

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Los Angeles, 30 April 1995

Present :

Michelle AUBERT
Roger SMITHER
Mary Lea BANDY

President
Secretary General
Treasurer

Members

Hoos BLOTKAMP
Paolo CHERCHI USAI
Gabrielle CLAES
Robert DAUDELIN
Clyde JEAUVONS
Jorge NIETO
Vladimir OPELA
José Maria PRADO
Steven RICCI
Ivan TRUJILLO BOLIO

Commission Heads

Harriet HARRISON
Ronald MAGLIOZZI
Henning SCHOU

Cataloguing Commission
Documentation Commission
Technical Commission

Secretariat

Christian DIMITRIU

Senior Administrator

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A G E N D A

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Nomination of Vice-Presidents and Deputies
3. Membership and tasks of EC Working Groups
 - a. Election procedures
 - b. Long-Term plan for FIAF
 - c. Other (see also 7b and 8d)
4. Membership questions
 - a. CNA Luxembourg
 - b. Calcutta
 - c. Long-Term Provisional Members
 - d. Miscellaneous
5. Finances
 - a. Plans for easing deficit
(voluntary extra subscriptions, subscribers)
 - b. Other
6. Review of Los Angeles Congress
 - a. Publication of Proceedings (?)
 - b. Other
7. Future Congresses
 - a. 1996 : Clarification of Beijing situation
 - b. 1996 : Congress/Symposium planning for Jerusalem
 - c. 1997 : Congress/Symposium planning for Cartagena
 - d. 1998 and beyond
8. Projects and publications underway
 - a. Verscheure book
 - b. Journal of Film Preservation
 - c. CD-ROM
 - d. Central Database of FIAF Members' holdings
 - e. Other
9. Relations with Unesco
10. Date for next meeting (Mexico)
11. Any other business

Ms AUBERT welcomed everyone to this meeting and proposed to focus on the main actions that had to be undertaken before our next meeting in Mexico.

1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

There being no amendment, the agenda was adopted.

2 NOMINATION OF VICE-PRESIDENTS AND DEPUTIES

Ms AUBERT called for candidatures to the posts of Vice-Presidents (3), Deputy-Secretary General and Deputy-Treasurer. The nomination of the following candidate-officers was unanimously accepted :

- Hoos Blotkamp)
- Vladimir Opela) as Vice-Presidents
- Ivan Trujillo)

- Gabrielle Claes, as Deputy-Secretary General
- Steven Ricci, as Deputy-Treasurer

3 MEMBERSHIP AND TASKS OF THE EC WORKING GROUPS

It was decided to merge the two Working Groups Long-Term Plan for FIAF and Election Procedures (including the Future of the Commissions). The new working group was composed of Hoos Blotkamp (Chair), Jan-Christopher Horak, Clyde Jeavons, Wolfgang Klaue and Jorge Nieto. At the request of the Cataloguing Commission, Roger Smither accepted to act as a consultant to the working section on the Future of Commissions.

The new working group was to produce a discussion paper for the next EC meeting in Mexico.

4 MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS

4.a. CNA Luxembourg

Mr SMITHER explained that, for lack of time during the previous EC meeting, the decision on this candidature had been deferred. Bearing in mind that Cinémathèque Municipale de Luxembourg had raised important questions about this candidature, he suggested to wait until Mexico to examine the case in detail. This was agreed.

4.b. Satyajit Ray Archives in Calcutta

The decision on this candidature was postponed until Mexico, pending clarifications on Poona's opinion and also because the candidature had to be considered in relation with the candidate's role in the ongoing Satyajit Ray restoration projects.

4.c. Long-Term Provisional Members

Ms AUBERT proposed to mention each archive's admittance year in the annual FIAF directory. This would, among other things, enable us to identify "long-term" provisional members. Ms AUBERT believed the Secretary General should approach them individually and find out why they do not apply for full membership.

4.d. Membership miscellaneous

Mr SMITHER informed the EC that both Valencia and Ivry had expressed their wish to progress to full membership. This raised the question of Associates qualifying for the status of Provisional Membership and Mr JEAVONS proposed that this issue be examined by the working group for the Long-Term Plan. Ms AUBERT believed that Member archives should help the Secretary General in identifying those Associates who might qualify for provisional membership.

Mr DAUDELIN believed the time was right to approach the Concordia University of Ontario whose presence during this Congress might have indicated a wish to join the Federation.

Both Mr SMITHER and Mr DAUDELIN thought that visitors to FIAF Congresses should be asked to provide a short personal résumé or a description of their institution. They should stand on our mailing list for future Congresses and might constitute an interesting database for the recruitment of new affiliates.

Mr TRUJILLO recalled the case of Panama and Costa Rica as possible new affiliates and suggested that the Senior Administrator visit these institutions in connection with his trip to Mexico for the next EC meeting in order to encourage them to present their candidature.

Ms CLAES warned against the risks of systematically encouraging possible new applicants, be it for Associateship or full Membership, before the working group for the Long-Term Plan has re-examined the admission criteria to the Federation.

5 FINANCES

5.a. Plans for easing deficit

Ms BANDY announced that she would 1) go over all the financial records with Brigitte van der Elst and Christian Dimitriu to get a full picture of our finances, our projects and our commitments underway and 2) prepare a plan to bring to Mexico with proposals for cuts and fundraising.

She recommended a provisional acceptance of the 1996 budget only, as in no way could we assume that we could spend more than the income available in 1996.

Mr JEAVONS noted this was an exceptionnally planned deficit year, earmarked by the initiation of the Senior Administrator post and additional Congress expenses. Mr DIMITRIU believed this was a very conservative budget as it hardly allowed for an increase in our income.

Voluntary extra subscriptions : in the frame of the project "For a more equitable membership fees structure" exposed by Mr DIMITRIU during the GA, EC members Mary Lea Bandy, Michelle Aubert, Clyde Jeavons, Steven Ricci, Vladimir Opela, Gabrielle Claes, Hoos Blotkamp and José Maria Prado generously agreed to pay a voluntary extra membership fee (500 US\$). It was decided to extend the call for extra voluntary contributions to more archives via the Secretariat.

Mr CHERCHI USAI undertook to explore with Mr DIMITRIU ways of reducing the publication costs of the Journal of Film Preservation.

FIAF Subscribers : as one of the various services to be offered to the FIAF Subscribers, Mr SMITHER suggested extending to the latter the privileges that are available to the subscribers/members of FIAF archives (i.e. buying publications at a discount). He also favoured the idea that FIAF subscribers be offered some kind of privileged access to services in archives though he knew this would have a lot of resistance in many archives. However, he believed this was worth exploring.

As another privilege, Mr CHERCHI USAI proposed to grant a discount on the participation fee to the Symposia and he suggested that every FIAF affiliate send to the Secretariat a list of the services they can offer.

Decision : Mr SMITHER and Mr DIMITRIU to bring to Mexico a list of "Services to FIAF Subscribers".

Referring to the funds raised by CNC in Bois d'Arcy for Ouagadougou, Ms AUBERT pointed out the potential contribution of FIAF archives to the objectives of the Federation (in this case, the development of film archiving in Africa) even when the sums raised do not add to the Federation's own income.

Mr TRUJILLO said that FIAF could serve as a clearing house for many institutions/foundations willing to support projects in Latin-American archives.

Mr RICCI encouraged looking for sponsors for the Journal and for our Congresses, two concrete and visible FIAF 'products'.

6. REVIEW OF LOS ANGELES CONGRESS

6.a. Publication of Proceedings

Should there be money available from the funds raised for the Congress, Mr RICCI announced that, upon agreement of the organizing Committee, part of it might be used to publish at least a selection of the papers presented during the symposia and/or workshops.

The workshop on non-fiction film having been so successful, Mr DAUDELIN suggested the publication of the related papers in the next issue of the Journal so as to open up the debate to the general membership of FIAF as well as outside the membership. Mr RICCI fully agreed, suggesting to do the same with the papers related to the symposium on Ethics of Film Preservation. Ms AUBERT seconded these suggestions and invited the editorial board of the FIAF Journal to take them into account.

6.b. Other

At the request of Ms AUBERT, and as a representative of the organising committee, Mr RICCI was given a round of applause for the excellent organisation of the Congress.

Several EC members then expressed their comments on the following points :

- structure of the Congress : there was a general preference to hold the symposia and the workshops before the General Assembly.
- preparation of the symposium/workshop : Mr OPELA asked that all panelists be kept within time schedule. He also called for a better definition of the subjects on the agenda in order to avoid confusion in terminology and to make sure that panelists do not go beyond their brief. Mr JEAVONS agreed to draft for Mexico a set of guidelines for the organisation of workshops and symposia.
- de-briefing of symposia/workshops : Mr RICCI seconded Mr HORAK's proposal to organize small break-out sessions after the symposia/workshops, where people in small groups can follow up the discussions.
- election session : Mr SCHOU suggested more efficient use of the time between each election, which Ms AUBERT fully supported.
- film archives - film industry relationship : Ms CLAES was concerned that the Symposium might have presented an unjustifiably optimistic impression of the likely shape of future relations between film archives and the industry. As a result of the historic breach between the archives and film producers or distributors in many countries, FIAF or the local member was not given serious recognition there. She urged on all her colleagues the importance of

establishing contacts with the industry in their own country, in order to re-affirm our rights, knowledge and authority. Mr PRADO agreed.

Mr RICCI suggested to Ms CLAES that the industry is not monolithic, explaining that many North-American archives had very good cooperative relations with some studios. However, he recognized that because of the different nature of individual archives in other countries and the legal questions involved, this was a very complicated matter and did require very soon a symposium on what rights we have, which rights we want to obtain and ratify.

10 NEXT EC MEETING

The dates for the next EC meeting in Mexico were agreed as follows : November 29 until December 2, 1995. Translation would be provided into Spanish.

Mr TRUJILLO still had to confirm the meeting place : Mexico City or Cancun, during the Cancun Film Festival. If the meeting was to be held in Cancun, Mr TRUJILLO intended to ask EC members to contribute to the festival by providing extracts of preserved films in order to make up a 20-minute FIAF presentation of preservation examples.

Mr TRUJILLO undertook to send confirmation re. dates and place to the Secretariat by the end of May.

8 PROJECTS AND PUBLICATIONS UNDERWAY

Mr CHERCHI USAI outlined the main decisions taken by the Editorial Board during its meeting the previous day in the presence of the Senior Administrator :

- The Chief Editor will be assisted by a Deputy Chief Editor who will be rotating every three years.
- The idea of a separate Newsletter was abandoned. The news from the affiliates will be integrated into the Journal in a central detachable section.
- The link between the Editor and the Secretariat will be reinforced under the responsibility of the Senior Administrator.
- A fund-raising action in favour of the Journal will be undertaken by the Senior Administrator.
- There will have to be found ways of reducing the design costs of the Journal.
- The disquette policy should become general so as to reduce time and money spent for the re-typing of the originals at the Secretariat.
- The candidature of Hillel Tryster (Steven Spielberg Jewish Film Archive) to be part of the Editorial Board was unanimously accepted.

The next issue of the Journal would include all papers linked with 1) the future of FIAF (all member of the Board and Ms AUBERT should read them first), 2) the Symposium on Non-Fiction Films and 3) the Symposium on The Ethics of

Film Preservation. The Editorial Board would call for extra papers on the two last themes.

Mr NIETO asked the Editorial Board to react to his written suggestions, formulated in July 1994.

7 FUTURE CONGRESSES

7.a. 1996 : clarification of the Beijing situation.

Beijing's proposal to reconsider the organisation of a FIAF Congress had been received with great satisfaction and Mr SMITHER would explore with our Chinese colleagues the possibility to organize the 1998 FIAF Congress. On the other hand, the Secretary General wanted the EC to adopt a formal position towards Beijing's intention to maintain the Symposium on Film Archiving in Asia, with the help of Unesco.

7.b. 1996 : Plans for Jerusalem

After a long discussion regarding the general structure of the Congress and the subject and the title of the symposium, the following was agreed :

- a. the Congress would last five days divided as follows:
 - * 2 days for the Symposium on Archival Rights (4 topics), including half a day reserved to discussions in 4 separate working groups on the subjects dealt with during the Symposium.
 - * ½ day on Palestinian Cinema
 - * 1 and ½ day for the General Assembly
 - * 1 day for the excursion

Mr SMITHER recalled that the General Assembly's schedule should foresee time for discussion about the general problems of FIAF.

As an alternative to the Symposium on Palestinian cinema, the Cataloguing Commission proposed to coordinate a Symposium on Intellectual Access (approaching the contents of collections by their subject matter).

It was agreed that Legal Deposit would be only one topic on the agenda of the Archival Rights Symposium. Ms AUBERT announced that one of her colleagues in Bois d'Arcy was interested in analysing in detail the different kinds of legal deposit systems existing worldwide. She therefore intended to send to all FIAF archives a new questionnaire about their local legal deposit system, and the information collected hereby would be commented in a detailed report to be presented during the symposium.

A working group, including Hoos Blotkamp (coordinator), Clyde Jeavons, David Francis (to be confirmed) and Gabrielle Claes (as a consultant) was appointed to prepare the symposium and come up with a plan in Mexico.

Ms AUBERT undertook to send to Ms BLOTKAMP the summaries of discussions that have already taken place in France about copyright and legal deposit.

7.c. 1997 : Cartagena

Mr NIETO's formal request to receive a provision of 5,000.- US\$ for the Congress was accepted.

Mr NIETO intended to call for contributions to the Symposium via the Secretariat.

He was asked to ensure adequate equipment for the screening of amateur formats.

Ms CLAES invited her colleagues to agree on a clear definition of the term 'amateur' in the context of the Symposium.

EC members were to come to Mexico with ideas on the topic of amateur films.

7.d. 1998 : Beijing or Prague

All Executive Committee members were instantly asked to come up with ideas in Mexico for the 1998 Symposium, be it in Beijing or Prague.

11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Having noted the absence of Mr BENARD DA COSTA from this meeting, Ms AUBERT and Mr SMITHER undertook to remind him in writing that, according to Rule 77, *Heads of Commissions must attend the meetings of the Executive Committee connected with the General Assembly.*

For lack of time, the Executive Committee was unable to discuss the remaining points on the agenda.

Ms AUBERT thanked everybody and formally closed the meeting.