



President's Letter

Lausanne, July 2018

Dear Air Sport Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to begin this letter by reporting the great success of the recent visit to the venues chosen for the **FAI World Air Games 2020**.

On behalf of all those who attended, I would like to thank both the host organisation, Türk Hava Kurumu, and the local government for their fantastic support both with this event and with the organisation of the games in general.

I am also delighted to be able to announce a number of exciting developments related to the Executive Board's efforts to ensure the federation keeps pace with the demands of an increasingly **digital world**.

It was great, for example, to see the latest version of the eNavigator event organisation technology, developed by our technical partner Noosphere, in action at the FAI Drone Racing World Cup event in Shenzhen, China in May.

And I am very much looking forward to experiencing it again at this year's Coupe Aéronautique Gordon Bennett in September, and at the 1st FAI World Drone Racing Championships, which will also be held in Shenzhen in November.

In December, there will be a dedicated workshop aimed at exploring how we will use eNavigator at the FAI World Air Games and addressing the challenges raised by the specific scoring and judging systems used by the different Air Sport Commissions.

The eNavigator system is not the only technical project we are working on at the moment, though.

The forthcoming launch of the online registration system for FAI Officials and Category 2 events, which is also being developed with Noosphere's support and should be ready this autumn, is another important pillar of our current IT strategy that is now pleasingly close to fruition.

As is the reprogramming of the Sporting Licence database, which should soon provide a better service for NACs, event organisers and athletes alike.

However, I would like to point out that even once the new system is up and running, it will remain important that NACs, who have the delegated right from FAI to issue sporting licences comply with rules and ensure that all competitors and athletes have one before an event.

While on the subject of technology, it would be remiss of me not to mention **drones**.

As many of you know, drone sports are a growing presence on the FAI sporting calendar.

Drone racing is an exciting new discipline that has given rise to some excellent air sports events and could prove a vital source of sustainable income for the FAI.

It is a huge growth area for air sports, particularly in Asia, where 16 countries are now members of the Airsport Federation of Asia and we continue to build bridges – notably on a recent visit to Beijing, when Susanne Schödel, Jean-Claude Weber and I signed a memorandum of understanding with Aero Sports Federation of China President Jia Bing.

*Fédération
Aéronautique
Internationale*

As exciting as drone sports are, however, the FAI also understands that, in the future, the use of drones could pose a threat to air sports in general.

So we are also working hard to protect our members' interests and ensure the sky can continue to be our stadium in years to come.

FAI Secretary General Susanne Schödel represented the interests of air sports at the annual conferences of the Global UTM Association (GUTMA) and Europe Air Sports (EAS), and FAI Executive Director Jean-Claude Weber attended the European Civil Aviation Conference to observe and liaise with the International Civil Aviation Organization on the federation's behalf.

Bruno Delor, Chairman of the FAI Drone Sport Subcommittee, is also collaborating with the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), while, after years of support from outgoing Europe Air Sports President David Roberts, we hope to continue working closely with his successor Andrea Anesini, to whom we wish all the best.

I would like to take this opportunity to urge all our members to do their bit too by actively working with their national authorities to safeguard our air space, and where possible to attend this year's **FAI International Drones Conference & Expo** in Lausanne.

Topics due to be covered at this great event, which will serve as a DRONEMASTERS Meetup, include the latest unmanned traffic management systems, and the development of man-carrying quadcopters for both racing and transport, as well as presentations from multiple FAI record breaker and Solar Impulse co-founder André Borschberg, and Vice President of the Swiss Drone Industry Alliance Simon Johnson.

So please visit the conference website to find out more: www.fai-dronesconference.org

I also hope that as many of you as possible will join me at the **112th FAI General Conference**, which will take place from October 25 to 27, 2018 in Luxor, Egypt.

It will be a chance for us to discuss our ongoing strategy of improving the organisation of the federation for the benefit of the NACs and ASCs alike.

Again, please visit the conference website for more details: <http://admepro.com/fai112gc/>

Finally, I would like to share with you a message from the International Olympic Committee, which has made its **Athlete Charter of Rights and Responsibilities survey** live, and is inviting all elite athletes to sign up and take the survey at www.olympic.org/athlete365/athletecharter to «give them the opportunity to share what's important to them. »

With best wishes for the ongoing success of the FAI championships and category 2 events planned over the next few months.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Frits Brink', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Frits Brink
FAI President