

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FIP YOUTH COMMISSION IN MACAO

The meeting of the F.I.P. Commission for Youth Philately was held in Room 2 (Jury Room), Cotai Expo Hall A, Venetian Hotel, Macao 2026, from 14:00 to 16:00 on Monday, 29 June 2026.

Those in attendance comprised 6 official delegates and 12 proxies. The official delegates came from China; Chinese Taipei; Hong Kong, China; Hungary; Japan; and Peru. The proxies came from the Czech Republic; France; India; Israel; Macao, China; Poland; Qatar; Slovenia; Thailand; the United Arab Emirates; and the United States of America.

The meeting dealt with two principal matters: first, the election of the Chairman, Secretary, and the three Bureau Members representing Europe, the Americas, and Asia for the next four-year term; and second, the discussion of several issues concerning the future work of the Commission.

1. Election of the New Bureau

The election of the Chairman, Secretary, and the three Bureau Members representing Europe, the Americas, and Asia for the next four-year term was conducted first. The election results were as follows:

- Chairman: Stephen CHAN (Hong Kong)
- Secretary: ZHANG Weiwei (China)
- Europe Bureau Member: SULCOVA Zdenka (Czech Republic)
- Americas Bureau Member: PEREZ Christian Gabriel (Argentina)
- Asia Bureau Member: UNG Chi Hong Simon (Macao)

2. Discussion of Commission Matters

Following the election, the meeting proceeded to discuss the following matters:

2.1 Simplification of the Youth Guidelines

Some delegates noted that the current *Guidelines for the Assembly and Evaluation of Youth Exhibits* are overly long and difficult to follow. It was reported that a simplified version is now being prepared. The revised text is intended to retain only the essential framework and principal guidance, so that it will be clearer, more practical, and easier for exhibitors and jurors to apply.

2.2 Authenticity and Degree of Youth Participation in Exhibits

It was further observed that a number of youth exhibits do not appear to have been prepared entirely by the young exhibitors themselves, but may have been completed in large part by adults or even by professional philatelists. This was considered unfair to those youth exhibitors who genuinely prepare and develop their own work.

While guidance from senior philatelists is encouraged, provided that such guidance remains within appropriate scope to ensure that the youth exhibitor is substantially involved in the preparation of the exhibit.

In this connection, the All-China Philatelic Federation (ACPF) will introduce a trial measure at the National Youth Philatelic Exhibition to be held in Shanghai in September this year. Under this arrangement, each youth exhibit will include, on its final page, a one-page personal statement by the

exhibitor describing his or her philatelic experience and the process of preparing the exhibit. This will enable the public viewers and jurors to evaluate the extent of their involvement. The results of the trial will be reported in due course.

2.3 Promotion of Youth Philately Beyond Exhibitions

The meeting also considered whether the F.I.P., while continuing its work on exhibition matters such as judging rules and related standards, could do more to promote youth philately outside the exhibition framework.

It was suggested that, upon recommendation by national federations, recognition might be given in the name of the FIP Youth Commission to local stamp clubs, community organizations, schools, and other bodies that have made a meaningful contribution to the promotion of youth philately, whether or not such work is directly connected with exhibitions.

Yigal Nathaniel, FIP Vice-President responsible for youth philately, agreed on the importance of promotion at beginner level. He suggested that federations should take the initiative in contacting their local postal authorities and educational departments in order to reach teachers and students through schools. He also shared his own experience of school-based promotional work.

Mark Banchik, representing the American Philatelic Society, emphasized the importance of expanding the youth philatelic community as broadly as possible. He referred to the practice at the Boston show of distributing large quantities of stamps to young people, which had proved very popular.

The meeting concluded after a useful exchange of views on these matters.

Stephen CHAN

Chairman, FIP Youth Philately Commission

ZHANG Weiwei

Secretary, FIP Youth Philately Commission