



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Ljubljana (Slovenia) - 24 August 2003, 10 am

Agenda of the meeting

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Report and follow-up on the organisation of the 38th Apimondia Congress
3. Reports of the President, Vice-President and Secretary-General
4. Reports of the other Executive Council members
5. Report on the closure of accounts of the 37th 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 external auditor and approval of the accounts and financial report for the period
2001-2002 and draft budget for the next biennium
10. Planning on the future activities and areas of development of Apimondia
11. Follow-up on registration of Apimondia as an international NGO
12. Report on the activities of FIITEA Foundation
13. Any other business:
 - a) Apimondia Ltd.;
 - b) follow-up on protocol on the organisation and bid procedures of future congresses;
 - c) follow-up on arrangements for the 39th Apimondia Congress;
 - d) review of membership policies and promotion;
 - e) collaboration with FAO on beekeeping projects;
 - f) other issues.

Present:

Apimondia Executive Council Members:

Jørgensen Asger, President
Schieferstein Erich, Vice-President
Jannoni-Sebastianini Riccardo, Secretary-General
Borneck Raymond, Dean of Apimondia Honorary Members
Peroutka Miloslav, Elected Member
DuToit Adriaan, Elected Member
Sommeijer Marinus, President of the Standing Commission of Pollination and Bee Flora
Ritter Wolfgang, President of the Standing Commission on Bee Pathology
Bradbear Nicola, President of the Standing Commission on Beekeeping for Rural Development
Ratia Gilles, President of the Standing Commission on Beekeeping Technology and Equipment
Cherbuliez Theodore, President of the Standing Commission on Apitherapy
Tam Dinh Quyet, President of the Standing Commission on Beekeeping Economy

Invited:

McCabe Philip, 39th International Apicultural Congress Organising Committee
Donoghue John, 39th International Apicultural Congress Organising Committee
Hall Graham, 39th International Apicultural Congress Organising Committee
Nöhrrer Ulrike, Apimondia Secretariat
Filippo Jannoni-Sebastianini, Apimondia Secretariat
Constantinescu Cristian, FIITEA Foundation
Dumitrascu Erika, FIITEA Foundation

Slovenian Organising Committee Members:

Sivic Franc, President of the Local Organising Committee
Poklukar Janez, President of the Scientific Committee
Cad Gorazd, Project Manager
Kozmus Peter, Congress Secretary

Apologies:

Prof. Dr. Octaaf Van Laere, President of the Apimondia Standing Commission on Bee Biology

1. Adoption of the agenda - Following a welcome to all participants by Mr. Jørgensen, Apimondia President, the agenda is adopted. Mr. Jørgensen underlines the very good organisation of the congress by the Slovenian Organising Committee that seems to be a great success.

Dr. Ritter comments that for the Closing Ceremony all presidents should give an overview of their sessions' activities instead of the usual resolutions.

2. Report and follow-up on the organisation of the 38th Apimondia congress - The members of the Slovenian Organising Committee illustrate the situation regarding the organisation of the 38th Apimondia Congress. Some comments were made on the arrangements for the registration desks to ensure that adequate staff capacity be allocated to handle the impact of participants on the first couple of days and avoid queues or delays.

In general, the level of organisation and logistics was deemed to be valid and well arranged.

3. Reports of the President, Vice-President and Secretary-General - The President, Vice-President and Secretary-General take the floor to report on their latest activities. In particular, the President refers to the visit to Rome in June 2003 to meet with the new auditor and discuss issues relating to the accounts of Apimondia Ltd. and also to review the documentation for the General Assembly in August. The Secretary-General reports on the inspection visit paid to Argentina to survey the local facilities in connection with the Argentine bid for the congress in 2007 and also attend the FACAP symposium in San Rafael.

4. Reports of the other Executive Council members - All members of the Apimondia Executive Council report on their particular activity done during the last few months. The reports delivered beforehand in electronic format are attached herebelow.

Dr. Ritter reports on the preparation of the 2nd Apimondia Symposium on Prevention of Residues in Honey - "Changes in Beekeeping Practice", on 27 and 28 April 2004 in Celle, Germany.

He further announces that the new Apiacta original digital version in English will be actually available completely free of charge. The first three issues (vol.1/2003, vol.2/2003 and vol.3/2003) of Apiacta 2003 have been already published and posted on the Apimondia website www.apimondia.org

The President nominates Dr. Ritter responsible for the scientific content, Dr. DuToit for the English version, Mr. Ratia and Dr. Ritter for the Internet version and Mr. Constantinescu for the printed version of Apiacta.

The English Internet version should be dedicated to the scientists whereas the printed version (in German, French and Spanish) instead is intended for those with no access to the web.

The income of the Internet version should go to the Apimondia General Secretariat in Rome while the income of the printed version should go to Apimondia Foundation in Bucharest.

Apiacta 2004 will contain the best scientific papers of the 38th Congress. Mr. Jørgensen emphasises once more the importance of the high quality of the papers to be selected.

All members should help promote Apiacta among the national associations, international associations and institutes.

5. Report on the closure of accounts of the 37th Apimondia Congress - Dr. DuToit reports on the final arrangements to settle the last outstanding dues on the printing activities and translation services and an agreement is made to transfer the remaining US\$ 1,300 to FIITEA through Apimondia Rome.

6. Calendar of future international congresses and symposia - the Standing Commission Presidents illustrate the future symposia that are due to be organised in the future: in Cuba, October 2003 on Apitherapy, in Costa Rica, February 2004 on Bee Flora and Pollination, in Celle, Germany, April 2004 on residues in honey (Bee Pathology) and in Argentina, September 2004 on rural co-operativism (Bees for Rural Development and Beekeeping Economy).

7. Renewal of Apimondia Statutes – The Executive Council reviews and agrees to the amendments of the latest version of the draft which should be distributed to the member associations on the General Assembly on Thursday 28 August 2003.

8. Renewal of Apimondia management positions - For the management positions to be renewed at the congress in Ljubljana, namely that of the President, one elected member, and those of the President of the Standing Commissions on Apitherapy, Biology, Pathology and Rural Development, all members have confirmed their availability to be appointed except for Prof. van Laere, President of the Standing Commission on Bee Biology. Prof. Robin Crewe (South Africa) was indicated as a candidate for this position. The President informs that Prof. Crewe accepted his nomination. Prof. van Laere confirms his intention to assist Apimondia also in the future.

9. Report of the external auditor and approval of the accounts and financial report for the period 2001-2002 and draft budget for the next biennium – The Secretary-General reports that in June the President and him met with the new auditor, Mr. Alessandro Caneba, chartered accountant in Rome for the full presentation of the accounts and their review. The documentation was certified, compiled according to the EU accounting standards and distributed at the end of the June 2003 to all members.

10. Planning on the future activities and areas of development of Apimondia – The Executive Council members discuss on the main areas of development and these are identified in reinforcing the activities carried out by the Standing Commissions in the forms of symposia and meetings and in providing more staff for the office in Rome in order to provide further assistance and information to the members. More involvement of Apimondia in congress organisation activities is also advocated for the future in order to ensure a close collaboration with the local organisers and give inputs and expertise on the different phases of the process.

11. Follow-up on registration of Apimondia as an international NGO – The Secretary-General reports on having contacted a consultant to work out on a definition of the requirements for the accreditation of the Federation to international organisations. Later in the year it will be possible to have a more comprehensive picture of the action to be taken in this exercise.

12. Report on the activities of FIITEA Foundation – Mr. Constantinescu takes the floor to report on the latest development taking place in Romania in connection with the management of the Foundation. In addition to providing an account on the financial performance for 2002 he highlights the legal aspects affecting the property of the building and the action being taken. He asks assistance from Apimondia as they are still in a difficult economical situation. Mr. Jørgensen calls for an internal meeting between himself, Mr. Constantinescu and Dr. DuToit in order to discuss the most important outstanding issues.

13. Any other business - A number of improvements have been already made, but an internal Apimondia workshop should be organised to discuss on 'who, what and why is Apimondia?'

a) Apimondia Ltd. – The Secretary-General reports that the activities of the company are progressing well. The office in the meantime is being further refurbished and restored and new filing facilities are being put in place. The reimbursement of the advance made by the tenant of the property in Castel Porziano will end in mid 2004. As a result, thereafter the company will benefit from an additional income Euro 1,000 to invest in new activities including returning to the Federation funds received on loan in the past.

b) Follow-up on protocol on the organisation and bid procedures of future congresses – The new proposals for statutes incorporate also bylaws addressing the bidding procedures for future congresses with a view to improving the organisational aspects of such events.

c) Follow-up on arrangements for the 39th Apimondia congress – The President and Secretary-General paid a visit to Ireland in February 2003 to finalise the content of the Letter of Agreement to be signed in Ljubljana.

d) Review of membership policies and promotion – A recommendation is being made to increase efforts to gain new members and in this respect to engage more in public relations activities and provide more information on the initiatives undertaken and general assistance on enquiries.

e) Collaboration with FAO on beekeeping projects – The Secretary-General reports on contacts been taken by Dr. Bradbear and himself with different divisions in FAO in order to strengthen the collaboration and involvement of the Federation in beekeeping projects.

f) Other issues

- Promotion of Apimondia activities – It is proposed to print an information leaflet to be distributed at the next congress in Ireland illustrating the activities carried by the Federation as well as making a presentation of the services it can render in the beekeeping sector.

- Apimondia 2007 - two countries have submitted a bid for the 40th Apimondia congress: Argentina (Buenos Aires) and Australia (Melbourne). The General Assembly will decide the place where the Congress will be held in 2007.

Having covered all the items on the agenda, the President calls the meeting to a close. The members of the Executive Council will meet again on Friday 29 August 2003.

Note on Saturday 30 August on the occasion of an informal meeting held with the Apimondia Executive Council members and the Slovenian Organising Committee, Mr. Jørgensen proposes to hold a meeting in Rome on 29 and 30 November 2003 to discuss the future of Apimondia and carry out a critical revision of the Federation's mission statement and the accomplishment of key institutional strategic objectives.