

# Minutes of the FSE Board Meeting

## Brussels - 27 April 2017

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Present : Robert Taylor, Maciej Karpinski, Marie Roussin. STAFF Amélie Clément, David Kavanagh  
Excused : Monica Boracco, Carolin Otto

### IN BRIEF

#### Official decisions taken by the board

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- The board approved the agenda of the meeting.
- The board approved the minutes of the board meeting in Madrid on 12-14 January 2017.
- The board approved the draft Work Plan for the year 2017 (an lobbying priorities).
- The board agreed to close the current website and have a new logo.
- FSE to be partner of the Creators Conference (Brussels, 2 October).

#### Summary of tasks

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- FERA-FSE : meeting with FIM and FIA + joint statement.
- FSE to try to relaunch the Authors' Group in Brussels.
- FSE will start now to campaign the Council of Ministers, with the collaboration of its members guilds.
- Lobby the EFADs European Film Agency Directors for a statement on Transparency Triangle and Equitable Remuneration.
- Organise meeting on Competition Law in Brussels on 30 or 31 May.
- Collaborate with FERA on the Remuneration Study (but clarify share of tasks and money contribution to FSE).
- Robert will contact the guilds which have not yet answered our call for the FSE Award (money, CMO, suggestions of names for the winner).
- Launch the Steering Committee of WCOS. Carolin will contact Sarah Dearing at IAWG and Teresa de Rosenda at IAWG (+ date for 1<sup>st</sup> Conf. Call).
- Robert will contact IAWG to propose that Amélie Clément attends IAWG meeting in Los Angeles.
- Amélie will contact Marie Barraco to see whether is it possible to organise a BM at Séries Series near Paris.
- Amélie/Maciej : organise board meeting in Gdynia and pannel discussion in Gdynia + invite Adam Price.

### UPDATED CALENDAR

See attached updated FSE Workplan 2017

## SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

### 1. Approval of the agenda

David proposed to add an item on the vote for strike by WGA W and E in the United-States. The board approved the revised agenda.

### 2. Approval of the minutes of the previous board meeting

The board approved the minutes of the board meeting in Madrid 12-14 January 2017, including two corrections by Robert.

### 3. Work Plan 2017

Amélie presented the work plan for the year 2017, which gives an overview of the calendar of events, policy priorities and main tasks. The board approved the work plan 2017. This work plan will be updated according to changes that will occur in the next weeks and months.

### 4. EU policies

#### Copyright Directive

David Kavanagh reported on the latest developments he has been informed of regarding the EU Directive on Copyright. The proposal of the « transparency triangle » articles 14-15-16 has survived, but has been frontly attacked by producers. Many amendments have been proposed. The IMCO, ITRI, CULT committees have finished their work to examine the amendments. The JURI committee (the leading committee) wants to finish the final version of the Copyright Directive by the end of June, then send it to the Parliament. The Parliament will probably make its final decision in September 2017. FSE, FERA and SAA will continue to work closely together on this issue.

In parallel the council of ministers is starting its discussion on the Copyright Directive.

#### The Authors' Group

After a great collaboration, the Authors' Group has more or less collapsed due to

- 1) personality clash,
- 2) each organisation has its own agenda,
- 3) the Group should have included FIM (musicians) and FIA (actors), because they share interest in the « transparency triangle ».

FERA and FSE will propose a meeting with FIA and FIM and a joint statement.

David proposed to try to relaunch the Authors' Group. FSE cannot run a lobbying campaign on its own on the Copyright Directive, needs to be part of the Authors' Group and to work closely with FERA. Maciej and Robert highlighted the enormous step forward in less than one year, a very positive result. The board wants the Authors' Group to go on.

David mentioned other issues discussed at EU level.

The **Value Gap** issue is not very interesting for FSE to follow. FSE did nothing on its own regarding **AVMS** and **Creative Europe (open consultation)**. However it signed several letters with Creativity Works ! and the Audiovisual Coalition (run by the MPA) on **Portability** and **Geoblocking**. But creators' organisations feel more and more uncertain with this collaboration because these groups are becoming more aggressive in their approach.

NB. Portability : consumers are entitled to buy an online service in one country and can use it in another country. Worry for the industry : it undermines the European market for the sale of audiovisual products.

FSE stayed on the side of the Industry in these statements.

David was invited by **DG Culture** at a meeting on collective bargaining, together with the other organisations of the Authors' Group (probably an outcome of a meeting with Commissioner Navraciscs). There were no representatives of CMOs or of producers' organisations. The « creators » were received by 2 people from DG Culture and 2 people from the Copyright Unit of DG Connect. It is the beginning of a conversation : DG Culture understands it must increase and improve creators' remuneration, especially through collective bargaining.

### **Next steps**

#### Campaigning the EU council : the ministries

FSE will recruit its member guilds to approach their own national governments (justice) and invite them to pay attention to the transparency triangle (remuneration). Guilds would do it in cooperation with other creators' organisations at national level. David will contact the guilds with a plan.

#### EFADs European Film Agency Directors

<http://www.efads.eu/>

FSE should try and persuade them to make a public statement on Transparency triangle and Equitable remuneration. Ask each member guild to contact its national film fund to ask them to support this statement.

#### Creators Conference

ECSA will organise, in partnership with the Authors' Group, the next Creators Conference on 2 October in Brussels. Half a day, lower budget.

Focus the permanent representations.

## **5. UNI-Mei, FSE, FERA application to DG Employment**

David and Amélie had a long meeting with FERA and UNI-Mei on 26 April to confirm their collaboration. UNI-Mei will be lead applicant. FERA and FSE will be associated applicants. The board discussed the pros and cons of being a co-applicant. However both FSE and FERA do not have sufficient financial and organisational resources to match the criteria of the EU financial guidelines and fear rejection on this ground (one of the reason of rejection in 2016). The main outcome it that FSE cannot get money out of the scheme. There may be solutions regarding specialized external expertise. Despite this financial constrain, the board agreed with this option (FSE associated applicant).

The new programme will focus more on social dialogue (the other reason of rejection last year). Pauline of FERA came with a good idea : work out the mechanisms for making information available by producers and distributors through social dialogue.

## **6. FSE meeting on Competition Law**

David regrets that this issue does not seem to raise a very big interest among guilds. However he will propose a meeting on 30 or 31 May to the guilds which have confirmed their interest, and will inform the others.

## **7. FERA's study on remuneration**

FSE has agreed to be partner of FERA's study on remuneration. David showed the board members the draft questionnaire. FSE will distribute the questionnaire online to its member guilds, which will in turn send it to

their individual members.

However, David will clarify the link between FSE and FERA (share of responsibilities, money).

## 8. FSE Award

### Fundraising

Amélie reported on her meeting the day before with the team of the Bavarian Representation (on communication, invitations, organisation, prices). Lucia Merkel and Carolin will coordinate to invite Bavarian officials.

Amélie also reported on fundraising. Monica confirmed that Norwaco in Norway is open to look at an application. Carolin said that VG Wort agreed in principle on 15.000 euros for the FSE Award and WCOS 04. VDD will send an application and will explain how the money will be used. Though VDD would like to use the total amount for the world conference, Amélie and Robert insisted on the fact that it is crucial to have VG Wort as partner of the FSE Award. The Belgian guilds (meeting with Amélie the same week) confirmed their commitment to help FSE find funding in Belgium.

Robert will contact the guilds which have not yet answered our call for the FSE Award.

### Winner

Amélie mentioned a suggestion made by the Belgian representatives (Sarah, Kevin). Making the name of the winner known before the ceremony would make more people attend the ceremony. The board discussed this idea but made no decision.

The name of the winner will be decided at the next board meeting. In the meantime board members and guilds should circulate more names. However the board discussed the few names proposed by guilds. Marie Roussin showed the good points of Anne Landois (France. Engrenages, Adapted in the US (Spiral).

## 9. World Conference

Carolin detailed the project of VDD, the state of funding and organisation. They are quite positive.

### The Steering Committee

Carolin suggested to invite Maureen Parker and Bob Schneider on IAWG's side. VDD will contact Sarah Dearing on this issue. FSE will be represented by Carolin Otto and Robert Taylor. It was proposed to invite someone from ALMA (Teresa de Rosendo).

Katharina Uppenbrink and Jan Herchenroeder (VDD/local organisation) will follow the work of the Steering Committee, as well as Sarah Dearing for IAWG and Amélie Clément for FSE.

Carolin will propose a date for the first committee and will ask IAWG to organise the conference call.

Jan and Carolin will present WCOS at the next IAWG meeting (Los Angeles, October 2017). Carolin will propose a meeting on WCOS/Steering Committee before or after the IAWG meeting.

We can also organise a meeting on organisation at the FSE AGM in Brussels (Nov 2017).

VDD will host a FSE board meeting in Berlin in Spring 2018 at the time of the Berlinale, an occasion to work closely on the preparation of WCOS.

## 10. Next board meetings

### Fontainebleau, Paris (28 June-30 June)

Marie Barraco proposed FSE to join in one way or another. The board thinks it is an interesting festival, that it is interesting to have a good connection before the new International festival of series in Lille in 2018.

FSE can communicate to its members that it will be in Fontainebleau and propose guilds to send representatives. FSE will make a proposal to Marie.

If this project does not happen (too short deadline, too expensive, dates not matching), the board will instead organise a conference call before the Summer.

### Gdynia, Poland

Maciej reported on his contacts with the Film Festival of Gdynia (the most important one in Poland for the industry). The organisers formally accepted to organise our event and will provide accommodation, accreditation and transport from Gdansk to Gdynia for 7 people and venues for the board meeting and public event. FSE will cover flight costs.

The Polish film organisation might find money to organise a cocktail.

FSE will propose a panel discussion to be attended by Polish filmmakers (organisers to provide interpretation). Issues : what happens at European level, a lecture from David (presentation FSE and EU)  
The second part will involve board members : the position of writers in other countries.

The festival would like to invite Adam Price (as the winner of the FSE Award) to give a lecture (on 19/20 September) and meet young writers. The festival will pay travel, accommodation and fee.

Amélie to contact Adam Price (+ inform the Danish guild).

### Karlovy Vary

Maciej contacted people from Karlovy Vary to meet them in Berlin. No success.

## 11. FSE AGM 2017

The board confirmed the dates of the next FSE AGM in Brussels on 24 and 25 November 2017.

FSE Partner members will be invited to an open session (Friday morning, between coffee break and lunch, duration max. 1:30) : FSE to report, exchange of information.

## 12. FSE Communication

- The board made a good assessment of communication.
- The board agreed to close the FSE website until the new website is online.
- Amélie proposes to redo the logo. Marie confirmed that the logo is hard to read. The board agreed to have Amélie make proposals for a new logo.

## 13. Other items

### US Strike

David offered WGA to react if there were a strike but he thinks it is probably not necessary. The board agreed that David writes a letter a support if WGA needs it (in case the strike happens).

### IAWG meeting in Los Angeles

David suggested that Amélie goes to Los Angeles at the IAWG annual meeting to represent the organisation FSE, to strengthen the fact that FSE is separate from the European guilds, quite present at IAWG through the guilds of Ireland, UK, Germany, France and Spain. Marie agreed on the proposal (she will not be present).

Robert Taylor has been invited by IAWG as President of FSE, his expenses will be paid by IAWG. The board agreed to have FSE cover the travel expenses for Amélie. Robert will contact IAWG to make the proposal.

### **Screenwriting contests**

Maciej drew attention to a growing issue : competitions/contests organised to attract young screenwriters who, by the simple fact of taking part into these competitions, get involved in unbalanced contracts, because they don't read the regulations of the contest. Robert mentioned also the case of universities and colleges : when you join the London film schools, you sign a contract in which it says that each screenplay produced in the school is the propriety of the school.

END OF THE MEETING