

Dear friends,

at the time when I start to prepare my speech for the CIMA plenary, I am looking back at the last 12 month and try to find at first a kind of summarizing judgment. Thereafter I looked at the puzzle parts and set them together to get an overall picture.

Was everything good, did we – CIMA - achieve what we want to achieve, are we successful with organizing our sport at continental or world level, have I done enough to meet your expectations and – more important – the expectation of the sports person outside of this bureaucratic commission?

As you can imagine, the answer is versatile and differentiated.

But before I start to give you some answers, let me talk about us as a big family of aviators and their organizational umbrella, the FAI.

The FAI is in a very difficult situation right now. We will come to more details later. For sure Markus Haggene, our Sports and Events Manager will give us the inside view and Rob Hughes will talk about more details, because he is involved as acting treasurer and as the key person for FAI relation in Royal Aeroclub of UK.

The short version is: In the past year's, FAI HO spends more money than they get from subscription fee and sponsors. Note well, almost all expenses had been backed by plenary decisions. But as the financial downfall starts a few years before and there had been warnings – the EB and HO going on with their project planning for

like World Air Games, World Games air Games and Multi Sport events. And there is no sign of getting a return of invest.

To get out of the financial trap, our FAI president, the EB and the SG proposes a solution, which will affect us as a commission. And it will have an effect for our sportspersons as our basis. The plan is taking away a part of our commission reserves and put a kind of tax on the sanction fee.

What will be the consequences? CIMA will have less reserves for special tasks like logger development and other investment, decided by the plenary. Event organizer have to pay significant higher sanction fee which will causes a higher entry fee. This will not attract more nation or more competitor to register for our CAT 1 events in future.

At the end of the day you as delegates should give the new bureau a clear and strong guideline, how to decide at the FAI General Conference, which will be held in one and a half week. In the run-up I clearly reject such plans – together with all the other FAI Commission Presidents.

But now I would like to come back to our own problems and these are not less significant.

It was the second period, that we are facing problems with our treasurers. After Rohazi in 2018 we elected Alf from Norway. He makes us aware, that he will be busy for a while with a project of his employer. But after changing several mails, explaining his tasks for

CIMA in detail, after a face to face meeting in his hometown Oslo and after month of inactivity the bureau decide to release him from his duty as CIMA treasurer. Rob Hughes, our 1st Vice President was so kind and acting as treasurer until this plenary.

At the last plenary we tasked the 2nd Vice President Nayot from Thailand to write a tender for developing a logger and tracker combination for our needs. But after 10 month of silence the only sign of life was a mail, where he stated:

I have been really overwhelmed with workloads bombarding me on the new position in the past months. It took some time to settle and I'm trying to catch up with CIMA business.

Now silence again.

This experience leads me to write a mail these days to all delegates and explaining the requirements for those volunteers you should nominate select for any position in the future bureau and for other jobs in CIMA. Our commission is small, the number of events we have to observe are small, but even though there is enough work that has to be done.

Another reminder I need to make is the bidding process for future Championships. Ideal and stipulated in our Sec. 10:

A preliminary bid should be received by CIMA three years before the event, with the detailed bid including the local regulations (S10 A3)

receiving acceptance by CIMA if possible, not less than one year before.

As a routine, we received a vague bid 2 ye4ars before and the detailed information like Loc Reg and TC with luck during the plenary session. This takes away the opportunity to you as delegates to read the documents, to discuss with your competitors and to ask for changes during the meeting. Due to this situation, the bureau must approve the documents and in a situation like before we are overstrained.

And we have a second problem: delegates raised their hands for possible world or continental championships for in two years' time but did not come up with the final bid - without prior notice. This prevent other bidders from develop their participation.

My last item in the list of complaints is the lack of interest in our commission itself. National Aeroclubs from 54 countries have nominated a delegate and/or an alternate delegate to our commission. Of course, I did not expect that a delegate from – let me say – Palestine or New Zeeland is interested and able to attend our plenary. But even countries from central Europe like Spain, Finland or the Netherlands did not show interest, did not communicate with us or are not able to pay the travel cost for their delegate.

I am to be loss with this situation and would like to ask you for your ideas. Can we make our plenary more attractive and add table dance

to our agenda? Is there any place in the world which is cheap and easy to reach? Please give your input.

Let me finish with a serious topic from the last year. After the World Microlight Championships in Hungary Ukraine placed an appeal against a controversial jury decision. This appeal was received by the international appeal tribunal just short before the 90-day time limit ends. And from the very first moment it was clear for everybody, that if this appeal will be successful will not change the ranking at the final results at all.

I don't want to bother with details. At the end the IAT ruled, that the jury decision was incorrect.

The verdict is as follow:

The Tribunal decided unanimously that despite all the mitigating circumstances, and the fact that all parties involved acted in good faith (and in the case of the Contest Director in generosity of spirit), one basic principle must be maintained in all sporting contests: **All rules must be applied fairly and equally to all competitors.** To maintain a level playing field, there can be no exceptions or exemptions unless these are unanimously agreed by all competitors.

With other words. Ukraine won this appeal.

Further down at the agenda the plenary has to decide what to do with the 3.000 € sanction fee.

I hope, my speech has not spread to much depressive thoughts. I will add some conciliatory words.

We as aviators belongs to the happier people. We have a huge playground (of course with some borders) other then the rest of the population we have a box seat when we are flying around. And with our competition we can share our passion with other like-minded people although we fly compete against.

Let us share this passion with others, lets spread the experience about our type of aviation via every channel to the public, lets fight for the freedom of our airspace.

Thank you for your attention.