



**APIMONDIA**

## **MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING OF APIMONDIA**

Rome, Italy  
28<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> May 2016

Present to the meeting:

Mr. Philip McCabe, President  
Mr. Lucas Daniel Martínez, Vice-President  
Mr. Riccardo Jannoni-Sebastianini, Secretary-General  
Dr. Cristina Mateescu, President of Scientific Commission  
Prof. Karl Crailsheim, President of Scientific Commission  
Dr. Nicola J. Bradbear, President of Scientific Commission  
Prof. Woo Kunsuk, President of Scientific Commission  
Prof. Jacobus C. Biesmeijer, President of Scientific Commission  
Dr. Jeff Pettis, President of Scientific Commission  
Mr. Etienne Bruneau, President of Scientific Commission  
Mr. Misael Cuevas Bravo, President of Regional Commission  
Prof. Cleofas R. Cervancia, President of Regional Commission  
Ms. Jodie Goldsworthy, President of Regional Commission

Invited:

Mr. Cho Kyoon-Hwan, President of 44<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress  
Mr. Jung Sang-Hoon, Delegate of 44<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress Organising Committee  
Ms. Shin Jiwon, Delegate of 44<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress Organising Committee  
Mr. Ziya Şahin, President of 45<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress  
Mr. Tuğrul Çamaş, Delegate of 45<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress Organising Committee  
Dr. Aslı Özkirim, Delegate of 45<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress Scientific Committee  
Mr. Ünal Bilgin, Delegate of 45<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress Organising Committee  
Mr. Burak Kaptan, Delegate of 45<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress Organising Committee  
Ms. Marienza Marguglio, Delegate of core PCO (via Skype)  
Mr. Paolo Sebastianutti, international solicitor  
Dr. Giovanni Formato, Institute of Experimental Zooprophyllaxis

Absent with apologies:

Mr. Mulufird Ashagrie, President of Regional Commission  
Mr. Diego Pagani, President of Regional Commission

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## **Agenda of the meeting**

**Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Final report and closure of accounts of the 44<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress and official resolutions
3. Report and follow-up on the organisation of the 45<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress
4. Follow-up on the organisation of the 46<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress
5. Update on: a) corporate PCO, b) fundraising
6. Calendar and follow-up on organisation of forthcoming international congresses and symposia
7. New members
8. Report on the FIITEA Management Committee meeting
9. Overview of financial situation - Report on the accounts and approval of the accounts and financial report for 2015 and review of budget for the current biennium
10. Apimondia srl
11. Review and new proposals for amendments to the Apimondia Statutes (Management Board + Scientific Coordinator + Members)
12. Review of content and implementation of terms of reference for Scientific and Regional Commissions (tasks for Presidents)

**Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

13. Apimondia's general role/policy
14. Collaboration with FAO: follow-up on definition of Memorandum of Understanding, TECA, *Codex Alimentarius* and co-participation in symposium organisation
15. Follow-up on Apimondia accreditation as international NGO and collaboration/integration with other institutions
16. Management/assessment of and follow up on technical/scientific outcomes of congresses
17. Update of current projects: website, newsletter, working groups, digital kits
18. Reports of the President, Vice-President and Secretary-General
19. Reports of the Presidents of the Scientific Commissions
20. Reports of the Presidents of the Regional Commissions
21. Any other business

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## Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> May 2016

The President opens the meeting at 8:45 am. He welcomes the members present and conveys the apologies of Messrs. Ashagrie and Pagani who, due to unavoidable commitments or other important personal reasons, are not able to participate in the meeting. He then asks those present to rise for a minute to commemorate the untimely loss of Mr. Bahri Yılmaz, past President of the Turkish Beekeepers' Association and President of the 45<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress.

- Adoption of the agenda (point 1)

The agenda is unanimously adopted with minor amendments to the order of discussion of the items to be dealt with.

- Final report and closure of accounts of the 44<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress and official resolutions (point 2)

Mr. Cho expresses his gratitude to the Executive Council members for their help in the successful organisation of the congress held in Daejeon. Ms. Shin then illustrates the final report of the 44<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress, outlining the main features of the event such as the total numbers and respective distribution of the participants and exhibitors, the reports presented for the scientific programme and the World Beekeepers' Award winners.

Over 4,700 participants from 103 countries took part in the event and the ApiExpo consisted of 240 booths from 41 countries. As for the scientific programme, 340 oral reports and 274 posters were presented. Another important feature was that 29 people from developing countries were granted the Travel Awards that allowed them to participate in the Congress at no personal expense. The congress ended with a break-even result and the contribution to Apimondia amounts to Euro 36,934.30.

From the ensuing discussion, it emerges that the promotion of the event should have been more incisive, since the number of participants was somehow lower than expected (also due to the outbreak of MERS a few months before the event). Moreover, despite some substitutions of the coordinating unit of the Local Organising Committee in the preparatory phase, the on-site logistic organisation was much appreciated by all participants.

- Report and follow-up on the organisation of the 45<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress (point 3)

Mr. Şahin, newly elected President of the Turkish Beekeepers' Association and President of the 45<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress, presents himself after the sudden loss of Mr. Yılmaz; he thanks the Executive Council and the Members of the Federation for the numerous messages of support received and promises to follow on the tracks traced by Mr. Yılmaz. He also mentions that the Turkish beekeepers are eager to contribute to the success of the next congress and to show the international participants the results achieved in apiculture in Turkey in the last years.

Mr. Kaptan presents the interim report on the organisation of the 45<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress illustrating the premises of the congress venue and highlighting the work carried out on the registration system, the arrangements for the accommodation of the participants, the abstract system that will be used for the scientific reports, the contacts undertaken with Mr. Ryphiak for handling the World Beekeepers' Awards. He also mentions that Turkish Airlines has been appointed official carrier of the congress and reports on the arrangements envisaged for the ApiExpo and the technical tours.

The members of the Executive Council then ask further details regarding the deadlines of the abstract submissions and the relevant evaluation system; they also propose to organise an “open forum for beekeepers” during the event (with case studies of beekeepers) as well as to increase the social opportunities for the participants to meet each other.

The members also agree to have an extraordinary Executive Council meeting in Muğla, Turkey, in November 2016 so that the Presidents of the Scientific and Regional Commissions can meet their counterparts of the Local Organising Committee in order to define the scientific programme (sessions, symposia and round tables) and other related matters; it is also agreed to have the next ordinary Executive Council meeting in Istanbul on 26-28 May 2017.

Other issues that are stressed during the discussion are: to ensure good and constant communications among all the organising bodies especially between the Secretaries of the Local Scientific Committee and the Presidents of the Apimondia Scientific Commissions, close monitoring between abstracts submitted and the actual registration of the relevant author(s), to ensure a capillary promotion of the event also by contacting the national associations in order to know the dates of their main conferences and honey fairs.

Furthermore, it is strongly recommended that the round tables should include as many participants' categories as possible (scientists, beekeepers, packers, industry); it is also deliberated not to have the Honey Queen contest and to develop a stricter policy on the acceptance of exhibitors, especially those from the chemical companies.

Particular attention must be addressed towards the issue of security, following some incidents occurred recently in Turkey, which were negatively perceived by some would-be participants; Mr. Kaptan informs those present that the situation is currently fine and that the Local Organising Committee will keep the Federation and the participants abreast of this sensitive topic through communiqués posted on the event website.

Finally, Mr. Şahin thanks those present for the very constructive discussions and assures that the Local Organising Committee will take good note of the questions raised and proposals made; he also mentions that the Local Organising Committee is working on new topics and enhancements to add more value and interest in the programme and propose some innovative features that will be submitted to the Executive Council for discussion and endorsement as soon as they are defined.

- Follow-up on the organisation of the 46<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress (point 4)

Ms. Marguglio reports on the steps taken so far for the organisation of the 46<sup>th</sup> Apimondia Congress, informing the members of the Executive Council that a preliminary promotion plan has been developed and that the graphic layout is being worked on, so that everything would be ready for the kick-off date of the actual promotion (October 2017).

It is agreed that a representative of the core PCO will be in Muğla in November 2016 in order to gain more information on the Apimondia congress and discuss other relevant topics with the members of the Executive Council present there.

- Apimondia's general role/policy (point 13)

The members discuss on the need to have a stricter policy on the chemical companies that wish to rent a booth in the ApiExpo. Moreover, it is agreed that, on the same line, reports that have

commercial connotations should not be accepted in the scientific programme but only purely scientific reports.

It is also agreed that for the next congresses the Local Organising Committee has to send to Apimondia the minutes of the reports of the routine meetings with the updated budget. As for the planning and organisation of the Apimondia symposia, it is agreed to enforce stricter deadlines for ensuring a proper organisational timeframe.

For further issues, it is decided that the internal Working Group on Policy to be created will consist of Philip McCabe, Etienne Bruneau, Jodie Goldsworthy, Jeff Pettis.

- Update on: a) corporate PCO, b) fundraising (point 5)

a) Within the new framework of the organisation of the Apimondia Congresses that, as from 2019, will be run by the core Professional Congress Organiser (PCO) of Apimondia, Mr. Paolo Sebastianutti, international solicitor, illustrates in detail the reasons why a limited company (Apimondia Ltd) was created in order to manage the organisation of said events on behalf of the Federation.

He also mentions that the Managing Board of Apimondia Ltd comprises the same members of the Executive Council of Apimondia in order to ensure perfect alignment and transparency in the management positions.

He then proceeds to have all members of the Executive Council sign the required papers for setting up said entity.

b) With reference to the fundraising campaign “Bee the campaign”, Mr. Sebastianutti is asked to look into the matter to highlight aspects of implementation feasibility and possible areas of intervention.

- Report on the FIITEA Management Committee meeting (point 8)

The President and Secretary-General inform the present that the FIITEA Managing Committee meeting was not held due to the unavailability of Mr. Constantinescu to attend same.

The President proposes to convene the FIITEA Managing Committee meeting in Muğla in November 2016.

- Apimondia srl (point 10)

The Secretary-General reports on the situation of the limited company, mentioning that the new tenant of the building in Castel Porziano is regularly paying the current rents as well as those still due in accordance with the agreed arrear refund plan and therefore the funds advanced for the restoration works by the Apimondia Federation are now being duly paid back.

- Calendar and follow-up on organisation of forthcoming international congresses and symposia (point 6)

The next Apimondia international events to be held in the forthcoming months are:

- 4<sup>th</sup> ApiBio-ApiOrganica Symposium: will take place in Santiago del Estero, Argentina, on 5-10 September 2016;
- 6<sup>th</sup> Apimedica and 5<sup>th</sup> Apiquality Symposium: will take place in Rome, Italy, on 22-25 November 2016. Dr. Formato illustrates briefly the programme of the event and then together with Mr. Bruneau and Dr. Mateescu discusses in detail the scientific topics that will be addressed;
- 3<sup>rd</sup> ApiEcoFlora Symposium: will be held in Lazise, Italy, on 12-14 December 2016.

- New members (point 7)

The Secretary-General reports that the Fiji Beekeepers' Association (Fiji) and the Beekeepers' League of Kosovo (Kosovo) have submitted the application to join Apimondia as Full Members, whereas the Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale del Lazio e Toscana (Italy), the Sistema Productor Apícola (Mexico), the Bashkir Research Centre (Russia) and the Asian Apicultural Association (China) applied to become Associate Members. The following individuals have submitted the application as Individual Correspondent: Noëmi Marti Martín, Jesse Knoff and Henri de Cara.

The Executive Council approves the above-mentioned applications that will be submitted for the final endorsement to the General Assembly on the occasion of the meeting due to convene in Istanbul in September 2017. AAA's application needs further investigation by Prof. Cervancia.

- Overview of financial situation - Report on the accounts and approval of the accounts and financial report for 2015 and review of budget for the current biennium (point 9)

The Secretary-General illustrates the financial report of Apimondia, which shows for the financial year 2015 a profit of Euro 34,802.50. He mentions that the figures are in line with the patterns of past years and that the funds advanced to Apimondia srl for the building restoration are steadily being paid back. The budget for the current biennium is also reviewed.

The Executive Council approves the accounts, financial report and budget, attached to these minutes.

Having covered all the items on the agenda for the day, the President calls the meeting to a close.

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**Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

At 8:45 am the President opens the meeting.

- Review and new proposals for amendments to the Apimondia Statutes (Management Board + Scientific Coordinator + Members) (point 11)

In order to improve the management of the Federation, Ms. Goldworthy proposes to have a number of Skype sessions during the year to increase the discipline and to expand the scope, interaction and involvement of the managing body. Following some internal discussions and suggestions, it is proposed to extend the Apimondia Management Board membership composition, currently comprising the President, Vice-President and Secretary-General, to include also one Executive Council member from the Scientific Commissions as well as one from the Regional Commissions so to cater also for specific instances emerging from the Commissions and foster a more inclusive approach. The Executive Council approves the proposal and, as a result of the two internal polls,

Prof. Crailsheim and Ms. Goldsworthy are proposed for these positions and they both accept it. This proposal will be submitted to the General Assembly in 2017 for the official endorsement.

As for the co-ordination of Apimondia scientific communications and initiatives, the Secretary-General reports that Mr. Jørgensen, past President of the Federation, expressed in a previous communication to the General Secretariat his availability to act in this position. The members of the Executive Council approve even though some reserves are expressed on the actual name of the title to be assigned to this role. The incumbent will be in charge of assisting the Management Board on various issues such as the preparation of the Newsletter, collection of data and scientific information and reports from the Scientific and Regional Commissions for collation and dissemination, coordination of the Working Groups and other related activities to be defined.

Following the changes introduced by the amendments of the Statutes approved in 2011 on the membership categories, some reserves are expressed and discussed on the eligibility foreseen for some beekeeping associations to be admitted as Full Members and the associated possibility to bid for hosting an Apimondia congress.

- Review of content and implementation of terms of reference for Scientific and Regional Commissions (tasks for Presidents) (point 12)

The President proposes that each President of the Scientific Commissions forwards a workplan for the next six months so that they can be disseminated by the Regional Commissions in their respective areas. The Presidents propose that various information (list of laboratories, events, regulations, etc.) be posted on the Apimondia website.

The Management Board also calls for the Scientific and Regional Commissions of Apimondia to identify and appoint a number of active and duly qualified members within each Commission or at least nominate a deputy in case the Chairperson is not in a position to attend to all the assigned tasks and duties. The line-up of each Commission should therefore be notified to the General Secretariat for the required co-ordination and posting of the composition of each group on the Apimondia website.

- Collaboration with FAO: follow-up on definition of Memorandum of Understanding, TECA, Codex Alimentarius and co-participation in symposium organisation (point 14)

The Secretary-General reports that, following a meeting with FAO technical and administrative officers in May, the definition of the Memorandum of Understanding between Apimondia and FAO has been temporarily placed on stand-by. However, he will approach again the relevant FAO Division in the near future to enquire if there are any openings or possible developments.

Concerning the TECA platform, the Secretary-General asks the Presidents of the Scientific Commissions whether they are available to run some moderated discussions and Dr. Bradbear, Prof. Cervancia and Mr. Bruneau reply that they are available to do so and that they will contact the TECA Co-ordinator in order to make arrangements for holding the above-mentioned discussions.

- Follow-up on Apimondia accreditation as international NGO and collaboration/integration with other institutions (point 15)

The President and the Secretary-General report on the meeting they had with Bioversity in Rome in February. There appear to be some promising areas of mutual interest in standards for the management of the environment and related impact assessment. In this context, a suggestion is

made to Apimondia to explore the possibility of setting up a system to assess operators in the beekeeping sector on the basis of their compliance with standards that Apimondia could help define at an international level. The Apimondia Scientific and Regional Commissions would therefore be in a position to evaluate the scope of such initiative and its feasibility and actual implementation and report on same in due course.

- Management/assessment of and follow up on technical/scientific outcomes of congresses (point 16)

On this issue, the members agree that the resolutions of each congress should be delivered at the closing ceremony of each event. However, a strict mechanism should be developed in order to have a smooth process, with a preliminary approval of the Executive Council before they are disclosed. The Scientific Commissions are requested to prepare a policy report on how to handle this specific activity.

The person being appointed for managing the co-ordination of the Apimondia scientific communications and initiatives in close collaboration and consultation with the Scientific and Regional Commissions may represent the ideal figure for handling also this specific task.

- Update of current projects: website, newsletter, working groups, digital kits (point 17)

The President thanks the Vice-President for the publication of the first issue of the Apimondia Newsletter that was disseminated to all the members of the Federation who appreciated very much this initiative.

The Vice-President, mentioning that the Newsletter is the official communication means of the Federation, points out that the articles of the publication should focus on the main concerns of the beekeepers and should reflect the recommendations of Apimondia. He then asks all those present to ensure to send articles in due time for the regular dissemination.

- Reports of the President, Vice-President and Secretary-General (point 18)

The members of the Management Board briefly deliver their reports, the copies of which are attached to these minutes.

- Reports of the Presidents of the Scientific Commissions (point 19)

The Presidents of the Scientific Commissions also deliver their own reports, the copies of which are attached to these minutes.

- Reports of the Presidents of the Regional Commissions (point 20)

The Presidents of the Regional Commissions briefly deliver their own reports, the copies of which are attached to these minutes.

The President then invites the Presidents of the Scientific and Regional Commissions to give a brief account on the problems they are facing in their respective areas as well as proposals for future activities.

Mr. Cuevas Bravo proposes to hold in 2018 a symposium on the role of the value chain of bee products, since we have to think beyond the hive. Mr. Bruneau reports that there has been a poor



reply to the questionnaire sent out by the Apimondia Working Group on honey adulteration and informs that soon the EU will release either in June or later in the year a report on the frauds of honey, underlining that the current analyses and detection techniques of the laboratories are inadequate. A discussion follows suggesting that Apimondia should take a firm position on this issue and be more directly involved in exploring corrective measures.

- Any other business (point 21)

No item raised for discussion.

As indicated in point 3, the next Apimondia Executive Council meeting will be held in Istanbul on 26-28 May 2017.

With no other item on the agenda to discuss, at 15:00 the President calls the meeting to a close.

Rome, 29<sup>th</sup> May 2016

Philip McCabe  
President

Lucas Daniel Martínez  
Vice-President

Riccardo Jannoni-Sebastianini  
Secretary-General