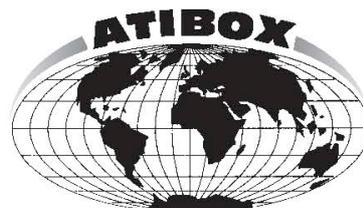




# ATIBOX

AFFILIÉE À LA FCI



Novi Sad, 10th August, 2007

## To all ATIBOX Member Countries

Dear Madams, dear Sirs,

The ATIBOX Committee has learnt, that the Deutsche Boxer-Klub e.V. München (BK) has sent to various member countries a letter in which he states that in his opinion (translation of the German quotation) "the original principles of ATIBOX ...have been lost." He plans the foundation of a new association under the name of Boxer-World-UNION e.V. (BWU), that will have a worldwide field of activity and have its seat in Munich. The BWU would be entered into the Munich association register. In this letter, the destinees are questioned whether they might imagine to become a member of the BWU, and they are asked to reply before August 31st, 2007.

By this present letter, the ATIBOX Committee would give you its opinion on the more important parts of the BK letter concerning the BWU.

The BK writes (translation of the German quotation): "We have unfortunately neglected, during the past years, to adapt the ATIBOX Convention." In his opinion, the admission of the various new Eastern countries has created a situation which is no longer surveyable. We wonder whom the BK means when writing "we". Does he speak of himself, does he speak of the ATIBOX Committee, or does he even speak of the German BK representatives who presided ATIBOX without interruption from 1960 to 2002?

Further, the BK criticizes in his letter that new countries were admitted whose elected delegates were not even present, thus delegating their voting rights, which finally allowed one single delegate to have 5 votes.

In this respect, it must be pointed out that the Convention (basis of the co-operation of the ATIBOX member countries) does not state any details about delegation of votes. In these cases, always prevails Art. 10 that states that the General Assembly takes any final decision. This means that any participant in the General Assembly may influence the course of the discussion in his sense, but in a democratic way. It is possible for him to find a majority in the Assembly by persuasive argumentations. In all ATIBOX General Assemblies it has been admitted that a delegate could cumulate several voices and thus the relevant voting rights, it has been proceeded in this usual way at Novi Sad. This usual procedure will be discussed by the new ATIBOX Committee at the occasion of the revision of the Convention which becomes urgent. The Committee will elaborate a proposition for the voting process (for instance, the voting right of a member country might only be exercised if its delegate is present), will submit it to the member countries for comments and, later on, according to Art. 19 of the Convention, for a vote in writing.

Apart from the re-admission of two countries (Italy and Norway) and a confirmation of the Association Française du Boxer as being the new French representative, 6 Eastern European countries were newly admitted. All of these countries are members of the F.C.I. and thus there was no reason not to accept them in the big ATIBOX family. In accordance with the co-operation agreement between F.C.I. and ATIBOX, §1 (4), the new member countries were admitted by the General Assembly unanimously. The BK also agreed to these admissions.

Furtheron, the BK letter claims that at the ATIBOX Committee election it was all about certain persons. From the BK point of view, it is a fact that on the occasion of the elections at Novi Sad, two

distinct persons were in the limelight, namely Torsten Lemmer, a German BK member, proposed as candidate by Bulgaria, and whose election the BK wished to prevent, as well as Günter Karg, nominated by the BK for the function of President. The latter abandoned his candidature when Dr. Milos Lucic confirmed his proper candidature for presidency. After the ballots, during which Udo Herrmann, a former ATIBOX Committee member and who had very good chances to be re-elected, had to abandon for reasons of "solidarity" with the BK, the BK delegates left the General Assembly under protest.

Just one word about the candidate Torsten Lemmer: for years there have been again and again secret rumours as to shady machinations by Torsten Lemmer, who finally has been elected into the ATIBOX Committee as General Secretary with a clear majority. Why did the BK never dissociate himself from the rumours or why did he not produce evidence for such illegal manoeuvres? On the contrary, even lately, the BK has entrusted him with tasks of central importance, and has frequently thanked him publicly for his outstanding work, for instance the Breed Championship 2006 in Düsseldorf, being the major BK event, or, one week before the ATIBOX General Assembly, the patronage of the German Junior Championship 2007. Torsten Lemmer has also been decorated with the Golden Distinguished Service Button of the Deutsche Boxer Klub.

ATIBOX is no association, but only fulfills exactly defined tasks on the basis of a mutually agreed Convention that ensures equal rights to all partners. According to Art. 1, ATIBOX has its legal seat at the domicile of the president of the day, which would mean that the governing law would change if the nationality of the ATIBOX President changes, i.e. Serbian at this very moment, Norwegian before etc. But, in order to reply directly to the polemical reproach in the BK letter, there is no way to "Carry on as you like". Or have all the ATIBOX Committees presided by German Presidents just carried on as they liked? The Convention fixes the legal frame. At any time has it been and is it possible to modify the Convention by means of a democratic vote by the General Assembly.

As already mentioned above, since its foundation - in 1950 - ATIBOX has mostly been presided by persons from Germany. During all this time actions have been taken according to the essentially same and scarcely modified original Convention, and neither Germany nor other member countries made major proposals for substantial modifications. Since the new elections at Novi Sad this year, Germany considers this Convention as undemocratic. However, no demand for a modification of the Convention had been made from the German side on the occasion of the General Assembly 2007.

The BK had only introduced a counter-proposal to the Committee's motion to enlarge the Committee by 2 assessors. This counter-proposal, however, has been rejected by the General Assembly.

The BK thinks that in a near future there will be no chance to modify the Convention in a democratic manner. This is clearly wrong. The ATIBOX Committee also considers that the BK initiative to found a new association under the name of "Boxer-World-UNION e.V.", having its legal seat in Munich would be an erroneous way to go. The actual ATIBOX Committee is open to all advice from member countries. Before writing that the Convention cannot not be adapted one should at least have a try!

The (legal) admission into ATIBOX of various new countries has really changed the shape and the procedures, compared to the time of foundation in 1950.

We highly appreciate all proposals from member countries if they can help to better adapt the Convention to today's reality. The new Committee will also work on this point when revising the Convention, which has become urgent.

If reforms and adaptations are the result of mutual ideas, there is no reason not to submit them to the member countries and thus to adapt the Convention democratically.

Moreover, the BK is afraid that ATIBOX, in the actual situation, will create a vacuum which would not be acceptable. Please look into the now tri-lingual ATIBOX website and see for yourself that much has been done since the election of the new Committee. By publishing the minutes of the General Assembly at Novi Sad/ Serbia, and many other things, we have shown our will to be a Committee who will create transparency, so that all member countries will come into possession of full information. In the regulations of all our member countries is included that the welfare of the boxer breed is the utmost priority.

We work for the welfare of international boxer breeding and for a reasonable living together, we do not need to change our way of thinking, neither do we need a BWU. The ATIBOX Committee considers the endeavour of the BK to found a further worldwide boxer-association as absolutely unnecessary and utterly counter-productive for the affairs of the boxer breed. Not focussing one's attention on the essential is just a waste of time

We need your cooperation. Let us know your good ideas and proposals, for breeding, shows or working. Amongst others, we shall try to organize every year, on the eve of the ATIBOX show, a General Assembly (without elections) in addition to the General Assembly including elections. Thus, arising problems could be discussed without important delays and solutions implemented rapidly.

We, the ATIBOX Committee are a new team with many ideas and plans that we want to realize for the welfare of the breed and the ATIBOX member countries. Please continue to honour us with your confidence and stand by ATIBOX, partner of the F.C..I. Thank you very much.

Best regards  
**ATIBOX**  
For the Committee



Dr. Milos Lucic