



MINUTES OF THE 12th FIAP GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Sofia, Bulgaria 7 December 2025

1. Official opening of the General Assembly

Mr. R. Busi, President of FIAP, welcomes all participants to the 12th FIAP General Assembly held in Sofia, Bulgaria. He explains that, in accordance with Luxembourgish law, FIAP is required to hold annually its General Assembly in person, although many proxies have been submitted since this option is available.

2. Beginning of the administrative sessions

Mr. R. Busi invites the Secretary General, Mr. I. Lykouris, to begin the verification of the delegates' presence and their voting rights.

3. Roll call of the delegates

The Secretary General, Mr. I. Lykouris, calls the delegates. The countries present or represented are: Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, France, Germany, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Greece, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Macao, Mauritius, Monaco, Poland, Scotland, Serbia, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, United States of America.

4. Election of the scrutineers

There are two candidates, Mr Anton Savov (Bulgaria) and Mr. Howard Tates (Great Britain). Both are voted unanimously.

5. Approval of the proceedings of the General Assembly 2024 in Jaipur - India

The proceedings from the Jaipur - India Assembly (November 2024) were unanimously approved.

6. Report of the President

The President, Mr. R. Busi, expresses his sincere gratitude to the Academy of Photography Bulgaria “Yanka Kyurkchieva” and, in particular, to the Liaison Officer, Mr. Anton Savov, for their contribution, dedication, and cooperation in organizing the event. He highlights the success of the recent photo meeting held in China, made possible thanks to the strong support of the regional authorities, as well as the valuable contribution of our Coordination Office in Jinan, especially Mr. Zheng Yi. Mr. Busi also notes that an important revision of the FIAP distinctions was completed this year. As a result of this reform, a new distinction — the Portfolio Distinction — has been introduced and will come into effect on 1 January 2026. FIAP counts on the support of its members to promote and publicize this new distinction among photographers. He further refers to another significant project: the creation of a centralized, digitized archive gathering all FIAP photographic and documentary material. This archive will be extremely valuable for FIAP members and for future generations. The project is led by Mr. J. Flores, Director of the FIAP Collection Service and Liaison Officer of the Spanish Photographic Federation, together with a team of six members from Spain, Argentina, Andorra, and India. The aim is to complete the project by the end of 2026. During the past year, efforts have also been made to increase the opportunities and services offered to FIAP members, reinforcing the value of being part of FIAP. Agreements have been signed with Luminar Neo, DxO PhotoLab, and RCE Foto, marking the beginning of new collaborations. Luminar Neo has already provided sponsorship for the World Cup for Clubs and has also expressed its intention to support additional activities in the coming months. Soon, a dedicated webpage containing all relevant information will be available to all FIAP members. The Board is also exploring potential partnerships with Chinese companies, particularly DJI. Another important initiative is the launch of the FIAP Photo Contest organized in collaboration with UNESCO, dedicated to intangible cultural heritage. The contest will take place next year, with the award ceremony scheduled for the end of November 2026 in China. This will be a unique project, as FIAP will, for the first time, donate photographs from its authors to UNESCO for use in its publications and activities, while the photographers will retain copyright of their work. Each participating photographer will receive a certificate formally recognizing their contribution to UNESCO. The project “FIAP Photo Days” is also ready to be launched. These events, organized by FIAP members, are scheduled to begin in early 2026. Groups of 10–15 participants will gather in selected locations for periods of up to ten days to explore and photograph areas of particular

photographic interest. Proposals from FIAP members in countries such as Brazil, Bangladesh, Georgia, and others are currently under review. This initiative aims to provide valuable experiences for members, while also promoting the FIAP name through a dynamic network of photographic activities. The major event of 2026 will be the FIAP Congress in Rio de Janeiro, scheduled from 1 to 8 August 2026. Preparations are progressing well, thanks to the enthusiasm and commitment of the Brazilian Confederation of Photography, which aims to offer a congress rich in cultural experiences and photographic opportunities. To ensure the best possible experience, the Board of Directors, together with the Brazilian Federation, has decided to limit participation to 150 persons, ensuring representation from each operational member. Priority will be given to Liaison Officers, Presidents, Directors, and then to other participants. The full program will be released soon, and registrations will open in the second half of January, allowing the organizers to have a clear overview of participants by mid-April. Mr. Busi notes that many other FIAP initiatives are underway and that members may consult the detailed reports prepared by the Directors and made available by the Secretary General, Mr. I. Lykouris. Finally, he expresses his deepest gratitude to all Liaison Officers, Presidents, and Federation representatives around the world, who serve as the essential link between FIAP and the photographers in their countries, helping to organize events and maintain FIAP as a truly global organization. Without their patience, energy, and support, none of these achievements would be possible. He also extends special thanks to all FIAP Directors for their expertise, commitment, and contributions over the past year, as well as to his colleagues on the FIAP Board of Directors for their professionalism, dedication, and efficient cooperation in guiding the Federation's decisions. Mr. Busi concludes by expressing his hope to meet everyone again at the upcoming FIAP Congress in Rio de Janeiro in 2026.

7. Report of the Secretary General

Mr. I. Lykouris, FIAP Secretary General, expressed his thanks to Mr Anton Savov and the Academy of Photography Bulgaria "Yanka Kyurkchieva" for helping organize this General Assembly in Sofia. He noted that 2024 financial results exceeded expectations, though 2025 would face some pressures from the myfiap.net platform update and the centralization of FIAP's photographic heritage through the Collections Service. He mentioned that Monaco had joined as a new Operational Member, with plans to add more operational members from Africa and the Middle East by year's end, while the ILFIAP situation remained critical with many clubs failing to pay fees for two

consecutive years. He reported that the Distinctions Service underwent a leadership transition, with new regulations introducing several distinctions including NFIAP, EFIAP/d4 through d8, PFIAP, GMFIAP, and honorary distinctions LAIFIAP and HMFIAP. The Secretary General indicated that the Patronage Service showed continued growth and mentioned that two photographers were permanently banned in 2025 for plagiarism. Mr. I. Lykouris highlighted that under Director J. Flores, the Collections Service was implementing centralized archiving using NAS systems. He noted FIAP's youth engagement initiatives including the launch of a Youth Instagram Account and the first Youth Ambassadors Meeting with participants from five countries. He reported FIAP's participation in significant events through the FIAP Coordination Office in China, including the Biennial Conference in Lishui, Photo Beijing, and the successful Photo Meeting in Hunan and Inner Mongolia. The Secretary General mentioned partnerships with DxO and Skylum and noted the establishment of a joint FIAP-PSA commission to draft updated AI usage guidelines. He concluded by emphasizing strategic priorities including regulatory modernization, archival preservation, enhanced member communications, pursuing WHO recognition, and expanding the exhibition network, before welcoming all delegates to the upcoming FIAP Congress in Brazil.

8. Affiliation – Radiation of Operational Members

Mr. Busi announced that Algeria has been removed from the list of operational members due to the non-payment of membership fees for two consecutive years. He also informed the Assembly that four countries—Libya, Jordan, Tunisia, and Ecuador—had applied to become new members. The General Assembly approved their admission unanimously.

9. Report of the Treasurer for the financial period 2024 + 2025

The Treasurer, Mr. H. Gmeiner, presented the financial statement showing a closing balance of €92,000 for the previous fiscal year and €52,000 positive for the first half of 2025. He noted the main expenditures in the second half of the year 2025 and stated that 2026 forecasting is impossible due to unknown Brazil Congress costs. He reported several operational members with unpaid fees, including two-year arrears and fourteen ILFIAPs with two-year unpaid fees that were cancelled by regulations and 22 with one-year arrears that will be reviewed next year. On the contrary, significant payments were received for the World Cup of Clubs.

10. Report of the auditors

The auditors reviewed the FIAP accounts and financial statements and issued their reports without any remarks.

11. Draft budget for the 2026 period

The Treasurer presented the draft budget for the rest of 2025 and for the year 2026.

12. Approval of the balance and budget 2026 by the General Assembly

The balance and the budget for the rest of 2025 and for the year 2026 is unanimously approved by the General Assembly.

13-14. Reports of the different activity developments by the Board of Directors and by the Directors of the FIAP Services

Mr. Busi announced that regarding points 13 and 14 — the reports on the development of activities by the Board of Directors and by the Directors of the FIAP Services — the General Assembly had already been informed through the reports previously distributed by Mr. I. Lykouris. He then inquired if there were any questions or points needing further discussion before proceeding to the vote.

15. Approval of the management of the Board of Directors and of the activity report of the FIAP Services Directors by the General Assembly

The management of the Board of Directors and the activity report of the FIAP Services Directors were unanimously approved by the General Assembly.

16. Setting of fees for 2026

The annual membership fees will remain unchanged for 2026, and this decision was unanimously approved.

17. Appointment of two auditors for next period

The two appointed auditors are Mr. Francis Nicoll (Belgium) and Mr. Nicolac Ivica (Croatia).

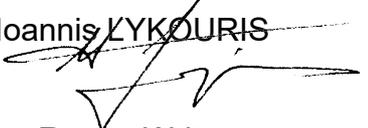
18. Questions of the Operational Members

A discussion then took place covering topics such as the new distinctions' regulations, the portfolio reviewers, the upcoming Congress in Brazil and the pre-registration dates, the new FIAP "Photo Days" project, the salons for printed photographs, and some issues related to postage.

19. End of the session of the Annual FIAP General Assembly 2025

The President of FIAP expressed his gratitude to all participants of the General Assembly on behalf of the Board of Directors.

Athens, March 9, 2026

Ioannis LYKOURIS

Report Writer