



*Fédération  
Aéronautique  
Internationale*

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# Minutes

of the  
**Annual Meeting**  
of the  
**FAI Astronautic Records Commission  
(ICARE)**

held in Lausanne, Switzerland,  
**on Friday 7 April 2017**  
at Maison du Sport International

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Ver. 1.0 / 08.08.2017

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## **1 Welcome by The President**

The President welcomed all attending the 2017 Annual Meeting at Maison du Sport, Lausanne (FAI Headquarters)

## **2 Roll call**

Present

- Prof Anu Ojha (UK) and ICARE President
- Henrik Akerstedt (Sweden) and ICARE Vice-President
- Jean-Fancois Clervoy (France)
- Susanne Schödel (FAI Secretary-General)
- Markus Hagganey (FAI Sports and Events Director)
- Nicholas Berend (Commission Technical Expert- France)

Apologies were received from Gennadi Padalka (Russia)

## **3 Declaration of conflicts of interest**

No conflicts were declared

## **4 Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting**

The 2016 Annual Meeting minutes were approved

## **5 FAI General Conference, Meetings and Activities**

Ms. Schödel gave a comprehensive overview of FAI activities and priorities including updates from the 2016 General Conference. In summary:

- FAI is increasingly looking for commercial links, especially in areas such as aerobatics, electric-propulsion air vehicles and in support of the Solar Impulse project. Regulation/support for drone flying/competition activities is an area in which FAI is being consulted by many aviation authorities.
- As a strategic priority, it is recognised that FAI, as a long-standing organisation, must look forwards. Its priorities within the arena of air sports is to “strength, unite, serve and promote”.
- A targeted area for expansion is Asia. Many young people coming into airsports in this region are unaware of the history and role of FAI.
- In the October 2016 elections held at the General Conference, Frits Brink was elected President.
- The FAI Board meets six times per year with 2 extended telecons per year.
- Most Board members volunteer 40-50 days of their time per year to FAI duties. Their travel and accommodation costs are covered but they are not paid for their time by FAI. There are 11 Air Sports Commissions (ASC)s.
- Sporting Licences is an on-going issue for all the Commissions except ICARE, as discussed last year. As a reminder, FAI will issue internal Sporting licences for any person who is the subject of a new human spaceflight record submission.
- FAI coordinates the organisation of 40-60 Category 1 events (World level) per year – mainly in Europe. It further supports a total of more than 700 events (category 1 and 2) globally.
- FAI recognises that there needs to be an increase in the number of younger people involved in airsports and also in FAI’s regulatory/administrative work.
- FAI’s 2017 General Conference will be held at the savoy Hotel in October. The International Olympic Committee has confirmed its participation as an invited organisation.

## 6 Astronautics Activities and Projects

Delegate reports were received from France, Sweden and the UK. Highlights include:

**France:** ESA astronaut Thomas Pesquet's mission on the ISS (International Space Station) is attracting significant media attention in France. Although France has a long history in involvement in human spaceflight (starting with Jean-Loup Chretien's flight with the Soviet Union during the cold War) Pesquet's flight has re-kindled very high levels of interest, especially among young people. ESA has confirmed that it will build two Service Modules for the new Orion spacecraft being commissioned by NASA for deep space human exploration (beyond Earth orbit). These Service Modules are derived from ESA's ATV (Automated Transfer Vehicle) programme which saw 5 unmanned ATV cargo flights to the ISS.

**Sweden:** Due to exchange rate issues, the National Space Board, aside from its ESA commitments, has had only a small amount of growth of space activity. The Esrange rocket launch site and tracking facility continues to be busy, with 10 sounding rocket launches over the last twelve months. Esrange has now been operational for over 50 years and has conducted over 1000 launches.

**UK:** Major Tim Peake's increment on the ISS attracted very high levels of attention in the UK and increased visibility of the UK's growing space sector. The UK has committed to continue its high level of commitment to ESA becoming the fourth largest member state in terms of contribution. It is still committed to human spaceflight and Major Peake is eligible for another flight when the relevant ESA slot becomes available (probably after 2019).

The Secretary-General and ICARE president then presented an overview of the ongoing discussions between FAI and Virgin Galactic with regards to partnership. The discussions are ongoing and so no notes are included in this report.

## 7 FAI Sporting Code

No amendments were requested or made during 2016-17

## 8 New astronautical records

No new records have been submitted during 2016-17.

## 9 Proposals for FAI Awards

- There was one nomination for the 2017 Yuri A Gagarin Gold Medal – to Major Tim Peake (ESA).
- There was one nomination for the 2017 Odyssey Diploma – to Dr Piers Sellers (NASA) – deceased.

**Both were agreed by unanimous decision.**

Dr Sellers' family will be informed by the ICARE President.

The Commission requested further information about the award of the extraordinary extra 2016 Gagarin Medal to Alexei Leonov. This has been awarded at a private ceremony arranged by the Russian NAC in Moscow.

## 10 International Astronautical Federation

M.Berend (Technical expert) presented a comprehensive overview of the 2016 IAF Congress, which he attended and which had over 5000 participants. The majority of abstracts (35.5%) were from Asia with Europe coming second at 34%. North American presentations comprised under 20% of sessions.

The new IAF President (Jean-Yves Gall, President of CNES) will be invited by the Secretary-General to attend the 2017 FAI General Conference in Lausanne.

## **11 Present world records – report**

It is anticipated that NASA astronaut Peggy Whitson will have a record submission for cumulative women's duration and individual women mission duration (either by the US NAC – the National Aeronautical Association or by ICARE) when she completes her current mission on board the ISS. This will be considered at the 2018 meeting as per the usual procedure.

Related to this, the ICARE President was asked to contact the new US National Aeronautical Association president to secure a new US delegate to ICARE.

## **12 Any other business**

A discussion on validation of spaceflights through FAI certification/recognition (as agreed in 2016) took place. It was suggested that all current and former ESA astronauts who have flown are awarded FAI diplomas of recognition at the 30th Association of Space Explorers (ASE) Congress being held in Toulouse.

In light of the numerous discussions that have taken place over the last two years about the Commission's role in validation/recognition of human spaceflights above the Karman line, it was recognised that the scope of the commission now significantly exceeds the mere ratification of new records. With new commercial space and near-space (stratospheric) operators coming on line, the President proposed consideration of a change of the Commission's name .

**At the end of the discussion, it was unanimously agreed that a proposal will be made at the 2017 General Conference to change the name of the Commission from Astronautic Records Commission (ICARE) to the Astronautic and Stratonautic Commission.** This would not supercede the role of any other Commission engaged in stratospheric activities but complement it.

## **13 Elections**

Professor Ojha (UK- current President) was nominated as the only candidate for President. His nomination was seconded and unanimously agreed.

Mr Akersdedt (Sweden – current Vice-President) was nominated as the only candidate for Vice-President. His nomination was seconded and unanimously agreed.

## **14 Date and place of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Friday 13th April 2018.

It will be held either in Lausanne or at the European Astronaut Centre (EAC) in Cologne.