



CONU President Report to the FIM Africa GA 2018

Dear Member FMNs,

The year has passed relatively quickly, and while I cannot compare it with the previous year, which was marred by the tragic event of our late President, colleague and friend, I feel that we have achieved a reasonable success.

Julie has taken on the mantle of the WIM with energy and started with the Train the Trainer programme soon after returning from the IWG Conference in Botswana. Julie and members from the FIM, BMS and MSA also attended the international conference for women in sport.

In March, the Commission meetings went very smoothly at the Emperors' venue in JHB and I believe that the various working groups achieved their objectives and work plans. I would like to thank VP Sporting, Kevin Branch for overseeing that weekend and VP Medical, Derrick for running a medical seminar for the Kenyan and Zimbabwean doctors. I take this opportunity to thank all the FMN volunteers that sit on their working groups and their respective Chairpersons, which are the real substance of our CONU organization. On hindsight, perhaps consideration should have been given to stretching the meetings over two days.

Then we were back in Johannesburg at the beginning of July for a Council meeting and again at the end of July for the CMS seminar. The seminar was very informative and long overdue for the CONU. As far as I am aware, everyone that attended had passed and the licences were distributed soon afterwards.

In August, Enduro Chairman Tony Rowley went up to Zambia to conduct an Enduro seminar, at 2 venues, Chisamba and Mazabuka. Interesting statistic that both are farming areas. Tony your time and effort much appreciated.

August was the big MXoAN in Kitwe and the event went very well. The report was submitted by ZMSA after the event and is available from the Secretary General. I attended the event from the Friday to the Monday and I made it my job to listen to all the complaints. There is always complaints. The important thing is to rectify them ASAP, and to find solutions to do it better in the future. I am very pleased to report that the Event went proudly to plan and I have MX Chairman Kevin Bohling and WIM Nikki Heygate to thank for all their hard work. I would also like to thank Kevin Branch who was the Jury President, and Jack Cheney the Race Director.

I would like to thank VP Sporting North Larbi for his North African advice, and for all the work, he does in keeping our Continent relevant with the Rally's that his FIM Commission does, which keeps his hands full.



I wish to thank VP Touring Leisure Clive for having built his Commission up and marketed FIM Africa at the Zimbabwean, Kenyan, Namibian and Zambian bike tours. Your contribution has made this Commission what it is today.

VP Environment Marius, your professionalism raised our CONU's profile in environmental matters, and we are proud to have another Commission Director elected at FIM. At least we know that the future of FIM Sustainability will only grow under your tutelage.

I have known VP Finance Rose long before I joined AMU. As soon as the 2 borders between Zambia and Zimbabwe opened in 1980, and racing resumed, everybody got to hear about Rose, before we even met her. Conversations from riders went like this "Hey bud, if you don't have a start permission from Rose, you can't race today". Rose you will always be remembered as the Queen of FIM Africa.

I would like to close this report by showing my extreme appreciation to our Secretary General Jacqui for single handedly looking after the Secretariat in Johannesburg, and for the 300+emails to everybody, organizing airfares, meeting logistics and for re-writing the statute amendments.

Last but not least, our appreciation to Motor Sport South Africa and their CEO Adrian Scholtz for the free rental of our Secretariat.

2019

As we close this year, we have to look towards the horizon in the east on the morning of the 2019 New Year day, and ponder what we expect to look forward to for this year of 2019.

In the first month, we will be inviting all the FMN members submitting nominations for the 7 Commissions. Then we are going to call a meeting of the Commissions in Jhb, towards the end of February to plan the 2019.

What we already know is that Zimbabwe will host our premier Continental event, the MXoAN where we hope Morocco will send a team. Then there is the X-Race CONU recognized extreme Enduro in Namibia. This event is fast getting international recognition and will soon be a Continental Championship in the future.

Followed soon by the famous and largest Concourse d' Elegance in Nairobi, the largest vintage event in Africa. We are also looking forward to a FIM Africa recognized MX/SX in Morocco in October.

What about training? Those FMNs that will have attended the Friday workshop in Andorra, will have found about the new training online training academies, FIM Family platform, CAP platform and others, and how to get onto them. In addition, of course, all about the new Riders' insurance.



Then, physically, we are hoping that the MXGP Academy will kick off in Africa, if FIM can get the costs worked out.

Recently, it was reported at a FIM meeting, that there are about 200 million riders in the World, and if only 1% would travel through Africa, we have a potential mobility market of 2 million touring riders, and then of course all of our own African leisure riders. So let us discuss making 2020 our target to get FIM Africa mobility started, and offering a touring service/product to this market, and increase our base by a large mass number.

Food for thought.

I am counting on your vote to seek my re-election, so that I can continue along the ride with you all.

Marco Comana

