FAI Microlight and Paramotor Commission (CIMA)

Report to the 112th FAI General Conference
Luxor, 26-27 October 2018

Reported by: Wolfgang Lintl, Commission President

1. Important activities, projects or events since last FAI General Conference:
I don’t want to bother you with the same elegy every year since I have to give the report about one of the smaller commissions in FAI. But if you remember what I have wrote last time, it will sounds well known.
To start with some positive points, I would like to tell you about our activities first.
CIMA had two successful paramotor Competition, the 10th World Paramotor Championships in Lopburi/Thailand and as Cat 2 event the 2nd European Paramotor Endurance Championships in Estonia. We also finished with a well-organized 16th World Microlight Championships in Hungary and right after this general conference Egypt is hosting the 3rd World Paramotor Slalom Championships in Fayum, near the Capitol Cairo.

2. Positive and negative results:
But this balance should not hide the fact, that less than a handful of countries or local clubs are willing to bid for a championship. Instead of getting an expressing of interest two years in advance as regulated by our book of rules, we often get the so-called final bid at our plenary, which is max. 9 month before the event.
During the last 12 month CIMA put a lot of money and manpower into the idea, to make our events more visible for media and spectators. This is one of the requirements for us to ask for participation in events like World Games, World Air Games or to be part of the Air Games series. Although such logging and tracking devices are available on the market and used for example by our colleges from CIVIL, our experience is frustrating. The devices are faulty, and the support of the manufacturer/platform supplier gave an x-double minus support.

3. Main problem(s) encountered and solutions adopted:
1. Man- or woman-power
We still have a lack of volunteers to serve the function in bureau and working groups.
We have volunteers they did not or cannot spend as much time as needed for the commission’s work.
We have had a treasurer who did not pay off a debt. This leading to suspend this person from further activities in the bureau.
And in general: The principle of working for the sake of our organization as an unpaid volunteer like in past decades seems to be out dated – for good reasons and for not so good reasons. CIMA is not able to pay experts or key persons to do an important job like competition or event director for World Games, World Air Games and Air Games series. Although we know, that we have to deliver before we can ask hosing organizers to pay.
2. Lack of interest/activities
   The majority of delegates seems to be awake just hours before proposal deadlines, which lead to several last-minute stress for the bureau and lack of discussion before decision making. Less than a dozen of or delegates taking an active part in communication. Even delegates from NAC’s with more than 15,000 CIMA related members seems to refuse communication without known reason.

3. Solution
   Closer co-working with other commissions to find some technical solutions for scoring and tracking devices. Closer cooperation with other commissions for best-practice solution on other playgrounds.

4. Planned activities
   - We need to find a new definition of microlights, after the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) opened the door right now for a microlight specification with an MTOW of 600 kg. This weight limit is common in some other countries/continents already. This will probably also change our task catalogue. After a decision at our plenary in one month, CIMA needs to start negotiation with GAC, CIG and CIACA, General Aviation, Rotorcraft and Experimental and Amateur build.
   - We need to finalize a public and media attractive format of tasks for microlights, autogiro and paramotors, that FAI can offer to multi-sport event organizer.
   - We have to continue our search for reliable tracking and logging devices.

Is there no sunny side of the street? Of course, there is. We have the opportunity to be part of one of the most fascinating sports, we are using the nicest lookout on our world and we can feel the freedom of flying in so many different ways. This should be a great pay back.
4. Planned activities and projects for next year:
- We need to find a new definition of microlights, after the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) opened the door right now for a microlight specification with an MTOW of 600 kg. This weight limit is common in some other countries/continents already. This will probably also change our task catalogue. After a decision at our plenary in one month, CIMA needs to start negotiation with GAC, CIG and CIACA, General Aviation, Rotorcraft and Experimental and Amateur build, because such a new definition will interfere with their rule books.
- We need to finalize a public and media attractive format of tasks for microlights, autogiro and paramotors, that FAI can offer to multi-sport event organizer.
- We have to continue our search for reliable tracking and logging devices.

5. Proposals (if any) to FAI Executive Board, FAI Head Office or for the next General Conference:
None........................................................................................................................................

6. Free reporting:
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Date: 2. 9. 2018
Signature: Wolfgang Lintl