



FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE L'ART PHOTOGRAPHIQUE

The International Federation of Photographic Art

INFO 2014 / 785 E

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 32nd FIAP CONGRESS 1-7 September 2014, Turkey

SESSION I: Tuesday, 02 September 2014 (morning):

1) OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE CONGRESS

The President, Mr Riccardo Busi, welcomed all participants to the 32nd FIAP Congress.

2) CALL OF THE DELEGATES

The Secretary General, Mr Ioannis Lykouris, made a roll call of the delegates and asked them to sign the attendance sheet, before giving them the voting cards for the countries they were representing, including proxies. Those countries present or represented were: ANDORRA, ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, BAHREIN, BANGLADESH, BELARUS, BELGIUM, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, BULGARIA, CZECH REPUBLIC, CHILE, COLOMBIA, CUBA, DENMARK, EMIRATES, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, FINLAND, FRANCE, FYROM, GERMANY, GREECE, GREAT BRITAIN, GUATEMALA, HONG KONG, HUNGARY, INDIA, INDONESIA, IRAN, ITALIA, JAPAN, KOREA, LUXEMBOURG, MACAU, MALTA, MAURITIUS, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, NEW ZEALAND, OMAN, PAKISTAN, PANAMA, POLAND, ROMANIA, RUSSIA, SAN MARINO, SAUDI ARABIA, SERBIA, SINGAPORE, SLOVENIA, SPAIN, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, THAILAND, TURKEY, UKRAINE, URUGUAY, VIETNAM. With 58 affiliated countries out of 81 were present or represented, the vote on the dissolution of FIAP could be taken.

3) COMMENCEMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SESSIONS:

The FIAP President, R. BUSI, reminded the delegates on the importance of this Congress for the next years to come.

4) DECEASED COLLABORATORS

A minute's silence is observed in memory of FIAP's friends Stefan Ristic, Nicole Biliau, Tatsuro Ota, Derek Slattery, Barrie Wilkins, Leszek Kurpiewski and Borci Pedro.

5) ELECTION OF THE SCRUTINEERS

Messrs Esa S. Engawi (Saudi Arabia), Brian Cudby (New Zealand) and Conrad Mularoni (San Marino) were appointed as the scrutineers for the Congress.

6) APPROVAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF 31ST CONGRESS IN SINGAPORE (INFO 2012/698)

The proceedings of the 31st Congress in Singapore were unanimously approved.

7) REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

The FIAP President underlined that the previous Congress in Singapore in 2012 was just the beginning of a new path for FIAP. There were two important issues to be faced: the office in Paris and the social seat of FIAP. In December 2013, an Extraordinary-Congress took place in Paris to deal with these two issues. Since there was no quorum with the required number of votes, no decision could be made. Nevertheless, it was useful for those present to explore the different possible options. The best solution for the Board of Directors (BD) was to transfer the social seat to Luxembourg, close the office in Paris, and draft a new statute for FIAP. In the previous years, the BD had made progress in working on the different aspect: the new FIAP website, the Ethics Service, the "FIAP

News" online magazine and the collaboration with other associations (PSA, RPS). Decentralized Board meetings were introduced in order to reach out to as many people in the big FIAP family. As of to-date, two meetings were organised: one in Argentina (December 2013) and one in Italy (March 2014). Permanent Exhibition Centres (PECs) were also conceived. Two of them are already open in Montevarchi, Italy, since May 2014 and in Konya, Turkey, August 2014. Three more would be soon inaugurated in Oman, China and Argentina. In conjunction with the opening of the PEC in Montevarchi an exhibition dedicated to women photographers, "Women's Photo Art in FIAP", was inaugurated, and subsequently repeated in Albenga, Italy. Several competitions were promoted, especially with charity goal like "Friendship and Solidarity. He announced that the award ceremony for the forthcoming 9th World Cup for Clubs would take place in Ripollet, Spain. In the framework of the initiative "Best Author" per salon number, the BD was happy to welcome to this Congress Luis Alberto Franke from Argentina who won the "Best of the Best" Award consecutively for 2012 and 2013. He also mentioned that were still work to be done in order to promote FIAP in the world. The President read the message of Mr Emile Wanderscheid, Honorary President of FIAP, who underlined the need to take decisions in the interest of the photographic art and not for personal reasons. He ended his speech by warmly thanking Vice-President FIAP Jacky Martin who would be leaving the BD but remained available, as always, for FIAP. The complete text of the report was reproduced in the Congress Book.

8) REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Mr Ioannis LYKOURIS began his speech by thanking the Turkish Federation for organising this Congress. He emphasized the positive financial balance of FIAP and the increase of applications for FIAP Patronages, Distinctions and Photographer Cards. He reported that FIAP was close to signing a Memorandum of Understanding with UNESCO, after two years of negotiations. He mentioned the problem with some operational members whose participation in FIAP organized events, like the Biennials, was not up to expectations. As such, he introduced different ways of sending FIAP documents in order to monitor their reception. The BD was considering the application of criteria and rules for the Liaison Officers. He gave some details about the issue of the seat in Paris, the new statute and the decisions to be taken in the current Congress: dissolution of FIAP (France) and creation of FIAP (Luxemburg). Before concluding his speech, Mr Ioannis Lykouris expressed his special thanks to Vice-President Jacky Martin who collaborated with FIAP for 17 years. The complete text of the report was reproduced in the Congress Book.

9) CANCELLATION OF MEMBERS

Haiti, Morocco, Jordan and Tunisia did not pay their annual membership fees and were consequently struck off from the list of FIAP's member-countries.

10) REPORT OF THE TREASURER FOR FINANCIAL PERIODS 2012 and 2013

The FIAP Treasurer, Mr Herbert Gmeiner, reported that the balance of 2013 was positive and similar with the one of 2012, with a growth in the assets.

11) REPORT OF THE AUDITORS

Mr. Wolfgang Wiesen, from DVF Germany, referred to the audit work he did with Mr. Peter Aemmer, from Photo Suisse, Switzerland in March 2014. They went through the accounts of FIAP's treasury for 2013, and found that everything was correct and in order. He thanked Treasurer Herbert Gmeiner for his excellent work.

12) APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS BY THE CONGRESS

The General Assembly of the Congress voted unanimously on the approval of the accounts for 2012 and 2013, which were included in the Congress Book.

13) DRAFT BUDGET FOR THE PERIOD 2014

The budget for 2014 was included in the Congress Book. The closing of the FIAP social seat would influence the budget for the following year, 2015.

14) FIAP SERVICES: DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE REPORTS OF THE SERVICES

Concerning the approbation of the reports of the Directors of the Services published in the Congress book, the General Assembly voted once for all together, as done in previous occasions. The General Assembly approved unanimously all reports, except the report of the Life Card Service, which was not voted by India. The representative of India, Mr. Barun Sinha, explained the reason of his contrary vote. He complained about the non-

receiving of some life cards, which he had waited for two years. Mr. Ewald Schmelz, Director of the Life Cards' Service, responded that he was working hard to improve the quality and the sending of the cards. He explained that he did not receive any recent orders from India, and assured that by the end of the year all problems would be solved.

SESSION II: Tuesday, 02 September 2014 (afternoon):

15) DISSOLUTION OF FIAP (FRANCE) AND ANALYSIS OF THE NEW FIAP STATUTES (LUXEMBOURG)

The General Secretary FIAP, Mr. Ioannis Lykouris, clarified the situation of the social seat in Paris. At the current Congress, important decisions would be taken for the dissolution of FIAP France, the creation of a new FIAP in Luxembourg and the new Statutes. He explained that the BD began to think about the possibility to move to Luxembourg since 2010. With a projected presentation, the General Secretary showed that the headquarters were not very efficient concerning both costs (rent and personnel) and effectiveness (one place, limited visitors). The BD saw that the PECs as a great possibility and alternative: they are located in different places so more visitors can reach them with lesser costs (no rent, no personnel). To deal with the issue of the social seat, different lawyers and fiscal experts were consulted and different options were proposed: to move the headquarters from Paris to Luxembourg; to close both seat and federation and create a new association; to have two simultaneous associations coexisting, one in France and one in Luxembourg. The best solution would be a combination of these possibilities: to close the seat, to create a new FIAP in Luxembourg, which will coexist for a short period of time with the old FIAP in France and finally to proceed to the dissolution of the old FIAP in France. During the ordinary BD meeting in Argentina, the BD proceeded to work in that direction. At the end of March 2014, Mr Romain Nero contacted a lawyer in Luxembourg for advices concerning the legislation of that country, who affirmed that the current statutes were not compatible with the Luxembourg law. After more than 3 months collaboration with one lawyer in France and one in Luxemburg and many follow ups by the members of the BD, the Secretary General, who is also a lawyer by profession, prepared a final draft of the new statutes and sent them to all members. The main differences between the old and the new statutes are: a) a new category of membership, the individual authors of the member countries, b) no ex officio vote for the members of the BD c) possibility of two proxies per delegate. The dissolution of FIAP was not automatic and there was a special procedure to follow according to the French law. It would not come into effect immediately but by the end of November. The General Secretary, before asking the treasurer to talk about the future of the property, announced the need to appoint two liquidators and suggested Mr Jacky Martin and the French lawyer who was looking after the dissolution of FIAP France. The new postal address for the period of transition would be the personal address of Mr Jacky Martin. Mr Herbert Gmeiner then gave an overview about the French taxes. In the previous years the economic situation in Europe worsened and taxes increased. The modifications carried out by the French administration entailed that if FIAP remained in France it could risk losing its recognition as a non-profit organization. Concerning the office in Paris, it was very expensive since FIAP paid about 60.000 € per year for a small office and one employee. From now on, no office would be opened in Luxembourg and FIAP would be recognized as a non-profit organization by the Luxembourg administration. The BD allowed the General Assembly to ask questions and to make remarks on what were reported said. Answering a question from Mr. Ibrahim al-Busaidi, Liaison Officer of Oman, Mr Riccardo Busi clarified that the newly introduced individual membership has no right to vote at all. They would remain members of the Operational Member and they would have their national card. The Operational Members would remain the most important members. This new category would come into force from January with the new statutes. The importance of the individual membership would lie in giving FIAP greater influence when it approached important commercial companies for sponsorships. Responding to a question from Mr Dave Coates, Liaison Officer of England, Mr Riccardo Busi explained that those individual members are free to choose whether they become individual member and the clubs and national federations were not obliged to give a FIAP number to their members. Mr. Wolfgang Wiesen, Liaison Officer of Germany, asked if those individual members need to pay a fee. Mr. Ioannis Lykouris assured that they would not have to. Mr. David Tay, member of the BD, talked about his experience, as Director of FIAP Service Promotion and Partnership, with some important companies. Until now, he could only speak about how many countries were member of FIAP, but big companies were more interested in how many people, how many possible buyers. With this new category of members, FIAP could speak more convincingly when sourcing for sponsorships. Mr Riccardo Busi explains that Life Cards were something different from becoming an Individual Member. In the case of the Photographer Card nothing will change with the new statutes. Mr. Ioannis Lykouris answering a question of Mr. Bryan Cudby, Liaison Officer of New Zealand, specified that FIAP needed numbers but it is possible that a list of names would be asked by the companies and, in that case, special attention should be

paid. He further clarified that the founding members of the new association will be only the Operational Members present or represented who would sign the new Statutes during the current Congress. The members who were not participating in the General Assembly would sign in another time, and they would not be constitutional members. Mr. Bert Hoveling, Liaison Officer of Australia, intervened saying that FIAP should respond to the federation of the countries who would furnish numbers and names. Mr. Riccardo Busi clarified the aim of this initiative was exactly to give something more to the members and assured that the names and e-mail addresses would remain confidential. Mr. Ibrahim al-Busaidi, Liaison Officer of Oman, spoke in support of the proposal because, in his opinion, it would maximize the advantages and allow FIAP to get more sponsors.

16) VOTING FOR THE DISSOLUTION OF FIAP (FRANCE)

The General Assembly voted for the dissolution of the original FIAP. After the scrutineers completed the vote count, Mr. Ioannis Lykouris announced that all the 58 countries present or represented voted in favour of the dissolution. Then the General Assembly voted on the creation of the new FIAP in Luxembourg. The proposal was also passed with all 58 votes in favour. The General Assembly also approved the transfer of properties and assets to the new FIAP with 58 votes.

17) NOMINATION OF LIQUIDATORS (ART. 8.1 OF ACTUAL STATUTES)

The General Assembly charged Mr Jacky Martin and the French lawyer, Dominique Monget Sarraill, as liquidators. The General Assembly also unanimously approved the proposal to transfer the physical address of FIAP to the personal address of Vice-President Jacky Martin.

18) VOTING FOR THE NEW FIAP STATUTES AND INTERNAL REGULATION

The new FIAP Statutes and Internal Regulation were unanimously accepted and President FIAP Riccardo Busi officially announced the creation of the new FIAP.

19) SIGNATURES FOR THE DISSOLUTION OF THE ACTUAL FIAP AND THE CREATION OF THE NEW FIAP

The Secretary General called the delegates to sign the official documents for the dissolution of the FIAP France and for the creation of the new FIAP in Luxembourg.

20) NEW FIAP WEBSITE

Vice-President, Mr. Jacky Martin, presented the new website of FIAP. After two years work to develop and design it, and after a final test, the website would be soon accessible. Mr Ibrahim al-Busaidi, Liaison Officer of Oman, suggested making the website accessible also for smartphones and tablets. Mr Riccardo Busi assured that a version to support different media platforms would be realised. Mr Barun Sinha, Liaison Officer of India, proposed to put the links of federations' websites on FIAP's homepage. Mr Riccardo Busi found no problem for this. Mr Jun Shil Keun, Liaison Officer of South Korea, complained about the difficulties to find information about competitions on the current website. Mr Jacky Martin assured it would be rectified in the following phase of development.

21) FIAP PERMANENT EXHIBITION CENTRES

Mr Turgay Bilge, Vice-President of the Turkish Federation, took the stage to thank all FIAP members for their presence and spoke about the preference of his Federation to establish a PEC in Istanbul and in Ankara than in Konya and the opposition showed by FIAP to this proposal. Mr Riccardo Busi explained some misunderstandings. Before opening a PEC, FIAP sent a letter to the national federation to make sure that there were no problems. In the case of Konya, a letter was sent in November/December 2013. In the answer of the Turkish Federation no opposition to Konya was expressed but only its wish to open other PECs in the two principal cities of the country. Possibilities to have more PECs were welcomed. The BD would be happy to have three PECs in Turkey. Mr Anton Savov, Liaison Officer of Bulgaria, asked to know the procedure to establish a PEC. President Riccardo Busi explained that the Centre ought to organise at least 5 exhibitions per year under FIAP auspices and send a report at the end of each exhibition, as well as to increase the visibility of FIAP and to spread information of the exhibitions in the host country. A special INFO document would be sent as soon as possible to explain in details all the prerequisites.

22) FIAP INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS (OPERATIONAL MEMBERS' ASSOCIATES)

As already explained, this new category of members did not have voting right, and would remain affiliated to their national federation. They would bring advantages to FIAP, to the clubs and to the members. In turn, it would make FIAP to be seen as more influential by big corporations/organizations.

SESSION III: Thursday, 02 September 2014 (morning):

23) PROPOSAL FOR A PHOTOMEETING IN 2015, IN CUBA

Vice-president Joan Burgues presented the photography-oriented program and highlights for next Photomeeting in Cuba and the costs of the trip. He himself would be part of the organization team and a guide. Mr Busi underlined the importance of Photomeetings: an opportunity to meet, to have fun and to take pictures. The BD also decided to recognize the "Indonesian Photomeeting" organized in Bali, as a real FIAP Photomeeting, so the Photomeeting in Cuba would be the 4th in the history of FIAP. The previous ones were held in: Sicily, Crete and Bali. Given that Cuba was the only one candidate, there was no need to vote. Mr Riccardo expressed his hope that there would be great participation for the Cuban photomeeting with more to come in the future.

24) PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDACIES FOR THE 33RD FIAP CONGRESS IN 2016

South Korea was only one candidate for the organization of next Congress in 2016. The candidacy was submitted by the Photographic Society of Korea for the second time. Its Liaison Officer, Mr Jun Shil Keun, presented the proposed program accompanied by an audio-visual presentation. During the following year, all the details and the program would be available on the website of the Photographic Society of Korea, whose President was present at the Congress. The 2016 Congress would take place from 22nd to 28th August. The hosting cities would be Seoul, Gyeongju and Busan. A video showing places of interests in those cities was screened.

25) VOTING FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE ORGANIZER OF THE 33RD FIAP CONGRESS IN 2016

With no other candidacies for the 33rd FIAP Congress, all the delegates voted in favour of South Korea. Mr Busi wishes the Korean delegates good luck. The President of the Photographic Society of Korea thanked all the delegates present and said that he would be honoured to host the 33rd Congress. He asked for the cooperation and support of all to ensure that it would be the best Congress in FIAP's history.

26) PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Louis Alberto Franke, Liaison Officer of Argentina, presented Nicolas Berlingeri, following which, Mr Berlingeri himself gave a short speech about himself. The other members to be elected did not present themselves since they were already on the BD.

27) ELECTIONS FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Secretary General explained that the new Board elected for FIAP France would be nominated as the first Board of the new FIAP Luxembourg. Normal election of the new FIAP Board would take place at the Congress in South Korea where, as usual, half of the Board would be due for election. A form was distributed by the Secretary General, who explained the voting procedure.

28) ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ELECTION RESULTS

The scrutineers announced the election results: 57 votes for Mr. Ioannis Lykouris, who would remain as Secretary General, 56 votes for Mr. Nicolas Berlingeri who became a new member of the Board of Directors (BD), 52 votes for Mr. Freddy Van Gilbergen, for the post of Vice-President, and 46 votes for Mr. Romain Nero, who remained member of the BD. The President congratulates the elected members.

29) NEW IDEAS FOR THE ORGANISATION AND STRUCTURE OF A FIAP CONGRESS

President Riccardo Busi proposed to increase the collaboration by inaugurating meetings in separate rooms (divided according to the theme, competence or service) during future Congresses to talk and share ideas and to ask questions. In this way, FIAP could have a more concrete, meaningful Congress. The ideas of all members are needed to improve the organisation of the future Congresses. Mr Ibrahim al-Busaidi, Liaison Officer of Oman, expressed his belief in the need of improving FIAP's communications in order to involve the new generations. FIAP should have a presence in Twitter, Instagram and other important tools. The second important action to be taken, according to him, was to start sending strong messages. In the world there are wars, terrorism, technology, sport,

and environment; FIAP should play its part. Mr Tapio Karjalainen, Liaison Officer of Finland, said that in his opinion the Liaison Officers should communicate not only with the BD but also among them. They should be more active globally. The BD found the proposal of Mr. Tapio Karjalainen to create a closed group on Facebook only for the Liaison Officers interesting. The Secretary General announced that it would be immediately created, so that the Liaison Officers could join the group. Mr Barun Sinha, Liaison Officer of India, proposed to separate the Photomeeting in two sessions, one in Cuba and the other in the Middle East which is easier to reach from Asia. Mr Bert Hoveling, Liaison Officer of Australia, proposed to spread the sessions of the Congress via internet (live streaming could be a possibility) so that each country could be aware of the taken decisions and of the voted proposal. Mr Riccardo Busi reported that an application just arrived from the Photographic Federation of Slovenia - Fotografska Zvesa Slovenije - for a new PEC which would be realised at Negova Castle in Slovenia.

30) BOARD OF DIRECTORS: OUTGOING MEMBERS

President Riccardo Busi gave a plaque of Honorary Vice-President to Jacky Martin who was leaving his post for personal reasons after 17 years serving FIAP as Director of Biennial Service, Director of the Headquarter, Director of the Club's World Cup, Webmaster and, of course, as Member of the BD and Vice President.

31) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Messrs. Wolfgang Wiesen and Csaba Balasi from Romania were appointed as new auditors. Membership fees for ensuing year would not be changed. The individual members and the honorary members did not have to pay.

32) CLOSE OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE WORK OF THE 32nd FIAP CONGRESS:

The president of FIAP thanked the delegates who had played a constructive part during Congress. He wished all the delegates an enjoyable Congress, and a safe journey home. He looked forward to seeing them in two years' time in Seoul, South Korea.

Athens, 5 December 2014

Ioannis LYKOURIS
Editor of the proceedings

