

ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES CRITIQUES D'ART
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ART CRITICS
ASOCIACION INTERNACIONAL DE CRITICOS DE ARTE

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NEWSLETTER 1980

The 32nd General Assembly of AICA took place in Dublin from August 27th to September 6th. The meetings were held in Trinity College's historical surroundings where at the same time took place the 14th Congress on a subject chosen by the Irish Section and its president Mrs Dorothy Walker : " International Influence on Local art communities ". Wladislawa Jaworska, Giulio Carlo Argan and René Berger, présidents of honour, were present. Nearly 200 people came on the invitation of Irish section, representing 26 national sections : 19 from Europe, 4 from Latin America plus the Australian, Canada and US sections. Apologized for their absence : Mario Barata (Section Libre), Georges Boudaille et Jacques Lassaigue (France), John Ferrault (USA), Sven Sandtröm (Suède), Anda Rottenberg et Aleksander Wojciekowski (Pologne).

The Board of directors met three times under the direction of René Berger and Alexandre Cirici. Present were : Harry-Paul Aletrino (Netherland), Palma Bucarelli (Italy), Christian Chambert (Sweden), Jeffery Daniels (England), Fernand Duchateau-Meuris (Free section), Giuseppe Gatt (Italy), Jorge Glusberg (Argentina), Hans L.C. Jaffe (Netherland), George Jappe (RFA), Wladislawa Jaworska (Poland), Gertrud Kobke-Lutton (Danemark), Jaako Jaako Lintinen (Finland), Jacques Meuris (Belgium), René Micha (Belgium), Raoul Jean Moulin (France), Andrée Paradis (Canada), Maurice Pianzola (Switzerland), Jean-Pierre van Tieghem (Belgium), Dorothy Walker (Ireland), Guy Weelen (France), Alexandre Xydis (grec), and some representatives of national sections : Katia Ambrozic (Yougoslavia), Bernard Denvir (England), Elisa Garcia-Barragan (Mexico), Daniel Giralt Miracle (Spain), John Turpin (Ireland), Marie Claude Volfin (France).

The board of directors was learned of the activities of the president, the secretary general and the treasurer that will be presented during the General Assembly. The treasurer called on the sections to pay their subscription regularly and so on to assure the smooth running of AICA. It designated to the admissions committee : Harry-Paul Aletrino, Horst Richter, Marie-Claude Volfin and to the financial control committee : Giuseppe Gatt and John Turpin.

A discussion on proposal modification of statutes and ruling presented to board members within a statutory time table. These propositions were filed in 1979 during the general assembly of Barcelona and emanated from a consultative committee. This committee met at AICA's head quarters in Paris on June 14th 1980 under the supervision of Alexandre Cirici,

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were present : Jacques Mouris, Raoul-Jean Moulin, Jean-Pierre van Tieghem, Guy Weelen. Were absent : Mario Barata and René Berger who approved the recommendations of the committee. The board then proceeded to a vote on the committee's proposals and decided to submit them before the general assembly (document appended).

Then the board took care of the timetable of the next general assembly which would be as follows : 1981 in Spain, 1982 in Mexico, no proposition so far from 1983 but two propositions (Austria and USA) for 1984.

The debate on the review " Theory and Criticism " allowed to solve the conflict expressed in the letters that Harry-paul Aletrino and Jorge Glusberg have recently diffused. Jorge Glusberg confirmed his resignation as the head of the review and declared that he could give up publishing " Theory and criticism ". Speaking on account of the RFA section, Horst Richter suggested that a part of the UNASCO grant could be used for the publishing of a news report. This report would be published two or three times a year and would give an account of the activities of the national sections, the general assemblies, the congresses, the works of AICA's members, the collaboration with UNESCO. After a large exchange of views during which were heard among others Wladislawa Jaworska who took the initiative of planning the review, Pierre Restany, Hans LC Jaffé, Jean-Pierre van Tieghem, Katia Ambrozic, Dora Vallier, René Berger, Alexandre Cirici, René Micha, it turned out that a plan news report couldn't replace a theoretical review specific to AICA. René Micha suggested that one should seek advice from people with knowledge (in the field) of publishing or editing a review. So the council of administration designated him to put together and to present during the general assembly a committee in charge of studying the finency, the running and the programme of such a review.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The first session of the general assembly opened with Dorothy Walker as chairman, who, on behalf of the Irish section, greeted AICA's president and the board of directors, and welcome the people who were present in Dublin. Then she handed over to president Alexandre Cirici, who thanked the Irish fellow members for their warm reception, and the various cultural institutions for their help in the organization of this meeting. He said he was very glad that " ROSE 80 " would give us the opportunity of a lively contact with the art of today.

Alexandre Cirici reminded that this general assembly had to take important decisions regarding the reform of the statutes and the problems about the possible publication of an AICA's review. These matters were discussed several

times during this year and were mentioned on the board of directors' dispatches.

Then president Cirici declared : our concern in AICA oblige us to consider it in a dynamic way. Nothing is worse for this institution that not moving ahead. And we understand that any human being's dynamism have two meanings : their own realization and the meaning of their relations with their environment. So we have to put our effort towards two objectives : on one hand, improvement in our internal function and our growth, on the other hand our inserting in the world organized life.

The discussion which is going on about the statutes and our constant will of geographical extension fit our first objective. Our closer and closer collaboration fit the second objective. That is what I had in mind when I got into profitable meetings with UNESCO managing director Mr Amadou Mahtar M'Bow as well as with the head assistant of the cultural development division Mr Alexandre Blokh.

Then Alexandre Cirici underlined the diversity of AICA members' preoccupations and functions and, maintaining his own confidence in richness of dialogue, he invited the assembly to get over its divergences and " to be responsible for constituting an eye upon the art world, precisely because we see it under different angles ". It is from this angle he is supposed to present the theme of the General Assembly's works in 1981 in Madrid, Granada and Seville about " crisis of the avant-gardes ". to get a better understanding of the present situation of Art and its interweaving with an historical reality of the second half of the twentieth century. For president Cirici " contradictions crouched by the subject can be the microclimate which causes a great creativity of ideas, analysing the hold of the actual world over art and the hold of art over the actual world ".

Before concluding, Alexandre Cirici repressed his intention of not standing for his re-election on president of AICA. With the idea of the election of a new president during 1981 General Assembly in Spain, he invited from now the honorary presidents and the presidents of the national sections to submit applications to the general secretary before the end of April 1981.

In conclusion, he read UNESCO managing director's message to the 32nd general assembly of AICA. This message said among other things " UNESCO attaches great value to the tasks you have been accomplishing for the intellectual and aesthetic development of contemporary societies "...

" It is important that AICA efforts on the subject of documentation, research and thought, and on the large discussion between art critics of all countries, are centered around themes which (as the one " international influence on local art communities ") set off relations between artistic creation and its social environment in the largest

meaning " UNESCO is willing and civilizations and to favour the emergence of an universal humanisme. Unesco is also acknowledging that the subject of our discussion coincides with its own concerns and expresses the wish that the bands between our two organizations continue to reinforce themselves in the future.

Then general treasurer Jacques Meuris, accompagnied by assistant general treasurer Fernande Duchateau-Meuris, presented a financial account : " The end-of-year 1979 figures show \$ 47.486,90 receipts and \$ 30.454, 30 expenses. The credit balance (\$ 17.032,50) show a better profit than for 1978 (\$ 14.095,75). One has to recall that these balances contain certain amounts of money allowed but not laid out during the accounting period. Most of the financial commitments go to AICA's general running (salaries, maintenance and rent of Paris premises). Then Jacques Meuris pointed out that the contributions were far from representing all the national sections. In 1979, only 29 sections have fulfilled their financial obligations. This situation justified our president's appeal and we hope it will be heard the actual contributions for 1979 would only permit to cover the third of AICA's expenses which means that AICA couldn't exists without UNESCO's financial contribution. But then the projections for 1980 are favorable ". The financial statement was approved unanimously by the general assembly.

Raoul-Jean Moulin presented then general secretary report and recalled first our increasing collaboration with UNESCO during 1979-1980. " AICA participated in 4 kinds of consultations Arts and contemporary society, the artist's status, the return of the cultural possessions to their country of origin or their restitution when they have been illegally appropriated, the principles and criterious of the committee of artistic advisers with UNESCO general manager. Then he precised that this reforcial collaboration found expression in an rise of UNESCO budget forecasts for 1981-1983 : our grant would go from \$ 22 000 to \$ 45 000. one needs to say that the doubling of the grant is understandable because the budget forecasts were established in this particular instance for three years, so as to harmonize UNESCO programming cycle with the ones of other United Nation, organizations, from 1984 onwards. But the rise is not the least appreciable. It includes the increase of maintenance and social charges and allows us to plan the publishing of a new year book for which we already prepared a standardization formulary of the national lists.

Raoul-Jean Moulin emphasized that, as UNESCO had wished, the general secretary tried to "intensify the efforts to improve our geographic expansion especially towards countries". Then Raoul-Jean Moulin summarized the real activities of the national sections of AICA. The assesment is relatively positive for the 1979-1980 period since 26 section among 46 answered the general secretary's questionnaire that is to say 7 more than last year, and a little more than half of the total member of sections, wich didn't

happen in a long time. (document appended).

Silence was held in deference to the deceased members of AICA : Jean Bouret, Max-Pol Fouchet, Claude Rivière (France) Paul Gammelbo (Denmark) ; Emile Langui (Belgium).

Starting on AICA's next meeting, the general assembly unanimously accepted the invitation for 1981 in Madrid, Grenade, and Sevilla and agreed on the working theme suggested by president Cirici and the president of the Spain section. Then on behalf of the president of the Mexican section Xavier Moyssen, Elisa Garcia Barragan explained the general outline of the meeting plan on Mexico for 1982. Its subject " Nationalism in modern and Contemporary art " was approved unanimously, providing that a better formulation of the national issue would be expressed. As for the propositions from Austria and USA it would be desirable that one or the other could materialize in 1983. The general assembly approved the meeting plan in New-York but didn't express its decision about the choice of themes : " Statuts of women in contemporary art " or " Influence of natural and artificial surroundings on contemporary art ".

During the second session, under Alexander Cirici's presidency, the general assembly heard a report on AICARC, project granted by UNESCO for documentation on modern and contemporary art, and run by Sven Sandström (Sweden). The president of the Swedish section Christian Chambert presented this report and recalled that AICARC bulletin plans to keep in touch the various institutions which are specialized in this field, and that it reaches really 500 of them. AICARC was invited to take part in various undertakings of encyclopaedia and bibliography such as the Review Visual Resources (USA), the Thieme-Decker Lexikon (RDA). Then, on behalf on the president of the RDA section Ullrich Kuhirt, Hermann Raum (RDA) informed the general assembly about the works of the committee " Art and surroundings " which met in Amsterdam, with the assistance of the Dutch section and which plan to meet next year in Moscow, with the assistance of the Soviet section.

Giuseppe Gatt (Italy) and John Turpin (Ireland) auditors, from the financial control committee gave full discharge to the treasurer. Then the admissions committee - Harry Paul Aletrino (Deutschland), Horst Richter (RFA) and Marie-Claude Volfin (France) - communicated the list of members admitted to the secretary after studying their
RFA : Camilla Elechen, Monika Goadl, Carl Hoendein, Cristel Heybrock, Werner Krüger ; Sweden : Otto Baekström, Per Djurström, Gustav Cavallius, Sten Dunér, Nils Lindgren, Ake Livstedt, Sten Ake Nilson, Lars Nittve, Gertz Nordström, Thomas Paulson, Nina Weibull, Barbo Weräster ; Ireland : Kate Robinson, James Creach, Joan Howell, Campbell Bruce, Liam Kelly, Paula McCarty ; Spain : Josep-Iglesias del Marquet, Gloria Moure, Mercedes Tolleda, Josep Valles Rovira, Rodriguez Cruells, Finland : Levanto Yrjana, *no Antero*

Leo Antero.

Under the supervision of René Berger, the third session of the general assembly started with a consulting on each proposal modification of statutes and rulings presented by the board of directors. A vote sanctioned each approval or refusal; (documents appended).

By the board of directors request, René Micha explained the objectives of the committee in charge of examining the general conditions of publishing a review which will fit the AICA's theoretical and critical activity. Were appointed to this committee : Harry-Paul Aletrino, Jean Clair, Bernard Denvir, José Augusto Franca, Jorge Glusberg, Dan Haulica, Andrée Paradis, Horst Richter et René Micha who will be the reporter before the board of directors and the general assembly for 1981 in Madrid.

The fourth session of the general assembly was devoted to the election of the vice presidency and the board of directors. The two votes, under the presidency of Alexandre Cirici went on by nominal ballot. The counting of the votes took place under the supervision of Maurice Piazola (Switzerland) assisted by André Paradis (Canada) and Maria Torrente (Italy). Were elected vice presidents : Palma Bucarelli (Italy) 28 votes, Jorge Jappe (RFA) 28 votes, Daniel-Giralt-Miracle (Spain) 28 votes. Ten directors were elected or re-elected : Giuseppe Gatt (Italy) 47 votes, Ryszard Stanislawski (Poland) 47 votes, René Micha (Belgium) 43 vote, Pierre Restany (France) 38 votes, Irving Sandler (USA) 29 votes, Mario Barata (free section) 29 votes, Jean Clair (France) 26 votes, Erik Kruskoff (Finland) 26 votes, Harry-Paul Aletrino (Netherlands) 26 votes, Hermann Raum 26 votes.

INTERNATIONAL INFLUENCE ON LOCAL ART COMMUNITIES

This was the theme of the works of AICA's 14th congress. ~~at the~~ Four sessions successingly chairing were : Dan Haulica (Romania), Anne Crookshank (Ireland), Georg Jappe (RFA) and Dora Vallier (France).

The twenty one items presented provoked a large discussion.

1. Guy Weelen : International influence on local art : Pollution
2. Vadim Polevoj : International and national. Few methodological questions
3. Hans Jörg Heusser : The Avant-Garde, Criticism on Local Art.
4. Liberato Santoro : Philosophical Foundations of Art Criticism.
5. Wladislawa Jaworska : National Tradition and contemporary art

6. Erik Kruskof :
The world of the Nordic Center and Local Art
7. John Turpin :
Colonialism and the visual arts in Ireland.
8. Joanne Sheehy :
International Influence : Dublin 1880-1910
9. Liam Kelly :
International influence on contemporary Irish architecture.
10. Cyril Narrett :
The " Internationalism " of Irish art 1943-73.
11. Hilary Pale :
International influence on local art communities in Ireland.
12. Alexandre Xydis :
Influence of international art on local art or vice-versa ?
13. Dr. Theodora Iliopoulou-Rogan :
The painter N. Ghika contemporary greek artist.
14. Keti Ambrozic :
Nadezda Petrovic 1873-1915
15. Pierre Restany :
Art and society
16. James Thompson :
Go east, young man : an oriental search for self.
17. Valentina Anker :
The apple of William Tell or the nostalgia for the garden of eden.
18. Teresa del Conde :
Notes on magic realism in latin america.
19. Det. Slavka Sverakova :
Sens of possible.
20. Ionel Jianou.
Sculptors from other countries working in France in the 20 th century
21. Jean Arrouye :
International photographic meetings at Arles.

From the initiative of the ROSC the debat continued from the points of view put forward by René Berger, Jorge Glusberg, Clement Greenberg, Ivan Illich and Brian O'Doherty.

RECEPTIONS AND EXCURSIONS

As well as the international exhibition ROSC 80 and its program of performances, many visits had been organised to collections in Dublin wich were followed by receptions at the Douglas Hyde Gallery, Malchice castle, the Hugh Lane Municipal Gallery of Modern art, the national Gallery of Art of Ireland, the Chester Beatty Gallery of oriental art, the national museum of Ireland, the Bank of Ireland, in the home of sir Alfred Beit in Russborough and at Tulfarris Art Gallery of Blessington. A state reception was given by the minister of national education in Dublin Castle. Other parties were given in the home of Irish collectors without forgetting the one of the Italian cultural center in Dublin closing the bright conference of Julio Carlo Argan on Urbanism.

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More over many excursions gave us the opportunity of discovering the landscape of the traditional Ireland and the treasures of its archeology. They had been visited successively. A castle town house of the XVIIth century, the monastic site of the VIth century of Glendalough, the 9th century great cross at Monasterboice, the ruins of the cistercien Abbaye of Malifont and the site of neolitique grovestones at Newgrange (30 000 BC). Finally, during the trip to Cork where was an annex of the ROCC 60 exhibition, a stop permitted the congressist to know about Kilkenny castle and the Kilkenny design work shops.

At the end of 32nd general assembly it is right to warmly thank Dorothy Walker the president of the section who engaged all the resources of her dynamism in the organisation of this meeting and all her collaborators especially Roderik Knoles and John Turpin.

PROPOSITIONS AND ADOPTIONS OF THE MODIFICATIONS OF STATUTES AND RULES.

STATUTES

ART IV

4°

PROPOSITION (the underline part constitutes the proposition).

Membership of the Association ends through resignation for non-payment of subscriptions, or by being struck off for serious reasons by the Board of Directors, after taking the opinion of the respective national sections. A recourse is provided to the General Assembly which makes the only and last decision.

THE OPINION OF THE COMMISSION.

The commission did not accept this proposition which has been the object of a vote from the board of directors in Barcelona who refused it by majority.

THE OPINION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The board of directors confirmed the decision by 15 voices in favor and 3 against.

ART IV

5°

PROPOSITION

Prominent personalities who have helped the Association at an international level or have won distinction in the service of art may be nominated members of Honour at the suggestion of the Board of Directors. The commission is in anyway deliberated by the general assembly.

THE OPINION OF THE COMMISSION

The commission proposes to replace " association " by general assembly.

THE OPINION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The proposition was adopted by the majority, less 3 abstentions.

ART XIII

1°

PROPOSITION

The Secretary-General ensures the working of the Association, as well as of the secretariat at all the meetings. He attends to the carrying out of decisions of the General Assembly, the Board of Directors and the Directing Committee. He is responsible for the interior organization of the administrative secretariat of the Association. He presents a moral report at each General Assembly, and, if need be, he represents the Association in the President's place in court and in all civil affairs. In agreement with the Treasurer General

he engages the necessary staff and fixes expenses; he organizes the meetings of the directing organisms and working commissions, prepares the work of the Congresses and the reports to be submitted to the President after the Working Commission has expressed its views. The General Secretary is elected by the general assembly, many candidatures were presented for the election.

OPINION OF THE COMMISSION

The commission proposes not to accept this modification. Our statutes specify (ART XI 1°) that the Secretary General is elected by the board of directors, composed of the directing committee, the president of the national sections, the former presidents and the vice-presidents of AICA, the 10 full members elected at each general assembly. The board of directors studies all questions that concern the organization management and cultural works of the association. (ART X 3°). It is widely representative of the diversity of AICA and by its responsible function assures the continuity.

The commission recalls that generally the candidates for the post of general secretary are few, and that he has to reside in Paris, site of AICA's office and its archives and also site of the Unesco.

OPINION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The board of directors decides not to hold this modification by 18 votes against 2, but to modify the ART XI 2° which should be read in this way: "the secretary general, the treasurer general, their assistants, the regional secretaries are designated by the general assembly with approbation, for a renewable period of three years."

DECISION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The proposition to modify the ART XII 2° is adopted by the majority less 3 abstentions.

ART XV 1°

PROPOSITION (the parenthesis indicated a demand of suppression).

The Bureau of the Association consists of the President, one Vice-President, the Secretary General, the Treasurer General and (their possible assistants.) Plus an honorary president. It meets every time the President seems it necessary.

OPINION OF THE COMMISSION

The commission proposes to approve the suggestion of appointing an honorary president to the members of the board.

OPINION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Proposition approved unanimously.

DECISION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

From the suggestion of René Berger the general assembly decided by the majority to take back this pro-

ART XV

2°

PROPOSITION

During the interval between sittings of the General Assembly, of the Board of Directors and of the Directing Committee, the Bureau takes all necessary decisions. Every decision taken during this interval must be subjected to the ratification of the Bureau during the first next meeting.

OPINION OF THE COMMISSION

The commission proposes to add the mention " and make reference to " at the present article.

OPINION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Proposition approved unanimously.

DECISION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Proposition approved by the majority less 6 abstentions.

ART XV

3°

PROPOSITION

During the interval between sittings of the Bureau, the President assisted by the Secretary-General exercises the same powers. Every decision taken during this interval must be subjected to the ratification of the Bureau during the first next meeting.

OPINION OF THE COMMISSION

The commission proposes to add the mention " and make reference to " at the present article.

OPINION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Proposition approved unanimously.

DECISION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Proposition approved by the majority, less two abstentions.

ART XV

4°

PROPOSITION

The functions of Members of the Bureau are not remunerated. To foresee the modes of repayment during the exercise of functions.

OPINION OF THE COMMISSION

The commission considers that this wish is not the concern of statutes and AICA is not able to remunerate the membership of the Board. But it is in the ART XI the representation allowances of the General Secretary and various missions allowances are determined by the Board and approved by the Board of Directors during the general assembly.

OPINION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors approve by the majority less 1.

DECISION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly approve the opinion of the Board of Directors by the majority less 6 voices and 4 abstentions.

ART XIX

1°

PROPOSITION

The transactions of the Association are supervised by one or two commissioners designated by the General Assembly for a mandate of three years and re-eligible. The commissioner in charged to verify the comptability have to be assisted by one who does not belong to the AICA and which yearly emoluments would be fixed by the general assembly.

THE OPINION OF THE COMMISSION

The commission propose not to accept this modification. The commission remarks the finances handled by the secretary general will be checked by a chartered accountant not belonging to AICA. The financial report of the general treasurer will be taken into account. About the remuneration of the chartered accountant they are decided by the employers' federation and cannot be determined by the General Assembly.

OPINION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors approve the commission unanimously.

DECISION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The general assembly approve the opinion of the board of directors by the majority less 7 abstentions.

ART XX

1°

PROPOSITION

(Details of the running of the Association, as well as unforeseen cases, are envisaged in Regulations fixed by the Board of Directors. The Regulations can be modified, at the proposal of the Board, during a General Assembly.) The rules of the executions of statutes must be approved by the General Assembly
The board of directors must limit itself to applicated it. The eventual modifications wich must be also proposed by the board of directors must be deliberated to the general assembly.

OPINION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of directors ask to think about the redaction of this article and that it shall be temporesly kept as it was.

DECISION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The general assembly approve the opinion of the Board of directors by the majority less one abstention.

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RULES

ART II

1°

PROPOSITION

Only Full members are allowed to take part in general assemblies. However, the inviting Section may also ask its own adherent members and the most outstanding personalities of its country at the opening and closing sessions. The adherents can participate to the general assemblies and speech. They cannot participate in the voting sessions.

OPINION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors ask to think about this article and that it will be kept as it was.

DECISION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The general assembly approve the opinion of the Board of Directors by the majority less 4 abstentions

ART IV

1°

PROPOSITION

In accordance with the art. XVI of the Statutes a commission of three members is appointed by the Bureau ~~to check the validity~~ ^{the general assembly} of the votes sent by post and of the procurations committed to a member by the National Sections.

OPINION OF THE COMMISSION

the commission propose to accept this modification.

OPINION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Proposition adopted unanimously.

DECISION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Proposition adopted by the majority less 2 votes and 3 abstentions.

ART V

1°

PROPOSITION

Minutes of the meetings of the general assembly are drawn up. They are signed by the President and the Secretary general who are also both entitled to give out excerpts of them. A temporary minute must be composed by the secretary general. A final minute must be send to the national sections which assisted to the assembly and wich, in a delai of thirty days following the date of receipt, must send it back to the general secretary with the approvement or eventual corrections. After this delai the minute will be considered as approved.

OPINION OF THE COMMISSION

The commission propose not to accept this proposition

OPINION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors want to reflect about the redaction of this article.

DECISION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Since the last general assembly these 26 sections called a meeting of their boards and gathered several times all this numbers : Canada, Chili, RFA, Yugoslavia, RDA 2 times ; France, Mexico, Sweden, USA 4 times ; Great Britain 5 times ; Denmark, Dutchland 6 times ; Venezuela 7 times ; Argentina 13 times. Other sections do not precise how many meetings they had as Brazil, Luxembourg, Liban, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Switzerland, Syria, Regarding Spain, the statutes have been reformed and Mr Donnet-Correa's presidency has been renewed. Our fellow members from Catalogne have had 16 meetings; Among these 26 sections, 11 boards have been renewed : Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Great-Britain, Mexico and Venezuela. If all these sections transmit the secretary general circulars to their members, on the other hand only Canada, Catalogne, France, Great Britain, Sweden and Switzerland send us minutes or any other document concerning their meetings. We are also receiving catalogues and various publications from Argentina, Canada, Poland, RFA, Sweden, Syria, Venezuela and Yugoslavia. With numerous initiatives, several sections allowed AICA to assert its presence among mass-medias and public events. Collaborations with radio and television are in progress in Canada, Denmark, Mexico, Norway, Syria and USA. Collective publications have been started by Argentina, Canada, Finland, Sweden, Syria, USA, and Venezuela. An exhibition is planned in Greece for 1981. A prize of Criticism is awarded in Argentina and in Chile while Canada is planning a award which would be given by an international panel of judges for each of the following criticism categories : newspaper, magazine, book, radio-television. Most of the speeches related to activities focused on fixing or raising of the rates used in press and publishing France, Greece, Finland, Switzerland and USA have proposed the minimum rate to be 10 cents one word. France which participated to an official research on the artist's station and which is carrying on another research on the station of the critics and the freelance journalists, would like these rates being harmonized in various countries. Catalogne has already organized a committee of legislation and professional protection, related to these problems. On the other hand, Holland has protested again an intrigue set-up to move a museum curator and Sweden ~~ix~~ has protested against the marketing of some exhibitions.

Other initiatives by various national sections show that AICA is capable to organize meetings in which theoretical problems and topical questions about life and development of our association, are discussed. In Paris, the exhibition on contemporary Polish sculpture gave an opportunity for an exchange of views on sculpture topical problems, between French and Polish sections. RDA and Holland sections have put together in Amsterdam a Committee " Art and Environment " Another meeting of this committee is planned for 1981 in Moscow. For 1981, Switzerland is planning a meeting with the association of art critics on the subject of the Art Critic Language, and try to find help for carrying on under Unesco supervision, with the international survey on public and private promotion of contemporary art. Canada is announcing a symposium on three themes.