

# FEDERATION CYNOLOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (AISBL)

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**Enclosure 2**

## **REPORT ON THE SECRETARIAT GENERAL'S ACTIVITIES BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Bratislava, October 5 2009

Mr President, dear General Committee members, dear delegates

Before all, my warmest thanks and congratulations to the Slovak Kennel Club for their hospitality, their organization and the wonderful participation figures they have reached at the World Dog Show despite an extremely bad economic situation worldwide. Alarmist rumours predicted a rather low participation rate but the Slovak Kennel Club took up the challenge and set a new record.

Once every two years, I'm given the opportunity to talk to all of you about your activities and about the life at the FCI Office. Just like at the previous General Assemblies, I'll try to be as short and clear as possible.

First of all, let's have a look at the statistics about shows, in terms of number of shows, number of CACIB confirmed and total entry at shows. Let's also take a look at the number of titles of international champion confirmed by our Secretariat.

As far as the number of CACIB dog shows is concerned, the trend is clearly rising since we last met in the course of 2007 in Acapulco. The number of shows has never been as high as it is nowadays. In 2006, we have received the results of 593 shows. This number has increased the last two years with 648 and 692 shows. This is an impressive result due to two main factors: the increase of the number of the so-called "double CACIB shows" and the growing activity of some of our members, very eager to organize more and more CACIB events.

Let's analyse the figures section by section. As you see, in Europe, France, Russia and Italy have been the countries organizing the most CACIB events over the last two years.

In the section "Americas and the Caribbean", Brazil, Mexico and Argentina and in the Asia and the Pacific section, let's underline the activities of Japan, Taiwan, the Republic of South Korea and China.

However as you can see now, highest number of shows does not AUTOMATICALLY mean highest entry figures, more particularly in Europe where Finland, Germany and Sweden, which hosted the world dog show, have registered the highest total entry and appear on the podium, together with France.

In the other two sections, the countries remain the same.

As a consequence, the total number of dogs entered at CACIB shows has increased too with 756.373 dogs in 2006, 836.313 in 2007 and 866.791 in 2008. Is this increase, as one can logically expect, only the result of the growing number of CACIB shows and double-CACIB shows or do we have more and more new dogs at these events? We are unable to answer but the truth must be somewhere in between.

As a corollary, the number of CACIBs confirmed has increased proportionally, from 110.671 in 2006, to 119.002 in 2007 and 123.279 in 2008. This means a huge job for our Office and we are working on a new method, time saving and which should enable us to avoid to process the results several times. The countries will be informed in the next months. The principle would be that the results of shows are transferred directly into our database.

The logical conclusion of all these show statistics is the number of titles of CIB.

As you see, in 2006, the Office had confirmed 5240 titles in 2006, 6041 in 2007 and 5514 in 2008. We do not have any clear and precise explanations for these important variations.

The maintaining of the capacity of our dogs to perform the tasks for which they were created is essential and it is then of key importance that our members and contract partners organise hunting trials, sighthounds races, tracking or utility trials, etc.

The figures over the last two years are very positive and show that dog owners still appreciate hunting or "playing" with their dogs. As you will see, we observe a strong increase in the number of sighthounds races and CACIT trials which include trials for utility, rescue, herding and hunting dogs.

The number of CIT has drastically increased over the last two years when compared with 2006.

The figures we have speak for themselves. The increased interest in sighthounds races is of course reflected in this part of the statistics.

The registration of kennel names also represents a very huge part of the services offered by the FCI to its members and contract partners, as well as to breeders. This is also a good way to assess how “international” the activities of our members and their breeders are. In this particular field, it seems that the financial and economic crisis hit its target as 2008 has not been a very good year with a decrease of nearly 3.000 kennel names. For information, the total number of kennel names in the FCI database reached 680.490 by the end of 2008.

Enough with figures and statistics !!

Since April 15, 2009, we made what I consider to be a major decision by stopping most of our post and rather use the electronic communication. This is a great step forward and it seems to be working quite well. We all gain in terms of money, ecology, time, delays and reliability. I invite once again all of you to immediately communicate to the FCI any change in the email addresses of your kennel clubs or your representatives in the different commissions.

Most of you will surely have seen that we are re-designing our web site. Nowadays, Internet is undoubtedly the most powerful and efficient communication means for any company and it is essential that we exploit it to the maximum of its capacities. The FCI magazine is online, the most important news and our circulars are online, most of our standards are online, contact details of all our members, contact details and area of responsibility of all the FCI Office staff, show schedules as well as world or section championships, the major FCI regulations, general presentation of the FCI General Committee, etc are available from our website. Further developments are being considered and will shortly be implemented. Accountancy details should also be made available to each country (of course in total privacy) and we would appreciate, if possible, that all our members dedicate some space of their own website to the FCI with a link towards our site. The FCI Office will provide its members and contract partners with the page which could be used on your different websites.

As you see, most of the projects listed in my speech in 2007 in Acapulco were achieved. The only remaining point is the illustration of the breed standards. We shall again be in touch with all the countries “owning” breed standards asking them to provide us with an excellent drawing or photo (head + body) to illustrate the standards. Your cooperation is essential.

A couple of figures to illustrate the traffic on our website between June 1<sup>st</sup> 2009 and August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009.

Number of visits : 224.485 (average : 74.828/month)

Number of visitors : 135.853 (average : 45.284/month)

Number of page views : 631.236 (average : 210.412/month)

Number of pages per visit : 4.74

Average time on site : 3 min 37 sec

An achievement the FCI is proud of is the very first ever FCI Annual Report which you all received in May and which we hope you found interesting and well-illustrated. This will not be, of course, a one-shot operation and we shall repeat it.

In a couple of weeks, the FCI Office will again turn to you to get your yearly statistics about the registration figures, the number of dogs in your country, etc. To collect reliable and correct statistics which will be made available to the world is very important to us, as a global organization and to you and your credibility.

Mid May, we sent you the form about FCI non-compulsory commissions and I thank the countries which have already returned the document duly completed. I kindly ask the countries which have not yet done so to complete it very carefully (tick the box corresponding to the commissions in which you are interested) and to return it as soon as possible, either during this Assembly, or by mail or e-mail. I insist on the fact that the countries which are not registered for a particular commission will not be able to send a delegate to attend the meetings and that they will not receive any invitation.

One last word about a project we intend to launch in a couple of weeks : inspired from what some members are already doing at national level, we would like to organise a worldwide drawing contest. We have set up a local contest and it was a first successful try. We now would like to extend it and of course need your cooperation.

Before I conclude, I would like to congratulate all the countries on their efforts to pay their invoices regularly, thus keeping up to date. We are aware that this is sometimes difficult and that it implies efforts and we appreciate your cooperation in this respect.

Finally, allow me to thank my staff for their professional and efficient work. I would also like to express my gratitude to the members of the General Committee and the Executive Committee for their constant availability. I thank the presidents of the different commissions with whom the cooperation is, most of the time, excellent. Eventually, of course, my warmest gratitude to the members and partners. They are doing an excellent job.

Dear all, I wish you an excellent stay in Bratislava and I thank you for your attention.

Y. De Clercq  
Executive Director