



Apimondia

International Federation of Beekeepers' Associations

**Minutes of the General Assembly of Apimondia
Montpellier, France 2009**

**First session - Wednesday 16th September 2009, 18:30 hrs
Le Corum Convention Centre - Montpellier, France**

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 Melbourne, Australia, on the occasion of the 40th International Apicultural Congress in 2007
3. Report of the Executive Council for the period 2007-2009. Report on the accounts and approval of the financial report for 2007 and 2008
4. Approval of the budget for the period 2010-2011
5. Apimondia working plan for the period 2010-2011
6. Plan of the symposia and other international meetings for the period 2010-2011
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 three members of the Management Board:
President (resigning: Mr. A.S. Jørgensen, Denmark)
Vice-President (incumbent: Mr. L.D. Martínez, Argentina)
Secretary-General (incumbent: Mr. R. Jannoni-Sebastianini, Italy)
11. Election of four Presidents of the Standing Commissions:
Beekeeping for Rural Development (incumbent: Dr. N.J. Bradbear, United Kingdom)
Beekeeping Economy (incumbent: Mr. D.Q. Tam, Vietnam)
Pollination and Bee Flora (resigning: Prof. M.J. Sommeijer, Netherlands)
Beekeeping Technology and Quality (resigning: Mr. G. Ratia, France)
12. Review of participants' feedback on congress topics
13. Presentation of congress bids for the 43rd edition of the Apimondia International Apicultural Congress in 2013
14. Any other business

The appointed delegates and deputies of the following Apimondia members are present: Shoqata e Bletarëve Të Shqipërisë (Albania), Asociación Argentina de Apiterapia, Sociedad Argentina de

Apicultores (Argentina), Armenian National Federation of Beekeepers (Armenia), Australian Honey Bee Industry Council, International Honey Exporters' Organisation (Australia), Österreichischer Imkerbund (Austria), European Apitherapy Association, Fédération Apicole Belge, Koninklijke Vlaamse Imkersbond (Belgium), Confederação Brasileira de Apicultura (Brazil), Natsionalna Branshova Organizatsia-Bulgarski Pchelarski Sayuz, Natsionalyen Branshovi Pcelarski Soyuz (Bulgaria), 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 (Germany), Federation of Greek Beekeepers' Associations, Epistimoniko Kentro Melissotherapeias (Greece), Országos Magyar Méhészeti Egyesület (Hungary), PT Madu Pramuka (Indonesia), 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), Organización Nacional de Apicultores (Mexico), Asociația Națională a Apicultorilor din Republica Moldova (Moldova), Nederlandse Bijenhoudersvereniging (Netherlands), National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand (New Zealand), Norges Birøkerlag (Norway), Asociația Crescătorilor de Albine din România (Romania), Russian National Union of Beekeepers (Russia), Bureau d'Appui aux Initiatives Rurales (Rwanda), Savez Pcelarskih Organizacija Srbije (Serbia), Slovensky Zvaz Vcelarov (Slovakia), Cebelarska Zveza Slovenije (Slovenia), Asociación Provincial de Apicultores de Granada (Spain), Sveriges Biodlares Riksförbund (Sweden), Fédération des Sociétés Suisses d'Apiculture (Switzerland), Beekeepers' Association of Thailand (Thailand), Türkiye Arı Yetiştiricileri Merkez Birliği, Uludağ Arıcılık Derneği (Turkey), Bratstvo Bđjoljariv Ukraine, Spilka Pasichnekiv Ukraine, Medyana Rosa (Ukraine), Council of National Beekeeping Associations in the UK, Honey International Packers' Association (United Kingdom), Sociedad Apícola Uruguay (Uruguay), American Apitherapy Society (United States), Hoi Nuoi Ong Viet Nam (Vietnam).

The Secretary-General checks the credentials and ascertains the presence of 54 representatives out of 73 Member Associations (53 Associations with right to vote) for a total of 140 votes out of 189. 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.

- 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 Melbourne, Australia, on the occasion of the 40th International Apicultural Congress in 2007 (point 2)

The report of the Apimondia General Assembly sessions held in Melbourne, Australia, on 10th and 13th September 2007 as well as the overview of the working plan for the period September 2007 - September 2009 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: Union of Belarusian Public

Beekeepers' Associations (Belarus), Union of Beekeepers' Associations of the Republic of Srpska (Bosnia-Herzegovina), Association Nationale Apicole d'Haïti (Haiti), Asociación Ganadera Nacional de Criadores de Abejas Reinas y Núcleos (Mexico), Federația Asociațiilor Apicole din Romania (Romania), Muğla İli Arı Yetiştiricileri Birliği (Turkey), American Beekeeping Federation (USA).

He also mentions that the Lee Bee Foundation for the Advancement of Beekeeping and Agro Enterprises (India), Arab-African Centre for Beekeeping Techniques (Libya) and Turkish Beekeeping Products and Equipment Producers' Association (Turkey) filed the application as Associate Members.

Finally, the Secretary-General mentions that Ms. D. Hatibovic, Ms. J. Ikanovic (Bosnia-Herzegovina), Ms. A. Limer, Ms. M.L. Zamparelli (Italy), Ms. M. Mutsaers (Netherlands), Mr. M. Yildirim (Turkey), Ms. M. Guk, Mr. A. Kharkovenko (Ukraine), Mr. J.W. Stevens and Mr. K. Wisneski (USA) 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 2007-2009. Report on the accounts and approval of the financial report for 2007 and 2008 (point 3)

The President and Secretary-General give an account of the activities carried out over the period 2007-2009 which have also been reported in the minutes of the previous meetings of the Executive Council. During said period two meetings of the Executive Council and of the FIITEA Managing Committee have been held (1 in Rome and 1 in Montpellier), which focussed on the organisation of the 41st Apimondia Congress, the review and harmonisation of the Federation's Statutes, the assessment of the possibility to have a corporate PCO for the Apimondia events. Inspection visits were carried out in the venues which submitted the bids to host the 2013 Apimondia Congress.

As reflected in the Executive Council members' reports, numerous international meetings were attended by Executive Council members in order to promote the initiatives of the Federation.

The number of international symposia under the *aegis* of Apimondia, organised by the Standing Commissions in collaboration with some Member Associations, greatly increased. In 2008 the following events took place: "2nd Apimedica & 1st Apiquality International Forum" (Rome, Italy - June), "1st Apimondia Honeydew Symposium" (Tzarevo, Bulgaria - August), "OIE-Apimondia Symposium on Diagnosis and Control of Bee Diseases" (Freiburg, Germany - August), "Apimondia Symposium on Good Management Practice and Good Beekeeping Practice" (Bucharest, Romania - September), "2nd Apimondia International Symposium on Selection, Queen Bee Breeding and Artificial Insemination" (Nuevo Vallarta, Mexico - October), "1st International Beekeeping and Pine Honey Congress" (Mugla, Turkey - November). Furthermore, Apimondia actively participated in the 10th International ICPBR Symposium on Hazards of Pesticides to Bees (Bucharest, Romania), the 9th Iberolatinoamerican Beekeeping Congress (Concepción, Chile) and the 9th Asian Apicultural Association Conference (Hangzhou, China).

Among the other activities, Apimondia strengthened its ties with FAO at institutional level for developing joint actions on in support of technical divisions including also the *Codex Alimentarius*.

As for the "Apiacta" magazine, after the resigning of Dr. Mangum from the position of Editor, the Executive Council is evaluating a substitute for this position.

The Secretary-General illustrates the accounts and financial report of Apimondia for the period 2007-2008, pointing out a small deficit over the biennium. The accounts and financial report, certified by the appointed external auditor, are unanimously approved by the Assembly.

- Approval of the budget for the period 2010-2011 (point 4)

Due to the imminent change of the President, it is agreed that the new President, taking into consideration his action plan and in collaboration with the other members of the Executive Council, will draw the budget for the period 2010-2011 once elected.

- Apimondia working plan for the period 2010-2011 (point 5)

The Secretary-General presents the proposed working plan for the biennium 2010-2011, based on a forecast of the activities to be undertaken in said period. The General Assembly reviews and approves unanimously the working plan which may be eventually integrated by other upcoming initiatives in due course.

- Plan of the symposia and other international meetings for the period 2010-2011 (point 6)

The international symposia and meetings foreseen to be organised under the *aegis* of Apimondia in the coming biennium are: “1st Apimondia International Conference on Organic Beekeeping” (Sunny Beach, Bulgaria - August 2010), “3rd Apimedica and 2nd Apiquality International Forum” (Ljubljana, Slovenia - September 2010), “3rd International Symposium on Selection, Queen Bee Breeding, Artificial Insemination and Royal Jelly Production” (Busan, South Korea - November 2010), “6th Caribbean Beekeeping Congress” (Grenada - November 2010), “Symposium on Honeyhouse Equipment” (proposed) (Turkey), “Symposium on Beekeeping for Rural Development and International Trade” (proposed) (Hanoi, Vietnam) and “Symposium on Manuka Honey” (proposed) (New Zealand).

Contacts have been made to participate in the organisation of the “10th Ibero-Latin-American Apicultural Congress” (Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil - October 2010) and the “10th Asian Apicultural Association Conference” (Busan, South Korea - November 2010).

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

The Secretary-General mentions that the following member Associations did not settle their membership fees for a number of years and, according to the Statutes, are bound to be excluded from the Federation’s membership: Federación Argentina de Cooperativas Apícolas (Argentina), Polski Związek Pszczelarski (Poland) and Asociación de Apicultores Sierra-Norte de la Comunidad de Madrid (Spain).

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

- 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 amendments to the Statutes and Bylaws were 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. The President illustrates the proposed changes to the Apimondia Statutes, namely the amendments to Articles 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 20, 22, 23, 26, 27 and 28, as well as to the articles of the Bylaws referring to the President, the Standing Commissions and the Editor. The proposed amendments to the Statutes and Bylaws are unanimously approved.

- Election of three members of the Management Board (point 10):
 - President (resigning: Mr. Asger Søgaard Jørgensen, Denmark);
 - Vice-President (incumbent: Mr. Lucas Daniel Martínez, Argentina);
 - Secretary-General (incumbent: Mr. Riccardo Jannoni-Sebastianini, Italy).

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

After a brief presentation of the two candidates, Mr. Philip McCabe (Ireland) and Mr. Gilles Ratia (France), the delegates proceed by secret ballot to vote for the appointment of the new President. As a result of the screening of the votes, Mr. Ratia is appointed President with 102 votes out of 153. Due to the fact that Mr. Jørgensen resigned before the end of his mandate, the above-mentioned appointment expires in 2011;

Mr. Lucas Daniel Martínez (Argentina) is re-appointed Vice-President by acclamation;
Mr. Riccardo Jannoni-Sebastianini (Italy) is re-appointed Secretary-General by acclamation.

- Election of four Presidents of the Standing Commissions (point 11):
 - Beekeeping for Rural Development (incumbent: Dr. Nicola J. Bradbear, UK);
 - Beekeeping Economy (incumbent: Mr. Dinh Quyet Tam, Vietnam);
 - Pollination and Bee Flora (resigning: Prof. Marinus J. Sommeijer, Netherlands);
 - Beekeeping Technology and Quality (resigning: Mr. Gilles Ratia, France).

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

- Dr. Nicola J. Bradbear (UK) for Beekeeping for Rural Development is re-appointed by acclamation;
- Mr. Dinh Quyet Tam (Vietnam) for Beekeeping Economy is re-appointed by acclamation;
- Prof. Jacobus C. Biesmeijer (Netherlands) for Pollination and Bee Flora is appointed by acclamation;
- Mr. Etienne Bruneau (Belgium) for Beekeeping Technology and Quality is appointed by acclamation.

Due to the fact that Prof. Sommeijer and Mr. Ratia resigned before the end of their respective mandates, the appointments relating to the positions of the Presidents of the Standing Commissions on Pollination and Bee Flora and on Beekeeping Technology and Quality expire in 2011.

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

Management Board:

- President: Mr. Gilles Ratia (France)
- 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 J. Bradbear (United Kingdom)
- Beekeeping Economy: Mr. Dinh Quyet Tam (Vietnam)
- Pollination and Bee Flora: Prof. Jacobus C. Biesmeijer (Netherlands)
- Bee Health: Dr. Wolfgang Ritter (Germany)
- Beekeeping Technology and Quality: Mr. Etienne Bruneau (Belgium)

- Presentation of congress bids for the 43rd edition of the Apimondia International Apicultural Congress in 2013 (point 13)

Upon the invitation by the President and following a draw for the order of presentation, the representatives of the Asociación Provincial de Apicultores de Granada (Spain), Országos Magyar Méhészeti Egyesület (Hungary), Bratstvo Bdjoljariv Ukraine and Spilka Pasichnekiv Ukraine (Ukraine), Türkiye Arı Yetiştiricileri Merkez Birliği (Turkey), Federazione Apicoltori Italiani (Italy) and Natsionalnyen Branshovi Pcelarski Soyuz (Bulgaria) present their respective bids for hosting the 43rd Apimondia International Apicultural Congress, respectively in Granada, Budapest, Kiev, Istanbul, Verona and Sofia.

- Review of participants' feedback on congress topics (point 12)

On this item it is highlighted that questionnaires have been inserted in the congress folders and that additional forms are being distributed at the Apimondia stand and at the entrance of the plenary halls. The forms will be then screened and elaborated by Prof. Crailsheim and the outcome be duly reflected for improvement of the scientific programme and technical output of the next congress.

- Any other business (point 14)

No matter is raised under this item.

Having cleared all the issues of the meeting, the President declares the General Assembly officially closed at 20:15.

Second session - Saturday 19th September 2009, 19:00 hrs
Le Corum Convention Centre - Montpellier, France

Agenda of the meeting

1. Report on the first meeting of the General Assembly
2. Report on the resolutions and overview of the 41st International Apicultural Congress
3. Nomination of the new Honorary Members of Apimondia
4. Appointment of the venue for the 43rd Apimondia International Apicultural Congress in 2013
5. Contests results
6. Addresses of the delegates of the Member Associations attending the congress

7. Address of the President of the 41st International Apicultural Congress
8. Formal closing of the 41st International Apicultural Congress

The appointed delegates and deputies of the following Apimondia members are present: Asociación Argentina de Apiterapia, Sociedad Argentina de Apicultores (Argentina), Armenian National Federation of Beekeepers (Armenia), Australian Honey Bee Industry Council, International Honey Exporters' Organisation (Australia), Österreichischer Imkerbund (Austria), European Apitherapy Association, Fédération Apicole Belge, Koninklijke Vlaamse Imkersbond (Belgium), Union of Beekeepers' Associations of the Republic of Srpska (Bosnia-Herzegovina), Confederação Brasileira de Apicultura (Brazil), Natsionalna Branshova Organizatsia-Bulgarski Pchelarski Sayuz, Natsionalyen Branshovi Pcelarski Soyuz (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), Syndicat National d'Apiculture, Union Nationale de l'Apiculture Française (France), Deutscher Imkerbund (Germany), Federation of Greek Beekeepers' Associations, Epistimoniko Kentro Melissotherapeias (Greece), Országos Magyar Méhészeti Egyesület (Hungary), Lee Bee Foundation for the Advancement of Beekeeping and Agro Enterprises (India), Federation of Irish Beekeepers' Associations (Ireland), Federazione Apicoltori Italiani (Italy), Japan Beekeeping Association (Japan), Korea Beekeeping Association (South Korea), Arab-African Centre for Beekeeping Techniques (Libya), Lietuvos Bitininku Sajunga (Lithuania), Fédération des Unions d'Apiculteurs du Grand Duché de Luxembourg (Luxemburg), Asociación Ganadera Nacional de Criadores de Abejas Reinas y Núcleos, Organización Nacional de Apicultores (Mexico), Asociația Națională a Apicultorilor din Republica Moldova (Moldova), Nederlandse Bijenhoudersvereniging (Netherlands), National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand (New Zealand), Norges Birøkerlag (Norway), Asociația Crescătorilor de Albine din România, Federația Asociațiilor Apicole din România (Romania), Russian National Union of Beekeepers (Russia), Savez Pcelarskih Organizacija Srbije (Serbia), Slovensky Zvaz Vcelarov (Slovakia), Cebelarska Zveza Slovenije (Slovenia), Asociación Provincial de Apicultores de Granada (Spain), Sveriges Biodlares Riksförbund (Sweden), Fédération des Sociétés Suisses d'Apiculture (Switzerland), Beekeepers' Association of Thailand (Thailand), Muğla İli Arı Yetiştiricileri Birliği, Türkiye Arı Yetiştiricileri Merkez Birliği, Uludağ Arıcılık Derneği, Turkish Beekeeping Products and Equipment Producers' Association (Turkey), Bratstvo Bđoljariv Ukraine, Spilka Pasichnektiv Ukraine, Medyana Rosa (Ukraine), Council of National Beekeeping Associations in the UK, Honey International Packers' Association (United Kingdom), Sociedad Apícola Uruguay (Uruguay), American Apitherapy Society, American Beekeeping Federation (United States), Hoi Nuoi Ong Viet Nam (Vietnam).

Having the Secretary-General of Apimondia checked the credentials and ascertained the presence of 63 representatives out of 80 Member Associations (63 Associations with right to vote) for a total of 170 votes out of 196, 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 6 proposed venues for the 43rd 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 three tellers, approved by all the bidders, 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, illustrating the various points addressed during that session. He provides the list of new associations incorporated in Apimondia and those that have lost the membership status due to non-payment of the fees. He then announces the names of the members of the Executive Council that have either been nominated for the first time or re-appointed to serve for a new mandate. He also reports on the future international symposia and the congress to be held under the *aegis* of Apimondia in the biennium 2010-2011 as well as the Federation's announced working plan for the same period.

- Report on the resolutions and overview of the 41st Apimondia International Apicultural Congress (point 2)

Each President of the Standing Commissions presents the resolutions and overview of the 41st Apimondia Congress, which are attached in a separate annex to this document.

- Contest results (point 5)

The winners of the various contests held during the congress are called to the podium for being handed the relevant prizes.

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

The President presents the nominations of Mr. Gilles Ratia, President of the 41st Apimondia Congress, and Prof. Marinus J. Sommeijer as Honorary Members of Apimondia. The delegates of the Member Associations unanimously endorse the nominations.

The President of Apimondia then delivers his speech, thanking all the members of the French Organising Committee and the local volunteers for the successful results of this congress edition. He also delivers his farewell speech thanking all the Executive Council members and staff of Apimondia and beekeepers worldwide, who gave a substantial support for the development of Apimondia during his 10-year presidency.

- Address of the President of the 41st International Apicultural Congress (point 7)

Mr. Ratia takes the floor to express his appreciation to all those who participated in the congress as visitors, speakers, authors, exhibitors, media and volunteers for their contribution to the success of the event.

He then comments on the challenges which the beekeeping community is faced with and the substantive work carried out by the Scientific Committee especially during the round tables included in the programme.

In connection with his recent appointment as President of Apimondia he thanks his predecessor for the excellent work done that will act as a springboard for him to work on for the future.

Also Mr. Martinez, Vice-President of Apimondia, in his capacity of President of the forthcoming 42nd Apimondia Congress takes the floor to deliver a short address on the organisation of the next congress and convey his appreciation to the outgoing President, Mr. Jørgensen, and bidding auspices of good

and strong collaboration with the new incoming President, Mr. Ratia.

- Appointment of the venue for the 43rd Apimondia International Apicultural Congress in 2013 (point 4)

As a result of the first round of secret ballot, the venue of the 43rd Apimondia Congress is assigned to the Spilka Pasichnikiv Ukraine and Bratstvo Bdjoljariv Ukraine (Ukraine) with 92 votes against 31 votes cast for Turkey, 14 for Bulgaria, 13 for Italy, 12 for Hungary, 3 for Spain and 1 void. The 43rd edition of the Apimondia Congress will therefore take place in Kiev (Ukraine) in September 2013.

The Ukrainian delegation delivers a short speech of welcome to all beekeepers inviting them to participate in the 43rd Apimondia Congress in Kiev in 2013.

- Addresses of the delegates of the Member Associations attending the congress (point 6)

All the delegates of member associations are called to the podium to join in the formal closing celebration of the congress.

- Formal closing of the 41st Apimondia International Apicultural Congress (point 8)

Mr. Gilles Ratia, President of the 41st Apimondia Congress, hands over the Apimondia flag to Mr. Martínez in representation of the Argentinean Congress Organising Committee.

With the transfer of the Apimondia flag, the President of Apimondia declares the 41st Apimondia Congress officially closed.

Asger Søgaard Jørgensen
President

Riccardo Jannoni-Sebastianini
Secretary-General