FAI – ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

ANNUAL REPORT TO 104th FAI GENERAL CONFERENCE

We are saddened to report the glider crash loss of FAI EnvCom President Michael Goth some months ago. This is a huge setback; the other EnvCom VP (Kare Laisjo of Norway; and I am one) and I are trying to carry on.

We need material translated, which can be costly, yet we have no self-funding like other commissions. So we must rely on FAI internal funding, which has been supplied in the past for a particular item we proposed. There are several new publication translation projects being considered by EnvCom. We understand the FAI ExBd is favorably inclined towards such work.

The FAI Environmental Management Standard (EMS), prepared in 2008, had received no applications for approval as of the EnvCom meeting last February. Explanations and simpler ideas were prepared in 2009, but still no progress came there from. It was suggested by JM Badan that the EMS was just too complex for introduction at ordinary airfields. EnvCom continues to address this issue.

The EnvCom considers the following as key issues: climate control, airsport sustainability, continued availability of suitable fuel, engine emissions dataset, international literature on bird/aircraft conflict dataset and documentation to demonstrate airsports do no harm to birds/wildlife.

There is thought to be a need for working together, even a joint meeting, for CANS and EnvCom on matters of joint interest. A major issue is airspace restrictions imposed for environmental reasons.

We strongly encourage participation by all airsport commissions and NACs by not only appointing delegates but also providing for their EnvCom meeting attendance. Our next meeting is scheduled for 22Jan11 at the office of Mr. Goth in Frankfurt, Germany; that venue needs to be changed and is awaiting a decision. The expectation is that it will still be Frankfurt, possibly at the nearby sport center easily accessible from FRA, where CANS has met.

Bernald S. Smith, VP

FAI EnvCom
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