TO: IGC Delegates 24Jan06
SUBJ: FAI EnvCom Report Addendum re Jan06 EnvCom meeting
FROM: IGC EnvCom Representative

This is the promised report of the just completed FAI Environmental Commission meeting held 13/14 Jan06 in Lausanne, Switzerland, at the IOC Museum, our customary meeting place since the FAI office meeting room is rather small. It would have sufficed this time tho, since there were only 4 of us attending: EnvCom President Michael Goth (Germany), Bob Carlson, Secretary (Canada), Chris Nicholas (UK), and me, VP (USA Delegate & IGC representative - I wear two hats at the EnvCom). FAI Secretary General Max Bishop also attended, as he always does, and which we much appreciate.

I reported on the FAI Education Commission’s (CIEA) adoption of the EnvCom's proposal for an environmental theme for their 2006 Young Artists Contest (Airsports and Nature in Harmony). We expect to see the winners displayed at the FAI General Conference in Santiago, Chile in September06.

Goth reported on success garnering financial support from FAI for translating a German environmental document, which is now underway. We discussed what other financial aid we might apply for, recognizing that we needed to be very specific to get such from either FAI ore the airsport commissions. There is more material we need to translate, but recognize that just having it in English may not be enough for certain items, such as the very fine poster I displayed to you some years ago.

Country reports were made by all; generally we aspire to get the word out to all that if not already doing so, they need to start paying attention to environmental considerations in the conduct of their airsport activities. Most airsports are reluctant, altho we heard that CIVL, hanggliding, is moving in that direction. The German Blue Flag program has been changed; it is now called a Step Audit program, awarding a blue flag to those who make it thru the environmental audit.

The EnvCom President has been invited to make a presentation at the upcoming FAI Seminar for Event Directors 7-9 Apr06 in Copenhagen. There is a registration fee of Euro205 which covers airport pickup, 2 nites accommodation and all meals. Presenters have been selected to give information important to those hosting international airsport events. For more info, go to the FAI web page (www.fai.org).

We desperately need to get our EnvCom web page improved; we’re still working on it to get more, and better, info thereon. I am tasked to review the entire EnvCom Code of Conduct for all airsports to separately identify each airsport’s particularly applicable items for addition to that web page. Further discussion took place re an FAI Standard for Environmental Management of Flying Sites. We had a look at what it might entail; we want to see what airsport folks think of it, seeking their guidance and support. But, here I go again, with ISO, this time it’s ISO 14000 which we will be addressing as a guide to help us develop environmental management standards. I haven’t looked at it yet, but ISO is something it seems we can’t ignore; with RTCA it’s ISO 9000. I continue to use the following as a simple way to look at how we can adopt environmental standards: don't dump used oil onto the ground; after all, the ground is a major source of our water supply and food!

We reelected all current officers: Goth-President, Smith and Liasjo as VPs, and Carlson-Secretary. Our next meeting will be in Frankfurt, Germany from 1300-1900 on 20Jan07 at the business office
of President Goth, nearby the airport. This will greatly facilitate the travel of the Canadian and American delegates! We discussed changing the meeting date to that of the FAI General Conference, usually in Sep/Oct, but need to circulate such a proposal to the various countries to see what they think about such a possibility. We're searching for a way to get better meeting attendance!

Bernald S. Smith
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