



CIVL 2021 PLENARY – ANNEXE 6A

FAI PRESIDENT'S SPEECH BEFORE HIS ELECTION

Hello, my name is David Monks and I am the Chairman of the Royal Aero Club of the United Kingdom.

It has become apparent to me and many of you attending this conference that FAI administration needs to focus on: governance, trust, finance and communication. Here are some of my thoughts. Starting with

1. Governance & trust

Times have changed since the statutes were first written – just look at how we are attending this conference. I propose the organisation should be run to the statute so all bodies are working to a common goal. This way the statutes can be evaluated over the year and any deficiencies identified can be addressed for revision. This will in turn bring accountability and stability to the organisation and help restore trust where friction between bodies has developed. We should facilitate an environment where the air sports commissions can focus on developing sports and record achievements.

2. Finance

For 2021, I believe an achievable budget has been approved. Obviously, it will need supporting with a cash flow projection. It does provide for the membership subscription cost to cover the administrative costs. Financial management accounts should be provided to the EB monthly and quarterly to the membership. A review is required of the funding model of FAI through consultation of the stakeholders. Carry out an activity analysis and review of costs servicing the organisation. Where there is not, introduce a standard of performance for the administrative and operational functions.

3. Communication

Communication is one of the most important functions and the back bone of this organisation. It is the key to transparency. Communication channels to the members need to be reinforced through direct emailing to the registered office and their Vice Presidents. A record of the communications will be included on the document Cloud for reference. To promote openness and transparency, Executive Board meeting minutes need to be published in a timely manner. Members, stakeholders and the Executive Board should meet half-yearly through electronic means. There should be a review of the strategy functionality and practicality of the FAI website.

I have spoken of my thoughts but how will I make the changes required?

We have already started, and the membership has already helped me.

Last year with your help we started the change to put the governance and control back of FAI to the membership. We proposed and agreed the budget for 2020 which is forecast to be successful.

I am pleased to see the conversations and recommendations I made to both the Finance Director and the new Secretary General at the beginning of this year have been adopted in the new finance project.

Since the 2018 General Conference in Luxor, I have a trusting relationship with the Commission Presidents encouraging them to use the statutes which establish the Air sports commissions positions within the organisation. You can see they are reporting directly to the membership and successfully continuing to manage their delegated sporting powers, aware that the EB is not there to direct them but to act as a facilitator, who should create an environment where the sports can flourish.

The new EB should understand their role is primarily as the facilitators and administrators of the organisation and not a sales force exposing FAI to commercial risk. They need to be of character that has a good understanding of the objectives of FAI, able to communicate with and have working knowledge of the membership, a willingness to serve the organisation and the ability to make reasoned decisions which they are prepared to be accountable for.

I will encourage them to communicate adequately and post full content minutes of meetings within the same period of time the Commissions are stated to do.

I will insist financial management account information is available to the members.

The organisation needs to operate within its financial means, working to the statutes and build relationships of trust which will create stability whilst working to a common objective.

That objective is, as we all know

- Facilitate World Championship Competitions
- Recognise and record World record achievements.
- Make awards those who achieve in world air sports.

Once I ask for your support in trusting me to lead the way. Together, we can make FAI sustainable for future generations who can benefit as we have from the World Air Sports Federation.