



Meeting the FAI challenges

A strategies initiative by the FAI Executive Board

Presentation to FAI General Conference
Kuala Lumpur 2013

The layout of the distributed Discussion Paper is as follows:

- *A look at the history and the issues involved*
- *Introduction to the Discussion Paper*
- *The discussion paper itself: "Meeting the FAI challenges"*
- *Appendix 1: Suggested goals and strategies for selected main areas identified as posing challenges to FAI*

Please observe this statement

- *We expressly state that this Discussion Paper must not be seen as suggesting a major change in the direction of FAI and our main task of arranging international competitions and administering records/championships*
- *It's sole intention is to ensure that we forcefully examine and address the increasing challenges to our air sports and recreational flying activities*

Part 1



A look at the history of FAI and the issues involved

The history...

- *FAI was founded in 1905 by eight NACs, solving the need for an international association representing them*
- *FAI is now a federation of 102 NACs on all continents with air sport activities*
- *A significant part of the FAI community shares the historic cultural roots and behaves accordingly*

The issues....

- *A look at FAI through the stakeholder's eyes*
 - *The NACs - externally; the FAI «owners»*
 - *The ASCs - internally; the «drivers/pushers»*
 - *The Airsport Persons (APs) - our «raison d'être»*
- *The thoughts we offer in this paper have one aim: To contribute in identifying the criteria that should guide us in determining "what should FAI do to become even better in supporting its stakeholders"*

Part 2



Introduction

to the Discussion Paper

“Meeting the FAI challenges”

A short statement from the EB

- *FAI is a well-established international sport federation and the management of competitions and record settings is generally working well*
- *A number of key issues to consolidate the FAI Head Office work have been implemented during the last year, and the exploitation of our sports commercial potentials have been initiated*
- ***It is now time to re-open the discussion of future priorities.***

To stimulate debate and feedback

- *Two challenging and maybe even provoking questions*
 - *Is the purpose of the FAI still valid, and is our overall goal relevant for guidance and governance?*
 - *Are we using our resources effectively and to the best of our constituents?*

The following five areas have been subject for discussions at the EB, and have also been presented at the Commission Presidents and NAC Presidents meetings during the first part of this year

- *The main challenges of FAI*
- *A needed modification of scope and direction of FAI*
- *Establishing/documenting the main purpose of FAI (list)*
- *A revised «overall FAI goal»*
- *Detailed goals and strategies for some areas*

Part 3



...then to the Discussion Paper itself..

Meeting the FAI challenges

Adjusting, renewing and deploying the FAI purpose and goals

Overall goal statements of FAI in the documentation

- *The FAI is a world organization that is concerned mainly with air sport competitions, records, including space activities, and other certified performances*
- *To make evident the essentially international spirit of aeronautics as a powerful instrument for bringing all people closer in mutual understanding and friendship regardless of political, racial or religious considerations, thereby helping to create international good will and thus build a better and more peaceful world*
- ***The view presented for discussion at the EB...***
 - *Too limited; not meeting today's challenges for the FAI; in strong need of revision*

Challenges for FAI, NACs and the air sports person in 2013

- *Further airspace restrictions*
- *New and stricter regulations (more limiting; costlier)*
- *Reduced availability of airports and air sports facilities*
- *New and stricter environmental regulations; increased costs of emissions*
- *The need to improve safety through avoidance of accidents/incidents*
- *Difficulties in recruiting young people for activities in aeronautics and to promote air sports*
- *Impact and opportunity of new technology*

Our main objective....



- Meeting these challenges facing the FAI, by..
 - *Identifying needed modifications of scope and direction of the FAI*
 - *Developing an updated list of the agreed main purpose of the FAI - «our mission»*
 - *Developing a new «overall FAI goal»*

Areas considered the main purpose of the FAI

- *Arranging international competitions and administering records/ championships*
- *Supporting NACs and regional organizations, mainly through information sharing and provision of expertise*
- *Representing air sports at international organizations, especially ICAO*
- *Establishing and carrying out the FAI award procedures*
- *Supporting programs to attract young people to join the wide field of aeronautics generally and air sports specifically.*
- *Conserving and protecting the air sports history*
- *Utilizing the FAI brand and intellectual property to develop, market and produce specialized sports events aimed at promoting air sports to the public and produce revenue to FAI*

Suggested revised overall FAI goal

- *FAI shall facilitate the development and promotion of aeronautics worldwide, in order to achieve increased participation and improved public acceptance and awareness of aviation activities and air sports*

Suggested focus of FAI activities to meet the challenges identified - 1

(Note: In addition to the traditional FAI activities)

- *Ensure improved availability of airspace (absence/removal of restrictions)*
- *Ensure practical and realistic regulations (safety improvement combined with reduced restrictions; improved and simpler oversight systems)*
- *Ensure improved availability/accessibility of/to airports; increased availability of air sports facilities*
- *Ensure improved availability of environmental friendly engines & fuels at acceptable prices*

Suggested focus of FAI activities to meet the «new challenges» - 2

- *Ensure higher level of environmental focus and adaption of sound environmental practices*
- *Ensure more attention to safety; improved safety record in all areas*
- *Ensure more effective promotion and recruitment activities, with focus on increasing the number of young people and women*
- *Ensure effective development and increased use of new technology*
- *Effectively utilize the FAI brand and intellectual property to develop, market and produce specialized sports events aimed at promoting air sports to the public and produce revenue to FAI*

Part 4



Draft goals and strategies

Example 1: Airspace
Example 2: Regulations

Draft strategies have been developed for eight main areas

NOTE: Covering areas of «new challenges» only..!

- Airspace
- Environment
- Safety
- Regulations
- Air sports facilities
- Promotion and recruitment
- New technology
- Business

Example: Airspace - 1

- *Airspace goal*
 - *The FAI shall support the NAC and regional organizations in securing adequate access to the airspace so that air sports can be conducted under the greatest possible freedom and in balanced interaction with other aviation activities*
- *Airspace strategies*
 - *Strongly advocating the interests of air sports at the international level (mainly ICAO)*
 - *Working to ensure continued access to currently available airspace*

Example: Airspace - 2

- *Airspace strategies - continued..*
 - *Working to improve access to airspace unnecessarily blocked by other civil and military activities*
 - *Working for greater flexibility in the use of airspace, thereby facilitating improved access for air sports*
 - *Working for good predictability in the availability of air space for air sport activities*

Example: Regulations - 1

- *Regulations goal*
 - *The FAI shall promote regulations that facilitate air sports activities, and do not pose unnecessary restrictions or deterrent to the growth of air sports*
- *Regulations strategies*
 - *Working to influence international regulations for the benefit of air sports activities and development*

Example: Regulations - 2

- *Regulation strategies - continued..*
 - *Supporting NACs and regional air sports organizations in influencing their regulatory bodies for the benefit of air sports activities and development*
 - *Working to improve the regulation of air sports in a manner that improves safety, flexibility, service and economy*
 - *Working to prevent and eliminate unnecessary regulatory restrictions on air sports*

Conclusion and recommendations

- *Further changes are needed in FAI to meet the challenges facing air sports at all organizational levels, in order to retain FAI as an organization seen as valuable by the stakeholders*
- *As a consequence, we are deliberating...*
 - *A listing of the «FAI main purpose» - our mission*
 - *A new «overall FAI goal» (as presented in draft form)*
 - *Strategies for the eight areas covered*

Our main message...

- *We believe that there is an urgent need to increase focus on some very important and real challenges to FAI and air sports, and address these forcefully, while still providing sufficient resources and effective management of our competition/record activities and protecting our heritage.*
- *The Executive Board invites the General Conference to consider the issues covered in this document, and to give guidance for our further work in making the FAI an even better organization for our stakeholders*

..thank you for your attention..!

