FAI-CIG Konrad Geissler

The World Air Games 2015 took place in Dubai from December 1 to 13, 2015. To this end, the following report with personal impressions.

Regarding country and people:
As a junction of the Silk Road, Dubai has always been a trade center and therefore prosperous country. Dubai is the capital with about 1.8 million inhabitants (total population 2 million), it doubles - according to the planners - every seven years. Dubai is the city of superlatives!
Approximately 85% of residents are liberal Sunnis, 14% Shiites. Even today, the budget of the largest of the seven emirates is marked by trade: Only about 12 percent of the state budget based on revenues for oil, the rest comes from taxes and tourism. Daily, 20 tons of gold are traded in Dubai, worth 200 million US dollar! Trend Rising! The proceeds will be well spent, as you can live off it in the future. On the route to our airfield for "Familiarization Flights" in the desert, we drove on the seven-lane highway next to a terrain - roads and lighting were there in already the desert built, since the EXPO 2020 will be taking place. There will be 102 hotels built, none under 50 floors. This infrastructure is already binding for the subsequent period after 2020!

Dubai is a "guided democracy". It is planned for the future! Builds day and night! Approximately 20% of the in Dubai resident originate from Dubai and the reminder consists of cheap labor from Asian countries. One can also call these economic refugees. It respects the religious character, tolerant, very forward looking, with confidence.

The Helicopter Participation:
The hospitality of the organizers of the WAG under the Sport Director SE Yousif Hamadi was fantastic. According to the FAI report, 854 athletes from 55 countries have attended the 23 disciplines. The social conditions were unique for me. I have been in Bahrain, the first time in Dubai. The opening ceremony, a successful laser show followed by fireworks, brought a dignified great match, a gala dinner in the garden of the Jumeirah Hotel with 2800 guests, the final event and air show at the airfield Skydive Dubai Beach was a spectacle.

A fatal accident happened during the Gyrocopter Competition.

Our helicopter division was attuned lovingly and meticulously by Wolfgang Perplies regarding the slalom and fender events. As the small organization staff quickly became a team, he benefited from various Polish and Russian travelers with expertise, so the short times for preparing our parcours, competition, dismantling could be used optimally. Only 13 crews out of 16 were at the start. The Russian offer to largely free-of-charge air transportation from 2 Mi-2 with a military Antonov did not occur. Thus, the 4 Mi-2 team did not start and the Ukraine team was missing. The Russian crew Alexander Zhuperin/ Nikolay Burov won clearly, 2nd place went to the Polish brothers Szamborski, the third place was the Austrian ski jumping champion Thomas Morgenstern and Stefan Seer. Fourth were
Quentin Smith / Chris Summers (GB).

The Organizational Team: Wolfgang Perplies Event Director, Irina Grushina (Rus) Chief of Judges and Scoring, Wojciech Dobrzynski (Pol) Chief of preparing / dismantling equipment, transport of the equipment, transport of the helpers, technical coordinator; Robert Hughes (GB) speaker / commentator for TV.

Rating: Excellent!

I had as Chief of Jury and CIG-Head of the Delegation little work: No protests, no complaints. The judges mostly correct.

Our thank-you present, a tail rotor blade, was gladly accepted by SE Hamadi, as well as the presents of the Russian Federation of Helicopters and the Central Army Sport Club / Moscow.

Both event directors Helmut Schlecht/Schongau for skydiving and Wolfgang Perplies /Bad Wildungen for helicopters - both from the DAeC-received the best reviews of hosts. Twice a smooth TEN!

Weaknesses were encountered in the preparatory phase of the WAG: The use of the FAI License and Competition Data Base for collecting information and the direct contact with the competitors via their email addresses induced confusion with several NACs. After their confirmation for selected athletes they felt less involved in the further WAG process and had little engagement or responsibility for their competitors. Some NACs reported their Head of Delegation too late and without preparation.

Excluding the NAC in approval of the crews and the invitation of the participants with booking the hotel was a mistake. This paved troubles. Also some NACs reacted very slowly.

The hosts had committed to providing the required helicopters, this was done only partially.

The renunciation of the two TV-experts - who were requested by the organizers - was very short sighted. Both CIG experts - Hubert Gesang/Germany and Alan Norris/UK - had a job.

Conclusion:

The evaluation of the WAG through the individual sports and the well attended FAI Medical Congress may be different. Our Helicopter Competition was a very successful event of the FAI and CIG! It was an excellent advertising for the air sport! It was an excellent advertisement for Dubai!

For me, Dubai 2015 was enriching my life, something that I had never experienced as a tourist.

Result lists attached. Thank you letters were sent to all the winners, the hosts and officials by the CIG-President.

Konrad Geissler, HoD FAI-CIG