



**APIMONDIA**  
**International Federation of Beekeepers' Associations**

**Minutes of the General Assembly of Apimondia**  
**Istanbul, Turkey**  
**30<sup>th</sup> September - 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2017**

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## **Minutes of the General Assembly of Apimondia, Istanbul 2017**

### **First Session**

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017 - 14:00 hrs  
Istanbul Congress Centre - Istanbul, Turkey**

### **Agenda of the meeting**

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Admission of new members
3. Proposal for the loss of membership for non-paying associations
4. Adoption of the minutes and report on the resolutions and overview of the General Assembly held in Daejeon, Korea, on the occasion of the 44<sup>th</sup> International Apicultural Congress in 2015
5. Report of the Executive Council for the period 2016-2017. Report on the accounts and approval of the financial report for 2015 and 2016
6. Approval of the budget for the period 2018-2019
7. Approval of the working plan for the period 2018-2019
8. Election of two members of the Management Board:  
Vice-President (incumbent: Mr. Lucas Daniel Martínez, Argentina)  
Secretary-General (incumbent: Mr. Riccardo Jannoni-Sebastianini, Italy)
9. Election of three Presidents of the Scientific Commissions:  
Beekeeping for Rural Development (incumbent: Dr. Nicola J. Bradbear, United Kingdom)  
Beekeeping Economy (incumbent: Prof. Kun-Suk Woo, South Korea)  
Pollination and Bee Flora (resigning: Dr. Jacobus C. Biesmeijer, Netherlands)
10. Election of two Presidents of the Regional Commissions:  
Africa (resigning: Mr. Mulufird Ashagrie, Ethiopia)  
Asia (incumbent: Prof. Cleofas R. Cervancia, Philippines)
11. Renewal of auditor assignment
12. Proposals for the nomination of the new Honorary Members of Apimondia
13. Presentation of congress bids for the 47<sup>th</sup> edition of the Apimondia International Apicultural Congress in 2021
14. Proposal and discussions on new working groups and digital kits
15. Discussion with members on selected topics (based on members' suggestions)
16. Any other business

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The appointed delegates and deputies of the following Apimondia member associations are present: Shoqata e Bletarëve të Shqipërisë (Albania), Fédération Algérienne des Associations d'Apiculteurs (Algeria) (without voting right), Sociedad Argentina de Apicultores (Argentina), Cooperativa de Trabajo - Coopsol (Argentina), International Honey Exporters' Association - IHEO (Argentina), Armenian National Federation of Beekeepers (Armenia), Australian Honey Bee Industry Council (Australia), Österreichischer Imkerbund (Austria), Bangladesh Beekeepers' Association (Bangladesh), Fédération Apicole Belge / Koninklijke Vlaamse Imkersbond (Belgium), Union of Beekeepers' Associations of the Republic of Srpska (Bosnia-Herzegovina), Confederação Brasileira de Apicultura (Brazil), Natsionalnyen Branshovi Pcelarski Soyuz (Bulgaria), Balkan Federation of Apicultural Associations (Bulgaria), Canadian Honey Council (Canada), Federación Gremial Red Nacional Apícola

(Chile), Apicultural Science Association of China (China), Estación Experimental Apícola - CUBAPI/ACPA (Cuba), Český Svaz Včelařů (Czechia), Dänmarks Biavlerförening (Denmark), Asociación Cadena de la Miel de los Apicultores del Occidente de El Salvador (El Salvador), Eesti Mesinike Liit (Estonia), Ethiopian Apiculture Board (Ethiopia), Suomen Mehiläishoitajain Liitto (Finland), Union Nationale de l'Apiculture Française (France), Deutscher Berufs und Erwerbs Imker Bund (Germany), Deutscher Imkerbund (Germany), European Professional Beekeepers' Association (Germany), Federation of Greek Beekeepers' Associations (Greece), Országos Magyar Méhészeti Egyesület (Hungary), Lee Bee Foundation for the Advancement of Beekeeping and Agro Enterprises (India), National Bee Board (India), Federation of Irish Beekeepers' Associations (Ireland), Unione Nazionale Associazioni Apicoltori Italiani (Italy), Japan Beekeeping Association (Japan), National Union of Beekeepers of Kazakhstan - Bal-Ara (Kazakhstan), Korea Beekeeping Association (South Korea), Kyrgyz Union of Beekeepers (Kyrgyzstan), Lietuvos Bitininkų Sąjunga (Lithuania), Mongolian Beekeepers' Association (Mongolia), Apiculture New Zealand (New Zealand), Norges Birøkterlag (Norway), Polski Związek Pszczelarski (Poland), Asociația Crescătorilor de Albine din România (Romania), Societatea Română de Apiterapie (Romania), International and Regional Co-operation Dept. - Ministry of Agriculture (Russia), Russian National Union of Beekeepers (Russia), Albaha Beekeepers' Co-operative Association (Saudi Arabia), Boqshan Chair for Bee Research (Saudi Arabia), Savez Pcelarskih Organizacija Srbije (Serbia), Slovenský Zväz Včelárov (Slovakia), Apislavia (Slovakia), Čebelarska Zveza Slovenije (Slovenia), South African Bee Industry Organisation (South Africa), Sveriges Biodlares Riksförbund (Sweden), Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism - Forestry and Beekeeping Division (Tanzania), Muğla İli Arı Yetiştiricileri Birliği (Turkey), Ordu İli Arı Yetiştiricileri Birliği (Turkey), Sivas İli Arı Yetiştiricileri Birliği (Turkey), Türkiye Arı Yetiştiricileri Merkez Birliği (Turkey), Uludağ Arıcılık Derneği (Turkey), ApiTrade Africa (Uganda), Bratstvo Bđoljariv Ukraine (Ukraine), Spilka Pasichnektiv Ukraine (Ukraine), Sociedad Apícola Uruguay (Uruguay), Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority (United Arab Emirates), American Apitherapy Society (USA), American Beekeeping Federation (USA), Vietnam Beekeepers' Association (Vietnam) and Zambia Forestry College (Zambia).

The Secretary-General checks the credentials and ascertains the presence of 70 representatives out of 111 Member Associations (69 Associations with right to vote) for a total of 120 votes out of 173. The constitution of the Assembly being considered valid, the President of Apimondia takes the presidency of the General 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.

- Admission of new members (point 2)

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: Fiji Beekeepers' Association (Fiji), Beekeepers' League of Kosovo (Kosovo) and Kuwait Beekeepers' Association (Kuwait).

He also mentions that the following institutions filed the application as Associate Members: Asian Apicultural Association (China), Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale Lazio e Toscana (Italy) and Bashkir Scientific Research Centre on Beekeeping and Apitherapy (Russia).

The Assembly, except for two Members objecting to the admission of the Beekeepers' League of Kosovo, endorses the above-mentioned Associations and Institutions as members of Apimondia.

As a consequence, being the following new admitted Members present at the meeting: Fiji Beekeepers' Association (Fiji), Beekeepers' League of Kosovo (Kosovo), Kuwait Beekeepers' Association (Kuwait), Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale di Lazio e Toscana (Italy) and Bashkir Scientific Research Centre on Beekeeping and Apitherapy (Russia), the Assembly is now constituted of 75 representatives out of 117 Member Associations (74 Associations with right to vote) for a total of 125 votes out of 179.

Finally, the Secretary-General mentions the individuals and institutions that applied as Individual Correspondents of the Federation: A.F. Algethami, F.M. Alguthami, P.E. Agren, Al Amanah Al-Khalijia Co., Bee Certain, H. de Cara, H. de la Place, G. Delaunay, J.G. de Sousa e Filhos Ltda., P. Desmanet, S. Collison, A. Garrillo Sanchez, R. Honkasalo, J. Knoff, R.C. Kristensen, L. Madrid, N. Marti Martín, D. Mukomana, B.A. Phillips, H. Ruusupiha, E.F. Socolocci, R.J. Telford, F. Tjoa and J. Tomkins.

The Assembly endorses the above-mentioned individuals and institutions as Individual Correspondents of Apimondia.

- Proposal for the loss of membership for non-paying associations (point 3)

The Secretary-General mentions that, according to the Statutes, the following member Associations, due to the protracted non-payment of their membership fees, are bound to be excluded from the Federation's membership: Fédération Algérienne des Associations d'Apiculteurs (Algeria), Bees Fan Society "Golden Hive" (Azerbaijan), Union of Belarusian Public Beekeepers' Associations (Belarus), Beekeepers' Association of Cambodia (Cambodia), Association des Apiculteurs de Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), Royal Jelly Fair Trade Council (Japan), Arab-African Centre for Beekeeping Techniques (Libya), Union des Apiculteurs au Maroc (Morocco), Apis Tomitana Dacica (Romania), Asia Pacific Apitherapy Association (Taiwan, China) (resigned in 2016), Kamwenge Beekeepers' Co-operative Society (Uganda), Medyana Rosa (Ukraine) and Federación Bolivariana de Apicultores de Venezuela (Venezuela).

The General Assembly unanimously approves to terminate the membership to Apimondia of the aforementioned entities. The Secretary-General mentions that these Associations have a six-month period to pay the dues (31<sup>st</sup> March 2018) after which the General Assembly's resolution will become effective.

- Adoption of the minutes and report on the resolutions and overview of the General Assembly held in Daejeon, South Korea, on the occasion of the 44<sup>th</sup> International Apicultural Congress in 2015 (point 4)

The report of the Apimondia General Assembly sessions held in Daejeon, South Korea, on 16<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> September 2015 is cleared.

- Report of the Executive Council for the period 2016-2017. Report on the accounts and approval of the financial report for 2015 and 2016 (point 5)

Each member has been provided with a copy of the minutes of the last Executive Council meeting held in Istanbul in June 2017 in which the latest activities of the Federation, which focused mainly on the organisation the 45<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress, are highlighted. The following international events under the

*aegis* of Apimondia were organised in the period under review: “International Symposium and Workshop on Indigenous Bees” (Philippines - February 2016), “4<sup>th</sup> ApiBio-ApiOrganica Symposium” (Argentina - September 2016), “6<sup>th</sup> Apimedica & 5<sup>th</sup> Apiquality Forum” (Italy - November 2016).

Furthermore, in the period under review Apimondia continued its technical collaboration with FAO on the activities of TECA (Technologies for Agriculture) through participation in moderated discussions and provision of advisory feedback on beekeeping issues.

The Secretary-General then reports on the content of the financial report for the period 2015-2016, to highlight the significant reduction of pending debts. He also draws the attention in interpreting the figures to the fact that the expenditure between the two years has not changed significantly except for the cyclical patterns that typically occur in each biennium including the impact of the congress income that is earned every other year.

The accounts and financial report, certified by the appointed external auditor, are unanimously approved by the General Assembly.

- Approval of the budget for the period 2018-2019 (point 6)

The Secretary-General presents the proposed budgets for the biennium 2018-2019 where as customary the estimates reflect a fairly conservative approach.

The General Assembly reviews and unanimously approves both budgets for the next biennium.

- Approval of the working plan for the period 2018-2019 (point 7)

In early 2017 Apimondia has been appointed as a co-partner in a three year EU-funded project on best management practices linked to bee health and is entrusted with delivering inputs on their economic impact.

Another important initiative in the pipeline is the involvement of Apimondia in the expected endorsement of the World Bee Day, where, if officially approved, the Federation will play a key role in promoting the welfare of bees and their impact on the environment.

The international symposia foreseen to be organised under the *aegis* of Apimondia in 2018 are: Symposium on Pollination (Australia - June), 5<sup>th</sup> ApiBio-ApiOrganica Symposium (Germany - September), Role of Bees in Food Production Symposium (Ethiopia - November), Symposium on Pollination (Mexico - pending confirmation), 7<sup>th</sup> Apimedica & 6<sup>th</sup> Apiquality Forum (Romania - pending confirmation), 3<sup>rd</sup> ApiEcoFlora Symposium (Slovenia - pending confirmation), Symposium on Bee Health issues (Italy - pending confirmation).

In September 2019 the “46<sup>th</sup> Apimondia International Apicultural Congress” will take place in Montreal, Canada.

- Election of two members of the Management Board (point 8)

Vice-President (incumbent: Mr. Lucas Daniel Martínez, Argentina)

Secretary-General (incumbent: Mr. Riccardo Jannoni-Sebastianini, Italy)

The positions of the Management Board due to expire are assigned as follows:

- following the voting concerning the three candidates Mr. Arnold Butov (Russia), Mr. Peter Kozmus (Slovenia) and Mr. Lucas Daniel Martínez (Argentina) for the position of Vice-President, at the second ballot Mr. Peter Kozmus is appointed with 51 votes;
- Mr. Riccardo Jannoni-Sebastianini (Italy) is re-appointed by acclamation Secretary-General.

• Election of three Presidents of the Apimondia Scientific Commissions (point 9)

- Beekeeping for Rural Development (incumbent: Dr. Nicola J. Bradbear, United Kingdom),
- Beekeeping Economy (incumbent: Prof. Kun-Suk Woo, South Korea),
- Pollination and Bee Flora (resigning: Prof. Jacobus C. Biesmeijer, Netherlands).

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

- following the voting concerning the two candidates Mr. Nuru Adgaba (Ethiopia) and Dr. Nicola J. Bradbear (United Kingdom) for the position of President of the Scientific Commission on Beekeeping for Rural Development, Dr. Nicola J. Bradbear is re-appointed with 70 votes;
- following the voting concerning the four candidates Dr. Norberto L. García (Argentina), Dr. Gamze Saner (Turkey), Ms. Tetyana Vasylykivska (Ukraine) and Prof. Kun-Suk Woo (South Korea) for the position of President of the Scientific Commission on Beekeeping Economy, Dr. Norberto L. García is appointed with 48 votes;
- Dr. Lucas A. Garibaldi (Argentina) for Pollination and Bee Flora is appointed by acclamation.

• Election of two Presidents of the Regional Commissions (point 10)

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

- Mr. David Mukomana (Zimbabwe) for the Regional Commission for Africa is appointed by acclamation as the other announced candidates did not turn up;
- Prof. Cleofas R. Cervancia (Philippines) for the Regional Commission for Asia is re-appointed by acclamation.

As a result of these elections, the Apimondia Executive Council composition for the next biennium is as follows:

Management Board:

- President: Mr. Philip McCabe (Ireland),
- Vice-President: Mr. Peter Kozmus (Slovenia),
- Secretary-General: Mr. Riccardo Jannoni-Sebastianini (Italy).

Presidents of the Scientific Commissions:

- Apitherapy: Dr. Cristina Mateescu (Romania),
- Bee Biology: Prof. Karl Crailsheim (Austria),
- Beekeeping for Rural Development: Dr. Nicola J. Bradbear (United Kingdom),
- Beekeeping Economy: Dr. Norberto L. García (Argentina),
- Pollination and Bee Flora: Dr. Luis A. Garibaldi (Argentina),
- Bee Health: Dr. Jeff Pettis (USA),
- Beekeeping Technology and Quality: Mr. Etienne Bruneau (Belgium).

Presidents of the Regional Commissions:

- Africa: Mr. David Mukomana (Zimbabwe),
- Americas: Mr. Misael Cuevas Bravo (Chile),
- Asia: Prof. Cleofas R. Cervancia (Philippines),
- Europe: Mr. Diego Pagani (Italy),
- Oceania: Ms. Jodie Goldsworthy (Australia).

- Renewal of auditor assignment (point 11)

The auditing firm Studio Associato Seneca-Caneba-Caputo is re-appointed as external auditor of Apimondia.

- Proposals for the nomination of the new Honorary Members of Apimondia (point 12)

The President mentions the individuals that, due to their dedicated service to apiculture, have been proposed for being nominated Honorary Members of Apimondia: Mr. Kyoon-Hwan Cho, South Korea (President of the 44<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress), Dr. Jacobus C. Biesmeijer, Netherlands (past President of Scientific Commission), Mr. Mulufird Ashagrie, Ethiopia (past President of Regional Commission), Mr. Bahri Yilmaz, Turkey (late President of the 45<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress - *in memoriam*), Mr. Ziya Şahin, Turkey (President of the 45<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress) and Prof. Lionel Segui Gonçalves, Brazil.

The Assembly supports these nominations (the nomination of Mr. Cho being subject to the delivery of the outstanding documentation on the 44<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress).

- Presentation of congress bids for the 47<sup>th</sup> edition of the Apimondia International Apicultural Congress in 2021 (point 13)

Upon the invitation by the President and following a draw to establish the actual order of presentation, the representatives of Danish Beekeepers' Association (Denmark), Russian National Union of Beekeepers (Russia), Serbian Federation of Beekeepers' Associations (Serbia) and Slovenian Beekeepers' Association (Slovenia) present their respective bids for hosting the 47<sup>th</sup> Apimondia International Apicultural Congress, respectively in Copenhagen, Ufa, Belgrade and Celje.

- Proposal and discussions on new working groups and digital kits (point 14)

A new Working Group to address risk assessment in beekeeping is proposed and has been favourably endorsed. It is then agreed that over the coming period the Working Group will be established with the appointment of the members and the team announced on the Federation's website.

- Discussion with members on selected topics (based on members' suggestions) (point 15)

The new Regional Round Tables introduced into this Congress and managed by the Apimondia Regional Commissioners will be assigned specific tasks in line with members' specific requests and requirements.

- Any other business (point 16)

No issue is raised under this point.

Having cleared all the issues of the meeting, the President declares the first session of the General Assembly officially closed at 18:15 hours.

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**Second Session**  
**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2017 - 17:30 hrs**  
**Istanbul Congress Centre - Istanbul, Turkey**

**Agenda of the meeting**

1. Report on the first session of the General Assembly
2. Report on the resolutions and overview of the 45<sup>th</sup> Apimondia International Apicultural Congress
3. Nomination of the new Honorary Members of Apimondia
4. Appointment of the venue of the 47<sup>th</sup> Apimondia International Apicultural Congress in 2021

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The appointed delegates and deputies of the following Apimondia members are present: Nangarhar Beekeepers' Association (Afghanistan), Shoqata e Bletarëve të Shqipërisë (Albania), Sociedad Argentina de Apicultores (Argentina), Cooperativa de Trabajo - Coopsol (Argentina), International Honey Exporters' Association - IHEO (Argentina), Armenian National Federation of Beekeepers (Armenia), Australian Honey Bee Industry Council (Australia), Österreichischer Imkerbund (Austria), Bangladesh Beekeepers' Association (Bangladesh), Fédération Apicole Belge / Koninklijke Vlaamse Imkersbond (Belgium), Union of Beekeepers' Associations of the Republic of Srpska (Bosnia-Herzegovina), Confederação Brasileira de Apicultura (Brazil), Balkan Federation of Apicultural Associations (Bulgaria), Canadian Honey Council (Canada), Federación Gremial Red Nacional Apícola (Chile), Apicultural Science Association of China (China), Asian Apicultural Association (China), Estación Experimental Apícola - CUBAPI/ACPA (Cuba), Český Svaz Včelařů (Czechia), Dänmarks Biavlerforening (Denmark), Asociación Cadena de la Miel de los Apicultores del Occidente de El Salvador (El Salvador), Eesti Mesinike Liit (Estonia), Ethiopian Apiculture Board (Ethiopia), Fiji Beekeepers' Association (Fiji), Suomen Mehiläishoitajain Liitto (Finland), Union Nationale de l'Apiculture Française (France), Deutscher Berufs und Erwerbs Imker Bund (Germany), Deutscher Imkerbund (Germany), European Professional Beekeepers' Association (Germany), Federation of Greek Beekeepers' Associations (Greece), Országos Magyar Méhészeti Egyesület (Hungary), Lee Bee Foundation for the Advancement of Beekeeping and Agro Enterprises (India), National Bee Board (India), Iran National Union of Beekeepers (Iran), Federation of Irish Beekeepers' Associations (Ireland), Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale di Lazio e Toscana (Italy), Unione Nazionale Associazioni Apicoltori Italiani (Italy), Japan Beekeeping Association (Japan), National Union of Beekeepers of Kazakhstan - Bal-Ara (Kazakhstan), Korea Beekeeping Association (South Korea), Korea Apiculture Agriculture Cooperative (South Korea), Beekeepers' League of Kosovo (Kosovo), Kuwait Beekeepers' Association (Kuwait), Kyrgyz Union of Beekeepers (Kyrgyzstan), Latvijas Bīskopības biedrība (Latvia), Lietuvos Bitininkų Sąjunga (Lithuania), Mongolian Beekeepers' Association (Mongolia), Apiculture New Zealand (New Zealand), Norges Birøkerlag (Norway),



Beekeepers' Network Philippines Foundation (Philippines), Polski Związek Pszczelarski (Poland), Federația Asociațiilor Apicole din România (Romania), Societatea Română de Apiterapie (Romania), Bashkir Scientific Research Centre on Beekeeping and Apitherapy (Russia), International and Regional Co-operation Dept. - Ministry of Agriculture (Russia), Russian National Union of Beekeepers (Russia), Albaha Beekeepers' Co-operative Association (Saudi Arabia), Boqshan Chair for Bee Research (Saudi Arabia), Savez Pcelarskih Organizacija Srbije (Serbia), Slovenský Zväz Včelárov (Slovakia), Apislavia (Slovakia), Čebelarska Zveza Slovenije (Slovenia), South African Bee Industry Organisation (South Africa), Sveriges Biodlares Riksförbund (Sweden), Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism - Forestry and Beekeeping Division (Tanzania), Muğla İli Arı Yetiştiricileri Birliği (Turkey), Ordu İli Arı Yetiştiricileri Birliği (Turkey), Sivas İli Arı Yetiştiricileri Birliği (Turkey), Türkiye Arı Yetiştiricileri Merkez Birliği (Turkey), Uludağ Arıcılık Derneği (Turkey), Bratstvo Bđoljariv Ukraine (Ukraine), Spilka Pasichnektiv Ukraine (Ukraine), Sociedad Apícola Uruguay (Uruguay), American Apitherapy Society (USA), American Beekeeping Federation (USA), Vietnam Beekeepers' Association (Vietnam) and Zambia Forestry College (Zambia).

Having the Secretary-General of Apimondia checked the credentials and ascertained the presence of 77 representatives out of 117 Member Associations (77 Associations with right to vote) for a total of 130 votes out of 179, the President of Apimondia verifies the required minimum quorum for the validity of the Assembly and declares the second session of the General Assembly officially open.

Report on the first session of the General Assembly (point 1)

The Secretary-General reports on the first session of the General Assembly, by mentioning the associations and institutions that have joined the Federation as well as the members that have been excluded due to the non-payment of their respective membership fees. He then mentions that the General Assembly approved the Federation's accounts for the period 2015-2016 as well as the budget for the biennium 2018-2019 and illustrates the activities due to be undertaken in the next biennium. Finally he reports on the outcome of the renewal of the Executive Council positions. Together with the member present he expressed the appreciation of Apimondia to the outgoing members of the Executive Council for the important contribution they provided to the Federation's activities and bid encouragement to the newcomers.

• Report on the resolutions and overview of the 45<sup>th</sup> Apimondia International Apicultural Congress (point 2)

The President thanks all involved in the organising of the 45<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress. In particular he thanks the Apimondia Commissioners, both Scientific and Regional, and introduces them on to the stage for recognition of their services. He again refers to the sad passing of Mr. Bahri Yılmaz, the former President of the Turkish Beekeepers' Association, who did so much work in bringing the Congress to Istanbul. He pays a warm tribute to Mr. Ziya Şahin, the Congress President, and his Turkish team for all their efforts. In particular he thanks the local PCO, Teamcon, for the professional manner in which they presented and managed one of the most successful Apimondia Congresses ever. The President also adds that he wants to recognise the hard work done by the Secretary-General Mr. Riccardo Jannoni-Sebastianini and our Executive Officer Mr. Filippo Jannoni-Sebastianini in preparing all the documentation for the Congress. He also thanks the outgoing Vice-President Mr. Lucas Daniel Martínez for his support and sterling work on behalf of Apimondia over many years. The President concludes his remarks by thanking all those who attended and all those present and he hopes they would leave Istanbul with a lot more knowledge but perhaps, more importantly, having made a lot of new friends.

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

On account of their dedicated work done for the development of Apimondia and apiculture in the world and following the proposal of the Apimondia Executive Council, Mr. Kyoong-Hwan Cho (President of the 44<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress), Dr. Jacobus C. Biesmeijer (past President of Scientific Commission), Mr. Mulufird Ashagrie (past President of Regional Commission), Mr. Bahri Yılmaz (late President of the 45<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress - *in memoriam*), Mr. Ziya Şahin (President of the 45<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress) and Prof. Lionel Segui Gonçalves are unanimously appointed Honorary Members of Apimondia by the General Assembly.

The Assembly endorses these nominations (the nomination of Mr. Cho being subject to the delivery of the outstanding documentation on the 44<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress).

- Appointment of the venue of the 47<sup>th</sup> Apimondia International Apicultural Congress in 2021 (point 4)

Following a short presentation of the four candidatures from Copenhagen (Denmark), Ufa (Russia), Belgrade (Serbia) and Celje (Slovenia) and as a result of the first round of secret ballot (with 30 votes for the Danish Beekeepers' Association, 61 votes for the Russian National Union of Beekeepers, 22 votes for the Serbian Federation of Beekeepers' Associations, 12 votes for the Slovenian Beekeepers' Association, 5 void votes), a second ballot takes place between the Danish Beekeepers' Association and the Russian National Union of Beekeepers. The outcome is: Russian National Union of Beekeepers 74 votes, Danish Beekeepers' Association 48 votes, 7 void votes. Therefore, the 47<sup>th</sup> edition of the Apimondia Congress will take place in Ufa (Russia) in September 2021. The head of the Russian delegation is called to the podium to greet the audience.

#### Formal closing of the 45<sup>th</sup> Apimondia International Apicultural Congress

Mr. Ziya Şahin, President of the 45<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress, in closing the congress expresses his appreciation and gratitude to the participants for having taken part in the event, the staff and volunteers for their dedicated work in the organisation of the event and mentions the excellent results for the very high number of participants who took part in the congress. He then hands over the Congress Collar to the President of Apimondia who, in turn, hands it over to Prof. Pierre Giovenazzo, President of the 46<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress. The latter briefly illustrates the main features of the 2019 Apimondia Congress and welcomes all participants to meet in Canada in two years' time.

With the transfer of the Congress Collar, the President of Apimondia declares the 45<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress officially closed.

Istanbul, 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2017

Philip McCabe  
President

Lucas Daniel Martínez  
Vice-President

Riccardo Jannoni-Sebastianini  
Secretary-General