

FIATA

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Doc. PR 15/09
DATE: 2015/09/13

FIATA SECRETARIAT Media Information

FIATA Thinks Global in Taipei ***“From here and now, think Global”***

Today the FIATA General Meeting delegates elected the new Presidency and the new Extended Board of FIATA in Taipei.

After resolving the usual tasks pertaining to finance, membership matters, etc. the General Meeting reached its zenith when the casting of the ballots took place, thus showing all delegates as well as the numerous observers and journalists the true expression of the democratic and ecumenical nature of FIATA, which is indeed the trait that makes FIATA the one and unified voice of global logistics. The World Congress theme, “From here and now think Global” powerfully echoed in the results that the zealous Secretariat staff disclosed to the outgoing President, Mr Francesco Parisi.

The newly elected **President** is **Huxiang Zhao**, who is Chairman of Sinotrans & C SC, Chairman of DHL-Sinotrans and President of CIFA, the FIATA Association Member in China. Sinotrans & C SC is the largest comprehensive logistics provider, the second largest shipping agency and the third largest ship-owner in China.

Mr **Zhao**, from China, succeeds Mr **Parisi**, from Italy, who will now serve as Immediate Past President for the following two years. Mr Jean-Claude **Delen**, Belgium has been re-elected as Treasurer and Robert Voltmann, United States will replace Heiner **Rogge**, Germany in the position of Secretary General. The Presidency is however completed by three distinguished practitioners from Asia, Europe and Africa Mr Babar Badat from Pakistan, renewing his positions as Senior Vice President, and by Mr Ivan Petrov from Bulgaria and Mr Basil Pietersen South Africa, who enrich the Presidency with professional curriculums that are second to none and have been elected as Senior Vice President for the first time. This new Presidency represents all the four regions of the FIATA global constituency which is established in 158 countries.

Now the second part of this prophetic congress theme will have to fulfil the expectations by making this global outreach of FIATA indeed the pivotal element of the FIATA future strategy. Old and new senior vice-presidents will have to maintain the connections with their respective regions in order to effectively connect Asia with their European, African and American counterparts the Presidency and the Extended Board, representing an unprecedented number of countries and territories by any representative association’s standards.

The General Meeting delegates also elected the following **Vice-Presidents**: Marc Bibeau, CA; Turgut Erkeskin, TR; Paul Golland, AU; Chelliah Krishnan, MY; Robert Kingsford Kutin, GH; Steve Parker, GB; David Phillips, AE; Jens Roemer, BE; Antonella Straulino, IT; Keshav Tanna, IN; Jeffrey Wannamaker, US; Peter Yang, TW; together with the Chairpersons of the Institutes, the Advisory Bodies and the FIATA Regional Bodies, these distinguished individuals compose the Extended Board of FIATA, whose geographic diversity speaks for itself in terms of the representation of FIATA worldwide, which in 2015 comprises 158 countries and/or territories. The only newcomer in the group of Board members with a portfolio is Mr Jorge Heineremann of Uruguay, who takes the helm of the RAMNS, where he succeeds Mr Rodolfo Sagel of Argentina. The new FIATA Logistics Academy is chaired by Mr Issa Baluch of France as well as The Congress Committee is now chaired by Mr Stanley Lim, who has been nominated Honorary Member of the Board of FIATA as well Mr Heiner Rogge.

The Presidency adopted the following motion, seeking endorsement and obtaining the unanimous acceptance of the delegates:

Institutes

Chairperson AFI	Rodolfo J.C. Sagel	Argentina
Chairperson CAI	Stephen J. Morris	Australia
Chairperson MTI	Robert Keen	United Kingdom

Advisory Bodies

Chairperson ABIA	Babar Badat	Pakistan
Chairperson ABIT	Anne Sandretto	France
Chairperson ABLM	Richard D. Gluck	United States
Chairperson ABVT	Thomas Sim	Singapore
Chairperson ABSM	David Fielder	Denmark

Regional Bodies

Chairperson RAME	Basil Pietersen	South Africa
Chairperson RAP	Chris Kanter	Indonesia
Chairperson RAMS	Jorge Heineremann	Uruguay
Chairperson REU	Ivan Petrov	Bulgaria

Standing Committees

FIATA Logistics Academy	Issa Baluch	France
FIATA World Congress	Stanley Lim	Singapore

When making comments on the concluded World Congress in Taipei the newly elected President, Zhao Huxiang, made four noteworthy points during the Press Conference which followed his election:

- 1) Why holding FWC in Chinese Taipei? Asia's economy develops rapidly and it has done so for the past few years; following such economic exploit FIATA chose Chinese Taipei to give delegates more opportunity to know and participate in the economic development of Asia;
- 2) The Taipei World Congress WAS well-organized and very fruitful in the network opportunity, not only for countries in South East Assia, but also between South East Asia and the rest of the world; it has also established a land mark in the development of technologies which will become stronger and stronger in our sector in future.
- 3) The newly elected Presidency and Extended Board come from diversified geographic and cultural background, which will enable FIATA to better represent freight forwarders and logistics service providers worldwide;

Mr Zhao's emotions resounded in the room when he said: "I'm extremely honoured to be elected as FIATA President, I have worked in freight forwarding and shipping sector for over 40 years, and would like to devote my experience and abilities to FIATA. And I'm grateful to my predecessor and all those who made contributions to FIATA before me. Since last year, the Presidency initiated a debate for "Future of FIATA". Such reform is aimed to provide better service for members and enhance FIATA's influence world-wide. Let me sincerely invite all members of FIATA, international and local organisations, together with the governmental sectors, to participate in the innovation process, in order to present FIATA at its 90th birthday with our enhanced and higher achievements." There was no way to refrain the applause which followed from the audience.

The Presidency of FIATA and the Member of the Extended Board are now on their way home, which are now spanning almost the entire 24 hours global time zones from Australia westwards to Hawaii. The message they share **the name, the logo and the reputation of FIATA** unifies and brings this global, enormous constituency together, speaking with the largest and most representative voice in global logistics.

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Note for the editors

FIATA, the International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations, was founded in Vienna, Austria on May 31st 1926. It is a non-governmental organisation that today represents an industry covering approximately 40,000 forwarding and logistics firms, employing around 10 million people in 158 countries. FIATA has consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations (inter alia ECE, ESCAP, ESCWA, etc.), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and the UN Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) as well as many other UN related bodies, e.g. the World Bank. It is recognised as representing the freight forwarding industry by many other governmental organisations, governmental authorities, private international organisations in the field of transport and logistics, such as the European Commission (through CLECAT), the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the International Air Transport Association (IATA), the International Union of Railways (UIC), the International Road Transport Union (IRU), the World Customs Organization (WCO), the World Trade Organization (WTO), etc.

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