



# FAI Education Commission (EduC) 2024 Plenary Meeting Minutes



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## 1 WELCOME AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

The FAI EduC President, Mr Roland PRE, welcomed all attendees, delegates, experts, and FAI observers.

### 1.1 ATTENDANCE

#### 1.1.1 Roll Call Presence

PRE Roland	EduC President & Representative (FRA)
KASTELEIJN Michiel	EduC Vice President & Delegate (NED)
USKA Urmas	EduC Secretary & Delegate (EST)
BERLO Jaques	EnvC & CIMP Vice President & Delegate (BEL)
QUAGLIOTTI Fulvia	Delegate (ITA)
PRINCIPATO Greg	Delegate (USA)
WEIDEKAMP Shannon	Alternate Delegate (USA)
JONES Helen	Observer (GBR)
BOGNÁR Géza	Observer (HUN)
MIASNIKOV Ron	Observer (ISR)
TODOSOKI Zdravko	Observer (MKD)
PAPADOPOULOS Antonis	Observer (CASI & CIAM)
FINDAHL Per	Observer (CIAM Education Sub-Commission)
LINTL Wolfgang	Observer (CIMA)
MARTIN PARACULLOS Alberto	Observer (ISC)
HAGGENEY Markus	FAI Secretary General
VOKOUN HAJKOVA Kamila	FAI Members and Commissions Relations Manager

#### 1.1.2 Apologies

- NAC Switzerland
- VIGORITO Maria (FAI Executive Board)

#### 1.1.3 There were no proxy at this time

#### 1.1.4 Majority 3 out of 5 is Established

### 1.2 AGENDA

*EDUC-PM-2024-annex-01.1.2-Plenary-meeting-agenda-2024*

The agenda (v1.0, 21 May 2024) has been distributed to the delegates on 21 May 2024.

The agenda was approved unanimously.

### 1.3 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts were declared.

### 1.4 MINUTES OF EDUC 2023 PLENARY MEETING

*EDUC-PM-2024-annex-02.1.4-Plenary-meeting-minutes-2023*

The meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

## 2 EDUC PRESIDENT

### *EDUC-PM-2024-annex-03.2-GC-EduC-president-report-2023*

The FAI EduC President Roland PRE opened the meeting and welcomed all participants onboard. He pointed out that this year, new delegates are likely to be nominated from NACs of Hungary, Israel, and North Macedonia.

- 117<sup>th</sup> FAI General Conference 2023 in Dayton, Ohio USA confirmed that choices made during the plenary meeting should be pursued
- The Education Commission report given by Mr. Pre during said conference can be found in Basecamp
- All masses from Dayton agree that the future of air sports heavily rests on the investment in youth participation

## 3 FAI REPORT

### *EDUC-PM-2024-annex-04.3-FAI-SC-report-presentation*

### *EDUC-PM-2024-annex-05.3-FAI-SC-report-summary*

The FAI report was presented by the FAI Secretary General, Markus HAGGENEY. The full report is provided in Annex 4 and a written summary in Annex 5.

## 4 REPORT OF THE DELEGATES

### 4.1 BELGIUM

The Royal Belgium Aeroclub was founded in 1971 to develop and promote air sports. The aim in the past 2 years was to work on initiating air sport plans, movements, and spread them to the public. Federations are communicating to collaborate on a gathering that will bring over 1000 individuals together with speeches representing each existing air sports. The gathering is planned to be organised in all 3 parts of Belgium to maximise the reach.

### 4.2 ESTONIA

Estonia is currently focused the challenges and improvements of an airfield located outside of, but close to Tallinn. Residents of Tallinn have been reported heavily using airfields in this neighbouring county. Those who are from said county complained that the airfield seemed to only be used by individuals coming from the capital. Without the support of local residents, the Estonian government may reconsider the usage of this location. A decision was made to actively bring local people from that county to participate in activities on the unique 2 kilometre long air field. As part of the activation strategy, 8 local schools were provided with workshops and 5 day camps of student visits to the airfield.

### 4.3 ITALY

There are several activities dedicated to students in Italy, most of which focuses on aeronautics and some on space. The Newton Room is program that runs throughout Europe. It targets 4-5<sup>th</sup> year highschoolers. It combines mathematics and design through simulations. Regionally, the program Approach to Aerospace targets 3-4<sup>th</sup> year highschoolers. The program this year invites students to design their own sustainable aircraft for the year of 2050. The best 3 groups will be invited to visit the experimental base near Rome. The annual Space Dream allows 1<sup>st</sup> year elementary through to 5<sup>th</sup> year highschoolers to participate in levels of air-sport related activities varying from drawings to interviews in space. The Torino program Aerospace City consists of several programs in 1 million square meter. Activities are dedicated to university students, both technical and interactive. The City Aeroclub is also located inside the Aerospace City, allowing high levels of knowledge exchange. It is noted that in Italy, 5<sup>th</sup> year highschoolers already decided their future careers, thus programs focus on earlier years.

#### 4.4 NETHERLANDS

The Netherlands has been concentrated on the usual programs, such as the International Air Cadet Exchange and other programs targeting the youth. Mini Sympodiums allow 17-18 year old students to develop presentations for other students of 15-16 years of age. International professors lectured on space debris and sparked great interest amongst students. The air cadets program is a 3 year curriculum starting between the ages of 15-17 and allows participants to join the International Air Cadet Exchange when they turn 18-20 years of age. Cooperation between organisations such as the Royal Netherlands Aeronautical Organisation and the Air Force Association through the aid of a vice president was crucial to the development of this program.

#### 4.5 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The US has 5 different membership categories. A great number of local aeroclubs, industry associations, corporate organisations, and now some institutional organisations or members of NAA. The current NAC president is actively developing curriculums for elementary students starting at 4 years old, spreading aviation concepts from science to art and English subjects. In Kentucky, a 2 week summer program was created for those of 12-14 years. Students were encouraged to be challenged both academically and socially. Many participants were underprivileged. Hands-on projects included painting mini hot air balloons, building propellers, rockets, and parachutes. All sports from FAI were incorporated. Children were undeniably engaged and excited. Alongside teachers, the children are now creating an aerospace club.

#### 4.6 FRANCE (REPORTED BY EDUC PRESIDENT)

The Rookie project is planned to be translated into French to further establish its presence and participation from French speaking regions. This translation will soon be available online.

#### 4.7 HUNGARY (REPORTED BY OBSERVER)

*EDUC-PM-2024-annex-06.4.8-Hungary-report-presentation*

Air sports in Hungary no longer receive resources from the state authorities. Since 1990, there have been minimal resources for education, although all air sport activities continued as traditionally. The average age of modelers is around 60 years old. There are major initiatives targeting youth participants. Starting in 2019, AS associations distributed mini-DLG kits to clubs for free in exchange for all receivers participating in national wide competitions with the built models. In 2023, this was spread between category sections instead of clubs to diversify the education program. This has been a success thus far, as competition participation among youth increased by approximately 100 across the board. Beginner models are still a missing component in education, as past attempts at adapting the Rookie project have failed. The presenter intends to join the EduC in the future as a delegate.

#### 4.8 ISRAEL (REPORTED BY OBSERVER)

Israel has very active aeromodelling categories. Others are not relevant, as participants are required to be over 18. There is a plan to create competition between high schools. Students are to plan their own model that will fulfil a specific mission. In an effort to obtain support, there is continuous communication with the minister of education and military, academic institutions, factories, and innovators. Progress is looking promising thus far. The presenter agrees to being appointed as an EduC delegate in the future.

#### 4.9 UNITED KINGDOM (REPORTED BY OBSERVER)

The Payload Challenge engages schools and universities. Students design models that carry eggs to travel a certain distance and drop them safely. There were 17 contests run in 17 different countries. The programs successfully ran over 2 days. It was understood that clubs and students need to collaborate more in order to build on the quality of future programs. The United Kingdom aims to link air sports to civil aviation authorities and their stem activities. East Midlands is working to put a stem project together with their authorities and have requested a government grant. The website is being revamped, becoming more engaging through model building videos. In an effort to introduce aviation



as a career to youth, 500 schools will be connected through the website to share ideas and build on each other. The website link will be shared once launched.

## 5 REPORT OF THE EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEES OF FAI ASC

### 5.1 CIAM (REPORTED BY OBSERVER)

The Aeromodelling Commission urges all commissions to collaborate with EduC to combine all activities under one unified umbrella and to share some common projects. The Rookie project was developed recently. Participants are encouraged to register all their performances, and the winner will be chosen at the end of the year. There is a dedicated web page for these results. The larger the number of uploads on performances and pictures, the more content there is to interest individuals. CIAM is looking to launch a new webinar series in September. Meet with the Champion invites two well-known champions that draw international interest to discuss various topics such as training, progress, and model developments. These webinars will be recorded and uploaded to the website for continuous exposure. Scholarships continue to be provided to youth that have succeeded in significant aeromodelling achievements. In 2023, 5 individuals qualified as candidates, and one was able to obtain 2'500 CHF to continue their studies.

### 5.2 ISC (REPORTED BY OBSERVER)

The observer of the Skydiving Commission mentioned that since parachuting and skydiving require participants to be over 18, they are less relevant to the youth development programs. The indoor committee is largely active for the younger generations. Some countries are initiating activities. However, the program is difficult to carry out as it tends to be expensive and hard to promote through the limited number of tunnels available. ISC will have further discussions with their bureau in hopes of coming up with new ideas for the future.

## 6 REPORT OF THE EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEES OF FAI TC

### 6.1 CIMP

The mission of Medico-Physiological Commission is to spark interest and practical information for individuals. During Covid, multiple presentations were given on the topic of vaccines. This year, with President Thomas's support, there has been another webinar series since May of this year. Return to Flying After Pause has raised awareness on the dangers of hasteful re-activation and the importance of humble re-evaluation. 22 speakers were invited to share their views and discuss the best strategies to maximise caution and reduce risks. The next webinar will be in September, and it is on the topic of Problems Concerning Doping. CIMP continues to strive for safer air sport practices with each initiation.

### 6.2 ENVC

The Environmental Commission needs to develop a vision for the next 5 years. A survey is being prepared to be sent to all FAI stakeholders. This survey will help the commission to understand the current thoughts the air sport community has on the environment and the interaction air sports have with said environment. The results will set the commission on a clearer path and aid in future developments of environmental strategies and programs. The Vice President of EnvC invites all to participate in said survey and support future activities of the Environmental Commission.

## 7 REVIEW MISSION / SET OBJECTIVES FOR EDUC

### 7.1 WORKING GROUP 1: TEAM PAPER PLANE CHALLENGE

The Paper Plane Challenge is the greenest and most financially efficient program as of now. The aim is to directly manage this program through the Education Commission. During the summer of this year, the IT Manager of FAI will work on organising the database and providing documents on Basecamp.

This program hopes to be promoted internationally. The main target audiences are primary schools. The content of activities can expand as targeted participants increase in age. The support of teachers is critical. They tend to respond more towards the positive humanitarian values air sports bring as opposed to the technical aspects. Past efforts to communicate with primary school teachers have not been received with much enthusiasm. Thus, all member present are encouraged to promote said program through their own network.

## 7.2 WORKING GROUP 2: ACTION COORDINATION

Various commissions and personnel have been contacted in the interest of development.

- CIVL Hand Gliding & Paragliding Commission will submit ideas to their next bureau meeting and speak on possible next steps of activities. The EduC President states that the Education Commission can work in collaboration further CIVL is interested in delegating someone as an education observer or in an education subcommittee.
- CIA Ballooning Commission is keen on the idea of incorporating mini hot air balloons into activities. Communication will be resumed to further confirm the interest in having an education subcommittee or a person in relation to coordinate with the FAI EduC.
- CIMA Microlight & Paramotor Commission currently does not have permission from its bureau to make a subcommittee, but remains interested in doing so.
- ISC International Skydiving Commission is suggested to start identifying individuals involved in youth education. ISC observer states that the Israel observer present in this meeting has volunteered to be the liaison personnel from IOC.
- CIAM Aeromodelling Commission is encouraged to further translate the Rookie project to increase its international reach to youth in other parts of the globe.
- ICARE Astronautic Records Commission will likely not have the resources to create an education subcommittee anytime soon. A suggestion was made to find an external person interested in both space and education to collaborate with. The President of ICARE could possibly validate ideas and work with the proposed personnel.

## 7.3 WORKING GROUP 3: SURVEY

### 7.3.1 Purpose and Aim

This working group is created to better understand trends and suggestions from the air sport community. The aim is to also create an inventory of past activities from various countries. Building data from all parts of the world and combining it all into one location will allow information transfer much more efficient. Information such as how an event or program was created, how much resources in labour was needed, what where the activities, hours of the days used, and environments required.

### 7.3.2 CIAM Survey Result Report

*EDUC-PM-2024-annex-07.7.3.2-CIAM-survey-report-2024*

The CIAM survey report was presented by the CIAM observer. The full report is provided in annex 7.

## 7.4 SET OBJECTIVES FOR EDUC

- A bimonthly online meeting has been established and will be effective as of September of 2024. The time will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of every odd month at 11GMT. The location will be an online call.
- At least 1-3 projects ideas of those discussed should start being executed.

## 8 EDUC AWARD

*EDUC-PM-2024-annex-08.8-awards*

According to FAI By-Laws chapter 7.14.1

None were awarded.

## 9 YOUNG ARTST CONTEST

*EDUC-PM-2024-annex-09.9-YAC-report-2024*

An overview of and results presentation of 2024 edition and presentation of topic for 2025 was shared with the attendees.

## 10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Delegates were invited to propose items to be addressed.

Nothing was proposed.

## 11 DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT PLENARY MEETING

Plenary meeting in Switzerland, Lausanne on March 2025, TBD.

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FAI - Fédération Aéronautique Internationale

Avenue de Rhodanie 54

CH-1007 Lausanne

Switzerland

Tel: +41 21 345 10 70

Fax: +41 21 345 10 77

[www.fai.org](http://www.fai.org)

[info@fai.org](mailto:info@fai.org)