

Press Release



Dieter Kosslick hosts FIAPF lunch with international film festivals' directors

Global film producers body FIAPF (International Federation of Film Producers Associations) today held a lunch with the directors of thirty five of the world's leading international film festivals.

FIAPF has member organisations in 24 countries worldwide, including China, Japan, the US and the European Union. As the only worldwide film industry organisation, FIAPF has been operating a regulation and accreditation system for international film festivals' since the early nineteen seventies. The FIAPF label is widely accepted in the industry as a gold standard for international festivals. FIAPF-accredited festivals include heavyweights such as Cannes, Toronto, Berlin, Pusan, Venice, San Sebastian, Tokyo and Locarno, as well as a range of high-quality specialised festivals.

The lunch was hosted by Berlinale Director Dieter Kosslick, who introduced FIAPF's President, the Academy award-winning producer Andres Vicente Gomez. Mr. Gomez told the assembled festivals' directors of FIAPF's intention to consult with them and with its members, with a view to making changes to the FIAPF International Film Festivals' Regulations and accreditation system.

"The system is over thirty years old", said Gomez. "The industry has changed and its relationship with festivals has changed significantly during this time. FIAPF's ambition is to rejuvenate the system of festivals' accreditation and increase the benefits of it for the producers we represent, and for the festivals themselves."

The lunch was the launch of a broad-based consultation which FIAPF intends to conduct over the next three months. Another meeting with accredited festivals is planned for the Cannes Film Festival, at which time FIAPF Director General Bertrand Moullier says new draft Regulations will have been drawn-up. FIAPF is aiming to have the new system approved by its Cannes AGM in time for implementation in 2005.

Dieter Kosslick said: "The Berlinale was very pleased to help FIAPF organise this encounter. It is the first time we've all been together in the same room and I think it is a welcome sign that FIAPF is trusted by both industry and festivals. It is a good idea to make changes to an accreditation system we all need and want in order to maintain good standards for international festivals."

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