



## PRESS RELEASE: CEPI votes on new board in London and sets forthcoming political priorities

London, 5 & 6 December 2019

CEPI the European Audiovisual Production association, which gathers national associations of Independent producers across Europe, important pan-European associations such as Animation Europe and companies such as Mediapro, met in London for its annual General Assembly.

The meeting was hosted by PACT UK (UK Association of Independent Content) and took place at the Royal Society of Musicians, Britain's oldest music charity.

Given important debates taking place in Brussels on dossiers such as the Copyright Directive, the Geoblocking Regulation, the AVMS Directive and the forthcoming Digital Services Act, producers have decided to identify their priorities for the near future, highlighting a strong support for the forthcoming MEDIA programme.

On the 5th of December, CEPI members elected their President, Treasurer and Board members.

Mr Jerome Dechesne (USPA, France) was re-elected as President and Dr Werner Mueller (FAMA, Austria) was re-elected as Treasurer.

Mr Filip Bobinski (APA Czech Republic), Mr Soren Jorgensen (Pro-f, Denmark), Mr Mario Mauri (APA, Italy), Dr Werner Mueller (FAMA, Austria) were re-elected as Board Members and Vice presidents.

Two new Board members and Vice presidents were elected for the first time and these are Ms Elaine Geraghty (SPI, Ireland) and Ms Susana Gato (APIT, Portugal).

The co-opted Board members were approved by the General Assembly and are Ms An Jacobs (VOFTP, Belgium), Ms Monique Goeschl (FAMA, Austria), Ms Chiara Sbarigia (APA, Italy) and Mr Frederic Goldsmith (UPC, France). The new President, Treasurer and Board members-Co-opted members will have a mandate for the next 2 years.

Jerome Dechesne, President of CEPI: *"Independent producers play both a creative and entrepreneurial role and it will be crucial for CEPI to represent their voice in the forthcoming years, especially at a time of important political developments and digital evolution. I am very proud of the work we have undertaken over the last years and I am very happy to be supported by such a competent Board to strengthen the voice of European Independent producers even more."*



Furthermore, CEPI is pleased to welcome a new member in the association, the Film Industry Association of Ukraine (FIAU), founded in 2015 by Independent producers in order to represent comprehensive development of Ukrainian national audio-visual production at European and international level.

Jane Yatsuta- Head of FIAU, producer of Radioactive Film: *“Ukraine is one of the biggest countries in Eastern Europe with big film industry potential. We believe that Ukraine can become one of the reliable partners for European and international producers. FIAU id very proactive in this sector and eager to foster a rapid growth of the national film industry and strongly welcome this opportunity to join CEPI "family". We sincerely hope that this act will also help us in encouraging a faster implementation of our tax rebates law next year.”*

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