

## **REPORT ON THE MEETING OF THE AIR SPORT COMMISSION PRESIDENTS' GROUP – WEDNESDAY 7 OCTOBER 2009 - 09h00 – INCHEON, Korea**

### **Roll Call . Present were**

FAI Executive Board: Pierre Portmann, Bengt Eric Fonsell , Robert Clipsham, Alvaro de Orleans Borbon, Bob Henderson , Max Bishop, Jean Marc Badan

Presidents of ASC Commissions and Technical Commissions: Graeme Wilson (Parachuting) Thomas Backman (microlights), Flip Koetsier (Hang Gliding and Paragliding), Jean Claude Weber (Ballooning) Graeme Windsor ( Parachuting) Bob Skinner (Modelling) Roland Stuck (Acting Pdt for Gliding) Freddy Hubert (Acting Pdt for Rotorcraft), Michiel Kastelejn (Education) Henk Mertens (CASI) Peter Saundby (Medico Physiological) ,Pedro Cababero (General Aviation)

### **1. FAI President's introduction**

Pierre Portmann opened the meeting at 9H05 welcoming the FAI Air Sport and Technical Commission Presidents to Incheon.

### **2. World Air Games**

#### **2.1 Evaluation of 2009 Games**

PP invited the Pdt's of the air sports commissions to give their feedback about the 2009 World Air Games. Most of them simply repeated what they had already said at the meeting in Turin. (See my report of the ASCs Pdt meeting in Turin).

PP then explained the difficult situation the FAI faced in Turin:

- Due to an internal fight inside the Local Organisation Committee, the CEO was replaced by a less competent one.
- Because of the financial crisis, the organisers had difficulty finding private sponsors. More than 80% of the income was public money.
- By the beginning of 2009, the FAI was faced with the choice between organising the WAG with a reduced budget or cancelling the event.
- The FAI decided to go ahead with the money available. Despite everything not being perfect at the WAG, Pierre Portmann believes that it would have been a great mistake to cancel the event.
- The President also reported an unpleasant financial surprise: The Local Organisers did not respect their financial obligation to pay the outstanding rights fees of USD300,000 plus Media rights fees of EUR30,000. The FAI Executive Board, after numerous communications with the LOC and AeCI, is instigating legal proceedings to recover the due amounts. The FAI contacted the Italian Aero Club, who shares the responsibility for the situation with the Local Organisers since they co-signed the financial agreement.
- A 10 min video was made from footage provided by RAI TV and will be shown during the General Conference

#### **2.1 Arrangements for Future Games**

After the WAG, Jean Marc Badan asked the athletes, the NACs and the liaison officers for their feedback about the Games. Most of the comments received are in line with the reports given by the ASC Presidents. Jean Marc, together with Brian Spreckley, made a detailed evaluation of this feedback and proposed a programme with 9 improvements. Unfortunately, this programme was not handed out so we do not know what is proposed...

Pierre Portmann then reported that, as decided by the ASC meeting in Turin, he was actively searching for potential bidders for the 2011 Games. Only Odensee (Denmark), who **were** among the bidders for the 2009 Games, showed a real interest. The President travelled to Odensee and

met the Deputy Mayor of the city, a dynamic young lady, who confirmed the City's interest. She mentioned that they have the backing of Sport Denmark but that they will only bid if they have the full support of the Danish Royal Aero Club (KDA). Since the KDA held a meeting a few days ago, Pierre hopes that their delegates will bring good news to the Conference. If so, the Executive Board will start the negotiations. However, the Organisers have already signalled that, due to the climate and the fact that 2011 is no longer the Year of sport as 2009, they will not be able to maintain the financial conditions they offered in their bid for 2009. The Swedish Royal Aero Club announced that they are ready to help the organisers.

### **3. Approval of standard letter to NACs concerning the relationship between NAC and contest organisers (Annex A)**

The letter to the NACs clarifying the relationship between the organisers of an FAI event and their NAC (see Annex) was approved. The bid expert of each ASC will have to send this letter to the NACs and take into account the answer when evaluating the bid.

### **4. Payment of increased costs for meeting rooms in Lausanne**

The significant increasing demand from commercial organisations to hire meeting rooms at the Olympic Museum has led the IOC to review the initial offer made to FAI (free use of meeting rooms at the Olympic Museum). Starting on 1 January 2010, only 4 rooms/day per year will be available free of charge at the Olympic Museum. Additional meeting rooms will have to be paid for. Max Bishop explains, that in fact there are 3 groups among the Air Sports Commissions:

1. Those who avoid Lausanne for their meetings
2. Those who are small enough to hold their meeting outside the Museum (hotels)
3. Those who really need the Museum facilities (IGC, CIVL, CIAM, IPC)

Only the last group is affected. Max asks if they would be happy to share the costs by paying 1500 CHF /day (FAI covering the technical costs).

After consultation with Bob I agreed. The CIVL agreed as well.

On behalf of IPC (parachuting), Graeme Wilson recalls that he would like the requirement for a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority for a Commission's Plenary meeting to be held elsewhere than in Lausanne to be removed from the FAI By Laws. The Statutes Commission will deal with this request

### **5. FAI Media Agreement – Flying Aces**

Since Breitling no longer sponsors Flying Aces Limited, J.Zaltmann will be able to send his TV crew to only a limited number of FAI events. Some ASC Presidents would like to know who decides which events will be covered. The Executive Board would like somebody to be responsible for TV coverage.

### **6. FAI Sporting Licence Database project**

Max Bishop reported that the project was delayed mainly for 3 reasons:

1. the complexity of the database has been underestimated (has to be compatible with all other databases)
2. Thierry Montigneaux is overloaded
3. translation problems

50 countries have submitted their data

The data of 20 countries have been entered into the data base so far but new problems have been discovered.

Some data bases contain many errors (e.g. same names written differently etc) which have been corrected manually.

Max apologized for the delay but hoped that the work will be finished in a couple of weeks

It is to be noted that the data from some countries (including two important countries) are still missing...

## **7. Commission Presidents' Forum (GC Plenary Agenda Item 13) – Structure and Content.**

A Commission Presidents forum will be held during the Conference.

This will be an opportunity for us to educate the NACs and Delegates (especially our friends from the 23 Asian NACs present)

There will be four presentations of about 10 minutes:

- Henk Mertens (CASI ) will promote FAI's common values, its goals and objectives and our respective air sports and ASCs and what we can do for our members.
- Michiel Kasteleijn(CIEA) will give a presentation on the programmes and support provided by the Education Commission.
- Roland Stuck (acting as Pdt of the IGC ) will present the initial outcomes from the Country Development project.
- Graeme Windsor (IPC) will present a general overview of IPC's plans and a focus on parachuting in the Asian region.

The presentations will be followed by a discussion.

## **8. Any other business**

Nil

## **9. Date and place of next meeting**

No date was fixed but the next meeting will probably be in late May 2010.

R. STUCK  
October 2009