

REPORT

Executive Board Meeting

4-5 July 2018 – Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Hotel International

Present:

Dr. Tamás Aján, President

Mr. Mohammed Jalood, General Secretary

Maj.Gen. Intarat Yodbangtoey, 1st Vice President; Ms. Ursula Garza Papandrea, Mr. Nicu Vlad, Mr. José Quinones, Mr. Zhanat Tussupbekov, Mr. Petr Krol, Vice Presidents

Ms. Karoliina Lundahl, Mr. Pyrros Dimas, Mr. Birendra Baishya, Mr. Maxim Agapitov, Mr. Shakhriillo Makhmudov, Mr. Kamal Mahmoud Mahgoub, Mr. Luis O. Zambrano, Dr. Michael Irani, Executive Board Members

Mr. Marcus Stephen, Mr. Willian F. Ozuna, Mr. Khaled Mehalhel, Mr. Mohammed Yousef Al Mana, Continental Presidents

Mr. Attila Ádámfi, Director General, and IWF Secretariat members

Excused:

Mr. Antonio Urso, Continental President

Mr. Gustavo Malgor, Mr. Yoshinobu Miyake, Ex-Officio Members

Guest: Dr. Patrick Schamasch, ADC Chairman

1 Opening by the President and Roll Call

Dr. Aján offered a warm welcome and made the Roll Call. In the introduction speech he emphasized the need for making changes and peaceful cooperation. He praised the work done by the Special Commission and the Bodyweight Category Working Group. He also thanked the Uzbek Weightlifting Federation for hosting the meetings and the 2018 JWC.

2 Welcome address by the hosts and technical information regarding the 2018 JWC

Mr. Makhmudov, as VP UWF, assisted by **Ms. Zukhra Abdullaeva** welcomed the Board to Uzbekistan.

Dr. Aján thanked him and in a 1-minute silence the EB remembered recently deceased **Mr. Alexander Kurlovich**, IWF TC Member, **Mr. Rafael Pacho**, PAWF General Secretary and **Ms. Irena Szewinska**, IOC Member.

3 Approval of the Minutes of the Colorado Springs 2018 meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved.

4 Report on the Committee meetings

4.2 Report of the TC Chairman, Mr. Vlad

Joint Meeting - The Bodyweight Category Working Group (BCWG) presented its proposal to the 3 Committees. The Joint meeting agreed to make small changes to the proposed set of

categories, TC made these. 10+10 new bodyweight categories proposed from which 7+7 for Tokyo2020. Proposal and annexes in the folders.

Mr. Jalood intercepted proposing that an election should be held to fill the vacancy in the TC following the death of **Mr. Kurlovich**.

Mr. Vlad said the TC proposed **Mr. Pedro Sanchez** from Oceania, if the Constitution allows. Once the procedure was confirmed, election should take place in Ashgabat.

4.3 Report of the MC Chairman – Dr. Irani

3 colleagues attending with further 3 Members participating by Skype.

Some of the Agenda items highlighted: Losing weight and using the sauna; dangers of supplements; transgender issue: whereby MC suggests that the IOC Guidelines shall be respected until concrete IOC Ruling is issued, following which the IWF must form its own statement.

Dr. Irani said IWF can be proud of its Injury Reporting – transparent but careful, respecting athlete confidentiality. IWF Research Projects to be encouraged in support of athlete safety and good health.

4.4 Report of the CRC Chairman – Mr. Mahgoub

The Chairman reported on the meeting. Highlights from the agenda: IWF Coaching Manual Level 2 (update, schedule, etc.) use of Internet platforms, IWF Coaching Education questionnaire, IWF Coaching Education courses.

5 Anti-Doping related issues

Dr. Aján Introduced new staff member, **Ms. Réka Földesi**, Anti-Doping Coordinator. He pointed out that as per the CSC recommendations and EB decision contacts with the CCES (Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport) and the ITA (International Testing Agency) had been established to outsource the IWF AD controls.

5.1 Report of the Anti-Doping Commission – Presented by: Dr. Patrick Schamasch, ADC Chairman, alongside **Dr. Éva Nyirfa**, Legal Counsel, **Dr. Lilla Sági**, Junior Legal Counsel and **Ms. Földesi**.

Dr. Schamasch assured the EB that notwithstanding the agreement signed with CCES the main control of the anti-doping operations remains in the hands of IWF.

Dr. Aján raised the problem with blood testing having proven rather irrelevant (but costly) in weightlifting and the plans to rechannel resources into more effective analysis.

Dr. Sági displayed achievements and immediate future plans in Anti-Doping Education. She also underlined the recent developments regarding athletes' whereabouts submission. It was noted that despite multiple efforts and permanent help from the IWF, many times MFs neglect this duty and their administrative laps harm athletes.

Dr. Nyirfa added that while the WA submission was a primary responsibility of athletes, the MFs' responsibility in educating and notifying their athletes of their respective obligations has to be emphasized. EB must assess if potential breach of ADP had occurred and following due notification of the respective MF the case is transferred to the Independent MF Sanctions Panel.

Questions regarding AD operations were answered by **Dr. Schamasch**. Stating that there were still many unclear points and due to the complexity of the issue, **Dr. Schamasch** proposed to prepare a booklet with explanations, roles and duties. **Ms. Adrienn Szász**, new IWF Communication Manager was entrusted by the President with the coordination of such guidelines.

Further data were offered regarding WA failures and the list of IWF Member Federations with the worst quality whereabouts submission was presented to the Board. It was confirmed that ***the EB approved these MFs to be notified of their potential breach of the IWF Anti-Doping Policy.***

Athlete Support Personnel – database established – proved very useful. Lot of information collected over the last few years. Info forwarded to WADA's Investigations Department. EB members were asked to get back to MFs and remind them to submit the ASP forms.

ADRV information with current status was presented to the EB.

5.3 Report about the implementation of the Clean Sport Commission's recommendations

CSC assessed the implementation of the recommendations at its April 15 meeting in Frankfurt. By 15 June 2018 all the recommendations of the CSC were implemented by the IWF which was confirmed by the second report of the CSC. The 5th Member of the Independent Member Federations Sanction Panel is still to be appointed. Two further rule changes (related to effective no advance notice sample collection and anti-doping education) were proposed by the CSC and approved by the Board prior to the submission of the second CSC report.

Mr. Agapitov was informed that his recommendations and proposals submitted regarding the IWF Anti-Doping Policy on 27 June were being studied by very knowledgeable experts and will be seriously considered. Feedback to be given in reasonable time.

Dr. Aján reminded the Board that the CSC members had been selected purposefully from non-weightlifting circles (2 exceptions, Mr. Baumgartner, Mr. Goegebuer). Their report on the implementation of the recommendations was due to go to IOC Executive Board. He emphasized that the CSC recommendations (as approved by EB) were welcomed and supported by the majority of the IWF's 192 Member Federations that largely understand that the main focus is on keeping weightlifting on the Olympic program.

5.2 Report of the Monitoring Group

The report of the Monitoring Group regarding the 9 suspended MFs was presented.

A discussion followed, at the end of which **Dr. Aján** had the following proposal for coordination with the IOC:

- 1 – A meeting between the Monitoring Group and the 9 MFs + 3 Members of the IWF (**Mr. Jalood, Mr. Vlad, Mr. Quinones**), **Dr. Schamasch**, ADC Chairman and **Mr. Ádámfi**, Director General should be held not long after the IOC EB decision.
- 2 – A delegation to visit the IOC to further coordinate the matter.

EB voted on the proposal of coordination with the IOC in the above 2 steps and approved it.

5.5 IWF Roadmap for compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation. (GDPR)

Dr. Nyirfa & Mr. Zoltán Veres, IT Manager explained the main tasks arising from the recent GDPR issued by the European Parliament and European Council re. the IWF and its Executive Board.

6 Development and Education

6.1 Status report on 2018 IWF Development Program

Mr. Quinones, DEC Chairman reported with **Ms. Tímea Horváth**, Development and Education Manager on the 2018 IWF Development Program. The EB was informed about the number of applications received, estimated financial support and actual status of the projects.

6.2 Status reports on the CF contributions

Ms. Horváth submitted a status report and reminded of the 15 July deadline for sending the interim activity and financial report, that being a condition of 2nd instalments' transfer.

14 Any other matter

14.1 Report by the Women's Commission

Ms. Papandrea, Chair explained that the Women's Commission was yet to have meeting in Tashkent in 3 days, however, she gave an outline of its main concerns and points for the Agenda. She also reported on her mission in Iran and on the USA Women's Camp (1st in North-America) offering full scholarships to representatives from each Continent.

Ms. Lundahl reported on great progress in the qualification of female coaches in Scandinavia (40% coaches are women).

Dr. Irani suggested to put the transgender issue on the agenda.

Mr. Jalood and **Mr. Mahgoub** added that they were making efforts at increasing female participation in Arabic countries in terms of coaching and leadership positions.

11 Update Report on 2018 IWF WWC – Ashgabat

Ms. Anikó Németh-Móra, Director gave information on recent 2nd Technical Visit to Turkmenistan and reported on significant progress in the preparations for the 2018 IWF World Championships in all areas.

7 Communication & Marketing Reports

7.2 Update on Television & Broadcasting

Ms. Lilla Rozgonyi, Director of Communication & Marketing reported. Details were shared regarding the status of the IWF's partnership with *Lagardere Sport* and preliminary negotiations with *Eurosport*.

The cooperation between the IWF and SMG company was announced in the delivery of an IWF audience report from Anaheim including host city and sponsorship valuation.

A status report on Lagardere TV sales for 2018-2019 and an update report on TV production for Ashgabat were given.

The strategic move of a Partnership with *Eurosport* for 2018-2019 was approved by the Board including prospects for long term partnership for 2020-2024.

The partnership agreement between the IWF and Altair on strategic projects and delivery including sponsorship and production was presented.

7.1 Update on Communication & Social Media

The EB accepted both reports giving an authorization to continue with Eurosport negotiations.

10 2018 Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires issues

Mr. Ádámfi gave the report covering the following subjects:

10.2 Summary report on the 5 Continental YOG Qualification events

4 Continental Championships already concluded, the European YOG Qualification event to take place later.

10.3 Qualification status and necessary actions

10.1 Organisation status report

In the comments the issue of Whereabouts submission came up again. Several athletes wishing to participate in the YOG Continental Qualification events had to be declared ineligible for reasons of W/A submission failure on behalf of their Federations. The conclusion is that the IWF is compelled to enforce this rule (in force for 5 years already), while on the other hand being fully aware of the ADAMS' weaknesses, therefore sending regular reminders and giving maximum help to the Member Federations, many of which are still not willing to comply, and so put their own athletes into ineligibility status.

4 4.1 Report on the Joint Meeting – modification of the IWF TCRR / Bodyweight Categories

Mr. Vlad introduced the subject as TC Chairman and Member of the Bodyweight Category Working Group (BCWG).

Mr. Ádámfi, presented the proposal and Executive Summary of the BCWG which had been forwarded to EB and the Committees in advance.

Mr. Vlad informed the Board that members of the Technical Committee made their own proposal:

Mr. Vlad's proposal (adjusted in discussion):

MEN: 55, 61, 67, 73, 81, 89, 96, 102, 109, +109 – of which 55, 89, 102 non-Olympic

WOMEN: 45, 49, 55, 59, 64, 71, 76, 81, 87, +87 – of which 45, 59, 76 non-Olympic

Vote on the 7 Olympic categories for Tokyo2020 – Men:

From the 10 Men's 55, 89, 102 non-Olympic – majority of EB in favour.

Women's categories:

Vote on 10 Women's IWF Event categories:

Majority accepted: 45, 49, 55, 59, 64, 71, 76, 81, 87, +87kg – as women's categories for IWF Events.

Vote on 7 Women's Olympic categories for Tokyo2020 (from the 10 voted before):

49, 55, 59, 64, 76, 87, +87kg – unanimously approved.

Later in the meeting, the BCWG's further recommendations on TCRR issues were tabled:

1. IWF new bodyweight categories – as of 1st November 2018
2. Tokyo 2020 categories – approved
3. World / Olympic Records – principles and applicable establishment methodology
T2020 QS clarifications
4. World Championships in Olympic Year - for non-Olympic categories – to be considered
5. IWF Strategic Plan 2019-2024
6. Minimum Entry Totals – A) no application in 2018 – applied only from 2019
B) calculation with same method as for WR/OR

Mr. Jalood proposed to eventually organise the World Championships for the 3+3 non-Olympic categories combined with Junior WC to reduce costs.

Mr. Ádámfi suggested that the EB should make an approval in principle to allow continued research and evaluation of options and prepare model proposal for final decision by EB.

The above complementary points and the last proposal were approved.

8 Financial issues

8.1 IWF Financial Report on 2017

Mr. Alain Siegrist, IWF Financial Advisor presented the Report with explanations.

The Financial Report on 2017 was unanimously approved.

8.2 Status Report on 2018 Budget

Mr. Siegrist continued the presentation with the Status Report, including his recommendations.

EB approved the Financial Report of the Financial Director.

8.3 Auditors' Report

Sent in advance, hard copy in folder. To be presented to the Congress for approval.

12 Allocation of future events

12.1 2020 IWF Youth World Championships

Unanimously allocated to Lima, Peru

12.2 2020 IWF Junior World Championships

Event allocated to Cairo, Egypt on majority.

13 Tokyo2020 Olympic Games

13.1 Weightlifting Program proposal – covered under item 4.

13.2 Barbell selection

The Board approved Zhangkong Co. China, as sole supplier of Tokyo2020.

14 14.2 Approval of Verification Commission for the Congress

Verification Commission: Mr. Baishya, Mr. Zambrano, Mr. Krol were approved.

12.3 2019 IWF YWC

The host USA Weightlifting requested a change of location from Anaheim to Las Vegas, Nevada. **Mr. Phil Andrews**, CEO USAW explained reasons for the change: more affordable than Anaheim, cheaper accommodation, better food, everything under one roof. (Westgate Resort Las Vegas)

Mr. Andrews also confirmed that the US visa issues were being addressed in a similar process as in 2017 and waivers were available for the 7 nations under the Trump immigration ban. ***The change was approved by the EB.***

14.3 Mr. Krol gave short information about the Membership Commission and thanked the IWF staff for the assistance. A report would be ready for next EB meeting.

Dr. Aján in conclusion thanked **Mr. Makhmudov** and the Uzbek Federation for hosting the meeting and wished good luck to the JWC.

He thanked the Board for active participation and closed the meeting.