



FÉDÉRATION AÉRONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

OLYMPIC MUSEUM
LAUSANNE, SWITZERLAND
2002-02-01/02

Present:

In the Chair:	Mr. Chris J. NICHOLAS, President (UNITED KINGDOM)
CANADA	Mr. Robert (Bob) I. CARLSON, Delegate
DENMARK	Dr. Ricard MATZEN, Delegate
GERMANY	Dr. Michael GOTH, Delegate
NORWAY	Mr. Kare LIASJÖ, Delegate Mr. Rolf BJORKMAN, Delegate
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	Mr. Bernald S. SMITH, Delegate and Vice-President
FAI	Mr. Wolfgang WEINREICH, President Mr. Robert CLIPSHAM, Executive Director, FAI Board Liaison for the Environmental Commission Mr. Thierry MONTIGNEAUX, Assistant FAI Secretary General
SCRIBE	Ms. Jane RANDLE, UNITED KINGDOM
APOLOGIES	Dr. Wolfgang SCHOLZE, Alternate Delegate, GERMANY; Secretary Mr. Martin Ordodny, CIMA representative Mr. Louis Berger, Belgium alternate delegate Mr. Alain Poulet, CIA observer

Where appropriate, capitalized member initials are used to denote the source of some comments.

1. Upon advice that the President's arrival would be delayed because of flight difficulties, Mr. Bernald Smith took the chair at 1500 hours, welcomed all attending, then asked the FAI President to speak to the group.

Mr. Weinreich welcomed the delegates to Lausanne. It was his view that the Commission had presented good arguments to temper the often hostile atmosphere surrounding airspace and environmental issues. He noted that the need to reduce noise and air pollution had encouraged the development of small aviation engines, that demonstrated modern, improved technologies (cf. media reports regarding diesel, and jet fuel using reciprocating aircraft engines under development and certification).

Mr. Weinreich suggested that there should be a code of environmental conduct for each airport, which, when followed, would foster good community relations. He also emphasized that support is available to all groups that contribute to environmental issues and their solutions.

A question was raised regarding the low attendance at Environmental Commission meetings, wondering if attendance would be improved if the meeting was held at the same time as the General Conference. Mr. Weinreich's view was that the format and needs of the General Conference differed from the needs of the Commission. Michael Goth felt that the quality of debate is the principal need; not necessarily the number attending.

2. NORDIC Report -- Kare Liasjö

ICAO Document 29 Aircraft Noise Measurement (ANM) covers the calculation of aircraft noise at airports. For measurement, ISO 3491 (12 years in revision) & SAE 1845(FAA), can be applicable. Two hundred aircraft types (mostly airliners) are incorporated. Aircraft movements and times of operation at a given airport are considered. This model is similar to those discussed in prior years (MG).

The ANM method is elegant as it allows the calculation of noise contours in various operating and aircraft type modes. It seems, also, to be equally effective modeling the noise effects of small as well as large aircraft. MG noted that the contours calculated should be congruent with those actually measured.

The model also now, takes into account topography and the acoustic quality of the ground.

It was noted that there can be a 50% reduction in powered aircraft noise through the use of mufflers and multi-bladed propellers.

3. Approval of minutes of last meeting. Approved unanimously, without comment or correction.

4. During the preceding, the President arrived.

5. Commission Presidents report -- Chris J. Nicholas

The President reviewed the previous actions of the Commission and his activities as related to issues presented to, and discussed, in the FAI Discussion Group, at the 2001 General Conference.

The President also announced that Wolfgang Scholze had resigned as secretary due to work pressure, and asked if there would be a volunteer for this task. In the interim, Jane Randle of the BGA would act as scribe.

Discussion of the President's comments revolved around the degree of implementation of environmental protocols, funding, participation by NAC's, ASC's (especially the Education Committee?), and the following issues, in no particular order.

Bernald Smith noted that the IGC is in the process of adopting the Environmental Code of Conduct.

RIC confirmed that the Canadian Owners and Pilots Association (COPA) has adopted the FAI Environmental Policy.

The Nordic Group is undertaking environmental assessments on each club/field location in their jurisdiction.

It is accepted that environmental issues are now a global concern with respect to airports. Contests and other airport activities must include environmental assessments of impact in their planning and management. This will also reflect IOC practice that the National Organizing Body must sign off on the responsibility for environmental issues.

There needs to be greater dissemination of environmental activity and issues within the NAC's and ASC's. Websites, "Action for Airports", Bue Flag (despite sounding like a NATO/NORAD combat exercise) programs as used by the gliding and modeling communities in the EU, need development, and where appropriate, more publicity. For example, Denmark requires environmental assessments for airport activities (100 events each month, in season).

The issue of "Who is to be the assessor of compliance to airport environmental standards?" was raised.

6. German Report -- Dr. Michael Goth

On-going Activities

FFH and Natura 2000 is a new initiative. The German Government is screening the country, 6.0% of the countryside is to be protected. Results will be reported to the EU. Airports will be included. Some restrictions will not allow new building construction. Nor an increase in size (land utilized and buildings?).

Blue Flag airport certification has now been expanded to airports other than gliding sites. There is a new organizing body, that is working on financing and other issues. Wolfgang Schultze is a member of this board.

Michael expressed his regrets that he has not been able to devote more time to the needs of the Environmental Commission. He has been able to do little regarding the Web site as he does not have the expertise for this task. Thierry told the group that all they had to do was provide a skeleton and the FAI Bureau will do the rest.

Bernald agreed to prepare a initiating draft for Michael by mid-May. CN noted that the Education Commission has an effective website, several elements of which could be useful to us. He felt there was much potential working with this group.

The Microlight/Goose project is to continue. New routes are to be established to avoid slaughter of rare species.

7. .ISO Report -- All

This report relates essentially to noise measurement. Kare Liasjö noted that Working Group 43 is running satisfactorily. There have been some difficulties as a draft was voted down, leading to the convenor's resignation. A new editor has produced a new draft.

There is much activity on noise issues. There is activity in the UK to produce a new protocol that will be discussed with other governments in the EU. The Nordic countries are active also, as are other groups such as Europe Air Sports.

Because of the complexity, currents and counter-currents affecting the understanding, activity and implementation of noise measurement and effects. Net consensus was that Richard and Kare should produce a summary paper for the commission. **See "TO DO'S".**

8. .Microlight/Goose report -- See German Report

9. .Astronautics Report -- On going

10/11/12. .Report and discussion arising from the FAI Discussion Group "AIR SPORTS AND ENVIRONMENT"

The sub-committee formed to prepare, the evening of 2002-02-01, an environmental policy statement for the FAI agreed that: "It shall be the policy of the FAI that all activities sanctioned by the FAI, or one of its agents, shall comply with a written attestation to the Environmental Code of conduct of the pertinent Air Sport Commission(s) and, where applicable, those of the IOC and the location."

Bob Clipsham, as the Director responsible within the Executive Board of the FAI confirmed that the Environmental Commission is to continue as a Technical Commission, rather than a working Group.

There was extended discussion within the group regarding the difficulty obtaining translations when needed. A case in point was the time taken to obtain a translation of the Olli Berg paper on the environmental impact of airports.

The issue of a questionnaire circulated on 1994, and a paper produced in May 1995 for the Council Meeting in Montreal. What happened to this data? Thierry will check the Commission archives. CN felt that an interval of five(5) years for this type of report would be appropriate.

Bernald felt that environmental issues should be on the agenda of NAC's at meetings. The Environmental Commission should supply a speaker, at the expense of the FAI. Thierry demurred as there is no central budget for such activity.

13. Formation of a group to provide relief from aircraft overflight, noise and effect on animals. The situation at San Francisco Bay area, USA gave rise to this group, BARAFAAWG which sought influence over aviation.

Bernald described what was happening. He felt that there was potential for regressive change, but that it would be resolved locally, to everyone satisfaction. He will monitor and advise.

14. Rotorcraft, Balloons, Microlight Aircraft and Model Aircraft Noise Certification

This item attracted little discussion, save reference to hush burners on balloons and that there was an Airspace Committee within the FAI. Also that conventional aircraft noise measurements did not apply to models and helicopters.

15. Election of Environmental Commission Officers

After appropriate nominations and balloting, the following were elected to office:

President:	Chris J. Nicholas
Vice President:	Bernald Smith
Secretary:	Bob Carlson

16. Other Business

17. Date, location, and time of next meeting: Olympic Museum, Lausanne, Switzerland, 2003-01-17/18 @ 1500h

TO DO LIST:

1. Bernald Smith, Michael Goth, Thierry Montigneaux, Website Development.
2. ISO Report, UK will organize international adoption
3. ISO 43, Bernald Smith and Michael Goth will monitor and support in best way.
4. ISO 43, Bernald Smith and Michael Goth will keep Europe Air Sports aware of what is happening.
5. ISO Activities, Kare Liasjö and Ricard Matzen prepare a summary paper describing experiences regarding ISO activities.
6. Chris Nicholas, after reviewing statutes to discuss FAI Environmental Policy statement with Airsport Commissions before Airsport Commission Presidents meeting.
7. Thierry Montigneaux to check Environmental Commission Archives regarding the questionnaire/report produced in 1995 for Montréal Council Meeting.

My sincere thanks to Jane Randle and Michael Goth for the provision of their notes to enhance those I took before and after I had the honour of being elected Secretary. They were most helpful.

As it sometimes takes a while for me to become nimble changing alphabets, my apologies for misspelling some names that use characters the use of which is, for me, infrequent. I expect to become nimble before the final copy is produced. RIC

President's note: I have made a few amendments, which I hope are correct. CJN.