

REPORT

Extraordinary Executive Board Meeting

5 December 2019 – Lausanne, Switzerland

Place: Hotel de la Paix

Present: Dr. Tamás AJÁN, President, Mohammed JALOOD, General Secretary

Maj.Gen. Intarat YODBANGTOEY, 1st Vice President

Ursula PAPANDREA, Nicu VLAD, José QUINONES, Zhanat TUSSUPBEKOV, Petr KROL, Vice Presidents

Karoliina LUNDAHL, Pyrros DIMAS, Maxim AGAPITOV, Shakhrillo MAKHMUDOV, Mahmoud MAHGOUB,

Luis ZAMBRANO, Dr. Michael IRANI, Executive Board Members

Dr. Antonio URSO, Marcus STEPHEN, Willian OZUNA, Khaled MEHALHEL, Continental Federation Presidents

Absent: Birendra P. BAISHYA, M.Y. AL MANA

As guests: Me Francois CARRARD, Dr. Richard YOUNG, Dr. Patrick SCHAMASCH

ÁDÁMFI Attila, IWF Director General, IWF Secretariat members

1. Welcome & Roll Call

Dr. Aján welcomed everyone to Lausanne, the Olympic capital. Roll Call established: **Mr. Baishya**, **Mr. Al Mana** absent.

The **President** extended warm welcome to distinguished guests **Me. Francois Carrard**, the IWF's Legal Advisor, **Dr. Richard Young**, Chairman of the Clean Sport Commission and the Independent Member Federation Sanctions Panel and **Dr. Patrick Schamasch**, Chairman of the IWF Anti-Doping Commission. He offered special welcome to **Mr. David LUCKES**, Associate Director of IOC Sports Department.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Pattaya meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting – with modifications requested by Mr. Agapitov and Mr. Vlad – had been sent to the EB. The Minutes of the Pattaya meeting were unanimously approved.

3. Discussion about the jurisdiction of the Independent Member Federations Sanctions Panel

Dr. Aján pointed out that no objective decisions could be expected from an Executive Board including members representing countries affected in multiple doping cases, therefore only an independent body was suitable to make decisions.

Dr. Young reminded of the circumstances calling for the creation of the IMFSP, a recommendation by the Clean Sport Commission. IMFSP consists of people who have a high level of credibility with the IOC and all stakeholders of the sports and Olympic Movement. He warned that taking the power of decision back from the IMFSP to the realm of the IWF would draw serious ramifications from the IOC.

As regards **Mr. Jalood's** proposal that this function be taken over by ITA, a letter by ITA was presented in the folders, whereby ITA declared that the Panel is perfect and ITA does not want to take over this function.

The proposal came up to let ITA appoint this independent body after the relevant mandates of the IMFSP members would expire.

On behalf of the IOC, **Mr. Luckes** confirmed that the IWF needed to stick to the conditions it had put forward to the IOC. Any changes to those commitments agreed and discussed with IOC EB will be reported back to the IOC EB and might lead to the reconsideration of Olympic status. At that, the perception of independence in both testing and sanctioning was crucial.

IWF Anti-Doping Commission: now having ITA to execute the IWF's AD program, the roles and responsibilities of the IWF Anti-Doping Commission deserve a review.

It was established that the ADC was fixed in the Constitution; therefore the EB could not cancel it. As a conclusion, ***it was unanimously agreed that the IWF Anti-Doping Commission should prevail until the next modification of the Constitution; however, the pertaining By-Laws need to be reviewed and adjusted in harmony with the new function and tasks of the ADC.***

7. Any other business

7.1 CAS Anti-Doping Division

Mr. Brent Nowicki, CAS Managing Counsel (Anti-Doping Division) presented the following:

1 – History of CAS Anti-Doping Division (ADD) – Mandate given by Agenda 2020; IOC decided to specifically create a Division within CAS – this starting with Rio 2016.

2 - How it fits in the structure - the ADD operates twofold:

A) Case referred to a sole Arbitrator with no history of connection with the subject/sport but chosen from a restricted pool;

B) 3-member panel, whereby each party can appoint one from a pre-determined pool. However, the latter is a sole-phase solution: both parties, IF and athlete, waive the right to appeal.

3 - Strengths and advantages of CAS – **Mr. Nowicki** pointed out that cooperation agreements had already been signed or were in process with 15 IFs. Cases concerned are individual ADRVs.

The EB unanimously approved to cooperate with CAS ADD in the future.

To a question whether CAS would take over the sanctioning of MFs the answer was “No”, reasoning that they cannot provide the expertise the current Panel can give.

It was unanimously approved by the Executive Board: The IMFSP shall continue, with Members, when timely, to be filled in by ITA, in consultation with Dr. Richard Young. The concept subject to confirmation from ITA, Mr. Benjamin Cohen.

4. Request by TAWA regarding its Undertaking & information about the current situation

With assistance from TAWA's lawyer, **Mr. Claude Ramoni**, TAWA request for modification was presented by **Mr. Nippon Limboonsuebsai**, TAWA, focusing on the following points:

- Undertaking signed
- Objectives
- Letter Of Intent (LOI)
- Check List of measures implemented by TAWA in the last 10 months.
- Rationale for Amendment/modification of the Undertaking,
- TAWA proposals in 11 points – the most important ones being:
 - o Participation of youth and junior athletes in IWF Events as of 1 February 2020,
 - o Participation of all Thai athletes, incl. seniors, in IWF Events, (no Olympic qualification) from 1 April 2020
 - o TAWA to organise IWF Events as of 1 April 2020

It was pointed out that TAWA had sued the IWF at Swiss Civil Court but was refused.

After discussion, it was proposed to **take note and thank TAWA for the progress made. Then, assessing the information to be received from the Court and from the cases closed, take up the matter at the next EB meeting.**

17 votes supporting – 1 vote against – approved on majority.

5. Consultation on the issue and allocation of the 2020 JWC

The Board was informed that the Egyptian Federation's suspension by the IMFSP was confirmed by CAS, including the ban to organise IWF Events. Egyptian NOC and Sports Authorities did not confirm their support to a JWC – so the 2020 JWC urgently needs to be reallocated. (Scheduled March 2020).

4 candidates reacted to the call – bids presented by:

- 1 - GEO, Tbilisi – ready to organise the JWC but only if together with non-Olympic categories' WC or another qualification event
- 2 - GRE, Hersonissos, Crete – all guarantees received
- 3 - POL, Wladyslawowo
- 4 - ROU, Bucharest

In secret vote: GEO and POL received no votes, ROU received 10, GRE 7 votes. The Executive Board by majority vote allocated the right to organise the 2020 IWF Junior World Championships to Bucharest, Romania.

Mr. Vlad confirmed to have cancelled the USD 25 airport transfer fee.

6. Information about 2022 Youth Olympic Games (Senegal)

The Director General gave Key Facts and was happy to report that the IOC had agreed to increase the weightlifting athlete quota from 110 to 144! The YOG was a great opportunity to improve weightlifting in Senegal and in Africa. Much resource, financial and human, must be invested to deliver a good event, whereby the IWF would rely heavily on WFA's support.

Mr. Mehalhel, WFA President indicated that after a meeting regarding the Games he would report back to the EB.

Mr. Ádámfi pointed out that after receipt of the qualification guidelines from the IOC the qualification system would be elaborated involving all stakeholders in due course.

7. Any other business

7.2 Power Games

Mr. Quinones introduced the Power Games concept promoted as a type of festival, under GAISF structure and umbrella, providing branding and promotion standards.

After discussion, the EB on majority supported to study the possibility of participation in the Power Games.

7.3 Information about IWF Executive Board Members' obligations regarding taxing

Mr. Alain Siegrist's information letter was distributed to the Board.

7.4 ASOIF recommendation on ruling on sexual harassment

Ms. Papandrea repeated the position of the Women's Commission that the subject must be addressed and an IWF Policy is needed. **Dr. Young**, an expert on the subject, added some comments and advised to give the subject due care and attention, while defining the Zero Tolerance policy. He recommended a general/principle IWF Policy of Zero Tolerance on Sexual Misconduct. Details need time to be elaborated before a model is created that others are encouraged to follow. ***This recommendation was accepted by the EB.***