

**Christofer HABIG - Vice-President**

FCI OFFICE

13 Place Albert 1<sup>er</sup>

B - 6530 THUIN (BE)

Tel.: +32 71 59 12 38

+49 69 9103 38383 (office)

Fax: +32 71 59 22 29

vicepresident@fci.be

christofer.habig@db.com

To:

FCI - General Committee

FCI - Standard Commission

CKU - President Chen Jinfei

Interested Parties

**Memorandum  
on the Zang Ao and the Do Khyi  
for further consideration by / within the FCI and the CKU**

**June 28, 2011**

The current status of both, the Zang Ao (mastiff breed) and the Do Khyi (working breed), ask for a joint in-depth assessment by the FCI and the China Kennel Union (CKU).

Under the leadership of the CKU, an international working group of FCI breed specialists and CKU breed specialists should be established

- to analyse the situation of both breeds in the PR of China as well as globally,
- to propose two detailed drafts for differentiating standards of both breeds and
- to identify workable criteria for judges, breeders and breed clubs all over the world to separate breeding stock in an interim period.

Whenever appropriate, breed specialists from the KC as well as from the AKC should be invited to report on the situation in their respective countries.

The FCI Working Group on the Zang Ao and the Do Khyi should present its report and recommendations to the FCI Standard Commission which should then evaluate the report for in-depth consultation with breed clubs within FCI - to be followed by final decision-making in the FCI General Committee.

### **The Zang Ao**

What the Xiong Mao (Panda Bear) has become to the world's wildlife, the Zang Ao will become to the world of dogs - the most prominent national treasure of the PR of China.

The Zang Ao is an unique, big, strong and most impressive long-coated mastiff breed. Developed from different sources (a few linked to the Do Khyi, most linked to different molossoid backgrounds), the Chinese breeders of the Zang Ao, who have taken their passion seriously, have gained enormous success over the last 30 years in streamlining the genetic make-up and the phenotypical confirmation of their national guard dog.



Today, the Zang Ao must be identified as a true member of the global family of mastiff breeds, showing their key features in type, size, bone and balance. The Zang Ao is the only long-coated mastiff breed in the world.

It's time the PR of China under the leadership of the CKU is proposing a breed standard for the Zang Ao to be considered for recognition by the FCI within the defined processes and procedures.

### **The Do Khyi (230)**

The Do Khyi got its very first breed standard from the FCI in 1967, initiated by Dr. Hubert Wirtz, German FCI All Breed Judge.

The current FCI breed standard, published in 2004, describes the Do Khyi as an "ancient working breed of the nomad herders of the Himalaya and a traditional guardian of the Tibetan monasteries".

The current FCI breed standard for the Do Khyi strictly follows the blueprint of the early imports which have been taken to England and later to the Continent. Among the most prototypical specimens were dogs like Bout (given to Queen Victoria in 1847), Siring (shown at Alexandra Palace in 1875), Bhotean (exhibited at Crystall Palace 1906) and Tonya, born in 1933.

The pure-bred Do Khyis of today have preserved these ancient models of the breed to our modern times. The Do Khyi, through the centuries, has played a respected and thoroughly documented role in the culture of its home region.

On a particular request of the FCI Standard Commission, the 2004 Do Khyi breed standard (developed by a multi-national working group chaired by the author) lists in its section "faults" all features introduced by uncontrolled mixed-breeding outside the FCI, which in recent years has caused considerable damage to the genetic profile, authentic type, health, fitness, coat, colour, size and temperament of the breed within the FCI.

The autochthonous status of the Do Khyi breed is in danger. It should therefore be preserved for the future as it has a longstanding, dedicated followership worldwide.



Christofer Habig