



Apimondia

International Federation of Beekeepers' Associations

Minutes of the Apimondia Executive Council meeting

Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre - Melbourne, Australia

Sunday 9th September 2007, 15:00 hrs

Present to the meeting:

Mr. Asger Søgård Jørgensen, President
Mr. Lucas Daniel Martínez, Vice-President
Mr. Riccardo Jannoni-Sebastianini, Secretary-General
Dr. Theodore Cherbuliez, President of Standing Commission
Prof. Karl Crailsheim, President of Standing Commission
Dr. Nicola Bradbear, President of Standing Commission
Mr. Dihn Quyet Tam, President of Standing Commission
Dr. Wolfgang Ritter, President of Standing Commission
Dr. Marinus Jan Sommeijer, President of Standing Commission
Mr. Gilles Ratia, President of Standing Commission

Invited:

Mr. Philip McCabe, Honorary Member
Dr. Wyatt Mangum, Apiacta Editor
Prof. Roch Domerego, Vice-President of Standing Commission
Mr. Henri Clément, 41st Apimondia Congress Organising Committee
Mr. Stephane Liberi, 41st Apimondia Congress Organising Committee
Ms. Jacqueline Rocheblave, 41st Apimondia Congress Organising Committee
Ms. Renée Garaud, 41st Apimondia Congress Organising Committee
Ms. Martine Laurent, 41st Apimondia Congress Organising Committee

Agenda of the meeting

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Reports of the President, Vice-President and Secretary-General
3. Reports of the Presidents of the Standing Commissions
4. Presentation and review of the draft budget for the next biennium. Review of the financial situation relating to the settlement of membership fees
5. Apimondia workplan for the 2008-2009 biennium
6. Review of the amendments to the Statutes and other issues to be discussed and approved at the General Assembly
7. Discussion on any outstanding issues pertaining to the 40th Apimondia Congress
8. Renewal of the management positions
9. Endorsement of the proposals of new Honorary Members of Apimondia

10. Admission of new members
11. Endorsement of the exclusion of non-paid-up members
12. Calendar of future international congresses and symposia
13. Follow-up on the organisation of the Apimondia events scheduled in 2008
14. Follow-up on arrangements for the 41st Apimondia Congress
15. Follow-up on the bid submissions for the 42nd Apimondia Congress
16. Report on the activities of FIITEA
17. Any other business

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

- Adoption of the agenda (point 1)

The agenda is 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.

- Follow-up on arrangements for the 41st Apimondia Congress (point 14)

Mr. Ratia takes the floor and illustrates the main issues pertaining to the progress of the congress organisation, in particular the arrangements with the Congress Centre in Montpellier, mentioning that extra open space is available for stands just outside the venue, the up-dated financial situation on the sponsorship of the event and the provisional budget. The information material of the Congress is distributed to the participants of the meeting. Mr. Ratia also mentions that it is envisaged to edit a book on the beekeeping industry in English, French and Spanish to be given to the participants of the Congress, that a press officer has been appointed for such event and that the press will benefit from a discounted registration fee. It is decided to have a meeting between the Apimondia Executive Council and the French Organising Committee in Montpellier on 19-20 January 2008 in order to define any other details concerning the organisation of the event.

- Reports of the President, Vice-President and Secretary-General (point 2)

The President, the Vice-President and the Secretary-General briefly illustrate the institutional activities carried out over the last 4 months, mentioning the contacts kept with the Australian Organising Committee for the last arrangements of the 40th Apimondia Congress, the travels made to visit the Apimondia Member Associations in Ukraine and Moldova, the inspection visits carried out in the countries of the Associations bidding for the organisation of the 42nd Apimondia Congress, to which also Mr. McCabe took part.

- Reports of the Presidents of the Standing Commissions (point 3)

The Presidents of the Standing Commissions deliver in turn their own reports, illustrating the activities carried out in the specific field of each Commission and for the organisation of their respective sessions and workshops within the framework of the 40th Apimondia Congress. The Apiacta Editor reports on the improvement of the quality of the papers and the fact that they are now posted regularly on the Apimondia website.

- Presentation and review of the draft budget for the next biennium. Review of the financial situation relating to the settlement of membership fees (point 4)

The Secretary-General presents the draft budget for the 2008-2009 biennium, which is approved by the other members of the Executive Council. It is agreed that the Apimondia Members in arrears that wish to vote in the General Assembly will be able to clear their situation by 12:00 hrs of 10th September 2007. The Secretary-General briefly illustrates the financial situation of the Federation and it is agreed that, once the financial report of the 40th Apimondia Congress is cleared, the Secretary-General will analyse the feasibility to reimburse the expenses incurred by the members of the Executive Council for attending the congress.

- Apimondia workplan for the 2008-2009 biennium (point 5)

The Secretary-General illustrates the workplan for the 2008-2009 biennium to be presented at the General Assembly.

- Discussion on any outstanding issues pertaining to the 40th Apimondia Congress (point 7)

The Presidents of the Standing Commissions discuss about the arrangements to ensure the presence of the authors at each Plenary Session.

- Review of the amendments to the Statutes and other issues to be discussed and approved at the General Assembly (point 6)

The only amendment to the Apimondia Statutes to be submitted to the General Assembly refers to the change of the denomination of the Standing Commission on “Beekeeping Technology and Equipment” into “Beekeeping Technology and Quality” (Art. 20).

- Admission of new members (point 10)

The Secretary-General presents the list of the Associations, Institutions and Individuals that have applied for membership in the past biennium, respectively as Full Members: Asociación Argentina de Apiterapia (Argentina), Armenian National Federation of Beekeepers (Armenia), Natsionalna Branshova Organizatsia - Bulgarski Pchelarski Sayuz (Bulgaria), Syndicat National d’Apiculture (France), Berekum Progressive Beekeepers’ Association (Ghana), Asociatia Nationala a Apicultorilor din Republica Moldova (Moldova), Nederlandse Bijenhoudersvereniging (Netherlands), National Beekeepers’ Association of New Zealand (New Zealand), Harvest Services (Uganda), Bratstvo Bdjoljariv Ukraine (Ukraine); Associate Members: International Honey Exporters’ Association (Australia) and Medyana Rosa (Ukraine) and Individual Members: Mr. I. Dzhnashiyeva (Georgia), Dr. B. Soekartiko (Indonesia), Mr. S. Saleh Nezhad (Iran), Ms. C.P. Argenziano (Italy), Mr. J. Hak (Netherlands), Mr. A.O. Vincent and Mr. O.F. Vincent (Nigeria), Ms. T. Vasylykivska and Mr. Y. Riphayak (Ukraine). These applications will be presented to the General Assembly for the official endorsement.

- Endorsement of the exclusion of non-paid-up members (point 11)

The Secretary-General then mentions the Member Associations which, having accrued four years of unpaid membership, are in the process of being excluded from the Federation: Rural Development Centre (Cameroon), Association of Apiculture Development (Congo DR), Centro de Investigaciones Apícolas Tropicales (Costa Rica), Honey Production and Marketing Board (Israel), Agricultural Producers’ Association (Nigeria), Federação Nacional dos Apicultores de Portugal (Portugal), Goldmart (Ghana), Instituto Venezolano de Investigaciones Apícolas (Venezuela).

- Calendar of future international congresses and symposia (point 12)

The members of the Executive Council report on the international symposia and meetings that would be organised under the aegis of or in collaboration with Apimondia in the coming biennium: “Conference on the Conservation of the Genetic Resources of Bees - SICAMM” (Moscow, Russia - May 2008), “2nd Apimedica Forum” and “1st Apiquality Symposium on Quality of Bee Products” (Rome, Italy - June 2008), “OIE Symposium” (Germany - September 2008), “GMP/GBP Quality Control” (Romania - September 2008), “2nd International Symposium on Queen Bee Breeding and Instrumental Insemination” (Nuevo Vallarta, Mexico - October 2008), “5th Caribbean Beekeeping Congress” (Guyana - November 2008). Contacts have been made to participate in the organisation of the “9th Latin-American and Iberian Apicultural Congress” (Concepción, Chile - July 2008) and the “9th Asian Apicultural Association Conference” (Hang Zhou, China - November 2008).

- Follow-up on the organisation of the Apimondia events scheduled in 2008 (point 13)

It is agreed to hold, during the Congress, a restricted meeting on the organisation of the Apimedica - Apiquality Forum 2008 to define in detail the programme, composition of the Organising Committee and other pertinent issues.

- Follow-up on the bid submissions for the 42nd Apimondia Congress (point 15)

As for the 42nd Apimondia Congress, the individual Letters of Agreement have been finalised and are ready to be signed by each bidding Member Association before the first bid presentation, due to take place during the first session of the General Assembly. The three inspection visits ascertained that all bids meet the standards set for an Apimondia Congress.

- Renewal of the management positions (point 8)

The Secretary-General reads the list of the positions expiring at the present Congress. For the position of President, Mr. A.S. Jørgensen (Denmark) has informed that he is willing to continue his mandate for the next 4 years. As for the positions of Presidents of the Standing Commissions due to expire, all incumbent Presidents (Dr. T. Cherbuliez for Apitherapy, Prof. K. Crailsheim for Bee Biology, Dr. W. Ritter for Bee Health and Mr. G. Ratia for Beekeeping Technology and Equipment) have confirmed their respective availability for re-appointment.

- Endorsement of the proposals of new Honorary Members of Apimondia (point 9)

The Executive Council endorses the proposal to nominate Mr. Stephen Fewster (Australia) Honorary Member of Apimondia on account of his appointment as President of the 40th Apimondia Congress.

- Report on the activity of FIITEA (point 16)

On account of the fact that neither Mr. C. Constantinescu nor Ms. M. Giogia, respectively Director and Chief Accountant of FIITEA, were able to take part in the meeting, it is agreed that the President and Secretary-General of Apimondia meet the FIITEA representatives in Bucharest in November 2007 in order to discuss the issues pertaining to the activities of FIITEA.

- Any other business (point 17)

The Secretary-General reports on the proposal submitted by the Asociación Argentina de Apiterapia to be the Apimondia official reference organisation in Latin America in the field of apitherapy. It is agreed that the President of the Standing Commission on Apitherapy will follow up on this issue.

The Executive Council deliberates on convening the next Executive Council meeting in Rome, Italy, on 7th-8th June 2008.

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

Rome, November 2007