

Dear delegates, dear friends,

I woke up early Sunday morning before alarm clock buzzed.

I was less anxious about the early train I had to catch than triggered by the concerns of a GAC president.

What could I found on an air sports commission president's agenda?

1. the world championships, the very first due to be?

Three of them are scheduled until 2014!

The former bureau managed to have 3 different national aeroclubs presenting 3 very good offers.

Excellent.

Thanks again to Vagn Jensen and his bureau.

2. the items of the 2011 agenda remaining to be solved?

The new bureau, with partially re elected people and partially newly elected people, has been mandated to investigate and to find solutions in 2012.

Hans Schwebel, GAC secretary, is finalizing the official report and assignment of the workload for the coming year.

Thanks to all of you who accepted nomination and positions in the bureau (and thus extra workload!).

3. the new issues and concerns raised during the meeting but not fully detailed, not formalized, neither assigned to one ?

At last, I found the core domain of a president!

I noticed during the meeting, statement, concerns, and issues particularly:

- helping new comers in Air Rally and Precision Flying,
- Visibility of our disciplines by the public and the media,
- How to build a fast track for us to make decision in domains where reactivity is a must in our times.

Helping new comers.

It seemed to me that the NAC's often need information, basic documentation, tips and tricks, advices, for organising competitions appropriate to the actual level of their pilots.

The most experienced countries implemented various solutions (several divisions/leagues, simplified rules, manufacturing of tools, edition of software, aids for judgement, etc.).

- I suggest to open a shared workspace for Questions/Answers, for documentation and blog.
- It will be up to the delegates to raise questions and to ask for advices on the site. Who likes will respond.
- In addition, I strongly support the proposition to share our competition calendars and to flag when competitions are "open" (= "foreigners" can cross the border and neighbours can have fun all together).

Sharing information about organisation of competitions is intended to save time for new organisers and to increase the number of pilots involved in RF/PF.

Media and public Visibility.

I noticed :

- hundreds thousands of people gathered for Red Bull events, tens of thousands for Air Shows with aerobatics. The show is self sufficient and triggers admiration for outstanding pilots.
- TV's and their public experienced esthetical emotions when watching balloons.
- When we talk about RF/PF with friends, relatives or press, we are questioned: "what is made of?", "what do you have to do?", "how do you know if you won?".

By luck, Heinrich Schawalder has always been future oriented, and he designed some years ago a new type of race: ANR. Unfortunately, World Air Games are delayed for 4 years more and can't help to show ANR to large public in the years to come.

So let's start bottom up. Each of our 4 activities RF, PF, ANR and records, has an original batch of fans (the participants principally), how to enlarge the "fan club" with the media of the year's 201X?

Please, let me know the fruitful experiences you have had with media and social networks, we could share. And if some of you are involved in public relations or advertisement, please let me know, we need professional advices too.

How to improve our working processes?

During the meeting, we started a discussion on the way of making fast decisions in GAC. It seems to be a middle term project in tied coordination with the secretary general. I take it.

A week ago, when I was just a French delegate, I asked our webmaster Chris Booyesen, if we could adopt shortly some of modern IT tools.

I mentioned *WIKI tool*, *Skype meetings* already in operation at CIMA and CIVL commissions, and also *document database* for all our GAC documents with updating and versioning facilities. Chris answered me he will investigate the options I suggest.

Today, as president of GAC, I would say "... let's go, Chris!"

We have to take the best of what FAI has already implemented, and for the rest we shall see with Jean-Marc, he will supports us.

In conclusion, I invite you, dear delegates, to provide me with your questions, suggestions, successful experiences, etc. I think we have a lot to share all along the year, before we meet again on Mediterranean Sea shore.

And let me launch the first press release of GAC, please click on ...

https://picasaweb.google.com/107845417645653658356/GAC2011ClosingDiner?authuser=0&authkey=Gv1sRgCMzmu_iJsLz0yQE&feat=directlink

Everyone was so relax, smiling. Thanks again to the president of Austrian Aeroclub who welcomed us so nicely, and to all his team.

Best regards

Jean-Pierre

GAC 2011 - Closing Diner

