



*Fédération
Aéronautique
Internationale*



Minutes

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

**held in Lausanne, Switzerland
at the Olympic Museum
on 18 April 2008**

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FÉDÉRATION AÉRONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE

AMATEUR-BUILT & EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT COMMISSION
C.I.A.C.A.
COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE DES AMATEURS CONSTRUCTEURS D' AERONEFS

Minutes of the 33rd CIACA-FAI Meeting

PRESENT:

In the chair	Mr. Pierluigi	DURANTI (Italy)	President
AUSTRIA	Mr. Hermann	EIGNER	Delegate
CZECH REPUBLIC	Mr. Jiri	VICHEREK	Delegate
FRANCE	Mr. Hédi	BELAGE	Alt. Delegate
GERMANY	Mr. Christian	TEUBER	Delegate
	Ms. Elaine	FECHER	Secretary
	Mr. Jürgen	FECHER	Observer
ICELAND	Mr. Ágúst	GUÐMUNDSSON	Delegate
PORTUGAL	Mr. Carlos	TRIGO	Alt. Delegate
SWEDEN	Mr. Kjell	FRANZEN	Delegate
SWITZERLAND	Mr. Werner	SCHNEIDER	Delegate
	Mr. Alfons	HUBMANN	Alt. Delegate
TURKEY	Mr. Yaruz	SÜTÇÜ	Delegate
	Mr. Ahmet	ONAT	Observer
U.K.	Mr. Roger	HOPKINSON	Delegate
FAI Secretariat	Mr Robert	HUGHES	FAI General Projects Manager

1. Introduction and welcome

Opening the meeting the Chairman welcomed the participants in the 33rd meeting of the Commission. He extended a particularly warm welcome to the newcomers. Roger Hopkinson has replaced Graham Newby as the UK delegate, Kjell Franzen has replaced Carl Roenn for Sweden and Yaruz Sütçü has replaced Dr. Suleiman Tölun for Turkey. Mr. Duranti also welcomed Robert Hughes who has recently been appointed as FAI General Projects Manager.

2. Apologies for absence, proxies

Only one apology for absence had been received, namely from Cathérine Dartois who was unable to attend due to professional commitments.

Due to the many new faces in the committee, the Chairman asked each participant to briefly introduce him/herself to the others.

3. Minutes of 32nd CIACA FAI meeting

The Chairman thanked Mr. Christian Teuber for his help in preparing the minutes, which were unanimously accepted.

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

4. Actions pending from previous meeting

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

Action No. 1: Berblinger Prize, City of Ulm, Germany. Christian Teuber reported that this prize has been put on hold at the moment due to internal difficulties. However, CIACA will remain active and as soon as the procedure is re-opened, contact will be made to discuss the possibility of collaboration.

Action No. 11: Border crossing. No replies have been received to the letter circulated by the Chairman. This action is thus still pending.

5. CIACA President Report

Most of what the Chairman had to report is covered by individual agenda topics. He expressed his pleasure at being able to welcome so many delegates to this meeting but warned against being too optimistic. In the past 20 years he has regularly seen the enthusiasm of delegates during the meeting which, unfortunately, ebbs significantly when the meeting is over. He would like to see an increase in activity between meetings.

Mr. Duranti told the delegates that CIACA, which is a technical commission, is progressively becoming more sport-oriented, as also demonstrated by the responsibility given to CIACA in developing the Solar-powered Aeroplanes Sporting Code.

More emphasis needs to be put on the educational/social projects which several member countries have initiated (France, Sweden, Italy etc.). This could, in turn, help to encourage youngsters to get involved in building their own aircraft as well as to better give visibility to the Amateur-built aircraft movement.

The Chairman reported on the success of getting the FAI record application forms changed. Many of the FAI records have indeed been achieved by "home-built" aircraft and now a separate box has been included in the forms where the applicant can state whether his/her aircraft is "home-built" or not. He recommended that Delegates to draw attention not to miss the opportunity to take advantage also of such forms.

He also emphasised the need to become more effective and visible to the outside world. The World Air Games offer an excellent opportunity which should not go unused.

6. FAI General Conference

The FAI General Conference was held on the island of Rhodes, which Mr. Duranti attended and gave the CIACA President Report.

One of the Conference items relevant to CIACA was the increase in UAVs (unmanned aerial vehicles) in the world and the implications for airspace in general. The FAI has set up a working group of which Mr. Duranti is a member. It is a field in which CIACA should get involved due to the presence, in the commission, of experienced aeronautical engineers. The main aspects which should be considered by the newly established working group are:

- definition of UAV
- collision avoidance
- risk of segregation

Christian Teuber stated that several groups are already working on the airspace aspect and agreed that CIACA should be involved. He confirmed he would contact various colleagues to collect information.

For the time being Christian Teuber is not in a position to take part officially in the working group but will keep in contact with P.Duranti and will contribute in the future discussions in this respect.

Action 1: C. Teuber

Mr. Duranti also reported that a new technical commission - Air Space & Navigation Systems - was set up by FAI.

7. World Air Games

For the sake of the new members, the Chairman gave a comprehensive presentation of the World Air Games. Held for the first time in 1997 in Turkey and then in 2001 in Spain, for various reasons the need had matured for a new formula, capable of making the event more popular.

The 3rd World Air Games will be held in Turin from 6th to 13th June 2009 and will take on a completely new format. CIACA has been successful with its proposed ideas and the "Experimental aircraft" have become one of the official 10 disciplines.

Two experimental (microlight) aircraft will be built publicly, a Skyranger which has been organised by Ágúst Guðmundsson (Iceland delegate) and an IPC (Italian company) Savannah. The Skyranger will be built by a group of "home-builders" whereas the IPC Savannah will be built by the kit manufacturer. The goal is to have them flying in the closing ceremony. The finished aircraft will be donated to humanitarian organisations.

Sponsors are being sought for the various components of the Skyranger and Othmar Wolf (Chairman of the Austrian Homebuilders Association) has already stated that he will supply the propeller.

A discussion followed on how the group of involved "home-builders" should be chosen. It was decided that each national organisation should put forward a candidate. The final group should be 6 to 8 people and should, preferably, cover all walks of life (young, old, male, female, experienced builder, new to the scene). It should also be made up of as many different nationalities as possible. How the national organisations chose their candidate is left for them to decide but the candidate should be able to communicate in technical English. Expenses in Turin will be carried by WORLD AIR GAMES. The builders or their organizations must, however, carry their own travelling expenses to and from Turin.

Delegates shall put forward proposals in this respect and, in particular, shall think of possible selection criteria in their countries.

URGENT Action 2: All Delegates

The Chairman has received an email from a Nepalese student with information about the first "home-built" aircraft in that country. It was decided that this homebuilder should be invited to be part of the aforementioned group.

Action 3: P. Duranti

A further CIACA event in the World Air Games will be the "Workmanship" competition. As there will be a lot of activity at the airport and for obvious economical reasons, only 30 home-builts will be officially invited to attend the competition and their stay economically covered. Others, as visitors, may fly into the airport but only in the early morning and late evening based on a specific procedure that the organizers will define. However, it is hoped that a considerable flight-line will be on view.

Again, a discussion followed on how to choose the 30 competitors. It was decided that the national organisations put forward 1 or 2 candidates based, in principle, on innovation of the project, eco-compatibility and workmanship. Based on the preliminary (unofficial) possible proposals of competitors and on the additional discussions that will follow in the near future, the official criteria for selecting the winner in Turin will be determined. A possible idea is to have also the spectators involved, to some extent, in awarding a prize.

A working group was set up which shall present a pre-selection of rules by the end of June. Suggestions should be sent directly to the group.

Action 4: W. Schneider, C. Trigo, J. Vicherek+Duranti (Catherine Dartois, who had volunteered last year, is still welcome if available)

Expenses in Turin will be carried by the World Air Games. The competitors must, however, cover their own travelling expenses to and from Turin.

The Chairman asked for appropriate inputs. He also informed the delegates that 6 CIACA members will act as official judges and their expenses will be covered by the World Air Games Organizing committee.

The proposal of a rally with GPS Logger as a side event put forward by Hans Gutmann has had to be turned down because the frame for the competitions had been set and there was no chance of adding a new competition.

A demonstration of "innovative" aircraft (mainly solar- and electrically-powered) is also planned. It will not take the form of a competition but of an exhibition and two preliminary applications have already been received (Sunseeker (USA), a fuel-cells-powered aircraft (Italy)). The Chairman asked the delegates to look in their own countries for potential participants.

As a follow-on of the Sporting code for Solar-Powered Aeroplane CIACA is also close to delivering a proposed code for electrically-powered aircraft.

A further suggestion made previously was the presentation of a new racer class. Unfortunately, the project will not be ready in time for the World Air Games. However, continued development of this class is encouraged because there is great interest from many sides.

Technical conferences are also planned.

The bidding process for the World Air Games 2011 is underway and Phase 1 has already been completed. A decision concerning the venue is expected at the beginning of December 2008.

8. CIACA awards

Phoenix Diploma

No nominations

Phoenix Group Diploma

The Chairman presented the Italian nomination for the Phoenix Group Diploma. "Giorgio Pirovano and Friends" group have been unanimously awarded the Phoenix Group Diploma for the re-construction of an AB47 helicopter.

Henri Mignet Diploma

No nominations

A long-standing topic is the modification of the Henri Mignet Diploma as the requirements are regarded by many as being too stringent. It had been suggested in the past to modify the diploma so that it can be awarded to a person/group which has done something special in the home-building community. France requires that "flight for everyone" be maintained in the conditions. Ms. Dartois was re-working the requirements but as she was unable to attend the meeting, this action must be seen as pending.

Action 5: C. Dartois

The Chairman concluded this topic of the agenda by reminding the delegates that, despite the fact that there are several interesting projects ongoing, too few nominations are received. He asked the delegates to make their national associations more aware of the CIACA awards.

Action 6: All Delegates

9. Educational and social initiatives

The Chairman encouraged those countries where such projects are operating successfully to pass on their experiences to those members who would like to start an initiative. He suggested the production of a small booklet to publicise the work being done. In this way, it can be also shown that it is not just "rich people" who fly. Mr. Duranti suggested that the booklet be available for the World Air Games. He will prepare the booklet, even though in a simple and economical format, but needs support. Mr. Belage offered his help.

Action 7: H. Belage, P. Duranti

10. New home-built racer class

This idea was born three years ago in France - a new economic racing class. Unfortunately, the project has fallen behind schedule so that it will not be ready for the World Air Games in Turin. However, work is continuing and Mr. Belage promised to forward a report as soon as possible.

Action 8: H. Belage

The UK delegate emphasised the fact that if the project was going to be successful, the racer must be able to receive certification in all countries.

11. Electrically and Solar powered Aeroplanes

Years ago CIACA was given the responsibility of defining the sporting code for solar powered aeroplanes. This is a growing movement and the Chairman is very proud that records can now be recognised. This is also one of the ways CIACA must go if it wishes to fulfil the goal of becoming a sports commission. Once the World Air Games have been brought successfully behind us, the Chairman will then undertake the path to ask for a FAI Statutes modification so that CIACA may become (also) a sports commission.

Action 9: P. Duranti

Mr. Duranti pointed out that a CIACA dedicated working group had been established some years ago aimed at creating the Sporting Code for Electrically and Solar-Powered Aircraft but some of the Delegates members are no longer present. The Turkish delegate suggested that Mr. Ahmed Onat could be of help as this is his field of interest. Mr. Duranti gladly accepted the help. Mr. Teuber also offered his help, although he is at present professionally very busy.

12. EFLEVA, EASA, Europe Air Sports

Roger Hopkinson, the UK delegate, and Chairman of EFLEVA gave a short report on the status of EFLEVA which has now been established under French law. He emphasised the need for collaboration between CIACA and EFLEVA as several aspects affect both organisations.

Mr. Hopkinson had also attended the Europe Air Sports meeting in Cologne (15th/16th March 2008). He drew the delegates' attention to a section of the minutes concerning Annex II "Our main preference is to maintain the situation as it is now. Mr. Probst responds that the general trend is that most national CAAs want EASA to take it all, including the microlights. The mood is to eliminate Annex II in due time. There are advantages in being a member of the EU: free movement, extended market, political power. To prefer being out to being in is not realistic in the EU process." This seems to suggest that Annex II will eventually disappear.

Following these general reports, each delegate was asked by the Chairman to summarise the situation in his/her home country. Most annual reports have been provided in printed format. Delegates are requested to send their report in a file format to the FAI headquarters, to be added to these minutes.

Action 10 : All Delegates

13. Public relations / press / communications

Website

Werner Schneider reported on several difficulties he was experiencing with the website. Rob Hughes informed the delegates that the entire FAI domain is undergoing a massive change at the moment which results in difficulties for those sites which have not yet been modernised. It is hoped that all sites will have the same status very soon. Irrespective of these difficulties, Werner Schneider asked the delegates to send him information which could be posted on the site. At the moment, there is virtually no information available.

Action 11: All delegates

Information data-base

The Chairman returned to the table which he compiled almost 20 years ago containing general information about the amateur-built aircraft situation in the member countries. The topic has been on the agenda for several years now. During the previous meeting, Jiri Vicherek had taken on the responsibility of updating the table and bringing it into a more manageable form. He showed what he has achieved to date, apologising for the fact that it was not yet complete. Access data will be passed on to the delegates as soon as possible so that each member can update his country's information.

Action 12: J. Vicherek

Air shows/exhibitions offer a good forum to present the activities in the amateur-built scene. The Chairman gave ILA2006 as a good example of this and asked if there was a chance that CIACA could take part in ILA2008. Elaine Fecher informed the delegates that the OUV would not be participating in ILA2008 as it has been deemed too expensive with little positive effect for the OUV. It has been decided by the OUV to put more emphasis on regional meetings and smaller air shows and exhibitions such as the Aero in Friedrichshafen. Here, several European associations join the OUV on their stand (Austria, France, Switzerland). It is planned that CIACA will be present on the OUV stand during Aero 2009.

Action 13: C.Teuber + E. Fecher

15. Other business

Jiri Vicherek brought forward an official request from the Czech association. The LAA requests help in establishing a new micro-light category for sport events - MTOM 600 kg

The Chairman asked for the proposal to be put in writing to ensure that the delegates properly understand what is being proposed.

16. Election of office bearers 2008 - 2009

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

President:	Mr. Pierluigi Duranti	(Italy)
1 st Vice President:	Ms. Catherine Dartois	(France)
2 nd Vice President (*):	Mr. Carlos Trigo	
Secretary:	Ms. Elaine Fecher	(Germany)

21. Date and place of next meeting

The 34th CIACA meeting will take place in Friedrichshafen on 6th April 2009

Prepared by Elaine Fecher

Approved by Pierluigi Duranti

(): Subsequent to the meeting, the election of Mr Trigo was declared invalid since Air Sport Commission representatives do not have the status of delegates, and are thus ineligible for election.*