



Internationale Kommission für Alpines Rettungswesen IKAR
Commission Internationale de Sauvetage Alpin CISA
International Commission for Alpine Rescue ICAR

**Minutes of the 59th Assembly of Delegates
October 20, 2007, 1600 hours
Pontresina, Switzerland**

On behalf of Dr. Martin Schmid, head of the Canton Graubünden government, Dr. Markus Reinhardt, police commandant of the canton Graubünden, opens the Assembly of delegates by passing on the canton Graubünden's regards.

1 Welcome by the President

Toni Grab welcomes everyone to the Assembly of Delegates 2007. The invitation, including agenda, was available within the required timeframe.

The assembly stands in memory of the mountain rescuers who have lost their lives since the last Assembly of Delegates.

Excused:

Karl-Peter Götzfried, honorary member and auditor.

A special welcome goes to the attending honorary members Gerhard Flora, Sepp Hölzl and Pierre Blanc.

2 Roll Call, Appointing Office

There are 25 A and 15 B member organizations present.

There are a total of 65 votes.

The absolute majority is 33.

The 2/3 majority is 44.

Markus Wey ARS and Heini Malue BWB are appointed to count the votes.

Nathalie Werlen will take the minutes.

3 Minutes of the 58th Assembly of Delegates 2006 in Kranjska Gora

The minutes were available within a useful period of time. They are approved unanimously.

4 President's and Commission Chairmen's Annual Report

The responsible parties presented their reports in plenum this afternoon so that everyone is informed, not just the delegates.

There are no questions regarding the reports and they are unanimously approved.

The reports will be posted separately on the ICAR home page.

5 Addition to the Bylaws for Exemption from Paying Taxes in Switzerland

ICAR had to formally apply in order to be exempt from paying taxes in Switzerland. The tax authorities imposed conditions that force ICAR to change, or append respectively, the statutes.

ICAR had to append paragraph 2.2.7:

ICAR is not pursuing any commercial purposes and is not pursuing any profits.

ICAR had to append paragraph 4.3.6:

The members of the executive committee work on a voluntary basis and are in principle only entitled to compensation for actual expenses and out-of-pocket expenses.

Paragraph 7.2 has to be changed to:

After the dissolution of ICAR, the remaining assets are to be bestowed on tax-exempt institutions with purposes of the same or similar kind.

With this new text it would be possible to put to practice what ICAR wanted with the old text.

The executive committee judges the appendixes and the change of paragraph 7.2 as problem-free and proposes the approval to the Assembly of Delegates.

There are no questions regarding the reform. They are approved unanimously.

6 Finances:

6.1 Income statement and Balance Sheet 2006
See appendix.

6.2 Auditor's Report
The auditors, Karl-Peter Götzfried and Peter Rheinberger, have examined the account and found it good. They propose to approve the annual account and discharge the treasurer.

Peter Rheinberger wants to resign as auditor at the end of 2008.

6.3 The Assembly of Delegates has no questions, approves the annual account 2006 unanimously and discharges the treasurer.

6.4 The Assembly of Delegates approves the Budget 2008_(see appendix) unanimously.

7. Replacement Elections

Louis Salzmann will retire early due to health reasons after 11 years as assessor. Sepp Hölzl, after regular retirement in 2005 as assessor, has not been replaced either. This is not contrary to the statutes since the number of assessors was determined as 3-5.

The ICAR executive committee has to make sure that ICAR is functioning well enough and according to its members. Therefore, it has no significant consequences as to which member country the executive committee members are from.

For the Assembly of Delegates 2008, there will be a few changes due to time of office restrictions. The executive committee proposes that now in 2007, Gebhard Barbisch OeBRD as current webmaster is elected as assessor. All other elections will be presented at the Assembly of Delegates 2008.

Since there were no questions or other proposals, Gebhard Barbisch, longtime ICAR webmaster, is elected unanimously as assessor in the executive committee.

8. Recommendations regarding Organization and Training Rec V 0002 and 0003

The Assembly of Delegates decided last year that ICAR should demonstrate and record publically what ICAR's opinion is regarding good organization of mountain rescue, requirements specification, and training of the mountain rescuers.

There are now two recommendations that cover those areas. They were reworked after the member organizations gave their input. The executive committee recommends that the Assembly of Delegates approve both recommendations. These recommendations shall be improved through the Assembly of Delegates as necessary.

There are no questions. Each recommendation was unanimously approved.

9. New Members

The following mountain rescue organizations have, under presentation of the necessary documents, applied for admission into ICAR:

- GORSKA RESEVALNA ZVEZA SLOVENIJE as Member A
- PLANINSKA ZVEZA SLOVENIJE as Member B
- Cyprus Search and Rescue Team as Member B
- Wasatch Backcountry Rescue as Member A
- Icelandic Association for Search and Rescue as Member A

The members from Slovenia are part of a reorganization (independence of the mountain rescue) that we also know from Switzerland, Germany, and Austria. The division of mountain rescuers as members A and mountain climbers as B is appropriate and logical.

The other three candidates present their organizations. Reinhold Doerflinger took over the presentation for the Cyprus Search and Rescue Team due to a last-minute change concerning the delegate from Cyprus.

There are no questions. Each candidacy was unanimously approved.

10. Emphasis

No commission comprehensive emphasis has developed. For 2008, the commissions are autonomic. It becomes apparent that the topic "Collaboration with Overcoming Natural Disasters" will be significant in 2008.

11. Presentation of Place of Venue 2008 in France

Jean Louis Verdier informs the Assembly of Delegates about Chamonix, place of venue for the congress in 2008.

12. Place of Venue 2009

The Assembly of Delegates takes note that the KWRO has already started preparations for 2009. The KWRO will inform in detail at Chamonix in 2008. It will be examined whether the ICAR congress can be held the week after the ISSW Europe. If so, the congress would be held October 8 – 12, 2009.

13. Miscellaneous

13.1 Request by the Search and Rescue Dogs Specialists

The search and rescue dogs specialists request to have their Head K-9 Representative accompany them to the annual ICAR congress.

The search and rescue dogs specialists shall have half a day per congress at their disposal.

The search and rescue dogs specialists shall meet every two years (besides the annual congress) for a practical meeting.

The executive committee proposes the approval of the request by the Assembly of Delegates. The assembly approves the request without further questions.

The search and rescue dogs specialists recommend their locale for the practical meeting 2009 (in 2007, the meeting took place in Leogang).

13.2 Honorable Discharge of Assessor Louis Salzmänn

Louis Salzmänn retires after 11 years as assessor due to health reasons.

Louis Salzmänn was an essential part in modernizing ICAR. He accomplished a great deal regarding Project Futura. He was always suggesting good ideas.

The executive committee, unanimously, proposes to appoint Louis as honorary member.

The Assembly of Delegates appoints Louis Salzmänn unanimously as honorary member.

13.3 Additional Congress Day (pre-congress)

The Terrestrial and Avalanche Commissions discussed intensively additional meeting days, pre-congress. The results are discussed by the executive committee.

The executive committee proposes that in the future, alternatively, starting in 2008 with the Terrestrial Commission, one extra day pre-congress shall be added.

The Assembly of Delegates approves unanimously.

13.4 Congress Organization

In the past years, there have always been timeframe problems, especially with presentations that couldn't be allocated to a specific commission. For 2008, the executive committee wants Saturday mornings left open for special topics. There will be several topics scheduled at the same time and it will be the responsibility of the congress participant to decide where they want to attend. Saturday afternoons shall, as in 2007, be scheduled with plenum meetings until the start of the Assembly of Delegates.

13.5 Statistics

Reinhold Dörflinger presents the new ICAR statistics. The member organizations are asked to submit numbers back to 2000, if possible, to webmaster Gebhard Barbisch by the end of November 2007.

14. **Final Word of the President**

The Assembly of Delegates is on one hand the ending, but also the beginning to translate the newly acquired knowledge into practice.

ICAR is only worth as much as the members disseminate at their homecoming.

Toni Grab asks everybody to make the necessary efforts within a useful amount of time in order for ICAR to retain its value. To begin, he wishes for a check of the data on the home page.

Toni Grab ends the Assembly of Delegates with thanks and applause for the organizational committee Pontresina at 1750 hours.

For the Minutes: Nathalie Werlen

The President: Toni Grab

For the English Translation: Olivia Chandler

Enclosures: Annual account 2006, Budget2008