



## **Minutes of the Executive Council meeting - Ljubljana, 3rd - 4th May 2003**

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  
Van Laere Octaaf, President of the Standing Commission on Bee Biology  
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

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  
Nöhrer Ulrike, Apimondia Secretariat  
Constantinescu Cristian, FIITEA Foundation  
Dumitrascu Erika, FIITEA Foundation

Slovenian Organising Committee Members:

Peterle Lojze, Congress President  
Sivic Franc, President of the Local Organising Committee  
Poklukar Janez, President of the Scientific Committee  
Cad Gorazd, Project Manager  
Kozmus Peter, Congress Secretary  
Malci Boznar, Contests Manager  
Stekar Vidic Verena, Responsible for the Cultural Programme

Apologies:

Tam Dinh Quyet, President of the Standing Commission on Beekeeping Economy

1. Adoption of the agenda - Following a welcome and a brief presentation of all participants by Mr. Jørgensen, Apimondia President, and Mr. Peterle, 38th Apimondia Congress President, the agenda is adopted.

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.

Mr. Cad presents the 'progress report' underlining the following issues: the local meetings that have been held, the lack of local and international sponsors, the increase in the number of flights reaching Ljubljana and the low rates of the hotels in Ljubljana.

Mr. Kozmus reports on the promotion of the congress carried out on beekeeping journals, magazines, Internet and TV, whereas Ms. Stekar Vidic illustrates the cultural programme at the opening ceremony, during the congress days and at the closing ceremony.

As for the ApiExpo, Mr. Cad reports that the interest in renting exhibition spaces has been so high that the Slovenian Organising Committee had to add more space for the stands (more than 70 exhibitors on more than 3,000 m<sup>2</sup>). Following a brief discussion on the registration fee for the ApiExpo, the Executive Council agree that the ApiExpo be separated from the congress as per the following guidelines: for all participants who want to visit only the exhibition, the entrance fee be set at Euro 50 with further price reduction if the number of visitors exceeds 10 (5%), 30 (10%) or 50 (15%), such price reductions applying only for multiple tickets bought together.

For this edition, assistants speaking three/four languages each will help visitors to go through the ApiExpo. Upon request from Ms. Malci regarding the contests, the Apimondia Secretary-General will provide the Slovenian Organising Committee with some guidelines on judging procedures and will investigate on finding suitable people available to be contests' judges. The members of the Apimondia Executive Council agree to appoint judges for the following categories:

New products from the hive: Laila Schou, Denmark  
Slides, photographs: John Donoghue, Ireland  
Books (general): Van Laere, Belgium  
Philatelic collections: Verner Schou, Denmark  
Apicultural journals: Rolf Theuerkauf, Denmark  
Beekeeping websites: Flemming Vejsnæs, Denmark  
Exhibition stands: Adriaan DuToit, South Africa

Furthermore, Mr. Raffaele Cirone, President of the Italian Beekeepers' Federation, and Mr. Eddy Lear, member of the South African Federation of Bee-Farmers' Associations, will be contacted in order to provide some more names and guidelines for contest judging.

As for the registration, the Slovenian Organising Committee points out that few participants took advantage of the reduced early bird registration fees and that claims were voiced about the registration fees which were considered too high. However, the promotion of the congress on the web (15,514 visitors from 82 countries) has been particularly intensive.

The use of the Intranet system for the submission of abstracts was satisfactory, although there were some technical adjustments to be made. Out of a total 493 abstracts submitted, 428 were accepted, of which 221 for oral presentation and 207 for poster presentation. In this context, the most outstanding abstracts and posters will be presented by the authors themselves.

Following a discussion on extending the deadline for the submission of papers, the Executive Council agree to postpone the deadline for submitting full papers to 31 May 2003.

Besides the official congress languages (English, French, German and Spanish), the Executive Council and the Local Organising Committee members discuss on the possibility to include Russian as well, taking into consideration that a Russian firm has already contacted FIITEA Foundation for giving assistance in this matter. For those participants whose languages are not included in the official congress languages, Mr. Poklukar suggests to organise some 'special days' as the 'Hungarian day', 'Italian day' and the 'Russian day'. Moreover, to the participants in these national day sessions will be given the possibility to visit the ApiExpo at a reduced price of Euro 100 for the presentation in original language and the exhibition of posters and bee products or of Euro 50 for visiting only the ApiExpo

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.
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 are available on request.
5. Report on the closure of accounts of the 37th Apimondia Congress - Mr. DuToit reports that the original documentation was inadvertently mislaid and that he would have it ready for the meeting between Mr. Jørgensen, Mr. Jannoni and the auditor scheduled in Rome on Saturday 7 June 2003.
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 Celle, Germany, in 2004 on residues in honey and in Costa Rica in 2004, with courses on apitherapy
7. Renewal of Apimondia Statutes – It is agreed that the latest version of the draft proposal be circulated to the members of the Executive Council for their last inputs and then distributed to the member associations upon sending out in June the letter for convening the General Assembly.
8. Renewal of Apimondia management positions - For the management positions to be renewed at the congress in Ljubljana, namely that of president, one elected member, and those of the Standing Commissions of Apitherapy, Biology, Pathology and Rural Development, all members have confirmed their availability to be reappointed 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.
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 the handing over procedures between the old and the new accountant had been taking more time than expected. For this reason the 2002 accounts for both the Federation and the limited company were in the process of being finalised. In this context, it is then agreed to arrange the full presentation of the accounts and their review in connection with the visit in June of the President to also meet with the new auditor and then have this documentation certified and distributed at the end of the month.
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 assistance and information to the members.
11. Follow-up on registration of Apimondia as an international NGO – The Secretary-General reports on having contacted a consultant to work out the requirements for the accreditation of the federation with international organisations. Later in the year it will be possible to have a more comprehensive picture of the action to be taken.
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.

### 13. Any other business:

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

b) follow-up on protocol on the organisation and bid procedures of future congresses – The new proposal for statutes incorporate also bylaws addressing the bidding procedures for future congress 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 which will 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 in public relations activities.

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 Slovenia 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 at Apimondia 2003 will decide the final place where the Congress will be held in 2007.

\* Apiacta – It is agreed that given that printing and mailing the magazine is costly an electronic version should be posted on Internet with access regulated by subscription. The paper version of the magazine would still be available as a complement of the electronic version and for those readers who do not have access to Internet. A proposal is made for an English editor to be appointed by the Executive Council to take charge of delivering a high quality product.

Having covered all the agenda, the President calls the meeting to a close. The members of the Executive Council will meet again on Sunday 24 August at 10am and on Friday 29 August at 7am at the Hotel Slon Best Western in Ljubljana.

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