

FIP Revenue Commission Report to 2012 FIP Congress

This is a very difficult Report to prepare for FIP Congress, as the Commission has had no interaction with the FIP Board in the past two years, and has been operating in a vacuum. The only supportive points are the hard work by individuals within the Commission and the contacts that we have with our delegates.

No member of the Commission (Officers and Bureau) has been invited to participate in judging at an FIP International in the past two years. Revenues appear to have been made a secondary class with the judges chosen at each exhibition as second string from their main discipline. This has meant that judgements made at FIP international exhibitions have been variable, and in certain cases, completely erroneous. To say the least, this is discourteous to our Commission, and is certainly not the way to encourage revenue exhibitors.

What is very positive is the way members of the Bureau have progressed revenue exhibiting. Of prime importance is an active website which is managed and funded by Bureau member Francisc Ambrus (Fery). Let us be specific. Fery not only manages our website but pays for all its operating expenses personally. Another major achievement is the updated record of all revenue exhibits since we became recognised as an exhibiting field in 1988. Thanks to Jukka Makinen who has not only built up this important archive of information, but is maintaining it. I am absolutely delighted that he has been nominated Secretary to our Commission for our elections in Jakarta. Vincent Ong and Cedric Roche have also contributed – just look at our website (www.fip-revenue.org) – to see what they have achieved.

One specific aspect from our Commission that requires especial notice and that is the work and retirement of our distinguished secretary David Ingle (Dingle) Smith. Dingle has been a tower of strength for the past eight years. During my chairmanship, he has carried out all the activities that are the responsibility of a secretary, including badgering his chairman, with diligence and enthusiasm. He has spent many, many hours attempting to gain information about delegates throughout the world, so that we may represent as many countries as possible. During the past year he has had personal tragedies with the loss of his wife, but he has never tired from giving 100% to our Commission. Thank you Dingle.

Let me put on record. Not a penny of expenses etc for running the Commission is levied on the FIP treasurer. All expenses are paid for out of the pocket of your officials within the Bureau.

A point of sadness is the tragic early death of our FIP co-ordinator, Paulo Comelli, a very good personal friend. We were fortunate that his baton was picked up by Jussi Tuori, a major exhibitor of Finnish revenues, and Vice President of FIP.

There have been significant discussions within our Commission, and with other Commissions, on changes to our Guidelines, especially with regards to content of revenue exhibits. We have made a number of major agreements with respect to postal orders and saving stamps. These discussions will be continued into the next period of the commission, with discussion papers presented on our website in the near future.

The Revenue Commission is vibrant and wants to encourage new exhibitors into a challenging exhibiting area. It is thus essential that specialist revenue judges are used at FIP international exhibitions to enable the development of revenue class exhibiting.

Francis Kiddle RDP HonFRPSL