**Interest of IHC to become an Apimondia working group**

Apimondia is a world organization with interest in pollinators, mainly bees, and beekeeping. More information about the Federation and its activities can be found here: [www.apimondia.com](http://www.apimondia.com/)

Apimondia is comprised of seven scientific commissions, five regional commissions and a number of working groups with multifarious subjects of interest. IHC is already considered as one of these working groups operating under the Scientific Commission Beekeeping Technology and Quality and the IHC president is currently the vice-chair of this commission.

Advantages to be inside of Apimondia:

* International dissemination of information (large database – mailing list)
* Possible relations with the international authorities (FAO, *Codex Alimentarius*)
* Possibility to have free-of-charge rooms for the working group meetings, including that of the IHC general assembly during Apimondia congresses on condition that the meeting addresses issues strictly related to the activities of the working group and that its outcome is then duly communicated under Apimondia name
* Possibility to receive advice and assistance for the organization of specific symposia on honeybee products
* Apimondia offers a recognized official structure to assist with any related administrative procedures.

On the other hand, a number of obligations are involved when being part of Apimondia:

* All the symposia must be organized under the umbrella of Apimondia (find the contract for symposium in annex)
* Before a symposium/congress, abstracts of communications (oral presentations, posters, etc.) must be submitted to a review committee constituted by local members of the Scientific Committee of the symposium (scientific local organizers) and members of the Apimondia Scientific Commission (president, vice-president, scientists members of the Commission). In doing so, all abstracts pass through a peer review in order to ensure the scientific quality of the works to be presented. In case of non-agreement between the local organizers and the Apimondia Commission, the president of the latter takes the final decision.

IHC and Apimondia can have a win-win relationship. I hope that the IHC will find it interesting to remain operating under the umbrella of Apimondia and together work for the wellbeing of all the beekeepers in the world and on the quality of the bee products.