



Translation from Russian Language

PROTOCOL

General Assembly of Balkan Federation of Apicultural Associations

At the invitation of Bulgarian Beekeeping Association the ordinary General Assembly meeting of Balkan Federation of Apicultural Associations took place in Pleven, Bulgaria in the period of February 8-10, 2008.

Participants have discussed the items of the following Agenda:

1. Discussions on the possibility of joint projects on country borders regions with funding from European Union;
2. To jointly organize participation of Balkan Federation members to the 17th Apislavia Congress in Kiev, Ukraine, in the period of 18-21 September 2008;
3. Presentation and participation at Apimondia symposia in Rome on Apimedita and Apiquality (June 9-11, 2008) and in Bucharest "Beekeeping Simple and Clear" (September 11-14, 2008);
4. Presentation of location alternatives in Bulgaria for the 18th Apislavia & 2nd Balkan Beekeeping Federation Congress in September 2010.
5. Agenda for the next Balkan Beekeeping Federation General Assembly in Larisa, Greece, possibly in April –May, 2008.

Representatives of beekeeping Associations of Bulgaria, Republic of Macedonia, Romania, Serbia and FIITEA Apimondia took part at the meeting.

There have been detailed and profound discussions on every item of the Agenda. A special interest was granted to the report of the expert from Ministry of Regional Development in Bulgaria on possibilities to elaborate joint projects on cross-border areas financed from European Union funding.

The following Decisions have been adopted:

1. With the support of Ministry of Regional Development in Bulgaria, Beekeeping Association of Bulgaria will make all efforts to determine organizing in Bucharest a meeting of government high officials who coordinate European programs in financing cross-border development projects, by the end of February 2008. Presidents of Beekeeping Associations in Bulgaria and Romania will also be present at this meeting. FIITEA Apimondia will be the coordinator of this meeting.
2. Member countries of Balkan Beekeeping Federation are supportive of the FIITEA Apimondia proposals to organize publishing a Balkan Beekeeping Federation magazine. At the same time FIITEA Apimondia will ensure on internet, a site dedicated to Balkan Federation activities in English and Russian languages. Member Associations will translate, in their turn, in the languages of their countries and will return the papers to FIITEA Apimondia to be placed on site as well. Director General of FIITEA Apimondia was asked to prepare a concrete schedule to be presented at the next meeting of Balkan Beekeeping Federation, possibly in Larisa, Greece.
3. Member countries of Balkan Federation give the mandate to Balkan Secretariat to contact Acad. Bodnarchuk with the kind request to include the event of the 17th Apislavia Congress in Ukraine government schedule to help scientific speakers at the Congress get scientific points. At the same time the members of the Balkan Federation would like to benefit of a free joint stand at the fair in Kiev during Congress.

4. Member countries of Balkan Federation will disseminate information on Apimondia Symposia organized in Rome, Italy “Apimedica & Apiquality” in the period of June 9-11, 2008 and in Bucharest “Beekeeping Clear and Simple” in the period of September 11-14, 2008.
5. Bulgarian Beekeeping Association will take into account the recommendations made during discussions and will designate the location of the joint Balkan Federation & Apislavia Jubilee (100 years of existence) Congress by the end of 2008.
6. Members present have agreed the following Agenda for the possible meeting in Larisa, Greece:
 - a. Discussions concerning further elaboration of projects, among all members, of cross border cooperation financed by European Union;
 - b. Organize meetings of beekeepers on subjects of local interest and exchange of experience;
 - c. Discuss the opportunity of organizing an international symposium in 2009 in the field of innovations and production of beekeeping equipment;
 - d. Report on a specialized Balkan Federation beekeeping magazine (printed and/or virtual) by FIITEA Apimondia director general;
 - e. Joint participation with a Balkan Federation stand at the 17th Apislavia Congress in Kiev, Ukraine in the period of September 18-21, 2008.

After the meeting members present visited the beekeeping fair in Pleven. Bulgarian Association of Beekeepers expresses its thanks to the members of international jury, under the presidency of Mirce Nastoski, president of Beekeeping Association of Macedonia Republic, who granted awards to the best stands at the Fair.

Secretary General Stefan Stefanov