

FAI SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT REPORT TO CIAM PLENARY – LAUSANNE - MARCH 2008

FAI GENERAL CONFERENCE – RHODES, GREECE, OCT 2007

Main decisions:

1. Establishment of a new Technical Commission:

FAI Navigation and Airspace Commission (NAVAC)

This Commission will hold its first meeting on 19 March in Paris. Its main roles will be to collect information from all member countries about the impact of regulatory decisions on air sports, suggest ways of influencing regulatory processes, and determine FAI policy positions on matters concerning electronic navigation and anti-collision devices and access to airspace.

2. Creation of a new Working Group:

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) Working Group

This Group will work on defining what a UAV is, by comparison with a model aircraft, and on defining a FAI policy for how sporting and recreational aircraft of all kinds can share airspace with UAVs.

3. Decision to offer a once-only **5% discount** to all FAI Members on 2008 FAI Scale of Subscriptions. This discount was made possible by FAI's signature of a service contract with the **Red Bull Air Race** organization. FAI provides safety supervision of these races.
4. Decision that the central **FAI Sporting Licence Database** would become **mandatory** from **1 January 2009**. After that date, Sporting Licences would not be recognized unless the basic details of the licence-holder (name, date of birth, licence number) had been up-loaded onto this database.
- 5, FAI **Commissions** are now authorized, if they so wish, to elect their **Bureau** (President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary) for a **two-year term** instead of a one-year term, provided that the Commission Plenary so decides by a two-thirds majority.

6. It was confirmed that, in Commission meetings, a **secret ballot** must be held to elect each officer, **even when there is only one candidate for a post**. However, the Statutes Working Group is tasked with reviewing this rule.

7. The **2008 General Conference** will be held in the **Aosta** Valley, not far from the site of the 2009 World Air Games in Turin. The **2009 General Conference** will be in **Incheon, Korea**.

8. A **new CASI President** was elected: Henk MEERTENS, an Australian glider pilot and NAC President.

WORLD AIR GAMES

2009:

A launching Press Conference was held in Turin on 4 February. All Liaison officers are in touch with their Italian counterparts and planning is proceeding.

OTHER MATTERS

New Staff Member: A new member of staff (General Projects Manager) started work in Lausanne on 3 March 2008 – Mr Rob Hughes.

IAOPA Cooperation: Attempts are being made to improve cooperation at ICAO between FAI and IAOPA on matters affecting sporting aviation.

Brazil: The Executive Board has withdrawn international sporting powers from Brazil pending resolution of the internal battles being fought there.

TV Coverage: Following the successful distribution in 2007 of a 13-part series featuring FAI Championships, agreement has been reached with Flying Aces in London for a further such series in 2008.

Max Bishop

26 March 2008