

# REPORT

## Executive Board Meeting

15 August 2018 – Lausanne, Switzerland

<b>Venue</b>	<b>Hotel de la Paix, Lausanne, Switzerland</b>
<b>Present</b>	Dr. Tamás Aján, President, Mr. Mohammed Jalood, General Secretary, Mr. Intarat Yodbangtoey, 1st Vice President Ms. Ursula Garza Papandrea, Mr. Nicu Vlad, Mr. Zhanat Tussupbekov, Mr. Petr Krol, Mr. José Quinones, Vice Presidents Ms. Karoliina Lundahl, Mr. Pyrros Dimas, Mr. Birendra Baishya, Mr. Maxim Agapitov, Mr. Shakhriilo 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. Antonio Urso, Continental Presidents, Mr. Gustavo Malgor, Ex-Officio Member Mr. Attila Ádámfi, Director General, and IWF Secretariat members
<b>Excused:</b>	Mr. Mohammed Yousef Al Mana, Continental President Mr. Yoshinobu Miyake, Ex-Officio Member

### 1 Opening by the President and Roll Call

**Dr. Aján** pointed out that it was the 1<sup>st</sup> EB meeting in Lausanne, Olympic Capital, seat of the IWF with Secretariat, and location of the IOC Headquarters, ITA and many other organisations.

IOC Member and FISA President, **Mr. Jean-Christophe Rolland** was warmly greeted.

**Mr. Rolland** welcomed the IWF EB to Lausanne.

Regarding the Agenda, the President said that the meeting must concentrate on the issue it had been convened for, as agreed in Tashkent, and the presence of the IOC representatives must be used to full. He recalled the successful and very transparent meeting with the Independent Monitoring Group the day before, involving Mr. Richard Young, Dr. Baumgartner, Mr. Quinones and Dr. Irani (Tbilisi Commission) with 8 out of the 9 MFs concerned in the suspension (only ARM missing). Transparent, face to face. Of the IMG 3 members participated (2 present, 1 by phone)

### 2 Approval of the Minutes of the Tashkent 2018 meeting

**Dr. Aján** thanked to **Mr. Makhmudov** and **Ms. Zukhra Abdullaeva** for the organisation and warm hospitality in Tashkent.

*The Minutes of the meeting were unanimously approved, with Dr. Urso's abstention, because he was absent.*

#### **3-4 Update on and tasks arising from IOC Executive Board decision**

**Me Francois Carrard, Mr. Kit McConnell**, IOC Sports Director, **Mr. David Luckes**, IOC Head of Summer Sports and IF Relations, joined the meeting as guests.

**Mr. McConnell** thanked for the invitation and the opportunity to explain the IOC's decisions with the reasoning behind them. He emphasized that the IOC was in partnership with the IWF EB and NFs with the common goal of the protection of clean athletes. He also confirmed a huge amount of respect towards the IWF President and the EB.

He then gave a historical outline of the main steps in the process whereby the IOC has been dealing with the status of weightlifting on the 2024 Paris Olympic Games programme. He pointed out that within the still ongoing reanalysis program of 2008 and 2012 Olympic Games 111 positives were found in total across all sports of which 49 in weightlifting and it was impossible to ignore this fact. Following the 2017 June decision, the IOC EB saw as a positive step the immediate steps taken by the IWF. It then made the recommendation to the IOC Session in September regarding the conditional inclusion of weightlifting in the 2024 OG programme. The IOC also saw that the 49 ADRVs were centered around a relatively small number of NOCs and that should be reflected; the doping culture addressed and education enhanced.

As per the letter of 9 June 2017 distributed to the IWF EB members during the Tokyo Executive Board meeting in June 2017, the IOC stressed at the quota reduction that it should not penalize those countries which were not causing the situation but those who did.

The 2020 Qualification system made by IWF and presented to IOC EB was very positively received by the President and the whole EB. **Mr. McConnell** emphasized that the IOC approved the Olympic Qualification System; it is final and can no longer be changed.

The Follow up Report to the 2017 December request presented to the July 18 IOC EB meeting was again well received. E.g. the measures regarding the ASP were highlighted as a good example for sports. He stressed that for the whole Weightlifting Family the next 6 months will be critical. Fundamental change must occur and influence the whole future of the sport. In November the IOC will look for a full report again by the CSC, including the outcomes of the YOG and the WWC in Ashgabat. Also important will be the outcomes of the IWF Congress: IOC wants to see that the entire weightlifting family is acting as one – such commitment should be coming from the Congress in Ashgabat.

Regarding the ITA (International Testing Agency), the IOC strongly recommends to IWF to cooperate with it, mainly because the message of independence is important. it would add to the IWF's efficiency in implementing the full program.

Finally, he quoted the IOC President confirming that the conditional status of the sport re. the 2024 Paris OG was being upheld.

**Dr. Aján** thanked for the information and added details proving that the IWF had repeatedly contacted IOC on the ITA since September 2017, and confirmed the IWF's willingness and readiness to work with them.

**Mr. Vlad** suggested that the EB should now vote to give full authority to the ITA over the AD program. To this end a Declaration was signed by 7 EB Members.

**Mr. McConnell** clarified the present status of readiness of ITA: very close to be able to take over the operations, however, not yet fully operational. He again emphasized the objectivity factor – in view of a general perception that NF interests might influence an IF's Anti-Doping operations.

**Mr. Tussupbekov**, supporting the Declaration, made suggestions to the Clean Sport Commission towards changing the control of the IWF AD operations.

Answering questions by **Ms. Papandrea, Mr. Quinones, Dr. Irani, Mr. Jalood, Mr. McConnell** confirmed that the IOC supports the direction the 2 special Commissions and the IWF's current leadership under President Dr. Aján have taken and wanted to see the proof of the implementation of the decisions with the entire weightlifting family behind those decisions, including all the MFs that must perform a cultural change in their respective countries. The IOC also supports the Qualification System for the YOG and its implementation exactly as per the clear criteria set. He confirmed again that the IOC firmly supports the Qualification System for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. The IOC will follow up in the next 6 months and wants to see long term, sustainable structures.

**Dr. Aján**, on behalf of the EB, expressed his gratitude to the guests for joining the meeting and sharing the IOC's views and position. He also concluded that the message was clear: we must be united!

The IOC delegation left the room.

**Me Carrard** took the floor giving a legal assessment of the situation. He stressed that the letter by the IOC on CAS case revealed clearly that the IOC was behind the Qualification System and the IWF on the said matter.

**Mr. Richard Young**, Chairman of the CSC also served with expert advice to the EB.

**Mr. Young** summarized that it was important to declare: this Board is committed to go with the ITA; it is under discussion and when they can they may take over. It was confirmed by Minutes of the EB meetings in Bucharest 2017 and Anaheim 2017 that the EB had already decided to cooperate with the ITA, negotiations had begun on the transfer, but ITA was clearly not yet in a stage of preparedness to fully take over the IWF's ambitious and wide-ranging Anti-Doping program.

***Mr. Ádámfi presented an Action Plan which was unanimously approved.***

Thanks were expressed to **Mr. Young**, the CSC and his colleagues, for the creative and progressive work.

In order to properly deal with any proposals to change the IWF Constitution, ***the President proposed to make a survey among the MFs to submit ideas and set up a Working Group to elaborate eventual Constitution and By-Laws modifications: Mr. Quinones to lead the work; Members: Mr. Agapitov, Ms. Lundahl, Mr. Krol and Mr. Aldiyar Nuralinov (GS of KAZ MF) – later changed for Mr. Tussupbekov and a representative of the CSC. Ms. Németh-Móra from the IWF Secretariat to coordinate the Working Group. The proposal was unanimously approved.***

## **5 Closing by the President**

**Dr. Aján** said he was convinced that all proposals came from goodwill. Weightlifting will be on the program in 2024 but only if we are united and only with the help of CSC and Richard Young. Yesterday's meeting was a clear proof of transparency. He appreciated the work of the Commissions and thanked both IWF staffs (Lausanne & Budapest).

He then announced that **Mr. Alain Siegrist**, IWF Financial Advisor was in the room available to answer eventual questions of financial nature.

The meeting was closed by the President.