



*Fédération
Aéronautique
Internationale*

Minutes

of the Annual Meeting of the
FAI Astronautic Records Commission

held in Lausanne, Switzerland
on 27 April 2012

*Maison du Sport International
Av. de Rhodanie 54
CH-1007 Lausanne
(Switzerland)
Tél. +41 (0)21 345 10 70
Fax +41 (0)21 345 10 77
E-mail: sec@fai.org
Web: www.fai.org*

**FEDERATION AERONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE
FAI ASTRONAUTIC RECORDS COMMISSION (ICARE)**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE FAI HEADQUARTERS
AVENUE DE RHODANIE 54 , 1007 LAUSANNE, SWITZERLAND
ON FRIDAY 27 APRIL 2012, STARTING AT 09h15**

Present:

Dr. Segismundo SANZ FERNANDEZ de CORDOBA	President
Mr. Henrik ÁKERSTEDT	SWE
Dr. Ulf MERBOLD	GER
Dr. John F. MILES	GBR

In attendance:

Mr. Jean-Marc BADAN	FAI Secretary General
Mr. Rob HUGHES	FAI Senior Sports Manager

Apologies:

Mr. Gregory OLIVER	USA, 1VP
--------------------	----------

1. WELCOME BY THE PRESIDENT

The President welcomed delegates and congratulated the Secretary General on his appointment. Mr. Badan thanked the President and welcomed delegates. He gave a short report on the current state of the FAI, including staffing. The President asked for details on the FAI Vice-Presidents system and a discussion followed.

2. ROLL-CALL

as per list of persons present.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting (6 May 2011) were approved without correction. Dr. Merbold asked when the Minutes would be available. Mr. Hughes would send them to the President within a few days.

5. FAI GENERAL CONFERENCE, MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

The President raised the issue of the FAI Vice-Presidents system and that it had been proposed to remove all current Vice Presidents. It had been controversial at the FAI General Conference in 2011. This had little effect on ICARE during other ASC meetings but affected the Commission with regards to meetings with the Executive Board. The status of FAI Vice-President was important to many when representing their activity.

The President then turned to Anti-Doping FAI's compliance to WADA's Code. The USA Delegate had written several years ago to the FAI Secretary General that USA would no longer submit records if there were to be anti-doping testing of astronauts. Was it therefore possible to separate records from competition? Astronauts take medication routinely when in orbit. Mr. Hughes discussed the FAI's position and that WADA were principally interested in competitive sport. Dr. Merbold described some of the medications routinely prescribed to astronauts and that they were vital to health in orbit. What about ocean sailing and seasickness? Not all drugs are on the WADA list and there are usually alternatives. Supplemental oxygen is, of course, vital to space flight.

Mr. Hughes gave the Secretary General's report (annex 1). The President referred to the new 'Tier 3' marketing events as 'propaganda', to the great pleasure of the Commission.

Dr. Miles reported on the CIEA meeting, which was taking place concurrently. CIEA continues to work hard on projects that introduce children to aeronautics and astronautics. The main themes remain "Why Fly?" and how to get young people interested in aviation. In the USA for example, Gordon SCHIMMEL is actively promoting and building tethered model aircraft in school classrooms, as a tool for teaching science and math through hands-on activities. Simple rubber-powered balsa wood aircraft can be modified to demonstrate different flight characteristics and introduce concepts such as average speed and the gathering of data in a manner that is experimentally repeatable. Similarly, Debbie GALLOWAY is active with NASA and working with children.

The President mentioned that the CIEA President had mentioned Dr. Miles very favourably in his report.

Mr. Hughes updated the commission regarding the World Air Games. The Games would not be held in 2013 but there was strong support for the Games in 2015.

6. ASTRONAUTIC ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS

Dr. Merbold gave Germany's report. The main activity in ESA is still manned flight. The general situation regarding ISS is not satisfactory due to the de-commissioning of the Shuttle. The only transport now available is the Russian SOYUZ which has no downweight capability. ISS remains capable; 6 people on board with excellent communication and observation capacities but the limited downweight is a strongly limiting factor.

Mr. Åkerstedt gave the report from Sweden. The lack of downweight provision may be resolved in a few weeks when SpaceX is due to launch its Dragon capsule with a capacity of ca. 1 ton. SpaceX also conducts an outreach programme in schools with the aim of teaching science.

The Swedish Space Corporation has been sold to a private entity and manufacturing of space equipment has consequently been halted, though they retain launch capability (especially for high altitude balloons). There is some rocket development – parabolic only, but over 100km altitude.

Dr. Miles informed the Commission that the previous day had been the 50th anniversary of the first UK satellite, making the UK the third space nation. Ariel 1 was designed in the UK and constructed in the United States. It was launched aboard a Thor-Delta rocket from Cape Canaveral at 18:00:16 GMT on 26 April 1962. It decayed from orbit on 24 April 1976.

UK Space generates a lot of revenue and strong interest, particularly in producing hardware for others.

ESA recently employed its first British astronaut, Tim Peake. This could help sway current UK policy and encourage the British government to contribute directly to manned space flight in the future. Having an official British astronaut will certainly raise the profile of the British science industry.

Starchaser Ltd (Cheshire, UK) continues to focus on the space tourism market and also has a significant outreach programme "Space 4 Schools". Updated news from the company could not be obtained, despite Dr. Miles' attempts to contact the CEO.

The President gave the Spanish report. The general economic situation remains poor and budgets are being cut in all areas. The Space programme had been given to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs whose budget had been slashed.

The Plenary read and digested the report from Mr. Oliver (annex 2).

7. SPORTING CODE

Mr. Åkerstedt had conducted a review of the Sporting Code. He asked the difference between a spacecraft and an aerospacecraft, which led to much discussion. What was 'sustained' flight when it came to a spacecraft? Could the Shuttle maintain 'sustained' flight? What about Apollo, which was capable of exiting the parabola but no more? Mr. Åkerstedt agreed to propose changes and submit them to the President for inclusion on the 2013 agenda.

8. NEW ASTRONAUTICAL RECORDS

There were no claims made in the previous year.

The Commission discussed the situation regarding a potential record claim by Mr. Sergei KRIKALEV for the longest time spent in space. Mr. Krikalev had spent over 800 days in space but the achievement had not been recognised due to the fact that no record claim had been submitted in accordance with the FAI ICARE record rules.

It was understood that the necessary evidence was available but that it had not been collated by NAC Russia and then submitted in one record dossier.

The President agreed to make contact with NAC Russia with the aim of producing a claim which would be in accordance with ICARE record rules. The Commission declared that it would entertain such a claim and would waive the requirement that any claim should be made within 120 days of the performance.

9. PROPOSALS FOR FAI AWARDS

The President referred to the 2010 Minutes when the Commission agreed to reduce the number of recipients of the KOMAROV Diploma to one per year. This had not been carried forward to CASI for the required By-Law change. The President agreed to submit a proposal to the FAI Executive Board to make the necessary change. This could create a problem when choosing to recognise a crew in rotation on the ISS and identifying the one person in the crew to whom the award would be given.

The President was concerned that recent nominations may not have been worthy for awards but, in the absence of others, had succeeded in obtaining them. This was especially true of the Gold Space Medal and the President sought to have some influence on the nominations. (*Afternote: FAI Statutes 9.1.3 states that a Commission may nominate for FAI General Awards*)

10. INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUTIC FEDERATION

Dr. Merbold was nominated to attend the IAF Conference on 1-5 October in Napoli (ITA). He will check his availability. The reserve nomination is Mr. CASTELLANI (ITA). The Commission decided to select its representative by the end of May.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The President asked for ideas as to how to encourage greater participation in ICARE meetings.

Mr. MARCHAL had declared before the meeting that he would no longer be able to attend ICARE meetings. Mr. Nicolas BEREND had contacted the FAI Head Office to submit his candidature for the post. Mr. Hughes agreed to forward the email to the Commission (in English) and to ask Mr. Bérend for a half page CV before any decision is made.

12. ELECTIONS

The following were elected for 2012/2013:

President : Dr. Sanz Fernandez de Cordoba (ESP)
Vice President : Dr. John Miles (GBR)

13. DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT ICARE MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 26th April 2013 in Lausanne. The Meeting was closed at 17:00 hours.

Minutes approved by ICARE President, Mr. Segismundo Sanz Fernandez De Cordoba on 30 November 2012