



Apimondia

International Federation of Beekeepers' Associations

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING OF APIMONDIA

Rome, Italy
28th - 29th April 2001

Agenda of the meeting

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Report and follow-up on the organisation of the 37th Apimondia Congress
3. Reports of the President and Secretary-General
4. Reports of the other members
5. Report on the closure of accounts of 36th Apimondia Congress
6. Calendar of future international congresses and symposia
7. Renewal of Apimondia statutes
8. Renewal of Apimondia management positions
9. Report of the Auditing Commission and approval of the accounts and financial report for the period 1999-2000 and draft budget for the next biennium
10. Planning on the future activities and areas of development of Apimondia
11. Report on the activities of IITEA
12. Any other business:
 - a) Apimondia srl
 - b) Protocol on the organization and bid procedures of future congresses
 - c) Follow-up on arrangements for the 38th Apimondia Congress
 - d) Follow-up on Apislavia meeting and proposed terms of collaboration/integration
 - e) Review of membership policies and promotion

f) Collaboration with FAO on beekeeping projects

g) Other issues

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Present to the meeting:

Mr. A.S. Jørgensen, President
Dr. E. Schieferstein, Vice-President
Mr. R. Jannoni-Sebastianini, Secretary-General
Mr. R. Borneck, Dean of the Honorary Members of Apimondia
Dr. T. Cherbuliez, President of Standing Commission
Prof. Dr. O. Van Laere, President of Standing Commission
Dr. N. Bradbear, President of Standing Commission
Dr. W. Ritter, President of Standing Commission
Prof. M.J. Sommeijer, President of Standing Commission
Mr. G. Ratia, President of Standing Commission
Mr. K. Wyder, Member of the Auditing Commission
Mr. K. Gladines, Member of the Auditing Commission

Invited:

Mr. C. Constantinescu, Director of IITEA
Ms. E. Dumitrascu, Editor in chief, IITEA/Apiacta
Ms. M. Giogia, Chief Accountant, IITEA
Dr. A. DuToit, Executive of 37th Apimondia Congress Organising Committee
Mr. R. Domerego, Vice-President of Standing Commission
Dr. J. Poklukar, Delegate of 38th Apimondia Congress Organising Committee
Mr. R. Cirone, President of the Italian Beekeepers' Federation
Dr. S. Cannamela, Honorary Member of Apimondia

Saturday 28th April 2001 - 9:30 hrs

The President opened the meeting inviting the Secretary-General to proceed with the adoption of the agenda.

- Adoption of the agenda (point 1)

After approving the minutes of the previous meeting held in Bucharest in May 2000 and conveying the apologies of the members, Dr. M. Peroutka, Mr. E. Lear and Mr. H. Watanabe, which were unable to attend the meeting, the agenda was approved with minor changes concerning the order of discussion of the various points as reflected in the sequence of the items addressed and reported in this document.

- Report and follow-up on the organisation of the 37th Apimondia Congress (point 2)

Dr. DuToit took the floor and illustrated the report on the progress of the congress organisation that had been previously distributed to the members of the Executive Council. The report focused on the work carried out to date and outlined the main issues to be addressed in the coming months.

In particular, he mentioned the new organisational arrangements that had to be made as a result of the change of dates also explaining that the consequences of the postponement were adequately compensated by the Congress Centre.

Other aspects addressed were the procedure for the application for visas, the carrier services, the arrangements for the ApiExpo, the hotel bookings and availability of accommodation and the security issues for the safety of the participants in Durban which were described to be adequate and have been coordinated with the local authorities.

The Executive Council then discussed the modalities for the management of the abstracts submission, selection and notification process to the authors.

The congress programme, both scientific and general, was reviewed to agree on the content and schedule of the events to be followed in order to establish the exact timing and duration of the relevant interventions and ceremonies.

In order to cater to the needs of the participants, Dr. DuToit illustrated a questionnaire that had been prepared for distribution at the congress in order to elicit feedback from the participants and address their requirements and expectations more adequately in future.

- Report of the Auditing Commission and approval of the accounts and financial report for the period 1999-2000 and draft budget for the next biennium (point 9)

The auditors reported on the audit carried out the day before on the Federation's account. They read the statement they had prepared after the accounts review whereby they confirmed that the accounts were found to be in good order after the examination of the documentation provided to them and the verifications they made on same.

- Report on the activities of IITEA (point 11)

Mr. Constantinescu was invited to report on IITEA's activities and provided an update on the commercial and editorial activities relating to the promotion of Apiacta and the ongoing exercise of incorporating in the issues of the magazine the full reports of the previous congress.

He then illustrated a project of a specialised beekeeping portal on which IITEA had been working on to request the endorsement of the Executive Council to go ahead with the feasibility study and future implementation of this new activity.

He also distributed an audited report of the Institute's balance sheet for 2000, which is attached to these minutes.

Sunday 29th April 2001 - 9:30 hrs

- Reports of the President and Secretary-General (point 3)

The President took the floor to report on the institutional activities carried over the last year that are included in the attached report.

The Secretary-General read the report he had prepared on the work carried out in Rome and that is attached to these minutes.

- Reports of the other members (point 4)

The other members of the Executive Council were then invited in turn to deliver their own reports, the copies of which are attached to these minutes.

- Report on the closure of accounts of 36th Apimondia Congress (point 5)

The Secretary-General confirmed that the accounts of the congress held in Canada had been finally closed to the mutual satisfaction of all parties involved with a share for Apimondia in the region of US\$ 53,000.

- Calendar of future international congresses and symposia (point 6)

For the next congresses Slovenia has already been assigned the venue for 2003 and Apimondia has been liaising with the local Organising Committee since last year. For 2005, Ireland, Australia and Indonesia have applied for this edition and the decision now lies with the General Assembly at the meeting in Durban in October 2001.

As for the symposia organised under the aegis of Apimondia Dr. Bradbear mentioned that the 3rd Caribbean Beekeeping Congress was scheduled to take place in 2002 in Jamaica.

- Renewal of Apimondia statutes (point 7)

The President invited Dr. Schieferstein and Dr. Ritter to take the floor to present the proposals for the changes of the Federation's statutes and Dr. Schieferstein reported on the latest refinements of the original proposals. These were concentrated mainly on setting a structure of fees and votes related to the number of hives and beekeepers represented by each member in order to distribute the voting rights more evenly. The rationale of this system being to avoid the problems created by a single vote assigned to each member without considering the level of membership and production of each member association.

The Executive Council after discussing the details of the new vote allocation system requested Dr. Schieferstein to incorporate these new proposals in the final draft of the changes to be distributed to the members for review before the end of August.

- Renewal of Apimondia management positions (point 8)

The Secretary-General took the floor to read the list of the positions expiring this year and asked the relevant incumbents whether they intended to serve for another term of office. All confirmed their willingness to be re-appointed with the only exclusion of Mr. Wyder and Mr. Watanabe, the latter having notified his intention to resign by letter as he could not attend the meeting in person.

- Planning on the future activities and areas of development of Apimondia (point 10)

The major areas of future development were identified in the implementation of the new statutes with the related benefits and improvements that the new regulations would bring to the efficiency and activities of the Federation.

Contacts had also been taken in March 2001 with Apislavia, the organisation grouping the beekeeping associations of Eastern Europe in order to strengthen the collaboration with the countries they represent. IITEA that had hosted in Bucharest the meeting with Apislavia has also been assigned a key role in liaising with this geographical area on the basis of the historical ties held with these associations.

The Executive Council also indicated as a critical priority that of increasing the activities aimed at organising symposia in different continents in order to address beekeeping key issues worldwide.

- Apimondia srl (point 12 a)

The Secretary-General reported on the situation of the company and he confirmed that the activities were progressing well. The rent is being regularly paid by the tenant, the building is kept in good running order and the restoration work of the basement, where the Federation secondary office is located, is almost completed.

As a result of the income generated by the rent, the company is now almost self-sufficient and able to pay for its running cost and taxes without major contributions from the Federation.

- Protocol on the organization and bid procedures of future congresses (point 12 b)

This area has been taken care of by the President and the Secretary-General who have been following up on the compilation of additional documentation for perusal by prospective congress organisers. The letters of agreement are now being negotiated with each congress organiser to take into account their specific needs at local level and are being signed in good time in order to provide all parties concerned with clear guidelines on their respective duties and responsibilities as well as a schedule of the work to be carried out.

- Follow-up on arrangements for the 38th Apimondia Congress (point 12 c)

The President and the Secretary-General have attended a meeting in Slovenia in September 2000 to define the main aspects of the letter of agreement to be signed with the local Organising Committee and start the operational collaboration for the preparation for the congress of 2003.

- Follow-up on Apislavia meeting and proposed terms of collaboration/integration (point 12 d)

The outcome of the meeting held with Apislavia has been addressed in the President's report attached to these minutes. A meeting has been scheduled with the delegates of Apislavia in Durban during the congress in order to follow-up on the joint activities to undertake in future.

- Review of membership policies and promotion (point 12 e)

In view of the statutes changes it is foreseen that membership will increase as it is going to be extended also to associations operating at a local level. This increase is also attached to the improvement of performance by the Federation as a result of the new internal regulations aimed at addressing the needs of the members more closely.

- Collaboration with FAO on beekeeping projects (point 12 f)

The Secretary-General reported on the contacts held with FAO on the status of development of the programme on bee pathology that was under assessment. It turned out that the retirement of the officer in charge of following up on this programme had determined a delay in its progress and now

with the appointment of the new officer FAO is expecting to continue the preparatory work required for its approval, funding and implementation.

- Other issues (point 12 g)

The Executive Council deliberated on convening the next meeting in Ljubljana, Slovenia, from 4 to 5 May 2002.

Having covered all the agenda, the President called the meeting to a close.