

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>ASIANIA REPORT TO 65<sup>th</sup> IPC PLENARY MEETING</b>	<b>Annex No. -</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Dr. Mubarak Al Swailim - ASIANIA President</b>	<b>Agenda ref. -</b>	<b>23.1</b>
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# ASIANIA

## PARACHUTE FEDERATION

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### REPORT TO 65th FAI – IPC PLENARY MEETING, 2014

**01 – 02 FEBRUARY 2014**

Dear IPC President Graeme Windsor, IPC executive committee, IPC delegates and friends of parachuting and skydiving.

Thank you for inviting me to report on the activities of ASIANIA during this past year. I would especially like to thank and recognise the efforts of the Austrian Aero-Club, Section Skydiving and Organiser, IPC delegate, Mister Johann Gritsch, for convening a very suitable and enjoyable venue for this very important annual conference and plenary meeting.

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

**ASIANIA is now in its 20<sup>th</sup> year of existence.** With just six countries involved at the time of the inaugural meeting in 1994 at Chengdu, China, ASIANIA membership has now reached thirty. As most of you will know ASIANIA was formed to improve the development of sport parachuting events and activities in the Asian and Australasian areas.

#### **Several milestones have been achieved by ASIANIA since 1994:**

- ✓ Acceptance as an FAI International Affiliate member in 2005.
- ✓ Membership has increased from six countries in 1994 to 30 in 2012.
- ✓ Responsible for introducing a substantial number of new countries to become FAI Members. Also for encouraging renewals of FAI membership by previous members.
- ✓ Recognised by the Olympic Council of Asia in 2012
- ✓ Recognised by the OCA in 2013 as the body to expand supervision to assist with the promotion and development of all air sports in Asia.
- ✓ Involved in promotion for parachuting in the Asian Games and Asian Beach Games
- ✓ Supporting role towards conduct of these activities in 2014 and 2015.

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## ASIANIA'S MISSION STATEMENT:

*ASIANIA exists to pursue its aims and ideals towards promoting, developing and increasing standards in international competition and better relations in the sport of parachuting and skydiving between the member countries and to provide a supportive role in promoting the values and benefits of FAI membership.*

## **A**SIANIA RELATED ACTIVITIES:

Since the 65th FAI – IPC PLENARY MEETING, 2013 at Banja Luka, Bosnia

### **15<sup>th</sup> ASIANIA Championships and CHINA International Open 2013:**

China hosted and conducted a very successful championships at Wuhan City, from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 13th October, with **Style, Accuracy, 4-way FS, 2-way and 4-way CF events** being contested. **Participants from more than 20 countries took part**, enjoying the excellent facilities at both the especially constructed Drop Zone and nearby Country Garden 5 star resort. Good support from the Wuhan local government department and the ASFC ensured everything was in place and ready for a good event.

**Military teams and FAI judges proceeded directly from the Asiania Championship to the 37<sup>th</sup> World Military Championships** being held at Qionglai City near Chengdu. The competition skills and knowledge obtained at Wuhan was no doubt an extra benefit to the teams' results. **The timing of the two events close to each other worked well**, and Asiania will consider this for future events. Indonesia has indicated it is keen to support this idea in 2014.

### **ASIANIA FAI Judge Training Courses:**

**The FAI Judge Training Course 2013 was conducted at Wuhan City, China with fifteen candidates from seven countries studying Style, Accuracy and Formation Skydiving** under the guidance of approved FAI Judges Ray Williams (Formation Skydiving), Bob King (Style and Accuracy) and convenor Faye Cox. Conducted in prior to and in conjunction with the 15<sup>th</sup> Asiania Championships and China International Open, all course candidates received additional valuable judging experience under supervision during the championships. This event was supported by the Wuhan local government department and the ASFC.

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**Twelve candidates successfully passed the FAI standard for Accuracy, two candidates passed the FAI Style standard and three candidates passed the FAI Formation Skydiving standard.** The remaining candidates generally achieved an Asiania National standard, which requires a 10% less pass mark than the FAI standard. This rating is used to encourage countries that may not have a formalised Judging structure in place.

## **18<sup>th</sup> ASIANIA Annual General Meeting:**

The AGM was conducted at Wuhan, China on the evening of the 10<sup>th</sup> October during the 15th ASIANIA Championships and China Parachuting Open.

**The meeting voted to support the USA proposal to update the FAI Sporting Code, Section 5 Sporting Code's current safety opening altitude due to concerns for safety.**

## **10<sup>TH</sup> ASIANIA EMAX Competition:**

Originally this competition was conducted by Email and FAX, hence the term "EMAX". This year to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> competition **ASIANIA aimed to have at least ten teams participating in the competition and this was achieved with participation by teams from Australia, Bahrain, China, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Korea, Oman, Qatar, Singapore, UAE.** Japan unfortunately sent its postal entry too late to be included. Judging was carried out at suitable times during the championships, with the special ASIANIA Medals presented to the winners of the 4-way Formation Skydiving, 2-way CF Sequential and 4-way CF Rotations events. Free Fly may be considered for inclusion in future EMAX events as there have been expressions of interest.

## **Olympic Council of Asia (OCA)**

There are still further considerations for the promotion and inclusion of parachuting in Asian and Olympic Games.

In June last year, President Mubarak attended a successful meeting at Kuwait, with the OCA, Director of the Asian Games Department. The outcome of the meeting was that the **OCA welcomed the support by Asiania with expanding the supervision on air sports in Asia, so that they can be more easily developed. This will need to be considered very carefully to ensure work with the Asian countries will not conflict.**

Mubarak has visited many Asian countries during 2013, with the result that **Parachuting will be included in the 5<sup>th</sup> Asian Beach Games 2016 in Vietnam.**

In 2014 parachuting will not be included in the 4<sup>th</sup> Asian Beach Games in Thailand nor 17<sup>th</sup> Asian Games in Korea. Disappointingly the offer by Saudi Arabia to provide aircraft fuel to support parachuting events in Thailand was not finally considered.

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## **ASIANIA You-Tube Judges' Competition:**

To promote more interest in judging this event is planned to be in operation for 2014. **It aims to enable participation in a simulated competition judging environment to encourage judges to become more proficient and current with their judging skill levels.** Judges will make their individual assessments which will be positively critiqued by a panel of expert FAI judges to enhance each judge's personal ability.

## **ASIANIA Safety Day:**

**A Safety Day on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April each year,** was developed by Dr. Mubarak Al Swailim **to promote a greater awareness of safety within the skydiving fraternity.** Some countries have already included this event in their activities, and hopefully many more will follow their lead in the future. Promotions for Safety can never be too much.

## **ASIANIA FAI Safety & Technical Symposium:**

Originally promoted by Dr. Mubarak Al Swailim and the Saudi Aviation Club, with support from FAI, ASIANIA and FAA (Federation of Arab Airsports), **this event aims to increase awareness of safety issues and technical development of sport parachuting and competition in the ASIANIA and Middle East countries** has been placed on hold for various reasons. However, it remains an important event and will be rescheduled when possible to suit the annual calendar of events.

## **16<sup>th</sup> ASIANIA Parachuting Championships 2014:**

**Indonesia has indicated it will conduct this event in conjunction with the Indonesian International Open,** which will be held prior to the 38<sup>th</sup> World CISM Championship at Solo in September 2014. Asiana welcomes Indonesia's support as it is most important for the continuation and success of ASIANIA to have this event on a regular basis, to promote and improve the skills and development of skydiving athletes towards participation at world events.

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## ASIANIA Membership Status:

ASIANIA membership fees have been increased in 2014 to support the ever increasing costs in maintaining the effective administration of Asiana.

**ASIANIA membership includes thirty countries** from Australia, Bahrain, China, Chinese Taipei, DPR Korea, Egypt, Hong Kong China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Oman, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Syria, Thailand, UAE and Uzbekistan. Brunei, Lebanon and Yemen are currently un-financial and under suspension.

**ASIANIA continues to actively promote the FAI IPC's philosophies and benefits of membership. A greater awareness and respect of the advantages provided by the FAI and IPC in the many areas of sport aviation are being recognised by the countries.**

## ASIANIA Aims for 2014:

- Promote parachuting events to be conducted in conjunction with Asian Beach Games, Asian Games and Olympic Games.
- Promote and produce new memberships in ASIANIA.
- Promote and provide continued support towards FAI IPC membership and activities.
- Promote and support participation in ASIANIA, International and World events.
- Promote and upgrade standards of competitions and judging.
- Promote coaching courses for FS and CF videographer skills
- Conduct at least one ASIANIA FAI Judge Training Course.
- Conduct YouTube Judge Training Competition
- Conduct the 16<sup>th</sup> ASIANIA Championships
- Conduct 11<sup>th</sup> ASIANIA "EMAX" competition for competitors and judges.
- Conduct 19<sup>th</sup> ASIANIA Annual General Meeting.
- Maintain ASIANIA website.
- Maintain ASIANIA Contact List, Calendar of Events.
- Maintain ASIANIA administrative support.

## CONCLUSION:

ASIANIA continues with its role to support and promote the FAI IPC in its aims and activities. Asiana is ready to support all air sports towards greater development within the countries and towards international events. Asiana looks toward an ever increasing desire to improve the status of parachuting and skydiving activities within its membership.

Thank you.

DR. MUBARAK AL SWAILIM (ASIANIA PRESIDENT)