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## **GAC PRESIDENT REPORT TO THE FAI GENERAL CONFERENCE**

**October 2007, Rhodes (Greece)**

This Commission has not had very accurate activities along this year 2007, at least talking about competitions. But it is going on very fast in order to improve the level of events in a near future. It means that hard working is being done into the offices.

Due to political problems in Spain, the preliminary bid for the next Europeans 2007 in Lleida (Spain) was cancelled. The organisers had already got good guarantees for this event, but advanced elections in Cataluña make all that went in a trouble, and so close to the events, according rules, the best way was this. So that, we will not have international first class event in GAC this 2007, but we will do other competitions in its place in order to maintain the level of training of all crews.

Talking about the future, this Commission is thinking about two new lines. First of all is trying to create (and develop during this year to be presented to the next meeting 2007), a new competition thinking basically in order to get new young people in competition. We think in a funny and cheap rules, completely new, which make new people to be used to compete, as a starting point, and then to be able to pass to other advanced rules, like Rally and Precision are. And the second line, is trying to recover an ancient rules of competition we had time ago, based in pillion racing. Mr Max Bishop explain the idea to the delegates and ask them to allow the GAC Bureau to work in it during this next year.

The result from all that was the creation of a new speciality, call ANR (Air Navigation Race), developed together by Switzerland ( directed by Mr Heini Schawalder), our former vice president and secretary general for many years, and Spain (coordinated by Mr Jesus Más), and with the support of Mr Ruben Leal, the creator of the Icaro system, who has also create the

scoring system for this new sport into our Commission. All that is been tested all along this year, and it will be presented to the delegates from GAC in the next meeting, which will take place after this General Conference, in Cape Town, Southafrica, from 1 to 4 of November 2007. If we get the approuval of the delegates, we will create a third sub-commitee into the GAC, and under the chairmanship of Mr Schawalder, a new sport starts. After the formal presentation of the rules for it, we will be able to appear in such a competitions like World Air Games.

Those new lines are trying to increase the number of participants in our competitions, and also another important thing, which is to improve the way that GAC events could be shown in media events, and probably to be included in future situations in competitions like Wag's.

We are also in the way of deciding what is it about the new Red Bull Air Race World Championship, which is already formaly included in FAI first class events, due to the very close contacts between our President M. Portmann, and the owner of Red Bull enterprises. As far as we understand from this Commission, and due to the fact that Red Bull is nominated itself as a race, we believe that it must be included in GAC, as much as all the other races with powered planes. And up to this moment this is the way we feel about it, with the suport of the main FAI bureau. So that, if everything is confirmed in this way, this General Aviation Commission will have from now on, five sports belonging to it: : Rally Flying, Precision Flying, Long Range Races, ANR Races, and Red Bull Air Races.

The new GAC bureau for 2007, elected in Irakion last meeting was:

President, Mr Pedro Cabañero from Spain.

Vice president and Treasurer, Mr Henry Lindholm from Sweden.

Vice president and Secretary General, Mr Art Greenfield from the United States.

Chairman of Rally Subcommittee, Mr Andrzej Osowski, from Poland

Chairman of Precision Subcommittee , Mr Johann Gutmann from Austria.

And also:

Long Range technical adviser, Mr Johann Gutmann from Austria.

FAI environmental commission, Mr Henry Lindholm from Sweden.

CASI delegate, Mr Pedro Cabañero from Spain.

Sporting code/record rules supervisor, Mr Art Greenfield from USA.

Web Master for GAC, Mr Hans Schwebel, from South Africa, and

Technical advisers for GNSS and FR's, Mr Dieter Stephan (Germany) and Mr Jan Hanekom from South Africa.

As I said before, next GAC meeting will take place in Cape Town, Southafrica, from 1 to 4 November 2007, cordinated by our delegate from there, our friend Hans Schwebel. You will be informed about that in the near future.

Finally, it is a pleasure and a honour for me, to acknowledge the excellent support provided by our Secretary General Mr Max Bishop and all his staff in FAI Office in Lausanne, and to thank them all for their big job on behalf of the GAC. Thank you very much.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Pedro Cabañero', with a large, stylized initial 'P' and a horizontal line extending to the right.

Pedro Cabañero

FAI GAC President.