

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 3 SEPTEMBER 2020

YEARLY ACTIVITY REPORT

07.03.2019 - 02.09.2020

Prepared by Danièle Vranken, Secretary General

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

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1. MANAGEMENT

During this 71th year of activity, the chairmanship of the FAIB was carried out by Adrian Harris, who brought in his lobbying skills that are beginning to pay off.

Current composition of the Board of Directors *a revised composition of the Board will be submitted to the GA

Mr Adrian Harris	President
Ms Florence Bindelle	Vice-President, EuropeanIssuers
Mr Dale Chadwick	Vice-President, WWF European Policy Office
Ms Danièle Vranken	Secretary General
Mr Axel Jansen	Treasurer, BEUC/The European Consumer Organisation

MEMBERS :

Mr Alain Beaumont	Vice-President MAI
Mr Patrick d'Hose	PlasticsEurope / Association of Plastics Manufacturers
Mr Rodolphe de Looz Corswarem	EHHA/ European Historic Houses Association
Mr Jacques de Mévius	UIA/Union of International Associations
Mr Paul de Theux	SIGNIS
Mr Christian Preud'homme	CEFIC/The European Chemical Industry Council
Mr Frédéric Van Houte	CIRFS/ European Man-made Fibres Association

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 5 times during the period of this report, i.e. from March 2019 to 30 August 2020.

The Secretariat is composed of 3 staff members: Stella Sauvan (part-time – Assistant Secretary general) - Barbara Panacci (Secretary) and Nelson Wright (part-time – Administration and Communications Assistant). Danièle Vranken (daily management) and Anne-Marie Leclercq (administration) contribute weekly on a voluntary basis. This has changed in the meantime as reported in the FAIB News.

Matters pertaining to applications for membership were handled by Patrick d'Hose.

2. FAIB EVENTS

9

EVENTS

Including the General Assembly, 9 events were organised (see list next page), covering many of the issues relevant for the community.

434

DELEGATES

Some 434 delegates attended, i.e. an average of 48 participants per event.

LUNCH-DEBATES

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

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 21.03.2019

1. Keynote speaker: James MORAN, former EU Ambassador - Senior Fellow CEPS
2. Antoine Druetz, Partner Koan Law firm and Associate Member of the FAIB
Information session on the UBO (Ultimate Beneficial Owner) prescriptions for associations

LUNCH-DEBATES/SEMINARS

2019

23 APRIL

Subject The New Code – What should you do? A practical overview

Speaker Antoine Druetz, Partner (FAIB Associate Member), and Alix Degrez, Senior Associate at KOAN Law Firm (at the time).

23 MAY

Subject How to raise cybersecurity awareness of your staff so that they become a protection for your association

Speaker Alexandre Pluvinage
Head of Human Security at ING for Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg
Manager of the Cybersecurity Awareness Focus Group at the Belgian Cybersecurity Coalition
Lecturer at the Solvay Business School on cybersecurity awareness and training

26 SEPTEMBER

Subject Optimization of remuneration

Speaker Christophe Delmarcelle, Associate lawyer at DKW Law Firm (at the time)
FAIB Associate Member

24 OCTOBER

Subject How to effectively manage a crisis online

Speaker Gianmaria Sisti, Consultant, Cambre Associates

28 NOVEMBER

- Subject** How to organise the accounting and reporting of your association, future-proof and effectively
- Speaker** Karel Van Bockstael, Senior Manager at Deloitte* Accountancy*
FAIB Associate member

19 DECEMBER

- Subject** Year in review: overview of (recent & expected) developments in legislation and/or regulations impacting INPAs, notably: company law, taxation law, employment law, competition law, IP and IT law, and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
- Speaker** Several lawyers of Bird & Bird LLP

2020

21 JANUARY

New Year's Reception

Guest Speaker

Mr Pascal SMET, Secretary of State of the Brussels-Capital Region, responsible for Urbanism & Heritage, European and International Relations, Foreign Trade and Firefighting and Emergency medical Assistance (competences delegated by Minister Sven Gatz)

20 FEBRUARY

- Subject** 10 months of companies and associations Code – What have we learnt so far?
- Speaker** Antoine Druetz, Partner, FAIB Associate Member, Valérie Havaux, Senior Associate, and Alix Degrez, Senior Associate at EY Law

Please check the calendar on our website or your latest edition of the FAIB News for next events that I will list at the end of this report.

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 recently adopted 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 “One-Stop-Shop” that the FAIB 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 and management of European and International associations has been set up in the meantime by visit.brussels, under the name “Association Bureau”.

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

Under this agreement, the Practical Guide created and regularly updated by the FAIB with the help of its associate members will be the primary reference for associations wanting to establish in Belgium/ Brussels Region. FAIB continues to collaborate to the organisation of the “European Association Summit” by visit.brussels that took place this year on 10-11 March 2020. The session managed by FAIB focussed on the [GDPR in Action - Learning from two years and going forward](#) – giving the floor to two FAIB Associate members and the representative of “Kom op tegen kanker” who presented the main features of the issue. The presentation is available on FAIB's website.

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.

4. FAIB NEWS & DIGEST

FAIB NEWS

5 ISSUES

During the period covered by this report 5 issues (from 115 to 119) of the FAIB News were published. FAIB News ensures the liaison with the association community in Belgium. Approximately 400 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.

All items of the FAIB News are available to FAIB Members on the website through their access code and will only be delivered by email if so required by the recipient. Should this be your case, kindly let us know by sending an email to : faib@faib.org.

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.

- UBO legal prescriptions
- Non-recurrent result-related benefits ("CBA 90")
FPS ELSD changes its stance
- Annual tax due for the 31. January! Is your INPA concerned?
- Impact of Corona crisis on your social elections procedure
- General Assemblies & Board Meetings in Compliance with Belgian Law during COVID19
- Important information - Coronavirus: temporary unemployment
- Royal Decree concerning special measures taken in the context of the Covid-19 virus,
- "Your event abroad is cancelled, postponed, or goes virtual? What do you need to know?"
- Update on Covid-19 temporary unemployment - The temporary unemployment regime due to force majeure is extended until 31 May 2020
- New FAQ section on the website!
- FAIB General Assembly postponed
- Visit Britain press release
- FAIB NEWS-DIGEST (2nd Quarter) and FAIB GENERAL ASSEMBLY rescheduled

FAIB DIGEST

5 ISSUES

During the period covered by this report 5 issues (from 115 to 119) of the FAIB Digest were also published. The FAIB Digest is a two-pager summarising the broad sections of the complete FAIB News and circulated - to non-members informing them of our activities. 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 launched in January 2015 continues to be improved. I advise you to regularly visit and use it to promote your events, vacancies and candidatures (extended to students and interns) and any other information you wish to share with your colleagues. The Members' Forum serves as a vehicle, e.g. to announce your own events, to consult your peers, ...

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. PRACTICAL GUIDE

The existing Practical Guide is currently (September 2020) being gradually replaced by a section called “FAQs” on our website that we encourage you to consult and update if you are aware of new developments of interest to the community.



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. **Here again we must thank Anne-Marie Leclercq who wholeheartedly performs this essential, yet tedious task.** We rely upon our members to update it each time there is a change and thank you for your collaboration.

8. OTHER ACTIVITIES

SITE INSPECTIONS – CONGRESSES AND STUDY TOURS

The FAIB and its members were represented in the activities listed below of which a report is generally available in the corresponding issue of the FAIB-News.

2019	2020
4 July - First FAIB training Boost your Presentation Skills! Carsten Wendt	20 February Boost your Presentation Skills!
21-25 August Famtrip to Cabo Verde Sal Island	
20-30 August Limburg Inspiration Seminar	
2-7 October Croatia, Montenegro, Slovenia - fresh undiscovered countries	

PRESENCE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FAIB

Adrian Harris, Stella Sauvan and Danièle Vranken, have represented the FAIB or spoken at various colloquia, conferences, seminars etc...

For sanitary reasons, no venue presentations nor physical conferences were organised since March 2020. FAIB team attended several Webinars, notably on the “Recovery Plan” put in place in Brussels and on legal matters.

2019

- 28.03 - European Association Awards
- 04.04 - Visit Brussels Awards Ceremony
- 25.04 - Presentation Scotland
- 14.06 - General Assembly UIA
- 18.06 - Association meeting planners
Association bureau. Bip
- 05.09 - Eat Brussels, drink Bordeaux
- 19.09 - Visit.brussels Musée des
Sciences
- 24.09 - Partners presentation-Partance
- 16.10 - Meet Corsica
- 24.10 - Claeys&Engels trends afterwork
- 04.11 - UIA roundtable Crowne Plaza
- 05.12 - EMIAM Alumni
- 06.12 - Visit.brussels day
- 12.12 - Atout France - Table ronde

2020

- 16.01 - MAI cocktail
- 20.01 - Presentation of Meeting
partners
- 23.01 - EMIAM closing event
- 29.01 - Ambassadors night
- 04.02 - Visit Britain presentation
- 04.02 - Presentation Partance
- 06.02 - EAS speakers mtg
- 21.02 - Bureau meeting UIA
- 09.03 - EAS speakers dinner
- 10-11.03 - European Association
Summit
- 26.03 - Webinar Interel Stella
- 27.03 - WStella webinar E&Y

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.

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:

301

FULL MEMBERS

20

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

in the legal, fiscal, social domains, etc. 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

They are 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 this with the Fondation Roi Baudouin, its Socialware branch and continue to look for other potential partners.

2. Business partners

To date, there are 13 of them. Two new joined us during the period concerned, namely: Blue Trees, visit.brussels. During 2020, the accounting company iHeb Management was “Gold sponsor” a new category adopted by the Board. (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. I am optimistic about the implication of the Board Members who recently joined and look forward to cooperating with them. 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

