



PRESS RELEASE
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Symposium on Medical Challenges in Extreme Air Sports and in Aviation as Side Event to the FAI World Air Games Dubai 2015

Lausanne, Switzerland, 29 September 2015 – **An international medical symposium will take place in Dubai from 3 to 5 December 2015 as part of the FAI World Air Games. Aeromedical doctors and experts will convene to meet with world renowned speakers and discuss issues related to medical challenges in extreme air sports and in aviation.**

Organised by the FAI Medico-Physiological Commission and the Dubai medical authorities, the event is meant as a platform for the communication of experience and research in medical aspects of aviation sports, with a special focus on safety.

The hosting of the symposium in UAE – the first to be held on air sport medicine in the country - offers the particularity to allow professional opinion exchange with aeromedical doctors of the Arabic World.

Furthermore, the event being included in the official programme of the FAI World Air Games provides an exceptional opportunity for the attendees to interact with the World's leading aerial athletes and see air sports at their best in one of the most thrilling cities on this planet.

The distinguished guest speakers includes:

- Dr Nabila Al Awadhi, Head of Aeromedical Section, General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA), UAE
- Dr Melchor Antunano, Director, Civil Aerospace Medical Institute (CAMI), USA
- Dr Thomas Drekonja, Flight Surgeon, Red Bull Air Race, Austria
- Dr Antony Evans, Chief Medical Officer, International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Canada

"We are proud that so many high profile personalities have agreed to participate in our Symposium and share their knowledge, experience and expertise. As for the programme, we made a point of tailoring it to meet the needs and interests of all doctors involved in air sports medicine or in other aviation medicine activities. This together with the fact that it will take place, so to say, in the middle of the action of the FAI World Air Games, add to the exceptional nature of the Symposium," FAI President Dr John Grubbström said. *"We look forward to welcoming a large number of participants".*

To get more detailed information on the Symposium including the full list of guest speakers, the programme and how to register, please visit www.wagdubai.ae/aeromedical.php.

About the FAI World Air Games

The FAI World Air Games, conducted under the rules of the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI), is the premier international multi-discipline air sports event fielding the world's top Air Sports athletes.

The FAI World Air Games 2015 has been awarded to the United Arab Emirates and will be held in Dubai. This multi-discipline event will be organised by the Emirates Aerospports Federation under the patronage of the Crown Prince of Dubai, His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum and will take place from 1 to 12 December 2015.

Ten air sports are programmed: Aerobatics, Aeromodelling, Aerostats (balloons & airships), Amateur-Built Aircraft, General Aviation, Gliding, Microlights & Paramotors, Parachuting, Paragliding and Rotorcraft.

The FAI's primary goals for this event are to determine "FAI World Air Games Champions"; to showcase air sports to the general public and promote public participation in air sports by attracting new participants to air sports disciplines; to promote FAI events to other sports organisations and to create an attractive platform for TV, media and other external stakeholders.

The past editions of the Games took place in Turkey (1997), Spain (2001) and Italy (2009).

About FAI

The [Fédération Aéronautique Internationale \(FAI\)](#), also known as the World Air Sports Federation, is the world governing body for air sports and for certifying world aviation and space records. The FAI was founded in 1905 and is a non-governmental and non-profit-making organisation recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

FAI activities include Balloons and Airships, Power Flying, Gliding, Helicopter flight, Parachuting, Aeromodelling, Aerobatics, Hang Gliding, Microlight and Paramotor Flying, Amateur-Built and Experimental Aircraft, Manpowered Flying, Paragliding and all other Aeronautic and Astronautic sporting activities.

About EAF

The [Emirates Aerosports Federation \(EAF\)](#) is an Active Member of the FAI. It was established in 2012 as a non-profit organisation to coordinate and give direction to the fast development of air sports in the United Arab Emirates.

EAF activities include the establishment of rules for the control, certification, and regulations for the air sport events which are organised by members within the Emirates. EAF also promotes safety in sport.

Dubai has organised the Dubai International Parachuting Championship every year since 2010 and in 2012, organised the FAI World Parachuting Championships (Mondial 2012) with 1,440 participants from 57 countries participating in 13 different disciplines, thus making it the biggest ever Parachuting event. Many other air sports events have taken place in the UAE in the last few years, including the Al Ain Aerobatic Show and the Red Bull Air Race Abu Dhabi.

For more details, please contact the FAI – Fédération Aéronautique Internationale

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