



# FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE L'ART PHOTOGRAPHIQUE

## The International Federation of Photographic Art

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### MINUTES OF THE 35<sup>th</sup> FIAP Congress - 9th FIAP General Assembly

OVERO – ASTURIAS - SPAIN: 01- 04 December 2022

#### 1. Official opening of the Congress

President Busi welcomes everyone to the 35th FIAP Congress, which was organised by the Director of the Langreu Exhibition Centre, Luis José Vigil Escalera and the Asemeyando Centre. He thanks the OM for Spain, Confederacion Espanola de Fotografia.

#### 2. Beginning of the administrative sessions

R. Busi invites Secretary General Ioannis Lykouris to start the verification of the presence of the delegates and their rights to vote.

#### 3. Roll call of the delegates

The Secretary General, Mr. Ioannis Lykouris, calls the delegates. The countries present or represented are: Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Colombia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Guatemala, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Macao, Malaysia Selangor, Malta, Morocco, Mauritius, Myanmar, Norway, New Zealand, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Scotland, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, United States of America, Uruguay, Vietnam, Wales.

#### 4. Election of the scrutineers

There are two candidates, Mr Conrad Mularoni (San Marino) and Mr, Pepo Vasquez (Andorra). Both are voted unanimously.

#### 5. Deceased Collaborators

R. Busi asks for a moment of silence to honour all the friends who have left us over the past four years.

#### 6. Affiliation - Radiation of Operational Members

The General Assembly proceeds with the cancellation of memberships and new affiliations. The Club Fotografico Kautl (Mexico), the Universal Photographic Association of Bhutan (Bhutan) and the Union des Journalistes Photographes Haïtiens (Haiti) are deleted from the list of member countries due to non-payment of annual fees for two years in a row. The new affiliations are : the "Lens Go" (Armenia), upgraded to the status of Operational Member from ILFIAP 2147 and the "Shutter Bugs Creative Forum" (United Arab Emirates) also upgraded to the status of Operational Member from ILFIAP 2220; Finally the "Photographers Association Euroasia" (Russian Federation) also upgraded to the status of Operational Member from ILFIAP 2229 and took the place of the previous Operational Member in Russian Federation "Creative Union Photoart", which ceased its membership with FIAP.

#### 7. Approval of the Proceedings of the previous Assembly of 2021

The proceedings of the FIAP General Assembly held by video conference in 2021 are approved unanimously.

## **8. Report of the President**

R. Busi welcomes everyone to the FIAP Congress, which was postponed from 2020 to 2022. He states that, after facing one of the most difficult times, FIAP is stronger than ever with the almost 2 million photographers it represents. This was possible thanks to all the members of the Board of Directors, the FIAP Service Directors and their assistants, the FIAP Centre Directors and all the liaison officers. R. Busi retraces the most significant moments, including the switch to online judging, the organisation of 4 free FIAP competitions (We Stay Home, The World in 2020, Wildlife Only, Sense of Humanity), the organisation of 5 FIAP Biennials, 3 World Cup for Clubs, 2 online General Assemblies, the opening of new Exhibition Centres, the cooperation agreement with Lishui, the creation of FIAP Photo Academy, the "Ramoge" and "We stay connected" project, the collaboration with the Photographic Society of America and the organisation of the 7th Photo Meeting in Oman. He presents some data in order to show the development of the Federation's activities and some of the main projects in which FIAP has been involved.

## **9. Report of the Secretary General**

I. Lykouris mentioned two photographic projects announced in 2022 : "Sense of Humanity" and "Wildlife Only". During the last year, FIAP cooperated with PSA to establish common rules about the different definitions in the Nature and Photojournalism sections and a common acceptance rate for exhibitions under the patronage of FIAP and PSA. In the FIAP Biennials the number of participating countries has increased; the organiser will no longer need a printed catalogue; Instead, FIAP will publish a catalogue every two years. Starting with the 2022 World Cup for Clubs, individual photographers will be able to count their acceptances in this competition towards their applications for individual FIAP distinctions. The number of salons under FIAP patronage and events under FIAP auspices is slightly increasing. The same applies for the FIAP Exhibition Centers, as a new one opened in Villefranche de Conflent in France and by the end of th year two more EC will open in China. Last but not least, FIAP has been awarded by the World International Property Organization the registration certificate for FIAP's logo.

## **10. Report of the Treasurer for the financial period 2021 + 2022**

His first balance in 2009 was around € 350,000, while last year's was € 1,500,000. This year, he made for the first time in FIAP half-year balance on 30 June. This was also verified by professional financial auditors in Luxembourg. His idea for this year's budget was very similar as they all decided the year before, but he was not sure how much the Congress will cost for FIAP. Right now, FIAP has a total of € 1,610,000 and this includes investments.

## **11. Report of the auditors**

Balance closes with a net profit of 236.870,88 Euros. The assets increase to 1.544.805,44 Euros as per Dec. 31st. 2021. The Balance as well as the Profit and Loss Account are complete. The bookings correspond to the vouchers. The accounting entries correspond to the receipts. The invoicing is justified, and the assets are accounted for by the according vouchers. They recommend not increasing the revenues in the following years and not to accumulate more assets.

## **12. Draft Budget for the rest of 2022 and for the year 2023**

The Treasurer presents the draft budget for the rest of 2022 and for the year 2023.

## **13. Approval of the accounts by the General Assembly**

The accounts and the budgets presented by the Treasurer are approved by the GA.

## **14. Setting of Fees for 2023**

The Treasurer H. Gmeiner proposes to keep the same membership fees for 2023, proposition approved by the General Assembly.

## **15. Appointment of two auditors for the next period**

The GA votes Mr. Peter Marxer (Liechtenstein) and Mr. Norbert Heil (Germany) as auditors for the coming year.

## **16. Approval of the management and activity reports by the Board of Directors**

A report on the development of activities by the DB is presented to the GA. The management and the

activity reports of the BoD are approved by the GA.

#### **17. Report of the different activity development by the Directors of the FIAP Services**

The various activities developed by the Directors of FIAP Services are presented.

#### **18. Approval of the activity report of the FIAP Services Directors by the General Assembly**

The activity report of the Directors of FIAP Services is approved by the GA.

#### **19. FIAP Photo Academy:**

R. Busi and P. Stanley present the FIAP Photo Academy project "Our Future...in their eyes" which is the first project of the Photo Academy training area. It is important to do something for young people through such a large project involving many universities around the world. In 2020, R. Busi and D. PC Tay had the first meetings with 21 Chinese universities, but the project has since expanded. So, universities from different member countries need to be involved. The project has different steps: Step 1 - a contest at institute level. Step 2 - the first 10 authors from each institute (universities, photography schools, academies) will be able to participate at international level in a large contest run by FIAP. Some important prizes and workshops will be offered. At least the first 10 authors will have the opportunity to prepare a portfolio that will be presented in all our Exhibition Centres.

**20. FIAP Distinctions Service:** The Director of FIAP Distinctions Service, F. Van Gilbergen, explains that decision was taken to keep the same rules as at present and presenting the new distinctions regulations in 2025, which will be the result of merging of the ideas of the Board, the agreements with PSA and the suggestions made by the General Assembly.

#### **21. FIAP Patronage Service:**

In 2021, we had 582 salons run, compared to 535 in 2020 (an increase of 8,8%). Of these, 297 were single salons (251 in 2020) and there were 84 circuits (81 in 2020), involving 3, 4 or 5 salons each, accounting for the other 285 salons (284 in 2020). The events increased from 332 to 381. 449 salons were organized by organizers from countries that are affiliated as operational members and 133 salons by ILFIAP clubs from non-affiliated countries. A total of 82 individual photographic events under FIAP Auspices were organised across 14 different countries. The Director of the FIAP Patronage Service, R. Nero, presents the integrations on Patronage regulations: there is a maximum number of times people can judge per year; creation of a registry: each judge will have a specific profile; maximum acceptance rate of 30%; adaptation, together with the PSA, of the existing text that participants must accept before participating; adaptation of the required size of the digital images; common definition with PSA for Photojournalism and Nature. The new agreement with PSA will be introduced in January 2025.

**22. FIAP Biennial Service:** The Director of the Biennials Service, Luis Franke, announced that the software house has been changed to Fotogenius, in Spain, which is developing the system for the Biennials, to judge individual images, collections and put together both scores, all under the same conditions as the other competitions, at no extra cost. He presented the calendar for the upcoming Biennials in Norway (Youth Biennial) and Greece (Color Biennial) and the conditions for the new Catalogue for Biennials, published by FIAP itself, which will cover all 4 Biennials of every two years.

**23. Youth Service:** The President presents the new Director of the Youth Service, Mr. Ahmed Al-Busaidi, who takes the floor and emphasizes in the role of the federations to communicate with schools and colleges and organize events for this category, in order to direct the energies of the youth in positive aspects. Among his plans in order to activate the role of youth, is to organize international events in cooperation with UNESCO and UNICEF, to open accounts in the social media targeting youth members of FIAP, to establish an international youth forum in parallel with Congress and Photo Meeting and to launch a group of awards for the youth category, such as the Best Youth Photographer Award, and the Best Union Award.

#### **24. Presentation of candidates for the Board of Directors:**

The delegates are invited to vote for the Board of Directors candidates : President : Riccardo BUSI, 1 Vice-President : Joan BURGUES Martisella, Treasurer : Herbert Gmeiner, 2 Members : Kurt BATSCINSKI and David P.C. TAY.

## **25. Elections for the Board of Directors and Announcement of the election results**

President : Riccardo BUSI with 67 votes, Vice-President : Joan BURGUES Martisella with 63 votes, Treasurer : Herbert Gmeiner with 63 votes, Members : Kurt BATSCHINSKI with 62 votes, David P.C. TAY with 67 votes.

## **26. Proposal for a Photo Meeting in 2023**

After the very interesting presentations of Armenia and Asturias, candidates for the 8th Photo Meeting, the Assembly General votes for the designation of the organiser and Armenia gets 32 votes and Asturias in Spain 36 votes. There is also 1 white vote.

## **27. Submission of the candidacies for the 36th FIAP Congress in 2024**

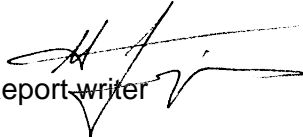
The organisation of the 35th FIAP Congress was to be held in Jaipur, India in the second half of 2020 but it was cancelled because of Covid-19. The "Federation of Indian Photography" resubmits its candidature. Since there is no other candidate and the Congress in India was cancelled due to the Covid situation there is no need to vote again. R. Busi wishes all the best to the Federation of Indian photography for their first Congress organised in India.

## **28. End of the session of the annual FIAP general assembly 2022**

The President of FIAP thanks the participants of this Congress and on behalf of the Board of Directors, he wishes everyone a happy holiday Christmas season.

Athens, March 1, 2023

Ioannis LYKOURIS

  
Report writer