

FEDERATION AERONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE

100th ANNUAL GENERAL CONFERENCE

MINUTES

OF THE WORKING SESSIONS HELD ON THURSDAY 26th AND FRIDAY 27th OCTOBER 2006 AT MARRIOTT HOTEL, SANTIAGO DE CHILE

IN THE CHAIR Mr. Pierre PORTMANN, FAI President

ACTIVE MEMBERS OF FAI :

FAI ACTIVE MEMBERS REPRESENTED

WITH VOTING RIGHTS

HEADS OF DELEGATIONS

AUSTRALIA	Mr. Henk MEERTENS
AUSTRIA	Dr. Alois ROPPERT
BRAZIL	Mr. Claudio WERNECK DE CARVALHO VIANNA
BULGARIA	Mr. Nick KALTCHEV
CANADA	Mr. Jack HUMPHREYS
CHILE	Mr. Tito MUNOS REYES
CHINA	Mr. WANG LEI
CZECH REPUBLIC	Mr Jiri DODAL
DENMARK	Mr. Aksel C. NIELSEN
ESTONIA	Mr. Urmas USKA
FINLAND	Mr. Hannu HALONEN
FRANCE	Mme Martine BESNAINOU
GERMANY	Mr Winfried MAIER
GREECE	Mr. George BENEKOS
GUATEMALA	Dr. Julio QUEVEDO
IRELAND	Mr. Terry ROWAN
ITALY	Mr. ROMAGNOLI
JAPAN	Mr. Sadao HARA
KOREA	Mrs. Kyung O. KIM
KUWAIT	Mr. Salah Al JEEMAZ
LUXEMBURG	Mr. Jean BIRGEN
MEXICO	Ing. José Peña BUENROSTRO
NEW ZEALAND	Mr. Raymond WOOLFORD
NORWAY	Maj. Gen. Olav AAMOTH

POLAND	Dr Waldemar RATAJCZAK
PORTUGAL	Mr. Manuel SILVA SALTA
RUSSIA	Mr. Anatoly STARODUBETS
SLOVAKIA	Mr. Jan MIKUS
SPAIN	Mr. Antonio QUINTANA PEREIRA
SWEDEN	Mr. John GRUBBSTRÖM
SWITZERLAND	Dr. Hans-Peter HIRZEL
TURKEY	Mr. Aktug ATAY
UNITED KINGDOM	Dr. Peter SAUNDBY
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	Mr. Art GREENFIELD

INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATE MEMBERS OF FAI :

O.S.T.I.V. Prof. Louis M. BOERMANS

PROXIES :

Belgium to Luxemburg
Croatia to Austria
Cyprus to Greece
Hungary to Czech Republic
Kenya to Germany
Israël to France
Lithuania to Poland

FAI EXECUTIVE BOARD :

FAI President Mr. Pierre PORTMANN

FAI Executive Director..... Mr. Robert CLIPSHAM
FAI Executive Director..... Mr. Alvaro De ORLEANS BORBON
FAI Executive Director..... Mr. Bengt-Erik FONSELL
FAI Executive Director..... Mr. Hideo HIRASAWA
FAI Executive Director..... Mr. B.J. WORTH

FAI Secretary General Mr. Max BISHOP

PRESIDENTS OF FAI AIR SPORT COMMISSIONS :

Dr. Henry LINDHOLM President, FAI Air Sport General Commission
Mr. Jean-Claude WEBER, President , FAI Ballooning Commission
Mr. Pedro CABANERO, President, FAI General Aviation Commission
Mr. Robert HENDERSON, President, FAI Gliding Commission
Mr. Sandy PIMENOFF, President, Aeromodelling Commission
Mr. David HAMILTON, President FAI Rotorcraft Commission
Mr Graeme WINDSOR, IPC Vice President, representing President,
..... FAI Parachuting Comm.
Mr. Michael HEUER, President FAI Aerobatics Commission

1. In Memoriam

The Conference stood in silent memory of all friends of FAI who had died since the 98th General Conference in 2005, and especially of :

- Dr. Helmut ZIEGLER (Switzerland)** Recipient of FAI Aeromodelling Gold Medal in 2001
- Mr. Bill OTTLEY (USA)** FAI Companion of Honour, General Aviation President of Honour
- Mr Chris MARSHALL (Kenya)** CIA Delegate, Chairman Kenya Air Sports Association
- Mr. Rudi PENTEADO (Brazil)** Former CIVA delegate and consultant on the scoring system for many years
- Mr. Béla KASSAI (Hungary)** FAI Gliding Delegate since 2000
- Mr. Albert VAN DEN BEMDEN (Belgium)** Long time friend of the CIA
- Mr Scott CROSSFIELD (USA)** Recipient of FAI Gold Air Medal in 1994
- Mr. Alexander SHPIGOVSKIY (Russia)** Former Aerobatics Delegate and International Judge
- Mr Bob HEUER (USA)** Founder and 1st President of the International Aerobatic Club (IAC), USA
- Mr. Arnost HÖNIG (Czech Republic)** Fervent developer, chairman and supporter of the CIA's Observer Subcommittee
- Mr. Wolfgang GRUBER (Austria)** CIA delegate
- Mr. Smilian CIBIC (Italy)** Former IGC Delegate
- Mr. Michel AERTS (Belgium)** Former IGC Delegate
- Mr. Pierre RAPIN (Switzerland)** President of Honour of the CIEA
- Mr. Bernard LAMY (France)** Long Distance Air Race Organizer, French delegate to FAI and GAC
- Dr. John McCANN (USA)** Former Vice-President and Secretary of CIMP
- Mr. António de Sousa FARIA e MELLO (Portugal)** Recipient of Paul Tissandier Diploma
- Dr. Angelina MACHINEK (Germany)** One of Germany's and the world's leading women glider pilots

2. Roll-Call of Delegations

2.1. The roll-call was taken and revealed :

35 Heads of Delegations of FAI Active Members with voting rights, those present and represented all being in good standing.

10 Representatives of FAI Air Sport Commissions with voting rights.

1 International Affiliate Member with voting rights.

8 Active Members represented by proxies.

- 2.2 The names of Heads of Delegations, Air Sport Commission representatives, observers and those apologising for absence were as recorded above.
- 2.3 Voting panels with a total of 333 votes were distributed to delegations. The number of votes required to obtain majorities were declared as follows:

Absolute majority : 167

Two-thirds majority: 222

3. Minutes of 98th FAI General Conference 2005

Conference unanimously approved the Minutes of the 98th FAI General Conference Working Sessions held on 13th and 14th October 2005 in Paris, France, subject to the following correction: Amend paragraph 16.2.6.2. to read:

“Conference unanimously agreed to adopt the above amendment to By Law 12.10.1.2. **and to make the necessary consequent change in the name of the “Pepe Lopes Hang Gliding Medal” in By Law 12.10.1. by deleting the words “Hang Gliding”.**

4. Report of the FAI President

Mr Pierre Portmann, FAI President, presented his report (**ANNEX 1**) which was adopted by Conference.

5. FAI Finances

Mr. Robert Clipsham, FAI Executive Director (Finance) reported on :

5.1. 2005 Balance Sheet and Report by Auditors. The FAI Executive Director (Finance), Mr Robert Clipsham, reported in detail (**ANNEX 2**) on the 2005 Balance Sheet, Income and Expenditure Account, Commissions' finances (**ANNEX 3**), and the report on the FAI's accounts by the Auditors, PriceWaterhouseCoopers at **ANNEX 4**.

General Conference unanimously approved the Financial Statements and Auditor's Report for the year 2005, as presented, in accordance with Statute 3.4.1.3.

5.2. 2006 Situation. A small surplus was anticipated for the end of the year. No major financial problems had been encountered in 2006.

5.3. 2007 Scale of Subscriptions and Draft Budget for 2007. The FAI Executive Director (Finance) finally reported in detail on the 2007 scale of subscriptions (**ANNEX 5**) and draft budget for 2007 (expenses and income) (**ANNEX 6**).

General Conference unanimously approved the Scale of Subscriptions and Draft Budget for 2007, as presented, in accordance with Statute 3.4.1.4.

The Finance Director issued a preliminary warning that it may be necessary to raise FAI subscription fees in 2008, following 3 years of stability.

Mr Henk Meertens (AUS) asked whether the interest income included interest on Commissions' reserves, and whether each Commission had an annual budget and if so, where these could be viewed.

The Finance Director replied that all FAI's capital assets, from whatever source, were treated in a consolidated manner and deposited in appropriate short-term deposits and bonds. Budgets were drawn up annually by Commissions, and approved by their annual plenaries. They could be seen in the Minutes of Commissions' annual meetings, which were distributed to all NACs and available on the FAI website. As yet, Commissions' budgets had not been consolidated for presentation to General Conference, but the Finance Director stated that he was prepared to make that step if so desired by Conference delegates.

Dr. Grubbström (SWE) asked for more information on the financial status of Technical Commissions, and in particular how much was spent on the Env Comm and CIMP. The Secretary General stated that in the last year CIMP, CIACA, and CIEA had incurred no income or expenditure. A sum of Euros 2 000 had been allocated for the translation into English of key environmental papers at the request of the Env Comm. This expenditure had been funded from normal operating funds, except for a kind donation from CIG (Env Comm had invited all Air Sport Commissions to contribute to this work.)

6. Election of Active Members to serve on Air Sport General Commission (CASI)

- 6.1. General Conference was invited to elect 5 Active Members to serve on CASI in accordance with FAI By-Laws 5.2.1.1 and 5.2.2. The representatives of the following countries, having served for 2 years on CASI, were required to stand down : France, Poland, Russia, Sweden and USA.

The following countries still had one year of their two-year CASI term left to serve, and did not need to be re-elected in 2006: Australia, Czech Republic, Germany, Spain and Switzerland.

The following countries stood for election to the vacant CASI posts: Canada, France, Poland, Serbia, Sweden, United Kingdom, and USA.

- 6.2. **The representatives of Canada, France, Poland, Sweden, and USA were duly elected.** The full list of CASI NAC Members for 2006/2007 is therefore as follows, listed alphabetically :

Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and USA.

7. Amendments to Statutes and By-Laws (I)

The General Conference considered the proposals for changes to the FAI Statutes and By Laws shown in **ANNEX 7**, together with the Statutes Working Group's advice and recommendations on these proposals as shown in **ANNEX 8**.

The General Conference decided as follows:

- 7.1. Austrian Proposal:

Dr Alois Roppert (AUT) withdrew his proposal for changes to the method of election of the Executive Board. He also stated that he was satisfied with proposals made by the FAI President for measures to improve the cohesion of the FAI.

- 7.2. Ann Welch Diploma. Conference unanimously accepted the following new By Laws, including the revised wording suggested by the Statutes Working Group:

12.11.2. THE ANN WELCH DIPLOMA

12.11.2.1. *History.* This Diploma was established by the FAI in 2006, on a proposal by the FAI Microlight Commission. Ann Welch, for many years FAI Vice President and Editor of the FAI Bulletin, played leading international roles in the development not only of Microlight aviation, but also of gliding and hang-gliding. She was instrumental in creating the FAI Microlight Commission (CIMA) and formulating the Microlight sporting code. She worked tirelessly for many years in the cause of Microlight sport flying.

12.11.2.2. *Eligibility.* The Diploma may be awarded each year to the pilot or crew of a Microlight who made the most meritorious flight which resulted in a Microlight World record claim ratified in the calendar year preceding the CIMA meeting.

12.11.2.3. *Frequency and Number.* Only one Diploma shall be awarded annually.

12.11.2.4. *Nomination and Approval.* Procedures for nomination and approval shall be as described in Chapter 10, except that, notwithstanding the provisions of 10.1.2.2. above, the Diploma may be awarded to the same individual or crew more than once."

- 7.3. FAI Silver Medal: Conference unanimously accepted the following new By Laws, to take effect immediately:

11.8. THE FAI SILVER MEDAL

11.8.1. *History.* This Medal was established by the FAI in 2006.

11.8.2. *Eligibility.* The Medal is reserved for persons who have occupied high office in FAI or in an aeronautical organisation in one of its member countries, and in the discharge of their duties have shown exceptional powers of leadership and influence, to the benefit of the whole international air sport community.

11.8.3. *Frequency and Number.* Only one Silver Medal may be awarded annually.

11.8.4. *Nomination and Approval Process.* Procedures for nomination and approval shall be as laid down in Chapter 10. Proposals may cover any period of time up to 31st of December of the preceding year.

- 7.4. Two-Year Term for Commission Officers. Conference took note that the proposer of this constitutional amendment (IGC President) had withdrawn it.

The IPC representative stated that he would be happy to propose it in order that the subject be discussed immediately. However the IGC President explained that the withdrawal was purely temporary. The proposal needed further consideration, since it had proven to be more complex than originally anticipated. The FAI President stressed that the FAI Executive Board had already considered this matter in May 2006 and were in favour of allowing Commissions freedom to determine the term of office (1 year or 2) of their elected officers. The matter would definitely be on the agenda of the 2007 General Conference. In the light of these assurances, the IPC representative agreed not to press for an immediate debate on the subject.

- 7.5. Discharge of Executive Board by General Conference. Conference unanimously accepted the following amendment to Statutes:

Changed statute:

3.4.1.3. - approval of the FAI accounts ~~and the actions of the Executive Board~~, and of the financial statements prepared by the Auditor;

New Statute:

3.4.1.17 - approval of the actions of the Executive Board and release of responsibility for those actions

In response to a question from Mr Meertens (AUS), the Statutes Working Group Chairman, Mr Jean-Claude Weber explained the reasons for the new Statutes (clarification and legal

watertightness) and confirmed that specific legal counsel had been received in writing on this matter.

- 7.6. Gold Space Medal: General Conference took note of the following Minute of the FAI Astronautic Records Commission:

The US delegate, Mr Collins, noting that the FAI Gold Space Medal was deemed to be of equal status and prestige as the FAI Gold Air Medal, proposed that the final decision on the award of the Gold Space Medal be made by the assembly of FAI Vice Presidents, on the basis of a recommendation made by ICARE. He felt that the perceived value of the Medal could be undermined if the final decision was made by ICARE. Although Vice Presidents did not all have expert knowledge of astronautics, most took a general interest in space, and would in any case be very likely to follow advice given by ICARE. The FAI Secretary General pointed out that this proposal, if adopted, would necessitate a small modification to FAI By Laws, which could be achieved in at least two ways: by transferring the By Law concerning the Gold Space Medal from Chapter 12 (awards made by Commissions) to Chapter 11 (awards subject to the approval of Vice Presidents); or by amending the existing By Law to contain a provision that Vice Presidents' approval was needed. The US delegate stated that he was content to allow the Statutes Working Group to recommend how this change should best be implemented.

Conference agreed that both FAI Gold Medals should be of equal status, and therefore subject to approval by FAI Vice Presidents, and agreed by 10 votes against, 10 abstentions, and 213 votes in favour to delete the existing By Law 12.9.1. and to adopt the following new By Law 11.3.

11.3 THE FAI GOLD SPACE MEDAL

11.3.1. *History. The Gold Space Medal was established by the FAI in 1963 and is of equal status as the FAI Gold Air Medal.*

11.3.2. *Eligibility. The FAI Gold Space Medal is reserved for those who have contributed greatly to the development of Astronautics by their activities, work, achievements, initiative or devotion to the cause of Space.*

11.3.3 *Proposals may cover any period of time up to 31st of December of the preceding calendar year.*

11.3.4. *Frequency and Number. Only one Gold Space Medal may be awarded annually.*

11.3.5. *Nomination and Approval Process. Procedures for nomination and approval shall be as laid down in Chapter 10, with the following additional conditions:*

11.3.5.1. *An absolute majority is required to determine the recipient of the Medal.*

11.3.5.2 *If, after the first ballot, no candidate has obtained an absolute majority, a new ballot shall be conducted between the two candidates who have polled the greatest number of votes. If the second ballot leads to no decisive result, a third ballot shall be conducted in the same way. If an absolute majority is still not obtained, no Medal shall be awarded in that year.*

The present By-Laws 11.3 to 11.11 to be renumbered appropriately

- 7.7. Deadline for Awards Nominations. Conference unanimously accepted the following amendment to By Law 10.1.3.3.:

*Nominations for all FAI awards shall be sent to the FAI Secretariat together with citations not exceeding 100 words, and other supporting information required in these By-Laws, to arrive no later than two months before the FAI Commission meeting concerned (by 15 November each year for CIAM Medals and Diplomas) or ~~four months before the General Conference~~ **by 31 May each year** in the case of the General Awards shown in Chapter 11"*

The FAI President pointed out that although this may seem like a mundane administrative matter, the emotion displayed by those who receive FAI awards is ample testimony to the importance they attach to them. It was therefore the duty of delegates not to miss deadline dates. The invitation to nominate was always published on time by the FAI, and it was up to NACs to make the effort to select suitable nominees for recognition and submit the citations on time.

- 7.8. Corporate Patrons. Conference unanimously accepted the following amendments to **By-Laws** Chapter 16:

GENERAL

16.1.1. *FAI may give recognition to companies and other institutions, such as research institutes, ~~active in the fields of aeronautics and/or astronautics~~ that wish to support FAI and the federation's aims and objectives, as detailed in Statute 1.2., by appointing them as "Silver", "Gold" or "Platinum" Corporate Patrons of FAI.*

16.1.2. *The procedures for application, and the privileges and benefits offered to Corporate Patrons of FAI are set forth below.*

16.2. APPLICATION

16.2.1. *To obtain the status of Corporate Patron of FAI, the applicant company or institution shall forward to the FAI Secretariat a letter of application appropriately signed by one or more duly authorised signatories. This application shall be accompanied by :*

16.2.1.1. *the company's latest annual report,*

16.2.1.2. *the names and contact details of the primary Contact Person(s) to whom all correspondence will be addressed,*

16.2.1.3. *the address of its headquarters,*

16.2.1.4. *a reply to the FAI Corporate Patron questionnaire,*

16.2.1.5. *the payment for the ~~first year's~~ support fees for the category in which the application is made. If the application is not accepted, the payment shall be returned in full. If the application is referred to a different category than the one requested, and the applicant agrees to this, the balance of dues shall be paid by the applicant or refunded by the FAI as the case may be.*

16.2.2. *Acceptance of these applications shall be decided **by the FAI Executive Board.***

16.2.3. *FAI may also initiate the designation of a company as a Corporate Patron for a defined period of time, in recognition of services rendered.*

16.3. PRIVILEGES

16.3.1. *Each Corporate Patron of FAI shall enjoy ~~the following~~ **Platinum, Gold, or Silver** privileges as defined by the General Conference and published on the FAI website, for a period of time **proportional to the support fees paid.** **The General Conference shall normally delegate to the***

Executive Board the power to modify these privileges in the light of developing circumstances.

~~16.3.1.1. to have FAI approved world records which were sponsored and/or organised by the Patron, and/or flown using equipment manufactured or developed by the Patron ratified also in the name of the Patron, three per year free of charge;~~

~~16.3.1.2. to be able to use the FAI logo and name at discount rates;~~

~~16.3.1.3. to send a delegation of up to three individuals to attend General Conferences of FAI as observers;~~

~~16.3.1.4. to be invited to the annual FAI Awards Ceremony at which special corporate recognition will be given to Patrons;~~

~~16.3.1.5. to benefit from VIP reception facilities at designated FAI Championships;~~

~~16.3.1.6. to have opportunities for exclusive sponsorship of FAI Events;~~

~~16.3.1.7. to be duly credited and presented on the FAI web site;~~

~~16.3.1.8. to receive a regular newsletter about FAI World Record Activities.~~

~~16.3.2. Corporate Patrons which support FAI at the 'Platinum' support fee level will enjoy the following additional benefits:-~~

~~16.3.2.1. to have a set of web pages on the FAI web site, co-branded with FAI, presenting the history of world records ratified, and of championship achievements set by aircraft manufactured or developed by the Corporate Patron, or of any other projects carried out in support of the aims and objectives of FAI;~~

~~16.3.2.2. to have the opportunity to organise company/product presentations, and set up booths at FAI General Conferences and other FAI designated events;~~

~~16.3.2.3. to have the opportunity to submit feedback and suggestions to FAI and the relevant FAI Commissions on rules governing World Records. These feedback and suggestions will be channelled through a Patron representative nominated for that purpose to an FAI 'World Records Advisory Forum'.~~

16.4. SUPPORT FEES

16.4.1. The support fees payable by each category of Corporate Patrons of FAI shall be established by the General Conference ~~and paid by March 31 of each year~~

16.4.2. Only Corporate Patrons of FAI that have satisfied all their financial obligations to the FAI will be able to enjoy the privileges listed in 16.3.

16.5. RESIGNATIONS AND CANCELLATIONS

16.5.1. Submittal by Corporate Patron

16.5.1.1. Resignation may be submitted to the FAI Secretariat not later than the last day of December of any year by registered letter signed by the authorised signing officials of the resigning Corporate Patron. **For those paying annually**, the support fees for the current year, if not paid yet, shall be due. If resignations are received after the first day of January, support fees for the following year shall be payable.

16.5.2. Cancellation by FAI

16.5.2.1. *General Conference may cancel the appointment of a Corporate Patron if the Patron has failed to satisfy its financial obligations to the FAI, or has opposed the ideals, concepts or Statutes of FAI.*

7.9. Duties of ASCs. Conference unanimously accepted the following amendment to Statute 5.6.2.2:

- *establish and keep current their respective sections of the Sporting Code which shall include rules and criteria for FAI air activities and records, FAI badges, ~~security~~ safety at world sporting events, and technical standards ;*

7.10. The FAI President thanked the Chairman and Members of the Statutes Working Group for all the hard work they had done. The Working Group had a very important role to play.

8. FAI World Air Games

Special Presentation

Mr. Lars Haue Pedersen and Ms. Caroline Anderson of TSE Consulting gave a presentation describing the conditions for bidders and the bidding process for the 2009 World Air Games (**ANNEX 9**). At the end of the session, copies of the specially designed presentation brochure for potential bidders were distributed to all delegates (**ANNEX 10**). The floor was opened for questions.

Mr. Art Greenfield (USA), asked what was meant by local organizing committees (LOC) having the rights to control hotel arrangements. Mr. Lars Haue Pedersen explained that the LOC would have the ability to organize accommodation for visitors and that this would offer a possible profit centre for organizer. In response to a warning about driving prices too high, he stressed that this arrangement did not apply to athletes and officials, but only to visitors to the Games. It would not be in the LOC's interests to offer unattractive prices, and nobody was obliged to occupy rooms in the hotels included in the offer.

Mr. Wang Lei (China) said that FAI had to make a breakthrough. Government, the public, media, enterprises and athletes must all like the concept. FAI should follow the IOC's development model. "Swifter, higher and stronger" was a good motto. FAI had to be better than others. Events must be easily understandable by the public, and good pictures provided by the cameraman. In China, the first National Air Games had been successfully held, and China was prepared to provide details of its experience to FAI.

Mr Ray Woolford (NZL) received an assurance that much work had been done in Commissions to produce media friendly events for the World Air Games.

Mr. Lee Jonghoon (KOR) reported that serious discussions had taken place with the Korean government about hosting the Games, but the current political situation did not allow the necessary airspace to be allocated. He sincerely regretted that a bid could not be made. He noted that it was sometimes necessary to pay TV to cover air sport events, and he asked all delegates to share their experiences in this connection.

Mr. Lars Haue Pedersen (TSE) agreed that it was never easy to find someone to pay for TV coverage of sport. In many other sports, a change had been made to the format of the event, and then quite suddenly the sport had become very popular. If an event is made attractive, and if the organizers and athletes take themselves seriously, it may be possible to generate revenues. It would however be easier to talk to governments, who invariably had friends in business. In all events, much hard work was needed.

Mr Antonio Quintana (ESP) gave his opinion that the ownership by FAI of the World Air Games title was not yet securely enough established. Because of the different rules of the various Commissions it was hard to achieve full protection against ambush marketing. There was no doubt about FAI's ownership of Championships, but we needed to make sure that the World Air Games medals and titles were properly protected as FAI property. Spain supported the initiative taken by FAI.

Mr Waldemar Ratajczak (POL) congratulated TSE on an extremely interesting presentation, and asked what would be the role of NACs in this project. Mr Lars Haue-Pedersen explained that rights and obligations were assigned to a Local Organizing Committee, which could be the NAC alone, but more likely would include other entities. In any event, the NAC had to be represented in the LOC and give its assent to the organization of the Games on its territory. This was the situation in all other sports.

Mr Alexander Varenya (RUS) asked how payments to FAI would be scheduled. Ms Caroline Anderson replied that a payment of 5000\$ was required to enter each of the two phases of the bidding process. Then, the rights fee itself would be payable in 3 instalments, to be determined in the light of the bidder's cash flow projection. (e.g. 20% + 20% + 60%).

Mr José Luis Buenrostro (MEX) expressed the opinion that the time available for presenting the first phase bid and payment was too short. He had been working for 2 years with supporters to make a bid for the World Paragliding Championship to be held in Mexico. He wondered if such a major event could be organized in such a short time with the authorities. Mr Lars Haue-Pedersen agreed that time was very short, but said that sometimes it was good to be in a hurry. If you allowed a long time, bidders would take a long time. The initial documents required were quite simple.

In response to a question from Mr. Tor Johannessen, who recorded appreciation for the great contribution made by Mr BJ Worth, it was explained that competitors would be invited to participate, subject naturally to NACs' agreement. The total numbers involved were small. Commissions would decide on the system of selection. In-country expenses would be paid by organizers, but probably not air fares. There would be around 350 participants.

Mr Pedro Cabanero (GAC) acknowledged that GAC competitions were not yet interesting enough to be included in the World Air Games. However, new contest formats were under development. He asked if there was still time to be included. The FAI President said that this was a flexible process, and if GAC had something interesting to propose, it should let the Secretariat have details as soon as possible. Ms Caroline Anderson pointed out that the World Air Games would also have spectacular opening and closing ceremonies, which would offer opportunities for demonstrations of air sports that were not on the programme.

Mr David Hamilton (CIG) reconfirmed the helicopter community's enthusiastic support for the project. It was confirmed that the bid documentation was in the public domain and could be freely distributed to interested parties.

Mr Robert Henderson (IGC) stated that his Commission was fully ready for the Dec 2007 World Series Gliding final. Six qualifying events had already been completed. Nine events were planned for the World Air Sports Challenge in NZ, which he considered to be a rehearsal for the 2009 World Air Games. Mr Henderson hoped that TSE and the successful bidder would come to observe this event. The need to fill the day for the public had been clearly recognised. The FAI President congratulated IGC on its initiative, and on obtaining the necessary sponsorship.

Mr Henk Meertens (AUS) reminded the assembly that Australia had made a serious World Air Games bid previously. Funding was available, but this was generally allocated on 4 year rolling plan. They therefore needed to have 4 years' notice. The FAI President agreed that 2 years was a short time, but cities had budgets allocated under general headings and there was a good chance of our obtaining a share of such a budget. The fact that the World Games (involving skydiving) also took place in 2009 was not a major problem. Dates would be arranged so as to deconflict by 6 weeks, if both events were in the same hemisphere. Different sub-disciplines might be allocated to World Air Games and World Games. Even if this were not the case, professional athletes could travel quickly from one event to another.

Mr Jean-Claude Weber (CIA) offered congratulations on the clear presentation, and stressed the importance of having a plan to make the product attractive to competitors as well as to the public.

We must decide what we wanted to do, and were not yet ready in his view. Liaison officers and NACs did not fully understand what the product would be. His Commission was rather conservative, and had problems in devising new ways to compete just to fit a plan. He was a strong supporter, but appealed to all NAC delegates when they went home, to ask their FAI Commission delegates to decide what they wanted to do. It was very difficult for FAI Commission leaders to convince them, if they have not been prepared by their home base to support the concept. He therefore appealed for NAC representatives to tell their delegates what had been presented and discussed in Santiago. He needed support to put pressure on NAC delegates.

The FAI President gave strong support to Mr Weber, saying that all NACs must do their duty. Commission delegates represented NACs. NACs must decide where they stand.

Closing the debate, the FAI President announced with great pleasure the official opening of the bidding process for FAI's flagship event, the World Air Games 2009. All had worked hard to make it an attractive event for our partners, and FAI looked forward to an exciting race.

9. Situation of FAI Membership

9.1. Resignation

Madagascar (Temporary Member)

A letter had been received from the Madagascar Aviation Association explaining their difficulties to mobilize enough interest for air sports in the current difficult political and financial situation, and describing their inadequate financial resources.

General Conference unanimously approved the Executive Board's recommendation to accept the Madagascar Aviation Association's resignation and to write off Madagascar's debt of CHF 1'000.-.

9.2. Suspended Members

General Conference took note that **Monaco, Peru, and Panama** were suspended for non-payment of membership fees and decided unanimously that if these countries had not settled their debts by 31 Dec 2006, they would be considered to have resigned, and their debt totalling 14 942 CHF would be written off (*Monaco: CHF 6 000; Peru 5 470; Panama: 3 472*).

9.3. Membership Changes

9.3.1. Moldova

The situation in Moldova remained confused. The 2004 FAI General Conference had accepted the resignation of Moldova (Aeronautical Association of Moldova) from FAI active membership and taken note of a request to transfer the FAI membership to the Aeromodelling Federation of Moldova. In February 2005, the FAI Executive Board had provisionally accepted the Moldovan Aeromodelling Federation as a Temporary Member. In May 2005, the Board had considered an application for Associate Membership from the Moldovan Paragliding Association, which had paid CHF 1'000.-. Subject to payment of the balance of fees for Associate Membership (CHF 1 600), the Board had exceptionally approved this unusual situation (one Associate + one Temporary Member) for 2005 only, but had decided to invite the Moldovan Aeromodelling Federation to become an associate member in 2006, or to create a new Active Member organisation, in association with the Paragliding Association.

At the time of the 2005 General Conference, the Paragliding Federation had however not paid the balance of its Associate Member fees for 2005. In these exceptional circumstances, the Conference agreed unanimously to consider that the two Moldovan associations were Temporary Members for the year 2005. Conference required the parties concerned to bring their affairs into proper order for 2006, either by creating a NAC, or by having 2 Associate Members.

In the light of this Conference decision, the former Active Member (Aeronautic Association of Republic of Moldova) had asked to revive its previous active membership, with 2 active sports (aeromodelling and paragliding). Subject to payment of the subscription fee, the FAI Executive Board had decided to recommend acceptance of the Aeronautical Association of Moldova as an FAI Active Member in Class 10. At the World Spacemodelling Championship in September 2006, Euros 1 500 had been paid in cash to the FAI President. It was unclear whether this payment had originated from the Aeronautical Association of Moldova or the Moldovan Aeromodelling Federation. **The General Conference decided unanimously to give power to the FAI Executive Board to make appropriate decisions in respect of Moldova's membership in FAI in 2007, in the light of the outcome of further enquiries.**

9.3.2. Chinese Taipei.

Two organizations from Chinese Taipei were already FAI Associate Members (for aeromodelling and microlights). FAI had also received requests from ballooning and parachuting associations in Chinese Taipei to become Associate Members. These organizations had been invited to merge and form a single Active Member organization, especially in view of the fact that Chinese Taipei was the host of the 2009 World Games in Kaoshiung, at which FAI was participating with parachuting. The FAI Secretary General had visited Kaoshiung in July 2006 in his capacity as Senior Vice President of the International World Games Association. He had had useful and cordial discussions with representatives of all air sport groups, several of whom had not previously met. This meeting had resulted in a new initiative in Chinese Taipei to unite under a common umbrella organization. The structure and name of this organization had not at the time of the General Conference been finalized. **The General Conference decided unanimously to extend for a further period the powers it had given to the Executive Board in 2005 to try to find a suitable solution, and to the FAI Secretariat, in exceptional circumstances, to issue Sporting Licences centrally to those APs in Chinese Taipei not yet represented by Associate Members.**

9.3.3. Bosnia Herzegovina:

The Bosnian National Olympic Committee (BNOC) had written to FAI asking that Active Membership be granted to the "Aeronautical Union of Bosnia and Herzegovina", which embraced all air sports and all geographical parts and ethnic components of the country. This organization had paid a Class 10 subscription (CHF 3 000). According to the BNOC, the existing FAI Associate Member for aeromodelling ("National Aero Club in Bosnia and Herzegovina") was willing to relinquish its membership of FAI in favour of this new Active Member. However, the Associate Member had denied this vehemently, calling into question the credentials of the new organization, and providing evidence claiming that it too was active in all geographical parts and ethnic components of the country, and stating that the BNOC had agreed that it had acted prematurely in recommending membership for the Aeronautical Union of Bosnia and Herzegovina. A case had been brought before a Court in Sarajevo to resolve the question. As the time of the General Conference, this case remained unresolved. Pending resolution, the FAI Executive Board had decided exceptionally to allow membership rights provisionally to both organizations, pending consideration by General Conference.

The FAI President reminded delegates that it was FAI's duty to help air sport persons in all countries, and not necessarily to defend one or another rival organisation. He stressed that questions such as this took up a lot of staff time and asked General Conference to approve the

Executive Board's actions, and to give the Board power to make further decisions in this case in the light of the crucial Sarajevo Court decision and any further advice received from the Bosnian National Olympic Committee.

Mr Art Greenfield (USA) asked whether there could in future be two Active Members in Bosnia. The Secretary General replied in the negative, since this would be contrary to FAI Statutes. What the Executive Board had done in 2006 was to allow for an exceptional situation in which two organizations had paid subscriptions (one for Active Membership, and one for Associate Membership for Aeromodelling), and were both organizing aeromodelling contests.

The General Conference decided, with none against and 32 abstentions, to give power to the FAI Executive Board to make appropriate decisions in respect of Bosnia's membership in FAI in 2007, in the light of the outcome of the Sarajevo Court case and further enquiries.

9.3.4. Philippines

The 3D Air Sport and Hobbies Association of Philippines had been an Associate member for aeromodelling for a number of years, and had applied to become an FAI Active Member in Class 10, and had paid the annual fee of CHF 3000.-. **The General Conference unanimously approved acceptance of the 3D Air Sport and Hobbies Association as an FAI Active Member in Class 10.**

9.3.5. Montenegro

Following the separation of the two formerly united states of Serbia & Montenegro, the new Aeronautical Union of Montenegro had submitted its Statutes and applied for Class 10 Active FAI membership with effect from 1st January 2007. **The General Conference unanimously approved acceptance of the Aeronautical Union of Montenegro as a new Active Member in Class 10 for 2007.**

9.3.6. Serbia

Following the separation of the two formerly united states of Serbia & Montenegro, the former Aeronautical Union of Serbia & Montenegro had changed its name to Aeronautical Union of Serbia (Vazduhoplovni Savez Srbije). **The General Conference unanimously approved that this organization be permitted to remain in FAI Active membership (Class 9) under its new name.**

9.4. New Members

9.4.1. Mongolia

In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding with Asiana, a Temporary membership application form had been received from the Mongolian Air Sport Federation. The necessary Temporary Membership fee had been paid. **The General Conference unanimously approved acceptance of the Mongolian Air Sport Federation as a Temporary Member.**

9.4.2. Armenia

The National Committee of Aeromodelling and Spacemodelling Sports of Armenia had applied in May 2006 for immediate Temporary Membership of FAI and paid the subscription fee of CHF 500. The Executive Board had agreed to recommend acceptance of this application. **The General**

Conference unanimously approved acceptance of the National Committee of Aeromodelling and Spacemodelling Sports of Armenia as a Temporary Member.

9.4.3. Thailand

An application for Active membership had been received from the newly created “Association for Aeronautical Sports of Thailand” (ANST) and the annual subscription for Class 10 had been paid for 2006. Subsequently, royal patronage had been granted to this association. **The General Conference unanimously approved acceptance of the Royal Association for Aeronautical Sports of Thailand as a new FAI Active Member in Class 10.**

9.4.4. Asiania

The Asiania Parachuting Federation had fulfilled all the terms and conditions for FAI Affiliate Membership contained in the Memorandum of Understanding between FAI and Asiania. General Conference in 2005 had given power to the Executive Board to determine the terms for acceptance of Asiania as a new International Affiliate Member. **The Board had recommended that Asiania should have the right to attend the FAI General Conference without voting rights and, in recognition of the benefits it brought to FAI in terms of additional members, without payment of fees (as for OSTIV and Europe Airsports). The General Conference unanimously approved the Board’s recommendation, and agreed to accept Asiania as an International Affiliate Member.**

The FAI President thanked Asiania for facilitating the admission of Mongolia to FAI.

Mr Lee Jonghoon, President of Asiania, thanked FAI for accepting Asiania as a Member and pledged to continue working to bring further Asian countries into FAI. He wished to explore the possibility of Asiania paying FAI Membership fees for countries such as Oman that wished to participate in international championships but had no functioning representative national air sport control. It was agreed that this proposal could be discussed. Mr Lee pointed out that some Asian countries had air sports but knew nothing about FAI. The FAI President said that Mr Lee was an ideal ambassador for the task of spreading news about FAI in Asia.

9.5. Other Membership Matters

9.5.1. NAA/SSA

The Soaring Society of America’s petition, in which they sought FAI Associate Membership, remained on the table. The NAA and SSA Presidents had met and initiated constructive discussions to clear their differences. Both parties had negotiated in good faith. The FAI President was monitoring the situation and would take appropriate action as necessary by 31 January 2007. The President would make a final decision on that date as to the treatment of the SSA’s petition.

9.5.2. Pending Applications. Other enquiries about FAI membership had been received from organisations in Angola, Bolivia, Ecuador, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Netherlands Antilles, Somalia, Iran, Costa Rica, Antigua and Barbuda. **General Conference authorized the FAI Executive Board to continue membership negotiations with organizations in these and any other countries that sought membership.**

10. Prince Alvaro de Orleans Borbon Fund

Prof Loek Boermans, Trustee, reported that the Fund, established in October 2000, awarded prizes for technical developments in aviation, all within the framework of the aims and objectives of FAI. The Fund's initial capital amounted to \$300 000. It was established in the Netherlands. In May 2005, the Trustees, Eilif Ness, Wolfgang Weinreich, and Prof. Loek Boermans had met in Lausanne and decided to postpone the next award to 2006. The Trustees had agreed that making an award of \$20 000 every two years was preferable to \$10 000 annually. They had also agreed to improve the visibility of the presentation ceremony by holding it at a major international event. The next presentation would be made at the AERO fair in Friedrichshafen (GER) on 20 April 2007. The Trustees also intended to increase exposure of the Fund's prizes by asking aeronautical magazines to publish the rules for awards. The financial report drawn up by Mr René De Monchy showed that the Fund was in a healthy position, with growth developing as planned and results in line with budget.

General Conference was invited to approve the appointment of a new Trustee to replace Mr Eilif Ness who had reached the statutory compulsory retirement age (75), and to whom the Conference recorded its grateful thanks for the work he had done. The remaining Trustees had decided to propose Mr. Pierre Portmann as the new Trustee.

The General Conference unanimously approved Mr Pierre Portmann as Trustee of the Prince Alvaro Fund. Mr Portmann said that he was honoured to accept the appointment, thanked the donor of the capital for this Fund, and stated that he thought it a good idea to organise the presentation of awards at the Friedrichshafen AERO fair.

11. Airspace Resolution

11.1. Conference was invited to debate the following Resolution:

GIVEN THAT air sports activities in many countries, especially in Europe, are under grave threat because of constantly encroaching airspace restrictions; and that many of these restrictions are exaggerated in scope and go well beyond the real requirements of flight safety, as a result of effective lobbying by powerful special interest groups, and

GIVEN THAT air sports are challenging, healthy and character-building activities that contribute to society as a whole by giving physical and intellectual training to young people, in ways that allow them to become better, more independent, vigorous and socially useful citizens,

THE 100th FAI ANNUAL GENERAL CONFERENCE (SANTIAGO DE CHILE, 26 OCTOBER 2006) HEREBY RESOLVES

1) to urge all international and national aviation authorities to have special regard for the effects of any new airspace restrictions on the practice of air sports, and

2) to urge all FAI members to establish procedures for constant close consultation on airspace matters between national civil aviation and air traffic authorities and national air sport governing bodies .

11.2. The Secretary General explained that continually growing airspace restrictions were a matter of great concern for FAI members, and that the Executive Board felt we should make our concerns clear. Relating what had recently happened in Spain, where a major expansion of controlled airspace (TMA) with severely adverse effects for air sports had taken place without prior consultation, Mr Alvaro de Orleans Borbon warned that regulators sometimes only reacted to legal challenge. The air sports community needed to exercise its power.

The FAI President noted that the situation was not improving. Some countries already had real problems. In Europe, EASA was now responsible for aviation safety. But they also sought to control things that were not safety-related. We needed to make clear that FAI could not accept these restrictions, and that we did not accept to be killed by commercial aviation and UAVs. The Leyden University study had concluded that there was no general legally enforceable human right of access to airspace, so this motion was definitely needed.

Dr Peter Saundby (GBR) stated that he was preparing a paper on the role of FAI Technical Commissions. He was of the view that a Tech Comm concerned with Airspace was needed to assemble opinions internationally.

Dr. Waldemar Ratajczak (POL) asked to whom the resolution was directed. The Secretary General stated that FAI would distribute the resolution to ICAO and other appropriate International organisations. Each NAC was responsible for sending the resolution to its own national Ministry of Transport or civil aviation authority.

The FAI President emphasized that FAI could always write letters of support to NACs, but these NACs had to take the lead at national level on airspace issues. There had to be more cohesion between air sports. If one was attacked, the others must gather round. Individually, the different air sports did not have the power of commercial airlines, defence ministries etc.

Mr Ian Strachan (GBR) held out some hope that technology would help in the future. ADSB, a GNSS based system for navigation and surveillance should allow separation to be decreased and possibly also the amount of controlled airspace. General Aviation was more compatible with GNSS-based solutions than with transponder technology.

11.3. The General Conference adopted the resolution set out in 11.1. above, with 2 abstentions.

12. ATMOS Flight Data Management System

12.1. Mr Alvaro de Orleans Borbon introduced this new system (see **ANNEX 11**).

He stressed that the System went well beyond the provision of on-line contests for all air sports. Its intended scope was much wider: a world-wide storage facility allowing air sport persons to download their flights into a single, official database, which could then be mined for data of all kinds.

Mr. Andrej Kolar of Naviter gave a presentation describing the present technical state of the programme.

The FAI President emphasized the importance for FAI of being in the forefront of this activity. Internet-based ranking systems were already very popular in gliding and HG/PG, and we needed to keep these within the family. Ballooning would be the first air sport to be included in the system..

Mr Waldemar Ratajczak (POL) asked about the costs to the pilot for using the system. He was informed that in the first phase there would be no charge for use of the basic system. The value of this system increased with the number of flights downloaded. Advanced users might have to pay a fee for special applications or complex rules. There was a need for investment to support the costs.

Mr Robert Henderson (IGC) noted that his Commission currently received 1000 CHF per annum from Segelflugszene, and wondered what would become of this income. He was informed that this would have to be discussed.

Prof Loek Boermans confirmed that the flight recorder data gathered could be used for research purposes, and had indeed already been exploited to analyze glider flights using McCready theory.

In reply to a question from Mr Flip Koetsier (CIVL), Mr Andrej Kolar confirmed that the system could be adapted for the recording of badge flights. It was configured to accept files. How those files were used was for FAI to decide. CIVL's detailed wishes should be communicated to Naviter.

Mr John Grubbström (SWE) wondered about the legal implications of making flight profiles publically visible. Mr De Orleans Borbon confirmed that it would be necessary to see how data could be protected against unauthorized use.

Mr Ian Srachan emphasized that GNSS recording of altitude was not reliable. A pressure transducer was needed for this, calibrated to international standards. GNSS was accurate only for latitude and longitude.

- 12.2. The FAI President stressed that we were developing a system. Once it was working, we needed to make it a financially self-supporting system. At some stage, NACs or federations may pay for its use, but the start-up would be free. FAI had to do a better job than its competitors, taking into account the wishes of FAI Commissions. If some Commissions had specific applications that they wished to introduce, these would have to be paid for. He was convinced that the system would help FAI to develop and expand air sports. Financial security was guaranteed for 2 years. The ballooning facility would be available in spring 2007, and a finished product would be ready for the next General Conference.

The President appealed to all NACs and Commissions to give full backing to this project, and to inform their federations about "ATMOS" (as it would be called). If information was needed, Naviter or the FAI Secretariat in Lausanne would supply it.

- 12.3. A ceremonial signing of the contract with Naviter then took place in the presence of all Conference delegates, indicating the formal start of the project.

13. Election of Member to serve on Statutes Working Group (Stats WG)

- 13.1. Mr Daniel Dornheim (GER) had resigned from the Stats WG, having left the German NAC. The FAI President proposed as his replacement Mr. Arne Mathisen (NOR), who had specialized knowledge and was familiar with FAI's rules and statutes. Mr J-C Weber, the Working Group's chairman, was in support of this proposal. Since there was one year to run of a two-year term, Mr. Mathisen was proposed for election for one year only.

- 13.2. The Conference delegates were invited to nominate other persons. There being no other nominations, **Mr. Arne Mathisen was elected by acclamation.** The FAI President thanked him for accepting this task.

14. Commission Presidents' Forum

- 14.1. Commission Presidents' and International Affiliate Member's Reports noted by General Conference are at:

ANNEX 12 FAI Air Sport General Commission (CASI)

ANNEX 13 FAI Ballooning Commission (CIA)

- ANNEX 14 FAI General Aviation Commission (GAC)**
- ANNEX 15 FAI Gliding Commission (IGC)**
- ANNEX 16 OSTIV**
- ANNEX 17 FAI Aeromodelling Commission (CIAM)**
- ANNEX 18 FAI Parachuting Commission (IPC)**
- ANNEX 19 FAI Aerobatics Commission (CIVA)**
- ANNEX 20 FAI Hang Gliding and Paragliding Commission (CIVL)**
- ANNEX 21 FAI Astronautics Records Commission (ICARE)**
- ANNEX 22 FAI Rotorcraft Commission (CIG)**
- ANNEX 23 FAI Microlight Commission (CIMA)**
- ANNEX 24 FAI Aviation and Space Education Commission (CIEA)**
- ANNEX 25 FAI Amateur-Built and Experimental Aircraft Commission (CIACA)**
- ANNEX 26 FAI Medico-Physiological Commission (CIMP)**
- ANNEX 27 FAI Environmental Commission (EnvC)**

14.2. A pictorial review of the year, showing the high points of the year for all air sport disciplines was shown, and received enthusiastically by delegates.

14.3. There followed a general discussion forum, led by the Presidents of FAI Commissions and OSTIV, and introduced by the FAI President, who explained the reasons for this change of format. Several delegates had complained that, since the creation of the Executive Board, much of the General Conference had been devoted to “rubber stamping” the Board’s proposals, and to one-way communication. It was considered unnecessary for Commission Presidents to read out reports that were available in writing. The Presidents needed only to add details and explanations. Something more interactive was needed, with a healthy exchange of ideas, and criticism where necessary.

14.4. Commission Presidents were first offered an opportunity to speak:

Flip Koetsier (CIVL) welcomed this initiative, and stated that his Commission had encountered significant problems when organizing hang gliding and paragliding championships. He urged NACs to read his report carefully and try to improve matters.

Graeme Windsor (IPC) noted that his report highlighted barriers that in IPC’s view were being placed in the way of progress in skydiving. This was not intended to be critical of FAI staff, and there had been misunderstandings, but IPC still felt that FAI’s finance policy needed to be modernized. The focus needed to be shifted onto the external world, not the internal FAI. The FAI website was the best tool for IPC to develop and increase participation in skydiving. IPC had a paid person helping keep web-pages up to date. A more interactive version was required.

Michiel Kasteleijn (CIEA) reported that the FAI Ballooning Commission had reported to CIA on a Youth Camp held in Russia. Former CIEA President Ray Johnson had written an important paper (**ANNEX 28**) on the generational challenge we face. CIEA would like to have more countries and Air Sport Commissions represented on the Education Commission. CIEA was there to serve ASCs.

David Hamilton (CIG) said that his Commission had concentrated on media, installing microcameras on board helicopters so that all could see what was happening. The whole of helicopter sport was based on Search and Rescue, and this needed to be communicated to the public. More countries

were needed to participate in helicopter sport – police teams, military, and search and rescue teams were most welcome.

Sandy Pimenoff (CIAM) said that efforts had been concentrated on aeromodelling competitions, rules and records. His Commission held 6 or 7 major world/continental championships each year, and almost 200 second category events. But CIAM's main task was to create new events of interest to the public and media. Exciting new classes had already been created, and used successfully already in FWGPA. These events would be deployed in NZ in Dec 2007. CIAM would continue this development work.

Tomas Backman (CIMA) said that highly successful Microlight World Championships had been in Germany and Spain. Microlighting was on the increase world-wide, but there was a cloud on the horizon in Europe – EASA was threatening new rules for advanced microlights. Many PPL pilots were going over to microlights because of the high costs of conventional light aviation.

Dr Henry Lindholm (CASI) reported that CASI had 3 main areas of responsibility: it was the guardian of the General Section of the Sporting Code; it promoted new sports; and it heard appeals. A new Sporting Code section for Solar-Powered aeroplanes had been published.

Pedro Cabanero (GAC) noted with regret a certain deterioration in good sportsmanlike behaviour. He felt that good progress had been made in improving the scoring system, competition techniques etc, but some were forgetting the importance of friendship and camaraderie. He saw it as his responsibility as President to redress the balance and put General Aviation back on track.

Robert Henderson (IGC) reported that in response to concern about the use of the FAI World Grand Prix title, IGC's media-attractive product was now called "FAI World Series Gliding". The type of race in which all gliders start simultaneously would continue to be referred to internally as "Grand Prix" racing.

Prof Loek Boermans (OSTIV) noted that an OSTIV Prize had been awarded to the FLARM anti-collision device team. The OSTIV Sailplane Development Panel and Training and Safety Panel had had a joint meeting attended by EASA at which joint rulemaking activities had been agreed (eg a Maximum Take-off Mass (MTOM) for sailplanes of 850 kg). Standard operating procedures were being drawn up by OSTIV for EASA to consider.

Dr Peter Saundby (CIMP) recorded his Commission's work on the prevention of inappropriate medical examinations, the FAI's implementation of WADA's rules, and medical developments that allow people with various medical conditions to fly safely.

Bernald Smith (EnvC) said that the Commission needed the help of all the ASCs. There were too many gliding people in the Commission. He thanked the CIEA for choosing an environmental theme for the young artists' contest.

14.5. The FAI President then opened the floor to questions.

Olav Aamo (NOR) reported that during the 2006 Gordon Bennett Gas Balloon Race several commercial flights in Norway had been held on the ground for several hours, and an expensive law suit was brewing. He asked what the CIA's attitude was to this. Mr J-C Weber (CIA President) stated that everyone was very concerned throughout the ballooning world. The Gordon Bennett was ballooning's most prestigious and oldest event, followed by many people. This year the weather conditions had not been good. The balloons had spent a long time over the North Sea, and then headed over Norway towards Finland. The alleged air traffic infringements were only discovered after the race had finished. The race organizers could not identify the balloons and pilots concerned until after the event. Some pilots had cooperated fully, but others lost or could not find vital information. Therefore, the organizers had been obliged to use other means to determine who had violated prohibited airspace. The prize-giving had been held before the last landers could get back to base. Medals were therefore awarded provisionally. A warning was issued to all participants that if evidence of violations came to light they would be disqualified. Subsequently, six pilots were

disqualified and a revised results list was published. The CIA President stated that what had happened was totally unacceptable. Strict self-discipline was required to allow balloonists to keep access to airspace.

Ray Woolford (NZL) highlighted difficulties encountered by aeromodellers in obtaining air transportation of model aircraft. Air New Zealand had a rule disallowing model aircraft as passenger baggage. Sandy Pimenoff (CIAM President) said that the problem of air transport of model aircraft engines was very damaging for the sport. The reactions to terrorism in some quarters had been hysterical. It was up to individual airlines to decide policy. FAI had been in touch with IATA, but they had merely confirmed the responsibility of individual airlines. International agreements were of no use unless implemented locally. Competitors should therefore make arrangements beforehand to find out how restrictions could be circumvented. FAI would do what was possible to alleviate this great threat for all international aeromodelling activities.

Thanking Mr Pimenoff for his response, Mr Woolford complimented CIVL on the honesty of its report about HG/PG accidents. Flip Koetsier (CIVL President) admitted that HG/PG had a bad accident record, but had taken firm measures to make flying safer. There had been no fatal accidents in CIVL contests in 2006. However, in the Morzine European Paragliding Championship, 10% of competitors had to open their rescue parachutes, which was too much. Free flyers needed unstable weather to produce thermals, but the attitudes of pilots and organizers had to change. NACs' help was needed to make flying safer, and much still remained to be done. The FAI President endorsed Mr Koetsier's remarks that the present situation was not acceptable, and confirmed his satisfaction that CIVL was working hard to improve matters.

Dr John Grubbström (SWE) noted that virtual/simulated flying, with competitions on Internet, represented a good opportunity to expand air sports. The IGC President stated that some gliding clubs were using Microsoft Flight Simulator to cut down glider pilot training times. IGC had appointed a bureau member to be responsible for virtual flight. The FAI President identified 3 aspects: using simulators to learn to fly real aeroplanes; for fun; and for competitions. Those who wanted to compete had shown a reluctance to be organized, at national or international level.

Mr Michiel Kasteleijn (CIEA) distributed disks of young artists' art work (18 years of prize winners). A new disk would be produced in the future. He also distributed an information leaflet, also the result of the excellent cooperation between CIEA and the Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in the USA. All paintings were now archived and accessible via Internet. The best of the winners' works had been framed for a travelling exhibition that would be on show in major US museums, including the National Air and Space Museum. This exhibition could also go to Europe or other continents if ways could be found of sponsoring travel costs.

Mr Bengt-Eric Fonsell (FAI Executive Director) reported on the successful Copenhagen Seminar for Event Directors, attended by delegates from 20 countries, and 7 invited expert speakers, from within and outside FAI. The organiser of a European Athletics Championship had spoken of 7 years of planning for a 7 day event, starting alone, and ending with 3000 volunteers and employees. Other topics that had given rise to interesting discussions were: marketing, promotion, communication, safety, insurance, and the structure and workings of FAI. At the end, there had been a comprehensive evaluation. Thanks were recorded to the NACs of Denmark and Sweden for their support of this successful seminar. The Executive Board was discussing the continuation of this idea. A network for communication had already been set up and 60 people had subscribed. The idea was to try and help event organizers to solve problems.

A second project was at the planning stage: how to train new FAI Commission delegates. Mr Fonsell imagined a 3-day training course, intended not for seasoned delegates, but for people who have little or no experience of meetings. The subjects covered could be: FAI structure, how to lobby, how Roberts rules operate, how to influence people, how to prepare for meetings before leaving home, how to act during Conference, what to do when back home after the meeting.

Finally, Mr Fonsell identified a need for a system for the recruitment and training of new leaders. People in many countries needed help in starting new clubs and federations. FAI experts were well placed to provide this help.

Mr Robert Henderson (IGC) complimented Mr Fonsell on his initiative. The Copenhagen seminar had been well received, and perceived as very valuable. The proposals for future training were also welcome and constructive, but he asked that the Executive Board remember that it was hard for people to travel from distant places. Hong Kong and Singapore should be considered as venues as well as Europe.

14.6. The FAI President said that the Board was convinced that such seminars were valuable, and would continue to work on these ideas.

15. Language Proficiency Resolution

15.1. Conference was invited to debate the following Resolution:

GIVEN THAT the ICAO has promulgated new requirements concerning the language proficiency of all pilots who wish to cross frontiers, and

GIVEN THAT these requirements were formulated in response to accidents that had happened to aircraft operating under Instrument Flight Rules (IFR), in which poor language proficiency had been determined to be a main or contributory cause, and

GIVEN THAT the vast majority of FAI's activities are conducted under Visual Flight Rules (VFR) and that there is no evidence that poor language proficiency has played any significant role in accidents to aircraft operating under VFR

*THE 100th FAI ANNUAL GENERAL CONFERENCE (SANTIAGO DE CHILE, 26 OCTOBER 2006)
HEREBY RESOLVES:*

1) to urge the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to ~~reconsider~~ moderate its requirements on language proficiency in so far as they concern VFR operations, having special regard for the effects of the new requirements on air sport pilots, particularly in Europe, who wish to cross frontiers on an occasional basis.

2) to urge ~~all~~ FAI members where appropriate to lobby their national civil aviation and air traffic authorities to file an exemption to the new ICAO requirements, pending review of these by ICAO .

15.2. The Secretary General reported that ICAO had introduced new rules on language proficiency as a result of accidents that had occurred under IFR rules to commercial air transport aircraft. There had been no evidence that inadequate language proficiency was a significant cause of accidents in general aviation, and it was widely felt that the full implications for GA of the new recommendations had not been fully taken into account by ICAO. The proposed resolution was worded generally and intended for use by NACs to put pressure on their national civil aviation authorities.

The FAI President commented that some countries immediately implemented all ICAO recommendations whereas others were slow to implement and capable of being influenced. NACs should urgently ask their aviation authorities what their intentions were in this connection. It was

clear that pilots who went to controlled airfields had to speak English or the language of the country concerned. The problem was mainly with uncontrolled airfields, where local radio users may only speak the local language. The President opened the floor to comments.

Dr. Peter Saundby (GBR) said that Europe Airports was making representations to EASA on this subject. There were sites on borders and in flying areas in mountains where borders were crossed in the circuit or several times during a day's flight ending at the place of departure.

Mr Terry Rowan (IRE) had some misgivings. He felt it necessary to make English a requirement for pilots flying internationally, in and out of controlled airspace, and for air traffic controllers. It was pointed out that the ICAO recommendations did not mandate the use of English, but only of a common language.

- 15.3. Following comments from Mr Tor Johannessen (CASI), Mr Sandy Pimenoff (CIAM) and Mr Robert Henderson (IGC), the word "reconsider" in para 1) was found to be inappropriate, because it allowed for the requirements to become even harsher. "Relax", "redefine" and "moderate" were suggested as alternatives. **Conference unanimously agreed to replace "reconsider" with "moderate"**.
- 15.4. The word "all" in para 2) was found to be unacceptable, since some countries (such as Australia) were not affected by the new ICAO recommendations. **Conference unanimously agreed to replace "to urge all FAI members to lobby" with "to urge FAI members where appropriate to lobby"**
- 15.5. **With these amendments, General Conference adopted the resolution as a whole, with none against and 36 abstentions.**

16. Report of the FAI Secretary General

Mr Max Bishop, FAI Secretary General, presented his report (**ANNEX 29**) which was adopted by Conference.

The report included extracts from the results of the FAI Membership Survey. A fuller evaluation of this survey is at **ANNEX 30**.

17. FAI Plan

The new FAI Plan was distributed (**ANNEX 31**). FAI Members had previously been invited to comment on this Plan, and some suggestions had been received. The FAI President stressed that this was a living document that was adjusted regularly by the Executive Board. It was important for the Board to know what FAI Members were thinking, and whether the Board was on the right track. The Board should only implement what NACs and ASCs wanted. He emphasized the importance of FAI's serving all continents, not just Europe, where the majority of active members were based. That was why he welcomed the holding of FAI Conferences in South America and Asia. Delegates views on these and other matters would be most welcome, so that the Plan accurately reflected Members' views.

18. Election of FAI Vice-Presidents for 2006/2007

The list of persons nominated to serve as FAI Vice President for 2006/2007, previously distributed, was **unanimously approved** by General Conference, with the addition of the following nominations:

Mme Martine Besnainou (FRA)

Mr Jack Humphries (CAN)

Mr Anton Liska (SVK)

Mr Axel Nielsen (DEN)

Dr. John Grubbström (SWE)

Mr Ray Woolford (NZL),

Mr Zhao Mingyu (CHI)

(ANNEX 32) .

19. Approval of Delegates Nominated for FAI Commissions 2006/2007

Several amendments to the previously distributed list of nominations had been received, and two countries (Mexico and Chile) had submitted new lists of nominees. Conference unanimously approved the list, subject to the incorporation of these amendments. The up-dated list is attached at **ANNEX 33** .

20. Amendments to Statutes and By-Laws II

The General Conference considered the United Kingdom's proposals for changes to the FAI Statutes and By Laws shown in **ANNEX 34**, together with the Statutes Working Group's advice and recommendations on these proposals as shown in **ANNEX 35**.

The General Conference decided to adopt the recommendations of the Statutes Working Group as follows :

Statutes:

20.1. A1 Cover page.

- To introduce an amendment or effective date page to track the dates on which changes to Statutes were made, as is done for certain other FAI documents.

20.2. A2 Terms and Definitions

- To eliminate the acronym "NAC" in Statute 6.1.1.1.3 and throughout By Laws, and replace it with the term "FAI Member" where necessary.

- To delete from Terms and Definitions the following definition:

"FAI Sporting Code Those FAI regulations which govern all aeronautical activity of interest to FAI."

(which replicates the subsequent definition of "Sporting Code")

20.3.

- To introduce the following definition of "Good standing": *"The status of a FAI Member that has fulfilled its obligations to FAI as listed in FAI Statutes Chapter 2."*

20.4.

- To ask the Executive Board to consider adding an Index to the Statutes and the By-Laws.

20.5.

- To amend the definition of "Plurality Vote" to read:

"Plurality Vote *In a vote of more than two alternatives, the decision shall be in favour of the alternative gaining the largest number of votes cast.*

20.6. A11. Appeals to CASI. After due consideration, General Conference rejected the Statutes Working Group's recommendation for an amendment to Statute 5.6.1.5.

20.7. A14. Proposed new Statute 5.8. concerning Statutes Working Group.

- To list the FAI Statutes Working Group in the Statutes as a Permanent Working Group, as required by statute definition: "A Working Group established for an indefinite period of time and listed in the FAI Statutes".

- To task the SWG with producing the required proposal for inclusion in the 2007 General Conference Agenda..

By Laws:

20.8. B1 Cover Page

- To introduce an amendment or effective date page to track the dates on which changes to By Laws were made, as is done for certain other FAI documents.

20.9. B2 Executive Board agendas.

- To amend By Law 4.3. by deleting "Presidents of Commissions Group" and substituting "Commission Presidents' Group".

- To amend By law 4.8. to read:

*4.8. Any Active or Associate Member **or Air Sports or Technical Commission** desiring to have an item included in the agenda of an Executive Board meeting shall transmit a proposal to the FAI Secretariat. Such a proposal may not be rejected without consultation between the ~~Member~~ **proposer** and the FAI President. To the extent feasible all proposals shall be sufficiently detailed for the issues to be understood beforehand.*

20.10 B7 By Law 5.6.3. Location of meetings.

- To amend 5.6.3. to read:

5.6.3. *"Commissions shall normally meet at, **or in the vicinity of,** the FAI Headquarters. When meeting elsewhere ~~than FAI Headquarters~~ is under consideration"*

20.11. B8 Observers at Commission meetings

- To insert the *following new By-Law as 5.3.7 and to renumber the present 5.3.7 to 5.3.9 as 5.3.8 to 5.3.10:*

"5.3.7. Observers may attend Commission meetings subject to ~~the availability of room and the permission of the Commission President.~~ Observers have no vote and may only speak to the meeting with the permission of the Commission President."

Note: The reference to "availability of room" (see Annex 35 recommendation) was deleted with the agreement of the Stats Working Group Chairman.

General Conference decided to accept the Statutes Working Groups recommendations that all the other proposals for amendments to FAI Statutes and By Laws proposed by the United Kingdom be rejected.

The FAI President thanked the Chairman and members of the Statutes Working Group for their thorough and time-consuming work on these proposals.

21. Approval of Companions of Honour

The FAI President invited Conference to appoint Mr Hideo Hirasawa and Mr Jiri Koblre as FAI Companions of Honour, in accordance with By Law 14.1.2..

These appointments were approved by acclamation.

Mr Hirasawa and Mr Dodal, on behalf of Mr. Jiri Koblre, thanked Conference for conferring this honour.

22. Open Forum

22.1. The FAI President opened the floor to any delegate who wished to raise a topic of discussion of common concern to all.

22.2. Mr Robert Henderson (IGC) proposed reducing the deadline for distribution of the FAI General Conference agenda to 30 days before the Conference.

Mr Ray Woolford (NZL) wanted adequate time to evaluate the agenda and distribute it for consideration to other NAC and single sport federation Board members. Mr Art Greenfield (USA) felt that the distribution date could perhaps be 30 days later, but NACs needed time to consult air sport groups.

The Secretary General pointed out that it was for NACs to determine how much advance notice they required. FAI could delay the date without any difficulty, except that the Statutes Working Group must have time to prepare its recommendations, which should if at all possible be distributed with the agenda.

The FAI President suggested that this matter should be referred to the Stats WG for further study, and this was agreed by Conference. **The FAI President agreed to make a proposal for new wording of the relevant By-Law, taking note of the general consensus that there was some scope for reduction of the deadline for distribution of General Conference agendas. The matter would be on the agenda of the next General Conference, and any change decided would be implemented in 2008.**

22.3. Mr Alvaro de Orleans-Borbon raised the problem of email overload. He felt that FAI should take into account that individuals and organizations cannot filter out the important from the unimportant. This statement met with much applause.

22.4. Dr. Peter Saundby (GBR) stated that he had been a Member of a FAI Technical Commission for 20 years and had concluded that certain changes were needed in the structure of these Commissions, so as to better serve the interests of NACs and Air Sport Commissions. He asked for general

approval that he write a paper on this subject. The FAI President said that his proposals would be considered with great attention, and should be sent initially to the FAI Executive Board.

22.5. Dr. Waldemar Ratajczak (POL) raised three points:

- Goal No 2 in the FAI Plan was to "Help ensure access to flying sites". For this, environmental protection was crucially important. The FAI Environmental Commission should develop proposals allowing us to be recognized by international bodies, as a responsible organisation committed to sustainable development. In Germany, the DAeC had introduced the idea of a blue flag for environmentally sound sites. Such schemes needed to be more widespread. If FAI took action, air sports would be more readily accepted. The Secretary General stated that these useful suggestions would be passed to the FAI Environmental Commission for action. Poland was urged to send a delegate to the next meeting of this Commission.

- FAI should campaign for the simplification of Private Pilot's Licence (PPL) theoretical examinations. These were very long and complex at present, with many questions. The PPL licence should be comparable with a driving licence.

- Jury Members and Stewards at FAI events represented FAI, but were not always easily recognizable. They should wear special colour-coded shirts, the same at each championship.

The Secretary General said that this could be done, in conjunction with ASCs who all had different ideas on the subject. The price obviously depended on the number of shirts produced. If each ASC wanted a different shirt, it would be expensive, but if all could agree on a standard arrangement the unit price would be much cheaper. The Secretariat would investigate.

23. Presentation of Bids and Vote on Award of 101st FAI General Conference – 2007

23.1 Four member countries (Czech Republic, Greece, Italy and Kuwait) had submitted bids to organize the 2007 General Conference. Although two of the bidding countries had stated in their questionnaires that it would be too late for a decision to be made on the award of this Conference at the 2006 General Conference, both Kuwait and the Czech Republic had subsequently changed their mind. Since the questionnaires were not legally binding documents, the FAI President considered that their bids remained valid. Conference agreed to receive all 4 bids, and presentations were duly made, in order drawn by ballot (Kuwait, Czech Republic, Italy, Greece).

23.1. By a clear majority on the first round of voting (177 votes out of 333), General Conference decided to award the 101st FAI General Conference to Greece:

Rhodes: 11 – 14 October 2007.

The FAI President congratulated the winning bidder, and thanked all other bidders for their interest, urging them to try again later. He especially welcomed the bid from Kuwait, a new Active Member.

24. International Calendar of Sporting Events for 2007

This calendar was distributed and noted. The up-dated version is attached at **ANNEX 36**.

25. Calendar of Meetings for next 12 Months

This calendar was distributed and noted. The up-dated version is attached at **ANNEX 37**.

26. Letter from NAC of Switzerland

26.1. Proposals had been made to the FAI President by the Aero Club of Switzerland aimed at improving communications between FAI and NACs. The letter from Aero Club of Switzerland President Beat Neuenschwander (**ANNEX 38**) contained interesting proposals for Continental meetings, but associated costs could be very high.

Turkey supported the idea of NACs and FAI coming together in some way. Ireland also missed the networking opportunities previously provided by Council meetings and fully supported Switzerland's idea. In Europe, damaging regulations were being introduced, and FAI Members needed to unite. Contact with other members was invaluable. An annual meeting should be held in a central location.

Australia was concerned about the proposal. It was an enormous effort for remotely located delegates to attend such functions. Networking opportunities should be incorporated within the framework of the General Conference. Denmark, Norway and New Zealand supported Australia.

Mr. Woolford suggested having panel discussions within the FAI General Conference. Also, small discussion groups had worked well in Berlin, giving good networking opportunities.

26.2. Summarizing the discussion, the FAI President noted that there was some interest in Switzerland's proposals, especially if the networking opportunities could be linked to the General Conference. The incoming Executive Board would have to consider what to do. The Secretary General and Board Members could possibly visit more countries to show the FAI flag. He pledged to consider the ideas raised and try to improve the situation, in view of the general feeling that more should happen. Air Sport Commissions had their annual meetings, giving them more opportunities for exchanges than were available to NACs. Good communication was needed to develop air sports. Perhaps key-note speakers could be invited. The Executive Board would give the matter some thought and come back to general conference with proposals.

27. Presentation of Bids and Vote on Award of 102nd FAI General Conference – 2008

27.1. Only one member country (India) had submitted a bid to organize the 2008 General Conference. However, losing candidates for 2007 (Czech Republic, Italy and Kuwait) had the right, if they so wished, to carry forward their bids to 2008. The Czech Republic and Italy declined this offer. Kuwait initially offered a bid for 2008, but subsequently withdrew its bid in favour of India, whose representative, Capt Satish Sharma, had unfortunately been injured on the way to Santiago, and was unable to be present to introduce his bid. Kuwait's generous gesture was acknowledged with appreciation by Conference.

The FAI President invited Conference to make a decision on the basis of the written proposal put forward by India.

27.2. By a clear majority (8 votes against and 25 abstentions), General Conference decided to award the 102nd FAI General Conference to India (New Delhi: late October 2008).

28. Recommendation of Museums

Conference unanimously approved "FAI Recommended Museum" status for the Zeppelin Museum, Friedrichshafen under FAI By Law 15.1.1.

29. Election of FAI President

29.1. Mr Pierre Portmann, FAI President, having completed his two-year term of office, the General Conference was invited, under Statute 6.1., to elect a President.

The following nominations were made for the post:

Mr Robert Clipsham (CAN), Mr Alvaro De Orleans-Borbon (ESP), Mr Anton Liska (SVK), Mr Henk Meertens (AUS), Mr Sandy Pimenoff (CIAM), Mr Pierre Portmann (incumbent President), Mr Jean-Claude Weber (CIA), Mr B.J. Worth (former VP and retiring Board Member).

29.2. All except Mr. Pierre Portmann having refused to accept their nominations, **Mr. Pierre Portmann was re-elected FAI President by acclamation for a second two-year term.**

Thanking the General Conference for their confidence, Mr Portmann noted that there remained many things to be done, and pledged with the help of delegates to serve FAI to the best of his ability during his new term of office.

30. Presentation of Candidates and Election of FAI Executive Directors

30.1. The two-year term of the FAI Executive Board having expired, the General Conference was invited to elect 6 Executive Directors.

The following nominations (nominating countries in brackets) had been received.

Dr Peter SCHMAUTZER (AUT)

Mr. Robert E. CLIPSHAM (CAN)

Mr. Alvaro DE ORLEANS-BORBON (ESP)

Mr Michael HEUER (FIN/USA)

Mr Sandy PIMENOFF (FIN)

Mr Ian STRACHAN (GBR)

Mr Angelo MORIONDO (ITA)

Ms Donatella RICCI (ITA)

Mr Jonghoon LEE (KOR)

Mr. Willi ARPAGAUS (SUI)

Mr. Bengt-Eric FONSELL (SWE)

The nomination of Ms Donatella RICCI (ITA) had subsequently been withdrawn.

30.2. All candidates presented themselves or were introduced by heads of delegation, and the voting procedure was initiated.

30.3. The FAI President then made the following statement:

Before we hear the names of the new Board Members, I have something very important to say. Whatever the results of the vote, we will today be losing at least two Board Members who are not standing again, and who have served FAI well. You may of course have decided not to re-elect

other Board Members who are standing, but if that is the case I will come back to them later. At the moment I would like just to focus on the two who are definitely leaving us.

B J Worth has given much time and energy to FAI, first as Bureau Member and President of IPC, and then in the last two years as a Board Member. His expertise as a large event organizer has been especially useful to us, and I would like to thank him especially on your behalf for all the work he put into developing a new concept for the World Air Games. We hope his work will come to fruition in 2009. Thank you, BJ, for all you have done, and I hope that you will remain available, outside the Board, for advice and assistance when we need it.

Mr BJ Worth responded, thanking all FAI colleagues and especially ASC Presidents and FAI staff for the support he had received on the World Air Games project. He pledged to continue supporting FAI from the sidelines. FAI was approaching a cross-roads. Sponsors and media were showing interest in FAI's product. It was necessary for this opportunity to be grasped in a professional manner, keeping politics out of consideration. There was a real chance of generating income from outside the sport, so as to strengthen FAI as a whole. It was essential to work together as a family - Members, Air Sport Commissions, the Executive Board, and the Secretariat – to exploit strength in numbers. Close contact with the grass roots was also vitally important, to avoid the impression that FAI was disconnected from reality. Mr Worth said that he had complete confidence in the future.

The FAI President then continued as follows:

And now I turn to our doyen on the Board, Mr Hideo Hirasawa. It is hard to imagine the FAI without him. He has been at the centre of things for so long. And happily, with your decision to make him Companion of Honour, I very much hope that he will continue to come to our Conferences. It's hard to exaggerate the contribution he has made to the world air sports community. Because he is a quiet and modest man, many of you probably do not realize the extent of the contribution he has made to our work. Let me just say that he has been an exceptional and outstanding Board Member in every way, in addition to all the service he gave previously in other FAI posts. Ladies and Gentlemen, Hideo Hirasawa's wise advice and ability to solve conflicts in a quiet and friendly manner is highly appreciated both in Japan and throughout FAI. If you need confirmation of this, just ask our friends in Italy and USA. He has occupied high office both in FAI and in the Japanese NAC. In the discharge of these duties he has shown exceptional powers of leadership and influence, to the great benefit of the whole international air sport community, and I believe that he would be a highly deserving first recipient of the FAI Silver Medal. Dear Delegates, I therefore put to you my proposal: that we recognize Hideo Hirasawa's great contribution by awarding him the Silver Medal that we created yesterday. Do you agree?

This proposal was approved by enthusiastic acclamation.

Mr Hideo Hirasawa thanked all concerned for what he considered to be a great honour. He paid tribute to the many friends he had made in FAI. He had tried to work hard for FAI, and respected the institution greatly. He was very surprised to receive the Silver Medal, and also very honoured to have been made a Companion of Honour. He promised to attend future General Conferences in his new capacity.

30.4. The following Executive Directors were duly elected by an absolute majority of votes:

Mr Alvaro de Orleans Borbon	313 votes
Mr Lee Jonghoon	283 votes
Mr Robert Clipsham	261 votes
Mr Bengt-Eric Fonsell	206 votes
Mr Willi Arpagaus	188 votes
Mr Mike Heuer	186 votes

The FAI President congratulated the newly elected Directors.

31. Arrangements for Future General Conferences

31.1. The following Members, all of which were celebrating their Centenary in that year, confirmed their intentions to bid for the 2009 FAI General Conference:

Denmark, Luxemburg, Norway, Portugal.

31.2. The following Members indicated their intentions to bid for the 2010 FAI General Conference:

Czech Republic, Kuwait, Russia, Spain

32. Discharge of FAI Executive Board

Mr Jack Humphreys (CAN) invited the General Conference to discharge the FAI Executive Board of responsibility for the management of the FAI's affairs during the year from 14 October 2005 to 27 October 2006.

Conference unanimously gave discharge to the Executive Board.

33. Any Other Business

33.1. Selection Committee for World Air Games:

The FAI President asked General Conference to approve his nominations of persons to serve alongside the Executive Board on the World Air Games Selection Committee, the role of which would be to decide on the location of the 2009 World Air Games.

These were: Jean-Claude Weber (CIA President); Sandy Pimenoff (CIAM President), Robert Henderson (IGC President), Pierluigi Duranti (CIACA President), Flip Koetsier (CIVL President).

Mr Graeme Windsor (IPC) asked how many air sports were represented on this proposed body. The Secretary General replied that most of them were, either through the previous affiliations of Executive Board members or in the shape of the additional persons. However, he stressed that the Committee was not a representative body, but an executive body. It would take advice from all Air Sport Commissions, to ensure that all views were taken into account. Two of the new Board members came from the skydiving community.

Conference approved the FAI President's five nominees, with no votes against and 4 abstentions. Authority was unanimously given to the FAI President to nominate reserves in case the nominated persons were unable to act for any reason.

33.2. Airspace Committee

Mr Art Greenfield (USA) inquired about the status of a suggestion from UK that an Airspace Committee be created.

The FAI President stated that Mr Ian Strachan had distributed a paper, but that this would not be discussed immediately. Dr. Peter Saundby was collecting ideas more widely and would prepare a paper for the FAI Board giving a synopsis of his ideas. In Europe, airspace questions were the preserve of Europe Airports. The work was highly technical, and required regular presence at meetings and much hard work. Expert people prepared to do this voluntarily were rare.

Mr Jean-Claude Weber agreed that nobody was prepared to discuss the UK's paper on that day. He reminded delegates that the format of the General Conference had been changed, and that, for the next Conference, the Executive Board should put out a call for papers well in advance of the Conference. These should then be discussed during the different forums.

Mr Ian Strachan stated that his concept was to create a database of information that could be tapped into by those interested. He suggested that a Technical Commission be created to pool this information - for example on ADSB which was the future for aircraft separation.

33.3. The FAI President thanked Bernald Smith for his detailed report on RTCA and EUROCAE, stating that Conference was very grateful for his work. He asked that the report (**ANNEX 39**) be distributed to Members.

33.4. The President then closed the Conference, thanking all delegates for their cooperation, and for making the sometimes long journey to Santiago. He expressed satisfaction with the new format, which would continue to be improved further to make it more interactive, and avoid wasting too much time on routine matters. The meeting closed, with thanks to the Organisers for all their hard work.

Annexes

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|-----|--|---------------------------------|
| 1. | Report by FAI President | Pierre PORTMANN |
| 2. | Financial report by the Executive Director Finance | Robert CLIPSHAM |
| 3. | Report on FAI Commissions' finances | |
| 4. | 2005 Financial Statements and Auditor's Report | |
| 5. | Scale of Subscriptions for 2007 | |
| 6. | Budget for 2007 | |
| 7. | Proposals for Amendments to Statutes and By-Laws | |
| 8. | Statutes Working Group Recommendations on Proposed Amendments | |
| 9. | Presentation by TSE – World Air Games | |
| 10. | World Air Games Brochure | |
| 11. | Report on ATMOS Flight Data Management System | Alvaro de ORLEANS BORBON |
| 12. | Report by the President of the FAI Air Sport General Commission(CASI) | Henry LINDHOLM |
| 13. | Report by the President of the FAI Ballooning Commission (CIA) | Jean-Claude WEBER |
| 14. | Report by the President of the FAI General Aviation Commission (GAG) | Pedro CABANERO MARIMON |
| 15. | Report by the President of the FAI Gliding Commission (IGC) | Robert HENDERSON |
| 16. | Report by the President of OSTIV | Prof. Loek BOERMANS |
| 17. | Report by the President of the FAI Aeromodelling Commission (CIAM) | Sandy PIMENOFF |
| 18. | Report by the President of the FAI Parachuting Commission (IPC)
presented by Graeme WINDSOR, IPC 1st Vice President | |
| 19. | Report by the President of the FAI Aerobatics Commission (CIVA) | Mike HEUER |
| 20. | Report by the President of the FAI Hang Gliding and Paragliding Comm.(CIVL) | Flip KOETSIER |

21. Report by the President of the FAI Astronautics Records Commission (ICARE)
Segismundo SANZ FERNANDEZ DE CORDOBA
22. Report by the President of the FAI Rotorcraft Commission (CIG) **David HAMILTON**
23. Report by the President of the FAI Microlight Commission (CIMA) **Tomas BACKMAN**
24. Report by the President of the FAI Aviation and Space Education Commission (CIEA)
Michiel KASTELEIJN
25. Report by the President of the FAI Amateur-Built and Experiment Aircraft Commission (CIACA)
Pierluigi DURANTI
26. Report by the President of the FAI Medi-Physiological Commission (CIMP) **Dr. Peter SAUNDBY**
27. Report by the President of the FAI Environmental Commission (Env.C) **Dr. Michael GOTH**
28. The Generational Challenge - Report by CIEA President of Honour **Ray JOHNSON**
29. Report by the FAI Secretary General **Max BISHOP**
30. FAI Membership Survey
31. FAI Plan
32. List of Vice-Presidents for 2006-2007
33. List of Delegates of Commissions for 2006-2007
34. United Kingdom's proposals for FAI Statutes and By-Law Amendments
35. Recommendations of FAI Statutes Working Group on UK Proposals
36. International Calendar of Sporting Events 2007
37. Calendar of FAI Meetings
38. Letter from NAC of Switzerland
39. Report of RTCA and EUROCAE **Bernald SMITH**

Additional documents are annexed as follows:

40. List of FAI Award Winners for 2005
41. List of Participants at the General Conference
42. List of Companions of Honour
43. List of FAI Members