



Communiqué for members, March 2011

Announcement of the setup of the International Committee of Independent Publishers (ICIP)

The International Committee of Independent Publishers, safeguarding the legitimacy of the Alliance

In line with decisions taken at the 2007 International Assembly on Independent Publishing in Paris, the language network Coordinators and the Board of the Alliance have been meeting on an annual basis since 2009 (please see our November 2009 Memo).

On 11 October 2010, the Coordinators and the Board of the Alliance met in Paris and decided jointly to create “**The International Committee of Independent Publishers**” (ICIP)¹. With an increasing number of members each year, the Alliance budget can no longer stretch to meetings with everybody. So it has become necessary to create a body to represent the Alliance in between meetings, relaying the publishers’ expectations and needs to the organisation’s legal representatives. Furthermore, the participation of independent publishers from several countries and areas in the world within the Committee will prove an essential element for the Alliance’s image when dealing with institutional and financial partners.

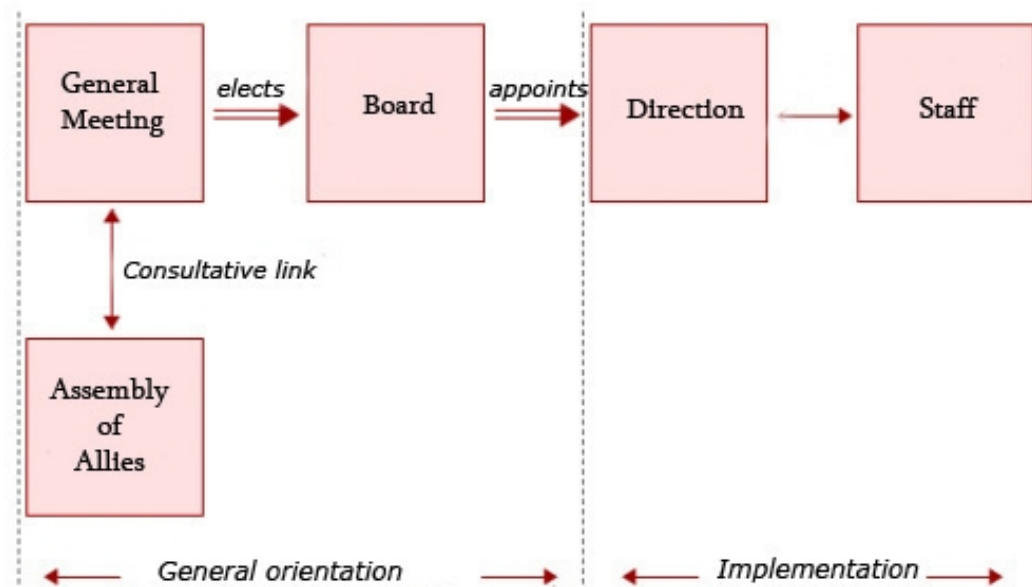
The ICIP thus looks set to become an indispensable body regarding Alliance governance, **representing the members** – in short, it will be your spokesperson. Its purpose is to safeguard the **legitimacy of the association**.

The **Board of the Alliance**² and **AGM** represent the **legal setup of the association**. The Alliance governance setup (see below) will include the ICIP as a representative of the members, liaising in a consulting role with the AGM and Board of the Alliance.

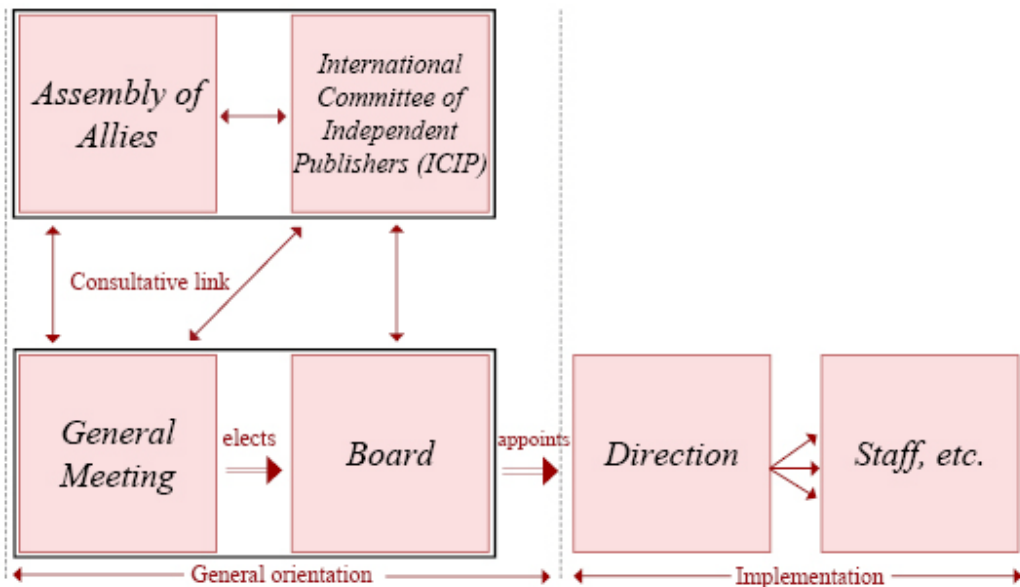
¹ In English: The International Committee of Independent Publishers; Spanish: Comité Internacional de Editores Independientes; Portuguese: Comitê Internacional de Editores Independentes and in Arabic: نيلقت سمل ان يرش ان لل ةيل و دل اة نجل ل

² [List of members of the Alliance Board](#)

Alliance governance setup, 2002 - 2010



Proposal for a new governance setup for the Alliance integrating the ICIP



Composition of the International Committee of Independent Publishers: Coordinators and correspondents

The Coordinators and members of the Board of the Alliance suggest that the ICIP be made up of **Coordinators of the language networks** within the Alliance, i.e. Coordinators of the English-, Arabic-, French-, Spanish- and Portuguese-language networks. At the Committee's request, and when it deems necessary, **correspondents from linguistic or geographic areas**

not represented (or under-represented) within the Alliance or **correspondents from language networks being created or to be created**, may join the ICIP, either over a given period (meeting about publishing in Europe or on the situation in Iran for example), or for a undetermined period (regular consultations or at publishing meetings in Asia for example). The correspondents will be invited in a “resource person” capacity by the Committee to shed light on the geographical and/or linguistic area they represent and share their viewpoint on decisions taken by the ICIP. The correspondents invited by the ICIP may be member publishers of the Alliance. The members of the ICIP, both Coordinators and correspondents, will act on behalf of the Alliance on a voluntary basis.

The ICIP’s responsibilities and remit

The Committee will be responsible for participating in leading and developing the Alliance as part of its remit as set forth by the Assembly of Allies.

On top of duties handled up to now by the language network Coordinators, its remit shall comprise the following:

- monitoring governance of the Alliance;
- keeping abreast of and ensuring the proper execution of the mandate given by the AGM to the Board of the Alliance;
- participating, in a consultant role, in decision-making for centralised projects emanating from the Board of the Alliance and/or the AGM;
- approving the Alliance’s moral and financial report once a year;
- participating proactively in seeking funding for the Alliance;
- representing the Alliance at international organisations and Alliance partners, for fundraising and as spokesperson with regard to press and public relations;
- taking any timely initiative to achieve the Alliance’s philosophical and political aims, and circulating the same;
- participating in the designation of correspondents in the linguistic or geographic areas not represented (or under-represented) within the Alliance;
- handling any disputes between members of the Alliance or between a member and the Board of the Alliance;
- participating in the preparation and leading of the Assembly of Allies meetings;
- giving their opinion on any mergers or partnerships with competing associations.

The ICIP working methods

To fulfil its remit, the **ICIP shall meet in person at least once a year**, to discuss an agenda drawn up based on the Alliance’s requirements and aims. The Committee’s programme of actions will be decided on a yearly basis and presented to the Board of the Alliance and the Alliance management; this programme will especially factor in members’ needs and expectations.

As well as the annual ICIP meetings, the ICIP will continue its discussions and thinking using virtual means. The ICIP shall inform the Board of the Alliance of its actions and projects envisaged and will report to members on its meetings as well as any information on the Alliance’s directions and business.

Members' votes

Because the publisher members – Allies - are the primary players in the Alliance, the members of the ICIP and the Board of the Alliance are submitting the creation of the International Committee of Independent Publishers (ICIP) to your approval. The official ICIP setup shall be effective as from when you, as publisher members, will have agreed. If a majority of members agree to the setup of the ICIP, **it will duly be set up in March 2011.**

Please send us your answer by **20 March 2011** by e-mail to the following address (lhugues@alliance-editeurs.org), by simply sending this message: *"I, publisher XXX hereby agree to the setup of the International Committee of Independent Publishers, representing the Assembly of Allies to the Board of the Alliance and AGM"*.

Thank you for your attention and speedy response. We would like to reassert our need for solidarity among independent publishers, for ever more bibliodiversity.

The language network Coordinators

Nouri Abid, publisher in Tunisia (Med Ali),
Arabic-language network Coordinator

Marc Favreau publisher in the US (The New Press),
English-language network Coordinator

Araken Gomes Ribeiro, publisher in Brazil (Contra Capa),
Portuguese-language network Coordinator

Guido Indij, publisher in Argentina (la marca editora),
Spanish-language network Coordinator

Serge D. Kouam, publisher in Cameroon (Presses universitaires d'Afrique),
French-language network Coordinator

The members of the Board of the Alliance

Thierry Quinqueton, Chairman

Michel Sauquet, vice-Chairman

Henri Rouille D'Orfeuill, vice-Chairman

Luc Pinhas, Secretary

Annie Gogat, Treasurer

Edith Sizoo

Gérard Aimé