



Dear Delegates,

As the year 2017 draws to an end, let me wish you, your families and your friends a peaceful Christmas time as well as a happy, sound and successful new year 2018.

2017 was full of activities, innovations, positive and also negative things.

Let me therefore report in brief what has happened during the past year and issue an outlook of what is supposed to happen in 2018.

As you might recall, early this year, we installed our official address as well as our new bank account in Switzerland. Once again, thanks a lot to Louise van Greunen, to Roland Braeger as well as to Antonio Ferrerio for their support. It has been a long way, however, finally we reached our target and we are now back to our capacity for action.

In August, the European shooters met in Granada/Spain to carry out the European Zone Championships. These were organized by our MLAIC Deputy Secretary General, Mr. Ramón Selles Calabuig and by his team under the chairmanship of Fernando Serrano Muñoz. From this platform, I would like to thank all people involved in the organization and would like to congratulate them for a really great job. The positive feedback from the shooters show us that it has been a great event.

At the same time (during the same period) there were the Pacific Zone Championships (postal matches) which have been organized by South Africa, namely by our esteemed member and shooter, Dr. Corena de Beer. She was dealing with all the entries, took care of the proper execution and finally distributed certificate and medals to the winners and to the runner-ups/medallists. Scores have been checked, new records have been identified and information has been sent to the MLAIC Commission. Thanks a lot to Corena and to her team!!

Finally, in October 2017, the Long Rang World Championships were held at Monarto Shooting Range near Adelaide/Australia. This event has been very well organized by our friend Kim Atkinson and his team. Although, due to various reasons there were not too many shooters attending that event, the positive response shows that also this event was very much appreciated by those attending this championship. Thanks to Kim and his team!!

Our MLAIC Committees have also been very busy during the year, notably the Small Arms Committee. Decisions were made and first results thereof you may find on our website under the section: [Approved MLAIC Small Arms Committee reports listed in alphabetical order.](#)

This list will be enlarged step by step and in the near future everybody should be in position to find answers to certain technical question on this site.

There are a few more technical questions which will be answered soon.



Let me, at this point, say a few words on the subject "Website".

Our webmaster, Mr. Balázs Nemeth from Hungary has designed and introduced this new site. So far, he was the only one who worked on the development and on the completion of this site. During the last six months, however, he did not have that much time to work on it as he was writing/working on his PhD. Starting from January next year, he will again have more time to complete our website.

This situation, however, shows us that this job cannot be managed by one single person. It needs more people who give their support to the webmaster! Therefore, let me ask you at this point: "Is there somebody who has specific knowledge on websites?" OR - does somebody of you know somebody who would be able and willing to support our webmaster? Our website is based on "WORDPRESS" which is a rather simple programme.

Your proposals will be very much appreciated!

Let me take this passage as the connection to the New Year 2018.

What will the next year bring our way?

Well, first of all we shall continue our work, completing and extending our website with useful information especially on firearms, parts and firearm makers approved by MLAIC. Furthermore, we intend to publish more information on historical firearms. By doing so, we hope that both, shooters and scrutineers, will be more confident when going through scrutiny during international championships.

There will be a lot of work coming up to our Small Arms Committee.

Already at this point, let me thank all of them for their time and their work which they invest in that important part of our business.

We are also looking forward to another highlight in 2018 - the MLAIC World Championships short range in Eisenstadt/ Austria. The team around Robert Szuppin and Herbert Wagner is already working intensively on the organization of that event. The official invitations will be sent early next year.

I am sure that this will again be a great event and I am already looking forward to seeing all of you in Austria.

During the MLAIC delegates meeting in Austria, there will be the necessity of further amendments to our rules. If you had problems, doubts, questions, proposals or whatever please let me know your ideas. I shall try to include your suggestions in our agenda 2018.

Now, let me come to an end. As already said, have a few days of relaxation in the circle of your loved ones. All the best to all of you!

GERHARD LANG

Secretary General of the:

Muzzle Loaders Associations International Confederation