

Prepared by
Danièle Vranken,
Secretary General

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 17 JUNE 2021

2021

ACTIVITY

REPORT

03.09.2020 - 16.06.2021

**Federation of European and International
Association established in Belgium**

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FAIB

be international... in Belgium

1. MANAGEMENT

During this 72nd year of activity, the chairmanship of the FAIB was carried out by Adrian Harris, on a voluntary basis, whose lobbying skills are paying off.

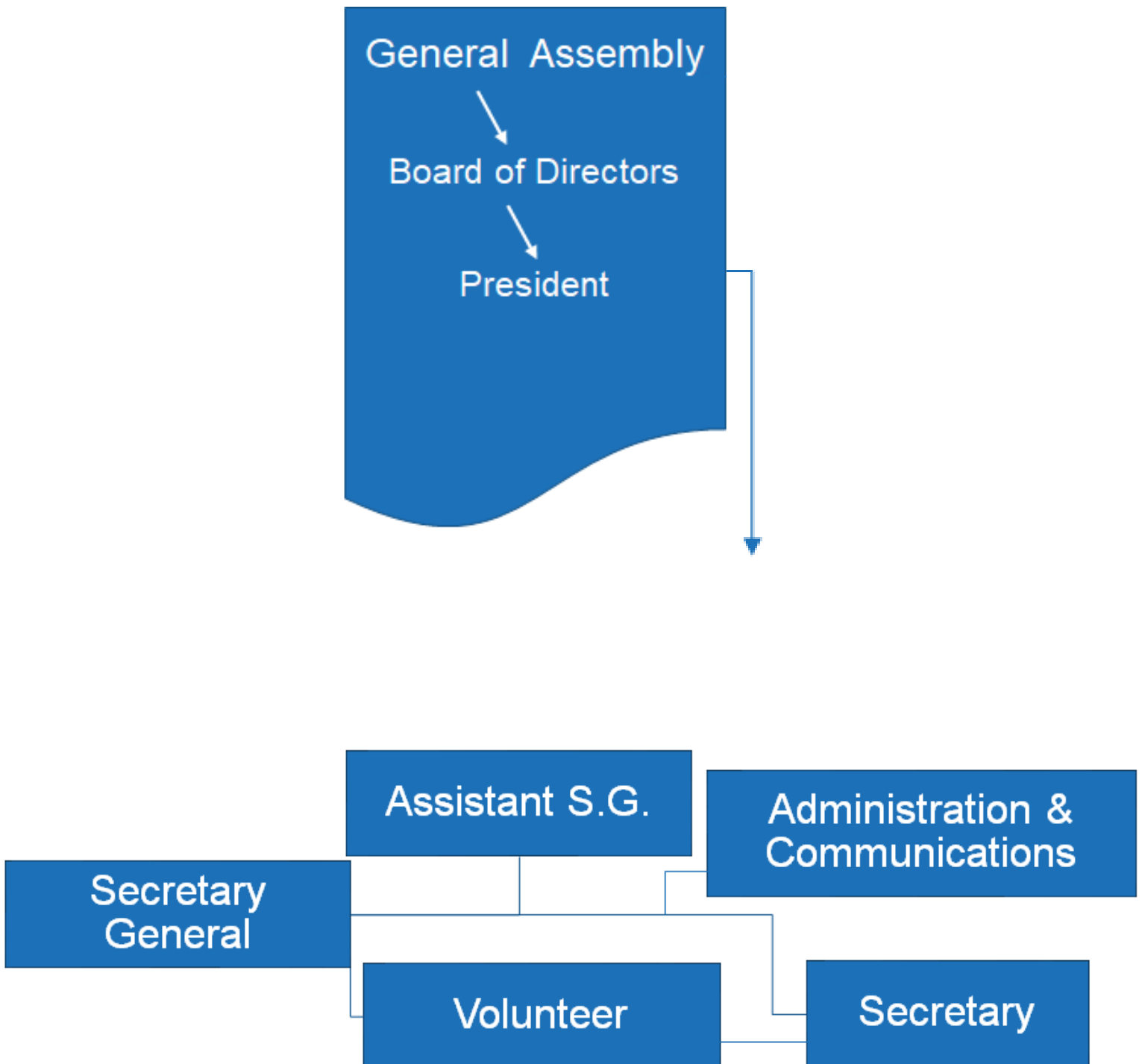
Current composition of the Board of Directors:

Mr Adrian Harris	President
Ms Florence Bindelle	Vice-President, EuropeanIssuers
Mr Frédéric Van Houte	Vice-President, CIRFS/ European Man-made Fibres Association
Ms Danièle Vranken	Secretary General
Mr Axel Jansen	Treasurer, BEUC/The European Consumer Organisation
MEMBERS :	
Mr Alain Beaumont	Vice-President MAI
Mr Rodolphe de Looz Corswarem	EHHA/ European Historic Houses Association
Mr Jacques de Mévius	UIA/Union of International Associations
Ms Rebecca Humphries	WWF European Policy Office
Mr Jonathan Mead	CEFIC/The European Chemical Industry Council
Ms Silvia Selandari	ORGALIM - Europe's Technology industries

Under Board guidance, the FAIB has maintained and developed services and activities meeting members' concerns and issues they have to face in their daily business. The Board met 4 times during the period of this report, i.e. from August 2020 to 14 June 2021.

The Secretariat is composed of 3 staff members: Stella Sauvan (part-time – Assistant Secretary general) - Barbara Panacci (Secretary) and Teresa Iglesias Lopez (part-time – Administration and Communications Assistant). Danièle Vranken (daily management) and Anne-Marie Leclercq (administration) contribute weekly on a voluntary basis.

FAIB ORGANISATION CHART



2. FAIB EVENTS

7

EVENTS

Including the General Assembly, 7 events were organised (see list below), covering many of the issues relevant for the community

Summaries of all lunch-debates/webinars as well as the slides are available for FAIB Members on FAIB website <https://faib.org/events/faib-events/past-events/>.

570

DELEGATES

Some 570 delegates attended, i.e. an average of 81 participants per event.

(VIRTUAL) GENERAL ASSEMBLY 03-09-2020

WEBINARS

2020

13 NOVEMBER

Subject Liability of Associations

Speaker Alain COSTANTINI, Attorney, DKW- FAIB Associate Member & Valérie MOT, Bank and Insurance Agent-Belfius Forêt de Soignes SComm

26 NOVEMBER

Subject Annual accounts and accounting (law): what shall your association do in practice?

Speaker Antoine Druetz, Associate Partner, EY Law - FAIB Associate Member
Nathalie Van Hoorebeek, Partner, Eric Van Hoof, Partner, EY

17 DECEMBER

Subject Year in Review: Overview of (recent & expected) developments in legislation and/or regulations impacting INPAs

Speaker Various specialist speakers from Bird & Bird LLP

2021

4 FEBRUARY

Subject General Assembly 2.0. How to apply and benefit from the recent legal updates?

Speaker Antoine Druetz, Associate Partner, EY Law -FAIB Associate Member
Alix Degrez, Partner, EY, & Charles-Albert de Radzitzky, Spreds

18 FEBRUARY

Subject HR matters under the current circumstances

Speaker Christophe Delmarcelle, Partner, Del-Law & Florence Bindelle, SG, EuropeanIssuers

25 MARCH

Subject Human Resources Issues - Part II

Speaker Hugues Thibaut, Public Affairs, Wallonia, SDWorx, Valérie T'Serstevens, Managing Consultant, SDWorx, & Frédéric Van Houte, Director General, CIRFS

29 APRIL

Subject Visual leadership - a practical approach for international associations

Speaker Antoine Henry de Frahan, Consultant, Strategy & Organisation

3. RELATIONS WITH THE FEDERAL & REGIONAL AUTHORITIES

As in previous years, regular follow-up with the Federal authorities - in particular with the cabinets of the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs and Justice – was given.

The FAIB was actively involved in discussions relating to the Reform of the Companies and Associations Code adopted in 2018 and regularly reports about it in its newsletter. Other lobbying initiatives are envisaged on which the President will report.

Regular contacts were held with various services of the Brussels Capital Region, e.g. Brussels Invest & Export (BIE), Actiris, Expat Welcome Desk, and other official bodies.

The FAIB actively contributes to the “One-Stop-Shop” that it has been advocating for several years, namely offering associations wishing to establish or already established in Belgium, a central point of reference that will include essential information for the creation/management of European/International associations. It is operated by visitBrussels, under the name “Association Bureau”.

It redirects questions from European / international associations to the various bodies involved in the partnership, notably FAIB / UIA / MAI / ESAE in addition to official organisations such as 1819, Brussels Invest & Export, Actiris, Impulse and the Expat Welcome Desk of the Commissioner for Europe.

FAIB continues to collaborate to the organisation of the “European Association Summit” by visit.brussels that took place on 20-22 April 2021 (Virtual event). The session managed by FAIB on 21 April focussed on the “[never ending story – Belgian association and foundation law \(CAC\) changes again...](#)” with guest speakers examining the subject from different angles.

Speakers: Ruth Wirtz, Osborne Clarke, Antoine Druetz, EY Law, Alain Costantini, DKW (represented by Ms Lauranne Pauwels), Ludwig Forrest, Fondation Roi Baudoin, moderated by Adrian Harris, FAIB President.“

The FAIB also contributes to initiatives developed by the management of the Foundation “MAI” in view of providing international associations with a “home” at the level of their expectations and suitable meeting space.

FAIB is also represented in the Council of the Union of International Associations of which Danièle Vranken has become one of the Vice-Presidents.

4. FAIB NEWS & DIGEST

FAIB NEWS

3 ISSUES

During the period covered by this report 3 issues (from 120 to 122) of the FAIB News were published. FAIB News ensures the liaison with the association community in Belgium. The Newsletter is currently being sent digitally on a quarterly basis (due to Covid crises in 2020, the June edition was skipped).

Approximately 300 paper copies are issued and distributed to all members of the Federation and to various official agencies and individuals involved in the activities of the international associations in Belgium.

The content of the FAIB News focusses on practical information relevant to its members and reports on recent developments in the activities of the Federation and of its members. We are thankful to our Associate members who mainly write the topical articles of the FAIB news.

All editions of the FAIB News are available to FAIB Members on the website through their access code.

FAIB FLASH

MEMBERS ALSO REGULARLY RECEIVE DIRECT EMAILS WITH THE LATEST INFORMATION ON DEVELOPMENTS OCCURRING IN THE MATTERS FOLLOWED BY THE FAIB BETWEEN TWO ISSUES OF THE FAIB NEWS.

- New templates of annual accounts published by the National Bank of Belgium;
- Impact of the annulment of article 2:59, 3° of the Code for Companies and Associations by the Constitutional Court;
- On the recently adopted modifications to the Company and Association Code (CAC).

FAIB DIGEST

3 ISSUES

During the period covered by this report 3 issues (from 120 to 122) of the FAIB Digest were also published.

The FAIB Digest is a summary of the broad sections of the complete FAIB News and is circulated per email to non-members informing them of our activities. It is now also posted on the FAIB LinkedIn page to reach other interested persons. This document is also intended to encourage international associations, non-members of the FAIB, to join the Federation and benefit from its services.

The FAIB Digest is publicly accessible on the Federation's website:

<http://faib.org/publications/faib-digest/>.

Since 2019 – and in view of cutting costs – the FAIB Digest is no longer printed and mailed to non-members. It is distributed to non-members – by email with a possibility to unsubscribe. Send message to faib@faib.org if this is the case.

5. FAIB WEBSITE

The website is continually improved.

- **Homepage:** the homepage has been redesigned to bring more clarity and focus, to ensure visitors find what they are looking for easily and to give more visibility to members and sponsors;
- **Sponsors:** news design to highlight our Sponsors' logos and be transparent about the costs and benefits of becoming a sponsor;
- **FAQs** The FAQ page has now replaced the Practical Guide and has also been redesigned and organised into different categories to ease the access to information:
 - o Setting up an (international) non-profit association;

- o Operating an (international) non-profit association;
- o Miscellaneous;
- o Covid-19;
- o Brexit.

It is regularly updated with answers to questions coming from members

I advise you to regularly visit and use it to promote your events, vacancies and candidatures (extended to students / interns and volunteers) and any other information you wish to share with your colleagues. The Members' News (under Members) serves as a vehicle, e.g. to announce your own events, to consult your peers, to publish any offer you may have (office space, statistical support) ... Contact faib@faib.org.

Site sections include amongst others:

About FAIB	Presenting the FAIB - Board of directors - The Team - Statutes - Latest News - Position Papers.
Members	10 reasons to join - How to join - (Documents needed - Application form) - List of FAIB Members (Full, Associates, Corresponding, Honorary)
Events	Activities and Events
Publications	FAIB News - FAIB Digest - FAIB Flash - Press release - Practical INGO Guide - Surveys (2017 salary benchmark / socio-economic survey 2008 / 2013 Financing of International Associations
Job Platform	Member's vacancies – External candidatures - internships – student jobs
Sponsors	List and description of Sponsors' activities
Glossary	List of abbreviations used in FAIB correspondence that will constantly be updated.
FAQs	Gradually replaces the Practical Guide and lists questions received at FAIB and the answers provided.

6. COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES



- **> 60 posts**
- **> 16 000 impressions**
- **300 followers**

LINKEDIN

FAIB presence on social media has been considerably reinforced this year. With regular posts on LinkedIn, we hope to maintain members and non-members informed about our activities and news, as well as to connect with members through different means. With over 60 posts, more than 16.000 impressions and 300 followers, our reach and visibility has grown and continues to improve.



- **5 interviews done**
- **3 in the pipeline**
- **If you are interested, please get in touch!**

INTERVIEWS WITH MEMBERS

In April 2021, we launched an interview series “**Meet FAIB members**” where we interview our members on the association that they represent and on their opinion on their FAIB membership. The short written interviews are published on our [website](#) and featured on our [LinkedIn page](#). We have conducted five interviews to date and have several planned for the next weeks.

Through the interviews, we, on one hand, seek to connect to our members in a time where physical meetings are lacking and, on the other hand, we especially seek to shed light on our members by introducing them to our other members and so enabling more connection and sharing of expertise. The interview series will be an on-going process in the next months.

7. LIST OF MEMBERS

The electronic version of the CONFIDENTIAL list of member associations, containing information on their aims and activities as well as their coordinates, VAT number and recording at the crossroads bank for enterprises (if known) is accessible to full members through their password. We rely upon our members inform us anytime there is a change and thank you for your collaboration.

8. OTHER ACTIVITIES

PRESENCE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FAIB

Adrian Harris (since September 2020), Stella Sauvan, and Danièle Vranken have represented the FAIB or spoken at various ((visio)conferences, colloquia, seminars etc...).

2020	2021
<p>17 November Webinar Claes & Engels.</p>	<p>20 January Brussels insight</p>
<p>25 November visitBrussels - visioconference</p>	<p>2 February visitBrussels</p>
<p>14 December Malte & Atout France presentation</p>	<p>15 February & 22 March Boost your virtual speaking skills - a one day course for FAIB member with Carsten Wendt</p>

	4 March Public affairs conference
	11 March Executive committee UIA BEAF association world webinar
	20-22 March EAS European Association Summit
	11 May Visit Brussels debrief EAS
	28 May UIA council meeting

CONTACTS WITH THE PRESS:

The FAIB regularly appears in the specialized press. Press releases are published whenever relevant.

9. INFORMATION TO MEMBERS

The FAIB Secretariat regularly receives many requests for information about specific legal issues, administrative problems, claims related to employment contracts, subsidies, job description, salary scales of personnel, working capital of associations, VAT regime, calculation of membership fees, useful addresses, request and job offers, creation of associations, etc...

As far as possible, fast and pragmatic answers are given to all these questions. For questions requiring more personalized answers, we recommend to call upon the expertise of our associate members.

Since November 2014, we can count on the effective cooperation of Stella Sauvan who ensures adequate answers, to whom we can all be grateful. Not to forget the addition of a valuable support in Communications/Secretariat with the joining of Ms Teresa Iglesias in August 2020 who provides promising support to the team.

Most of these questions and the answer provided are taken up under the section "Frequently Asked Questions" (FAQs) on our website (<https://faib.org/others/faq/>).

10. MEMBERS

The current situation is in essence:

305

FULL MEMBERS

20

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

There are 20 specialists in the legal, fiscal, social domains, etc. Associate members have assisted us in their areas of competence and we wish to thank them here.

7

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

The 2014 General Assembly adopted the addition of the category of corresponding members. There is room to welcome more of them in the future.

11. PARTNERSHIPS

As approved by the General Assembly in 2010, the category “partnership” includes two types of partnerships :

1. Institutional partners

Institutional partners already connected to the FAIB, or who wish to establish a close connection for the purpose of mutual cooperation in the interest of both parties. To this end we have already strengthened the links with the Fondation Roi Baudouin, its Socialware branch and continue to look for other potential partners.

2. Business partners

To date there are 14 of them. Three new joined us during the period concerned, namely: Mercuri Urval, SDworx, and Spreads. See <https://faib.org/sponsors/>

12. OTHER ACTIONS UNDERTAKEN BY THE FAIB

For any further information or to receive documents relating to the various points mentioned in this report, do not hesitate to contact me (dvranken@faib.org), Stella Sauvan (sauvan@faib.org) or Barbara Panacci / Teresa Iglesias at the FAIB secretariat (faib@faib.org).

I want to personally thank all my colleagues on the Board of Directors for their continued support and welcome the team spirit that prevails there in a climate of frank friendship.

To name but a few, I am particularly thankful to Adrian Harris President, always present when needed, Axel Jansen our treasurer, Florence Bindelle for her dynamism and all others members for their involvement in reaching our strategic objectives, notably Frédéric Van Houte on whom we rely. I am optimistic about the implication of the Board Members who recently joined and look forward to cooperating with them.

Staff members are also to be thanked for their commitment. My special thanks also go to Anne-Marie Leclercq for her much appreciated voluntary support and of course to all of you, dear members and colleagues, for your trust and faithfulness.

Danièle VRANKEN, Secretary General

