



**Minutes of the FIAP Board of Directors
By Video Conference, 19 March 2026**

PRESENT: Riccardo BUSI, Joan BURGUES, David PC TAY, Herbert GMEINER, Ioannis LYKOURIS, Kurt BATSCHINSKI, Romain NERO, Paul Stanley (Board Members)

1. Opening Remarks

The President, Mr. Riccardo Busi, opened the meeting and warmly welcomed all members.

2. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Mr. H.Gmeiner, presented the financial report. FIAP recorded a surplus during the previous year and remains in a sound financial position, enabling it to meet its obligations, including those related to the Congress in Brazil.

Regarding membership fees, 52 Operational Members have fulfilled their financial obligations. Pakistan settled its dues for both 2024 and 2025 in January. Certain countries, namely Iran, Colombia, Panama, and Saudi Arabia, are currently facing challenges in meeting their financial commitments, with outstanding fees for the past two years.

Concerning the ILFIAP members, 43 have paid their fees, while 60 remain outstanding. A reminder will be issued by the Treasury in May.

The President invited Board Members to prepare proposals concerning ILFIAP activities for discussion at the end of July.

3. Relations with Member Countries

The position of Liaison Officer in the United Arab Emirates is currently vacant following the resignation of the previous officeholder. FIAP will seek to establish new contacts in the region starting in September.

With regard to Iran, the Secretary General, I. Lykouris, informed the Board that the Exhibition Center in Tehran is presently closed and that the Liaison Officer indicated that arrangements are being made to settle outstanding payments from abroad. The Board agreed to review the situation at its next meeting in Rio de Janeiro.

4. Biennials Service

The Secretary General, Mr. I. Lykouris, presented the Biennials results recently received from the Director, Mr. Luis Franke. The award ceremony for the Nature Biennial will take place in South Africa, with Mr. Franke in attendance. The results will be published jointly with those of the Black and White Biennial.

The President informed the Board that the second volume of the FIAP Biennials publication is expected to be released shortly, ahead of the Congress in Rio.

Mr. Paul Stanley reported on the Nature Biennial in South Africa, noting the high standard of organization and the absence of operational issues. However, it was observed that certain submissions did not fully comply with the established Nature definition. The Board agreed to examine a possible revision or clarification of the relevant regulations. This matter will be further discussed at the next Board meeting and subsequently presented to the General Assembly, supported by practical examples.

The representatives of the winners of the Van de Wijer and Odette Bretscher Trophies will be invited to attend the Congress in Brazil.

5. Patronage and Distinctions Services

The Director of the Patronage Service, Mr. R. Nero, reported on current activities, noting some minor technical issues related to the platform and the production of FIAP Life Cards.

The President emphasized the importance of developing a dedicated FIAP Partnership Agreement webpage to inform photographers of benefits arising from agreements with commercial partners. Progress is currently hindered by the inactivity of the existing web service provider, making the selection of a new provider a priority.

The Board reviewed the first session of the new PFIAP distinction, which attracted significant interest, with 149 applications from 37 countries, of which 118 were approved across 35 countries. Notifications are issued automatically to successful applicants, while diplomas and pins will be distributed annually via Liaison Officers.

In accordance with the new Distinctions regulations, six individuals were awarded the EsFIAP distinction in recognition of their service as judges in at least 30 FIAP salons : Mr. Di Tommaso Angelo (Italy), Mrs. Garzone Cristina (Italy), Mr. Muradi Hulki (Turkey), Mr. Moreno Villar Santos (Spain), Mr. Asif Mohammed Arfan (India) and Mr. Salim Mohammad Ali (USA).

6. Medal and Collections Services

Four consignments of FIAP pins (approximately 20 kg) have been produced in Italy and shipped to Luxembourg, together with the original production dies. They are now ready for distribution. All future FIAP pins will be manufactured in Luxembourg. The Collections Service has installed the relevant software on the server. The President encouraged Board Members to upload to the FIAP Cloud archival materials relating to FIAP Congresses, FIAP Photo Meetings, and any other documents of historical importance to FIAP, in order to preserve and safeguard the Federation's institutional memory.

7. World Cup for Clubs

The President presented an update on the 2026 World Cup for Clubs. It was agreed that the award ceremony will take place at the end of May in Edinburgh, providing an opportunity for engagement with PAGB and SPF representatives.

Board Members were invited to reflect on strategic considerations for future editions, including the participation fees.

The Board also discussed procedural delays in cases requiring investigation, due to extended response times from participating clubs. A possible amendment to the regulations will be considered in Rio, introducing a defined response deadline, after which non-responding clubs may be excluded from the Cup.

8. Activities in China

The Beijing Photo & Imaging Show (May) has agreed to cover all FIAP-related expenses, enabling FIAP's participation at no cost.

Further information is required regarding the events scheduled for October (Photo Beijing and the Lishui FIAP World Photographers Conference 2026) before confirming FIAP's participation. Discussions are ongoing with Chinese authorities regarding the potential coordination of the Lishui event with a new initiative in Hefei, aimed at broadening participation.

9. PSA Invitations

Following invitations from PSA, FIAP will be represented at the PSA Photo Gathering in Vietnam by Mr. R. Busi, Mr. I. Lykouris, Mr. H. Gmeiner, and Mr. R. Nero, and at the PSA Photo Festival in the USA by Mr. R. Busi and Mr. D. Tay.

10. Future FIAP Events

At present, Montenegro has expressed initial interest in hosting the 2027 FIAP Photo Meeting, and Indonesia in hosting the 2028 FIAP Congress. Both proposals remain at a preliminary stage, pending the submission of the final candidature dossiers.

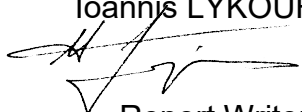
11. FIAP Congress 2026 – Brazil

The President presented an update indicating an expected participation of approximately 150–160 attendees from around 32 countries.

12. Next Board Meeting

The next Board meeting is expected to take place, as customary, on the day preceding the official opening of the FIAP Congress in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Athens, 6 July 2026

Ioannis LYKOURIS

Report Writer