

FAI Environmental Commission Report 2024

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CIMA Liaison to EnvC

There was no visible activity in 2023 other than the FAI Environmental Commission (EnvC) virtual plenary meeting on 27 June 2023. EnvC secretary Jeff Zaltman led the meeting as prior president Pierre Duval stepped down and the Vice-President (Sergey Anannov) was unfortunately a delegate of a suspended NAC.

FAI Secretary General, Markus Haggenev reported on FAI general health and that non-sporting commissions such as EnvC were funded 1500 EUR for overhead.

There were several reports from delegates as follows:

- UK
 - o Ballooning starting to use bio propane
 - o Formula air racing – Air race E first manned race plane
- Switzerland
 - o 9 flight schools using Pipistrel Velis
 - Many were going back to piston aircraft and may sell Velis back
 - o H55 Bristell retrofit
- Sweden
 - o Velis in operation
 - Concern that range is very low, can't get 70 km with reserve
 - o Biodiversity project
 - 8 pilot projects on airfield maintenance
 - Using airport property to harvest crops

On the scope of this FAI Commission, FAI President David Monks suggested that there needed to be a clear FAI environmental policy for commissions and a need to have more internal FAI intercommunication.

Jeff Zaltman (UK) was elected EnvC President, Jacques Berlo (FRA) was elected VP and the secretary position remained vacant. Date of the next plenary is May 2024 (TBC).

The EnvC has been struggling for years to find tangible activities that other FAI commissions can support. Other than drones, environmentally friendly propulsion systems such as electric, hydrogen and bio propane are slowly emerging but will not become commonplace in air sport activities for some years. CIMA records have been set in FAI Class R with electric propulsion and the fundamental aspects of Class R aircraft lends itself to opportunities for environmental related activity. It is up to CIMA to decide how to best contribute to the FAI Environmental Commission's goals.