President report

Before I would start with CIMA specific issues, I would like to speak about a more general topic, which is for sure important for CIMA and it is important for you as representatives of your National aero clubs to this FAI commission and therefore connected to FAI:

As Markus has pointed out before, FAI is in a difficult situation and this is not caused by COVID 19. FAI is in a deep financial crisis. Maybe Rob, our 1st VP can explain this topic with some more details later. But to make a point: FAI will run out of money in the near future, if there is no steep change in cutting expenditure and raising income. No question, both goals are very difficult to achieve and for sure it is not the fault of our secretary general, that we are in this situation.

The second point is that all ASC Presidents are in one wax or another unhappy with the FAI leadership. This means the Executive Board – the EB – and the current President Bob Henderson. It would take too much time to explain to those of you who are focused on sport – which is fine – the details, but the final result is, that we will have at the FAI general conference in two weeks at least two candidates for FAI president and we have 15 candidates for the EB. Amongst them is a handful of ASC presidents (including myself). We together want to give a strong signal to our air sports community and to the FAI members, that a change is necessary. I myself will have no real chance to be selected, so don’t worry about that. But I want you to know, what the reason is for our intention.

We as ASCs know how to deliver good performances for the members who are interested in sport. We must be supported in this where necessary by a central unit, the Secretariat.

This support must be provided efficiently and economically. The division of tasks between ASCs and EBs must be clearly defined, new ideas can and may only be started and implemented in accordance with the ASCs. For this we need a president who makes clear announcements and an EB who does not get lost in mutual blockades and trench warfare, so that in the end nothing at all is moved.

I would like to ask you to transfer these points into your NAC’s who are attending the general conference in December.

As I have the word, I would like to point out another more general issue. The pandemic causes several limitations for our sport, but also radical changes in our society. This has changed so far the way we live together, how we communicate, how we interact. Scientists are very confident, that these
changes will have an impact on our mental and - even if we are not be infected – on our mental health.

Maybe you will ask yourself, where is the link to us as pilots?

We do our sport right now with some limits, but we will coming back to normal hopeful soon. But to rise our position in the society, our value, we need to do more, and we can do more. This approach is not born in my head. It is an idea from my colleague Jaques Berlot, President of the rotorcraft commission CIG, and also delegate to the CIMP, the aeromedical commission. We will share thoughts and ideas in the near future, and I will come back to you in the future if I am allowed to continue as your president.

I will stop now with non-direct CIMA issues and pointing out some relevant things form our CIMA bureau business.

As you all know, we are very much affected by COVID 19. We had been in closed contact to all organizers of the relevant Championships and step by step we need to stop the process. We did not cancel the three events but instead we postponed those competitions. We as the bureau are sure, that you agreed and you will support the intention to have our WPC, WPSC and WMC in 2021. There are some fields we did not made progress.

1. Develop a new type of logger to replace the old fashioned AMOD logger.
2. Keep our wiki reliable. We have put some money in our budget, but it was not spending so far
3. Writing a kind of guidance for practical considerations of marshalling of an event
4. Getting a valid database with competent and available sports persons to contribute as Steward, as liaison and as jury members to our Cat 1 events
5. And such simple things like write a new version of registration form in our rules, for example requesting more details about the aircraft.
6. Getting a list of experienced an reliable experts to serve our competitions as Steward, Liaison, or jury was another issue. Our Secretary started a new approach for this plenary, but the response so far is zero.

I don’t want to whine or moaning. It hopes it is not a lack of interest about our sports issues or about CIMA itself. It is because probably all of us are packed with family issues, with work or with voluntary work in our countries. I know by my self, how much time I have to spend for FAI and CIMA issues. I would send an urgent appeal to all delegates – those who are present and those who could not managed to participate in this travel cost free online session:

Please put a bit more effort in making our commission more lively, interesting attractive and successful.

I hope, I have not bother you with this long speech but I had the feeling it is necessary to talk about.

Thank you