



GENERAL ASSEMBLY - 15 JUNE 2023

2023
ACTIVITY REPORT
16 JUNE 2022 - 14 JUNE 2023

Federation of European and International Association established in Belgium

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1. MANAGEMENT

During this 74th 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	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 (*until January 2023 – she joined The Nature Conservancy then and it is proposed that she stays on the Board of Directors until the GA 2023)
Mr Jonathan Mead	CEFIC/The European Chemical Industry Council
Ms Silvia Selandari	EUDA - European Dredging 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 4 times during the period of this report, i.e. from June 16 2022 to 14 June 2023.

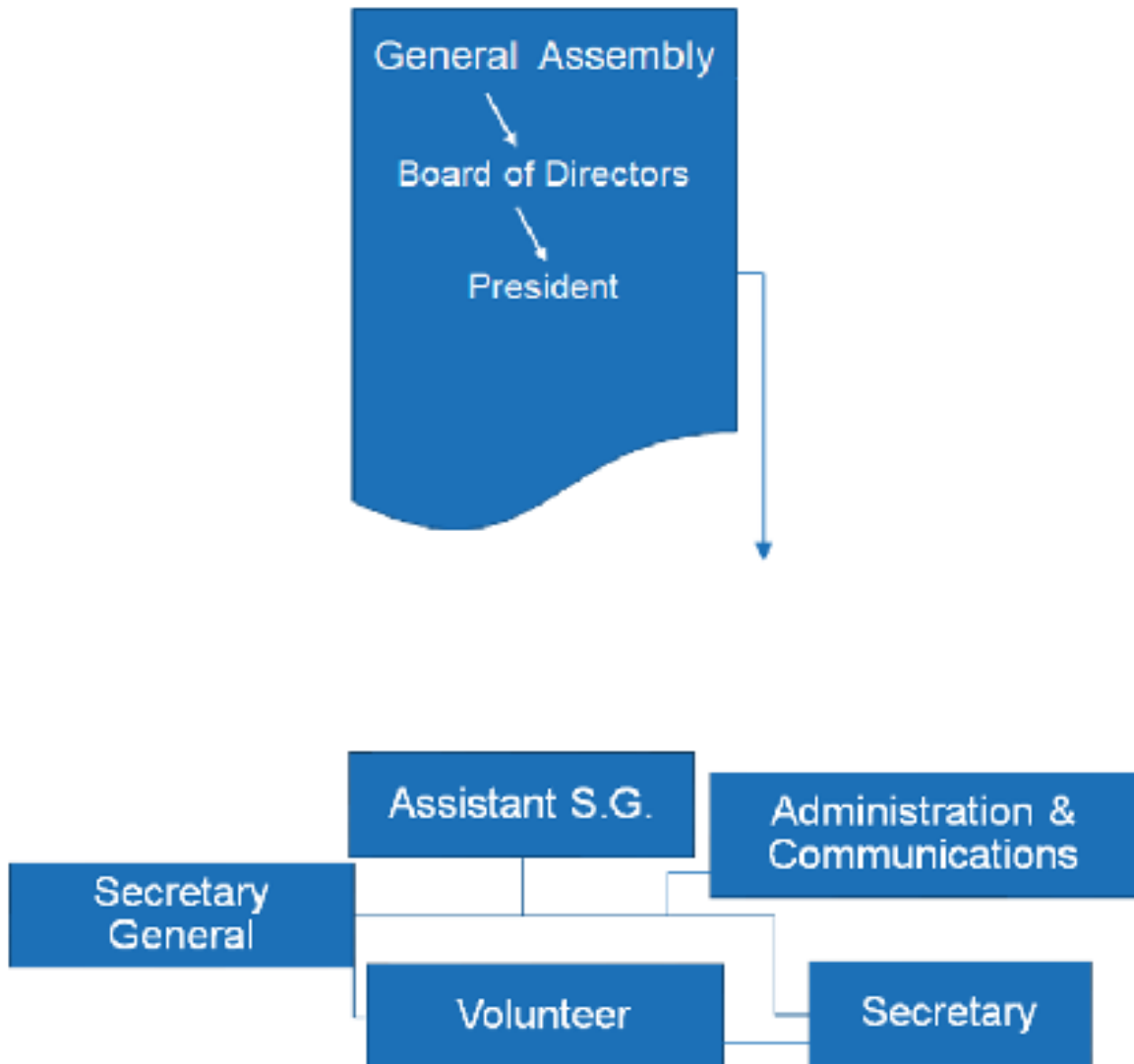
The Secretariat is composed of 3 staff members: Stella Sauvan (part-time – Assistant Secretary general) – Franco Sardo (Secretary) and Constance Lange (Administration and Communications Manager). Danièle Vranken (daily management who will terminate her functions on June 15) and Anne-Marie Leclercq (administration) contribute weekly on a voluntary basis.

For health reasons, Danièle Vranken will leave the federation. She said good-bye to her colleagues and members in the FAIB News nr 130 as follows:

Dear “friends”, That is indeed what you have become over the 13 years of my serving as voluntary Secretary General of FAIB. Unfortunately, now my health conditions do not allow me to drive or travel to Brussels to fulfil this mission anymore and I will focus on spending a healthy life at the countryside, whilst regretting you and FAIB every day. It has indeed been a real pleasure to work for you and, together with the very friendly and competent Directors of the Board whom I have had a chance to collaborate with, and bring FAIB to the level it has reached today. Yet there is still room for improvement, and I am sure the succeeding team about which you will hear in the next future will work on achieving this. But as we say in French, only mountains never meet again, and I hope that our paths will cross in the future! It will always be a pleasure to help in any way I can. It will not be “farewell” today but “see you soon” and thank you for your support and enthusiasm! I favor writing to speaking since I get too emotional by doing the latter...

Danièle

FAIB ORGANISATION CHART



2. FAIB EVENTS

8
EVENTS

8 events were organised (see list below), covering many of the issues relevant for the community.

298
DELEGATES

Some 298 delegates attended, i.e. an average of 37 participants per event.

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/>.

FAIB LUNCH - DEBATES

2022

29 September 2022

- Subject** *Employees working abroad : legal consequences and payroll solutions*
- Speakers** Valerie T'Serstevens, Legal HR Managing Consultant SD Worx and Naomi Kimura, Global sales consultant SD Worx. The debate was moderated by Hugues Thibaut, Public Affairs SD Worx.

20 October 2022

- Subject** *Who needs an auditor and for what ?*
- Speakers** Eef Naessens, EY Audit Partner, Didier Bernard, EY Audit Senior Manager and Antoine Druetz, Associate Partner EY Law.

24 November 2022

- Subject** *VAT aspects of conferences and similar events in hybrid format*
- Speaker** Philippe Noirhomme, Certified Tax Advisor at European VAT Desk

15 December 2022

- Subject** *Year in review: overview of (recent & expected) developments in legislation and/or regulations impacting INPAs, notably: company law, commercial law, tax law, employment law, competition law, & trade sanctions.*
- Speakers** Various specialists speakers from Bird & Bird LLP

2023

26 January 2023

- Subject** *FAIB New Year's Reception - Proofs and evidence in employment law in 2022, what to know in the context of telework ?*
- Speaker** FAIB was honored to welcome Christophe Delmarcelle, founding partner at DEL-Law.

23 February 2023

- Subject** *The whistleblowing directive - What next ?*
- Speaker** Marina Stavropoulou, Law, Counsel, EU and Competition Law at DWMC.

30 March 2023

- Subject** *The new tax regime for incoming taxpayers and researchers*
- Speaker** Nicolas Tancredi, Partner at DWMC

20 April 2023

- Subject** *The current state of e-invoicing and what the near future will bring us*
- Speaker** Thomas Hermie, Head VAT/Indirect Tax at THG Group, on behalf of I-Heb.
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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 were carried out – in particular concerning bank issues - 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 «OneStop-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 visit.brussels, under the name «Association Bureau».

It redirects questions from European/international associations to the various bodies involved in the partnership, notably FAIB / UIA / 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 27 and 28 April 2023. The session managed by FAIB on 28 April focussed on «*Navigating the Complex World of Association Taxation and Finance in Belgium*» with guest speakers examining the subject from different angles. Speakers: Ruth Wirtz, Osborne Clarke, Antoine Druetz, EY Law, Charlotte Watteyne on behalf of Alain Costantini, DWMC, and 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 was one of the Vice- Presidents (but has resigned in the meantime).

4. FAIB NEWS & DIGEST

FAIB NEWS

4 ISSUES

During the period covered by this report 4 issues (from 127 to 130) 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.

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 DIGEST

4 ISSUES

During the period covered by this report 4 issues (from 127 to 130) 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.

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. The information is provided by faib associates members.

- Newsflash - Expat Reform - EY Law
- Newsflash - New tax in sight for NPOs - DMWC
- Newsflash - A VAT deduction - European VAT Desk
- Newsflash - The NPOs excluded from the banks are taking action - article published in the newspaper «L'Echo», which outlines the problem of banking exclusion and explains the actions of the Impact Coalition.

5. FAIB WEBSITE

The website is continually updated.

- **Homepage:** the homepage is constantly updated 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:** the design aims at highlighting 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 designed and organised into different categories to ease the access to information:
 - ◇ Setting up an (international) non-profit association;
 - ◇ Operating an (international) non-profit association;
 - ◇ Miscellaneous;
 - ◇ Covid-19;
 - ◇ 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 - News from FAIB.
Members	10 reasons to join - How to join - (Documents needed - Application form) - List of FAIB Members (Full, Associates, Corresponding, Honorary)- Member News.
Events	Activities and Events.
Publications	FAIB News - FAIB Digest - Activity & President Report - Press release - FAIB Positions & Actions - Surveys (2021, 2020, 2019, 2017, 2013, 2012 and 2008).
Job Platform	Member's vacancies – External candidatures - internships – student jobs.
Sponsors	List and description of Sponsors' activities.
Glossary	List of abbreviations used in FAIB correspondance that will constantly be updated.
FAQs	Gradually replaces the Practical Guide and lists questions received at FAIB and the answers provided.

6. COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES

FAIB presence on LinkedIn has been considerably reinforced within the previous years. Through various 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 more than 450 followers, our reach and visibility has grown and continues to improve.

A series of interviews called «Meet FAIB members», launched in April 2021, where we interview our members on the association that they represent and their opinion on their FAIB membership, are still under consideration.

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 interviews will be published on our website and featured on our LinkedIn page.

The most frequently used platform and the one that reaches the largest number of members is MailChimp: we communicate the latest information from our associate members, we communicate seminars (invitations and reminders) and we send out the trimestrial news & digests.

The communication on Mailchimp is meant to be brief and effective, with a link to more information if the reader wants it. The aim is to keep our members loyal, to communicate important information that might concern them, and to show them the importance of their FAIB membership.

The website has been launched in 2016, in collaboration with our IT freelancer.

The design has been redone in 2021. As for today, we are collaborating with professionals in communication and website developpement to re-dynamize the content and the design.

We are also pleased to announce that Id-loom, Belgian Software Development company, FAIB's sponsor since 2017, has become a gold sponsor.

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 to inform us anytime there is a change and thank you for your collaboration.

8. OTHER ACTIVITIES

PRESENCE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FAIB

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

2022		2023	
21.09.2022	ESNG meeting	30.01.2023	FAIB meets visit.brussels
29.09-2.10 2022	Famtrip Munich	8.03.2023	ESNG meeting
10-13.10 2022	Catalunya	29.03.2023	Impact Coalition
24.11.2022	Atout France	27-28.04.2023	EAS Brussels
		16.05.2023	Impact Coalition
		24.05.2023	European Quarter Networking - visit.brussels

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, human resources, 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, (and will take over the function of Secretary General when Danièle Vranken leaves) to whom we can all be grateful. Not to forget the addition of a valuable support in Communications/ Secretariat with the joining of Ms Constance Lange in March 2022 and Franco Sardo in April 2022 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

318
FULL MEMBERS

21
**ASSOCIATE
MEMBERS**

There are 21 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, i.e, associations that are not established in Belgium yet want to follow legal developments in Belgium.

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 12 of them. 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 – until 15 June 2023), thereafter Stella Sauvan (faib@faib.org) or Franco Sardo / Constance Lange 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, Frédéric Van Houte on whom we rely, and all other members. 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

