



*Fédération
Aéronautique
Internationale*

Minutes

of the Annual Meeting of the **FAI Amateur Built & Experimental Commission**

**held in Friedrichshafen, Germany
at the Graf Zeppelin Haus
on 12 April 2010**

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**Minutes of the 35th CIACA-FAI Meeting
Held at the Graf Zeppelin Haus, Friedrichshafen
12th April 2010**

PRESENT:

In the chair	Mr. Pierluigi	DURANTI (Italy)	President
AUSTRIA	Mr. Hermann	EIGNER	Delegate
CZECH REPUBLIC	Mr. Jan	FRIDRICH	Delegate
FINLAND	Mr. Pirkka	MATTILA	Alt. Delegate
FRANCE	Ms. Catherine	DARTOIS	1 st Vice President
	Mr. Hédi	BELAGE	Alt. Delegate
GERMANY	Mr. Christian	TEUBER	Delegate
	Mrs. Elaine	FECHER	Secretary
PORTUGAL	Mr. Carlos	TRIGO	Observer
SWEDEN	Mr. Kjell	FRANZEN	Delegate
SWITZERLAND	Mr. Alfons	HUBMANN	Delegate
U.K.	Mr. Roger	HOPKINSON	Delegate
FAI	Mr. Jean-Marc	BADAN	FAI Sports & Development Director

1. Introduction and welcome

Opening the meeting the Chairman welcomed the participants in the 35th meeting of the Commission. He extended a particularly warm welcome to Jean-Marc BADAN, FAI Sports & Development Director who attended the meeting as the FAI Headquarter representative.

He then asked the delegates to stand for a minute's silence in the memory of Jiri VICHEREK (past Czech Republic Delegate) who sadly died in a flying accident last summer.

2. Apologies for absence, proxies

Two apologies for absence had been received, namely from David Bremner, alternate delegate for the UK and Alexander Marinosyan, delegate for Bulgaria. No proxies have been received and no conflicts of interest expressed.

3. Minutes of 34th CIACA FAI meeting

The Chairman thanked Mrs. Elaine Fecher for her help in preparing the minutes. Roger Hopkinson commented that he had been unable to access the website with the minutes. Despite this problem, the delegate unanimously accepted the minutes of the 34th CIACA FAI meeting.

Pirkka Mattila suggested that the minutes be approved sooner as the delegates only meet annually. However, FAI rules state that the minutes of a meeting must be formally approved during the following meeting.

The agenda was also accepted unanimously with no items being added.

4. Actions pending from previous meeting

The Chairman then went through the actions pending from the previous meeting, with the exclusion of those which were covered anyhow by dedicated agenda items:

- Action No. 1: Financial support from Boeing for an initiative in the UK to build a plane for schools. Roger Hopkinson was to supply more details of this programme which is run by the Royal Aeronautical Society. He does not see any chance of extending the initiative to the rest of Europe, particularly due to the economic recession.
- Action No. 3: Information data base. Jiri Vicherek was to work on this together with EFLEVA. Kjell Franzen is collecting information on safety for EFLEVA and agreed to try to update the CIACA table which was started in 1995. Pierluigi Duranti will send to Kjell after the meeting
Action 1: P. Duranti
(Post meeting note : the table has already been delivered)
Action 2: K. Franzen
(To collect up to date information and statistics from all active countries)
- Action No. 5 Badges for CIACA competitors/judges at WAG 2009. Pierluigi Duranti reported that he had indeed commissioned such badges that have been offered to the World Air Games Officers. Unfortunately, for some strange reason, it seems that they were not distributed to the competitors/judges. However a number of badges are available to those who might be interested .

5. CIACA President Report

As the agenda was supported by a comprehensive presentation the President anticipated just a few general matters related to the status of CIACA. He reiterated his belief that, due to the lack of income it is difficult to support a significant increase of new initiatives. The commission, for the time being, shall keep relying on the volunteer work of the delegates, therefore there will be no sudden change in the situation.

A step forward in the direction of finding possible ways for funding CIACA initiatives has been the participation in the WAG (see subsequent point 7). The WAG are a promising and great showcase and this time homebuilt aircraft have actively attended as one of the 10 official air-sport discipline. If the international economical situation had not brought to a significant cut in the sponsors budget, most likely CIACA might have achieved possible economical benefits. Unfortunately this was not the case but this experience has taught that this can be a path to be followed in future.

This is somehow related to the status of CIACA which, in the current FAI structure, is a technical commission and, as such, is not in charge of competitions and (officially) records recognition. It also implies a sort of lower level of consideration with respect to the "Air-sport" commissions. When CIACA was created its only concern was to aim at legally achieve, in the different countries, the freedom of flight and the regulations for homebuilt aircraft. Today the situation has changed and there are evidence that CIACA as well deserves, within the FAI community, to be an air sports commission (we have issued the Sporting Code section for Solar-powered aeroplanes, we have drafted the sporting code section for electrically-powered aircraft and we have carried out two competitions for Experimental aircraft in the frame of the WAG 2009. These are undoubtedly Air-sports activities). For all these reasons Mr. Duranti is hopeful that CIACA will be upgraded to an air sports commission soon and in this direction he will undertake proper actions within FAI.

Another important issue is related to the social and educational initiatives carried out by the amateur-built community in the world, which must be made more evident. This is in fact an important positive contribution given to the image of FAI and the aviation in front of the public opinion.

We must also take advantage of the CIACA competence and knowledge in the advanced technology of solar and electric propulsion, that are subjects very popular nowadays and also politically favourable to be managed. A visit to the AERO in Friedrichshafen 2010 shows that this sector is growing very rapidly and offers great opportunities not to be missed.

A discussion arose concerning the financing of commissions through the FAI. It was pointed out that most of the amateur-built associations represented in CIACA pay fees to FAI through their national aero clubs. This money does not come to the good of CIACA. Mr. Badan explained that the FAI does not fund the commissions. However, as an air sports commission CIACA would be able to hold competitions for which an entry fee would be charged. CIACA would have complete control over such fees.

Mr. Hopkinson (Chairman of EFLEVA) outlined the goals of the domestic associations as he sees them - technical interests, advocacy and importantly the fun aspects of aviation (enjoying and promulgating the passion). He sees CIACA's role in the third aspect whilst EFLEVA should cover (in Europe) the first two

matters and support the CIACA by its attempt to become an air sports commission so that it can organise events all over Europe.

Mr. Duranti reminded delegates that CIACA is a global commission, not a European one.

He accepted the encouragement to make CIACA more effective but recalled the difficulties to get contributions from the delegates through the year, as was demonstrated during the preparation phase of the WAG 2009.

To summarise: CIACA deserves to become an air sport commission. Mr. Duranti will prepare a document explaining how, in the opinion of the delegates, CIACA fulfils FAI requirements for an air sport commission to be submitted to FAI headquarters. Mr. Badan explained that, in any case, there cannot be any statute change before 2011. 2010 should be used to prepare the way for that possible change.

Action 3: P. Duranti

6. FAI General Conference

The FAI General Conference 2009 was held in Korea. Unfortunately Mr. Duranti could not attend.

Mr. Badan gave a short summary of the main points of interest at the Conference. It was the first time in 24 years that the Conference had been held in Asia and over 20 Asian countries attended. Fees will remain unchanged due to the healthy financial situation (Red Bull Air Races). As reported previously, the FAI has entered into a 5-year partnership with Flying Aces Ltd (www.airsports.tv) concerning television and internet coverage of various flying events.

Max Bishop has retired as FAI Secretary General and has been replaced by Stéphane Desprez. Mr. Desprez comes from the world of rugby. The FAI General Conference 2010 will be held in Dublin, with Belgrade hosting the 2011 General Conference.

7. World Air Games

The CIACA President was deeply involved in the organisation of the World Air Games in Turin as Air-Sports Director. He gave a brief summary of the history of WAG before going on to give a brief report of the Games. CIACA had been unable to fully exploit the potential offered by the Games. Not enough applicants were put forward by member associations, with only a few countries being represented. Side events were also limited due to the economic situation. The judges present at the meeting (Hermann Eigner, Kjell Franzen, Carlos Trigo) expressed appreciation for this first experience and suggested that the rules be revised and improved in view of future WAG edition. They said that it was difficult to judge the aircraft as they were too different (well-built aircraft did not reach a sufficient scoring because too much emphasis was put on innovative factors). It was suggested that a third category be considered with more emphasis on workmanship. Mr. Badan warned against introducing a new category in 2011 as time is short. He suggested this be postponed to 2013.

It was agreed that Catherine Dartois supply the French rules on the workmanship competition held in France every year to the working group (H. Eigner, K. Franzen, C. Trigo) and that they present a first proposals in 3 months taking into account what arisen during the above discussion.

Action 4: C. Dartois, H. Eigner, K. Franzen, C. Trigo

Mr. Duranti reported on the "public construction" event in which several young people built an aircraft in the main square of Turin, during the week of the WAG, in front of the general public. This event was a great success, not just because the aircraft was completed and carried out its maiden flight, but because the young people involved were able to experience other cultures at close hand.

Mr. Mario Pozzini (Italy), who had been teaming with Agust Gudmundsson (Iceland) as a co-leader of the international homebuilders group in the WAG, gave a comprehensive presentation of this initiative and offered the delegates the flavour of the enthusiastic spirit of the group (Post meeting notes: a full report of this initiative is enclosed and is also published in the CIACA web site).

Mr. Badan thanked Mr. Duranti on behalf of the FAI for his work at the WAG. He not only pushed the amateur-built sector as CIACA President, but also played a leading role in the success of WAG 2009 as its Sports Director. Despite the adverse economic situation, WAG has helped the FAI to take a step forward.

41 nations were present, 25% from overseas. 10 disciplines were held virtually at one location. Co-operation was the main theme.

It had been planned to hold the WAG every two years. Unfortunately, at the end of the bidding process for 2011, there were no official candidates. Further contacts with potential hosts had been initiated by the FAI, and a final decision would be made in May 2010 about WAG2011.

8. CIACA awards

Phoenix Diploma

No nominations.

Phoenix Group Diploma

No nominations.

Henri Mignet Diploma

Mr. Pirkka Mattila presented the Finnish nomination for the Henri Mignet Diploma. The PIK-25 Varttimarkka was unanimously awarded the Diploma for its outstanding performance and low fuel consumption at cruising speed, its low noise level and its safe handling characteristics.

(See enclosed presentation).

Mr. Badan invited the Delegates to carefully check instructions and deadline provided by the FAI By-Laws before submitting a nomination for an FAI Award (see : Chapter 10 and Paragraphs 12.13ff / <http://www.fai.org/documents/constitution>).

9. Educational and social initiatives

Since many years CIACA Delegates are telling about valid experiences of aircraft homebuilding developed in the frame of social and educational initiatives involving, for instance scholars, students, handicapped persons, drug addict communities and disadvantaged people. Not enough is known about such valuable activities and it is necessary to promote them better. There had been an attempt to prepare a pamphlet in time for the World Air Games but due to the heavy work load, this did not happen.

It is, however, a very important matter and, as soon as some funding will be available, a CIACA publication on this subject shall be produced in order not to disperse such patrimony.

Mr. Duranti also wondered whether the subject of the social effectiveness of aircraft homebuilding might be the subject of possible graduation thesis for university students and asked all the delegates to contact high schools/universities and explore such potentialities. Perhaps students in social sciences could be interested in studying the effect of group home-building on the social environment.

Action 5: All delegates

10. New home-built racer class

This French project has been abolished

11. Electrically and Solar powered Aeroplanes (SpA)

The Chairman pointed out that CIACA has been calling for the attention of the FAI community upon these technologies since long time, when there were just a few prototypes in the world. Years ago CIACA has devoted a lot of energies on this matter by producing Sporting Code (Section 13) for solar-powered aeroplanes and now the Sporting Code for electrically-powered aeroplanes is almost ready to be delivered.

As shown by the exhibitors at the Aero in Friedrichshafen, this sector is growing dramatically. We must take advantage of this development and should not miss the opportunity of being a visible actor on this stage but the dimension of the growth will ask CIACA for more energies.

Soon, in certain countries, records will be attempted for solar-powered and electrically-powered aircraft and we must be ready to manage. We need to create a number of national observers who knows what they are talking about and be capable, locally, to create and maintain proper link with CIACA and the media.

The development of the Solar Impulse aircraft of Bernard Piccard is a first, great opportunity.

One of the official observers for that record attempt that the Swiss Aero Club has proposed is the CIACA Swiss Delegate and 2nd Vice President Alfons Hubmann. CIACA being the body that has produced the relevant Sporting Code, we shall keep being in the loop and possibly increase our presence in the project also during the preparation phase.

In conclusion the delegates of the countries where by sure projects of electrically and solar-powered aircraft are presently carried out shall be very active in establishing proper link with CIACA.

The following actions shall be carried out:

Re-inforce relationship between CIACA and Solar Impulse

Draw up requirements for observers

Identify people capable and willing to act as observers

Action 6: A. Hubmann

Action 7: P. Duranti

Action 8: All delegates

12. EFLEVA, Europe Air Sports

Roger Hopkinson, the UK delegate and Chairman of EFLEVA, gave a short report on the status of EFLEVA which had its third meeting on 11th April 2010 in Friedrichshafen. He stressed that the amount of progress that has been made since formation is very commendable.

The annual general meeting of Europe Air Sports had not yet been held, so no new report was possible.

13. Discussion on main problems and progress in the Aircraft Homebuilders community.

Each delegate summarised the situation in his/her home country. The Chairman asked the delegates to return to the habit of sending written reports before the meeting to the FAI Secretariat. This year, only Austria had handed in its report in advance .

14. Public relations / press / communications

Website

Unfortunately, the website continues to be poor. This is not because information is not published but because no information is passed on to the FAI to publish. There are, for example, links only to a few of the national associations. Delegates were heavily encouraged to be more active in this respect.

Information data-base

See Section 4 Actions pending.

15. AOB

Mr. Duranti informed the delegates about the Berblinger Prize 2011 (<http://www.berblinger.ulm.de/en.html>) awarded by the City of Ulm, Germany, to innovative aeronautical projects. As most of the proposed project in competitions refer to experimental aircraft he asked the German delegates to find out if CIACA might get involved in any way. Mrs. Fecher told the delegates that she had already contacted the city of Ulm and expressed CIACA's interest. There did not seem to be much interest on the behalf of the city of Ulm.

Action 6: E. Fecher + C. Teuber

Mr. Badan informed the delegates of the FAI Young Artists Contest which is held annually (http://www.fai.org/education/young_artists_contest). This year the theme was "Flying with the sun". This is an example of how amateur-building can be promoted across commission borders. The theme for 2011 is "50 years Gagarin". A proper dialogue with the FAI Aviation & Space Education Commission (CIEA / <http://www.fai.org/education/>) might offer opportunities for joint initiatives.

Before moving on to the election of office bearers for 2010-2011, the Chairman asked the delegates for the dates of the annual fly-ins:

AUSTRIA	13 th to 15 th August	Krems (LOAG)
FINLAND	9 th to 11 th July	Jamijarvi (EFJM)
EURO FLY-IN	14 th to 18 th July	Saint Yan (LFLN)
GERMANY	3 rd to 5 th September	Mengen (EDTM)
ITALY	3 rd to 5 th September	Ferrara (LIPF)
SWEDEN	4 th to 6 th June	Norköpping (ESSP)
SWITZERLAND	20 th to 22 nd August	Mollis (LSGM)
U.K.	1 st to 5 th September	Sywell Aerodrome

It is proposed that the dates of the fly-ins be published within the FAI air sports calendar but this does not seem feasible for formal reasons. A suitable position in the FAI web site should be found at least to keep those concerned informed.

16. Election of office bearers 2010 - 2011

As a result of an open ballot, the following office bearers were elected:

President:	Mr. Pierluigi Duranti	(Italy)
1 st Vice President:	Ms. Catherine Dartois	(France)
2 nd Vice President:	Mr. Alfons Hubmann	(Switzerland)
Secretary:	Ms. Elaine Fecher	(Germany)

17. Date and place of next meeting

The 36th CIACA meeting will take place in Friedrichshafen on Sunday, 17th April 2011

Prepared by Elaine Fecher

Approved by Pierluigi Duranti