

FAI Environmental Commission, CIA Delegate's report to the 2014 FAI Ballooning Commission Annual Meeting (CIA Plenary) Lausanne, Switzerland 21 - 23 March 2014

The 2014 FAI Environmental Commission (EnvC) meeting was held on 8 February 2014 in Rome, Italy. I was unable to attend this meeting but I have been included in all correspondence and have been able to give input from the FAI Ballooning Commission's (CIA) perspective.

As mentioned in my report to the 2013 CIA Plenary, the EnvC in its 2014 meeting is still concerned that sport aviation is increasingly coming under public scrutiny and in some countries direct government regulation for our environmental impact. The main areas are greenhouse gases, noise and direct impact on flora and fauna (mainly birds). But there are a few smaller issues such as the development of new fuels etc.

The EnvC still feels that it is better to be proactive in the FAI's approach to sport aviation's environmental impact rather than just waiting for the legislators to legislate.

There has been a move within the FAI to replace the Environmental Commission with an expert group, the commission has resisted this change so far.

I have included the main discussion and decisions of the above mentioned meeting

FAI Environmental code

The Commission decided to review the FAI Environmental Code to make sure all items are updated. The Commission will then propose this code be included in the FAI regulations at the same level as the FAI Code of Ethics to make sure environmental commitments are taken into account by competitions organisers of all air sports, with the aim of making competitions more environment-friendly.

FAI Environmental Ambassador

The Commission decided to look for an ambassador to promote green air sports.

Development of low-emission and electric classes of aerobatic airplanes

The Commission is presently working with CIVA to define low-emission and electric classes of aerobatic aircraft which would allow manufacturers to create new models with smaller environmental footprint and larger availability to all would-be competitors in order to create a new generation of aerobatic pilots coming from countries newly opened to airports

Conversion of the Commission into an expert group

The Commission voted unanimously against the idea of being transferred to an expert group.

Elections

President : Pierre Duval

1st Vice President : Bernald Smith

Secretary : Diana King

Steve Ireland

CIA Delegate to the FAI Environmental Commission