

Minutes of the Twentieth Session of the FIAV General Assembly - August 7, 2007 / Berlin, Germany

1. Call to order by the President; official opening of the Twentieth Session

The President called the meeting to order on August 7, 2007 at 3:45 p.m. at the Deutsches Historisches Museum in Berlin, Germany and officially opened the Twentieth Session of the General Assembly of the Fédération internationale des associations vexillologiques.

2. Verification by the President of written credentials of delegates from FIAV Members

The President verified the written credentials of the following FIAV Members and Applicants (LF = Laureate of the Federation, FF = Fellow of the Federation):

AAV Gustav Tracchia FF; **AVS** Gustav Tracchia FF; **ACV** Sebastián Herreros i Agüi; **BDA** Peter Edwards; **CFA** Kevin Harrington; **CEBED** Rudi Longueville; **CISV** Roberto Breschi FF; **CVS** Jaroslav Martykán; **CSVA** Philippe Rault ; **DGF** Andreas Herzfeld; **FHF** Whitney Smith LF, FF; **FI** John Ford; **FRC** Whitney Smith LF, FF; **FRCSL** Michel Lupant; **FSA** Ralph Bartlett FF; **FOTW** Rob Raeside; **CIDEC** Gustav Tracchia FF; **GWAV** David Breitenbach; **HVK** Günter Mattern; **HGZD** (applicant) Željko Heimer; **IVA** (applicant) K. Sanjeeva Rao; **IHW** Alfred Znamierowski FF; **KVV** Alain Raullet; **MZT** Lászlo Balogh; **NVvV** Marcel van Westerhoven; **NEVA** Whitney Smith LF, FF; **NZFA** John Moody; **JAVA** Yoshinori Koshikawa; **NF** Michael Krag-Juel-Vind-Frijs; **NAVA** Edward Kaye; **RCVH** Petr Exner; **SSV** Emil Dreyer FF; **SEV** José Alegria Díaz; **SVB** Roger Baert; **SGHAPG** Michel Lupant; **SRV** Alexandru Dan Mandru; **SFV** Michel Sicard; **SAVA** Michael Clingman; **SVI** Petr Exner; **TWMF** Whitney Smith LF, FF; **VAST** Scot Guenter LF; **WVRI** Roman Klimeš.

3. Roll call of delegates; recognition of a quorum by the Secretary-General; declaration by the President that the Twentieth Session of the General Assembly is constituted

The SG called the roll as follows:

Members present (40): AAV, AVS, ACV, BDA, CFA, CEBED, CISV, CVS, CSVA, DGF, FHF, FI, FRC, FRCSL, FSA, FOTW, CIDEC, GWAV, HVK, IHW, KVV, MZT, NVvV, NEVA, NZFA, JAVA, NF, NAVA, RCVH, SSV, SEV, SVB, SGHAPG, SRV, SFV, SAVA, SVI, TWMF, VAST, and WVRI.

Members absent (10): CIZF, CBFA, HS, HAVSOM, MBV, NFF, PH, PTW, UHT, and VSHS.

Officers present (3): Michel R. Lupant, President / Charles A. Spain, Jr., Secretary-General (SG) / Graham M.P. Bartram, Secretary-General for Congresses (SGC).

The SG announced that FDC submitted a letter of resignation to the President on August 7, 2007, which lowered the total FIAV Members from 51 to 50. The SG determined that 40 of the 50 Members were present, which satisfied the constitutional requirement that delegates of at least half of the Members be present. The SG recognized the presence of a quorum, and the President declared that the Twentieth Session of the General Assembly was properly constituted.

Because the representatives of 40 Members and three Officers were present for a total of 43 possible votes, the SG reminded the General Assembly that a simple majority vote would require 22 votes, a two-thirds majority vote would require 29 votes, and a three-fourths majority vote would require 33 votes, as long as the persons authorized to exercise the 43 possible votes remained present.

4. Appointment by the President of tellers to count votes

The President appointed Andries Burgers and Ron Strachan as tellers to count votes.

5. Approval of the minutes of the Nineteenth Session of the General Assembly held August 1, 2005 in Buenos Aires, Argentina

Moved by the SG, seconded by NAVA, "That the minutes of the Nineteenth Session of the General Assembly, as published in *Info-FLAG* number 22, July 2007, be approved." Passed by two-thirds majority.

6. Reports by the Board:

(a) President. Michel Lupant - The President expressed his wish that the discussions in the General Assembly would be plain, short, and respectful. He reminded delegates of the requirement that a motion be seconded. The President noted the cordiality of the Board and how it operated on the basis of a consensus. He thanked the SG and SCG for their hard work. Carrying out his objective to be an ambassador for FIAV, the President has visited twenty-four countries in the past two years. He noted he has been in contact with vexillologists from Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Columbia, Estonia, Greece, Indonesia, Israel, Latvia, Pakistan, Serbia, and Uruguay, and he expressed hope that vexillological associations would develop in those countries.

(b) Secretary-General. Charles Spain - The SG expressed his appreciation for the hard work of the President and the SGC. He pointed out that the Officers do not always initially agree with each other, but that the cordial and collegial nature of their relationship has always led to consensus decisions with which each Officer has been comfortable.

The SG again thanked Jon Radel for both Mr. Radel's generosity in hosting the Internet domain www.flav.org and providing e-mail addresses for the FIAV Officers, as well as having the foresight to reserve the domain in the first place. The SG announced that the FIAV website authorized by the Sixteenth Session of the General Assembly has finally been established and thanked VAST for underwriting the cost of the website, including registering the Internet domain.

The SG reported that two issues of *Info-FLAV* (numbers 22 and 23) were produced and distributed in the last two years. He noted that the amount of correspondence he received in the past two years was small, which he hoped was due to the fact that people were generally pleased with the direction the Board and FIAV have taken in recent years. The SG noted that *Info-FLAV* 22 cost US\$16.65 (photocopying US\$9.60 [120 pages at US\$0.08 per page] and postage US\$7.05) for the two copies the SG mailed to Members, costing US\$8.33 each. The primary distribution of *Info-FLAV* is now by e-mailing an Adobe-PDF-document and by posting that document to www.flav.org.

(c) Secretary-General for Congresses. Graham Bartram - The SGC first thanked the President and the SG for their assistance and second thanked the individuals who have volunteered to organize the Twenty-Second International Congress of Vexillology in Berlin. He especially thanked Gerd Vehres, Andreas Herzfeld, and the other individuals working with DGF and the Deutsches Historisches Museum.

The SGC announced that he had a new FIAV ceremonial flag made, which was present at the Congress. [Note by the SG: The new FIAV ceremonial flag and flagpole were personally paid for by the SGC].

The SGC noted that pursuant to the authority delegated to the Board by the Nineteenth Session of the General Assembly, on May 15, 2006 the Board selected JAVA as the organizer of the Twenty-Third International Congress of Vexillology. The Congress will be held in Yokohama, Japan, from July 12 to 17, 2009.

The SGC reported that he had spent several weeks attending congress trade shows in Barcelona and Frankfurt, meeting hundreds of people involved in the business of organizing conventions, congresses, and exhibitions. There are resources available for little, if any, money to assist in planning congresses such as ICVs, and the SCG offered his assistance to potential ICV organizers in using these resources.

The SGC noted that FIAV needs organizers for ICV 25 (2013) and ICV 26 (2015), and asked interested parties to contact him.

7. Announcements:

(a) Proposals to organize ICV 24 (2011) — NAVA for the area of Washington, District of Columbia, United States.

(b) Proposals to organize ICV 25 (2013) — CVS for Praha, Czech Republic; IVA for Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, India; and NVvV for Rotterdam, South Holland, Netherlands.

(c) Applicants for FIAV membership (arranged in order membership applications were received):

(i) Bannicloù Breizh (BB) (received September 21, 2006). No representative present.

- (ii) Hrvatskog grboslovno i zastavoslovno društvo / Croatian Heraldic and Vexillologic Association (HGZD) (received December 23, 2006). Representative present.
- (iii) Indian Vexillological Association (IVA) (received January 31, 2007). Representative present.
- (d) Candidates for the FIAV Board
 - (i) President. Michel Lupant announced his candidacy for reelection.
 - (ii) Secretary-General. Charles Spain announced his candidacy for reelection.
 - (iii) Secretary-General for Congresses. Graham Bartram announced his candidacy for reelection.

8. Report on ICV 23 (Yokohama, Japan, July 12 to 17, 2009) organized by JAVA

The President announced that JAVA would give a report later at the Congress.

9. Consideration of applicants for membership:

The President reminded the applicants that new Members may vote only after all applicants for membership have been considered.

(a) BB - No representative was present. The Board made no recommendation on BB's admission, and the President did not solicit a motion.

(b) HGZD - The Board recommended the admission of HGZD. Moved by the SGC, seconded by CSVA, "That HGZD be admitted as a Member." Passed by two-thirds majority, increasing the number of FIAV Members to 51. HGZD is the sixty-second association or institution admitted as a FIAV Member, of which eleven are no longer FIAV Members.

(c) IVA - The Board recommended the admission of IVA. Moved by DGF, seconded by CSVA, "That IVA be admitted as a Member." Passed by two-thirds majority, increasing the number of FIAV Members to 52. IVA is the sixty-third association or institution admitted as a FIAV Member, of which eleven are no longer FIAV Members.

The President recognized HGZD's delegate, Željko Heimer, and IVA's delegate, K. Sanjeeva Rao, who were given seats in the General Assembly. As a result, the number of Members present increased from 40 to 42 (3 Officers were still present). With the admission of two new Members, a simple majority vote would require 23 votes, a two-thirds majority vote would require 30 votes, and a three-fourths majority vote would require 34 votes, as long as the persons authorized to exercise the 45 possible votes remained present.

10. Selection of ICV 24 (2011) organizer

Moved by the SG, seconded by the SGC, "That NAVA be selected as the organizer for the Twentieth-Fourth International Congress of Vexillology in 2011, to be held in the area of Washington, District of Columbia, United States." Passed by two-thirds majority. NAVA stated that CBFA will also be an organizer of ICV 24. The tentative dates for ICV 24 are August 6-13, 2011.

11. Selection of ICV 25 (2013) organizer

Moved by the SGC, seconded by the SG, "That the selection of the organizer for the Twentieth-Fifth International Congress of Vexillology in 2013 be tabled." Passed by two-thirds majority.

12. Consideration of Board's resolution regarding vacancies on the Board and revisions to the FIAV flag and Officer flags

Moved by the SG, seconded by the SGC, "That the Board's resolution regarding vacancies on the Board and revisions to the FIAV flag and Officer flags be approved."

Resolution by the FIAV Board

Resolved by the Members of the Fédération internationale des associations vexillologiques:

Section 1. Amendment of Constitution.

(a) Articles 19(d) is amended as follows:

(d) A vacancy on the Board occurs if [If] an Officer dies, resigns, or lacks mental [is mentally or physically incapable of carrying out the duties of the office.] capacity under the laws where the

Officer resides. Absence of an Officer at a session of the General Assembly creates a vacancy on the Board unless excused by the General Assembly. The resignation of an Officer must be received in writing by another Officer, or if no Officer remains, then by the organizer of a previous International Congress of Vexillology (as determined by reverse chronological order). The resignation is effective on the date of its receipt. If a vacancy occurs, the position shall remain vacant and the [those] duties of that Officer shall be performed by the remaining Officers. If no Officer remains to perform the duties of the Board, then the organizer of a previous International Congress of Vexillology (as determined by reverse chronological order) shall select an interim Secretary-General who shall have the limited authority to take those acts necessary to convene a session of the General Assembly pursuant to article 17 or 18 and preside until the General Assembly elects a presiding officer for the remainder of the session.

(b) Comment: With the exception of absences in 1969 and 1973 and the 1997 death in office of past President William Crampton LF, FF, FI/AV has been fortunate that the Officers have served their terms and been present at the General Assembly sessions. Rather than wait for a possible crisis to occur, the current Board believes there should be specific provisions in the Constitution to provide continuity should some or all of the Officers be unable to serve or unable to attend the General Assembly session.

The proposal specifically prohibits the remaining Officers from filling a vacancy on the Board and looks to the organizer of a previous Congress to select an interim Secretary-General to fill the void should all of the Officers be unable to serve.

Section 2. Amendment of Constitution.

(a) Article 24 is amended as follows:

Art. 24 (a) FI/AV's flag is described as follows: "On a blue field, extending horizontally from hoist to fly, two yellow halyards forming two interlaced loops." The color blue is defined as Pantone Matching System U293 and the color yellow is defined as Pantone Matching System U123. The



Flag is illustrated as follows:

(b) The General Assembly may initiate or authorize other symbols for FI/AV.

(b) Comment: The amendment replaces the original 1967 drawing of the FI/AV flag with one that is more precise.

Section 3. Revision of Officers Flags

(a) The design for the Officer flags adopted on July 30, 1999 at the Sixteenth Session of the General Assembly in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada (see Info-FI/AV number 14, page 2, 1999



and Info-FI/AV number 15, page 25, 2000) is revised as follows:

The colors for each Officer's flag shall remain the same (see Info-FI/AV number 14, page 2, 1999).

(b) Comment. The revised drawing provides a standard border and is more precise.

Section 4. Miscellaneous.

(a) Severability. Each of sections 1, 2, and 3 of this resolution may be separately considered by the General Assembly, and approved or disapproved individually.

(b) Font. Additions to the Constitution are indicated by underlining and deletions to the Constitution are indicated by [enclosure in brackets and strikeouts]. If approved, the modified text shall appear in nonunderlined font without the bracketed and struck out text.

(c) Comments. The comments to sections 1, 2, and 3 of this resolution are provided for explanatory purposes only and do not form part of the proposed amendment.

(d) Effective date. Each of sections 1, 2, and 3 of this resolution receiving approval shall be immediately effective at the time of its approval.

Moved by SAVA, seconded by IHW, "That section 1(a) of the motion be amended to provide for the election of alternate Officers at the same time as the election of the Officers by the General Assembly, so that any vacancy on the Board would be filled by the appropriate alternate." Amendment failed.

Moved by SSV, seconded by FSA, "That section 1(a) of the motion be amended as follows: A vacancy on the Board occurs if [If] an Officer dies, resigns, or lacks mental [is mentally or physically incapable of carrying out the duties of the office,] capacity under the laws where the Officer resides. Absence of an Officer at a session of the General Assembly creates a vacancy on the Board unless excused by the General Assembly. The resignation of an Officer must be received in writing by another Officer, or if no Officer remains, then by the organizer of the next International Congress of Vexillology. The resignation is effective on the date of its receipt. If a vacancy occurs, the position shall remain vacant and the [those] duties of that Officer shall be performed by the remaining Officers. If no Officer remains to perform the duties of the Board, then the organizer of the next International Congress of Vexillology shall select an interim Secretary-General from among the Fellows of the Federation, if available, who shall have the limited authority to take those acts necessary to convene a session of the General Assembly pursuant to article 17 or 18 and preside until the General Assembly elects a presiding officer for the remainder of the session." Amendment passed by simple majority.

Amended motion passed by the three-quarters majority required for constitutional amendments (vacancies on the Board and revision of the FIAV flag) and the two-thirds majority required for a regular motion (revisions to the Officer flags).

13. Consideration of ASV's proposed medals, ribbons, and lapel pins for Laureates of the Federation and Fellows of the Federation

Moved by AVS, seconded by LAV, "That AVS's proposed medals, ribbons, and lapel pins for Laureates of the Federation and Fellows of the Federation be approved."



Laureate of the Federation



Fellow of the Federation

During debate, FRC argued that the adoption of such tangible acknowledgments of existing FIAV recognitions would be inconsistent with FIAV's purpose in promoting vexillology, because other scientific associations do not have similar physical acknowledgments and, therefore, FIAV's perceived academic stature would be diminished. Failed.

14. Consideration of FSA's proposal to recognize the best paper presented at a Congress

Moved by FSA, seconded by the SGC, "that a Best Paper Award be established, replacing the IAFM Award, to recognize outstanding scholarship and presentation of a paper at an International Congress of Vexillology, and that the Board select at each Congress a panel of three persons to select the award's recipient, consisting, if possible, of a representative of the Congress organizers, flag manufacturers, and vexillologists." Moved by CSVA, seconded by the President, "that the motion be amended to change 'That a Best Paper Award' to 'That the Lucien Philippe Award.'" Amendment failed. Original motion passed by a two-thirds majority.

15. Consideration of SAVA's proposal on behalf of Christopher Southworth, Terence Martin, and Andries Burgers to adopt vexillological conventions for flag descriptions

Moved by SAVA, seconded by NAVA, "That a commission be established by the Board to study SAVA's proposal on behalf of Christopher Southworth, Terence Martin and Andries Burgers to adopt vexillological conventions for flag descriptions, including possible amendments to the Flag Information Code, and that the commission report back to the General Assembly at its next session in 2009." Passed by two-thirds majority.

16. Discussion about publication of ICV proceedings in general and specific status of proceedings from:

ICV 5 1973 London, United Kingdom FI

ICV 9 1981 Ottawa, Canada FRC, Heraldry Society of Canada, and NAVA

ICV 16 1995 Warszawa, Poland CFZ, FDC, and PTW

ICV 19 2001 York, England, United Kingdom FI

ICV 21 2005 Buenos Aires, Argentina AAV and CIDEDEC

The Board yet again expressed its belief that FIAV should do whatever is necessary to ensure that the proceedings from International Congresses of Vexillology are published and that this issue continue to be discussed until a resolution is reached.

ICV 5: Of the ten papers presented at the Congress, three have been published in the *Flag Bulletin* and seven have not been published anywhere. FI could not find a copy of the following four unpublished papers: (1) H. Michael Madaus, "The Evolution of the Color Guard in the US Army"; (2) C. Pama, "Republic Flags in South Africa in the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries"; (3) Georges Pasch, "Les fonctions du drapeaux et le développement de la conscience socio-politique"; and (4) J.H. Rombach & Klaes Sierksma, "Les drapeaux officiels aux Pays-Bas." If anyone has a copy of one of these papers, please contact FI. The remaining three unpublished papers found by FI will be published on FI's website along with a list of the papers published in the *Flag Bulletin* and the names of the four papers that could not be found. This will conclude the publication of the ICV 5 proceedings.

ICV 9: No progress reported by either FRC or NAVA.

ICV 16: CFZ has issued part one of the proceedings on CD-ROM and will issue the remaining papers on CD-ROM if the papers are provided to CFZ by the authors.

ICV 19: FI announced that the proceedings will be published in 2007 on FI's website, and individuals who attended the Congress will be sent a CD-ROM. FI will offer a printed copy of the proceedings for an additional fee.

ICV 21: AAV and CIDEDEC explained that the person responsible for editing the proceedings had resigned without handing over the work that had been done to date. Fortunately, all but two papers have been resubmitted, and the proceedings should be published shortly.

The SGC noted it appears possible that by the Twentieth-First Session of the General Assembly in 2009, all of the ICV proceedings may be published with the exception of ICV 9.

17. Election of 2007 – 2009 Board

Moved by GWAV, seconded by VAST, "That Michel Lupant, Charles Spain, and Graham Bartram be reelected as President, Secretary-General, and Secretary-General for Congresses, respectively." Passed by simple majority.

18. Final adjournment of the Twentieth Session by President

With no further business pending, the President adjourned the Twentieth Session of the General Assembly at 5:45 p.m. without fixing a time and day for another meeting of the session, noting with approval that the session lasted for only two hours.

Appendix to the Minutes

Fellows of the Federation

On August 10, 2007, the FIAV Board presented Fellowships at the closing banquet, which was held at the SAS Radisson Hotel. The Seventeenth Session of the General Assembly in York in 2001 created the honour of the Fellow of the Federation. These fellowships acknowledge the efforts of persons who have made significant contributions to vexillology, or have contributed significant service to FIAV or to a FIAV Member. The new Fellows are Frederick G. Brownell, Kevin Harrington, Sebastián Herreros i Agüí, Andreas Herzfeld, Ralph D. Kelly, Michael Krag-Juel-Vind-Frijs, Rob Raeside, Gustav Söderlund, and Gerd Vehres.



The Vexillon Award

On August 10, 2007, the FIAV Board presented the Vexillon Award at the closing banquet, which was held at the SAS Radisson Hotel. The Vexillon Award recipients are Howard M. Madaus and Whitney Smith for their book, *The American Flag: Two Centuries of Concord & Conflict*. Sadly, Howard Madaus died on July 21, 2007.

Best Paper Award

On August 10, 2007, the FIAV Board presented The Best Paper Award at the closing banquet, which was held at SAS Radisson Hotel. FIAV established the Best Paper Award in 2007. The Award recipient is chosen by a panel of three judges selected by the FIAV Board, which bases its decision on the quality of the paper's contents, its presentation, and its appeal to the audience. NAVA has graciously agreed to provide a plaque for the Award recipient. The Best Paper Award recipient is Emil Dreyer FF for "Flags of the Pope's Swiss Guard Since 1798."

Vexillological Conventions for Flag Descriptions Commission

The Twentieth Session of the FIAV General Assembly directed the FIAV Board to create a Vexillological Convention for Flag Descriptions Commission. Accordingly, the Board establishes the Commission as follows: Graham Bartram, chair; Michael Clingman; Željko Heimer; Ivan Sarajčević; and Charles Spain.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Spain
FIAV Secretary-General
Houston, October 10, 2007

FDC's Letter of Resignation

Alfred Znamierowski Berlin, 6 Aug. 2007
ul. Turystyczna 70 / 43-436 Górk Wielkie / Poland
Mr. Michel Lupant, President of FIAV

Dear Mr. President,

Hereby I would like to inform you that the Flag Design Center has discontinued its activities. Therefore it is not entitled to be a member of the FIAV anymore.

Respectfully yours,

/s/ Alfred Znamierowski

Received Berlin 7/8/2007 / 14 h 40

/s/ M. Lupant

In memoriam

FlAV notes with sorrow the death of the following vexillologists:

Jürgen-Waldemar Rimann December 23, 2006

Jordi Pérez Ibáñez February 1, 2007

Teodoro Amerlinck y Zírion FF February 28, 2007

Awards

Fellows of the Federation (for significant contributions to vexillology and/or significant service to FlAV or a FlAV Member)

Frederick G. Brownell August 10, 2007

Kevin Harrington August 10, 2007

Sebastiá Herreros i Agüí August 10, 2007

Andreas Herzfeld August 10, 2007

Ralph D. Kelly August 10, 2007

Michael Krag-Juel-Vind-Frijs August 10, 2007

Rob Raeside August 10, 2007

Gustav Söderlund August 10, 2007

Gerd Vehres August 10, 2007

Vexillon (for the most important contribution to vexillology during the two years preceding an International Congress of Vexillology; sponsored by the Flag Society of Australia Inc.)
Howard M. Madaus and Whitney Smith LF, FF August 10, 2007

Best Paper (delivered at The XXII. International Congress of Vexillology FlagBerlin 2007, based on the quality of the paper's contents, its presentation, and its appeal to the audience; sponsored by the North American Vexillological Association)
Emil Dreyer FF August 10, 2007 "Flags of the Pope's Swiss Guard Since 1798"

Members

Please contact the Secretary-General at sec.gen@fiav.org concerning inaccurate, incomplete, or modified information. Members are specifically encouraged to obtain an ISSN for all past and present periodical publications (information on obtaining an ISSN is available online from the ISSN International Centre in Paris at www.issn.org). The distinction between full and associate membership, first introduced in 1989, was abolished in 2001. Unless otherwise noted, all Members admitted between 1989 and 2001 were admitted as Full Members.

- Asociación Argentina de Vexilología (AAV) / Argentina
- Asociación Venezolana de Simbología (AVS) / VENEZIMBOL / Venezuela
- Associació Catalana de Vexillologia (ACV) / Spain
- The Burgee Data Archives (BDA) / Canada
- The Canadian Flag Association (CFA) / L'Association canadienne de vexillologie / Canada
- Centre Belgo-Européen d'Études des Drapeaux (CEBED) / Belgium
- Centro Italiano Studi Vessillologici (CISV) / Italia
- Centrum Flagi Ziemi (CFZ) Earth Flag Centre / Poland
- Česká vexilologická společnost o. s. (CVS) Czech Republic
- Chesapeake Bay Flag Association (CBFA) USA
- Confederate States Vexillological Association (CSVA) / USA
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Flaggenkunde e.V. (DGF)
- Flag Heritage Foundation (FHF) / USA
- The Flag Institute (FI) / UK
- The Flag Research Center (FRC) / USA

- Flag Research Centre of Sri Lanka (FRCSL) / Sri Lanka
- Flag Society of Australia Inc. (doing business as Flags Australia) (FSA)
- Flags of the World (FOTW) / Canada
- Fundación Centro Interdisciplinario de Estudios Culturales (CIDEC) / Argentina
- Great Waters Association of Vexillology (GWAV) / USA
- Heraldica Slovenica (HS)
- Heraldischer Verein "Zum Kleeblatt" von 1888 zu Hannover e.V. (HVK) / Germany
- The Heraldry and Vexillology Society of Malta (HAVSOM) / Malta
- Hrvatskog grboslovno i zastavoslovno društvo (HGZD) Croatian Heraldic and Vexillologic Association
- Indian Vexillological Association (IVA)
- Instytut Heraldyczny-Weksylogiczny (IHW) / Poland
- Kevarzhe Vannielouriezh Vreizh (KVV) Société Bretonne de Vexillologie / France
- Magyarországi Zászló Társaság (MZT) / Hungary
- Mauritius Buch Verlag GmbH (MBV) / Germany
- National Flag Foundation (NFF) / USA
- Nederlandse Vereniging voor Vlaggenkunde (NVvV)
- New England Vexillological Association (NEVA) / USA
- New Zealand Flag Association (NZFA) / New Zealand
- Nihon Kishougaku Kyokai (JAVA) / Japanese Vexillological Association
- Nordisk Flaggsekskap (NF) Nordisk Flaggsekskab / Nordiska Flaggsekskapet / Norræna Fánafélagið / Pohjoismaiden Lippuseura / Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden
- North American Vexillological Association (NAVA)
- Partioheraldikot r.y. (PH) / Finland
- Polskie Towarzystwo Weksylogiczne (PTW) / Poland
- Russian Centre of Vexillology and Heraldry (RCVH) / Russia
- Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Fahnen- und Flaggkunde (SSV) Société Suisse de Vexillologie / Società Svizzera di Vessillologia / Switzerland
- Sociedad Española de Vexilología (SEV) / Spain
- Societas Vexillologica Belgica (SVB) / Belgium
- Societatea de Genealogie, Heraldică și Arhivistică "Paul Gore" (SGHAPG) / Moldova
- Societatea Română de Vexilologie (SRV) / Roumania
- Société française de vexillologie (SFV) / France
- Southern African Vexillological Association (SAVA) / South Africa
- Stredisko Vexilologických Informací (SVI) Flag Data Centre / Czech Republic
- Tumbling Waters Museum of Flags (TWMF) / USA
- Ukrainyn'ke Heraldychne Tovarystvo / The Ukrainian Heraldry Society (UHT) / Ukraine
- Västra Sveriges Heraldiska Sällskap (VSHS) / Sweden
- Vexillological Association of the State of Texas (VAST) / USA
- World Vexillological Research Institute (WVRI) / Czech Republic

Statutes and Constitution

The FIAV provisional council adopted provisional statutes on September 3, 1967. The FIAV statutes were formally adopted on September 7, 1969 and amended on September 29, 1983. The statutes were replaced by the current FIAV Constitution, which was adopted on September 27, 1989. The Constitution has been amended on August 12, 1997, July 29, 1999, July 23, 2001, and August 7, 2007.

The current text of the Constitution is set out below. It contains the exact text as adopted and amended.

**Constitution of the
Fédération Internationale des Associations Vexillologiques**

I. Name and Purpose

Art. 1 The name of this association is the *Fédération internationale des associations vexillologiques*, which is abbreviated as "FIAV." The official translations of FIAV's name are: International Federation of Vexillological Associations (English); Internationale Föderation Vexillologischer Gesellschaften (German); and Federación Internacional de Asociaciones Vexilológicas (Spanish).

Art. 2 FIAV unites those associations and institutions throughout the world whose object is the pursuit of vexillology, which is the creation and development of a body of knowledge about flags of all types, their forms and functions, and of scientific theories and principles based on that knowledge.

Art. 3 FIAV has as its purposes:

- (a) To create a strong bond among those associations and institutions and to encourage and coordinate their work, studies, and research;
- (b) to promote the organization of International Congresses of Vexillology and to lend its support to their organizers;
- (c) to encourage the creation in all countries of associations and institutions dedicated to vexillology; and
- (d) to sanction international standards facilitating the development of these activities.

Art. 4 FIAV, being strictly scientific, has no commercial ends and renounces any political or religious activity or stand.

II. Headquarters

Art. 5 The administrative headquarters of FIAV are located at the residences of its two Secretaries-General. If necessary, the General Assembly may establish a legal headquarters for FIAV.

III. Membership

Art. 6 An applicant for membership in FIAV:

- (a) must be an organization of the type expressed in article 2;
- (b) must be committed to the purposes of FIAV expressed in article 3; and
- (c) must be constituted in conformity with the laws of the country where it is located.

Art. 7 (a) Membership in FIAV is open to any association or institution anywhere in the world having as a substantial purpose the scientific study of vexillology.

(b) The processing of membership applications is the responsibility of the Board. The Board may delegate this responsibility to a person appointed by it for this purpose.

The procedure consists of the following:

- (1) The applicant shall submit a membership application, which must be received by the Board no later than six months before the convening of the next session of the General Assembly.
- (2) The Board shall consider the application and make a recommendation to the General Assembly relative to the applicant and shall communicate that recommendation to the applicant and to existing Members not later than three months before the convening of the next session of the General Assembly.
- (3) The Board may recommend acceptance of the applicant as a Member, or may recommend rejection of the applicant.
- (4) The General Assembly at its next session shall vote on the application. An authorized representative of the applicant may appear at the session to represent its case. A rejected applicant has the right to reapply for membership at any later session of the General Assembly.
- (c) The Board and the General Assembly, in making their decisions about an applicant, shall have regard to the following:

- (1) the existence of a written constitution and its provisions;

- (2) the vexillological and non-vexillological activities of the applicant, including meetings, publications, and international relations;
- (3) in the case of an association, the number of its dues-paying members (minimum of five);
- (4) registration of its members in International Congresses of Vexillology;
- (5) the length of time it has existed; and
- (6) the presence of an autochthonous and authorized representative of the applicant at the session of the General Assembly at which there is to be a vote on the application.

Art. 8 The voluntary resignation of any Member must be received in writing by the President. The resignation is effective on the date of its receipt.

Art. 9 At its discretion, the Board may require a Member to furnish evidence of its continued qualification for membership under the terms set forth in article 7. On the basis of this evidence, the Board may make a recommendation to the General Assembly on the continuation of the membership of the association or institution. If the recommendation is made to remove a Member from FIAV, the Member in question must be notified at least three months in advance of the session of the General Assembly at which there is to be a vote on the matter. The Member shall be invited to present its defense before the General Assembly, but shall not participate in the vote on the matter.

Art. 10 Each Member regulates its own affairs in complete freedom, limited only by the laws in effect in the territory where it functions. FIAV may not limit the rights of the Members in this respect.

Art. 11 Members shall not undertake any activities contrary to the interests of FIAV.

Art. 12 (a) FIAV may not act on behalf of its Members without their authorization expressed in the General Assembly. Members may not make commitments nor act on behalf of FIAV.

(b) Members may not hold international vexillological meetings outside of International Congresses of Vexillology. Notwithstanding this prohibition, a Member holding a vexillological meeting in any year in which no International Congress of Vexillology is held may invite participation by a Member from a contiguous country.

Art. 13 The General Assembly may name as "Laureates of the Federation" persons who have made outstanding contributions to vexillology. The General Assembly may delegate this power to the Board. The status as a Laureate does not confer any right within FIAV.

IV. The General Assembly

Art. 14 (a) The General Assembly is composed of the Officers together with a delegate from each of the Members. Each delegate must present to the President written credentials from the Member represented. A Member may delegate any or all of its powers in writing to a delegate from any other Member or to an Officer.

(b) A session of the General Assembly is not constituted unless delegates of at least half of the Members are present, except as provided for in article 25.

(c) Each Member and each Officer is entitled to one vote in the General Assembly. Art. 15 Majorities in the General Assembly consist of the following fractions of those Members present and voting:

(a) A simple majority in the election of Officers. If more than two candidates stand for election for an Office and no candidate receives a simple majority, then the candidate with the least votes shall be eliminated from the next ballot, and so on.

(b) A simple majority for a motion to amend a motion under consideration, to proceed to the next item of business on the agenda, to defer consideration of a motion, to refer a motion to a Commission, to appeal a ruling of the chair, for a record vote, or to adjourn a session of the General Assembly.

(c) Two-thirds for all other motions.

(d) Three-quarters for amendments to the Constitution or dissolution of FIAV.

Art. 16 The General Assembly:

(a) elects Officers;

(b) examines and approves the administration of the Board and the Commissions;

- (c) examines all questions concerning FIAV and in particular the organization of the International Congresses of Vexillology;
- (d) interprets the Constitution;
- (e) names Laureates of the Federation pursuant to article 13 and awards such other distinctions as it deems appropriate to persons or institutions who have shown particular merit in the field of vexillology (this power may be delegated to the Board);
- and
- (f) determines the amount and disposition of the annual dues, if any, to be paid by Members; and
- (g) establishes such Commissions as it deems necessary and appoints Commissioners.

Art. 17 The General Assembly holds a session at least once every two years, normally on the occasion of each International Congress of Vexillology. The Board convenes a session of the General Assembly. The Board must give notice of the agenda, including any amendments to the Constitution or motion to dissolve FIAV, to all Members at least three months in advance of the session.

Art. 18 The General Assembly may be called into an emergency session if extraordinary conditions require this, as determined by the Board, or if three-quarters of the Members request this of the Board.

V. Administration

Art. 19 (a) The administration of FIAV is entrusted to a Board which acts only by unanimous agreement. The Board is composed of three Officers: the President, the Secretary-General, and the Secretary-General for Congresses.

(b) The Officers are elected at the end of each session of the General Assembly and serve until the election of the new Officers at the next session of the General Assembly. Consent of the candidates for election is required. The Officers are eligible for re-election.

(c) The Secretary-General and the Secretary-General for Congresses must reside on different continents. The Secretary-General manages the Permanent Secretariat of FIAV and the Secretary-General for Congresses manages the Permanent Secretariat of the International Congresses of Vexillology. The Board is considered to be in continuous session, conducted by correspondence.

(d) A vacancy on the Board occurs if an Officer dies, resigns, or lacks mental capacity under the laws where the Officer resides. Absence of an Officer at a session of the General Assembly creates a vacancy on the Board unless excused by the General Assembly. The resignation of an Officer must be received in writing by another Officer, or if no Officer remains, then by the organizer of the next International Congress of Vexillology. The resignation is effective on the date of its receipt. If a vacancy occurs, the position shall remain vacant and the duties of that Officer shall be performed by the remaining Officers. If no Officer remains to perform the duties of the Board, then the organizer of the next International Congress of Vexillology shall select an interim Secretary-General from among the Fellows of the Federation, if available, who shall have the limited authority to take those acts necessary to convene a session of the General Assembly pursuant to article 17 or 18 and preside until the General Assembly elects a presiding officer for the remainder of the session.

Art. 20 The Board:

- (a) manages the current affairs of FIAV and establishes the duties and obligations of its Officers;
- (b) issues directives which it considers necessary to the success of the activities of FIAV, including the International Congresses of Vexillology;
- (c) establishes such Commissions as it deems necessary and appoints Commissioners;
- (d) convenes sessions of the General Assembly pursuant to articles 17 and 18;
- (e) represents FIAV in its relations with other national and international institutions; and
- (f) manages membership procedures pursuant to article 7 and encourages vexillological associations and institutions to apply for FIAV membership.

Art. 21 FIAV's assent to an agreement imposing a binding obligation on FIAV may only be given by a written document signed by all Officers. Current correspondence may be signed by any single Officer.

VI. Languages

Art. 22 The official languages of FIAV and the International Congresses of Vexillology are English, French, German, and Spanish. Other languages may be used when appropriate.

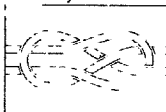
VII. Publications

Art. 23 (a) FIAV shall publish a newsletter concerning its activities at least once a year for the benefit of its Members, which may be freely reproduced. The General Assembly may initiate or authorize other publications.

(b) The Flag Bulletin (ISSN 0015-3370) is recognized as a journal for the publication of scientific articles in the field of vexillology.

VIII. Symbols

Art. 24 (a) FIAV's flag is described as follows: "On a blue field, extending horizontally from hoist to fly, two yellow halyards forming two interlaced loops." The color blue is defined as Pantone Matching System U293 and the color yellow is defined as Pantone Matching System U123. The



Flag is illustrated as follows:

(b) The General Assembly may initiate or authorize other symbols for FIAV.

IX. Dissolution

Art. 25 (a) **A motion to dissolve FIAV may be considered only at a session of the General Assembly at which delegates of at least three-quarters of the Members are present.**

(b) Instead of sending a delegate, a Member may choose to submit to the President a written, notarized statement expressing that Member's vote in favor of, or in opposition to, the motion to dissolve. A Member that submits any such statement shall be considered present at the session for the purpose of determining that the session is constituted to consider a motion to dissolve.

(c) The General Assembly establishes the terms of the dissolution.

Adopted September 27, 1989 by the Eleventh Session of the General Assembly held during the Thirteenth International Congress of Vexillology at Ballarat, Victoria, Australia.

Amended August 12, 1997 (article 14(a)) by the Fifteenth Session of the General Assembly held during the Seventeenth International Congress of Vexillology at Cape Town, Western Cape, South Africa.

Amended July 29, 1999 (adding new article 1 and renumbering and amending remaining articles) by the Sixteenth Session of the General Assembly held during the Eighteenth International Congress of Vexillology at Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.

Amended July 23, 2001 (eliminating the distinction between Full and Associate Members and amending articles 15 and 23) by the Seventeenth Session of the General Assembly held during the Nineteenth International Congress of Vexillology at York, England, United Kingdom.

Amended August 7, 2007 (articles 19(d) and 24) by the Twentieth Session of the General Assembly held during the Twenty-Second International Congress of Vexillology at Berlin, Germany.

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Info-FIAV

Info-FIAV (ISSN 1560-9979) is published by the Permanent Secretariat of the Fédération internationale des associations vexillologiques (FIAV) and edited by FIAV Secretary-General Charles Spain, 504 Branard St., HOUSTON TX 77006-5018, USA, sec.gen@fiav.org. One copy of *Info-FIAV* is distributed free of charge to each FIAV Member, at the Permanent Secretariat's expense (approximately US\$8.33 per hard copy), by mailing or e-mailing a copy to the Member's address on file with the Secretary-General. Neither FIAV, the FIAV Board, the Permanent Secretariat, nor Charles Spain individually claims a copyright in the material appearing in *Info-FIAV*, although material appearing in *Info-FIAV* may be the intellectual property of another person. Subject to such intellectual-property rights, *Info-FIAV* may be freely reproduced. It is the responsibility of each FIAV Member to copy and internally distribute *Info-FIAV* as necessary. Individual subscriptions to *Info-FIAV* are not available.

Upcoming Dates**January 14, 2009**

Deadline for membership applications to be received by the Board

March 2, 2009

Deadline to submit items to the Secretary-General for placement on the agenda for the Twenty-First Session of the General Assembly

April 14, 2009

Distribution of the agenda for the Twenty-First Session of the General Assembly

July 12–17, 2009

Twenty-Third International Congress of Vexillology, Yokohama, Japan

July 14, 2009

Twenty-First Session of the General Assembly convenes

Source: FIAV-Info No. 24, October 2007 (extract)

FIAV-Officers at the Assembly (G. Vehres, C. Spain, M. Lupant, G. Bartram)

Photo: Heimer

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