



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE PHILATÉLIE

CHAIRMAN: GEORGE CONSTANTOURAKIS

2115 GIROUARD
MONTREAL QC,
H4A 3C4
CANADA

TEL: +5144822764

Email: geo.constant@sympatico.ca

REPORT OF THE FIP MAXIMAPHILY COMMISSION CONFERENCE, SEOUL, AUG. 11, 2014

At the FIP Maximaphily Commission Conference, held in Seoul, South Korea, on August 11, 2014 the following fourteen (14) Delegates and observers were present from 13 member federations as follows: *Australia, Austria, Canada, Chinese Taipei, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Finland, Indonesia, Korea (South), Luxembourg, Mongolia, New Zealand, and Vietnam.*

Opening of the conference.

The Conference was opened by the Chairman *George Constantourakis*, co-chaired by *Bernard Beston*, FIP Director responsible for the Maximaphily Commission and in the presence of *Andrée Trommer-Schiltz*, FIP Secretary General, *Jenny Banfield*, Secretary, FIP Maximaphily Commission and *Nicos Rangos*, ex Chairman. Next the Chairman welcomed all participants and expressed his thanks for their presence. He then asked all present to observe one minute of silence in memory of the late *F. N. Farahbakhsh* ex Delegate of Iran and of the late Dr. *Jovan Velickovich* (a FIP PH Judge and) assistant/translator to the Delegate of Serbia.

Work done worldwide during the June 2012 to July 2014:

The FIP Maximaphily Commission Bureau was quite active during the June 2012 to July 2014 period. There was a close cooperation between its President and the new Members of the Commission and in particular with *Jenny Banfield* (Secretary), *Mme Anny Boyard* (Bureau Member) and *Nicos Rangos* (past President):

- We kept constantly upgrading our contact info leading to greater facility to communicate.
- We kept in constant contact with every Delegate either requesting their National Activity Report or sending out official communications, plus sending our annual World Activity Report.
- We updated our own FIP Maximaphily Commission website with the most recent information, with emphasis on the Reports, Competitions and Links.
- We made power point presentations regarding the '*Judging Maximaphily*' and '*Recognizing Fake Maximum Cards*' at FIP, National and Regional level Exhibitions.
- We have communicated to all our Delegates the **new regulations** '*Amendments to the SREV and Guidelines on Personalized Stamps and other points*', that were adopted in Jakarta and approved by the FIP Board in Rio de Janeiro.
- During this period, we've posted on our Commission website the **2011 World Competition for the 3 Best Maximum Cards** and the **2012 World Competition for the 3 Best Maximum Cards** with 60 participations in each Competition.
- We've carried out electronically the Voting for the *World Competition of the 3 Best Maximum Cards* by having the official Delegates email their Voting Papers to both the President and the *Mme Anny Boyard* (Bureau Member).
- Throughout this period, there was a very close and cooperation between the Chairman and the new Bureau Members and in particular between the Chairman and with *Mme Anny Boyard* (Bureau Member) and Mr. *Nicos Rangos* (former Chairman).

Main Maximaphily Event - Approval of the *Amendments to the SREV and Guidelines*

On November 23, 2013, the FIP Board **approved** at its Meeting in Rio de Janeiro, our proposed: *Amendments to the SREV and Guidelines on Personalized Stamps and other points*.

On August 12, 2014, the member federations of the 73rd FIP Congress also **approved** these *Amendments to the SREV and Guidelines on Personalized Stamps and other points* at its Meeting in Seoul, South Korea.

(These *Amendments* had first been adopted by all the Delegates attending the *FIP Maximaphily Commission Conference* in Jakarta, on June 22, 2012. Following the request by Mr. *Beston* for a more clear and simple definition, paragraph 3.1, on both the SREV & Guidelines, was re-worded and after consultation, it was accepted by the Bureau Members of the FIP Maximaphily Commission, on November 9, 2013.)

The main points of our Strategic Plan for the future of Maximaphily:

- To publicise through workshops, articles and CD Rom's the new regulations adopted in Jakarta and approved by the FIP Board in Rio, regarding the specific criteria in using *Personalized Stamps* to create valid Maximum Cards.
- To lead a campaign in fighting Fakes and Forgeries in Maximaphily by creating a data base of questionable MC's and by offering Seminars at many Maximaphily and Philatelic venues.
- To further publicize the posting of the World Maximaphily Competition of the three Best Maximum Cards in our Commission's Website and strive to improve the Voting fairness.
- To encourage National Maximaphily Ass. in the direction of promoting Youth Maximaphily.
- To request from FIP members countries the appointment of **active** Delegates to our Maximaphily Commission.
- To promote the acceptance of all classes at FIP Exhibitions.
- To promote the **Increase** of the number of Maximaphily Exhibits being accepted by the organizing committees of FIP Exhibitions.
- To advocate for at least one **accredited Maximaphily Judge** (team leader) at FIP Exhibitions.

Short Presentation on the *Amendments to the SREV and Guidelines on Personalized Stamps and other points*.

The Chairman, with the aid of an illustrated PowerPoint presentation, explained the *Amendments to the SREV and Guidelines on Personalized Stamps and other points*.

He focused on the SREV article 3.1. *The postage stamp*: The "postage stamp" designation is reserved for the postal operator assigned to ensure the universal service within a UPU member country (Universal Postal Union), or a dependent territory. The postage stamp can be personalized on request from a client (individual, association, company,...), provided that it is available to the general public. It must be valid for postage and affixed only on the view side of the picture postcard. Postage-due stamps, pre-cancels, revenue stamps, stamps violating the "UPU (Universal Postal Union) philatelic code of ethics", are not allowed, nor are official stamps, except those, which are at the disposal of the public (United Nations, UNESCO, Council of Europe,...). The postage stamps which are cut out from postal stationery are allowed only if the issuing postal service permits their use. Postage stamps printed online by a customer are not allowed. Stamps, issued by postal operators authorized by the responsible governmental body, are admitted under the same conditions as the postage stamps.

On the SREV article 3.3. *The cancellation*, 3rd paragraph: The ordinary cancellations without illustration are valid provided that they indicate the name of the locality where the post office is located and the concordance of the place is respected.

On the Guidelines article 3.1. *The postage stamp*: For a specific subject, the order of preference is: postage stamp issued in the philatelic program of the designated postal operator (postal authority), where it comes as main subject, or easily identifiable secondary subject, then personalized postage stamp, then postage label of an authorized operator (postal authority).

On the Guidelines article 4.3. *Knowledge and research / The concordance of place*: When a work of art is an integral part of a monument (relief, sculpture, fresco, stained glass window, mosaic, etc.), the preferred cancellation is that of the place where the monument is located.

Discussion/ Mr. Beston's address and suggestions

There was a general discussion, followed by an address to the Delegates by Mr. *Bernard Beston*, FIP Director responsible for the Maximaphily Commission. Mr. Beston also suggested to me and Mrs. *Banfield* that now is the time to move on from the topic of the *Amendments to the SREV and Guidelines* and focus on what to look for when judging a Maximaphily exhibit. His suggestion is for a future Seminar to have photocopy samples of a 1-frame exhibit in 3 varieties, for example:

- 1.- Very good presentation and good title page, but the odd item that can have a deduction, good mark for rarity, good running heading etc.
- 2.- Poor title page, font size small, good info about cards, but not so good about stamp and cancel.
- 3.- Reasonable title page, no running heading, goodcard, cancel and stamp, but very badly placed on page. title page, but the odd item that can have a deduction, good mark for rarity, good running heading etc.

We are hoping to have a Seminar/ Meeting during the upcoming SINGAPORE 2015 Exhibition, headed by our Secretary Mrs. *Jenny Banfield*, as she will be the only member of our Bureau present at this exhibition.

Conclusion

- Even though the Commission's Meeting had a limited attendance, it was followed with interest and was done in a warm atmosphere..

Montreal, June 29, 2015

George Constantourakis
Chairman
FIP Maximaphily Commission

Jenny Banfield
Secretary