



Apimondia

International Federation of Beekeepers' Associations

Minutes of the General Assembly of Apimondia, Melbourne 2007

**First Meeting - Monday 10th September 2007, 15:00 hrs
Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre - Melbourne, Australia**

Agenda of the meeting

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Adoption of the minutes and report on the resolutions and overview of the General Assembly held in Dublin, Ireland on the occasion of the 39th International Apicultural Congress in 2005
3. Report of the Executive Council for the period 2005-2007. Report on the accounts and approval of the financial report for 2005 and 2006
4. Approval of the budget for the period 2008-2009
5. Apimondia working plan for the period 2008-2009
6. Plan of the symposia and other international meetings for the period 2008-2009
7. Admission of new members
8. Proposal for the loss of membership for non-paying associations
9. Discussion and voting of the proposed amendments of the Apimondia Statutes
10. Election of one member of the Management Board:
President (incumbent: Mr. A.S. Jørgensen, Denmark)
11. Election of four Presidents of the Standing Commissions:
Apitherapy (incumbent: Dr. T. Cherbuliez, USA)
Bee Biology (incumbent: Prof. K. Crailsheim, Austria)
Bee Health (incumbent: Dr. W. Ritter, Germany)
Beekeeping Technology and Equipment (incumbent: Mr. G. Ratia, France)
12. Presentation of congress bids for the 42nd edition of the Apimondia International Apicultural Congress in 2011
13. Any other business

The appointed delegates and deputies of the following Apimondia members are present: Shoqata e Bletarëve Të Shqipërisë (Albania), Sociedad Argentina de Apicultores (Argentina), Australian Honey Bee Industry Council (Australia), Österreichischer Imkerbund (Austria), European Apitherapy Association, Koninklijke Vlaamse Imkersbond (Belgium), Confederação Brasileira de Apicultura (Brazil), Canadian Honey Council (Canada), Federación Gremial Red Nacional Apícola (Chile), Apicultural Science Association of China (China), Hrvatski Pcelarski Savez (Croatia), Cesky Svaz Včelaru (Czechia), Dänmarks Biavlerförening (Denmark), Suomen Mehiläishoitajain Liitto (Finland), Union Nationale de l'Apiculture Française (France), Deutscher Imkerbund (Germany), Epistimoniko

Kentro Melissotherapeias (Greece), Országos Magyar Méhészeti Egyesület (Hungary), PT Madu Pramuka (Indonesia), Federation of Irish Beekeepers' Associations (Ireland), Federazione Apicoltori Italiani (Italy), Japan Beekeeping Association (Japan), Fédération des Unions d'Apiculteurs du Grand Duché de Luxembourg (Luxemburg), Organización Nacional de Apicultores (Mexico), Stichting Bedrijfsraad voor de Bijenhouderij in Nederland (Netherlands), Norges Birøkerlag (Norway), Savez Pcelarskih Organizacija Srbije (Serbia), Slovensky Zvaz Vcelarov (Slovakia), Cebelarska Zveza Slovenije (Slovenia), South African Bee Industry Organisation (South Africa), Sveriges Biodlares Riksförbund (Sweden), Fédération des Sociétés Suisses d'Apiculture (Switzerland), Spilka Pasichnekiv Ukraine (Ukraine), Council of National Beekeeping Associations in the UK (United Kingdom), American Apitherapy Society (United States), Sociedad Apícola Uruguay (Uruguay), Hoi Nuo Ong Viet Nam (Vietnam).

The Secretary-General checks the credentials and ascertains the presence of 37 representatives out of 64 Member Associations (37 Associations with right to vote) for a total of 99 votes out of 160. The constitution of the Assembly being considered valid, the President of Apimondia undertakes the presidency of the Assembly which is therefore declared officially open, while the Secretary-General acts as secretary of the meeting and Mr. McCabe as moderator.

- Adoption of the agenda (point 1)

The agenda of the meeting is approved unanimously, with slight changes of the order as reflected hereinafter.

- Adoption of the minutes and report on the resolutions and overview of the General Assembly held in Dublin, Ireland on the occasion of the 39th International Apicultural Congress in 2005 (point 2)

The report of the Apimondia General Assembly sessions held in Dublin, Ireland, on 22nd and 25th August 2005 as well as the overview of the working plan for the period August 2005 - August 2007 are cleared.

- Admission of new members (point 7)

In order to give the possibility to vote to the associations and institutions that applied for full and associate membership to Apimondia and are present in the meeting, the Secretary-General mentions the Associations that have applied in the last biennium 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), National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand (New Zealand), Harvest Services (Uganda), Bratstvo Bdjoljariv Ukraine (Ukraine), while the Dutch member Stichting Bedrijfsraad voor de Bijenhouderij in Nederland as from 2008 will merge together with other Dutch beekeeping associations into the new association Nederlandse Bijenhoudersvereniging. He also mentions that the International Honey Exporters' Association (Australia) and Medyana Rosa (Ukraine) filed the application as Associate Members.

Finally, the Secretary-General mentions that Mr. I. Dzhanashiya (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. Vasykivska and Mr. Y. Riphayak (Ukraine) have enrolled as Individual Members.

The Assembly unanimously endorses the above-mentioned Associations, Institutions and individuals as members of Apimondia.

- Report of the Executive Council for the period 2005-2007. Report on the accounts and approval of the financial report for 2005 and 2006 (point 3)

The President and Secretary-General give an account of the activities carried out over the period 2005-2007 which have also been reported in the previous minutes of the meetings of the Executive Council. During said period three meetings of the Executive Council and of the FIITEA Managing Committee have been held (1 in Bucharest, 1 in Rome and 1 in Melbourne) as well as 2 internal workshops held in Bucharest (May 2006) and Rome (May 2007), which focussed respectively on the organisation, format and bid procedures of future congresses and on the assessment of benefits for the members. Inspection visits were carried out in the three venues which submitted the bids to host the 2011 Apimondia Congress. Numerous meetings and events, as reflected in the Executive Council members' reports, were attended by Executive Council members in order to promote the initiatives of the Federation. The Executive Council worked with the Australian Organising Committee to plan and implement the 40th Apimondia Congress and the same applies for the ongoing planning of the 41st edition. The Standing Commissions organised, together with some Member Associations, various international symposia under the aegis of Apimondia: "Queen Bee Breeding and Selection Symposium" (Sofia, Bulgaria - September 2006), "Apimedica Forum" (Athens, Greece - October 2006). Furthermore, the Executive Council members and other external collaborators are at present involved in the study of the extraordinary losses of bee colonies phenomenon, the establishment of the "ApiTrade Africa" network, the "Trees for Bees" programme, the upgrading of the Apimondia Museum in Eeklo, Belgium. As for the "Apiacta" magazine, after achieving regularity in the release of the quarterly issues, measures are being taken to enhance the evaluation system of the papers submitted and the communication between the Presidents of the Standing Commissions and the Editor of the magazine.

The Secretary-General illustrates the accounts and financial report of Apimondia for the period 2005-2006, pointing out the streamlining of the bank accounts and operations and the stability of the general operating expenses. The accounts and financial report, certified by the appointed external auditor, are unanimously approved by the Assembly.

In this respect, the Secretary-General mentions that, according to the Statutes, the appointment of the external auditor is due to expire at the end of the year and asks the General Assembly whether they intend to renew the appointment to Studio Associato Seneca-Caneba-Caputo for the period 2008-2011. The delegates of the General Assembly unanimously approve said re-appointment.

- Approval of the budget for the period 2008-2009 (point 4)

The Secretary-General presents the proposed budgets for the biennium 2008-2009, based on a conservative forecast of the activities to be undertaken. The General Assembly reviews and approves unanimously both budgets.

- Apimondia working plan for the period 2008-2009 (point 5)

The President and Secretary-General illustrate the working plan for the next two years which focuses on the organisation of the 41st Apimondia Congress (Montpellier, France - September 2009) and other international meetings, as well as the involvement in the Codex Alimentarius for establishing bee

product protocols and the identification of a corporate PCO for the organisation of the Federation's international congresses and symposia.

- Plan of the symposia and other international meetings for the period 2008-2009 (point 6)

The international symposia and meetings foreseen to be organised under the aegis of Apimondia in the coming biennium are: "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).

- Proposal for the loss of membership for non-paying associations (point 8)

The Secretary-General mentions that the following member Associations and Institutions did not settle their membership fees for four years in a row and, according to the Statutes, are bound to be excluded from the Federation's membership: 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).

The General Assembly unanimously approves to terminate the membership to Apimondia of the aforementioned entities.

- Discussion and voting of the proposed amendments of the Apimondia Statutes (point 9)

In compliance with the provisions of the Federation's Statutes, the proposed amendment to the Statutes was circulated to the Member Associations two months prior to the Congress in order to enable them to evaluate the provisions contained therein and give their comments and inputs. The President illustrates the proposed change to the Apimondia Statutes, namely the amendment of Art. 20 of the Statutes to rename the former Standing Commission on Beekeeping Technology and Equipment into "Standing Commission on Beekeeping Technology and Quality". The amendment to the Statutes is unanimously approved.

- Election of one member of the Management Board (point 10):
President (incumbent: Mr. A.S. Jørgensen, Denmark)

The renewal of the Federation's management positions leads to the following result:

- Mr. Asger Søgaard Jørgensen (Denmark) is re-appointed President by acclamation.

- Election of four Presidents of the Standing Commissions (point 11):
Apitherapy (incumbent: Dr. T. Cherbuliez, USA)
Bee Biology (incumbent: Prof. K. Crailsheim, Austria)

Bee Health (incumbent: Dr. W. Ritter, Germany)
Beekeeping Technology and Equipment (incumbent: Mr. G. Ratia, France)

The positions of the Presidents of the Apimondia Standing Commissions due to expire are assigned as follows:

- Dr. Theodore Cherbuliez (USA) for Apitherapy is re-appointed by acclamation;
- Prof. Karl Crailsheim (Austria) for Bee Biology is re-appointed by acclamation;
- Dr. Wolfgang Ritter (Germany) for Bee Health is re-appointed by acclamation;
- Mr. Gilles Ratia (France) for Beekeeping Technology and Quality is re-appointed by acclamation.

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

Management Board:

- President: Mr. Asger Søgaard Jørgensen (Denmark)
- Vice-President: Mr. Lucas Daniel Martínez (Argentina)
- Secretary-General: Mr. Riccardo Jannoni-Sebastianini (Italy)

Presidents of Standing Commissions:

- Apitherapy: Dr. Theodore Cherbuliez (USA)
- Bee Biology: Prof. Karl Crailsheim (Austria)
- Beekeeping for Rural Development: Dr. Nicola Bradbear (United Kingdom)
- Beekeeping Economy: Mr. Dinh Quyet Tam (Vietnam)
- Pollination and Bee Flora: Prof. Marinus Jan Sommeijer (Netherlands)
- Bee Health: Dr. Wolfgang Ritter (Germany)
- Beekeeping Technology and Quality: Mr. Gilles Ratia (France)

Presentation of congress bids for the 42nd edition of the Apimondia International Apicultural Congress in 2011 (point 12)

Upon the invitation by the President and following a draw for the order of presentation, the representatives of the Sociedad Argentina de Apicultores (Argentina), Organización Nacional de Apicultores (Mexico) and Confederação Brasileira de Apicultura (Brazil) present their respective bids for hosting the 42nd Apimondia International Apicultural Congress, respectively in Buenos Aires, Mexico City and Salvador-Bahia.

Having cleared all the issues of the meeting, the President declares the General Assembly officially closed at 17:25.

Second Meeting - Thursday, 13th September 2007, 18:00 hrs
Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre - Melbourne, Australia

Agenda of the meeting

1. Report on the first meeting of the General Assembly
2. Report on the resolutions and overview of the 40th Apimondia International Apicultural Congress
3. Nomination of the new Honorary Members of Apimondia
4. Appointment of the venue for the 42nd Apimondia International Apicultural Congress in 2011
5. Formal closing of the 40th Apimondia International Apicultural Congress

The appointed delegates and deputies of the following Apimondia members are present: Shoqata e Bletarëve Të Shquipërisë (Albania), Asociación Argentina de Apiterapia, Sociedad Argentina de Apicultores (Argentina), Armenian National Federation of Beekeepers (Armenia), Australian Honey Bee Industry Council, International Honey Exporters' Association (Australia), Österreichischer Imkerbund (Austria), European Apitherapy Association, Koninklijke Vlaamse Imkersbond (Belgium), Confederação Brasileira de Apicultura (Brazil), Natsionalna Branshova Organizatsia-Bulgarski Pchelarski Sayuz (Bulgaria), Canadian Honey Council (Canada), Federación Gremial Red Nacional Apícola (Chile), Apicultural Science Association of China (China), Hrvatski Pcelarski Savez (Croatia), Cesky Svaz Vcelaru (Czechia), Dänmarks Biavlerförening (Denmark), Suomen Mehiläishoitajain Liitto (Finland), Union Nationale de l'Apiculture Française (France), Deutscher Imkerbund, European Federation of Honey Packers and Distributors (Germany), Epistimoniko Kentro Melisotherapeias (Greece), Országos Magyar Méhészeti Egyesület (Hungary), PT Madu Pramuka (Indonesia), Federation of Irish Beekeepers' Associations (Ireland), Federazione Apicoltori Italiani (Italy), Japan Beekeeping Association (Japan), Fédération des Unions d'Apiculteurs du Grand Duché de Luxembourg (Luxemburg), Organización Nacional de Apicultores (Mexico), Asociatia Nationala a Apicultorilor din Republica Moldova (Moldova), Stichting Bedrijfsraad voor de Bijenhouderij in Nederland-Nederlandse Bijenhoudersvereniging (Netherlands), National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand (New Zealand), Norges Birøkerlag (Norway), Savez Pcelarskih Organizacija Srbije (Serbia), Slovensky Zvaz Vcelarov (Slovakia), Cebelarska Zveza Slovenije (Slovenia), Sveriges Biodlares Riksförbund (Sweden), Fédération des Sociétés Suisses d'Apiculture (Switzerland), Uganda National Apiculture Development Organisation (Uganda), Spilka Pasichnikiv Ukraini, Bratstvo Bdjoljariv Ukraini, Medyana Rosa (Ukraine), Council of National Beekeeping Associations in the UK, Honey International Packers' Association (United Kingdom), American Apitherapy Society (United States), Sociedad Apícola Uruguaya (Uruguay), Hoi Nuoi Ong Viet Nam (Vietnam).

Having the Secretary-General of Apimondia checked the credentials and ascertained the presence of 47 representatives out of 75 Member Associations (47 Associations with right to vote) for a total of 120 votes out of 186, the President of Apimondia verifies the required minimum quorum for the validity of the Assembly and declares the meeting officially open.

Following a brief presentation of the 3 proposed venues for the 42nd Apimondia Congress, the delegates and deputies of the Apimondia membership cast their votes.

- Report on the first meeting of the General Assembly (point 1)

While one representative of the 40th Apimondia Congress Organising Committee and one of the 41st Apimondia Congress Organising Committee count the votes, the President gives the floor to the Secretary-General to address point 1 of the agenda. The Secretary-General reports on the first meeting of the General Assembly, pointing out the institutional activities carried out and the international symposia and meetings held under the aegis of Apimondia in the biennium 2006-2007. He then briefly

illustrates the Federation's accounts for 2005-2006 cleared by the General Assembly, and the approved budget for the biennium 2008-2009, the re-appointment of the external auditing firm as well as the adopted amendment to the Apimondia Statutes. He illustrates the workplan for the next biennium and shows the list of the associations and institutions that have joined the Federation as well as that of the members that have been excluded due to the non-payment of the respective membership fees. He finally illustrates the outcome of the renewal of the Executive Council positions.

- Appointment of the venue for the 42nd Apimondia International Apicultural Congress in 2011 (point 4)

As a result of the first round of secret ballot, the venue of the 42nd Apimondia Congress is assigned to the Sociedad Argentina de Apicultores (Argentina) with 83 votes against 31 votes cast for Mexico and 6 for Brazil. The 42nd edition of the Apimondia Congress will therefore take place in Buenos Aires (Argentina) in September 2011.

- Report on the resolutions and overview of the 40th Apimondia International Apicultural Congress (point 2)

The President summarises the resolutions and overview of the 40th Apimondia Congress, which had been prepared in collaboration with the Presidents of the Standing Commissions, and are attached in a separate annex to this document.

- Nomination of the new Honorary Members of Apimondia (point 3)

The President presents the nomination of Mr. Stephen Fewster as Honorary Member of Apimondia as a consequence of his position as President of the 40th Apimondia Congress. The delegates of the Member Associations unanimously endorse the nomination.

- Formal closing of the 40th Apimondia International Apicultural Congress (point 5)

The President of Apimondia takes the floor to deliver the congress closing speech and thanks all the members of the Australian Organising Committee as well as all the volunteers who had helped towards the successful organisation of the Congress. He mentions the good co-operation between Mr. Keith McIlvride and the Presidents of the Standing Commissions as well as the successful contests managed by Mr. Colin Wilson. Special thanks are expressed to the Apimondia staff for their great efforts before and during the congress in organising the event.

Mr. Stephen Fewster, President of the 40th Apimondia Congress, is invited to hand over the Apimondia flag to Mr. Ratia in representation of the French Organising Committee to symbolically link the two Congresses.

The French delegation is invited to take the floor to deliver a short welcome speech for the Congress in Montpellier in 2009.

Mr. Fert is invited by Mr. Ratia to make a brief presentation of the Apimondia Symposium on Queen Bee Breeding and Artificial Insemination, scheduled to take place in Nuevo Vallarta, Mexico, in 2008.

With the transfer of the Apimondia flag, the President of Apimondia declares the 40th Apimondia Congress officially closed.

Rome, November 2007