



*Fédération  
Aéronautique  
Internationale*

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# **103<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Conference**

## **Minutes of Working Sessions**

**Held in Incheon, Korea  
9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> October 2009**

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# FEDERATION AERONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE

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## OFFICERS OF THE FAI 2009/2010

### Presidents of Honour

|                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| A. O. Dumas (Canada)          | O.A. Rautio (Finland)         |
| Dr. C. Kepak (Czech Republic) | Dr. H.P. Hirzel (Switzerland) |
| G.A. Lloyd (Australia)        | E.J. Ness (Norway)            |
| C.F. von Kann (USA)           | W. Weinreich (Germany)        |

### President

Pierre Portmann

### Executive Directors

|             |                      |
|-------------|----------------------|
| W. Arpagaus | R. Henderson         |
| R. Clipsham | J.H. Lee             |
| B.E Fonsell | A. de Orleans-Borbón |

### Vice-Presidents

|   |  |                                       |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| H. Meertens (Australia)                     | E. Savramis (Greece)                   | E.T.H. Wijnands (Netherlands)         |
| M. R. Heuer (Aerobatics)                    | Dr. J. Quevedo (Guatemala)             | J. W. McLean (New Zealand)            |
| B. Skinner (Aeromodelling)                  | F. Koetsier (Hang Gliding/Paragliding) | O. Lagarhus (Norway)                  |
| S. S. Fernandez de Cordoba (Astro. Records) | A. Gudmundsson (Iceland)               | G. Windsor (Parachuting)              |
| A. Roppert (Austria)                        | Capt. S.K. Sharma M.P. (India)         | Gen. G. Czempinski (Poland)           |
| J.C. Weber (Ballooning)                     | D. T. Rowan (Ireland)                  | M. Silva Salta (Portugal)             |
| V. Wieme (Belgium)                          | O. Talmon (Israel)                     | D. Hamilton (Rotorcraft)              |
| N. Kaltchev (Bulgaria)                      | G. Leoni (Italy)                       | V. Ivanov (Russia)                    |
| J. Humphreys (Canada)                       | Y. Yuasa (Japan)                       | Ing. S. Pelagic (Serbia)              |
| J. Dodal (Czech. Republic)                  | H. Trempenau (Kenya)                   | A. Liska (Slovak Republic)            |
| H. Havsager (Denmark)                       | Mrs. K.O. Kim (Korea)                  | J. Cuden (Slovenia)                   |
| Gen. A. Maher Sherata (Egypt)               | K. Plocins (Latvia)                    | A. De Orleans Borbón (Spain)          |
| H. Halonen (Finland)                        | V. Karciauskas (Lithuania)             | Dr. J. Grubbström (Sweden)            |
| B. Delor (France)                           | C. Eschette (Luxemburg)                | B. Neuenschwander (Switzerland)       |
| P. Cabañero Marimón (General Aviation)      | J. Peña Buenrostro (Mexico)            | K. Negal (United Kingdom)             |
| G. Gegenava ( Georgia )                     | R. Meredith-Hardy (Microlights)        | J. Gaffney (United States of America) |
| R. Henderson (Gliding)                      | R. Minic (Montenegro)                  | P.L. Gonzales (Venezuela)             |
| K. Koplín (Germany)                         | A. Alves Gomes (Mozambique)            |                                       |

### Presidents of FAI Air Sport Commissions

|  |  |
|--|--|
| H. Meertens (AUS) CASI                     | B. Skinner (RSA) Aeromodelling                         |
| J. C. Weber (LUX) Ballooning               | M.R. Heuer (USA) Aerobatics                            |
| P. Cabañero Marimón (ESP) General Aviation | S. Sanz Fernandez de Cordoba (ESP) Astronautic Records |
| R. Henderson (NZL) Gliding                 | F. Koetsier (NED) Hang Gliding                         |
| D. Hamilton (GBR) Rotorcraft               | R. Meredith-Hardy (GBR) Microlights                    |
| G. Windsor (AUS) Parachuting               |  |

### Presidents of FAI Technical Commissions

|   |   |
|---|---|
| M. Kasteleijn (NED) Aerospace Education   | Dr. P. Saundby (GBR) Medico-Physiological |
| P.L. Duranti (ITA) Amateur Built Aircraft | M. Goth (GER) Environment                 |

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### Secretariat

**Secretary General** : Stéphane Desprez (from 1 February 2010)

**Sport and Development Director**: Jean-Marc Badan - **Asst Sec General** : Thierry Montigneaux

**Executive Secretary** : Cosette Mast - **Administrative Secretary** : Christine Rousson - **Executive Officer** : Marcel Meyer

# FEDERATION AERONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE

## 103<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL CONFERENCE

### MINUTES

**OF THE WORKING SESSIONS HELD ON**  
**FRIDAY 9th AND SATURDAY 10th OCTOBER 2009**  
**AT THE CONVENIA CONGRESS CENTRE, INCHEON, KOREA**

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             |
| BULGARIA .....         | Mr. Nick KALTCHEV             |
| CANADA.....            | Mr. Jack HUMPHREYS            |
| CHILE .....            | Mr. Julio SUBERCASEAUX McGILL |
| CHINA.....             | Mr. WANG LEI                  |
| CHINESE TAIPEI.....    | Ms. Elsa MAI                  |
| CYPRUS .....           | Mr. Demetrakis HADJIDEMETRIOU |
| CZECH REPUBLIC.....    | Mr. Vlastimil DVORAK          |
| DENMARK.....           | Mr. Hans HAVSAGER             |
| EGYPT.....             | General Ahmed MAHER           |
| ESTONIA .....          | Mr. Urmas USKA                |
| FINLAND .....          | Mr. Hannu HALONEN             |
| FRANCE .....           | Mr. Jean-François GEORGES     |
| GERMANY.....           | Mr. Klaus KOPLIN              |
| GREECE.....            | Mr. Antonis PAPADOPOULOS      |
| HONG KONG, CHINA ..... | Mr. Gary Chi Ho LAI           |
| INDIA.....             | Mr. Sanjay THAPAR             |
| INDONESIA .....        | Mr. Nisfu CHASBULLAH          |
| IRAN.....              | Mr. Hamid REIHANI             |
| IRELAND .....          | Mr. Tom MacCORMACK            |
| ISRAEL.....            | Mr. Omri TALMON               |
| ITALY.....             | Mr. Antonio DENTINI           |
| JAPAN.....             | Mr. Yasushi YUASA             |
| KAZAKHSTAN.....        | Ms Anna KOROSTINA             |

|                                       |                              |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>KENYA</b> .....                    | Mr. Liam McNULTY             |
| <b>KOREA</b> .....                    | Mr. LEE Won Kab              |
| <b>LUXEMBURG</b> .....                | Mr. Claude ESCHETTE          |
| <b>MEXICO</b> .....                   | Ing. José Peña BUENROSTRO    |
| <b>MONTENEGRO</b> .....               | Mr. Dragan RASIN             |
| <b>NETHERLANDS</b> .....              | Mr. E.T.H. WIJNANDS          |
| <b>NORWAY</b> .....                   | Mr. Otto LAGARHUS            |
| <b>POLAND</b> .....                   | Mr. Marek MAZUR              |
| <b>PORTUGAL</b> .....                 | Mr. Manuel SILVA SALTA       |
| <b>ROMANIA</b> .....                  | Mr. Constantin VOICU         |
| <b>RUSSIA</b> .....                   | Mr. Evgeniy CHARSKIY         |
| <b>SAUDI ARABIA</b> .....             | Mr. Mubarak AL-SWILIM        |
| <b>SERBIA</b> .....                   | Mr. Zeljko OVUKA             |
| <b>SLOVAKIA</b> .....                 | Mr. Jan MIKUS                |
| <b>SPAIN</b> .....                    | Mr. Manuel ROCA VIAÑA        |
| <b>SWEDEN</b> .....                   | Dr. John GRUBBSTRÖM          |
| <b>SWITZERLAND</b> .....              | Mr. Beat NEUENSCHWANDER      |
| <b>THAILAND</b> .....                 | Gp Capt Veerayuth DIDYASARIN |
| <b>TURKEY</b> .....                   | Mr. Yusuf GÜNGÖR             |
| <b>UNITED ARAB EMIRATES</b> .....     | Mr. Mohammed YOUSUF          |
| <b>UNITED KINGDOM</b> .....           | Mr. Keith NEGAL              |
| <b>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</b> ..... | Mr. Art GREENFIELD           |

**ACTIVE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY DELEGATES TO ASIANIA MEETING**

**MALAYSIA**

**NEW ZEALAND**

**SINGAPORE**

**UZBEKISTAN**

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

**BRAZIL (COBRA)**..... Mr. Joe DEVENISH

**EGYPT (ESPAF)**..... Gen. Mohamed EL SHAMAA

**INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATE MEMBERS OF FAI**

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

**Europe Airsports** ..... Mr. David ROBERTS |

**Asiania Parachute Federation** ..... Mr. Mubarak AL-SWILIM |

**TEMPORARY MEMBERS**

**BAHRAIN**

**MONGOLIA**

**PROXIES**

**Belgium to Luxemburg**

**China to Sweden** (from 14h00 on 09.10.2009)

**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. Robert HENDERSON  
FAI Executive Director..... Mr. LEE Jonghoon

FAI Secretary General ..... Mr. Max BISHOP

**FAI AIR SPORT COMMISSIONS**

Mr. Henk MEERTENS..... President, FAI Air Sport General Commission,  
Mr. Jean-Claude WEBER ..... President, FAI Ballooning Commission  
Mr. Pedro CABANERO ..... President, FAI General Aviation Commission  
Mr. Roland STUCK ..... Representing President, FAI Gliding Commission  
Mr. Bob SKINNER..... President, FAI Aeromodelling Commission  
Mr. Graeme WINDSOR..... President, FAI Parachuting Commission  
Mr. Alfred-Pierre HERBERT ..... Representing President, FAI Rotorcraft Commission  
Mr. Flip KOETSIER..... President, FAI Hang Gliding and Paragliding  
..... Commission  
Mr. Tomas BACKMAN ..... President, FAI Microlight Commission

**FAI TECHNICAL COMMISSIONS**

Mr. Michiel KASTELEIJN..... President, FAI Aviation & Space Education  
Commission  
Dr. Peter SAUNDBY ..... President, FAI Medico-Physiological Commission

**FAI PRESIDENTS OF HONOUR**

Dr. Hanspeter HIRZEL (SUI)

**FAI COMPANIONS OF HONOUR**

Mrs. Odette BALESI-ROUSSEAU (FRA)  
Mrs. Kyung O. KIM (KOR)  
Mr. Tor JOHANNESSEN (NOR)  
Mr. Alfred-Pierre HERBERT (SUI)  
Mr. John ROAKE (NZL)  
Mr. Bernald SMITH (USA)  
Mr. Raymond J. JOHNSON (USA)  
Mr. Tormod VEIBY (NOR)

**SECRETARIAT OF THE 103<sup>rd</sup> FAI ANNUAL GENERAL CONFERENCE**

Mr. Jean-Marc BADAN..... FAI Sports and Development Director  
Mme Christine ROUSSON ..... FAI Administrative Secretary

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE WERE RECEIVED FROM :**

- Dr. Cenek KEPAK ..... President of Honour
- Mr. G.A. Peter LLOYD ..... President of Honour
- Mr. Eilif NESS ..... President of Honour
- Mr. Olavi RAUTIO ..... President of Honour
- Mr. Wolfgang WEINREICH ..... President of Honour
- Mr Willi ARPAGAUS ..... FAI Executive Director
- Mr. David HAMILTON ..... President, FAI Rotorcraft Commission
- Mr. Mike HEUER ..... President, FAI Aerobatics Commission
- Ing. Pierluigi DURANTI ..... President, FAI Amateur Built and Experimental  
..... Aircraft Commission)
- Dr. Michael GOTH ..... President, FAI Environmental Commission
- Mr. René DE MONCHY ..... Companion of Honour
- Mr. S. SÁNZ FERNANDEZ DE CÓRDOBA  
..... President, FAI Astronautics Records Commission
- Belgium
- New Zealand

**SCRUTINEERS**

Conference unanimously agreed to the appointment as scrutineers of :  
Dr. Hanspeter HIRZEL, Mr. Tormod VEIBY, Mr. Jean-Marc BADAN

**1. In Memoriam**

Conference stood in silent memory of all friends of FAI who had died since the 102nd General Conference in 2008, and especially of :

Mr. Jim BENSON (USA) - Inventor of the SpaceShipOne innovative engine, and leader of a courageous small enterprise, diamond edge of the emerging space economy.

Ms. Nini BOESMAN (NED) - Pioneering balloon pilot

Ms. Chandy CLANTON (USA) - Member of the US Aerobatic Team

Mr. Jim COX (AUS) - Parachutist who participated in many international Championships

Ms. Vicky CRUSE (USA) - President of the American Aerobatic Association, Delegate to CIVA and former US National Aerobatic Champion.

Ms. Svetlana FEDORENKO (RUS) - Winner of the 2004 European Aerobatics Championship

Mr. Camille GERARD (LUX) - Long-serving CIAM Delegate and F3A World Championship judge.

Mr. Frank KDER (CZE) - Former Secretary General of the Aero Club of Czechoslovakia and FAI Paul TISSANDIER Diploma holder.

Mr. Ray LINSKEY (NZL) - World Gliding Champion in 1995. First pilot to fly 2000 km in a glider. World "Free distance" record holder.

Mr. Etsushi MATSUO (JPN) - Distinguished Microlight event organiser and CIMA delegate

Mr. Hans NIETLISPACH (SUI) - Long-serving Swiss IGC Delegate, renowned worldwide for his unconventional thinking and his exceptional record as an international gliding competition pilot.

Mr. Gennady OPARIN (RUS) - The pioneer and promoter of the development of hot air ballooning and airship flying as an accessible air sport for ordinary people in Russia.

Mr. Maurizio PEREZ (CHE) - Distinguished glider pilot

Mr. Andrzej RACHWAL (POL) - Distinguished aeromodeller

Mr. Francis ROGALLO (USA) - Inventor of the flexible wing, the innovative design that was largely responsible for the development of the hang glider, and subsequent devices such as paragliders, weight-shift microlights, delta kites, stunt kites, parafoil kites, powered parachutes, and kiteboarding kites. Holder of the Paul TISSANDIER diploma.

Mr. Hein SCHWING (NED) Distinguished former Secretary of CIVV/IGC

Mr. Helmut STAS (POL) - Long-serving CIVA Delegate, international official, and member of the CIVA Glider Aerobatics Sub-Committee. Recipient of the FAI Airsport Medal

Ing. Jan STASKO (SVK) - One of the founders of spacemodelling in Slovakia.

Mr. Per OBERG (SWE) - Former IGC Delegate

Mr. Jiri (George) VICHEREK (CZE) - Alternate Delegate of FAI Amateur Built & Experimental Aircraft Commission

Mr Raoul WANGERMEZ (BEL) - F3A International Aeromodelling Judge

## 2. Roll-Call of Delegations

### 2.1. The roll-call was taken and revealed :

47 Heads of Delegations of FAI Active Members in good standing with voting rights.

8 Representatives of FAI Air Sport Commissions with voting rights.

3 International Affiliate Members, including one with voting rights.

4 non-voting Active Members

2 Associate Members (non-voting)

2 Temporary Members (non-voting)

*Note that 1 Active Member (China) left early and was subsequently represented by proxy to Sweden.*

### 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 326 votes were distributed to delegations. The number of votes required to obtain majorities were declared as follows:

Absolute majority : 164

Two-thirds majority : 218

### 3. Minutes of 102nd FAI General Conference, 2008

Conference unanimously approved the Minutes of the 102nd FAI General Conference Working Sessions held on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> October 2008 at the Grand Palais, St Vincent, Italy.

### 4. Report of the FAI President

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

### 5. FAI Finances

#### 5.1. 2008 Balance Sheet and Report by Auditors

The FAI Executive Director (Finance), Mr. Robert CLIPSHAM, reported in detail (**ANNEX 2**) on the 2008 Balance Sheet, Income and Expenditure Account, Commissions' finances (**ANNEX 3**), and the report on the FAI's accounts by the Auditors, PriceWaterhouseCoopers (**ANNEX 4**).

In response to a question from Mr. Keith NEGAL (GBR) concerning the currency loss incurred in 2008, and whether it was likely to be repeated in 2009, it was explained that apart from a small portfolio of shares in IBM, Michelin, and Royal Dutch Shell, which had been held for several decades and had accumulated significant capital growth, all FAI's financial assets were held as short-term deposits, to avoid risk. Assets were held in three currencies : CHF, EUR and USD. In 2008, the Swiss franc had quite suddenly appreciated significantly against the Euro, and FAI had not been able to avoid an exchange rate loss at the end of the year. Most of this was absorbed by the accumulated exchange rate gains of previous years, but there was nevertheless a net loss.

To minimize the chances of this happening again in future, it had been decided to reduce significantly FAI's exposure to currencies other than CHF, our operating currency. In 2009, significant sales of EUR and USD had therefore been made, at exchange rates better than those of 31 Dec 2008. Therefore, a small exchange surplus was expected at the end of the year, and the funding for the Maison du Sport International offices was secure.

The FAI President stressed that it was the Board's policy to keep FAI's money safe and to avoid all speculation. No bonds or complex structured products were held.

Mr "Buzz" BENNETT (CAN) asked whether the Executive Board had considered converting the long-held shares (IBM etc.) into cash. The President confirmed that some thought had been given to this, but for the time being it had been decided to wait for markets to recover further.

Dr. John GRUBBSTRÖM (SWE) noted that Technical Commissions such as CIMP had no expenditure, even though they were very important for FAI.

The President commented that these Commissions worked hard for Air Sport Commissions, and that perhaps the day would come when ASCs would contribute to the funding of Technical Commissions.

There being no other questions, the FAI President asked for approval of the 2008 accounts.

***General Conference unanimously approved the Financial Statements and Auditor's Report for the year 2008, as presented, in accordance with Statute 3.4.1.3.***

## 5.2. 2009 Situation

The Finance Director described the healthy financial position for the current year, with 95% of subscription income received, expenses in line with budget, and the salary budget underspent because of a temporarily vacant post.

Commissions' reserves stood in total at CHF 934K, a reduction of some CHF 83K.

To achieve better protection during the financial crisis, a proportion of FAI's financial assets had been moved away from Credit Suisse (holding c. 55%) to another safe institution, the Banque Cantonale Vaudoise (c. 45%). Some 72% were now held in CHF to reduce exposure to possible exchange losses.

A financial surplus was anticipated at the 2009 year-end.

## 5.3. 2010 Scale of Subscriptions and Draft Budget for 2010

The FAI Executive Director (Finance) reported in detail on the 2010 scale of subscriptions and votes (**ANNEX 5**) and draft budget for 2010 (expenses and income) (**ANNEX 6**). The Scale of Subscriptions remained the same as in 2009 (adjusted for leaving and arriving members). It was subject to changes resulting from decisions taken on membership of FAI later in the Conference.

In response to a request for clarification from Mr. Graeme WINDSOR (IPC) concerning the mismatch between expenditure on media, communications and PR in 2008 (13K) and the 42K projected in the 2010 budget, it was explained that the sum budgeted had remained constant, but there had been an underspend in 2008. The Executive Board considered, and Mr. WINDSOR agreed, that more attention had to be paid to this aspect of FAI's activities.

Dr. John GRUBBSTRÖM (SWE) asked whether the expenditure for the safety supervision officer at Red Bull Air Races was balanced by equivalent income from RBAR, and received an assurance that this was the case. Indeed, the substantial difference between RBAR income and expenditure was enabling FAI to continue freezing subscriptions for yet another (7<sup>th</sup>) year. The association with RBAR was providing FAI with positive public visibility and useful income.

***General Conference unanimously approved the Scale of Subscriptions and Draft Budget for 2010, as presented, in accordance with Statute 3.4.1.4.***

## 5.4. Approval of Auditor

The FAI Executive Director (Finance) proposed that PriceWaterhouseCoopers remain FAI's auditors for 2010 and that the Executive Board be authorized to determine their remuneration. This was **approved unanimously by the Conference**.

## 5.5. Accounting Philosophy

Mr. Alvaro DE ORLEANS-BORBON, speaking as an individual Board member, gave voice to his concerns about the implications of trends in FAI's sources of income. He wondered in which direction FAI was heading. There were two main income streams, one direct, and one indirect: Members' subscriptions and sanction fees. The first went to central FAI, and the second was reserved for the use of Air Sport Commissions. Commissions now have reserves that before long could become greater than the central FAI's reserves. He felt that it was necessary to take a close look at this situation. FAI was a single juridical entity, but it was hard to prevent a Commission from making a contract which could lead to major damages for the entire federation. Mr. DE ORLEANS-BORBON urged that a complete review of FAI's accounting philosophy be conducted.

The FAI Executive Director (Finance) thanked the FAI Members and Air Sport Commissions for carrying out their financial responsibilities, and also gave special thanks to FAI Executive Secretary Mme Cosette MAST for her good work in keeping FAI's accounts.

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

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 : Australia, Czech Republic, Germany, Spain, Switzerland.

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 2008 : France, Poland, Serbia, Sweden, USA.

The following countries stood for election to the vacant CASI posts : Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Montenegro, Spain, Switzerland.

**The representatives of Germany (286 votes), Australia (252 votes), Czech Republic (243 votes), Switzerland (216 votes) and Spain (202 votes) were duly elected.**

The full list of CASI NAC Members for 2009/2010 is therefore as follows, listed alphabetically : Australia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Poland, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and USA.

## **7. Amendments to Statutes and By-Laws**

The FAI President invited Mr. Jean-Claude WEBER, Chairman of the Statutes Working Group (SWG), to introduce proposals for changes to FAI Statutes and By Laws. He reported that his Group had had some difficulty in completing all the work with which they had been tasked. Nevertheless, their detailed proposals had been sent to delegates some three weeks before the Conference. He apologised for any confusion, and appreciated that the late distribution could cause problems. It was not in the spirit of FAI Statutes to have late proposals and the SWG were absolutely not trying to push proposals through against the wishes of delegates.

### **7.1. Control by Executive Board of the content of FAI By-Laws**

### **7.2. IPC proposal for modifications to procedures for determining the location of FAI Commission meetings** (to be treated in connection with 7.1. above)

**SWG brief :** The Statutes Working Group (SWG) had been tasked by the General Conference with examining whether the provisions contained in FAI By Laws could be placed under the control of the FAI Executive Board rather than the General Conference, so as to improve the efficiency of FAI's management.

**SWG Comments :** An initial review by the Statutes Working Group of the FAI's By Laws had revealed that, whilst most of them were concerned with routine administrative matters, some could be considered to have fundamental constitutional significance, and should perhaps therefore belong in the Statutes.

A check of the Statutes revealed, conversely, that some provisions were not really worthy of being in FAI's constitution document, but would sit better in executive "rules and procedures" documents.

The General Section of the Sporting Code had also been found to contain some items that were not strictly of a purely sporting nature.

Further work was therefore needed to identify how best to organise FAI's general rules and regulations, including specifically the matter raised by IPC of how to decide where FAI Commission meetings should be held.

**SWG Recommendation :** The Statutes Working Group recommended as follows :

*The General Conference is invited to authorise the Statutes Working Group to prepare firm proposals for 2010 on a more rational way for presenting FAI's constitution, rules and regulations, making it clear in each case which body within FAI is responsible for their amendment and implementation.*

**Discussion :** Mr. Graeme WINDSOR (IPC) and Mr. Keith NEGAL (GBR) spoke in favour of this proposal, arguing that more streamlined procedures were needed. Detailed proposals must however be circulated with the Conference agenda, two months before the Conference, to allow adequate time for internal discussions at national level.

**Vote :** The General Conference decided, with none against and 4 abstentions, to authorise the Statutes Working Group to prepare firm proposals for 2010 on a more rational way for presenting FAI's constitution, rules and regulations, making it clear in each case which body within FAI is responsible for their amendment and implementation.

In connection with Agenda items 7.3. to 7.8, Mr. Jack HUMPHREYS (CAN) objected strongly to the short notice delegates had received of some important and far-reaching proposals. There had been no time to study the details in his NAC. He therefore moved that Items 7.3. to 7.8 be tabled for decisions to be made in 2010, whilst not objecting to preliminary discussions taking place on the subjects concerned.

Mr. Henk MEERTENS (AUS) seconded the Canadian motion to permit discussion.

Mr Alvaro DE ORLEANS-BORBON (Executive Director) explained that the Conference now had two options: either to defer all discussion on these topics until 2010, or to examine each issue separately in turn, and decide whether or not to take a vote this year. He pointed out that if the first option were adopted, delegates would have no information as to the mood of the Conference on each topic.

Mr. Henk MEERTENS wanted to postpone votes, and was not seeking to prevent discussion. NACs had a point of view that they wished to express through delegates, so in his view no final votes should be taken until 2010.

Mr. Jack HUMPHREYS emphasized that he wanted decisions postponed, not discussions, which could still take place.

Mr. Otto LAGARHUS (NOR) felt that the items had been duly received and should therefore be discussed. Conference could decide whether to vote or delay the vote for each item.

Having received confirmation from Mr. HUMPHREYS that he would withdraw his motion if a decision were taken separately on each item, as to whether or not to vote this year, the FAI President agreed to proceed in that fashion and ask for each item whether it was Conference's wish to take an immediate vote or not.

### **7.3. Role, duties and rights of FAI Vice Presidents**

**SWG brief :** The 2008 FAI General Conference had tasked the SWG with examining the following issues relating to FAI Vice Presidents in depth and making recommendations to the General Conference in 2009 :

- The present definition of “Vice Presidents” is circular and does not describe what Vice Presidents are for, nor what they should do, and
- A new Statute is required describing the role, duties and rights of FAI Vice Presidents.
- Consideration needs to be given to widening the source of recruitment of FAI Vice Presidents to also include Technical Commission Presidents, and
- A new Statute is required describing the qualification criteria for persons proposed for election as FAI Vice President (aeronautical experience, previous contribution to FAI activities, English language proficiency, time available to do the job effectively, office held in NAC, etc).

**SWG Comments :** The SWG conducted a detailed analysis of the mission, recruitment and required profile of FAI Vice Presidents and came to the consensus that FAI Vice Presidents should be FAI ambassadors, and should represent FAI, not Active FAI Members. If Vice Presidents were to be the representatives of the FAI, then the FAI must hold the right of appointment.

**SWG Recommendations on FAI Vice Presidents (VP) :**

The Statutes Working Group recommended as follows:

- *To empower the FAI Executive Board to select and appoint suitable FAI Vice Presidents from among persons of outstanding reputation, skill or accomplishment in the fields of aeronautics and/or astronautics, or among other distinguished individuals.*
- *To invite the GC to appoint all present FAI VPs, except ASC Presidents, who so wish as Companions of Honour (CH) with immediate effect.*
- *To activate the Companions of Honour programme by transferring the FAI Vice Presidents' voting rights in respect of FAI Awards to the Companions of Honour programme (present BL 10.1.3.5 and 10.1.4.3).*
- *To delete By-Law 5.4.6.6. which gives the ASC Presidents the duty to serve as FAI VP.*

**Discussion :** Mr. Klaus KOPLIN (GER) considered these proposals to be very detailed and far-reaching and urged that a decision be delayed until the next General Conference.

Mr. Beat NEUENSCHWANDER (SUI) agreed, and considered that it was very important to maintain a good balance between Commissions and Member nations. Vice Presidents were very important for FAI as Ambassadors, but it was wrong to say that therefore they should not also represent their NAC. In his experience, the best results were achieved when the FAI VP was also NAC President. He urged Conference to await the outcome of Mr. LAGARHUS' group's proposals before taking a position on these SWG recommendations.

Mr. Jean-François GEORGES (FRA) also agreed. He had had inadequate time to evaluate the proposals fully and discuss them internally in France. He felt that the proposals were very different from what had been anticipated.

Dr. Alois ROPPERT (AUT) was not in favour of the SWG's recommendations. The hardest job for the President of a NAC is to obtain money for international Championships. Approaching a Minister as FAI VP, as well as NAC President, provides better credibility, putting him in a position to help FAI much more. If in future he were not to be VP for AUT, he would have to ask Presidents of FAI Air Sport Commissions to underwrite the budget for FAI events held in his country.

Mr. Keith NEGAL (GBR) recognised that there was a need for change in the role of VPs. But he considered that something was being taken away from the rights of NACs and that was a

big mistake. He recommended that the SWG be asked to reconsider and make sure it did not throw away valid old concepts.

Mr. Henk MEERTENS (AUS) agreed with previous speakers and felt that it was important not to break the representative role at national level. He too had to negotiate up to ministerial level on airspace, regulatory reform etc, and not being able to use his FAI position would do much damage. He also feared that it would downgrade the status of present Companions of Honour to confer this title automatically on retiring VPs.

Mr. Jean Claude WEBER (SWG Chairman) explained that it was clearly not the SWG's wish to take anything useful away from NACs; the recommendations allowed NACs to have a VP if so wished. But in some countries, FAI had difficulty making contact with VPs who were really pure NAC representatives rather than FAI officers. He acknowledged that the SWG had perhaps gone too far too fast, and asked that Conference refer the matter back to SWG for further work, giving clear directions.

M.r Otto LAGARHUS (NOR) observed that delegates clearly did not want VPs to be restricted to certain countries, or selected by the Executive Board.

The FAI President proposed that the matter be referred back to the SWG with the clear indication that it was not the wish of the General Conference to abolish NAC-nominated VPs and have VPs nominated by the Executive Board. The SWG was at liberty to obtain further comments from NACs by email if necessary, and to coordinate work with the Strategy Task Force (Item 9 below) . A new detailed proposal from the SWG based strictly on the wording of the 2008 General Conference tasking (above) had to be distributed with the 2010 Conference agenda.

**Vote : The General Conference decided, with none against and 6 abstentions, to task the Statutes Working Group with preparing revised proposals for 2010 on the definition, role, duties, rights and qualification criteria of FAI Vice Presidents, taking into account that it was not the wish of the General Conference to abolish NAC-nominated VPs and have VPs nominated by the Executive Board.**

## **7.4. FAI President**

### **7.4.1. Extension of eligibility for election to the post of FAI President**

**SWG brief** : The 2008 General Conference had tasked the Statutes Working Group with examining in depth the possibility of enlarging the reservoir of potential presidential candidates, and in particular with expanding it to include categories such as present and former Executive Board Members, even though they may never have been FAI Vice Presidents.

**SWG Comments** : An early suggestion had been to remove all restrictions on eligibility to stand for the FAI presidency, opening up the process to candidates from any source. However, the SWG had concluded that it would be advisable to enlarge the pool of candidates without taking away control of the nomination process from the FAI Members.

**SWG Recommendations** : The SWG recommended that, subject to term limits, eligibility for the FAI presidency be defined as being limited to :

- *The current FAI President*
- *Any other persons nominated by bodies holding voting rights at General Conference*

**Discussion** : A vote was first taken on whether this matter of eligibility for election as FAI President should be decided upon immediately. **Conference decided, with 20 votes against and 21 abstentions, to take an immediate decision.**

Discussion was then opened.

In response to a question from Mr. Art GREENFIELD (USA), who asked whether this motion was now needed, given that VPs had not been eliminated, the SWG Chairman pointed out that this proposal was entirely unrelated to the VP issue.

Mr Keith NEGAL (GBR) believed that the proposal was an improvement, since it did not exclude anyone. He felt that all Board members should be eligible for election as President.

Mr Klaus KOPLIN (GER) reminded delegates that the item was on the agenda because it was felt that to limit candidates for President to VPs was too restrictive. The SWG had done exactly what was asked of it.

Mr Omri TALMON (ISR) supported the proposal because it opened the field to people of outstanding quality with vision from any source, and enlarged the number of eligible persons.

**Vote** : The General Conference decided, with none against and 14 abstentions, to amend the FAI Statutes as follows:

**6.1. THE PRESIDENT OF FAI**

**6.1.1. ELECTION**

**6.1.1.1. The President of FAI shall be elected for a two-year term by the General Conference from among the following individuals :**

**6.1.1.1.1. The President of FAI;**

**6.1.1.1.2. ~~The Vice-Presidents of FAI. Any other persons nominated by bodies holding voting rights at General Conference.~~**

**~~6.1.1.1.3 Subject to the approval of the FAI Member or Air Sport Commission concerned, Executive Directors who, prior to their election to the Executive Board, served as FAI Vice Presidents.~~**

**7.4.2. Increase of maximum number of two-year terms to four**

(Proposal from NAC of Spain)

**SWG brief** : The SWG had been asked to consider the proposal from Spain to amend Statute 6.1.1.3 so as to allow the FAI President to serve for a maximum of 4 two-year terms instead of the present 3 two-year terms.

**SWG Comments** : In 2000, the FAI Structural WG had concluded that the Executive Directors and the FAI President should be elected for terms of office of two years, thus having the same length of term for both positions. It had also been decided that there should be no limit on the number of terms that Executive Directors are permitted to serve, but that the FAI President should be limited to 3 two-year terms. The proposed amendment would limit the FAI President in office to a maximum of 8 years. In analysing the procedures of 23 International Federations (IF), it had been found that 20 IFs had no limits on the number of presidential terms, and 21 IFs had presidential terms of 4 years or more.

The SWG, having considered the implications of the proposed amendment, had concluded that the amendment did not seek to extend the length of the two-year

presidential term, but to add a fourth two-year term, thus bringing the upper limit for the FAI President to 8 years instead of the present 6 years.

**SWG Recommendation** : Failing to see the necessity for the present limitations and not seeing the GC's rights to propose and elect the FAI President affected, the SWG agreed to propose amending Statute 6.1.1.3 to read: *A candidate may be elected FAI President for a maximum of four two-year terms.*

**Discussion** : A vote was first taken on whether this matter of increase in the maximum number of terms for FAI Presidents should be decided upon immediately. **Conference decided, with 25 votes against and 3 abstentions, to take an immediate decision.** Discussion was then opened.

Mr. Pedro CABANERO (GAC) pointed out that there were two very important positions in FAI – those of President and Secretary General – which required almost full-time commitment. The Secretary General was retiring in January 2010. It would be unnecessarily risky to lose the two key figures in one year. This Statute change would allow a smoother transition and put FAI less at risk.

Mr. Alvaro DE ORLEANS-BORBON (Executive Director) asked whether the matter could be decided in 2010 with immediate implementation of the revised Statute.

The FAI Secretary General stated that Statutes allowed for immediate implementation. In the absence of any decision to specify an implementation date, they took effect on 1st January automatically.

Mr. Jose Luis OLIAS (ESP) emphasized the need to develop FAI's mission towards air sports and to maintain the stability of FAI. There was no limit on the number of permitted mandates in Spain. He felt that this was democratic, positive, and provided stability, and he asked delegates to give their support to the Spanish proposal.

**Vote** : A delegate having called for a secret ballot, voting papers were distributed. The votes having been counted by scrutineers, it was revealed that 4 voting papers had not been returned. The result of the vote was so close as to mean that different ways of treating the missing votes would result in different outcomes.

A procedural discussion ensued as to whether these votes should be treated as abstentions, as invalid votes, or whether the total number of votes from which the two-thirds majority was calculated, should be the number of ballots actually handed in. There was no detailed guidance on these matters in FAI Statutes or By Laws.

Some speakers favoured conducting a *post hoc* roll call, others called for a re-vote, and others pointed out that allowing a re-vote would mean that anyone who wished to boycott an election could simply not hand in his ballot. An individual would then be capable of blocking the electoral process.

The FAI President decided that the floor must decide what to do, and that he wished to relinquish the Chair in favour of his Deputy, Mr. Alvaro DE ORLEANS-BORBON, since he had a potential conflict of interests.

Assuming the Chair, Mr. Alvaro DE ORLEANS-BORBON asked the Secretary General to explain the exact circumstances.

The Secretary General stated that **326** votes had been distributed. The results were :

**In favour :**        **216**  
**Against :**         **104**  
**Abstention :**     **1**

Five votes had not been returned, of which one had been identified (departure of one delegate). Four missing votes remained unexplained.

Two thirds majority with 326 votes is 218, but with 321 votes it is 214. The determination of the total number of votes to be counted was therefore critical.

Several delegates voiced the opinion that the vote should stand. The number of votes had been clearly established at the beginning. The 5 missing votes were invalid votes. Therefore, the necessary two-thirds majority had not been achieved. There would be no point in declaring the number of votes present at the beginning of the meeting, if we were then to declare the number of eligible votes for each decision as the meeting progresses. Only if a delegate formally declared to the President or Secretariat that they were leaving the room and therefore would not take part in a particular vote could the figure used as the basis for calculation be modified. On this vote the number of eligible votes was clearly 326.

Two delegates requested a re-vote.

The Acting President, after reflection, stated that a clear explanation of what had happened had been given, and there was no adequate reason to invalidate the vote.

**Decision : He therefore declared that the proposed amendment to Statute 6.1.1.3 (“A candidate may be elected FAI President for a maximum of *four* two-year terms”) had been rejected by Conference, not having achieved the necessary two-thirds majority.**

Mr. José Luis OLIAS (ESP) expressed his disappointment at this outcome. Mr. Alvaro DE ORLEANS-BORBON agreed that what was an important decision for FAI had been decided by 4 invalid votes. There was no way of knowing whether this could have been a deliberate decision by one or more delegates. This pointed to a discrepancy, not foreseen in Statutes, between open and closed votes. In an open vote it was possible immediately to check the number voting, but not in a secret ballot. In his view, different voting systems should not lead to different outcomes. He asked for a review of voting procedures in the case of secret ballots.

The Secretary General agreed that the Constitution was unspecific, but pointed out that the SWG was already tasked with taking a hard look at voting procedures in Commissions and General Conference. There was a certain lack of clarity in voting rules.

The following morning, a petition (**ANNEX 7**), was circulated, signed by a large number of delegates, asking for the previous day’s vote on this matter to be re-taken, on the grounds that many delegates had been left with the feeling that the original vote had been unclear.

The FAI President once again handed over the Chair to his Deputy, Mr. Alvaro DE ORLEANS-BORBON to handle this petition. He first established the powers of the Conference to consider the petition, noting that Conference had the widest possible powers under Statute 3.4.1. to consider all legislative matters brought before it by members. He further confirmed that this matter was not an alteration of the agenda, since the subject under discussion was on the agenda.

Having established that all delegates had seen the paper, he invited discussion.

Mr. Bob HENDERSON (Executive Director) asked for a new vote to be conducted, in view of the diverging views about the method of calculation of the 2/3 majority. The relevant By Law was also ambiguous: *“When voting by secret ballot, each delegation shall be required to place in the ballot box as many ballots as the Active Member has votes. Every unmarked ballot shall be counted as an abstention.”*

Mr. Julio SUBERCASEAUX (CHE) seconded the motion, stating that the Office of President was delicate, and he was responsible for ethics. The existence of the petition cast a shadow of doubt over the previous day's process. This was unhealthy and the doubt had to be dispelled.

Mr. Omri TALMON (ISR) felt there was no need for a second ballot. He requested a secret vote for the decision to vote again.

Several other speakers spoke in favour or against the proposal to have a fresh vote, based upon their interpretations of the FAI Constitution and commonly accepted practices.

The Deputy President called for a secret ballot vote on whether to reconsider Agenda item 7.4.2. A roll call revealed : 324 votes present; 163 ordinary majority; **216 two-thirds majority.**

The Deputy President ruled that the ballot box be placed at the front of the room, so that all delegates could deposit their ballots in full view.

The results of the vote on whether or not to reconsider the matter were :

|               |          |
|---------------|----------|
| Yes :         | 243      |
| No :          | 76       |
| Abstentions : | <u>5</u> |
| Total :       | 324      |

Therefore a second vote was conducted on the Spanish proposal, supported by the SWG, to extend the number of terms that a FAI President can serve from 3 two-year terms to a maximum of 4 terms.

**Decision : The result of the second vote to extend the number of terms that a FAI President can serve from 3 two-year terms to a maximum of 4 terms was as follows :**

|                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| <b>In favour :</b>   | <b>207</b>        |
| <b>Against :</b>     | <b>116</b>        |
| <b>Abstention :</b>  | <b><u>1</u></b>   |
| <b><u>Total:</u></b> | <b><u>324</u></b> |

**Since the two-thirds majority of 216 was not achieved, the proposal was rejected, confirming the result of the first vote on the previous day.**

The FAI President resumed the Chair.

## **7.5. Status, role and composition of CASI**

**SWG brief :** The Statutes Working Group had been tasked by the General Conference with examining in depth the future role of CASI, the qualification criteria for its members and the intended selection process, and making recommendations to the General Conference in 2009.

**SWG Comments :** The Statutes Working Group had discussed the future role of CASI and agreed to propose to the General Conference a re-definition of CASI's role and composition, rather than any other option. The focus will be on CASI dealing mainly with procedural, administrative and consultative issues rather than sporting matters, and to create a platform to facilitate communication, coordination and cooperation between ASCs, NACs and the EB. Ideally, CASI should act as the FAI's "Guidance" body on air sports issues directly affecting FAI and all its members and activities.

**SWG Recommendation** : Further work was therefore needed to identify how best to organise the future CASI (with the help of CASI and the ASCs), and the General Conference was invited to authorise the Statutes Working Group to prepare firm proposals for 2010.

**Discussion** : The FAI President suggested that the SWG should work on this issue in collaboration with the proposed Strategy Task Force.

**Decision** : Conference decided unanimously to authorise the Statutes Working Group to prepare firm proposals for 2010 in conjunction with the Strategy Task Force where appropriate.

#### **7.6. Conditions of eligibility for the award of Honorary Group Diplomas**

**SWG brief** : The Statutes Working Group had been tasked with examining By-Law 11.13.2 dealing with Honorary Group Diplomas and to make recommendations to the General Conference in 2009. The specific concern that had given rise to the tasking was recent cases of groups receiving the Honorary Group Diploma that may have been in conflict with the definition and the intent of the award.

**SWG Comments and Recommendation** : The title of the award (Honorary Group Diplomas) needs to be updated and clarified. The recommendation for the new title is 'FAI Group Diploma of Honour'.

*(Note: The remaining recommendations of the SWG were invalidated by the decision of the Conference not to adopt the changes proposed to arrangements for approval of awards by Vice Presidents.)*

The SWG Chairman suggested that, since the matter was not urgent, the General Conference should refer the matter back to the SWG for further consideration.

**Decision** : Conference decided unanimously to refer this matter back to the Statutes Working Group.

#### **7.7 Approval of Commission Delegates (By Laws 5.3.1./2)**

**SWG brief** : The Statute Working Group was tasked with considering the need for the General Conference to approve annually the list of all Delegates and Alternate Delegates to Commissions.

**SWG Comments and Recommendation** : SWG was of the opinion that a delegate needed to be approved only once by General Conference, not annually. By-Laws 5.3.1 and 5.3.2 needed to be amended, in such a way that only new delegates had to be approved.

**Discussion** : Dr. Peter SAUNDBY (CIMP) suggested retaining a reserve power to disapprove a delegate who was causing trouble. However, others felt that it was the role of FAI Members to take action in such cases. The FAI Secretary General explained that there were enforcement rules already in place that allowed FAI to take action should a NAC not react in such cases, so there was no need for new specific rules.

A vote was taken on whether this matter should be decided immediately or deferred to 2010. It was decided to take an immediate decision (10 votes against, no abstentions).

A vote was then taken on the substantive recommendation.

**Decision** : The General Conference decided, with none against and 30 abstentions, to amend the FAI By Laws as follows :

- 5.3.1 **Annually** Each Active Member may appoint one Delegate and one Alternate Delegate to each FAI Air Sport Commission (other than the FAI Air Sport General Commission) and Technical Commission. **These New appointments and persons retiring from NAC Delegate or Alternate Delegate duty shall be reported to the FAI Secretariat not later than three months before the General Conference.**
- 5.3.2 **Annually** the list of ~~names of Delegates and Alternate Delegates thus appointed~~ new appointments shall be submitted to the General Conference for final approval, **and an up to date list of all duly appointed Delegates and Alternate Delegates shall be distributed with the General Conference Minutes.**

## 7.8 **Arrangements for presentation of FAI Gold Air & Space Medals**

**SWG brief** : The Statute Working Group had been tasked with examining Chapter 10 of the FAI By-Laws (Policies and Procedures for FAI Awards) with respect to the awarding of the FAI Gold Air Medal (By-Law 11.2) and FAI Gold Space Medal (By-Law 11.3). A delegate to the 2008 General Conference had argued for compulsory attendance at the General Conference as a condition for award of the FAI Air Gold Medal and the FAI Space Gold Medal.

**SWG Comments** : There was no support from the Statute Working Group for obliging a recipient to attend the FAI Awards Ceremony at the General Conference if he/she is awarded the FAI Air or Space Gold Medals. Support was expressed by the SWG to oblige the FAI Members or Commissions to receive FAI approval for any arrangements that are made for the awarding of the FAI Air or Space Gold Medals outside of the FAI Awards Ceremony. Additionally, the SWG supported the idea that FAI Members or Commissions should finance the trip to the FAI Awards Ceremony for the recipients of these two prestigious medals or, in the event that is not possible, should pay for the expenses of a senior FAI Official (FAI President if available) to attend a ceremony and award the medal in the country concerned.

**Discussion** : Mr. Henk MEERTENS (AUS) felt that these proposals placed additional burdens on certain member countries and would discourage nominations for the awards. He was supported by Mr. Art GREENFIELD (USA) who feared that deserving individuals might not be nominated if there were financial penalties. Mr. José BUENROSTRO (MEX) also spoke against the proposal, reminding delegates that some NACs could not even afford to send delegates to the General Conference.

Mr. Klaus KOPLIN (GER) pointed out that the SWG had completed its remit in advising that we should not insist on presence at the General Conference as a condition of award of the medals concerned. There should be no further discussion of possible additional restrictions.

Mr. Omri TALMON (ISR), supported by Mr. Otto LAGARHUS (NOR), suggested allowing the Executive Board to decide on a case-by-case basis. He was against shipping FAI highest award to recipients if there had not even been so much as a letter of apology.

The FAI President felt that certain medal recipients could make more of an effort to come. It demonstrated a lack of interest if they did not even bother to write a letter of thanks or apology. Nominating Members should contact the proposed recipients first to determine how interested they are before deciding to nominate them.

A vote was taken on whether this matter should be decided immediately or deferred to 2010. It was unanimously decided to take an immediate decision.

A vote was then taken on the substantive recommendation.

**Decision** : The General Conference decided by a large majority (no votes in favour, 44 abstentions), to reject the FAI By Law modifications recommended by the SWG.

## 8. World Air Games 2009 and 2011

### 8.1. Evaluation of World Air Games 2009, Turin

The Secretary General informed the Conference that a comprehensive evaluation of the World Air Games 2009 had been conducted and feedback gathered from participating competitors, FAI Air Sport Commissions and FAI Member organisations. The evaluation resulted in a series of recommendations for consideration by the FAI Executive Board on how to further improve the World Air Games.

Invited to report on the World Air Games 2009, Mr. Jean-Marc BADAN, FAI Sports & Development Director, summarized the most important milestones of the project :

After several months of intensive work with sports consultancy TSE Consulting, the bid and evaluation process for the World Air Games 2009 had been launched in October 2006 at the FAI Conference in Chile. On 1 June 2007, final bids from Moscow (RUS), Odense (DEN) and Turin (ITA) were presented at the Olympic Museum in Lausanne. The FAI Selection Committee awarded, by secret ballot vote, the organisation of the World Air Games 2009 to the City of Turin. The Turin Organising Committee (LOC) was faced with difficulties in securing access to air space and in finalising its legal status and management structure. Communication and coordination problems quickly appeared between the LOC and the FAI. The emergence of the world financial crisis added uncertainty and prevented the LOC from achieving the required level of sponsorship. The LOC therefore decided to reduce its global budget by 35 %. The consequence was the cancellation of the full international media coverage and of the air-to-ground system for freefall parachuting events. A series of Test Events was however successfully conducted in 2008 to test technical aspects of the Games and train volunteers.

In spite of those difficulties, the World Air Games 2009 was declared opened on 6 June 2009 by the Mayor of Turin. Attended by over 10'000 spectators, an impressive opening ceremony was held at the San Carlo central square in Turin, crowned by the lighting of the Icarus Flame, which the Hellenic Aeronautical & Air Sports Association had flown in directly from Greece. A total of 265 athletes from 41 nations competed in 19 disciplines, involving 8 Air Sport Commissions and the FAI Amateur-built & Experimental Aircraft Commission. All competitions on the final program were successfully completed. No serious accident occurred. The new format of the World Air Games had been well perceived by athletes and officials, and very valuable know-how and experience gathered.

Mr. Jean-Marc BADAN then reviewed and commented on the five objectives that had been set for the World Air Games 2009 :

1. To determine "World Air Games Champions": Titles of "World Air Games Champions" had been awarded in each of the 19 disciplines on the sports program; the first objective had therefore been achieved.
2. To create a sense of cohesion between different air sport disciplines and create camaraderie among the world's top air sport athletes : The distance from Turin of the remote venues did not make it easy for competitors from there to meet those of sports based in Turin. However, this second objective has also been achieved to a great extent. It was very encouraging to see competitors visiting other venues, expressing their enthusiasm when looking at other sports and meeting new people. The 2009 Games however highlighted the need for Air Sport Commissions to decompartmentalize their activities, and share experience and exploit synergies better.
3. To showcase air sports to the general public (...) and generate revenue for the LOC and the FAI : Budget cuts prevented the LOC from providing extensive media coverage. These objectives were therefore only partially achieved, but the FAI gained experience about how to present sports and athletes better and improve media support to future organisers.

4. To promote FAI events (...) and create an attractive platform for TV, media and other external stakeholders : The 2009 Games, combined with FAI's cooperation with Red Bull Air Race and Flying Aces Ltd (Airports World TV Series / [www.airports.tv](http://www.airports.tv)), contributed significantly towards the achievement of this long-term objective. Media exposure of air sports was progressively improving, producing encouraging results, reflected in the increasing number of cities and professional event organisers asking for information on FAI events.

The World Air Games 2009 had been a successful event, a major step forward had been achieved, the FAI had learned a lot, but there was still great scope for improving the World Air Games product, especially in areas such as the integration of sports, further development of attractive disciplines, media presentation of sports and athletes, communication, and coordination with future organisers and involvement of FAI Member organisations.

Mr. Jean-Marc BADAN concluded his report by thanking all those who had dedicated their time and energy to making the World Air Games 2009 possible : The members of the Turin LOC, all volunteers, the FAI Air Sport Commission Liaison Officers, the FAI Staff in Lausanne, all competitors and officials and, last but not least, Mr. Brian SPRECKLEY, FAI World Air Games Sports Liaison. His experience, patience and encouragements had been very helpful since he had joined the small World Air Games team in 2007.

The FAI President expressed his thanks to Mr. Jean-Marc BADAN for his report and work achieved during the last three years to manage the World Air Games project. He invited the Delegates to have a "taste" of the 2009 Games by watching a film the FAI had prepared with the TV footage provided by the LOC. A final and complete version incorporating images from the opening ceremony would be produced later in the year.

Mr. Tormod VEIBY (NOR), who attended the Games as leader of the Norwegian Microlight Pylon Race Team, expressed his regrets that the report did not mention in detail the lessons learned. Mr. Jean-Marc BADAN explained that it would have been too long to review all recommendations, but confirmed that all feedback received had been taken into account in the detailed evaluation. Implementation of the lessons learned would depend on where and when the next World Air Games were held.

## **8.2. Report on arrangements for next World Air Games**

The Secretary General reminded the Conference that a bid process for the **World Air Games 2011** had been launched in 2007. Shortly after the 2008 Conference, Russia had decided to withdraw its initial bid. Affected by the financial crisis, the other cities that had expressed initial interest informed the FAI that they wished first to evaluate the outcome of the 2009 Games. Following the unanimous support expressed in June 2009 by the FAI Air Sport Commissions for having World Air Games in 2011, the FAI Secretariat contacted potentially interested parties. The City of Odense (DEN) expressed its interest in organising the 2011 Games.

At the recent Olympic Congress in Copenhagen, the FAI President had met representatives of Sport Denmark and the City of Odense. They confirmed their interest in hosting the Games, but clearly stated that full support of the Royal Aero Club of Denmark (KDA) would be required. KDA President Hans HAVSAGER and Secretary General Anders MADSEN were able, within a very short time, to gather the approval from their affiliated associations. Mr. HAVSAGER had confirmed KDA's green light upon his arrival in Korea.

Further discussions and negotiations would start after the Conference, and the FAI President expressed his hope to sign an Organiser Agreement later in 2009 or early in 2010. The format of the 2011 Games would be similar to Turin, but topographical and financial constraints might require adaptation of the number of sports and disciplines. In any case, central FAI would play a more active role in all sports and media aspects.

**World Air Games 2013** : In order to maintain the two-year interval between the Games, the bid process for the 2013 Games would be launched in 2010.

### **8.3. Outstanding fees for World Air Games 2009**

As mentioned by the FAI President in his annual report, the Turin LOC had not yet settled all its financial commitments towards FAI. The FAI President put forward for consideration by the Conference the measures intended by the Executive Board to retrieve the outstanding fees of USD 300'000.- (rights fee) and EUR 30'000.- (international distribution rights).

Mr. Henk MEERTENS, CASI President, expressed his opinion that the Board needed no Conference resolution to take such actions.

The FAI President explained that since the process of recovering outstanding fees might have consequences for the Aero Club of Italy and involve substantial legal costs for FAI, the Board did not wish to proceed with such actions if this was not the desire of the Conference.

Mr. Angelo MORIONDO (ITA) agreed that there was an Organiser Agreement and that it had to be respected. However, as this item was not on the Agenda, the Italian Delegation had no opportunity to prepare and give information to the Conference on the budgetary constraints the LOC had been confronted with.

The FAI President said that this item had not been put on the agenda because the situation first needed to be discussed with the Executive Board and the Air Sport Commission Presidents. The Executive Board had been shocked by the unilateral decision of the LOC simply to renege on its financial obligations to FAI, without prior discussion. No proposal for a settlement had been made by the LOC, other than a request to FAI to accept, as value in kind, the tracking and scoring software developed for the Games. This possibility remained open, as part of an overall settlement.

The situation was unusual for two reasons: the large amount involved, and the fact that two other FAI member countries' rival bids to organize the Games had been rejected in favour of the Italian bid. The AeCI was a FAI founder member and had to carry some responsibility, since it was represented on the board of the LOC, and was fully aware of the engagement of the LOC. What shocked the Board was that there was no explanation or attempt to find mutually acceptable solutions. The LOC merely announced that it had no money and therefore would not pay. The Board therefore wished to inform the Conference of this matter, remind the NACs of their moral responsibility for events that took place in their countries, and obtain some feeling for what the Members thought about the situation the FAI found itself in. The Members were asked simply to give advice and suggestions on how they wished the Board to act.

Mr. Art GREENFIELD (USA) expressed some concern about the consequences for future World Air Games if NACs were required to share financial responsibility. In USA, such a situation would endanger the existence of the NAA.

Dr. Hans-Peter HIRZEL, FAI President of Honour, declared that the Executive Board was competent to deal with such issues, but that nothing prevented the Board from seeking for advice, guidance or support from the Conference.

The Secretary General explained that the intention of the Executive Board, as discussed at its most recent meeting was to take all necessary actions to obtain payment of the amounts contractually due to the FAI from the LOC and/or AeCI. The Board wished to know if there was any significant objection to this intention.

Having heard no such objection, the FAI President concluded the discussion by seeking informal confirmation from the Conference of its support for the Executive Board's actions to obtain payment from the Turin LOC and/or the Aero Club of Italy of the outstanding fees that were contractually due to FAI. **The Conference duly indicated its support.**

## 9. Proposal from Norway

The Norwegian Air Sports Federation had proposed that FAI establish a small task force to perform the following :

- *Analyze actual situation of "new threats" against air sports, leisure aviation and the motivation of young people for air sport activities or professions in this branch.*
- *Propose a set of FAI strategies in these areas.*
- *Examine the suitability of the FAI organization and its resource utilization in carrying out such strategies.*
- *Suggest improvements/changes to the organization, meeting structure and resource allocation/utilization.*
- *Present a suggested timeline for implementation of any improvements/changes.*

The Norwegian Air Sports Federation suggested that this work be presented to the General Conference in 2010 in Ireland, accompanied by actual suggestions for changes, to be decided at that Conference.

Mr. Otto LAGARHUS, President of the Norwegian Air Sports Federation, provided background information to the Conference. The idea was born at the meeting of the NAC Presidents held in May 2009 in Lausanne, at which the problems and threats the FAI Members were experiencing (regulations, airspace restrictions, recruitment of young people, etc.) had been revealed. With the FAI President's benediction, it had been agreed that NOR would make a proposal for reviewing FAI's current policy, identifying and analysing new threats, and developing and implementing new strategies. A group of five or six persons would work in close coordination with the FAI President and the Executive Board. FAI Members from Asia and America should be involved, and some financial resources would be needed. Mr. LAGARHUS informed the Conference that NOR was available to coordinate the project.

The FAI President thanked Mr. LAGARHUS for his proposal and asked him to chair the working group. In response to Mr. Jean-Claude WEBER's question, the FAI President stated that this would be a temporary working group tasked to report in 12 months. Mr. Henk MEERTENS would have preferred the working group to report to the Executive Board instead of the Conference. Mr. Beat NEUENSCHWANDER (SUI) expressed his wish for an Executive Board Member to sit on the group.

Summarizing the discussion and suggestions put forward, the FAI President requested the Conference to :

- **Approve the creation of a General Conference Temporary Working Group,**
- **Task the Working Group with achieving the five tasks listed above,**
- **Task Mr. Otto LAGARHUS with chairing the Working Group,**
- **Allow the FAI President and the chairman to agree on the most suitable persons to join the group,**
- **Agree that proposals should initially be submitted to the Executive Board, prior to presentation to the General Conference.**

**The Conference unanimously agreed to these proposals.**

## 10. Situation of FAI Membership

### 10.1. Suspensions, Resignations and Expulsions

No FAI Member had resigned in the last year.

At 27 September 2009, the following FAI Active Member was suspended for non-payment of subscriptions in 2008 :

- Aero Club of Monaco

One Temporary Member, the **Club de Planeadores “El Condor”, Ecuador**, had not paid its 2008 fees.

**Decisions : The Conference decided unanimously**

- **To terminate the membership of Monaco if debts were not paid by 31 Dec 2009.**
- **Not to renew the Temporary Membership of Club de Planeadores “El Condor”, Ecuador if debts were not paid by 31 Dec 2009.**

### 10.2. Consideration of Applications for Admission of New FAI Members:

**Iran** - Application for Active Member, Class 10

Following the withdrawal from FAI some years ago of the then Active member in Iran, an organization that was an integral part of the government sports ministry, FAI had received numerous communications from active individual air sports persons in Iran (especially in paragliding, aeromodelling, gliding and microlights) asking about international representation.

Following extensive correspondence, an application for Active membership in Class 10 was received from the newly-formed and independent **Iran Aviation Foundation**, which brings together enthusiasts from all disciplines. The Secretary General of the Iran Aviation Foundation, Mr Hamid Reihani, present in Incheon, said that his organization had been founded by enthusiasts, and thanked Conference and the Executive Board for their support.

The appropriate membership fee had been paid, and the Statutes of the organization were in line with the FAI's Statutes.

**The General Conference unanimously accepted the Iran Aviation Foundation's application for FAI Active Membership in Class 10.**

**Palestine** - Application for Temporary Membership

An application for Temporary Membership had been received from the Palestinian Air Sports Federation, based in Ramallah, which at present had only one active air sport – parachuting. The federation had complied with the requirements for application and offered to pay the FAI subscription fee immediately. The Interior Ministry of the Palestinian National Authority had confirmed that the Federation was the sole representative body for air sports in Palestinian territory. Since there are no suitable facilities on Palestinian territory, parachutists used facilities in Jordan for jumping.

The Secretary General explained that, in considering applications for membership, FAI applies the principle of accepting only territories that are recognized by either the International Olympic Committee (IOC) or the United Nations. Palestine is recognized by the

IOC and Palestinian athletes take part in the Olympic Games, under the Palestine flag. Several of the largest International Federations (football, athletics, swimming etc) have member organizations from Palestine, and competitors representing Palestine at their championships. However, under FAI rules, competitors from FAI Temporary Member countries cannot compete under their own flag, but only under the FAI's flag. A Temporary Member has no voting rights at the General Conference, nor may it issue FAI Sporting Licences. In essence, acceptance of a Temporary Member authorizes the FAI Secretariat to issue FAI Sporting Licences to competitors from the territory concerned.

**The FAI General Conference agreed unanimously to accept the application for Temporary Membership from the Palestinian Air Sports Federation.**

**Qatar** - Application for Temporary Membership

□ Following expulsion from FAI in 2008 of the Qatar Science Club for non-payment of temporary membership fees, an application to fly in an international aeromodelling championship had been made by a group of Qatar competitors. They had paid the equivalent of a Temporary Membership fee (CHF 500) and submitted a new application to join FAI. Pending Conference approval of this application, the Executive Board had agreed to the issue of FAI Sporting licences to three competitors from Qatar, enabling them to fly under the FAI flag in 2009.

**The FAI General Conference agreed unanimously to accept the Qatar Aeromodelling Racing Team's application for FAI Temporary Membership.**

**Trinidad and Tobago** - Application from Savannah Aero Concepts for Temporary Membership (Aeromodelling).

An application for Temporary Membership had been received from the only functioning aeromodelling association in Trinidad and Tobago, Savannah Aero Concepts. The appropriate membership fee had been paid, and the Statutes of the organization were in line with the FAI's Statutes. This organisation's slightly unusual name was chosen to enable their non-profit association to obtain the benefits that derive from being incorporated as a registered company.

**The FAI General Conference agreed unanimously to accept Trinidad and Tobago's Savannah Aero Concepts' application for FAI Temporary Membership.**

**10.3. Re-approval of Existing Temporary Members**

The FAI Executive Board had decided that the conditions for Temporary Membership should be clarified, in particular with regard to how long an organisation should be allowed to retain its temporary membership status before being required to apply for a higher level of membership. It was agreed that every effort should be made to keep Temporary Members within FAI and encourage them to apply for a higher category of membership after a certain number of years.

The Secretary General was tasked with writing to current Temporary Members asking about their intentions to apply for a higher level of membership.

The years in which current Temporary Members were admitted to membership were as follows :

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <i>Armenia</i> :                 | 2006   |
| <i>Bahrain</i> :                 | 2008   |
| <i>Ecuador (Aeromodelling)</i> : | 2001 (is considering Associate Membership from 2011) |

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|                            |      |   |
|----------------------------|------|---|
| <i>Ecuador (Gliding ):</i> | 1998 | <i>(has not paid for 2008 or 2009 – see 10.1 above)</i> |
| <i>El Salvador :</i>       | 1998 |   |
| <i>Mongolia :</i>          | 2006 | <i>(has applied for Active Membership)</i>              |
| <i>Oman :</i>              | 2008 |   |
| <i>Paraguay :</i>          | 2003 |   |
| <i>Surinam :</i>           | 1998 |   |
| <i>Vietnam :</i>           | 2008 |   |

**Pending receipt of replies from temporary members, the General Conference agreed unanimously to renew the Temporary Membership of all the above-mentioned members except that of :**

- **Club de Planeadores “El Condor”, Ecuador (not renewed because of non-payment of subscriptions) and**
- **Mongolian Air Sports Federation (see below – has applied for upgrading to Active membership).**

#### **10.4. Other Membership Matters**

##### **Bosnia & Herzegovina**

Progress continued towards the creation of a single representative organisation for air sport in Bosnia & Herzegovina. The main players had agreed to establish a new National Aero Club of Bosnia & Herzegovina according to the newly adopted Law on sports in Bosnia & Herzegovina. A Conference to establish this new National Aero Club of Bosnia & Herzegovina had been held on 4 April 2009 in Sarajevo. The Statutes adopted provided for the National Aero Club of Bosnia & Herzegovina to consist of two member organizations: Aeronautic Association of Federation of Bosnia & Herzegovina, and Aeronautic Association of Republic Srpska. Aero clubs can be members of an Entity association only.

Work is now in hand to assemble the documents necessary for the registration of the new National Aero Club of Bosnia & Herzegovina in the responsible Ministry.

**Conference agreed unanimously to authorize the FAI Executive Board to transfer Active membership to the new organization in Bosnia & Herzegovina when appropriate, subject to receipt of agreement from the two current FAI member organizations.**

##### **Brazil**

A report was given on progress with the CAB (Brazilian Airsports Committee) and relations with Aero Club of Brazil as FAI Active Member.

The 2008 General Conference’s decisions had been implemented. Sporting Powers for all sports other than aeromodelling had been allocated to the CAB. An Associate Member for Aeromodelling (COBRA) had been admitted, and the Executive Board had determined that its annual fee should be CHF 5 000.

Communications with CAB had remained rather difficult and unpredictable, even after election of a new CAB President and Executive Board. The special difficulties concerning Hang Gliding & Paragliding continued unsolved and CAB appeared to remain under the strong influence of ABVL, one of the associations in conflict, despite the fact that FAI had prohibited delegation of sporting powers.

FAI Sporting Licenses seemed to be correctly issued by CAB.

At its June meeting, the FAI Executive Board had decided :

- a) *To ask the NAC of Brazil to report to the General Conference on the progress achieved since the last Conference and on their plans for solving the on-going problems.*

The necessary invitation to report had been sent, but despite reminders, no response had been received until two days before the Conference. The report did not answer several of FAI's questions.

- b) *To invite the General Conference to extend the probation period in Brazil.*
- c) *To consider arranging a possible visit to Brazil.*

At its October (Incheon) meeting, the FAI Executive Board had noted that a report from Brazil (CAB) had been received two days previously, but that this did not answer all the questions asked by the FAI.

Conference remained concerned about the situation in Brazil, particularly concerning paragliding, and was not yet convinced that CAB was in a position to do a better job than the Aero Club of Brazil in uniting all Brazilian air sport groups.

Mr. Graeme WINDSOR (IPC) emphasized that there had never been a problem with the parachuting community in Brazil. This was acknowledged and it was confirmed that nothing would be done to the disadvantage of air sports people in BRA. However, it was necessary for CAB to understand that they must get their own house in order, and that they could not depend on the FAI's benevolence to resolve internal Brazilian problems. If the Executive Board decided to suspend CAB, it would have to take the necessary steps to protect the interests of Air sport participants.

Concerning a possible visit to Brazil, it had been decided that the time was not yet right, because there seemed to be no basis for a compromise, particularly in connection with paragliding and paramotors. A better basis for agreement was needed before a meeting would make sense. However, the option remained open, possibly involving an independent mediator. The FAI President believed that personal problems were at the root of the difficulties. There were ongoing court cases. FAI had to try and help Brazil to find people capable of managing the development of air sports in Brazil, a country that offered excellent prospects for these activities.

#### **Decisions :**

- **The General Conference agreed unanimously to approve the Associate Membership of COBRA and the annual subscription of CHF 5 000.**
- **The General Conference agreed with 32 abstentions (none against) to the following:**
  - **If competitors selected for the Brazilian national team were out of sequence in the CIVL world pilot ranking list, the CAB would be required to provide FAI with convincing independent evidence of the reasons for these selections. In the event that no adequate reasons are provided for their selection, the FAI Executive Board, following consultation with the Board of Enquiry for Brazil, may disallow entry to FAI international events for the lower-ranked pilots.**
  - **The CAB's period of probation would be extended, but the FAI Executive Board would have authority, after consultation with the Brazil Board of Enquiry, to suspend CAB's international sporting powers, if inadequate progress was made.**

#### **Germany** – Relations between DAeC and IGDL

Relations between the DAeC and the German Aeromodelling Federation (DMFV) and other single-sport federations, which had created an umbrella organisation (IGDL) had continued

to be problematical during the last year. A meeting between the FAI President and Secretary General, the DAeC President and influential DAeC regional Presidents had taken place in April at the AERO exhibition in Friedrichshafen. DAeC had subsequently held an Extraordinary General Meeting on 19 September 2009 at which it had been agreed to change the DAeC statutes to allow separate air sport organisations to join DAeC under certain financial conditions. Hopes were therefore now very high that the German single-sport organisations could join DAeC and thus eliminate any need for FAI to consider applications for membership from other organizations in Germany.

DAeC President, Klaus KOPLIN, welcome the FAI assistance which had been helpful in Friedrichshafen in obtaining results. New DAeC Statutes had been legally registered making possible membership of individual air sports federations.

The FAI President welcomed this development and noted that if a legal basis was now available for the DAeC to accept federations, these federations need to have good reasons for refusing the opportunity.

**Conference took note and authorized the FAI Executive Board (32 abstentions) to continue close monitoring of developments in Germany following the recent DAeC Statutes change.**

#### **Ireland** - Relations between NACI and IPPHA

An Irish Paramotor organization (IPPHA) continued to assert that they were not properly represented at international level. An attempt at mediation had failed because the mediator could see no willingness to find a compromise. The FAI Executive Board had informed the NAC of Ireland that the FAI could not solve purely national issues, but required the FAI Member to do so as quickly as possible.

Mr. Tom McCORMACK (President NACI) stated that another meeting was planned that might lead to the creation of a new national paramotor association. He asked for guidance from CIMA on the advisability of separating microlights and paramotors. The Secretary General undertook to arrange this.

**Conference took note.**

#### **Kosovo** – Issue of FAI licences under Sporting Code, General Section 3.2.1.

In view of the fact that Kosovo is not recognised by either the UN or IOC, the FAI Executive Board had refused to consider an application for FAI membership from Kosovo. However, in these circumstances, the Board felt that it was appropriate to use when necessary the provisions of Sporting Code, General Section 3.2.1., which permits the FAI Secretariat to issue Sporting Licences to those who – because of particular circumstances such as this – are unable to obtain a Sporting Licence from a FAI Member organisation.

**Conference took note.**

#### **Mongolia** – Upgrading of FAI Membership to Active Membership in Class 10 (Mongolian Air Sports Federation)

The Mongolian Air Sports Federation, currently a Temporary Member (represented in Incheon) had applied to upgrade to Active Membership in Class 10 with effect from 2010.

**Conference unanimously accept the Mongolian Air Sports Federation as an Active Member in Class 10 with effect from 1 January 2010.**

**Moldova** - Upgrading of FAI Membership to Active Membership in Class 10 (Federatia De Parapantism Din Republica Moldova (FPRM))

As previously authorised by the 2007 FAI General Conference, the Executive Board had accepted the FPRM as the Active Member for Moldova in Class 10.

**Conference unanimously ratified this decision to accept Federatia De Parapantism Din Republica Moldova (FPRM) as an Active Member in Class 10.**

**Morocco** – Fulfilment of conditions for re-admittance of previous member.

In 2008, following receipt of two years' subscription, the General Conference had agreed to readmit the Fédération Royale Marocaine d'Aviation Légère et Sportive (FRMALS) as an Active Member in Class 10, subject to acceptance by the NAC of attendance at a meeting, held under the aegis of the Ministry of Sport, during which FAI Officials would have a chance to ensure that the NAC, whose status was challenged by some air sport groups in Morocco, properly represented all sporting aviators in the country

Since then several attempts had been made to set up such a meeting, the principle of which was agreed in a telephone conversation between the FAI Secretary General and the Director of Sports in the Moroccan Sports Ministry. Unfortunately, however, all attempts to obtain agreement on a date for the meeting had been unsuccessful. The Ministry did not reply in writing to official communications, even when sent by registered post, and only made phone calls when it was too late to arrange to travel. It was not clear that FAI had the right organization in membership. The Board recommended continuing to discuss with anybody competent in Morocco to achieve compliance with the previous year's decision.

**The General Conference decided unanimously to instruct the Executive Board to make one final attempt to arrange the meeting in Morocco in 2010, and thus achieve compliance with the previous year's decision.**

**Philippines** – Executive Board agreement to accept subscription payment in two instalments.

Statute 7.2.3. states that Membership subscriptions shall be invoiced by FAI and paid by 31 March each year, but that in case of need, other terms of settlement may be authorised at the discretion of the Executive Board. Such terms shall be reported to the General Conference at its next meeting thereafter.

In response to a request from the Philippines NAC for exceptional treatment in 2009, because of financial difficulties they had encountered, the Executive Board had agreed to accept payment of the 2009 subscription in two 50% installments. The first was duly received in good time. The second had to be paid by the end of the year.

**The General Conference unanimously ratified this decision to authorize payment in two stages.**

**CIMP affiliation to Aerospace Medical Association** ([www.asma.org/index.php](http://www.asma.org/index.php))

The FAI Medico-Physiological Commission had agreed unanimously to seek affiliation to the Aerospace Medical Association, which is the largest, most-representative professional organization in the world in the fields of aviation, space, and environmental medicine. Although US-based, the Association has more than 3,200 members in over 70 countries. It is an umbrella group providing a forum for many different disciplines to come together and share expertise, which it provides to many international agencies on a broad range of issues

including aviation and space medical standards, the aging pilot, and physiological stresses of flight.

The objectives of ASMA are fully compatible with FAI's Statutes, namely :

- To advance the frontiers of Aerospace Medicine.
- To ensure the highest levels of safety and health in aviation and aerospace operations.
- To establish and maintain cooperation between the medical, biological, engineering, and other sciences concerned with aviation, space, and environmental research and programs, as well as to promote the exchange of information on Aerospace Medicine to industry and the general public.

To achieve these objectives, the Association :

- Provides the world's largest and most comprehensive single annual meeting in the aerospace medical sciences.
- Publishes Aviation, Space, and Environmental Medicine (formerly Aerospace Medicine), a monthly journal of the aerospace medical sciences, including abstracts from the annual scientific meeting.
- Provides an opportunity for meaningful professional dialogue and easy exchange of information with scientists and engineers, world-wide.
- Conducts a public affairs program to advocate aerospace medicine issues with other professional organizations and governmental institutions.

ASMA had already agreed in principle to accept affiliation of the FAI Medico-Physiological Commission (CIMP). Every second year, the CIMP meeting is scheduled to take place at the same location and just before the ASMA meeting, so as to facilitate lobbying of national civil aviation regulatory agencies' officials by CIMP delegates.

FAI Statute 1.11.1. states : *"The FAI may establish such relations with other international organisations as are consistent with its aims and objectives. With the approval of the General Conference it may join such organisations, be represented at their meetings or engage in joint undertakings with them on a permanent or temporary basis."*

**The General Conference decided unanimously to agree that the FAI, through its Medico-Physiological Commission, be affiliated to the Aerospace Medical Association.**

### **Europe Airports**

The President of Europe Airports, Mr. David ROBERTS, gave a presentation on the progress made by his organization in the last year and main subjects of concern. His presentation can be seen at : [http://www.fai.org/general\\_conference/2009](http://www.fai.org/general_conference/2009)

The FAI President thanked him for his very interesting presentation, and warned non-European delegates that, unless they remained alert, what had happened in Europe could happen elsewhere. Constant vigilance was required.

At a meeting between the FAI and EAS Presidents held in Paris recently (also attended by the FAI Secretary General) the long-standing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between FAI and Europe Airports (EAS) had been up-dated by mutual agreement. The Board of EAS had approved the modifications to the MoU at its meeting in Brussels on 25 September 2009, and the FAI Executive Board had approved it at their meeting in Incheon.

**The General Conference decided unanimously to approve the revised MoU between FAI and Europe Airports (attached at ANNEX 8)**

## **11. Election of Members to serve on Statutes Working Group (Stats WG)**

The General Conference was invited to elect 5 Members to serve for a 2-year term on the Statutes Working Group, in accordance with the procedures for electing members laid down in Terms of Reference previously adopted by the General Conference. The FAI President would submit his preferred list of candidates; the floor would then be invited to submit additional nominees. Two votes would then be made, one for the Chairman and a second for members.

The FAI President informed the Conference that Statutes Working Group Chairman Mr. Jean-Claude WEBER had agreed to accept a new mandate, and that the current members were prepared to stand for an additional term. He wished to renominate the Chairman and all members.

The following additional nominations came from the floor :

- CAN : Mr. Richard "Buzz" BENNETT
- GBR : Mr. Ian STRACHAN

Mr. Keith NEGAL (GBR) expressed some disappointment in the performance of the Working Group and argued that Mr. STRACHAN's experience and reputation would be helpful for delivering work on time. Mr. Omri TALMON (ISR) proposed enlarging the Working Group to 6 persons : two subcommittees of 3 persons each would be a good basis for better and more expeditive work.

Mr. Graeme WINDSOR, IPC President, applauded the Working Group's efforts. It appeared to him that FAI Statutes needed careful review, since they contained nothing about election procedures for SWG members, the Board's right to initiate litigation or buy property and conduct activity in it. He felt there was a need for a look at working procedures, the way committees work etc. He wondered if the size of the group could be increased to spread the workload, but was reminded that this would mean changing the Group's Terms of Reference, so could not be done before 2010.

Mr. Jean-Claude WEBER apologized for the late production of documents. The Conference should not blame the institution, but the individuals. He would be prepared to stand down if somebody else was ready to take over the task. He further explained that the number of members on the Statutes Working Group had been laid down in the Terms of Reference : Should the Conference wish to change this number, a proposal should be put forward for the next Conference.

The FAI President admitted that the SWG could be charged with not working fast enough, but then many groups within FAI did not deliver work on time. He believed that the SWG had worked conscientiously, to the best of its ability.

The candidates nominated by the floor presented themselves, and the **Conference elected the following four persons to serve on the Statutes Working Group for a new 2-year term, with the following number of votes :**

- **Mr. Arne MATHISEN (NOR) : 249**
- **Mr. Eric MOZER (USA) : 251**
- **Mr. Paolo MOURA MARQUES (POR) : 196**
- **Mr. Antonis PAPADOPOULOS (GRE) : 234.**

The votes obtained by the other candidates were 126 for Mr. Richard "Buzz" BENNETT (CAN) and 130 for Mr. Ian STRACHAN (GBR).

**The Conference then re-elected Mr. Jean-Claude WEBER as Chairman of the Statutes Working Group.**

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|--|
| <b>12. Report of the FAI Secretary General</b> |
|--|

FAI Secretary General Mr. Max BISHOP presented his final report (**ANNEX 9**) which was adopted by Conference.

The FAI President noted that some parts of his report would serve as a document for the guidance of FAI leaders in future years.

## **13. Commission Presidents' Forum**

### **13.1. Annual Reports**

Annual Reports submitted by the FAI Commission Presidents and International Affiliate Members had been distributed to the Delegates with the Agenda. The reports did not give rise to any questions. They are attached in the following Annexes :

**ANNEX 10 FAI Air Sport General Commission (CASI)**

**ANNEX 11 FAI Ballooning Commission (CIA)**

**ANNEX 12 FAI General Aviation Commission (GAC)**

**ANNEX 13 FAI Gliding Commission (IGC)**

**ANNEX 14 OSTIV**

**ANNEX 15 FAI Aeromodelling Commission (CIAM)**

**ANNEX 16 FAI Parachuting Commission (IPC)**

**ANNEX 17 FAI Aerobatics Commission (CIVA)**

**ANNEX 18 FAI Hang Gliding and Paragliding Commission (CIVL)**

**ANNEX 19 FAI Astronautics Records Commission (ICARE)**

**ANNEX 20 FAI Rotorcraft Commission (CIG)**

**ANNEX 21 FAI Microlight Commission (CIMA)**

**ANNEX 22 FAI Aviation and Space Education Commission (CIEA)**

**ANNEX 23 FAI Amateur-Built and Experimental Aircraft Commission (CIACA)**

**ANNEX 24 FAI Medico-Physiological Commission (CIMP)**

**ANNEX 25 FAI Environmental Commission (EnvC)**

**ANNEX 26 FAI Commission for Airspace & Navigation (CANS)**

At the 2009 NAC Presidents Meeting, Mr. Beat NEUENSCHWANDER (SUI) had proposed improving the layout, content and quality of the reports by implementing a standard structure that would make reports more efficient to consult. Even though his proposal had been approved, he wondered why the 2009 reports had not been written accordingly. He reiterated the five main report items he had suggested :

1. Important activities/projects since the last Conference,
2. Positive and negative results,
3. Main problems encountered and solutions adopted,
4. Planned activities/projects for next year,
5. Proposal (if any) for the next Conference.

The Secretary General apologized for not having implemented this proposal in due time for the 2009 Reports and would ensure that the necessary actions were taken next year.

However, Mr. Keith NEGAL (GBR) observed that some of the items that fell outside the prescriptive format in the reports were very useful. He urged not to make the format too restrictive.

### **13.2. Presidents' Forum**

Led by Mr. Bob HENDERSON, IGC President, the Commission Presidents had wished to take the opportunity of the increased attendance of Asian countries at this year's Conference to present some FAI activities and projects that might be helpful for developing air sports in general, and especially in Asia.

(Note : Presentations made during this Forum are available for consultation at : [http://www.fai.org/general\\_conference/2009](http://www.fai.org/general_conference/2009))

Mr. Henk MEERTENS, President of the FAI Air Sports General Commission (CASI), reminded the Delegates of the general structure of FAI (Members, Commissions), decision-making (General Conference, Executive Board) and the role and responsibilities of CASI (Sporting Code General Section, appeals, governance for competitions and world records, etc.).

Representing the FAI Commission on Airspace and Navigation Systems (CANS), Mr. Hannu HALONEN pointed out how important it was for all FAI Members worldwide to support, attend and bring ideas to CANS, especially matters relating to airspace and regulations.

Mr. Michiel KASTELEIJN, President of the FAI Aviation & Space Education Commission (CIEA), presented the missions and main projects managed by CIEA. He invited each FAI member country to take a more active role in CIEA, especially by sharing experience and educational programmes with other FAI members. The theme for the 2010 FAI Young Artists Contest was "Flying with the Sun". While some 15 to 20 countries traditionally participated in the Contest, he invited all other countries to visit the Contest's webpages ([http://www.fai.org/education/young\\_artists\\_contest](http://www.fai.org/education/young_artists_contest)) and take part in this annual event. Each year, the FAI Young Artists Contest represented a unique opportunity to put several thousand young people in contact with aviation and air sports.

Representing the FAI Gliding Commission (IGC), Mr. Roland STUCK reported on the activities of the IGC Country Development Working Group. The main mission of this working group created in 2008 was to better understand the structure, needs and expectations of soaring pilots worldwide, and to provide the framework and support required for further developing gliding activities at local levels.

During recent years, the IGC had developed a new, attractive world-class event, the World Gliding Grand Prix Series : The third GP Series would come to an end in January 2010 at the 3<sup>rd</sup> FAI World GP Gliding Championship in Santiago de Chile. As live tracking would be available, Mr. STUCK invited the Delegates to look at the daily competitions on-line at [www.grandprixchile.org/](http://www.grandprixchile.org/). He pointed out that one of the main issues slowing down further development of this event was the lack of sponsorship. Gliding GPs were attractive, but the technologies involved and transporting gliders to various parts of the world significantly increased costs.

The FAI President thanked Mr. STUCK and the IGC for their initiatives. Securing new, medium to long-term income streams from sponsors/partners was one of FAI's main objectives.

Mr. Graeme WINDSOR, President of the Parachuting Commission (IPC), informed the Delegates about the content of the Strategic Plan which the IPC had drawn up to further improve competition formats (instant judging, simplification of rules, etc.), develop a more efficient bid process for international events, and promote safety. He also reported on the positive cooperation the IPC and AsiaParachuting had established to promote and develop Sport Parachuting in Asian countries.

Thanking the Commission Presidents for their contributions, the FAI President stressed that the future of FAI would be more closely tied to sponsors and commercial organizations. FAI needed experts capable of searching for sponsors to generate a guaranteed income stream. Long or medium term contracts were needed, since FAI member organizations had less money to fund international activities.

#### 14. Election of FAI Vice-Presidents for 2009/2010

The list of persons nominated to serve as FAI Vice Presidents for 2009/2010 (ANNEX 27), which incorporated two amendments notified at the Conference :

- LUX : Claude ESCHETTE
- USA : Jonathan GAFFNEY

was approved by Conference, with 6 votes against and no absentions.

#### 15. Approval of Delegates Nominated for FAI Commissions 2009/2010

Amendments to the previously distributed list of nominations had been received before the Conference from CZE and ESP, and at the Conference from EST, ROU, SER and SVK.

**Conference unanimously approved the list, subject to the incorporation of these amendments.** The up-dated list is attached at (ANNEX 28). However, Conference urged that these nominations be made in future in accordance with the established timetable and not at the last minute.

#### 16. Presentation of Bids and Vote on Award of 105<sup>th</sup> FAI General Conference – 2011

Finland, Roumania, Serbia, and Sweden were invited to present their bids for the 105<sup>th</sup> FAI General Conference, in an order drawn by lots (1. SER 2. SWE 3. FIN 4. ROU).

The first round of voting did not produce an absolute majority :

Finland : 25  
Romania : 78  
Serbia : 133  
Sweden : 87

so a second round of voting had to be held (from which Finland withdrew), which produced a very clear majority of 171 votes in favour of the Serbian bid.

**The FAI President congratulated Serbia on being awarded the 2011 FAI General Conference**, and thanked the other bidding countries for their excellent presentations. Mr. Zeljko OVUKA (SER) thanked Conference delegates for their support and gave his assurance that every effort would be made to create an excellent Conference, and in particular to ensure easy entry into the country for all delegates.

#### 17. Open Forum

##### 17.1. Incheon Declaration on the Development of International Air Sports

Considering that Asia would play a more and more important role for the future of FAI and the development of air sports, the NAC of Korea, with the strong backing of the FAI Executive Board. invited the Conference to adopt the following Declaration :

- 1. *In order to increase choices and opportunities, we pledge to increase support for air sports among developing countries, including those in East Asia.***
- 2. *We encourage FAI Members to cooperate to enhance the growth of air sports and further have those adopted formally into the Asian Games and other major multi-sport events.***
- 3. *We renew our global commitment to fulfilling the low carbon “green growth” initiative so that we can take our share of responsibility in the field of air sports to improve the global environment.***

Mr. LEE Jonghoon (Executive Director) explained that the declaration, if adopted, would be published in media, and to the sports authorities of KOR and the NOC. In most Asian countries, air sports suffered from lack of support. But once they appear in the Asian Games, governments would be likely to give more financial and administrative help. With strong statements of support from AUS, TPE, SWE, IPC, and JAP, a vote was taken.

**The Conference unanimously adopted this three-part Declaration, and decided that it should be entitled the “Incheon Declaration”.**

#### **17.2. FAI Website Forum**

Mr. Tom MacCORMACK (IRE) suggested that the Board considers use of a Forum on the FAI website, amongst other things to assist the work of the Strategic Task Force. It was felt that this should be a private forum for FAI delegates only, with password access.

#### **17.3. Conferences**

Mr. Uskas URMA (EST) wished to know more about air sports activities in countries hosting General Conferences. These should include opportunities to visit air sport installations, as happened in Chile. There was wide support for this suggestion.

#### **17.4. Agenda**

Mr. Omri TALMON (ISR) wanted to see more of substance on General Conference agendas, with less administrative and organisational matters. Flight safety was vitally important. Fatal accidents led to increased costs of flying, which in turn led to more accidents and increased regulatory costs. Debate on substantive issues was essential, because individual countries could not fight wars alone.

The FAI President agreed, stating that the NAC Presidents had also asked for less paperwork and more substantive issues. The proposals to delegate certain routine matters to the Executive Board would help. Annual Statute changes had to be avoided as they always gave rise to time-wasting debates. External speakers could be invited to Conference. FAI needed people who were prepared to work on a volunteer basis. The UAV Working Group established in 2007 had been a good example: no volunteers came forward to lead it, so no progress had been made in an important area for the future.

Mr. Alvaro DE ORLEANS-BORBON (Executive Director) agreed that it was important to improve the productivity of the Conference. He had been struck by the rapid development of the Red Bull Air Race. It had started in 2003, and in just 5 years had become a fully-fledged well-known event world-wide. The people in charge were in their early thirties. It was necessary for FAI to make space for the young, to renew ourselves.

#### 18. Prince Alvaro de Orleans Borbon Fund

Professor Louis BOERMANS (NED), Trustee, reported that the 2007 award had been ceremonially presented to the inventors of the in-flight glider anti-collision system FLARM in the prestigious surroundings of the Friedrichshafen Aero Expo in April 2007. There was no nomination for the award in 2008, following the decision to present the award every two years. Mr. René DE MONCHY (NED) had maintained the financial bookkeeping of the fund since its establishment in 2000 but he had expressed the wish to resign. Prof. BOERMANS thanked Mr. DE MONCHY for his work and for keeping the fund in a healthy financial state. A successor now had to be found. (*Note: The FAI President is working on this*). The 2008/9 award would be presented in 2010; Commission Presidents were invited to nominate candidates in accordance with the objectives of the fund. These may be persons or institutions who had devoted themselves to, or who had promoted technical developments in, aviation, especially in air sports and this included simulation flying.

The FAI President thanked Prof. BOERMANS for his work. He also thanked Mr. DE MONCHY for his careful administration of the fund which was currently invested in first class bonds. Renée DE MONCHY had found a successor, but since then the situation in KNVvL (Dutch NAC) had evolved and this person was no longer able to take over. A meeting had taken place at Schipol in April and the President had accepted the mission to establish the fund in Lausanne. Tax and legal aspects had to be investigated.

#### 19. International Calendar of Sporting Events for 2009

The calendar was distributed and **Conference took note**. The updated version is attached at **ANNEX 29**. The Secretary General gave particular thanks to Ms Christine ROUSSON for her administration of the calendar.

#### 20. Calendar of Meetings for next 12 Months

This calendar was distributed and **Conference took note**. The Secretary General reminded Delegates that this information was available on the FAI website at <http://events.fai.org/>.

He also pointed out that information could be found regarding meetings [www.fai.org/general/meetings.asp](http://www.fai.org/general/meetings.asp) and FAI officials ("Who's who") [www.fai.org/directory](http://www.fai.org/directory). The updated version of the calendar is attached at **ANNEX 30**.

#### 21. Recommendation of Museums

Application had been made by the NAC of Korea for FAI recognition to be given to the KAU Aerospace Museum for its efforts in displaying attractive original pieces and educating young people. KAU Aerospace Museum was located in Goyang City (KOR), and information available on the Internet at [www.aerospacemuseum.or.kr](http://www.aerospacemuseum.or.kr) (in Korean only).

The FAI Executive Board and the FAI Aviation & Space Education Commission (CIEA) gave their full support to this proposal. **The Conference unanimously awarded the title of "FAI Recommended Museum" to the KAU Aerospace Museum.** The plaque was awarded to the director of the Museum at the closing banquet.

## **22. Arrangements for Future General Conferences**

### **2010**

Dublin had been selected as European city of sport. Sponsorship was well in place. There would be an aviation element in the programme. No changes had been made to fees etc. A website would be launched in due course.

The following Members indicated or reconfirmed their intentions to bid for the 2012 and other future FAI General Conferences :

Egypt : 2012 (a film of possible venues was shown)

Montenegro : 2012 or later

Mexico : 2013

UAE (Dubai or Abu Dhabi) : 2012 or later

## **23. Discharge of FAI Executive Board**

Mr. Henk MEERTENS (AUS), being the FAI Vice-President for Australia, invited the General Conference to give discharge to the FAI Executive Board of responsibility for the management of the FAI's affairs during the year from 5 October 2008 to 10 October 2009. This proposal was supported by CIG and Sweden.

**Conference unanimously gave discharge to the Executive Board.**

## **24. Any Other Business**

The FAI President closed the Conference thanking delegates for their participation and hosts for their outstanding organization. He hoped to see everyone in Ireland.

## **Annexes**

1. Report by FAI President **Pierre PORTMANN**
2. Financial report by the Executive Director Finance **Robert CLIPSHAM**
3. Report on FAI Commissions' Finances
4. 2008 Financial Statements and Auditor's Report
5. Scale of Subscriptions for 2010
6. Budget for 2010
7. Petition concerning vote on number of presidential terms
8. Memorandum of Understanding with Europe Airsports

9. Report by the FAI Secretary General **Max BISHOP**
  10. Report by the President of the FAI Air Sport General Commission (CASI) **Henk MEERTENS**
  11. Report by the President of the FAI Ballooning Commission (CIA) **Jean-Claude WEBER**
  12. Report by the President of the FAI General Aviation Commission (GAC)  
**Pedro CABANERO MARIMON**
  13. Report by the President of the FAI Gliding Commission (IGC) **Robert HENDERSON**
  14. Report by the President of OSTIV **Prof. Loek BOERMANS**
  15. Report by the President of the FAI Aeromodelling Commission (CIAM) **Bob SKINNER**
  16. Report by the President of the FAI Parachuting Commission (IPC) **Graeme WINDSOR**
  17. Report by the President of the FAI Aerobatics Commission (CIVA) **Mike HEUER**
  18. Report by the President of the FAI Hang Gliding and Paragliding Comm(CIVL) **Flip KOETSIER**
  19. Report by the President of the FAI Astronautics Records Commission (ICARE)  
**Segismundo SANZ FERNANDEZ DE CORDOBA**
  20. Report by the President of the FAI Rotorcraft Commission (CIG) **David HAMILTON**
  21. Report by the President of the FAI Microlight Commission (CIMA) **Tomas BACKMAN**
  22. Report by the President of the FAI Aviation and Space Education Commission (CIEA)  
**Michiel KASTELEIJN**
  23. Report by the President of the FAI Amateur-Built and Experiment Aircraft Commission (CIACA)  
**Pierluigi DURANTI**
  24. Report by the President of the FAI Medico-Physiological Commission (CIMP)  
**Dr. Peter SAUNDBY**
  25. Report by the President of the FAI Environmental Commission (EnvC) **Dr. Michael GOTH**
  26. Report by the President of the FAI Commission for Airspace & Navigation (CANS)  
**Lars HOLMSTRÖM**
  27. List of Vice-Presidents for 2009-2010
  28. List of Delegates of Commissions for 2009-2010
  29. International Calendar of Sporting Events 2010
  30. Calendar of FAI Meetings 2010
- Additional documents are annexed as follows :*
31. List of FAI Award Winners for 2008
  32. List of Participants at the General Conference
  33. List of Companions of Honour
  34. List of FAI Members