

Fédération Aéronautique Internationale

FAI - The World Air Sports Federation



98th Annual General Conference

Minutes of Working Sessions

FAI Centenary Celebrations

Aéro-Club de France
Paris
12 to 14 October 2005

FOREWORD

This is the record of the FAI General Conference held in Paris on 13/14 October 2005 to commemorate the Centenary of the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale.

The FAI delegates were privileged to be received in some highly prestigious locations: the Hôtel de Ville; the Concorde Hall at the Le Bourget Air and Space Museum; the Chambre of Commerce; the Senate in the Palais du Luxembourg; and of course the Salons of the Aero Club de France, FAI's founder member. They were joined by some of the greatest living personalities in sporting aviation – the “High Flyers”, whose world records and championship performances have inspired widespread admiration around the world. The chief guest was Apollo 11 Lunar module pilot "Buzz" Aldrin.

As a permanent record of the FAI Centenary, these proceedings of the Conference are accompanied by a souvenir DVD containing film clips, photographs and other memorabilia of the Paris events and other commemorative events held in Lausanne and elsewhere.

At the High Flyers Night in the Senate on the 14th October 2005, the date of the FAI's Centenary, the FAI President, Mr Pierre Portmann addressed the following words to the guests:

It is a great honour and pleasure for me to greet you here this evening in the splendid surroundings of the Senate, and I thank you for having accepted our invitation. We are joined together this evening to celebrate and commemorate the centenary of the FAI, the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale.

Here we are now in the year of our centenary, proud heirs to the small band of pioneers who created the first aeronautical international organization, in 1905 here in Paris, with the aim of facilitating cross-border traffic and exchanges. These pioneers could hardly have imagined the high profile that aviation was going to assume during the 20th century - for good and for evil. For them, sporting performance was what it was all about. And this has not changed much: for us too, aeroplanes, balloons... all flying machines... are means of bringing people together – both literally, since they are all means of transport, but more especially through the international competitions and other meetings that we organize every year on all the continents, creating mutual comprehension and bonds of friendship between men and the women.

So much has changed in our society since then. When I contemplate, in our centenary book "High Flyers", the photographs of my famous predecessors at the beginning of the 20th century, with their splendid moustaches and costumes, I see characters in a world that has completely disappeared.

But if I read the reports of their discussions, I note that their concerns were very similar to ours: how to evaluate performances in competitions and for world records; how to face up to bureaucratic restrictions; how to prevent accidents and, inevitably, how to find the money to finance the Federation.

So it's reasonable to ask the question: has the world really changed?

The history of the FAI is first and foremost a series of colourful people with independent characters who pushed forward the boundaries of what can be achieved in the air. It is their memory that we salute this evening, as well as human genius in general.

One of my greatest pleasures as President of this Federation is to be able to meet exceptional aviators of all sorts and conditions, who remain passionate about flying: they are the unconditional enthusiasts of aviation.

I do not want to overlook the social and educational value of all sport. Sport teaches discipline, team-work, rigour, determination, perseverance and many other qualities that are very useful for all aspects of life. But aviation shares one characteristic with very few other sports, such as mountaineering for example: namely - errors can easily be fatal. It is thus a very good school for life.

It is for this reason that I am determined to fight aggressively against the excessive regulation of our sporting and recreational aviation, which is closing our aerodromes and making access to airspace increasingly difficult all around the world, and particularly in the developed countries.

We simply cannot accept that future generations will be deprived of the opportunity to practise air sports.

In this year of the commemoration of our centenary, we cannot forget that the dream of Icarus is still very much alive in the hearts of people. We, at all levels of the FAI, have the duty to see this dream perpetuated into the future.

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a great privilege for us at the beginning of the 21st century, to be the heirs to these extraordinary characters who have marked the history of our Federation. I am proud and am honoured to be your President on this occasion, and I hope that our ancestors, from their very high altitude observation point, will share our pleasure this evening.

The Centenary of the FAI was celebrated with pride and a sense of admiration for everything that our predecessors had accomplished in the past 100 years. Beyond that, there was also a feeling of hope and confidence that – despite all the difficulties that we face – the next century will see new generations of “High Flyers” exploring air and space with ever more sophisticated machines, and keeping alive the age-old dream of flying like a bird.

Lausanne, December 2005.

FEDERATION AERONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE

98th ANNUAL GENERAL CONFERENCE

I N D E X

OFFICERS OF THE FAI FOR 2005/2006

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FEDERATION AERONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE

Founded in 1905

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OFFICERS OF THE FAI 2005/2006

Presidents of Honour

A. O. Dumas (Canada)	C.F. von Kann (USA)
D. Kelly (Australia)	O.A. Rautio (Finland)
Dr. C. Kepak (Czech Republic)	Dr. H.P. Hirzel (Switzerland)
G.A. Lloyd (Australia)	E.J. Ness (Norway)
	W. Weinreich (Germany)

President

Pierre Portmann

Executive Directors

R. E. Clipsham	J. Makula
B.E Fonsell	A. de Orléans-Borbon
H. Hirasawa	B.J Worth

Vice-Presidents

Dr. H. Lindholm (Air Sport General Comm.)	P. Cabañero Marimón (General Aviation)	E.T.H (Bert) Wijnands (The Netherlands)
M. R. Heuer (Aerobatics)	R. Henderson (Gliding)	R. G. Woolford (New Zealand)
S. Pimenoff (Aeromodelling)	G. Allerdissen (Germany)	Maj. Gen. O. Aamoth (Norway)
S. S. Fernandez de Cordoba (Astro. Records)	E. Savramis(Greece)	P. Girardin (Parachuting)
K. Hadjouti (Algeria)	F. Koetsier (Hang Gliding)	Gen. G. Czempinski (Poland)
H. Meertens (Australia)	Capt. S.K. Sharma M.P. (India)	D. Hamilton (Rotorcraft)
A. Roppert (Austria)	D. T. Rowan (Ireland)	A. Korovin (Russia)
J.C. Weber (Ballooning)	O. Talmon (Israel)	Ing. S. Pelagic (Serbia & Montenegro)
V. Wieme (Belgium)	G. Leoni (Italy)	J. Mikus (Slovak Republic)
C. Werneck de Carvalho Vianna(Brazil)	S. Hara (Japan)	J. Cuden (Slovenia)
J. Humphreys (Canada)	K.O. Kim (Korea)	A. De Orléans Borbon (Spain)
M. Zhao (China)	E. Kharafi (Kuwait)	Dr. J. Grubbström (Sweden)
E. Liassis (Cyprus)	K. Plocins (Latvia)	W. Arpagaus (Switzerland)
J. Koblle (Czech. Republic)	S. Murza (Lithuania)	Y. Güngör (Turkey)
A. Maher Shehata (Egypt)	J. Birgen (Luxemburg)	Dr. R. P. Saundby (United Kingdom)
A.C. Nielsen (Denmark)	J. Peña Buenrostro (Mexico)	A.W. Greenfield Jr. (USA)
H. Halonen (Finland)	T. Backman (Microlights)	P.L. Gonzalez (Venezuela)
M. Besnainou (France)	A.J. Alves Gomes (Mozambique)	

Presidents of FAI Air Sport Commissions

Dr. H. Lindholm (SWE) CASI	S. Pimenoff (FIN) Aeromodelling
J. C. Weber (LUX) Ballooning	M.R. Heuer (USA) Aerobatics
P. Cabañero Marimón (ESP) General Aviation	S. Sanz Fernandez de Cordoba (ESP) Astronautic Records
R. Henderson (NZL) Gliding	F. Koetsier (NED) Hang Gliding
D. Hamilton (GBR) Rotorcraft	T. Backman (SWE) Microlights
P. Girardin (FRA) Parachuting	

Presidents of FAI Technical Commissions

M. Kasteleijn (NED) Aerospace Education	Dr. P. Saundby (GBP) Medico-Physiological
P.L. Duranti (ITA) Amateur Built Aircraft	M. Goth (GER) Environment

Secretariat

Secretary General : Max Bishop

Assistant Secretary General : Thierry Montigneaux - **Promotional Manager** : Jean-Marc Badan

Executive Secretary : Cosette Mast - **Administrative Secretary** : Christine Rousson **Executive Officer** : Anne-Laure Perret

FEDERATION AERONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE

98th ANNUAL GENERAL CONFERENCE

MINUTES

OF THE WORKING SESSIONS HELD ON THURSDAY 13 AND FRIDAY 14 OCTOBER 2005 AT THE AERO CLUB DE FRANCE, IN PARIS, FRANCE

IN THE CHAIR Mr. Pierre PORTMANN, FAI President

ACTIVE MEMBERS OF FAI :

FAI ACTIVE MEMBERS REPRESENTED

WITH VOTING RIGHTS

HEADS OF DELEGATIONS

ALGERIA.....	Mr. Keiredine HADJOUTI
AUSTRALIA.....	Mr. Henk MEERTENS
AUSTRIA.....	Dr. Alois ROPPERT
BELGIUM.....	Mr. Victor WIEME
BULGARIA.....	Mr. Nick KALTCHEV
CANADA.....	Mr. Jack HUMPHREYS
CHILE.....	Mr. Tito MUNOS REYES
CHINA.....	Mr. WANG LEI
CROATIA.....	Mr. Tomislav VAJDA
CYPRUS.....	Mr. Demetrakis HADJMETRIOU
CZECH REPUBLIC.....	Ing. Jiri KOBRLE
DENMARK.....	Mr. Aksel C. NIELSEN
EGYPT.....	Gen. Ahmed MAHER SHEHATA
ESTONIA.....	Mr. Urmas USKA
FINLAND.....	Mr. Hannu HALONEN
FRANCE.....	Mr. Jean-François GEORGES
GERMANY.....	Mr. Daniel DORNHEIM
GREECE.....	Mr. George BENECOS
IRELAND.....	Capt. Joe DIBLE
ITALY.....	Mr. Leonardo BRIGLIADORI
JAPAN.....	Mr. Sadao HARA
JORDAN.....	Mr. Ziad HAMZEH
KOREA.....	Mrs. Kyung O. KIM
KUWAIT.....	Mr. Eyad Al KHARAFI

LITHUANIA	Mr. Stasys MURZA
LUXEMBURG	Mr. Jean BIRGEN
MEXICO	Ing. José Peña BUENROSTRO
NEPAL	Mr. Stephen SHRESTHA
NETHERLANDS	Mr. Bert WIJNANDS
NORWAY	Maj. Gen. Olav AAMOTH
POLAND	Mr. Gromoslaw CZEMPINSKI
PORTUGAL	Mr. Manuel SILVA SALTA
RUSSIA	Gen. Anatoly KOROVIN
SERBIA & MONTENEGRO	Mr. Djordje VULETIC
SLOVAKIA	Mr. Anton LISKA
SLOVENIA	Mr. Zmago JELINCIC PLEMENITI
SPAIN	Mr. Antonio QUINTANA PEREIRA
SWEDEN	Dr. John GRUBBSTRÖM
SWITZERLAND	Mr. Willi ARPAGAUS
TURKEY	Brig Gen. Mustafa FIRAT
UNITED KINGDOM	Dr. Peter SAUNDBY
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	Mr. Art GREENFIELD

Without Voting Rights:

KAZAKHSTAN..... Mrs. Inesa STEPANOVA

INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATE MEMBERS OF FAI :

O.S.T.I.V...... Prof. Louis M. BOERMANS

PROXIES :

Israel to France

New Zealand to IGC

FAI EXECUTIVE BOARD :

FAI President..... Mr. Pierre PORTMANN

FAI Executive Director..... Mr. Robert CLIPSHAM

FAI Executive Director..... Mr. Alvaro De ORLEANS BORBON

FAI Executive Director..... Mr. Bengt-Erik FONSELL

FAI Executive Director..... Mr. Hideo HIRASAWA

FAI Executive Director..... Mr. Jerzy MAKULA

FAI Executive Director..... Mr. B.J. WORTH

FAI Secretary General..... Mr. Max BISHOP

PRESIDENTS OF FAI AIR SPORT COMMISSIONS :

Mr. Sandy PIMENOFF, President, FAI Air Sport General & Aeromodelling Commissions

Mr. Jean-Claude WEBER,	President , FAI Ballooning Commission
Mr. Pedro CABANERO,	President, FAI General Aviation Commission
Mr. Robert HENDERSON,	President, FAI Gliding Commission
Mr. David HAMILTON,	President FAI Rotorcraft Commission
Mr. Patrice GIRARDIN,	President , FAI Parachuting Commission
Mr. Michael HEUER,	President FAI Aerobatics Commission
Mr. Tomas BACKMAN,	President , FAI Microlight Commission
Mr. Flip KOETSIER,	President, FAI Hang Gliding and Paragliding Commission

PRESIDENTS OF FAI TECHNICAL COMMISSIONS :

Dr. Michael GOTH,	President of the FAI Environmental Commission
Mr. Michiel KASTELEIJN,	President of the FAI Aerospace Education Commission
Dr. Peter SAUNDBY	President, FAI Medico-Physiological Commission

FAI PRESIDENTS OF HONOUR

Dr. Hanspeter HIRZEL
Mr. Cenek KEPAK
Mr. Peter LLOYD
Mr. Eilif NESS
Mr. Olavi RAUTIO
Mr. Wolfgang WEINREICH

FAI COMPANIONS OF HONOUR:

Mrs. Odette BALESI-ROUSSEAU (FRANCE)
Mr. Manuel FIGUERAS LOPEZ DE OCCANIA (SPAIN)
Mrs. Kyung O. KIM (KOREA)
Mr. René de MONCHY (NETHERLANDS)
Mr. Terry ROWAN (IRELAND)
Mr. Thierry TOURNAY (BELGIUM)

SECRETARIAT OF THE 97th FAI ANNUAL GENERAL CONFERENCE :

Mr. Jean-Marc BADAN,	FAI Promotional Manager
Mme. Cosette MAST,	FAI Executive Secretary
Mr. Thierry MONTIGNEAUX,	FAI Assistant Secretary General
Mme. Anne-Laure PERRET,	FAI Executive Officer
Mme. Christine ROUSSON,	FAI Administrative Secretary

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE WERE RECEIVED FROM :

New Zealand
Venezuela
Mozambique
Mr. Ray Woolford (New Zealand) Mr. Pierluigi Duranti (CIACA President)

Mr. Pedro Luis Gonzales (Venezuela) Mr. Sanz Fernandez de Cordoba (ICARE President)
Mr. Alves Gomes (Mozambique) Mr. Jean-Louis Monnet (WGPA)
Dr. Wieslaw Jaszczynski (Companion of Honour) Mr. André Dumas (President of Honour)
Mr. John Roake (Companion of Honour) Mr. Harry Schoevers (Europe Airsports)

SCRUTINEERS :

Conference agreed to the appointment as scrutineers of :

Dr. Hanspeter HIRZEL, Mr. Eilif NESS, Mr. Wolfgang WEINREICH .

1. In Memoriam

The Conference stood in silent memory of all friends of FAI who had died since the 97th General Conference in 2004, and especially of :

Mr. Norman PRITCHARD (United Kingdom)

Member of the CIA record sub-committee

Mr. Matsuo TOSHIMITSU (Japan)

President of the Japan Aeronautic Association

Dr. Valdemar TRAMAN (Russia)

Delegate and former Vice-President of the Medico-Physiological Commission (CIMP)

Mr. Tapio SAVOLAINEN (Finland)

Former President of the Finnish Aeronautical Association and FAI Vice President

Mr. Jean BLERIOT (France)

Companion of Honour

Secretary General of the FAI from 1947 to 1950

Treasurer of the FAI from 1951 to 1977

Mr. Arthur H. WESTWORTH (South Africa)

Former FAI Vice-President, CIA/CIEA delegate, PR Committee Chairman

Mr. Alberto MORELLI (Italy)

Glider designer and pilot.

Mr. Jan MIKULA (Czech Republic)

FAI Gold Air Medal for 1983.

Mr. Bertrand LARCHER (France)

Secretary General of the FAI from 1981 to 1986

Mr. Rolf HOSSINGER (Argentina)

Former World Gliding Champion

Mr. Cesar AGUILAR (Confederación Latinoamericana de Paracaidismo)

COLPAR President

Mr. Frank ZAIC (Serbia and Montenegro)

FAI Gold Aeromodelling Medal recipient

Mrs. Violet RITZ RIGBY (USA)

Paul Tissandier recipient

Mrs. Gillian BRYCE-SMITH (United Kingdom)

Pirat Gehriger Diploma recipient

Prince Antoine DE LIGNE (Belgium)

FAI President of Honour

Companion of Honour

Radoslav CIZEK (Czech Republic)

FAI Aeromodelling Gold Medal recipient

2. Roll Call of Delegations

2.1 The roll-call was taken and revealed:

44 Heads of Delegations of FAI Active Members with voting rights, those present and represented all being in good standing.

10 Representatives of FAI Air Sport Commissions with voting rights

1 International Affiliate Member with voting rights.

1 International Affiliate Member without voting rights.

2 Active Members represented by proxies.

1 Active Member without voting rights

2.2 The names of Heads of Delegations, Air Sport Commission representatives, observers and those apologizing for absence were as recorded above.

2.3 Voting panels with a total of **337** Votes were distributed to delegations. The number of votes required to obtain majorities were declared as follows:

Absolute majority: 169

Two-thirds majority: 225

3. Minutes of 97th FAI General Conference 2004

Conference unanimously approved the Minutes of the 97th FAI General Conference Working Sessions held on 1st and 2nd October 2004 in Madrid, Spain.

4. Situation of FAI Membership

4.1 New Members

4.1.1 **Uruguay**: Uruguay had resigned from Active FAI membership in 2004. The resignation had been accepted by the Madrid General Conference. The Uruguayan Aeromodelling Association had then asked for permission to participate in the Argentine World Championship, but could only afford Temporary Membership. The Executive Board decided to recommend accepting the Uruguayan Aeromodelling Association as a Temporary Member. **Conference decided unanimously to accept the Uruguayan Aeromodelling Association with immediate effect as a Temporary Member.**

4.1.2 Moldovan Federations (Aeromodelling and Paragliding) :

The 2004 General Conference 2004 had accepted the resignation of Moldova from FAI active membership and taken note of a request to transfer associate membership to the Aeromodelling Federation of Moldova. In February 2005, the FAI Executive Board had provisionally accepted the Moldovan Aeromodelling Federation as a Temporary Member. Then, in May 2005, the Board had considered an application for Associate membership from the Moldovan Paragliding Association, which had paid CHF 1'000.-.

Subject to payment of the balance of fees for Associate Membership (CHF 1 600), the Board had exceptionally approved this unusual situation (one Associate + one Temporary Member) for 2005 only, but had decided to invite the Moldovan Aeromodelling Federation to become an associate member in 2006, or to create a new Active member organisation in association with the Paragliding Association. The Paragliding Association had however not paid the balance of its Associate Member fees for 2005. In these exceptional circumstances, the **Conference agreed unanimously to consider that the two Moldovan associations were Temporary Members for the year 2005. Conference required the parties concerned to bring their affairs into proper order for 2006, either by creating a NAC, or by having 2 Associate Members.**

4.1.3 Jordan : The Royal Aero Sports Club of Jordan had applied for Active Membership of FAI in Class 10 with immediate effect and for help in establishing suitable administrative structures and air sport training systems. Their Class 10 membership fee for 2005 of CHF 3 000 had been paid. FAI President of Honour Mr. Eilif Ness had visited Jordan at the request and expense of the Club to give advice and consultancy. The Executive Board had recommended acceptance of this application. A representative from the Club was present in the plenary session. **Conference decided unanimously to accept the Royal Aero Sports Club of Jordan with immediate effect as an Active Member in Class 10.**

4.1.4 Parachuting and Ballooning Associations in Chinese Taipei :

Conference noted that two organizations from Chinese Taipei were already FAI Associate Members (for aeromodelling and microlights), and that FAI had received requests from ballooning and parachuting associations in Chinese Taipei to become Associate Members. These organizations had been invited to merge and form a single Active Member organization. Conference also noted that:

- A confederation already exists (Chinese Taipei Air Sports Association - CTASA) that was an Active Member of FAI for several years, having itself replaced a previous Member after a long-drawn out process involving FAI mediation in the early 1990s. CTASA was however expelled from FAI for non-payment of fees.
- Chinese Taipei is the host of the 2009 World Games in Kaoshiung, at which FAI is likely to be a participant, with one or more air sports.

Mr Olavi Rautio proposed sending a representative to Chinese Taipei to evaluate what needed to be done. The FAI President stated that the FAI Executive Director for membership, Mr Hideo Hirasawa would handle this at his discretion.

Conference agreed unanimously to give power to the Executive Board to try and solve these problems, and decided that until such time as the situation could be resolved, the FAI Secretariat should in exceptional circumstances be permitted to issue Sporting Licences centrally to those APs in Chinese Taipei not yet represented by Associate Members.

4.1.5 National Aero Club in Bosnia and Herzegovina :

The Bosnian National Olympic Committee (NOC) had written to FAI asking that Active Membership be granted to the National Aero Club of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which embraces all air sports and all geographical parts and ethnic components of the country. The NOC claimed that the existing FAI Associate Member for aeromodelling was willing to relinquish its membership of FAI in favour of this new Active Member. However, the existing FAI Associate Member had denied any such willingness. In these circumstances, the FAI Executive Board had decided not to ask Conference to make a decision on this question. There was a need for further research and consultations. Conference took note.

4.1.6 Kuwait : The Kuwait Science Club, hitherto an Associate member for Aeromodelling, had applied for Active Membership in Class 10. **Conference unanimously approved this application.**

4.1.7 Arab Aeronautical Federation :

An application for International Affiliate Membership had been received from the Arab Aeronautical Federation, the members of which were air sport bodies in Arab countries in North Africa and the Middle East. Some of these countries were already members of FAI, others not. In at least two cases, the existing FAI member organisation was not the body in membership of the Arab Aeronautic Federation. Conference welcomed the leaders of the Arab Aeronautic Federation, Generals El Shaama and Darwish, who were present as Observers, and agreed to the Executive Board's recommendation that before International Affiliate Membership could be granted, all members of AAF must become FAI members (as for Asiana). **Conference therefore agreed unanimously to keep the application on hold and to maintain contacts with and monitor the membership situation in AAF closely.**

4.1.8 Mongolia: Thanks to the work of Asiana, an application for FAI membership was expected from Mongolia. However, no papers had yet arrived. **Conference decided unanimously to give power to the Executive Board to allow Mongolia provisional membership privileges in 2006, pending approval of their application at the next Conference, provided that their papers were in order, and the appropriate payment was made.**

4.1.9 Asiana :

Under the Memorandum of Understanding between FAI and Asiana, International Affiliate Membership would be offered to Asiana when all Asiana member countries had become FAI members. This situation was now close to being achieved. **The General Conference decided unanimously to give power to the Executive Board to agree terms and conditions for this membership with Asiana, and to allow Asiana to exercise all the rights of Affiliate membership as soon as these terms had been agreed, pending final approval of its membership by General Conference.** The President of Asiana, Mr. Lee Jong Hoon thanked the Conference for its decision and pledged to work hard in the interests of both organizations

4.2 Suspensions

Conference took note that the following Active Members were suspended for non-payment of membership fees at 1 October 2005: **Iraq, Libya.**

4.3 Pending Applications: Conference noted that a new enquiry about FAI membership had been received from Armenia, but this was not yet ready for Conference approval. Other enquiries about FAI membership had been received from organisations in Bolivia, Ecuador, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco , Netherlands Antilles, Somalia, Iran, Philippines, Costa Rica, Antigua and Barbuda. All these were being processed.

4.4 Resignations and Expulsions

4.4.1 Under the Executive Board's policy for the expulsion of members who did not pay subscriptions, Libya and Iraq were due to be expelled at the end of 2005. Some delegates felt that a distinction needed to be made between those who could not pay and those who refused to pay. On the other hand it was pointed out that such distinctions were hard to make in the absence of access to accounts. In the case of Iraq, for which country much sympathy was felt, they had apparently been able to find the funds to attend an Aeromodelling World Championship in France. Their participation was authorized on the strict understanding that they would pay the FAI subscription afterwards.

4.4.2 **Conference decided that Libya and Iraq would cease to FAI Members on 31 December 2005, unless their arrears of subscriptions were settled by then. Conference authorized the write-off of the accumulated debt of these two countries, amounting to CHF 13 590.**

4.5 Special Terms of Payment

4.5.1 Argentina :

Conference took note that, in recognition of the special circumstances of recovery from the country's economic crisis and the great efforts made by the NAC, which had paid off all its 2004 arrears of CHF 7650 as well as its 2005 subscription, the Executive Board had agreed to waive a small amount of late-payment penalties due from Argentina.

4.5.2 Iraq : Conference noted that notwithstanding Iraq's suspension, the Executive Board had made a special arrangement in May 2005, in view of the exceptional circumstances in that country, to allow an Iraqi team to participate in the F3A World Aeromodelling Championship in France. The Board did this in order to encourage the revival of air sports in Iraq.

4.5.3 Indonesia :

Conference took note that, as a small gesture towards tsunami relief, the Board had decided to allow the payment of Indonesia's subscription for 2005 to be staged, CHF 5000 to be paid immediately (received July 2005) and the remaining CHF 2'000.- by the end of the year, without penalty.

4.6 Other Membership Matters

4.6.1 Italy : The President Berlusconi of the Italian Council of Ministers, had signed the new Aero Club of Italy Statutes. The AeCI delegation announced that it was now happy for the FAI monitoring group to be dissolved. The AeCI thanked FAI for its help. **Conference agreed unanimously to dissolve the FAI Monitoring Group (Alvaro de Orleans-Borbon + Pierluigi Duranti).**

4.6.2 NAA/SSA :

Conference noted that an application for Associate Membership of FAI had been received from the Soaring Society of America. This had been referred to the FAI Member in the USA (NAA) for comment, in accordance with FAI By Law 6.3.1. A meeting had taken place between the two parties in Washington DC on 12 September 2005, attended as an observer by Mr Hideo Hirasawa (Executive Director, Membership). As a result of this meeting, the two organizations had agreed on how to work towards a possible settlement of their differences.

4.6.3 Malaysia: Conference noted that a request for information on FAI Membership had been received from the Malaysian Youth and Sport Experimental Aircraft Association, according to which the Active FAI Member in Malaysia (Malaysia Air Sports Federation (MASF)) was no longer active. MASF had not at that time paid its 2005 annual fee, and no response had been received to requests for information on its present status. Subsequently, the MASF paid its fees and reported that it was still functioning normally.

4.6.4 Slovenia The Aeronautical Association of Slovenia had reported that its membership numbers had declined below the threshold of Class 8 (2 000) and had applied for reclassification in Class 9 (annual subscription CHF 4 000 instead of CHF 5 000). Independent investigation had shown that membership of the NAC had indeed declined, but that the number of Air Sport Persons in Slovenia remained broadly stable. There was a clear problem of representativity. The Board felt that it was premature to make changes and recommended declining the request. **Conference agreed unanimously to reject Slovenia's application for reclassification.**

4.7 Approval of Temporary Members (By Law 2.8.2)

In accordance with FAI By Law 2.8.2., General Conference approved continuation in Temporary Membership, subject to settlement of any outstanding subscriptions by 31 December 2005, of the following members: Ecuador (Aeromodelling), Ecuador (Gliding), El Salvador, Madagascar, Paraguay, Surinam.

4.8 General Debate on FAI Membership Rules

4.8.1 Conference gave consideration to the paper on membership rules shown at **(ANNEX 1)** The following contributions were made to the debate:

4.8.2 The FAI President commented that the world was changing fast. The principle of one NAC per country had served FAI well, and continued to be the cornerstone of our structure. Nevertheless, FAI had to react to a changing world and could not ignore the

reality that power at national level was often distributed amongst several air sport organizations.

Mr Alvaro de Orleans Borbon reminded Conference that, unlike other federations, FAI retained the right to decide who should be its member in each country. It was important to retain that right.

Mr Eilif Ness welcomed the opening of this debate. The topic had already been discussed at length in 2000 and 2001. He pointed out that FAI could have many more members now if subscriptions were lower. Since the 1950s most growth of air sports had taken place in other air sport bodies, outside NACs. Despite this, FAI had succeeded in maintaining the “one nation, one member” principle. There was a need for recognition of the fact that some countries were poor, and some were rich but refused to pay. Fine-tuning was needed. Some people in NACs thought that once an organization had become a FAI member, it must always remain a member. But this was not so. It must continue to represent our APs effectively. If it did not do so, it must be replaced by another organisation.

Mr Terry Rowan (IRE) appealed for preservation of the status quo. His NAC would not welcome wayward disciplines joining FAI separately.

Dr Peter Saundby offered a possible solution, namely to remove the limit on the number of associate members, but to set fees for associate membership on an increasing scale, year on year, so that it very soon became financially advantageous to join the NAC.

The IPC President, Patrice Girardin, saluted the courageous decision to raise this issue in the Centenary year, and said that this was a growing problem in IPC. He supported the creation of a Working Group to find a solution.

Mr Nick Kaltchev (BUL) reminded Conference that NACs were fighting governments to obtain more rights to control air sports. The power of the NAC would be diluted if other organizations were allowed to become FAI members.

Mr Daniel Dornheim (GER) stated that the DAeC wished to appeal for the unity of the air sport community. NACs must properly represent all air sports, with strict supervision to ensure that they meet their obligations. Synergy and cooperation was vital. Atomization in the current climate was highly undesirable. We would be weaker if dispersed.

Mr Gromislaw Czempinski (POL) pointed out that NACs had very different histories and traditions. He thought it necessary to establish a Working Group. Everyone had ambitions, especially those in the new sports. Microlight activity was developing fast. But if these groups could all have separate FAI membership, this would weaken our cohesion. The key priority was to find a way of maintaining unity amongst the air sports.

Mr Felix Kiser (SUI) supported Ireland’s statement. The rule “one country, one member” should be upheld. Switzerland had seriously considered allowing separate membership for one air sport group, but had concluded that this would undermine the authority and solidarity of the NAC. There would be a strong danger of the emergence of other international air sport bodies. He agreed to the establishment of a Working Group to examine this question.

Mr Aksel Nielsen (DEN) said that a strong IF reflected its constituent NACs. We should retain flexibility, but preserve the status quo.

Mr Wolfgang Weinreich reminded Conference that FAI had depended for 100 years on money subscribed by NACs. They remained the paymasters today. If we opened the

door to centrifugal forces, FAI would undermine the power of NACs. We had to differentiate between rich and poor countries. In rich countries, much centrifugal tendency was motivated simply by unwillingness to pay a small amount for international representation. Changing the fundamental membership rule would weaken NACs without improving the health of FAI.

Mr Manuel Silva Salta (POR) explained that his NAC was not government-subsidised, whereas individual air sport federations were. He fully supported the views expressed by other small countries. Federations were clearly growing in power. It was necessary for NACs to maintain good contact with all of them. But FAI should not divide – this would weaken all parties.

Mr Jack Humphries (CAN) spoke in favour of one NAC per country. In the past, NACs had collapsed. FAI should have a procedure to ensure that APs are still represented in such cases.

Mr Jean-Claude Weber (CIA President) had mixed feelings. He agreed with Presidents of Honour Ness and Weinreich that there was a huge danger in inventing new rules and splitting our forces. But in the Ballooning Commission, there was an explosion of activity outside the control of FAI and NACs. NACs had duties and obligations as well as rights. If they did not do what they were supposed to do according to FAI Statutes, they should be penalised. Some APs considered that they were not represented at all by NACs. People frequently approached ASCs because NACs were not doing their job effectively.

Mr Bert Wijnands (NED) had heard about the fear that if something were changed we would lose effectiveness. But he had not heard anyone express his fear: that we might remain as ineffective as we were today. There had been huge developments in the last 20 years, but FAI seemed not to have been very involved in this process. It was necessary for delegates to look into the mirror and recognize that we were not very effective. It was necessary to be guided not only by fear, but also by ambition.

- 4.8.3** The FAI President, summing up the debate, pledged that the Executive Board would consider this matter urgently and decide how to deal with it. There was no question of unceremoniously abandoning the “one country, one member” principle, but FAI had to react to developments in the world and introduce more flexibility. Solid, effective organizations that represented all APs had nothing to fear. In countries where duty is done there will be no problems. But all NACs had obligations that must be met if they were to remain in FAI membership.

5. Report of the FAI President

- 5.1** Mr. Pierre Portmann, FAI President, presented his report (**ANNEX 2**) which was unanimously adopted by Conference. He then called on Mr Alois Roppert (AUT) to speak.
- 5.2** Mr Roppert stated that he believed that the problems described earlier in the Conference (Item 4) were not only to do with money and paying subscriptions. Problems were caused by members’ lack of identification with FAI. Many problems arose from a lack of flow of information. FAI had Council meetings until 5 years ago. At that time, only 6 months elapsed between initial and final discussions on a topic. He was sure that the Executive Board worked hard, but this work did not trickle down to the members. He proposed that, to combat a crisis of identity, it was necessary for FAI Officials to visit member countries more. Some NACs would be prepared to issue invitations. The highest national decision makers should be present when the FAI team visits. It was necessary for NACs to be briefed on the work of the top FAI management

and its importance to the air sport world as a whole. To start the process, the OeAC would invite the FAI President and Secretary General to Austria.

5.3 The FAI President thanked Mr Roppert for his comments and admitted that there was a general lack of knowledge about FAI.

5.4 Capt Dible (IRE) thought it would be difficult to persuade members to come to information meetings, and wondered if the expense would be justified. He felt FAI would be preaching to the converted.

Mr Peter Lloyd stated that when he had been FAI President he had visited 100 countries and been received by Heads of State. FAI had to maintain its international standing, not just to reflect factions at national level.

Mr Eilif Ness reminded the Conference that Council Minutes had been distributed, whereas Executive Board minutes were kept secret. He wondered why. It had never been the intention that the discussions and decisions of the Board be kept secret. Mr Pimenoff (CIAM) strongly supported Mr Ness.

5.5 The FAI President took note of what had been said. He pointed out that the Executive Board was different from Council in that it sometimes had to deal with sensitive personnel matters. Expurgated minutes were difficult to produce. A Newsletter had been distributed explaining what the President and Secretary General were doing. This was a first step, but he recognized that it was not enough.

5.6 Mr Art Greenfield was concerned to hear that the reason for not publishing minutes was the sensitivity of personnel matters. The Board could go into executive session for these matters. Only action items need to be minuted. He urged publications of Minutes.

6. Report of the FAI Secretary General

Mr. Max Bishop, FAI Secretary General, presented his report (**ANNEX 3**) which was adopted by Conference. As part of the Secretary General's report, Mr. Jean-Marc Badan reported on the FAI Centenary events and projects (**ANNEX 4**).

7. FAI Strategic Plan

Conference noted that a revised version of the Plan would be prepared for 2006 and a new draft would be circulated to FAI Members.

8. Future FAI World Air Games (Strategic Plan Goal No. 4)

8.1 Mr B.J. Worth, Executive Director reported on progress since the Madrid Conference. The Knatchbull/Clarion proposal had many merits, but the Conference had decided that it did not wish to give away rights in perpetuity, for fear of losing control over how the product would look to the public.

Mr Worth believed all should work together to develop the WAG plan within FAI and keep control of it. The primary obstacle was financial. WAGs were expensive. FAI had not as yet developed spectator, media or sponsor interest. FAI needed to find

professional event organisers who could deliver a comprehensive marketing plan with media coverage, sponsorship etc.

One option would be to down-size, putting WAG on hold and building from the ground up, initially with smaller regional events styled "FAI (Region, Continent)... Air Games" leading eventually to another WAG. The number of athletes involved could be much lower, thus reducing costs. Air Games could be conducted at existing venues where arrangements for security, merchandising, parking, stands etc were already all present. The Games could give added value to organisers. The events could be regional, continental or national.

This concept had already been presented to VPs and ASC Presidents in May 2005, and they had agreed in principle. Efforts were under way to find professional event organisers.

- 8.2** Mr Worth stated that one interesting opportunity existed in Russia, a country which was keen to organize major FAI events. A preliminary plan had already been worked out, and there was support from regional governors for organizing an event there in 2006 – a "Russian Air Games" with some international participation and with FAI monitoring.

In 2007, the Russian NAC had plans for a multiple location event, and in 2008 for an Air Games according to FAI concept. Mr Worth invited ROSTO Chairman, Mr Starodubets, to make some comments:

Mr Starodubets said that Russia could offer good conditions for organising high level sporting events, as had been confirmed by the events held during 2005. He had already had negotiations with local governors, and was in a position to make a proposal to organise World Air Games in Russia. Mr Starodubets expressed his gratitude to BJ Worth for his clear exposition of the project and had nothing more to add.

- 8.3** Mr BJ Worth said that he would pursue this and other avenues, such as the North American "International Council of Air Shows". He would go to their Congress to see whether it was possible to find an event organiser there.

He stressed that there was a need for a presentation package containing a brochure, video, DVD, website details to present to potential organisers.

Finally, Mr Worth said that FAI needed a WAG management capability in the FAI HQ in Lausanne. The Secretary General had been tasked with defining what was possible.

- 8.4** Following this introduction from Mr B.J. Worth, the FAI President invited comment.

Sweden (Dr Grubbström) and Denmark (Mr Nielsen) offered support for the course of action proposed by B J Worth.

The USA (Mr Greenfield) reminded the Conference that a very similar report had been given in May 2006. Still no information was available on costs. It was important to know how we were proposing to pay for staff time, and what the projected development costs for FAI. Mr Worth said that up to 30K\$ might be needed to prepare a good presentation package.

Mr. Makula (Executive Director) said that he had taken part in a recent World Championship near Moscow. This had been very well organized. The Russians had a lot of power and experience in organizing such events.

Mr Antonio Quintana (ESP) intended to abstain because, although he strongly supported the WAG as FAI's foremost initiative, the way it was going now did not do full justice to the concept, because Spain had not been consulted concerning lessons to be learned from previous organisers.

Mr Humphries (CAN) reminded the Conference that there was an additional alternative as well as those outlined by Mr B.J. Worth, namely to cancel the whole project. It detracted from the value of World Championships.

Mr Eilif Ness pointed out that for 10 years, from 1992 to 2002, the WAG Coordinating Committee had overseen the organization of 1 failed and 2 completed WAGs. It was necessary in his opinion to hire people with experience to do the job.

- 8.5** Summing up discussion on the subject, the FAI President reminded Conference that the Board had been tasked with evaluating options for organizing Air Games. Conference had made clear that they did not want rights to be given away, but that FAI was free to look for professional organizers. A New Board had been elected, and the WAG portfolio awarded to Mr. B.J. Worth. He had investigated the possibility of an event in Japan in 2006, but that had come to nothing.

The FAI President himself had visited Russia, and Mr. Starodubets had told him of his interest. This interest had been confirmed in Paris, and Mr. Starodubets had now confirmed this publicly.

Mr Portmann believed that the FAI office must do much of the work. It had all the documents, and knowledge of the bidding process. Air Games retained the interest of NACs and ASCs, but they were more complicated than we thought to organize.

- 8.6** The Board would have wished to offer the Conference something more concrete. There was a need for restructuring of the responsibilities for air games. The WAG Reserve could be used in an effective way to set the process in motion. What was presented was not good enough, said the President, but he invited Conference to support continuing work on the project. In particular, there could be no Air Games without ASC support and involvement.

- 8.7** A vote was called to confirm that planning for (World) Air Games should continue, and that at the 2006 Conference firm dates and a budget should be provided.

Conference decided by a large majority (10 votes against and 15 abstentions) to authorize the Board to continue work on the WAG project.

<p>9. Annual Reports about the Activities of FAI Commissions and Affiliate Members (1st tranche)</p>
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FAI Commission Presidents presented reports focusing on :

- Successes and notable events that have occurred in the past year.
- The main problem(s) facing Commissions, and how they are being tackled.
- Commissions' main objectives for the year ahead.

9.1 FAI Air Sport General Commission

Mr. Sandy Pimenoff, President, presented his report. **(ANNEX 5)**

Additionally, he commented on the urgent need to develop spectator and media-friendly events and thus contribute to the success of Air Games. Marketing had to be used to obtain more income for FAI and event organizers. CASI had formed a WG to develop such ideas and to enhance CASI activities, whilst improving cooperation amongst ASCs and ensuring that ASCs were included in the planning stage of air games, not just at the implementation stage. He saw the plan to enhance CASI's operations as a good opportunity for FAI.

9.2 FAI Ballooning Commission

Mr. Jean-Claude Weber, President, presented his report. **(ANNEX 6)**

9.3 FAI General Aviation Commission

Mr. Pedro Cabanero President, presented his report **(ANNEX 7)**

9.4 FAI Gliding Commission

Mr. Bob Henderson, President, presented his report. **(ANNEX 8)**

9.5 OSTIV

Prof Dr Louis Boermans, President, presented his report. **(ANNEX 9)**

9.6 FAI Rotorcraft Commission

Mr. David Hamilton, President, presented his report. **(ANNEX 10)**

9.7 FAI Parachuting Commission

Mr. Patrice Girardin, President, presented his report. **(ANNEX 11)**

He commented that a way must be found of keeping for the benefit of the international community the expertise of individuals who had fallen out of favour with their NACs, for internal reasons irrelevant to FAI.

9.8 FAI Aeromodelling Commission

Mr. Sandy Pimenoff, President, presented his report. **(ANNEX 12)**

9.9 The reports on activities of all FAI Commissions and FAI Affiliate Members were noted by General Conference.

10. ICAO Report

10.1 The FAI President introduced Ms. Mary-Ann Stevens (President of the Aero Club of Canada), FAI's new permanent representative at ICAO. He paid tribute to the great contribution made by her predecessor, FAI President of Honour André Dumas, and thanked FAI Executive Director Bob Clipsham for proposing Mary Anne Stevens as a candidate to take over from André Dumas. Finally he thanked Mary Anne Stevens for accepting this key role.

10.2 Mary Anne Stevens said that it was an honour for her to be FAI's representative at ICAO, and that she hoped to maintain and further develop FAI's relationship with ICAO. She presented her report **(ANNEX 13)**.

- 10.3** Mr Alvaro de Orleans Borbon reminded Conference that ICAO was founded over 50 years ago in an era of cooperation. EASA on the other hand reflected the modern tendency to resort to attempts to control people through laws and regulations. He hoped that ICAO could do something to stop EASA in its tracks. Mary Anne Stevens commented that ICAO had probably has not yet turned its collective mind to this, but there were joint Working Groups between EASA and ICAO.

11. FAI and the International Sporting Community (Strategic Plan Goal No. 4)

11.1 IWGA World Games

A successful edition of the World Games multi-sport event had been held in Duisburg (GER), with parachuting events included among over 40 different sporting disciplines. The Games had attracted big crowds and widespread media coverage. All parachuting tickets for 3 days had been sold out, and the parachuting booth of the central plaza had attracted great interest.

The next World Games were planned for Kaohsiung (CTE) in 2009. Parachuting would again be included, if IPC so decided, possibly with other events such as glider aerobatics, and hang gliding/paragliding. Only the world's best athletes could participate. All expenses of athletes on site were paid.

12. FAI Contracts and Agreements

12.1 FAI World Grand Prix of Aviation (FWGPA)

Two successful FWGPA events had been held in 2005, the first at Al Ain (UAE), an oasis city with 600 000 inhabitants and an annual air show, of which the FWGPA was an important part.

The second was at Lausanne in August to celebrate the FAI Centenary. Part had been held on the lake-side at Ouchy, and part at La Blécherette Airport. This had been a great success. Over 60 000 had turned out to watch. The Lausanne authorities had been very supportive. There was a strong possibility of organizing further events in Lausanne in future.

12.2 Europe Airsports

Conference noted that the FAI/EAS Memorandum of Understanding had been in force for a long time, and the time had come to review the wording. A joint meeting was planned to decide how FAI could best support EAS's efforts in future. Air sports faced many threats, such as high insurance premiums and over-regulation by EASA. A common front was vital.

12.3 Other FAI Contracts and Agreements

- 12.3.1** On Line Contests. Alvaro de Orleans Borbon noted that many successful air sports events were taking place outside FAI's control, e.g. Red Bull races. FAI's claim to be the sole governing body was under challenge. But technology brought a possible response – a small box containing a GPS and encryptor that securely transmits data. He was discussing possible cooperation with the On-Line Contest creator, Reiner Rose, in Germany. A preliminary Declaration of Intent had been signed and the Executive Board had set up a Working Group.

FAI gave legitimacy and credibility to champions by virtue of internationally agreed rules. Commercial firms like Red Bull could not do this.

It was necessary for FAI to develop an E-Licence, a secure form of identification of a pilot. This formed part of the proposed agreement between FAI and OLC.

IGC President, Bob Henderson commented that the FAI Gliding Commission had signed a Memorandum of Understanding with OLC and that it had been a very positive experience. He suggested setting up a technical commission with subject-matter experts, similar to OSTIV. This represented a great opportunity to draw in hundreds of thousands of APs who we were not currently involved with FAI.

Manuel Silva Salta (POR) said that the OLC had received an enthusiastic response in Portugal, especially from young people. They did not know what FAI Official Observers were, but were very familiar with OLC. The modern world required use of this technology.

IPC President Patrice Girardin said that there was now even a tracking contest in skydiving using GPS. The difference between a parachutist and a glider pilot was becoming ever smaller.

Summing up, the FAI President confirmed that FAI needed to find an acceptable agreement with Mr Rose. There was general agreement that this was an important matter.

- 12.3.2** Aresti Agreement. A joint Committee had been established with the Aresti family, with two representatives on each side. FAI's representatives were FAI President Pierre Portmann and CIVA Vice President Osmo Jalovaara. The Committee was under the presidency of RFAE President Mr. Antonio Quintana. The Committee was scheduled to meet for the first time on 6 November. With these arrangements, it was hoped that the long-running dispute on the use of the aerobatic catalogue would be finally resolved.

13. FAI Finances

- 13.1** 2004 Balance Sheet and Report by Auditors. The FAI Executive Director (Finance), Mr Robert Clipsham, reported in detail (**ANNEX 14**) on the 2004 Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account, and the report on those accounts by the Auditors, PriceWaterhouseCoopers at **ANNEX 15**.
- 13.1.1** The FAI President invited questions. Mr René de Monchy (NED) repeated the question he had put the previous year. He said that ASCs' sanction fee accounts were increasing each year without apparent dedicated purpose, at least one that the General Conference was aware of. Conference should be better informed. The FAI President had pledged to look into this with the new Board and to make an overall plan for use of these new funds. Mr De Monchy wanted to know what the situation was, and what was planned.
- 13.1.2** Mr Clipsham said that the comments made by Mr de Monchy had been considered. Special reserves for Commissions as well as the WGPA, Olympic and DIF funds all had to support the operations of FAI. There were two streams of income: one from members' subscriptions through NACs, the other from air sports, donations, bequests, marketing and other sources. Commissions, in determining their sanction fees, did so in order to accomplish the aims and objectives of FAI. Each Commission had a policy. As ED (Finance) he was learning how these operations occurred. All

money gathered was applied towards the aims and objectives of FAI. Commissions' reserves were actually down 2.6% in the last year, since 31 Dec 2004.

- 13.1.3** Mr. René de Monchy thought that was only part of the answer. The Conference wished to know what Commissions' money was spent on, since the Executive Board was legally responsible for these funds, and it was in the final analysis the General Conference, not ASCs, that was responsible for the money. NACs had difficulty in paying FAI subscriptions. Perhaps a percentage could be added to sanction fees for the general running expenses of FAI. In any event, a coherent plan was needed.
- 13.1.4** The IPC President pointed out that entry fees come from competitors. Delegates to ASCs were nominated by NACs. ASC presented all their plans for spending money on development, safety, assistance to event organisers and other matters in the Minutes of meetings. ASC Treasurers managed the money in close cooperation with FAI HQ. No facts were hidden. It was the responsibility of NAC delegates to check these Minutes to see how the money was spent. NACs nominated delegates to ASCs and these delegates should report back to NACs on Commissions' financial affairs.
- 13.1.5** Mr De Orleans Borbon observed that each FAI branch had autonomy in collecting and spending money, but there was no meeting point between the central organisation and the branches. FAI needed a better organized institutional system.
- 13.1.6** Mr Bob Henderson, IGC President, said that he was very disappointed to hear this discussion. He had published full accounts in his report. IGC expenditure was controlled very tightly. All payments had to be independently approved. Money was for the development of the sport. NACs should consider the cost of developing sports. CHF 70 K per annum was collected. The ASCs were moving their sports forward and needed all their funds. Competitors would not accept paying twice if they had already paid their subscription fees to the NACs.
- 13.1.7** Mr David Hamilton, CIG President supported the IGC position but was also a strong supporter of the FAI as a whole.
- 13.1.8** Mr Henk Meertens (AUS) thought that the debate was going off track. The question was about the financial reporting mechanism to the General Conference. It had nothing to do with how money was being spent. There needed to be a proper reporting mechanism.
- 13.1.9** Summing up, the FAI President noted that each Commission has a financial report and that Minutes were published on the FAI website. Nevertheless, he recognised that delegates did not have time to search for all these documents. **It was therefore decided that reports on ASC finances would be sent with the financial part of the agenda for General Conference.**
- 13.1.10** Mr Clipsham commented that the Conference needed to have a global discussion on all FAI funds. FAI was a group, a family, and did not need to focus on ASCs to the exclusion of other component parts.
- 13.1.11** ***General Conference unanimously approved the Financial Statements and Auditor's Report for the year 2004, as presented.***
- 13.2** **2005**.
- 13.2.1** Mr Clipsham reported that 93% of 2005 subscriptions had already been received, a slight improvement on the 2004 performance. Expenses were largely in line with budget. For the 100th Anniversary of FAI, 89 000 CHF of sponsorship had been collected by the Secretariat. The kind AeCS and Skyguide donations would be used partially to finance the FAI exhibition stand. Total expenditure would be around CHF 122 000, so taking into account the 2005 budgeted expense of 20 000 CHF, the

amount left to be covered by the Centenary provision was only CHF13 000. The provision substantially exceeded that amount.

- 13.2.2 Publication of the “High Flyers” Book had incurred costs of CHF 117 000. Sales so far represented CHF 32 000 sales, and the 2006 budget was for CHF 15 000 sales next year. FAI members were strongly encouraged to promote sales in coming months.
- 13.2.3 An Exhibition Stand had been constructed, thanks partly to the generosity of the Aero Club of Switzerland and Skyguide (Swiss ATC).
- 13.2.4 Special reserves had gone down in 2005, but the Development and Innovation Fund (DIF) was slightly up, at CHF 399 000.
- 13.2.5 A modest surplus of perhaps CHF 15 – 20 000 was forecast for the end of 2005. Conference took note that the accounts were under control, and no surprises were to be expected.

13.3 **2006 Scale of Subscriptions and Draft Budget for 2006**

- 13.3.1 The FAI Executive Director (Finance) finally reported in detail on the scale of subscriptions and draft budget for 2006. Mr Clipsham said that the budget was based on realistic facts and figures, and assumed an inflationary rise of 1.5 to 2%. The 2006 Scale of Subscriptions would be amended in the light of decisions on membership (expulsions and admissions) that had been taken by General Conference on the previous day.
- 13.3.2 There being no questions, the FAI President invited approval of the scale of subscriptions, as amended, and the budget for 2006. ***General Conference unanimously approved the budget for 2006 shown at (ANNEX 16) and the scale of subscriptions for 2006 (ANNEX 17) .***
- 13.4 Mr Clipsham concluded by thanking the NACs and ASCs for carrying out their respective duties and the Secretariat staff, especially Mme Cosette Mast, for their work on financial management and the accounts, resulting in a healthy financial situation. He said that it was a pleasure for him to serve FAI as Finance Director.
- 13.5 The FAI President thanked Mr. Clipsham on behalf of the Conference for all his work in connection with the FAI finances.

14. **Prince Alvaro de Orleans Borbon Fund**

- 14.1 The Trustees of the Fund were concerned about the small number of high-quality nominees, and had decided to make awards bi-annually in order to raise the prize-money and also to liberate some funds for promotional activities so that Fund could become better known. As a consequence, no Prize would be awarded in 2005. The prize in 2006 would be correspondingly higher. Nominations would be accepted until 30 June 2006. Nominations received in 2005 would be brought forward for consideration on an equal footing with those made in 2006.
- 14.2 To underline the high level of the award, a more visible presentation ceremony was planned. The Trustees proposed to move the Fund’s award ceremony, for example, to the closing banquet instead of the Opening Ceremony of the General Conference. Arrangements would be negotiated with the FAI leadership. Air sport magazines would receive editorial content, and a web-site might be established.
- 14.3 Conference took note, and the FAI President expressed the hope that suitable nominations would be forthcoming.

**15. Annual Reports about the Activities of FAI Commissions and Affiliate Members
(2nd tranche)**

15.1 FAI Aerobatics Commission

Mr. Michael R. Heuer, President, presented his report. **(ANNEX 18)**

This gave rise to discussion on events such as the Red Bull air race, which had given rise to an explosion of interest in air sports. Red Bull was using FAI pilots and FAI rules with impunity. Mr Mike Heuer said that FAI medals and titles were highly coveted, but we also had to become involved in shows. CIVA was very conservative. There was an understandable reluctance to do stunts, for safety reasons. But FAI had to be open to these ideas, if it was to avoid being replaced by commercial interests.

15.2 FAI Astronautic Records Commission

A report from Dr. Segismundo Sanz Fernandez de Cordoba, President, was circulated. **(ANNEX 19)**

15.3 FAI Hang Gliding and Paragliding Commission

Mr. Flip Koetsier, President, presented his report. **(ANNEX 20)**

Brig Gen Firat (TUR) asked what were the main reasons for fatal accidents in HG/PG. Why could CIVL not stop these accidents? Mr Koetsier said that all precautions were taken, but in the final analysis, his sports depended on unstable weather conditions. They needed thermals, and that meant turbulence. CIVL restricted the setting of tasks in marginal conditions, but pilots made mistakes and CIVL could not entirely exclude that.

CIVL required events to have a safety director. He and the Jury President had the power to stop tasks in inappropriate weather conditions.

The FAI President stressed his confidence that CIVL would do whatever was possible to ensure safe contests.

15.4 FAI Microlight Commission

Mr. Tomas Backman, President, presented his report. **(ANNEX 21)**

Anders Madsen (DEN) asked if ultra-light gliders belonged to CIMA. The answer was not if they have no engine. But ultralight motorgliders could fall within CIMA rules, as well as IGC and GAC rules.

15.5 FAI Aerospace Education Commission

Mr. Michiel Kasteleijn, President, presented his report. **(ANNEX 22)**

Mr. Stephen Shreshta (NEP) asked if CIEA could help with an educational programme for young people involved in paragliding, ballooning, and microlights. Mr. Kasteleijn answered in the affirmative and promised to contact him.

15.6 FAI Amateur Built Aircraft Commission

A report from Ing. Pierluigi Duranti, President, was circulated **(ANNEX 23)**

15.7 FAI Medico-Physiological Commission

Dr. Peter Saundby, President, presented his report. **(ANNEX 24)**

In addition, Dr Saundby stated that CIMP would like all NACs to appoint a delegate, who need not necessarily be a doctor. Psychologists and other health related professionals were also welcome. Even if delegates could not attend meetings, it was useful to have them as a channel of communication.

The FAI President complimented Dr Peter Saundby for all the work he did to prevent doctors from grounding pilots unnecessarily.

15.8 FAI Environmental Commission

Mr. Michael Goth, President, presented his report. **(ANNEX 25)**

It was confirmed that money could be made available from FAI central funds to support environmental projects for which a budget had been worked out.

15.9 Europe Airsports

A report was circulated. **(ANNEX 26)**

The reports on activities of all FAI Commissions and FAI Affiliate Members were noted by General Conference.

16. <u>Amendments to Statutes and By-Laws</u>
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The Chairman of the Statutes Working Group, Mr. J-C Weber reported on the recommendations of his Working Group as at **(ANNEX 27)**

16.1 Revised Terms of Reference for Statues Working Group:

Experience had shown that certain modifications were needed to the Group's Terms of Reference (ToR), adopted in 2004. Conference unanimously approved the new ToR, to take effect immediately **(ANNEX 28)**.

16.2 Proposals for Constitutional Amendments :

16.2.1 Acceptance of Court of Arbitration for Sport

16.2.1.1 Conference was invited to adopt a new Statutory Clause (Statute 2.8.1.1.5) accepting the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) as the final resort of appeal in disputes. This was required by IOC for FAI to maintain its "Recognized Federation" status.

Mr Weber noted that the next IOC audit could take place before the next General Conference. The StatWG had found that the proposed new Statute 2.8.1.1.5. was

limited in scope, because it applied only to appeals and violations, whereas CAS could deal with any decisions. Therefore, he asked the Board to consider whether it should be placed elsewhere, outside the violations paragraph, so that it applied to opposition to ANY decision of FAI.

16.2.1.2 The following comments were made by delegates:

Mr Humphries (CAN) expressed sadness at the irony of celebrating FAI's centenary by giving up independence.

Dr Grubbström (SWE) asked whether was FAI part of CAS, and received the reply that it was not. CAS was an independent judicial body composed of 20 jurists appointed by ASOIF and AWOIF, NOCs and IOC, and selected for their familiarity with the sporting arena and for their legal expertise.

Me Wieme stated that a similar structure existed at national level, at least in Belgium. Me Wieme was himself an arbiter. It was better to go to an arbitration court rather than an ordinary court.

Dr Lindholm (SWE) asked about costs. The Secretary General replied that costs were incurred only when a case was referred to CAS (costs of arbitration, plus legal representation costs).

16.2.1.3 Conference agreed, with 10 abstentions, to adopt the following new Statute 2.8.1.1.5.:

"Any decisions made by the appropriate highest FAI authority may be submitted exclusively by way of appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland, which will resolve the dispute definitively in accordance with the Code of Sports-Related Arbitration. The time limit for appeal is twenty-one days after the reception of the decision concerning the appeal."

and to make a consequential amendment (delete "final") to Statute 3.4.1.7. (powers of Annual General Conference:

"- taking ~~final~~ decision on appeals against decisions by the Executive Board or the Commissions"

Conference also decided to direct CASI to modify Sporting Code, General Section Chapter 9 – Appeals : paragraphs 9.4.2. and 9.5.

16.2.2 Nominating Procedures for FAI President

16.2.2.1 The **Aero Club of Israel** had proposed the insertion of a new Statute, the purpose of which would be to have the same candidacy procedures for the FAI President as were required for the Executive Board. Israel had stated that its proposed procedure would eliminate nominations from the floor for the highest FAI position, including candidates who may not be known to many members, or candidates who would decline the nomination.

16.2.2.2 The StatsWG had some sympathy for the proposal, but on balance agreed that late nominations should be allowed. The situation with the Board was very different in that anyone could stand for election as a Board Member, whereas Presidential candidates had to be FAI VPs. The power of the Conference would be severely limited if there were only one pre-nominated candidate, and no alternative option but to elect him. This restricted the freedom of the General Conference to select the best candidate for the job.

16.2.2.3 Dr Thierry Villey, speaking on behalf of Israel, asked what would happen if the sole candidate obtained fewer than 50% at the first vote. The reply was that this was analogous to a president standing down, and Statute 6.1.2.1.8. applied.

16.2.2.4 The StatsWG proposed to reject the Israeli proposal.

Conference rejected the Israeli proposal with 3 votes against and no abstentions.

16.2.3 Discharge of Executive Board

16.2.3.1 The **Aero Club of Israel** had proposed an amendment to the Statutes concerning discharge of the Board. Paragraph 3.4.1.3. of the Statutes read as follows:

***3.4.1.3.** - approval of the FAI accounts and the actions of the Executive Board, and of the financial statements prepared by the Auditor;*

Israel proposed the removal of the words “and the actions of the Executive Board”, on the grounds that the Conference was in no position to make such a decision unless it was privy not only to a list of “actions” but also to the deliberations which preceded them, and the circumstances that caused them to be taken.

16.2.3.2 FAI’s legal counsel J-P Morand had advised that there was no doubt that the FAI General Conference had the necessary competence to grant a discharge and thereby to release the Board from claims of the association, based on actions which the General Assembly was aware of and approved. Counsel recommended rephrasing the wording in the Conference agenda, but thought that no change to Statutes was necessary.

16.2.3.3 Considering legal aspects only, the StatWG recommended that the argumentation and conclusions of JP Morand in his Memorandum of May 20, 2005 be followed and that Conference reject the proposal of the NAC of Israel.

Considering however the difficulty members had in comprehending complex legal text and its implications on the statutes, the StatWG recommended that the Board study the possibility of re-writing the relevant statutory dispositions for clarification purposes.

16.2.3.4 Mr. Alvaro de Orleans-Borbon asked why the StatWG could not do this. Mr Weber replied that it had not been so tasked. The FAI President therefore proposed giving a mandate to the StatWG to draft a more comprehensible text based on Morand’s letter.

Conference decided (with 43 abstentions) to reject Israel’s proposal for a Statute change, but to task SWG with drafting a more comprehensible text.

16.2.4 Treatment of Membership Applications from Defaulting Countries.

16.2.4.1 The Executive Board had made some proposals aimed at rendering it more difficult for a defaulting member country to re-enter FAI.

16.2.4.2 The Statutes Working Group had found the Executive Board’s proposed Statute changes on this subject to be inappropriate. It was, in their view, the FAI’s duty to protect the interests of air sport persons (APs). Imposing collective responsibility on a country was not acceptable. In any case, it was not possible for a non-member to be penalized under the FAI Statutes, as had been proposed by the Board.

16.2.4.3 The Statutes Working Group recommended that the Board needed to retain as much flexibility as possible. FAI had to be careful not create a barrier that penalized APs by making it more difficult for them to compete internationally. The Stats WG was

therefore of the view that, instead of the EB's proposed changes to Statute 7.4.5. (circulated with Conference agenda), FAI By Law 2.1.1.5. should be modified as follows (added text in **heavy italics**):

“2.1.1. To join the FAI as an Active Member the applicant shall forward to the FAI Secretariat a letter of application appropriately signed by its President, Secretary General or other duly authorized persons. This application shall be accompanied by:

<.....>

*2.1.1.5. - the payment for the first year's membership dues for the class in which membership is sought. **In addition, if a country has previously had one or more FAI Members that failed to meet their financial obligations to FAI and as a result were either suspended twice or more within a 5-year period before resigning from FAI, or were the subject of a formal vote of expulsion within the previous 10 years, advance payment of one or more years' membership subscriptions, or other conditions designed to encourage timely payment, may be imposed at the discretion of the Executive Board.** If the application is not accepted, **all payments** shall be returned in full. If the application is referred to a different class than the one requested, and the applicant agrees to this, the balance of dues shall be paid by the applicant or refunded by the FAI as the case may be.”*

16.2.4.4 Conference agreed to adopt the above amendments to By Law 2.1.1.5., with 4 votes against and 10 abstentions.

16.2.5 Proposals from United Kingdom.

16.2.5.1 Numerous minor changes to FAI Statutes and By Laws proposed by the United Kingdom had been placed on the agenda.

16.2.5.2 The Stats WG agreed that many of the suggestions made by the UK NAC had merit, or were merely editorial in nature, but no important urgent matters were evident so there was no need for urgent action. The Stats WG considered that it was not a good principle that it should look into matters like this too often. The principal task of the Group was to look into urgent and important matters. If minor changes were made every year, the status of the constitution would be degraded. However, it was important that the extensive and useful work done by the UK should not be lost. The Stats WG Chairman therefore proposed that these suggested changes (unless editorial in nature, which the Secretariat could action), should be kept in a file entitled “Future Changes”, and that the UK be invited in due course to provide specific wording for suggested changes, where this had not already been provided.

16.2.5.3 Dr Peter Saundby said that the proposals were mostly routine minor amendments. He felt that postponement was not the best course. Constant up-dating was needed. The Constitution was more likely to be degraded if up-dating was not done. But there was one specific matter of great importance to UK, and that was publication of Board Minutes. Open governance was necessary. Conference needed to know what decisions were being made, and what the reasons for these decisions were.

Article 4.7 of By Laws gave discretion to the FAI President not to distribute minutes to members, and this was not acceptable to UK.

16.2.5.4 The FAI President responded that the stability of Statutes was important. Small changes all the time were not desirable. The RAeC should make detailed textual proposals and the Stat WG would then look at these for 2006.

16.2.5.5 A procedural objection was then lodged on the grounds that UK had the right to put their proposals to the vote if they so wished, even without a Stat WG recommendation. The FAI President agreed, saying that he merely thought that because the StatWG had not worked on the proposals, Conference was not in a good position to take a decision.

16.2.5.6 Mr J-C Weber apologised for the Stat WG not having had time to work on the proposals and advised Conference against making Statute Changes on the spot without proper prior evaluation.

The FAI President then invited the StatWG and UK delegation to prepare a text during a break with exact wording for the desired change to Article 4.7 of By Laws. This was accepted by all concerned.

16.2.5.7 After a break, Dr Peter Saundby made the following statement: "We put up a proposal to address what we saw as a problem – that of the non-distribution of the Minutes of the Executive Board. We do not know what the issues were, what arguments were advanced and why decisions were made. The distribution of Minutes is currently at the discretion of the President. If his decision is that Minutes will not be distributed, then we shall press for our amendment to be adopted. But at this stage we should hear the views of the President."

The FAI President then stated: "I am totally in agreement with Dr Saundby to make a firm engagement that Minutes will in future be published, but without personal and confidential matters that cannot be made public. Everything else will be distributed to Members and VPs."

16.2.5.8 Having heard that commitment from the President, Dr Saundby withdrew, for this year, his motion to force change of By Law 4.7. Finally, the FAI President informed the UK delegation that all its proposals would be considered as soon as they had supplied detailed wording. All points would be discussed again in 2006; it was not FAI's intention to remove the proposals from the agenda.

16.2.6 Pepe Lopes Hang Gliding Medal

16.2.6.1 To reflect the reality that the Pepe Lopes Medal is not restricted to hang glider pilots but also open to paraglider pilots, the FAI Hang Gliding and Paragliding Commission (CIVL) had proposed the amendment of By Law 12.10.1.2 as follows:

*"Eligibility. The medal may be awarded for outstanding contributions to sportsmanship or international understanding in the sport of hang gliding **and paragliding**. The medal will only be awarded for truly significant acts or services and will not necessarily be awarded every year."*

16.2.6.2 Conference unanimously agreed to adopt the above amendment to By Law 12.10.1.2.

16.2.6.7 The Gold Space Medal.

16.2.7.1 In view of the stature of this Medal (which ranked equally with the Gold Air Medal) the FAI President had proposed amending By Law 12.9.1.4. as follows:

12.9.1.4. Nomination and Approval. Procedures shall be as described in Chapter 10, but with the same requirement for an absolute majority as in the case of the Gold Air Medal (See By-Laws 11.2.5.1), and with a requirement for ratification of the FAI Astronautic Commission's decision by the FAI Vice Presidents.

16.2.7.2 The Stat WG was basically in favour of this proposal, but had pointed out that under By-Law 10.1.7. if any changes are to be made to the rules for FAI Awards described in Chapters 10-12 of By-Laws, these must be approved by the appropriate Commission **and** the FAI General Conference. The Commission's approval had not yet been sought or given.

16.2.7.3 The FAI President therefore agreed to withdraw the proposal until such time as ICARE had made its position clear.

It was decided that the Stat WG would present its full recommendations to Conference once ICARE's views were known.

16.2.8 FAI General Badges

16.2.8.1 Following the introduction of FAI's new visual image, and pending decisions about new FAI badges, the FAI President had recommended the suspension in toto of By Law 13.2., a section which could not be implemented.

16.2.8.2 In the view of the Stat WG, this was not a sufficient reason to delete By-Law 13.2. The Stat WG therefore recommended that the Board study the present situation and report on the possibilities to implement the relevant By-Law.

The FAI President ruled that there was no need for a vote. The Board would study this matter further.

16.2.9 Montgolfier Diploma

16.2.9.1 Montgolfier Diplomas may be awarded for gas, Rozier or hot-air ballooning, or for a major contribution to the sport as a whole. Normally, a person may receive a FAI award once only. However, Montgolfier Diplomas are effectively 4 awards in one. The FAI Ballooning Commission had therefore recommended the addition of a new By Law 12.2.1.3.4.:

"The Montgolfier Diploma may be awarded to the same individual or team more than once, but not in the same category."

16.2.9.2 Conference unanimously approved the Statutes Working Group's recommendation to adopt the CIA's proposed amendment to By Law 12.2.1.3, as above.

16.2.9.3 There being no other proposed constitutional changes, the FAI President offered his thanks to Mr J-C Weber and his WG for the important, politically and legally complex work they had done so carefully and thoroughly.

17. Election of Active Members to serve on Air Sport General Commission (CASI)

17.1 General Conference was invited to elect 5 Active Members to serve on CASI in accordance with FAI By-Laws 5.2.1.1 and 5.2.2. The representatives of the following countries, having served for 2 years on CASI, were required to stand down : Canada, Czech Republic, Germany, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

The following countries still had one year of their two-year CASI term left to serve, and did not need to be re-elected in 2005: France, Poland, Russia, Sweden and USA.

The following countries stood for election to the vacant CASI posts : Australia, Czech Republic, Germany, Serbia Montenegro, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey and United Kingdom.

17.2 **The representatives of Australia, Czech Republic, Germany, Spain and Switzerland were duly elected.** The full list of CASI NAC Members for 2005/2006 is therefore as follows, listed alphabetically:

Australia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Poland, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and USA.

18. Election of Members to serve on Statutes Working Group (Stats WG)

18.1 **Election of Chairman.** The FAI President nominated Mr Jean-Claude Weber (CIA President) as Chairman. There were no other nominations. Mr Weber was unanimously elected Chairman of the Statutes Working Group.

18.2 **Election of Members.**

The FAI President nominated for election the following persons: Daniel Dornheim (GER), Art Greenfield (USA), Bob Henderson (IGC), Bert Wijnands (NED). The following additional nominations were made from the floor and accepted:

Eilif Ness (PoH), Ian Strachan (GBR).

The results of the election were:	<u>Votes</u>
Dornheim	313
Greenfield	234
Henderson	288
Wijnands	191
<hr/>	
Ness	112
Strachan	99

18.2.1 **Messrs Daniel Dornheim, Art Greenfield, Bob Henderson and Bert Wijnands were declared elected as members of the Statutes Working Group for a two-year term, each having obtained in excess of 50% of the votes present.**

- 18.2.2 The FAI President congratulated those elected and announced the appointment of Executive Director Mr Hideo Hirasawa as non-voting member of the Statutes Working Group.

19. 100th FAI General Conference – 2006

- 19.1 Mr. Tito Munoz Reyes, FEDACH President, reported on arrangements for the 100th FAI General Conference in Chile:

Place: *Santiago de Chile*

Conference Hotel: *Marriott Santiago Hotel, Av. Presidente Kennedy 5741*

<http://marriott.com/property/propertypage/SCLDT>

Phone : +56 2 426 2000 Fax : +56 2 426 2001

Main Dates of Conference: *25 -27 October 2006*

Preliminary meetings of FAI Commissions and committees will take place on 23-25 October 2006.

A post-Conference programme will be offered by FEDACH on 28 – 31 October 2006:

Provisional programme:

Monday 23 October 2006

(Afternoon) *FAI Executive Board meeting*

Tuesday 24 October 2006

Air Sport Commission Presidents' Group meeting

Wednesday 25 October 2006:

- *CASI Meeting (All morning, to 15h00)*
- *Opening Ceremony: National Congress.*
- *Dinner: Chilean Air Force palace.*

Thursday 26 October 2006

- *Plenary session Marriott Hotel.*
- *Casual Dinner Aviation Museum.*

Friday 27 October 2006

- *Plenary Session Marriott Hotel*
- *Closing Dinner: Hidalgo Palace*

Saturday 28 October 2006: *Lunch at local aeroclubs: power flying, gliding, parachuting.*

Sunday 29 October 2006: *Invitation of Chilean Air Force to Punta Arenas, Patagonia (2 days). Hotels and meals NOT included. Free flight by Boeing 737.*

Registration Fees (3 dinners, internal transport, 2 lunches and coffee breaks)

Delegates: Euros 300.-
Accompanying Persons: Euros 200.-

Accommodation

The Marriott Hotel would be the main conference hotel. Price : US\$ 140.- for double room, breakfast included. Alternative cheaper hotels would also be available for as little as \$70.- .

- 19.2 At the FAI President's invitation, Conference decided, with 9 abstentions, to endorse the Executive Board's decision to award the 2006 Conference to Chile.**
- 19.3** It was agreed that all details had to be clarified at the latest by February 2006. The FAI Secretary General was tasked with preparing a letter of agreement incorporating all the proposals made by FEDACH in their presentation and in previous correspondence.

(Note on Numbering of FAI General Conferences:

Research for the FAI Centenary Book "High Flyers" had revealed that there was an Extraordinary Conference in the 1920s that had not been including in the numbering system. The Executive Board had therefore decided to correct this error by omitting a number. Therefore, the 2006 Conference would be the 100th. Conference took note.)

20. 101st FAI General Conference - 2007

- 20.1** Germany had withdrawn its bid to host the 2007 Conference and Netherlands was not yet in a position financially to confirm its bid. Therefore, there was no firm bid on the table for 2007.
- 20.2** Mr Bert Wijnands (NED) explained that until 2004, there had existed a formal guarantee from government to underwrite international events. But at the end of 2004, the government had decided to terminate this support to federations. Only when KNVvL had obtained written financial guarantees could they confirm their bid. The planning had been largely done. They would accept any decision by FAI, but needed another few months (until 1 Feb 2006) to seek financial guarantees.
- 20.3** Mr Leonardo Brigliadori (ITA) offered to host the Conference in Italy and to present a detailed bid, based on the one previously submitted for 2006.
- 20.4** The FAI President welcomed the two possible proposals, but pointed out that other NACs may also wish to consider bidding, and that therefore a new bidding process should be opened. The FAI Secretary General asked that Conference should lay down the exact procedure to be followed by the Board. Some spoke in favour of taking an immediate decision, but others pointed out that there was no bid on the table, and that it therefore seemed fairer to re-open the bidding process with a deadline, and to empower the Board to make a decision.
- 20.5** The FAI President proposed to re-open the bidding process with a closing date of 1 February 2006 . Any NAC may bid. Only complete bids would be taken into consideration. The Board would decide on the 2007 venue.

Conference agreed, with 12 against and 29 abstentions, to accept this proposal of the President.

21. Arrangements for Future General Conferences

The following Members confirmed their intentions to bid for future FAI General Conferences:

Egypt	2008
Greece	2008
Portugal (NAC Centenary)	2009
Denmark (NAC Centenary)	2009
Norway (NAC Centenary)	2009
Luxemburg (NAC Centenary)	2009

22. International Calendar of Sporting Events for 2006

This calendar was distributed and noted. The up-dated version is attached at **(ANNEX 29)**

23. Calendar of FAI Meetings for next 12 Months

This calendar was distributed and noted. The up-dated version is attached at **(ANNEX 30)**

24. Approval of Delegates Nominated for FAI Commissions 2005/2006

Several amendments to the circulated list had been received. Conference approved the list, subject to the incorporation of these amendments. The up-dated list is attached at **(ANNEX 31)**

25. Approval of the List of FAI Vice-Presidents for 2005/2006

The list of Vice Presidents for 2005/2006, as amended, was approved by General Conference **(ANNEX 32)**

26. Proposals made by FAI Members

(None)

27. Recommendation of Museums

FAI had received much support and friendly assistance from the Musée de l'Espace et de l'Air at Le Bourget in Paris, and from the RAF Museum at Hendon in London, which had opened their archives to FAI and allowed it to use images for the "High Flyers" book. These Museums had a world-wide reputation and met the highest standards for their work in conservation and education. **Conference approved both Museums by acclamation as FAI Recommended Museums.**

28. Any Other Business

28.1 Mr.Tormod Veiby, President of Honour of the FAI Microlight Commission (CIMA) was appointed FAI Companion of Honour by acclamation.

28.2 Mr David Hamilton CIG invited the Env Comm to seek CIG help in funding a project. Dr Goth Env Comm President stated that there was a task to translate articles that might be of help to FAI Members. He would provide a document describing the project and costs.

The FAI President thanked CIG for this gesture and invited other ASCs to follow suit.

28.3 Mr Aksel Nielsen (DEN) recommended that ASCs should promote activities for younger people. This was vitally important as it provided the recruitment base for the future. Mr J-C Weber (CIA President) supported this. Not only youth activities were needed. Aviators were too inward-looking, and must get very young children involved. Simulation is one of the useful tools. We must reach out to make a link between our real flying world and children. Maybe CIEA could look into involving very young children in our activities.

The FAI President agreed, urging ASCs to help CIEA, and to keep this as a high priority.

29. Discharge of FAI Executive Board

29.1 Mr De Monchy thanked the President and all the members of the Executive Board for the work they had done during the last year and moved a motion to discharge the FAI Executive Board of responsibility for the management of the FAI's affairs since the 97th General Conference in 2004.

This motion, seconded by Mr Jean-Claude Weber, was approved, with 2 abstentions.

29.2 The FAI President paid tribute to Mr De Monchy, who had given so many years of loyal and efficient service to FAI. He hoped very much that he would continue to come to future Conferences as Companion of Honour, even though he no longer occupied an official post.

Annexes

Additional documents are annexed as follows:

- List of FAI Award Winners for 2004 (**ANNEX 33**)
- List of Participants at the General Conference (**ANNEX 34**)
- List of Companions of Honour (**ANNEX 35**)
- List of FAI Members (**ANNEX 36**)

Minutes approved by Mr. Pierre Portmann, FAI President, on 30 December 2005.