

# 30<sup>th</sup> AGM of ECAHO



## What's new?

by ECAHO Office ■ photos by Z. Slavikova

**O**n the first weekend in March the Vienna Marriott Hotel in Austria hosted the 30th AGM of ECAHO on the invitation of Austrian Arabian Horse Organisation VVÖ. The Agenda of this year's anniversary meeting promised several innovations and changes. Let's take a look how the whole meeting was carried out and whether all the proposals were accepted.

The ECAHO conference was opened on Friday 1st March by the visitation of the Spanish Riding School, where all the participants were welcomed in the representative premises

and were acquainted with the past, present and future plans of this unique equestrian school. Then the group could see part of the public training and had the exclusive opportunity to visit also the stables. In the early evening, the meeting of Registration and Identification Commission delegates started. Mr. X. Guibert (FR) presented to all delegates the latest news in the legislation of the European Commission. They had also the opportunity to discuss the impacts of the changes in the ECAHO Constitution that were on the Agenda of the AGM, and get thus the information about the new system the functionality of this Commission. At the end of this mee-



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ting the Chairman of the Commission Mr. Winand Bijmens (BE) was re-elected for another term.

The Show Commission was opened on Saturday morning by the Chairman HRH Princess Alia Al Hussein Al Saleh (JOR). There were more topics for discussion on the Agenda than to decide because many technical matters were already solved during the previous meeting in Paris last December. The major innovation agreed on last meeting was the introduction of new Show categories: Specific origin shows (opened for horses with pre-defined origin, e.g. Straight Egyptian shows) and European shows (opened for horses born and owned within Europe). The rules for both mentioned show categories can be already found in the Blue Book 2013. Thanks to the approval of those innovations will ECAHO affiliate this year such shows as the Egyptian Event Europe in Lanaken or the Straight Egyptian World Championship in Rome, which ECAHO warmly welcomes.

Another new thing, processed by the Show Commission for already long time, is the training of ECAHO Ringmasters. The first course will be held this April in Polish stud Janów Podlaski. Delegates of the Show Commission also had the chance to discuss new possibilities of judging of Arabian horses (division of the mark for head and neck into 2 separate marks, usage of point system from 1 to 10 with half points and further), view the statistics and possibilities to choose the judges for A and Title shows or necessity to organize National judges courses in Member countries. Considering too many topics on the Agenda, few technical matters were postponed to the next meeting.

Another meeting organized on Saturday was the Sport Commission. This year relatively large number of participants arrived and discussed mainly the European Championships for sport Arabians in Denmark, Vilhemsborg, on 26.-28. July 2013. All the Arabian sport horse lovers are warmly welcomed because to have the unique chance to see various sport classes and, in parallel, the top Danish show horses during the Vilhemsborg National Championship. All the information can be found on the ECAHO website or the website of Danish organization HYPERLINK "<http://www.dsah.dk>". The European Championships for Sport horses will be organized in Poland in 2014 and in The Netherlands in 2015. The delegates reaffirmed the interest of National organizations and the interest of ECAHO to continue with support of the sport in Member countries.

Saturday meeting marathon was ended by the open discussion, organized by the Executive Committee. There was only one point to discuss – the proposed amendments to the Constitution of ECAHO. Many delegates and visitors of the AGM took the opportunity to participate, to become acquainted in detail with the proposed versions of the Constitution and get answers to all the questions and misunderstandings.

But the top of the Saturday was surely the Gala dinner hosted by Mrs. and Mr. Heiloo. They deserve a big thank for the exceptional evening full of humorous performances and delicious food!





# 0. What's new?

*The General Meeting was opened by the President of ECAHO Jaroslav Lacina (CZ) on Sunday morning. The main points of the discussion were already mentioned two new drafts of ECAHO Constitution, submitted by the Executive Committee. The first draft contained especially replacing of the ECAHO Commissions (EAHRIC, EAHSpc and EAHSC) by working groups that would be able to work faster and more efficiently than the Commissions themselves. The second proposal was compiled primarily from the proposals sent by individual Members of ECAHO. They focused mainly in the solution to the conflict of interests among the Commission and transformation of Sports and Registration Commission into the working groups. Although all the questions and comments of the delegates were answered and explained, however, none of the proposals received a sufficient majority of the votes. Due to this decision ECAHO will continue to work with the same system as before.*

*The big debate arose about the possibility to downgrade the membership of any ECAHO Full member in case that in the two-year period there is no ECAHO affiliated show in such country. This rule was agreed already on the AGM 2012 in Amman and concerns currently several countries such as United Arab Emirates, Hungary, Switzerland and Russia. These countries have the opportunity to organize or affiliate any of their shows at latest this year. In case this is not done, their full membership will be discussed during the AGM 2014.*

*But let's come back to the decisions adopted at the meeting in*

*Vienna. One of the most important is certainly the acceptance of prize money for shows organized in Europe. Since now the financial and other prizes may be distributed using the same system on European as well as Middle-Eastern shows - i.e. the value of the financial and other awards is not limited but 3 % of the total sum is paid to ECAHO.*

*Delegates also approved the upgrade of the Membership status of new Full member - Equestrian Federation of I.R. Iran - and accepted new Associate members from Lybia, Lebanon and Russia. The program continued with election of one Executive Committee member. Mrs. Anna Stojanowska from Poland was re-elected for another 4-year term. Later on was appointed the Vice-president of ECAHO during the Executive Committee meeting.*

*Necessary topic of each AGM Agenda is every year the budget (which was agreed by the delegates) and reports of the Commissions Chairmen. Invitation to the General Meeting in 2014 did Qatar, where surely all participants enjoying now.*

*A big thank for excellent organization of the AGM in Vienna belongs to the team of VVÖ (Verband der Vollblutarabzucht Österreich) led by its president Mrs. Anne Heiloo. They managed to prepare excellent conference and interesting side program for all the participants.*

*If you are interested in obtaining more information about the decisions of ECAHO please contact your National organization or ECAHO office. □*







# 10. What's new?

SHOWS AND EVENTS







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