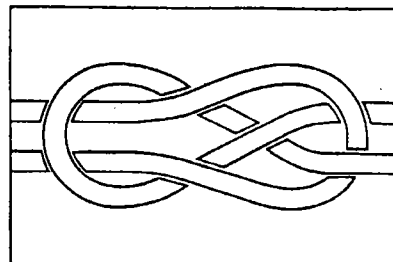

Info-FIAV

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Fédération internationale
des associations vexillologiques



Federación Internacional de Asociaciones Vexilológicas
International Federation of Vexillological Associations
Internationale Föderation Vexillologischer Gesellschaften

GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES

Concluding the process begun in 1999 of reprinting in *Info-FIAV* the minutes of the sessions of the General Assembly and the two meetings predating the creation of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General in this issue reprints the minutes from 1991, along with an unofficial summary and a table showing where all the minutes are published.

REPORT OF THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF VEXILLOLOGY

Dates

September 4, 5, 1965

Published in

Info-FIAV number 14, page 3 (1999)

REPORT OF THE FIAV PROVISIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

Date

September 3, 1967

Published in

Info-FIAV number 14, pages 5–10 (1999)

FIAV GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION MINUTES

<u>Session</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Published in</u>
GA 1	September 7, 1969	<i>Info-FIAV</i> number 14, pages 12–21 (1999)
GA 2	June 24, 1971	<i>Info-FIAV</i> number 14, page 23 (1999)
GA 3	September 14, 17, 1973	<i>Info-FIAV</i> number 14, page 25 (1999)
GA 4	April 17, 18, 1975	<i>Info-FIAV</i> number 16, pages 17–18 (2001)
GA 5	June 12, 1977	<i>Info-FIAV</i> number 16, pages 20–21 (2001)
GA 6	June 29, 1979	<i>Info-FIAV</i> number 16, pages 23–24 (2001)
GA 7	August 27, 28, 1981	<i>Info-FIAV</i> number 16, pages 27–34 (2001)
GA 8	September 26, 28, 29, 1983	<i>Info-FIAV</i> number 16, pages 37–50 (2001)
GA 9	May 27, 28, 31, 1985	<i>Info-FIAV</i> number 17, pages 19–28 (2001)
GA 10	August 13, 14, 15, 1987	<i>Info-FIAV</i> number 17, pages 31–47 (2001)
GA 11	September 25, 27, 1989	<i>Info-FIAV</i> number 18, pages 14–24 (2001)
GA 12	July 1, 2, 4, 1991	<i>Info-FIAV</i> number 23, pages 3–13 (2007)
GA 13	August 23, 25, 27, 1993	<i>Info-FIAV</i> number 5, pages 7–11 (1994)
GA 14	July 1, 2, 3, 5, 1995	<i>Info-FIAV</i> number 7, pages 2–28 (1996)
GA 15	August 11, 12, 14, 1997	<i>Info-FIAV</i> number 10, pages 2–21 (1998)
GA 16	July 29, 30, 1999	<i>Info-FIAV</i> number 15, pages 7–26 (2000)
GA 17	July 23, 2001	<i>Info-FIAV</i> number 19, pages 1–13 (2001)
GA 18	July 28, 2003	<i>Info-FIAV</i> number 21, pages 5–11 (2005)
GA 19	August 1, 2005	<i>Info-FIAV</i> number 22, pages 16–21 (2007)

GA 12
Barcelona and Montserrat, Catalunya, Spain
July 1, 2, 4, 1991

ICV 14
Barcelona, Catalunya, Spain
June 30 to July 5, 1991
Associació Catalana de Vexil·lologia

Summary:

- Officers
 - Hugh Boudin (Belgium) president
 - Whitney Smith (United States) secretary-general
 - Ralph C.G. Bartlett (Australia) secretary-general for congresses
- Delegates
 - ACV Anna M. Galan
 - CISV Silvio Giberti
 - CVE (VSI) John Hall
 - FI Michael Faul
 - FDC Whitney Smith
 - FRC Peter Orenski
 - FRCSL Ralph C.G. Bartlett
 - FSA Ron Strachan
 - GOH William Crampton
 - NFF George Cahill
 - NF Emil Dreyer
 - NAVA Grace Cooper
 - SEV Anna M. Galan
 - SVB Hugh Boudin
 - SSV Emil Dreyer
 - TWMF (TWM) Whitney Smith
 - USFF C. Randolph Beard
 - VSHS Sebastià Herreros i Agüí
 - WH William Crampton
- Not represented
 - NVVV
 - PH
- GA 11 minutes read and approved as amended (noting that José Bruges was authorized to represent ACV and CISV)
- SFV and SAVA accepted as members (SAVA admitted as association covering territory of "southern Africa")
- VK recognized as "honorary affiliate" after untimely filed application for membership was not approved
- SSV selected as organizer of ICV 15 (1993)
- Board given responsibility of investigating recognition of FIAV as a nongovernmental organization (NGO) by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- GA "wishing to promote the interest of vexillological scholarship, encourages the taking of necessary steps so as to ensure the continued preservation of accumulated vexillological documentation in order to guaranty the future accessibility of such collections to vexillologists around the world."
- President and Secretary-General for Congresses re-elected Secretary-General
- Emil Dreyer elected Secretary-General

Info-FIAV

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INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF VEXILLOLOGICAL ASSOCIATIONS

Protocol of the General Assembly, 1, 2, and 4 July 1991

Barcelona and Montserrat, Catalonia, Spain

I. The meeting was called to order by FIAV President Hugh Boudin at 7:45 pm on 1 July 1991. The FIAV Secretary General read the list of FIAV members. Credentials were presented by the following accredited delegates: Associació Catalana de Vexillologia ACV (Anna M. Galan); Centro Italiano di Studi Vessillologici CISV (Silvio Giberti); Flag Institute FI (Michael Faul); Flag Design Center FDC (Whitney Smith); Flag Research Center FRC (Peter Orenski); Flag Research Centre of Sri Lanka FRCSL (Ralph G.C. Bartlett); Flag Society of Australia FSA (Ron Strachan); Gesellschaft für Österreichische Heereskunde GOH (William Crampton); National Flag Foundation NFF (George Cahill); North American Vexillological Association NAVA (Grace Cooper); Nordisk Flagselskab NF (Emil Dreyer); Sociedad Española de Vexilología SEV (Anna M. Galan); Societas Vexillologica Belgica SVB (Hugh Boudin); Société Suisse de Vexillologie SSV (Emil Dreyer); Tumbling Waters Museum of Flags TWM (Whitney Smith); United States Flag Foundation USFF (C. Randolph Beard); Västra Sveriges Heraldiska Sällskap VSHS (Sebastián Herreros); Vexillological Society of Ireland VSI (John Hall); Wappen-Herold WH (William Crampton). The three voting members of the Board (President Hugh Boudin, Secretary General Whitney Smith, and Secretary General for Congresses Ralph C.G. Bartlett) were also present.

II. The president asked if there were any changes to be made to the protocol of the 13th International Congress of Vexillology. The VSHS delegate stated that José Bruges had been authorised to represent the CISV and the ACV at the Congress in Melbourne. The FRCSL delegate moved that the protocol be amended to reflect that statement. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

III. The president called for applications submitted by potential new members of FIAV. On behalf of the Société Française de Vexillologie SFV, Mr. Pierre Berry indicated that the association has been founded in 1985, that it held meetings in Paris every two months, and that it published the newsletter *Emblèmes et Pavillons*. The NFF delegate asked whether there was currently a French member of FIAV and the Secretary General for Congresses responded in the negative. The VSI delegate asked how many members the SFV had. Mr. Berry indicated that there were 106 members. After further discussion it was moved and seconded that the SFV be admitted to membership in FIAV. This was unanimously approved.

IV. The president asked if anyone was present from the Southern African Vexillological Association SAVA. When it appeared that no delegate was present, consideration of SAVA membership was postponed. The NAVA delegate asked which FIAV members were

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institutions rather than associations and the FDC delegate mentioned the FDC, FRC, and FRCSL.

V. The president mentioned that an application had been received from the Vexilologicky Klub VK, but not within the six month deadline specified by the constitution. The application contained extensive details of the membership, meetings, publications, and other activities of the association. The WH delegate moved that Article 6A of the constitution, requiring a six month advance notice of membership application, be suspended for the duration of the present General Assembly. The motion was seconded. The VSI delegate said that the provision should be suspended for the future as well and the SSV delegate called for its complete elimination. The FRCSL delegate supported Article 6A, saying that it allowed for careful consideration of potential new members. The SVB delegate pointed out that the motion called for a change in the constitution which would require advance notice. The FRC delegate asked what negative consequences there might be to non-acceptance of VK membership at the present General Assembly. The FRCSL delegate suggested that this would be discouraging for an association which long hoped for membership. The FI delegate said that adoption of the motion would, by abrogating the constitution, set an unfortunate precedent. The VSHS delegate insisted that a way must be found to admit the VK as a member immediately. The FDC delegate pointed out that non-membership would only mean the impossibility of the VK voting on issues at the present General Assembly. He insisted that the VK should be welcome but without a violation of the existing constitution. The FRCSL delegate suggested that the matter be discussed by the Board. A vote on the motion on the floor was taken. There were 11 in favor of the motion, 7 opposed, and 4 abstentions. Since it did not receive the required two-thirds, the motion failed. The FSI delegate moved to have VK membership effective six months in the future. The president pointed out that this was also in violation of Article 6A. The FDC delegate pointed out that the purpose of the six month advance notice was to allow members to consider their votes on important matters in advance. A member might not send a delegate to the meeting based on issues on the agenda, only to find that the agenda had been changed in violation of the constitution to include acceptance of a member not previously announced. For this reason he insisted that the provisions of Article 6A must be respected. The NFF delegate said that the purpose of the constitution was to maintain order within FIAV and therefore procedures should be followed as previously agreed upon. The FI delegate agreed that the constitution should be respected, but hoped that it might be amended to allow the VK to join as a special case. The FSI delegate withdrew his motion. The FI delegate moved that the VK be accepted under a special waiving of membership requirements; the motion was seconded. The CISV delegate

said that Article 6A should be amended to allow waiving of the six month requirement for associations already in existence for six years or more. The NFF delegate suggested a five minute recess, which was accepted by the delegates.

VI. When the meeting reconvened the NFF delegate moved that the VK be accepted by unanimous action as an honorary affiliate of FIAV for the next two years, to become a member automatically in 1993. The motion was seconded. The FRCSL delegate asked about the status of the motion by the FI delegate. The FI delegate withdrew his motion. The SSV delegate asked what the meaning was of the NFF motion and the president replied that the VK under that motion would be without a vote at the present General Assembly, but that it would have other privileges and would become a full member in 1993. Thus the motion would respect the current constitution but would make clear that FIAV was receptive to VK membership. The ACV delegate asked why the VK had not applied in time. Mr. Jiff Tenora of the VK responded that there had been internal problems preventing a timely application. He indicated that the VK did not want the constitution changed at a whim, but hoped it might be possible to have membership accepted to be effective in the future. The WH delegate protested that the motion would alter constitution, but the SSV delegate denied this. The FDC delegate also insisted that affiliation was not the same as membership and that the constitution was thereby respected. The president called for a vote on the motion which was unanimously approved. Mr. Tenora thanked FIAV for its action. The meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm .

VII. The meeting reconvened on Tuesday, 2 July 1991, at 8:37 pm. The president called for consideration of the membership application of the SAVA. Member Daniel de Waal indicated that other South Africans who hoped to attend the congress were unable to do so. In addition to the written material submitted, he indicated that SAVA membership currently stood at 16 individuals and 5 institutional members including ones from South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, and Malawi. A journal will eventually be published. Membership is open to all who live in southern Africa who are interested in flags. The NFF delegate moved acceptance of SAVA membership. The motion was seconded; 22 votes were cast in favor and 1 abstention.

VIII. The president called for consideration of the site for the 15th International Congress of Vexillology. The Secretary General for Congresses indicated that an official proposal had been received from the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, to be coordinated by Professor Vladimir Sokolov, who had previously attended International Congresses of Vexillology. The secretary general discussed the matter in Moscow and had been reassured that economic and political changes would not

be allowed to affect a cultural event of this type. The congress would be in Moscow and flag collections in museums would be open for participants. A deposit would be paid to an account outside the Soviet Union by potential participants, to be refunded only if the congress was cancelled. The rest of the participation fee would be payable in Moscow on arrival. The FRC delegate, based on his experience in a number of joint ventures with the Soviet Union, insisted only the KGB could guarantee that something like this would indeed take place. He felt that FIAV could not rely on assurances from the Ministry of Culture. The FI delegate queried whether the Soviets could run an efficient congress to match previous congresses. The NFF delegate asked whether FIAV had ever held a congress in a country without a FIAV member and was told that this had never happened. The secretary general for congresses indicated that a congress in the Soviet Union would help Soviet vexillologists organize an association. The CISV delegate asked how many Soviet vexillologists there were and the secretary general for congresses indicated that there were at least a half dozen and possibly more.

IX. The SSV delegate submitted the proposal of his organization to sponsor the 15th International Congress of Vexillology at the National Museum in Zurich, Switzerland. He indicated that much work had already been done and that many flag collections would be open to participants at such a congress. In response to a question from the secretary general, the SSV delegate indicated that May or September were possible months for the congress. The secretary general for congresses asked whether the SSV would be able to organize a congress in 1995. The SSF delegate indicated that financially this was possible but that there was a question about the commitment that could be made by the organization at that time. The FI delegate stated he felt that there were many uncertainties about a Soviet congress and that Switzerland should be approved. The secretary general for congresses asked the SSV delegate if his organization would be willing to organize the 1993 congress if plans for Moscow fell through within the next two years and received a negative reply. The president then called for successive votes on the two proposals. The vote for the Soviet proposal was 2 in favor, 9 against, and 13 abstentions. The vote for the Swiss proposal was 22 in favor, 1 against, and 1 abstention.

X. The president asked whether any invitations were received to host the 16th International Congress of Vexillology in 1995. The secretary general for congresses said that the Soviets had indicated that they would apply if their proposal for 1993 was not accepted. The VSHS delegate urged that Soviet vexillologists form an association and send a delegation in 1993 with their invitation for the 1995 congress. The NFF delegate indicated that his organization was willing to host the 1995 congress (or any

subsequent one) in Pittsburgh.

XI. The secretary general submitted a report concerning his activities over the two previous years, including meetings of the Board. The WH delegate asked whether the Board had met in person and the secretary general for congresses responded in the affirmative. The WH delegate asked whether any attention had been paid to moribund associations and the president answered in the negative. The secretary general for congresses gave a report on his activities. He had been charged with the responsibility of investigating the possibilities of future congresses in Eastern Europe. Following meetings with vexillologists in Poland, Czechoslovakia, and the former German Democratic Republic, he reported that they are not yet ready to host a congress but would reconsider in a few years. He also had been asked to prepare recommendations for organizers of future congresses, which he had been prevented from completing due to personal problems. The NFF delegate expressed the hope that the VK would host an International Congress of Vexillology in the future. He also indicated the need for a "standard operating procedure manual" for congresses. The secretary general for congresses indicated that the proceedings of the 13th International Congress of Vexillology would be published in 1992 if not this year.

XII. The president asked if there was any old business to be dealt with; none was submitted. He then asked for new business to be considered. The VSHS delegate moved that the Board write to the vexillological associations of Argentina and Canada, inviting them to submit membership applications to FIAV. The motion was seconded. The WH delegate cautioned against having one-person groups as members of FIAV. The FRCSL delegate indicated that this was not a real problem since many associations had only a small number of active members. The FDC delegate asked if the motion was an invitation to all non-member associations to apply for membership. When the VSHS delegate indicated that it was only the Argentine and Canadian organizations, the FI delegate moved to amend the motion to include all non-members. The motion was seconded and accepted by the VSHS delegate. The motion was passed unanimously.

XIII. The VSHS delegate moved that FIAV apply for recognition by UNESCO as an NGO (non-governmental organization). The delegate from FI seconded the motion indicating that this would expand recognition of FIAV, would give an implied cachet of approval, and would help to recruit potential members. The FRC delegate asked what possible negative considerations there were to membership. The VSHS delegate indicated that he knew of none and that there were no dues for NGOs. He also indicated that if we discovered any problems the application could be withdrawn. The president indicated that this was

an appropriate time since the president of UNESCO was a Catalan. The FDC delegate stressed that FIAV needs to know in advance the exact obligations, responsibilities, advantages and disadvantages of membership. The VSHS delegate indicated that the ACV would have an advantage in promoting activities within Catalonia if FIAV were an NGO because of the prestige of that association. The FI delegate suggested that information could be obtained during the process of membership application.

The NAVA delegate stressed the need to inform the membership organizations of FIAV so that they could decide the implications for their own membership.

XIV. The WH delegate moved to amend his motion, giving responsibility to the Board for looking into the question of FIAV recognition as an NGO by UNESCO. The motion was seconded by the FRC delegate. The USFF delegate asked whether FIAV was legally allowed to seek such membership and the President indicated that the Board would look into the question and report back. The NAVA delegate stated that written consent was needed from FIAV members first. The USFF delegate was opposed to possible government interference in the private foundations and organizations which are members of FIAV that might come from being associated with UNESCO. The VSHS delegate agreed to the amendment of his original motion which was then unanimously approved. The session then adjourned.

XV. The meeting reconvened on Thursday, 4 July 1991, at Montserrat at 5:17pm. The VSHS delegate indicated that he had a translation of UNESCO rules concerning NGOs to help the Board decide on its actions.

XVI. The FI delegate submitted a resolution [the text of which is found in Annex A]. The USFF delegate indicated that the proposal was without precedent in that it instructed FIAV members and non-members to take or not to take certain actions. He felt that this was an unwise proposal. The FDC delegate submitted for consideration an alternative proposal [text in Appendix B]. The FRCSL delegate pointed out that FIAV is a non-commercial, non-dues-paying voluntary organization and therefore should not be involved in any commercial operation or in deciding what institution should obtain the Neubecker collection. It should not have to pay for the acquisition of the collection or its maintenance. It should be acquired by whatever organization or institution can best maintain it. The WH delegate stated that the European Flag Heritage ^{Foundation} was non-commercial and that the collection would be available to vexillologists if acquired by that foundation. The FRCSL delegate pointed out FIAV had no knowledge of this new foundation and therefore was not in a position to charge them with the responsibility of maintaining the collection and making it available. The SSV delegate said that the foundation was composed of

17 Europeans; that it was non-commercial; and that the collection, if acquired, would be housed in the Landesmuseum in Zurich. Its only object was to preserve this collection. The FI delegate pointed out that good intentions would not necessarily bring results.

XVII. The FRCSL delegate said that he and the President were concerned because two leading FIAV members (the Flag Institute and the Flag Research Center) were involved in the question of the acquisition of the collection. Under the terms of the motion submitted by the FI delegate, if adopted, the Flag Research Center would in good faith either have to cede acquisition of the collection or resign from FIAV. Consequently the FRCSL delegate and the President had drafted an alternative motion. The President pointed out that the FI motion must be voted on or withdrawn. The WH delegate said that the FI motion would be withdrawn if the one informally submitted by the FDC delegate was not formally submitted for consideration. The FDC/indicated that it would not be so submitted. The FI delegate indicated that he would withdraw his motion if the seconder agreed and this was done.

XVIII. The FRCSL delegate moved the following: "Having heard during the 14th International Congress of Vexillology held in Barcelona in 1991 the presentation of Mr. Paul of the United Kingdom on the future of vexillology, the General Assembly of FIAV, wishing to promote the interest of vexillological scholarship, encourages the taking of necessary steps so as to ensure the continued preservation of accumulated vexillological documentation." The motion was seconded by the USFF delegate. The FI delegate moved to amend it by adding "in order to guarantee the future accessibility of such collections to vexillologists around the world." This was seconded by the SSV delegate and accepted by those who made the original motion. As amended, the motion was unanimously adopted.

XIX. The FDC delegate moved "that/ ^{the} General Assembly decide on the winner of the Vexillon award, for presentation at the congress banquet." This was seconded by the FI delegate and unanimously adopted. The FDC delegate submitted documentation in support of Dr. Scot Guenter as winner of the Vexillon based on his accomplishments and to set a precedent for the type of recipient for the future. The SSV delegate nominated Michel Lupant because of his extensive research, correspondence and his lecture at the current congress. The USFF delegate said the award should not be made on short notice but that a committee, even a small one, should give advance consideration to

candidates. He then nominated Dr. Ottfried Neubecker for the award. The VSI delegate said that it was improper to make this decision in a public forum on short notice. The CISV delegate nominated William Crampton because of the many books he had recently had published on flags.

XX. Following further discussion, the FDC delegate moved to "rescind his former motion and have the new Board of FIAV choose the winner of the Vexillon prior to the concluding banquet." The USFF delegate seconded the motion and it was unanimously adopted. The VSI delegate said that in the future the Board should receive recommendations in advance for the Vexillon award and should submit one name to the General Assembly for consideration. After further discussion he submitted a motion that "the General Assembly ask members to submit nominations for the Vexillon to the FIAV Board six months prior to an International Congress of Vexillology, the Board to submit the name of one person for approval to the General Assembly at that congress." The USFF delegate seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

XXI. The President announced that the next order of business was the election of members of the 1991-1993 Board. The three offices to be filled would be dealt with in the following order -- President, Secretary General, and Secretary General for Congresses. The Secretary General then took the chair. The NAVA delegate nominated Reverend Hugh Boudin for President which was seconded by the SSV delegate and unanimously approved. The President, having been reelected, took the chair again and expressed his appreciation for the continuing confidence of the General Assembly in his work. He called for nominations for Secretary General. The FSA delegate nominated Ralph G. C. Bartlett, who declined the nomination. The WH delegate nominated Dr. Emil Dreyer, seconded by the VSI delegate. The USFF delegate nominated Whitney Smith, who declined the nomination. The NAVA delegate nominated Dr. John Purcell, which was seconded by the FSA delegate. There being no further suggestions, the President declared nominations closed. The candidates left the room and a vote by ballot elected Dr. Dreyer as the new Secretary General. The FI delegate expressed his thanks to the previous/for his long service. The President called for nominations for the position of Secretary General for Congresses. The FDC delegate nominated Ralph G. C. Bartlett, which was seconded by the VSHS delegate. There were no other nominations and the Secretary General for Congresses was unanimously reelected to his position. The President thanked all the delegates for a job well done and the session adjourned at 6:23 pm.

ANNEX A

RESOLUTION

to be proposed to the General Assembly of the
Fédération Internationale des Associations Vexillologiques
by the Flag Institute

The General Assembly of FIAV

NOTES with alarm the fact that no adequate arrangements exist for the preservation of the documentation and library of the noted German vexillologist OTTFRIED NEUBECKER, formerly President of FIAV and honorary president of the Vapourolle "Deutsche Herald", and that these invaluable items are currently in the care of a commercial company with little or no interest in vexillology and with extremely limited access to flag scholars, and that they are in serious danger of being disposed of commercially and to interests outside Europe, and therefore

RESOLVES

that every effort must be made by the members of FIAV to ensure:

- 1: that the collection remains intact and complete;
- 2: that in view of the fact that the collection was compiled and created in Europe it is preserved and maintained in Europe;
- 3: that it remains readily accessible to all flag scholars throughout the world.

The Assembly further NOTES

that the EUROPEAN FLAG HERITAGE FOUNDATION has been established and funded with a view to preserving and maintaining in Europe important flag documentation and source-material of Europe for the benefit of flag scholars everywhere, and therefore further

RESOLVES

that the European Flag Heritage Foundation be charged with the task of acquiring, preserving, maintaining and managing the Neubecker material in such a way that the above conditions are fulfilled;

and that the EFHF shall be instructed to report on this to the 1993 meeting of the General Assembly.

To be presented to the General Assembly at Barcelona, 1 July 1991

ANNEX B

The General Assembly of FIAV

NOTES that it is the intention of the current owner of the vexillological documentation and library created by Dr. Ottfried Neubecker to sell that collection, thus providing a rare opportunity to preserve this world cultural treasure for the benefit of flag scholars everywhere.

The General Assembly therefore

RESOLVES that it is in the best interests of vexillology that the Neubecker collection -- and similar vexillological collections which may in the future come on the market -- be preserved under the following conditions:

1. Such a collection should be maintained permanently intact and complete in accord with recognized museum or library standards;
2. Such a collection should be part of an established institution, devoted exclusively to vexillology and endowed with resources adequate to guarantee the integrity of the collection without any financial support from FIAV;
3. In order that such collections be as accessible and as useful as possible to flag scholars everywhere, FIAV endorses their acquisition by institutions with existing collections and a record of proven accomplishment in vexillological scholarship, preferably a member of FIAV.

The General Assembly further

RESOLVES that this motion shall not be construed to commit FIAV or any of its members to any specific action or financial obligation.

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