, the Executive Committee having been authorised to admit the Magyar Amlami Filmarchivum as a provisional member, and proceed to their election as full members without waiting for the General Assembly at the next Congress.

RESPECT DUE TO THE STATUTS AND RULES OF THE F.I.A.F.

The members, having been informed of an infraction ~~committex~~ of the Statuts of the F.I.A.F. by other members of the Federation, it appears on one hand, that the majority of such infractions are due to an imperfect knowledge of the obligations devolving from membership of the F.I.A.F., and on the other, to the fact that a certain vagueness exists in the interpretation of Article 3, Paragraph 5, which states:

"It is expressly provided that no other film organisation in a country member of F.I.A.F. shall have contact with the Federation except by intermediary and with the authorisation of at least one of the national members."

It emerges, in fact, from the discussion that the majority of F.I.A.F. members working on the basis of practice and bi-lateral agreements preceding the Congress of reconstitution in 1946, consider that Article 3, Paragraph 5 implies that an archive member of F.I.A.F. is forbidden to buy films and documents in a country where there is another member of ~~RxX~~ F.I.A.F. without the knowledge or previous agreement of the member in question, and that the same is true of all third parties whether they be commercial or non-commercial organisations.

Henri Langlois confirms that this is the correct interpretation of the Statut, but that it implies a certain flexibility. It is evident, for example, that to avoid giving a fellow member cause for complaint, it should, according to the letter of the rule, be forbidden to buy books or objects on sale in shops, antiquarians, flea markets or libraries; but that since no archive has the means of controlling every shop in his country it is preferable not to forbid a practice against which there is no redress.

The Assembly agrees with Mr Langlois.

Mr Langlois then points out that it is also difficult to ~~forbid~~ ~~archive~~ insist that an archive refrain from asking a visiting film personality for the gift of a document though, strictly speaking, this is also contrary to the letter of the Statut. However, he is certain that relations between archives are largely determined by years' of practice and that a careful examination of ~~the~~ each paragraph of the Statuts and Regulations, the recommendations and circular letters issued by the F.I.A.F. and the bi-lateral agreements which preceded the entry of archives to membership of the Federation, confirm the precise character of the exclusive rights of each member which are fixed by Article 3, Paragraph 5 and its interpretation by the General Assembly. In the interests of clarity and future relations however, the following resolution is adopted:

The Assembly accepts the interpretation made of the Statuts, reminds Henri Langlois that he was asked to provide a detailed explanation of the Statuts, and decides:

that it is necessary to remind members of the Federation that the greatest vigilance should be observed in respect of the regulations and Statuts of the F.I.A.F. in order to avoid a recurrence of the prejudicial facts brought to the attention of the Assembly by certain members.

The Assembly therefore approves an addition to Paragraph 5, Article 3, confirming the interpretation and setting down:

1. that the member archives enjoy an exclusive authority on their national territory or territories belonging to their countries
2. that by this fact all demand of loans by a third party must be transmitted by the intermediary of one of the national archives member of F.I.A.F which may, if it sees fit, refuse permission for ~~su~~ such a demand and for its transmission
3. that since no direct contact is permitted between an archive and a commercial or non-commercial organisation in a country in which there is a member of F.I.A.F, all contacts must first be submitted to the approval of the archive or one of the archives member of F.I.A.F in the said country, which is free to oppose such contact without the applicant member having any right of appeal
4. that by this fact no sale of films can be effected in a member country except by intermediary of the archive or one of the archives member of the Federation; that, as a result, all propositions for ~~the~~ the sale of films coming from a merchant must be left without reply unless the national members of the country in question should, on the contrary, solicit the foreign archive to give a favourable response to the proposition
5. that it is understood that all archives are free, however, to ask their distributors for the deposit of a foreign film distributed in their country without this being considered as encroaching on the territory of the country which has produced the film
6. that the buying of films or documents in shops is not covered by Article 3, Paragraph 5, but it is forbidden for members of the F.I.A.F to buy for themselves any collection of films or documents belonging to foreign collectors in a member country, unless they are authorised to do so by the archives member of the F.I.A.F in the said country
7. that, on the contrary, it is not forbidden for member archives to ask film personalities for the ~~deposit or gift~~ deposit or gift of a document concerning their personal work, with the reserve that such a request should apply only to a small part of their possessions unless, of course, the request has been made by the intermediary of the archive or one of the archives in the country to which such personalities belong

The International Secretary should therefore make known to all members as soon as possible the decision of the General Assembly reminding them that the greatest vigilance should be observed in respect of the Statuts

and regulations, and to bring to their attention any case of grave infraction.

LEGAL STATUS OF THE F.I.A.F.

The General Assembly, taking into consideration the fact that the International Federation of Film Archives is a federation of organisations and not of persons and therefore does not constitute under French law a non-profit making international association, decides that for this reason it is impossible for the Federation to benefit from the legal status of an international association.

Secondly, the legal obligations involved do not permit it to benefit from a recent amendment to French law concerning international associations, as this would make impossible the maintenance of the principle of rotation governing all offices on the Executive Committee.

By this fact, the Federation having had its foundation Statute countersigned by a representative of the French government, enjoying the hospitality of the French government and therefore having been recognised from its inception by the French Government which has always confirmed this recognition, the Assembly unanimously approves the maintenance of its present status which conforms with international and French law, and by which it is represented in each member country by its national member or members.

RESOLUTION ON THE NEW STATUS OF THE DEUTSCHES FILM INSTITUT FÜR FILMKUNDE

Mr Lavies, having outlined the plan of reorganisation of the Deutsches Institut für Filmkunde and the creation of the Deutsches Film Archiv, the Assembly considers that this raises a question of principle which it appears difficult to accept à priori. The General Assembly of the F.I.A.F. has, in fact, admitted the Deutsches Institut to membership and, therefore cannot à priori deprive the Deutsches Institut of its title because of the creation of the Deutsches Film Archiv and the proposed separation of these two services which up to the present belonged to the Deutsches Institut.

It would appear that the creation of the Deutsches Film Archiv cannot in fact imply that the title of member should be automatically withdrawn from the Deutsches Institut. This involves a point of law which cannot be immediately settled as it is without precedent in the history of the F.I.A.F. and which could have consequences which the Assembly is not in a position to examine.

The Assembly decides therefore, that a dossier should be prepared by the Executive Committee containing:

- a) a detailed report made by Mr Lavies on the new situation, on the difference between the Deutsches Institut and the Deutsches Film Archiv, and the reasons why he considers the title of member should be granted to the Deutsches Film Archiv in preference to the Deutsches Institut, and the modus vivendi which would result from this change
- b) a report by the legal adviser of the F.I.A.F. on the situation

arising from Mr Lavies' request and whether or not it is compatible with the Assembly's decision admitting the Deutsches Institut to membership and the existing Statuts of the F.I.A.F.

- c) a report on the possible future consequences of agreeing to Mr Lavies' request
- d) finally, a project of solutions proposed by the F.I.A.F.'s legal adviser in case the Assembly should decide to accept the Deutsches Film Archiv as member.

The question will be discussed at the next Congress; in the meantime the Deutsches Film Archiv should pass by the Deutsches Institut in all its dealings with the F.I.A.F.

RESOLUTION ON THE DEFINITION OF PROVISIONAL AND CORRESPONDANT MEMBERS

The General Assembly, having noted that the Statuts contain no definition of a PROVISIONAL MEMBER or the difference which exists between the Provisional and Correspondant, decides that the Executive Committee should draw up a ~~project~~ of definition which will be submitted for approval to the next General Assembly and added to the text of the Statuts and Regulations.

RESOLUTION ON THE RELATIONS OF THE F.I.A.F. WITH THE CINE CLUBS

The F.I.A.F. having signed an agreement at the Congress of Rome (1949) with the International Federation of Ciné Clubs (F.I.C.C.), it results that the F.I.A.F. is linked with the Italian Federation of Ciné Clubs, member of this Federation.

Outside Italy the national federations are all members of the F.I.C.C. By this fact, relations between the cine clubs and the archives are guaranteed by the Rome Agreement, a guarantee which is of capital importance to the life of the archive.

In these circumstances there is no need for a revision of the Rome Agreement as this is sufficiently flexible to allow Italian archives which are members of the F.I.A.F. to act as they see fit on their territory, distributing their films to any cine club whether it is a member of the F.I.C.C. or the U.I.C.C.

On the contrary, the F.I.A.F. has no right to demand that the Cinémathèque Française or any foreign archive should lend its films to a federation of cine clubs which is not a member of the F.I.C.C.

RESOLUTION ON THE MINUTES OF THE CONGRESS

After a discussion on the preparation of the minutes of the Congress and the difficulties and cost of a reliable transcription, the Assembly passes the following resolution:

For financial reasons, the complete reports of Congress meetings will not be sent to all members of the Federation, but four copies will be held at their disposition at the headquarters of the Federation.

EXCHANGE OF PROGRAMMES PREPARED BY ARCHIVES FOR TELEVISION

After a discussion on the report by Mr Buache dealing with programmes

prepared by the Cinémathèque Suisse for Television and a proposition to exchange these films with other countries; the Assembly agrees that these exchanges should be made by the intermediary of the archives and not directly between representatives of the Television.

Two other questions on the supply of photos and the use of films as a basis for ^{general} historical research are referred to the Congress for discussion.

NEW MEMBERS

The Assembly, having received within the prescribed time limit during the course of the Congress, the application for membership of Austria, Colombia and the Democratic German Republic, it decides:

RESOLUTION ON THE ADMISSION OF THE CINEMATECA COLOMBIANA AS PROVISIONAL MEMBER

The Assembly decides to admit the Cinemateca Colombiana as a provisional member of the F.I.A.F. on condition that this archive submits during the period of one year to the regulations governing the Pool of Latin American countries, particularly those concerning the making of copies and the centralisation of film copies at Montevideo.

RESOLUTION ON THE ADMISSION OF THE OESTERREICHISCHE FILM ARCHIV AS PROVISIONAL MEMBER

The General Assembly decides to admit the Oesterreichische Film Archiv as a provisional member of the F.I.A.F. on condition that this archive provide the F.I.A.F. in the shortest possible delay with the necessary information, that is to say, a copy of the Statute legally approved by the Austrian authorities. The Austrian archive will be considered as a provisional member of the F.I.A.F. dating from the reception of this information.

During the discussion on the admission of the Staatliches Film Archiv to membership of the F.I.A.F. Mr Henri Langlois asks that the position of the Cinémathèque Française be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

The Cinémathèque Française asks that the Staatliches Film Archiv should be accepted immediately to full membership of the F.I.A.F. in view of the fact that:

- a) this archive, if it can be judged by the number of films in its collection, considerably surpasses the richest collections belonging to members of the F.I.A.F.
- b) it is evident that this collection corresponds in part with that of one of the foundation members of the F.I.A.F. and that since another part of the Reichfilmarchiv is at present preserved by an existing member, the Staatliches Film Archiv should be permitted to benefit from equal rights
- c) and finally it should be remarked that such a case is not without precedent, since the Amsterdam Congress having taken into consideration certain similar points of view and on the guarantee of two member archives, admitted George Eastman House as a full member without obliging it to pass through the usual period of provisional membership.

After further discussion, the Assembly passes the following resolution:

RESOLUTION ON THE ADMISSION OF THE STAATLICHES FILM ARCHIV AS A PROVISIONAL MEMBER

The General Assembly decides to admit the Staatliches Film Archiv of the Democratic Republic of Germany as a provisional member of the F.I.A.F. and decides to submit to the first General Assembly which precedes the next Congress the question of this Archive's admission to full membership of the F.I.A.F.

The Hungarian archive, not having been able to make its application within the time limit, the General Assembly decides:

RESOLUTION ON THE APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP BY THE MAGYAR ALLAMI FILMARCHIVUM

The General Assembly decides that the Executive Committee shall be authorised to admit the Magyar Allami Filmarchivum to provisional membership during the course of the year, after examination of the necessary documentation.

It is also recalled that following the vote of the Congress in 1946, the U.S.S.R. will be accepted to full membership as soon as it informs the Federation of the name of the organisation chosen to represent it.

RESOLUTION ON THE LETTERS IN SUPPORT OF THE MUSEO DEL CINEMA OF TURIN

The General Assembly decides that two letters shall be prepared by the members of the Executive Committee in the name of the F.I.A.F. addressed to the Mayor of Turin and the Under-Secretary of Entertainment at Rome, ~~requesting~~ expressing the full support given by the F.I.A.F. to the Museo del Cinema of Turin, and asking their help for this Museum.

THE BUDGET

The Assembly then passes to the question of the Budget.

The discussion is opened by Madame Duncan, the Executive Secretary, who sums up the present financial situation. She then submits a minimum budget drawn up by the International Secretariat at the request of the Executive Committee at Wiesbaden.

The minimum budget is based on the expenses entailed during the financial year 1954-1955 for the upkeep of an office devoted exclusively to the work of liaison and does not allow for any extension of the activities of the International Bureau. The Budget reveals, however, that a sum of 1,700,000 francs is required for the maintenance of the Bureau, which means an equal subscription of 80,000 francs per member.

The fact is, however, that all members are not in a position to pay this sum, and that in the past certain members have not paid at all. It is therefore a question for the Assembly to decide how such a budget can be balanced, taking into account the possibilities of the members.

The General Assembly accepts the minimum budget proposed by Madame Duncan and, on a proposition by Mr Lindgren, the discussion is opened on the following two principles:

- 1) that an equal and obligatory subscription should be fixed for all members
- 2) that a delay of six months should be fixed for the payment of this subscription, and that non-payment should be followed by sanctions

The President requests each member to give his opinion on these proposals.

Mr Thirifays, representing the Cinémathèque de Belgique, states that he is in agreement with the two propositions made by Mr Lindgren. He explains the circumstances which have led to the non-payment of the Belgian archive's subscription in 1954 and promises that now the misunderstanding has been cleared up the sum due will be sent to the F.I.A.F. on his return.

Mr Lauritzen of the Historiska Samlingarna is also in agreement with the two principles, though he feels the time allowed for payment should not be too rigid.

Mr Pogacic of the Jugoslovenska Kinoteka is also in agreement. He underlines the difficulty of foreign exchange for the Yugoslav archive.

Mr Lavies, Deutsches Institut für Filmkunde, is also in agreement, but points out that as he receives no subsidy it is most difficult for him to pay during the first six months.

Mr Villa of the Cineteca Italiana then speaks against both propositions. He points out that an equal subscription is impractical and unjust in a Federation which embraces rich and poor archives, archives with large subsidies and those with none at all, those which can afford to pay more to the F.I.A.F. and those which can give less. In these circumstances a scale of subscriptions should be fixed varying according to the importance of the archive. As to sanctions, Mr Villa believes that an archive pursuing the same ends as other members, working with the same passion, should not be excluded simply because it found itself in the impossibility of paying its subscription during one, two or even three years. Such cases should be brought before the General Assembly which would judge them on their merits, and perhaps a rich archive might offer to pay for the poorer member. The F.I.A.F. will be a great Federation when it includes all the archives of the world, and greater still when the rich are able to pay for the poor.

Madame Prolo, ~~Cinéma del~~ Museo del Turin, approves Mr Villa's position, particularly on the point of sanctions.

Mr de Vaal of the Nederlands Filmmuseum supports the two propositions made by Mr Lindgren.

Mr Buache of the Cinémathèque Suisse agrees in principle with the two propositions; but feels that a system of sanctions might become too rigid and endanger the future of the Federation.

Mr Tucek of the Ceskoslovensky Statni Film supports the propositions.

Mr Langlois of the Cinematheque Francaise then speaks against both propositions. He says he is astonished that he has been accused by the four richest archives of giving more than a stipulated subscription to the F.I.A.F. when it was decided at the Congress of Lausanne that the richer members should do all in their power to augment that subscription. To date, only the Cinematheque Francaise had made such a gesture.

At Lausanne the Congress encountered grave difficulties in establishing a plan of work through lack of funds, when it was evident that if all films exchanged under the aegis of the F.I.A.F. were taxed there would be no financial problem. A vote to apply a tax of this kind had been passed at Lausanne, but because of the disagreement of two members, the matter had been referred to the Executive Committee. Until the Committee had made its decision the Cinematheque Francaise might have been justified in withholding the films belonging to the International Pool which would perhaps, have been the best proof of the services enjoyed by members through the F.I.A.F. and that these services were worth an effort. But, believing that it was better to arrive at a unanimous decision by persuasion rather than pressure, the Cinematheque Francaise sent the films asked for. The Committee has so far failed to reach agreement on this matter, and a valuable source of income is lost to the F.I.A.F. Failing a system of taxation, the only solution for the balancing of the budget is to fix a minimum and maximum subscription. To oblige small archives to pay more than they can would be disastrous for the Federation.

X Mr Toeplitz, Centralne Archiwum Filowe, agrees that the principle of proportional subscription must be admitted. He feels, however, that the Assembly should consider introducing sanctions for the non-payment of subscriptions within six months after the Congress. If an archive fails to pay its subscription in this delay it should be suspended until the General Assembly has reviewed the case, and during the period of suspension sanctions should be applied.

Mr Thirifays says that he has misunderstood the first proposition made by Mr Lindgren. He believed that the suggestion was to establish a basic subscription for all members, but that this did not exclude the payment of supplementary subscriptions by rich archives.

Mr Lindgren says that the proposition of an equal subscription was put forward on the basis of the minimum budget, but that this did not exclude the possibility of a further subscription paid by the richer archives within the framework of a supplementary budget. He points out, however, that though the London archives may be regarded as rich, their budget is strictly limited. Money is given by the government for the items set out in the budget, and the money must be spent for these and these alone without the archive's having the right to augment or diminish the sum fixed.

Mr Toeplitz reminds members that the practical problem before them is to find the means of balancing a budget of 1,700,000 francs. He suggests that there should be no departure from the principle of an equal subscription for all members, but that in practical terms the sum of 1,700,000 francs should be divided between the 17 members which can be counted on to pay their subscriptions, and that the Assembly should then review the case of each archive separately and accord a reduction where it was absolutely necessary, at the same time asking the more fortunate members to augment

their subscriptions so that the deficit resulting from the reductions can be covered.

Mr Lindgren agrees with the President that this is the only practical solution, but ~~underlines~~^{1955/56} that the principle of an equal subscription should be maintained.

Mr Thirifays then points out that the budget of 1,700,000 francs has been established on the expenditures made during a year when the International Bureau was undergoing a reform and its activities necessarily restricted. This reform has now been accomplished,^{but} the proposed budget gives no possibility for the extension of work. For example, it makes no allowance for additional secretarial aid in the rapid preparation of the report on the Congress, and the sum allowed for office material is ridiculously low and could never cover the minimum needs of the correspondence of an international office.

In addition, it is reported by the press that salaries in France will be augmented by 20% this year, which will considerably modify the sums allowed for salaries. Nor will it be possible in future for the work of the international office to be satisfactorily carried out by a personnel working a half instead of a whole day. The services of an expert accountant must also be envisaged, in conformity with the decision taken by the Congress of Venice.

The Assembly agrees with Mr Thirifays on the inadequacy of the present Budget, and agrees to fix the sum to be divided at 2,000,000 francs, thus providing the office with a reserve of 300,000 francs for additional expenditures.

It having been established that the Assembly is unanimously agreed on the proposition made by Mr Toeplitz, and that the National Film Archive and the Cinematheque Francaise offer no opposition to the suggestion that the richer archives should give a larger subscription, the discussion is opened on the division of the subscription.

As a result of this discussion the General Assembly unanimously agrees to fix the subscription of the year 1955-1956 at 120,000 francs, obligatory for all members.

The cases of archives susceptible to a reduction are then reviewed. It is decided that they fall into two categories: 1) the poorest archives which shall be granted a reduction of 50% and 2) those with larger resources which will receive a reduction of approximately 16%.

The Museo del Cinema of Turin, falling into the first category, is therefore granted a reduction of 50% and its subscription for the year 1955-1956 fixed at 60,000 francs.

The Cinemateca Argentina, being in almost the same state of penury as the Museum of Turin, is also granted a 50% reduction, with a subscription of 60,000 francs.

In the case of the Iran archives, it is impossible to take any decision until some information is received on its situation, all contact between it and the F.I.A.F. having ceased for some time.

The representatives of the Swedish, Swiss, Dutch and Belgian archives having

stated that in spite of their restricted resources they would be willing to pay more than 60,000 francs, their cases are considered to fall under the second category, and their subscriptions fixed at 100,000 francs for the year 1955-1956.

The President refers to the request made by the Uruguayan Archive that half of their annual subscription be paid to the Latin American section of the F.I.A.F. But the Assembly decides that this member should be asked to take into consideration the grave financial difficulties of the international office and the need for all members to make a special effort this year, and fixes its subscription at 100,000 francs.

The discussion is then opened on the deficit resulting from these reductions and how it can be covered by the richer archives.

Questioned by the President on the possibilities of the National Film Archive, Mr Lindgren explains the financial position of this archive which receives only £500 a year for the making of copies of films, and that £150 would be a quarter of this sum.

Mr Langlois points out that when the Assembly thinks of its British member it thinks of the National Film Archive as part of the British Film Institute, and suggests that part of the subscription might be taken in charge by other services of the Institute. As to the Cinematheque Francaise, Mr Langlois confirms its subscription of 300,000 francs as in the past year.

Mr Mauritzen supports Mr Langlois' suggestion concerning the British Film Institute, pointing out that since the existence of the National Film Theatre it has made increasing use of the services of the F.I.A.F. and that a higher subscription should thus seem justified.

Mr Lindgren replies that as a result of the discussion he sees a possible way of augmenting the subscription with the help of the British Film Institute, and though he is unable at the moment to fix a sum, he promises to do everything in his power to make a contribution which will help to cover part of the deficit.

In these circumstances, it is found necessary to make an appeal to the third foundation member of the F.I.A.F. In the absence of a representative of the Museum of Modern Art, no decision can be taken as to what contribution this archive will be willing to make. But Mr Langlois affirms that he is confident that in view of the gesture made by the Cinematheque Francaise and the National Film Archive, the Museum of Modern Art Film Library will be prepared to join its efforts to their's and help to cover the deficit.

The result of the decisions taken by the General Assembly can therefore be summed up as follows:

- 1) The subscription of the F.I.A.F. for the year 1955-1956 remains at 120,000 francs in conformity with the decision taken by the Congress of Lausanne.
- 2) Reductions are granted to:

Museo del Cinema of Turin:	60,000 francs
Cinematca Argentina:	60,000 ..
Cinematca Uruguay:	100,000 ..

Cinematheque de Belgique:	100,000 francs
Cinemathequa Suisse:	100,000 ..
Nederlands Filmmuseum:	100,000 ..
Filmhistoriska Samlingarna:	100,00 ..

3. The National Film Archive, the Cinematheque Francaise and the Museum of Modern Art will pay a higher subscription, in conformity with the decision of the Congress of Vence.

Cinematheque Francaise: 300,000 francs

The subscriptions of the other two archives will cover the sum of 120,000 francs

4. The International Secretary is given the task of preparing a supplementary budget for the first meeting of the Executive Committee, this budget to be based on the decisions relating to the work decided by the Congress. This budget will be covered by voluntary subscription, the obligatory subscription referring only to the normal budget for the upkeep of the international office.

The date and place of the next Congress is then decided.

The President asks Mr Pogacic if the invitation of Yugoslavia still stands for 1956.

Mr Pogacic replies that he will be able to give a definite answer to this question in two months when the Yugoslav Archives will have received approval on their next year's budget, but that in principle the invitation stands.

The President proposes to accept the invitation and asks Mr Pogacic to confirm the offer of the Jugoslovenska Kinoteka before the end of the year. But, in case it should not be possible to hold the Congress in Yugoslavia he asks for suggestions of an alternative from other members.

RESOLUTION ON THE PLACE OF THE NEXT CONGRESS

The Jugoslovenska Kinoteka having renewed the wish expressed at the Congresses of Vence and Lausanne to hold the next Congress in Yugoslavia, this invitation is unanimously accepted by the Assembly. The Congress of 1956 will therefore be organised by the Jugoslovenska Kinoteka and take place in Yugoslavia.

If, within the next three months, Yugoslavia should find it impossible to confirm this invitation, the Assembly asks the Cinematheque Francaise to replace the Jugoslovenska Kinoteka and organise the Congress in France, if possible outside Paris.

The Assembly then proceeds to the election of the new Executive Committee. It is decided to limit the number of Committee members to 9, 4 of whom shall have special functions and 5 without title. It is recalled that according to the rules these members should include a representative of North America, one from South America and one from Eastern Europe. The Committee has the power to nominate substitutes for those members who find it impossible to fulfill their functions by reason of illness, absence, etc.....

NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 1955-1956

By unanimous decision of the Assembly the following members are elected to the Executive Committee for 1955-1956:

Foundation President	Madame Iris Barry
President	Mr Jerzy Toeplitz
Vice-President	Mr Ernest Lindgren
General Secretary	Mr Henri Langlois
Treasurer	Mr Freddy Buache
Members:	MM. Paulo-Emilio Sales Gomes Vladimir Pogacic Milan Tucek André Thirifays Miss Maria-Adriana Prolo
Supervisors of Accounts:	
	MM. Mario Villa Einar Lauritzen

In conclusion the General Assembly deals with several general questions.

RESOLUTION ON THE SIGNING OF CHEQUES

To facilitate the regular payment of accounts and the work of the international office, the General Assembly authorises the Executive Secretary to sign cheques to the value of 80,000 francs. A cheque of any sum above this amount must be countersigned by the Treasurer, Mr Buache.

RECOMMENDATION TO THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU ON THE QUESTION OF SANCTIONS

The International Secretariat of the F.I.A.F. is requested to prepare the project of a resolution on the application of sanctions against members who do not pay their annual subscriptions. This project should be submitted to the first meeting of the Executive Committee.

RECOMMENDATION TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON THE QUESTION OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS

The International Secretariat is requested to prepare a project on economic sanctions to be submitted to the next Congress. These sanctions or fines should be applied in the case of members guilty of an infraction of the Statutes and Regulations of the F.I.A.F.

(Proposed by Mr Henri Langlois)

RESOLUTION ON THE BULLETIN OF INFORMATION

The General Assembly decides that the distribution of the F.I.A.F. News Bulletin should be confined to members of the Federation, but that it should be left to the discretion of the members to distribute a certain number of copies to outside organisations or persons in their own countries.

REPORT BY THE SUPERVISORS OF ACCOUNTS read by Mr De Vaal

The signatories, Mr Hans-Wilhelm Lavies and Mr Jan de Vaal, supervisors

of accounts, have, with the Treasurer Mr Einar Lauritzen, discussed and controlled the reports of the activities and financial expenditure of the F.I.A.F. during the year 1954. Unfortunately certain books and receipts essential to the control are still in Paris and have not yet been seen by the supervisors.

The signatories have controlled the documentation available in the office of the Congress at Warsaw and have found these documents in order. The signatories will be working in Paris in October where they will control the rest of the documents relating to the financial operations of the F.I.A.F. and will present their final report to the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Mr Langlois informs the Assembly of certain practical results arrived at by the Commission of Historical Research.

At the last meeting of the Commission a most valuable report was received from Mr Groschew, representative of the Soviet Union, which he has promised to give in a more complete form for publication in the Bulletin.

The Commission reached the following conclusions:

1. That in principle the Commission of Historical Research would continue to function in collaboration with the Soviet Union without waiting for the Soviet Union to become an official member of the F.I.A.F.
2. An agreement was made concerning the exchange of books. The U.S.S.R. will send a list of books and publications which might be of interest to our libraries. The principle of a limited loan of rare material was accepted for the use of historians.
3. In making this exchange a bi-lateral agreement, the U.S.S.R. has asked that the list of books submitted by the members of the F.I.A.F. should be accompanied by brief annotations on the value of the publications and historical works in question. Such annotations would ~~not~~ engage the responsibility of the persons making them and not that of the archives.