Report of the GAC Liaison officer 2018

World Air Games 2020

In June 2018, all liaison officers of the various aviation sports were invited by the Turkish Aeroclub (THK) to prepare and inspect the designated venues.

On June 4, 2018, 20 liaison officers and an FAI directorate delegation and a competent THK staff met in Ankara. The visit started in the mausoleum of Ata Türk and the THK Flight University in Ankara with about 1000 students for all professions of aviation, this means from ground crew up to the pilots. It’s an impressive organization.

Every evening we disembarked with a comfortable bus to another venue. I was able to see Turkey from a new perspective. We have seen beautiful regions, airfields with exceptionally motivated women and men and a perfect organization. We all got the impression that all experts are at work here and know the differences of the different flying sports.

After one week we visited Antalya, where the GAC Air Navigation Race (ANR) will take place together with Aerobatics, Rotorcraft and Microlights.

The airfield Karain which belongs to THK is a dream. The runway, the taxiways and the parking space have been completely revised and are in a perfect condition.

The airfield is under the TMA of Antalya International located and starts at 7’000ft. Therefore the TMA is no problem for our ANR parcours. The runway has a width of 40 meters and is about 1’200 meters long. The taxiways have a width of 35 meters. The parking space is huge and a radio tower already exists.

There are barracks ready but it still needs extensions here with the other sports.
I was also introduced to my liaison for the GAC, Mr. Halis Atmis, the Managing Director of Karain. He spontaneously agreed to organize the required digital maps. He also said that we can easily count on 10 or more C172s with glass cockpit.

On the closing briefing we received a list of the milestones for each liaison officer. This means for us that we have to submit a rough concept of the ANR event by 31 December 2018 with the number of participants and the needed amount of planes.

So far so good. We left all Antalya and the THK with a very good feeling for the upcoming WAG 2020.

When I was back again I started the mail conversation to work through the pending issues, but unfortunately there was no reply from anyone. Markus Haggeney from the FAI then informed me that new THK elections were scheduled for 13 October and that until then no one would report and no decisions would be made. My feelings go back to the Dubai organization. Let's hope not. It is strange for us how a single person or a group of people can stop everything.

We have no choice as to wait and see what happens now. In spite of everything I am still optimistic.

In the meantime, another interesting field of activity has opened up for the GA. **China has decided to promote VFR aviation in China.** ANR has been selected by the Chinese Ministry of Sports.

General aviation is emerging as a strategic industry in China after the State Council issued a guidance in 2016 to develop the industry. China plans to build more than 500 general aviation airports by 2020 to serve more than 5,000 aircraft.

This is a major breakthrough for China’s low-altitude airspace, according to the East China Regional Administration of the CAAC.
Two airfield for GA have been established in the Lingang (Shanghai) area while two airspaces over the coastal town have been approved.

These are news that signify a big future for general aviation in VFR aviation in China. The President of ASFC Mr. Zhaofang HAN has been a strong supporter of this project. Without Han, it would have been impossible to overcome all hurdles in such a short time. The aim of ASFC is to recruit a very good ANR Chinese national teams and to organize asap an open China ANR competition. The goal is to hold an ANR World champion competition if the Chinese team performs well.

Maurice Ducret, Lorenz Egli and myself will be flying to Shanghai for one week on November 25th, 2018, introducing Chinese teams to ANR's secrets and to perform flight training.

In spring 2019 another ANR training should take place in China.

The whole action is officially supported and also largely funded by the Chinese Ministry of Sports.

The ANR team is proud that the ANR can serve as a door opener for the GA worldwide.

Zürich, November 4th , 2018

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WAG 2020 Turkey / Air Navigation Race (ANR)
Venues June 2018
WAG 2020 Turkey / Antalya
Airport Karain / Antalya