



**FAI Rotorcraft Commission (CIG)
Report to the 108th FAI General Conference
Rotterdam, 25-26 September 2015**

Reported by : David Hamilton, CIG President

1. Important activities, projects or events since last FAI General Conference:

This year has been taken up by the 15th World Helicopter Championship. The original venue in Poland had to be withdrawn due to Governmental requirements. A new venue was sought which required a major change in local sponsorship.

The Commission agreed to participate in the World Air Games in Dubai. Our Liaison Officer undertook 2 visits. Although he was successful, additional work fell upon the Commission.

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2. Positive and negative results:

The difficulties with the 2015 World Championship continued. The young Organiser, Helisport Poland, were faced with many problems which required resolving. Due to the inexperience, not lack of enthusiasm, this took far longer than expected not helped by a failure to read and act upon the Organiser Agreement.

The event attracted 50 crews from 12 countries. The numbers are similar to previous years. The number of observers sent was not helpful.

3. Main problem(s) encountered and solutions adopted :

World Air Games contributed to difficulties during the year. The lessons learnt from Torino, Italy, were not taken forward. This led to long term misunderstanding regarding helicopter provision. The requirement as to types was provided nearly a year ago. An offer of larger helicopters, not approved by the Commission, for competition was not acceptable.

Confusion with interpretation as to whether the NAC or their delegated body or competitors themselves should respond.

Timing delays and changes led to 2 teams having to withdraw although Head Office stated the invitation was declined. The reasons were clear. In one case the military team waited for many months to hear if the required helicopter could be provided. As no answer was forthcoming consent to participate was withdrawn. A second competing crew had approval for 4 days competition but when this was increased to 9 days approval was withdrawn.

4. Planned activities and projects for next year :

The overhaul of the current Rules for Championships to make understanding clearer avoiding unnecessary argument. Seeking new host venues will be sought.

5. Proposals (if any) to FAI Executive Board, FAI Head Office or for the next General Conference :

Lessons must be learnt from World Air Games. Those who are entrusted with the details must be fully aware of requirements of Commissions. Suggesting that Rules should be changed or events tailored is not acceptable.

CASI will be asked to review the Rules of Representation. Our Championship is every 3 years, hence the Rules keep to 3 years. This recent change by GS permits competitors to change between events.

6. Free reporting:

World Political Problems have added to difficulties. A promise to encourage helicopter sports has fallen with no feedback particularly in the case of one NAC.

The Commission has limited income once every 3 years. Although this has been referred to at recent Conferences it seems it is still not understood or appreciated. This means that attending General Conference, 2 Air Sport Presidents Meetings becomes a drain being widely felt by members of this family.

The reduction of governmental or state support in many countries has had an adverse effect on competitor numbers. Those who have been supported have been rewarded by success.

Date: 20th August 2015