



**First Meeting - Monday 25 August 2003, 18.00 hrs
Cankarjev Dom Congress Centre - Ljubljana, Slovenia**

Agenda of the meeting

1. Adoption of the agenda
1. Adoption of the minutes and report on the resolutions of the General Assembly held in Durban, South Africa, on the occasion of the 37th International Apicultural Congress in 2001
2. Report of the Executive Council for the period 2001-2003
3. Report on the accounts and approval of the financial report for 2001 and 2002
4. Approval of the budget for the period 2004-2005
5. Apimondia working plan for the period 2004-2005
6. Appointment of the new auditing company
7. Plan of the symposia and other international meetings for the period 2004-2005
8. Admission of new members
9. Proposal for the loss of membership for non-paying associations
10. Discussion and voting of the proposed amendments of the Apimondia Statutes
11. Election of two members of the Executive Council:
President (incumbent: Mr. A.S. Jørgensen, Denmark)
Elected member (incumbent: Dr. A. DuToit, South Africa)*
12. Election of four Presidents of the Standing Commissions:
Apitherapy (incumbent: Dr. T. Cherbuliez, United States)
Bee Biology (incumbent: Prof. Dr. O. Van Laere, Belgium)
Bee Pathology (incumbent: Dr. W. Ritter, Germany)
Beekeeping Technology and Equipment (incumbent: Mr. G. Ratia, France)
13. Presentation of congress bids for the 40th edition of the Apimondia International Apicultural Congress in 2007
14. Any other business

* appointment of the Elected Member is subject to the outcome of the approval of the new Statutes

The appointed delegates and deputies of the following Apimondia Member Associations were present: Shoqata e Bletarëve Të Shqipërisë (Albania), Sociedad Argentina de Apicultores, Federación Argentina de Cooperativas Apícolas (Argentina), Australian Honey Bee Industry Council (Australia), Österreichischer Imkerbund (Austria), Fédération des Apiculteurs Belges, Koninklijke Vlaamse Imkersbond (Belgium), Confederação Brasileira de Apicultura (Brazil), Federación Red Nacional Apícola (Chile), Centro de Investigaciones Apícolas Tropicales (Costa Rica), Hrvatski Pcelarski Savez (Croatia), Cesky Svaz Včelaru (Czechia), Dänmarks Biavlerförening (Denmark), Suomen Mehiläishoitajain Liitto (Finland), Union Nationale de l'Apiculture Française, Association Européenne d'Apitherapie (France), Deutscher Imkerbund (Germany), Federation of Irish Beekeepers' Associations (Ireland), Federazione Apicoltori Italiani (Italy), Lietuvos Bitininku Sajunga (Lithuania), Fédération des Unions d'Apiculteurs du Grand Duché de Luxembourg (Luxemburg), Unión Nacional de Apicultores (Mexico), Stichting Bedrijfsraad voor de

Bijenhoudery in Nederland (Netherlands), Norges Birøkterlag (Norway), Polski Związek Pszczelarski (Poland), Asociația Crescătorilor de Albine din România (Romania), Rossijski Nacionalna Soyuz Pcelovodov (Russia), Savez Pcelarskih Organizacija Srbije (Serbia and Montenegro), Slovensky Zväz Včelárov (Slovakia), Cebelarska Zveza Slovenije (Slovenia), South African Federation of Bee-Farmers' Associations (South Africa), Sveriges Biodlares Riksförbund (Sweden), Fédération des Sociétés Suisses d'Apiculture (Switzerland), Council of National Beekeeping Associations in the U.K. (United Kingdom), American Apitherapy Society (United States), Hoi Nuoi Ong Viet Nam (Vietnam).

The Secretary-General checked the credentials and ascertained the presence of 36 representatives out of 51 Member Associations (33 associations with right to vote) for a total of 61 votes out of 99. The constitution of the Assembly being considered valid, the President of Apimondia undertook the presidency of the Assembly and the Secretary-General acted as secretary of the meeting, which was therefore declared officially open. The President and the Dean of the Honorary Members took the floor to commemorate the passing away of Mr. Cecil Tonsley, former Vice-President of the Federation.

1. The agenda was approved unanimously.

2. The report of the Apimondia General Assembly sessions held in Durban, South Africa, on 29th October and 1st November 2001 was cleared.

3. The President, Vice-President and Secretary-General gave an account of the activities carried out over the period 2001-2003 which had also been reported in the previous minutes of the meetings and report of the Executive Council. During the said period three meetings of the Executive Council and of the IITEA Managing Committee have been held (1 in Rome, and 2 in Ljubljana). The President reported on the constitution of the FIITEA Foundation in Bucharest and the solution of the ownership controversy of the premises in Bucharest as well as the activities carried out at the Documentation Centre in Dol (Czechia) stressing on the fact that the future of the Federation seems to be positive. Finally the members were informed about the informal meeting of the Executive Council, due to take place in Rome in November 2003, in which the future activities and resources of Apimondia will be discussed in depth. The report was approved by the Assembly.

4. The Secretary-General illustrated the accounts and financial report of Apimondia for the period 2001-2002 and gave a brief explanation of the main issues contained in it, outlining the fact that it was presented according to the standards adopted at EU level. The accounts and financial report, audited by an external company, were approved by the Assembly.

5. The Secretary-General presented the proposed budgets for the biennium 2004-2005, pointing out the difference in the figures between the years in which the International Congress is held and the ones in between as well as the costs referred to the Executive Council meetings and the staff. It was outlined that the low running costs of the Federation derive from the fact that the Apimondia headquarters are hosted by the Italian Agricultural Confederation and that the situation might change in future. Finally the Secretary-General reported on the Apimondia Ltd., for which it was agreed to have the relevant accounts distributed to members. The General Assembly reviewed and approved both budgets.

6. The President and Secretary-General illustrated the working plan for the next two years which focuses primarily on the organisation of the 39th Apimondia Congress, other international symposia and meetings organised in close collaboration with the Standing Commissions, a closer contact of Apimondia with its member associations and an increased exposure and recognition at international level.

7. The Secretary-General reported on "Studio Associato Seneca-Caneba-Caputo", the chartered auditing company that had been chosen for the auditing of both the Apimondia Federation and Apimondia Ltd. accounts, stressing on the fact that in such a way there is a better evaluation and cross-checking of both entities. The Assembly approved the above-mentioned company as external auditor of the Apimondia Federation and Apimondia Ltd.. Finally the President informed the members that, according to the Italian law, a legal representative in Italy of the Federation - who must have Italian citizenship or be resident in Italy - must be appointed and, to this end, proposed the Secretary-General for such position. The Assembly approved.

8. The Executive Council reported on the international symposia organised under the aegis of Apimondia that will take place in the coming biennium: "2nd International Apitherapy Course" (La Habana, Cuba - October 2003), "Conference on Tropical Beekeeping Research and Development for Pollination and Conservation" (San José, Costa Rica - February 2004), "2nd Symposium on Prevention of Residues in Honey" (Celle, Germany - April 2004), "Symposium on Beekeeping Co-operatives" (Mendoza, Argentina - September 2004).

9. The Secretary-General reported on the increased number of associations that constitute nowadays Apimondia and mentioned the new Associations that became members of Apimondia in the last biennium: Federacion Argentina de Cooperativas Apicola (Argentina), Rural Development Centre (Cameroon), Federacion Red Nacional Apicola (Chile), Centro de Investigaciones Apicolas Tropicales (Costa Rica), Association Europeenne d'Apitherapie (France), Greek Beekeepers' Association (Greece), Union Nacional de Apicultores (Mexico), Savez Pcelarskih Organizacija Srbije (Serbia and Montenegro), Bureau d'Appui aux Initiatives Rurales (Rwanda), Uganda National Apiculture Development Organisation (Uganda), Ukrainian National Beekeepers' Union (Ukraine), American Apitherapy Society (United States), Sociedad Apicola Uruguayaya (Uruguay). Furthermore, other associations from Israel, Bulgaria, Russia, Peru and Portugal submitted applications for admission or re-instatement as full members of Apimondia.

Furthermore, other applications had been filed by the Japanese Apitherapy Association, Honeycomb Production Research and Technical Development Centre from Nigeria, Asalinn from Uzbekistan, General Association of Bielorussian Community of Disabled Persons from Bielorussia, by Groupe d'Etudes-conseille en Entreprenariat et Développement from Central African Republic, by the beekeeping Department of the Seat of Wisdom Seminary from Nigeria, by the Association pour la Rénovation et le Développement from Senegal and by SAMPAC from the USA, all as associate members and by Mr. M. Civan from Turkey, Mr. N. Ulianich from Ukraine and Mr. K. Hanns from Uganda as individual members.

10. The Secretary-General reported that for the present biennium, only the "Cooperative des Apiculteurs du Bas-Zaire", Member Association of the Democratic Republic of Congo, did not regulate its membership fees for four years, therefore the General Secretariat will request the aforesaid association to pay the accrued debt within 6 months in order to clear its administrative and financial situation otherwise their membership will be terminated.

11. In compliance with the provisions of the Federation's Statutes, the proposed amendments to the Statutes were circulated to the Member Associations two months prior to the congress to enable them to evaluate the provisions contained therein and give their comments and inputs.

The President took the floor to illustrate the main changes that were proposed, namely the elimination of the position of Elected Members from the Executive Council, who would

however be appointed with specific duties (contacts with Apislavia, supervisor of the Apiacta magazine, etc.), The tiers for full membership as well as the number of votes assigned to each member association have been increased to nine different categories to reflect more accurately the level of local representativeness. The proposal also included the introduction of the Bylaws to enable more operational flexibility. The Bylaws include the amount of the membership fees, the guidelines for submitting bids for the organisation of the Apimondia congresses and enable the Executive Council to make amendments to the main text on functional issues with a less formal procedure that will require the subsequent endorsement by the General Assembly. The discussion led to the proposal to add the "humanitarian aspects" in the objectives of the Federation (Art. 3), which was unanimously agreed. The voting that followed resulted in the approval of the Statutes with 55 votes in favour, 6 votes against and 1 void vote. The Bylaws were subsequently approved by acclamation.

12. The renewal of the Federation's management positions led to the following results:

Mr. A.S. Jørgensen (Denmark) was re-appointed President by acclamation. As a result of the statutes changes just adopted, which foresee no Elected Members in the Executive Council, the voting for such position did not take place.

13. The chairmanships of the Apimondia Standing Commissions due to expire were assigned as follows:

Dr. T. Cherbuliez (United States) for Apitherapy was re-appointed by acclamation;
Prof. R. Crewe (South Africa) for Bee Biology was appointed by acclamation;
Dr. W. Ritter (Germany) for Bee Pathology was re-appointed by acclamation;
Mr. G. Ratia (France) for Beekeeping Technology and Equipment was re-appointed by acclamation.

The Executive Council took the opportunity to thank Prof. Van Laere, Mr. Peroutka and Dr. duToit for their contribution towards Apimondia and wished to keep close contacts with them for the future activities of Apimondia.

Following these elections, the Apimondia Executive Council composition for the next biennium is as follows:

President A.S. Jørgensen (Denmark)
Vice-President E. Schieferstein (Germany)
Secretary-General R. Jannoni-Sebastianini (Italy)

Presidents of Standing Commissions
Apitherapy T. Cherbuliez (USA)
Bee Biology R. Crewe (South Africa)
Beekeeping Economy Q.T. Dihn (Vietnam)
Bee Flora and Pollination M. Sommeijer (Netherlands)
Beekeeping for Rural Development N. Bradbear (United Kingdom)
Bee Pathology W. Ritter (Germany)
Beekeeping Equipment and Technology G. Ratia (France)

14. Upon the invitation by the President, the representatives of the Australian Honey Bee Industry Council (Australia) and the Sociedad Argentina de Apicultores (Argentina) presented their bid for hosting the 40th Apimondia International Apicultural Congress, respectively in Melbourne and Buenos Aires.

15. The President reported on the proposal submitted by the Slovenian Beekeepers' Association to declare the "International Beekeeping Day", which will be reviewed and discussed by the Executive Council in its future meeting.

Having cleared all the issues of the meeting, the President declared the General Assembly closed at 21:20.

**Second Meeting - Thursday, 28th August 2003, 16:00 hrs
Cankarjev Dom Congress Centre - Ljubljana, Slovenia**

1. Report on the first meeting of the General Assembly
2. Report on the resolutions of the 38th International Apicultural Congress
3. Nomination of the new Honorary Members of Apimondia
4. Appointment of the venue for the 40th Apimondia International Apicultural Congress in 2007
5. Contest results
6. Addresses of the Delegates of the Member Associations attending the Congress
7. Address by the President of the 38th International Apicultural Congress
8. Formal closing of the 38th International Apicultural Congress

The congress speaker opened the plenary session and gave the floor to the Secretary-General to address point 1 of the agenda.

1. The Secretary-General reported on the first meeting of the General Assembly.
2. The President read the overview of the working sessions of the 38th Apimondia Congress which had been prepared in collaboration with the Presidents of the various Standing Commissions.
3. The President presented the list of the Honorary Members proposed for nomination:

Mr. L. Peterle (Slovenia)
Mr. F. Sivic (Slovenia)
Dr. M. Peroutka (Czechia)
Prof. J. Woyke (Poland)

The delegates of the Member Associations unanimously endorsed the nominations.

4. The venue of the 40th Apimondia Congress was assigned by secret ballot to the Australian Member Association by 29 votes against 19.
5. The ceremony for the distribution of the awards and prizes was introduced and the winners were invited on the stage to receive the relevant acknowledgements from the jury panel and the audience.
6. The delegates of the various member associations were invited to take the floor in turn to address short speeches to the audience and deliver presents to the authorities on the podium.
7. The President of Apimondia took the floor to deliver the congress closing speech and thank the local Organising Committee, the volunteers and all those that had helped in the organisation and positive outcome of the congress.
8. Mr. Peterle, President of the 38th Apimondia Congress, was then invited to hand over the Apimondia flag to Mr. McCabe in representation of the Irish Congress Organising Committee to symbolically mark the continuity of the Apimondia International Congress from one country to another.

With the transfer of the Apimondia flag, the 38th Apimondia Congress was declared officially closed.

Rome, 10th November 2003

Asger Søgård Jørgensen - Apimondia President

Riccardo Jannoni-Sebastianini - Apimondia Secretary-General