



# FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE L'ART PHOTOGRAPHIQUE

## The International Federation of Photographic Art

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### Minutes of the FIAP Board of Directors Muscat, Oman 9-11 May 2022

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**PRESENT:** Riccardo BUSI, Joan BURGUES, Freddy VAN GILBERGEN, Herbert GMEINER, Ioannis LYKOURIS, Kurt BATSchINSKI, Romain NERO, Luis FRANKE (members of BD).

#### 1. Introduction by the President

The President, R. Busi, opens the meeting and thanks the members for their presence after two years of pandemic.

#### 2. Review of the tasks accomplished since the last meeting

The Secretary General, I. Lykouris, presents the list of the tasks accomplished since the last meeting in November 2021. H. Gmeiner proposes the DATAC24 accounting software, which seems to be adequate and suitable for FIAP's needs and can also be translated into English. The discussion will be resumed at the next BD meeting.

#### 3. Report of the Treasurer

The Treasurer, H. Gmeiner, presents the current situation. As of now, Bhutan, Mexico and Myanmar have not paid for 2 consecutive years, as well as some ILFIAPs. Given the particular situation due to the pandemic, it is decided to wait until the annual congress in December. The Treasurer proposes an increase of the LALUX Safe Invest from EUR 50,000 to EUR 100,000, provided the auditors agree.

#### 4. Relations with the members

Montenegro: A photography club based in Montenegro contacted FIAP contesting the national representation of the FIAP operational member in that country. The Board of Directors decided to investigate this complaint.

Emirates: A new operational member candidate, the Shutter Bugs Creative Forum, has been temporarily affiliated by the BD as an operational member. Its candidacy has to be approved by the General Assembly.

France: The French Federation President wrote to the FIAP President to address several points, including the problem of acceptances obtained through the various FIAP salons which do not count towards a distinction pending the announcement of the previous diploma, hard-copy acceptances which are no longer compulsory to obtain FIAP titles, and financial support for the organisation of a Biennial.

Bahrein: An internal problem with the representation of this operational member needs to be resolved. The BD is committed to finding a solution.

#### 5. Relations avec PSA

President R. Busi reports on the good relations between the two organisations, which are ready to reach a common acceptance rate for exhibitions under the patronage of FIAP and PSA. He emphasises the importance of cooperation between the two organisations in drafting common regulations on the travel and photojournalism sections, as well as the corresponding ethical services for registering an author on the red list. FIAP was invited to sign agreements with PSA during the PSA Photo Festival 2022 and will therefore immediately cooperate with PSA in the preparation of the agreements.

#### 6. Patronage Service

The Director of the Service, R. Nero, presents the current situation of FIAP patronage and salons. The BD discussed the criteria for the Best of the Best for the future and the regulations for the online judging.

#### 7. World Cup for Clubs

The Director of the Service, M. Macinai, requests an official interpretation of Articles 3 and 11 of the Cup regulations. According to the official interpretation provided by the BD, the term "resident member of the club" will be included in

the rules to clarify that a foreign author must also be a member of the club participating in the Cup. It is also decided that only the accepted photos of the first 10 clubs will be published. Following Macinai's proposal, the BD decided to allow again the authors of accepted photos in the FIAP World Cup for Clubs to count these acceptances for FIAP awards, as was the case in the past. It is decided to maintain online judging for the World Cup for Clubs also in the future. The excellent work done by the Spanish software house for the organisation of the Club World Cup is also noted.

#### **8. Medal Service**

The Director of the Service, K. Batschinski, explains in detail the problems with the postal services during the pandemic for the distribution of the medals. The BD proposes the help of an assistant to speed up the medal distribution process.

#### **9. Distinctions Service**

The Director of the Service, F.v Gilbergen, presents the current situation and future developments. The BD discusses the letter sent by G. Jing to China about the continuing problem of inactivity in that country due to bureaucratic procedures preventing Chinese authors from applying for FIAP awards. The BD commits to finding a solution before the next congress. The BD also analysed several potential nominations for FIAP honorary titles proposed by the Director of the Service or other members of the BD. Final decisions will be announced during the next photo meeting in Oman in 2022 and during the next Congress in Spain in 2022. The BD considered the implementation of a new (two-stage) selection system for MFIAP candidates and asked the Director of the Service to propose a potential list of judges for the MFIAP awards. The BD approved the MFIAP Board's proposal for new MFIAP Maitres: Ana Maria Robles (Argentina), Bjarne Hyldgaard Pedersen (Denmark), Petri Damsten (Finland), Angelo Di Tommaso (France), Claudia Xiaoli Lee (Taiwan) and Yulia Artemyeva (Russian Federation).

#### **10. Biennials Service**

The Director of the Service, L. Franke, presents the current situation and proposes a change in the regulations in relation to the subsidy granted by FIAP. It is decided that the organiser will no longer need a printed catalogue and will already receive EUR 3,000 for a pdf catalogue and for covering part of the remaining costs. Instead of a catalogue for each Biennial, FIAP will publish a catalogue every two years, which will contain the award-winning photographs of the four Biennials of that period in one volume. The director will also be responsible for the Youth Biennial.

#### **11. Youth Service**

Mr Kurt Batschinski asked to hand over the Youth Service and the BD appointed Mr Ahmed Al Busaidi (Oman) as the new Director of the Service.

#### **12. FIAP insurance cover**

R. Nero presents the current situation. The BD asks him to enquire about the Board's civil liability insurance and event-based cover for all participants.

#### **13. Development of FIAP projects**

The "Sense of Humanity" project is ongoing, and the members of the BD are welcome to participate as it is open to everyone. The award ceremony will be organised for next June. The "UNESCO Heritage" project could not be organised because it was impossible to get the necessary information from UNESCO during the pandemic. It will be presented next year together with other FIAP projects.

#### **14. FIAP Exhibition Centres Service**

The Director of the Service, J. Burgues announces the opening of the new centre in the town of Villefranche de Conflent with the collaboration of the French Federation. We hope to open another centre in France in the coming year.

#### **15. Next Photo meeting in Oman**

During their stay in Muscat, the members of the BD checked with the Omani government and our Liaison Officer in Oman, Mr. Ahmed Al Busaidi, on the current situation. Agreements between FIAP and the organiser were signed. There are still a few points to be settled, especially concerning the hotel and data protection, which must be resolved as soon as possible. For its part, the BD commits to finalising the list of persons invited at FIAP's expense, i.e. the winners of the competitions organised directly by FIAP, the winners of the O. Bretcher Trophy, the Van de Weier Trophy and the Best of the Best 2018-2019 and 2020-2021. For the time being, a candidacy has been submitted for the organisation of the photo meeting in 2023.

#### **16. Next FIAP Congress in Spain**

The Vice-President, J. Burgues, presents the current situation. The Congress will be held in Asturias, Spain from 1 to 4 December 2022. Details would be announced shortly. Given the consequences of the pandemic on the past

elections, the Assembly will vote this time for the President, a Vice-President, the Treasurer and two members of the Board. The next Congress is scheduled for 2024.

**17. FIAP Professional Video**

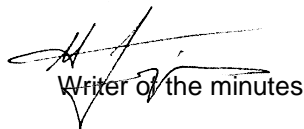
The Board decided to have a short professional video made on the presentation of FIAP.

**18. Next BD Meeting**

The next BD meeting is set for 1 December 2022 in Asturias, Spain, with all members present.

Athens, 6 August 2022

Ioannis LYKOURIS



Writer of the minutes