



ÖSTERREICHISCHER AERO CLUB, A-1040 Wien, Prinz Eugenstr.12
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Federation Aeronautique Internationale
Secretary General Max BISHOP
Avenue Mon Repos 24
CH-1005 Lausanne

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

You will remember what I said at the FAI General Conference in Paris last year about the problems arising from members' lack of identification with FAI, and the inadequate flow of information between the FAI leadership and the members. I pointed out that until 6 years ago FAI had regular Council meetings. At that time, only 6 months elapsed between initial and final discussions on a given topic. The Executive Board certainly works hard, but the members now feel much less involved. I discussed this further with the FAI President and yourself during your recent visit to Vienna.

For want of the annual Council Meetings of former times and with the new Board Directors' management structure, it has for some years been our observation and experience that weaknesses in the FAI System and its overall image have become obvious. No doubt the influence of the NAC Presidents/Vice Presidents, and with it their ability to identify with the FAI, have been weakened since the days when they used to serve as delegates and members of the Council.

The President's leadership role that is necessary in an organisation as big as the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale has been broken down by the Board System. Putting control and guidance measures into effect has become very difficult, despite the fact that overall responsibility for the work of the FAI has remained with the President. Taking all these things into account, the ÖAeC recommends more robust leadership from the Head of the FAI and requests that the following recommendations should be passed on to the Statutes Commission, and then that the outcome of their consultation should be referred to the delegates of the General Conference of 2006.

- 1) That the number of Board Directors should be reduced to a maximum of 4 (four), as originally proposed by the Structural Working Group to the Linköping Conference in 2000.
- 2) That each of the Executive Director positions should carry specific responsibilities, and that separate elections be held for each of the posts. Three candidates for each post should be presented to the Conference by the incoming President, and the Conference should be asked to choose one of the 3 candidates in each case.
- 3) That Meetings of FAI Vice Presidents should be re-established, on a biennial basis, in addition to the annual General Conferences. It would be desirable for these meetings to be held in member states that did not have by a Board Director.

Apart from the Statutes Regulations we would press for FAI President and the FAI Secretary General to continue with their information tours to member states, that were launched in Austria.

With friendly flyer's greetings and

Good luck in take-off – happy landings

Alois Roppert, President