The General Meeting, held in Brussels on 17-19 April 2009, did elect new Board members and a new President.

David Roberts, a long time Board member, is now President of Europe Air Sports.

Sir John Allison has resigned and has been awarded the Honorary Presidency.

The Board has assigned a new Secretary-General, Pierre Leonard. Former SG, Harry Schoevers, has resigned after 15 years service and has been awarded the Diplôme Paul Tissandier, presented by the president of FAI, Pierre Portmann.

The new and former Board members and Secretaries-General:

Board, Secretary-General, Programme Manager and Consultant.
The Board now consists of 10 members under the leadership of David Roberts, the new President.

Per Wistisen, had to resign due to health problems and Jens Feldborg has been elected as the new Treasurer.

New members are Marcel Felten and Patrick Pauwels.

Roland Stuck has decided not to be re-elected.

The Secretary-General, Harry Schoevers, has resigned and the new Secretary-General is Pierre Leonard.

His address is shown in the Newsletter heading.

Programme Manager Jan Fridrich and our Consultant, Timo Schubert (Associate Director of ADS Insight), provide specialized support in managing the internal organization and the relations with the European political and authority institutions.

The Board is especially pleased with our professional consultant, managing very effectively the interface with EU institutions. The Programme Manager is heavily involved in EASA activities.

Technical Conference.
Prior to the General Meeting a Technical Conference has been held.

The presentations are available on the Europe Air Sports website/Organization login section. If you need a password for access, you should approach the old Secretary-General, see e-mail in the heading.

Activities at the European political level

Timo Schubert has given an extensive overview how the EU works and how we have influenced a number of regulations at that level.

Of particular relevance to EAS is the favourable outcome of the regulation, amending the EASA Basic Regulation to extend the competencies of EASA to aerodromes, air traffic management and air navigation services, with respect to aerodromes falling under the European rules.

A very favourable EU report for General and Business Aviation, reacting to the Commission’s “Sustainable Future for General and Business Aviation” endorses the Commission’s views that this aviation sector requires appropriate and proportionate legislation. It stresses the important role of sports aviation for the quality of life of the European citizen and as resource provider for commercial aviation personnel and notes that its environmental impact is limited in comparison to commercial air transport.

The EU Directive on the inclusion of aviation in the European Emissions Trading System will have a significant impact on commercial aviation from 2012. We are relieved that our aviation sector will not be exposed to excessive and unnecessary bureaucratic requirements.

Activities at EASA level.
The main issues deal with a request to get feedback on the experience of Part M, with licensing including medical aspects and with NPA 2008-22, in particular for Training Organizations. The Workshop on the previous day had been devoted to that specific subject.

Airspace matters.

Lower airspace and airspace harmonization are the main issues here. A controversial project, “airspace infringements”, will be discussed with Eurocontrol.

UAV matters.

Graham Lynn gave an overview of the situation for unmanned aircraft systems.