

REPORT of the IWF Executive Board Meeting Held on 2020 September 13 By Video Conference

PARTICIPATING:

Ursula Papandrea, IWF Interim President, Vice President

Mohammed Jalood, General Secretary

Intarat Yodbangtoey, 1st Vice President

Nicu Vlad, José Quinones, Petr Krol, Vice Presidents

Karoliina Lundahl, Pyrros Dimas, Birendra Prasad Baishya, Mahmoud Mahgoub, Luis Zambrano, Maxim Agapitov, Dr. Michael Irani, Shakhriilo Makhmudov, Members

Marcus Stephen Continental President, **15 Voting Board Members in total on the call.**

Secretariat: Phil Andrews, DDG, Dr. Lilla Sági, LC, Mária Cseresnyés, BAM,

Apologies: Zhanat Tussupbekov, Antonio Urso, Khaled Mehalhel, Mohamad Yousef Al Mana

Guest: Sam Coffa, EB Honorary Advisor, Benjamin Cohen and Gianluca Siracusano from ITA

Meeting started at 15:00 pm CET

ORIGINAL ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

1. Opening Remarks and welcome - Interim President Ursula Papandrea and General Secretary Mohamed Jalood
2. ITA Related Issues
 - a. Revised TOR for IMG and candidates
 - b. Revised TOR for ADC and candidates
 - c. Article 12 of ADR
3. WADA Update Dr. Lilla Sági
4. Lawsuit vs. IWF Dr. Lilla Sági
- ~~5. Constitutional Requirement: Disciplinary and Ethics Commission – Interim President Ursula Papandrea~~
6. Introduction of Safeguarding Policy Women’s Commission Chair Karolina Lundahl
- ~~7. Reform and Governance Commission~~
 - ~~a. Status and Members~~
 - ~~b. Revised Terms of Reference~~
 - ~~c. Proposed Roadmap and Timeline by Independents Interim President Ursula Papandrea and Deputy Director General Phil Andrews~~
8. Election Update
 - a. Audit of Election
 - b. Potential Venues, Deputy Director General Phil Andrews
9. Closing Remarks Interim President

1. Opening Remarks and Roll Call

After Roll Call, Papandrea, Interim President greeted, participants, welcomed Mr Benjamin Cohen and Gianluca Siracusano from ITA. Jalood, General Secretary also offered greetings.

While reviewing the Items on Agenda, Papandrea underlined that the EB meeting would be split into two meetings to be held today and next Sunday (20 September 2020) in order to keep each meeting under eight hours. Today’s meeting would be primarily governance and ITA related issues or questions, while next weekend finance and business operations would be discussed.

2. ITA Related Topics

Anti-Doping Commission Candidates

Papandrea made a presentation on the shortlist of ITA proposed ADC Members to be selected and to be approved by the EB by voting.

ITA selected 5 candidates to be considered for the positions of independent chair and members for their independence, skills, and expertise to fulfil the missions of the IWF ADC. For the 4 positions remaining, ITA carefully reviewed the nominations submitted by the IWF MFs from which 2 were directly selected by the ITA, and 5 were pre-selected by the ITA for the IWF EB's review. The Chair of the Medical Committee (MC) shall serve as an ex-officio member of the IWF ADC. Actions to be taken by the EB:

- To vote to approve or disapprove: the 5 ITA selected candidates,
- To vote to approve or disapprove: the 2 ITA selected candidates nominated by IWF MFs,
- To select 2 members from the list of ITA pre-selected candidates,
- To vote to approve or disapprove: the chair of MC serve as an ex-officio member of IWF ADC
- To approve or disapprove the revised Terms of Reference for ADC as proposed by ITA.

In relation to the IWF Independent Monitoring Group (IMG), ITA revised the Terms of Reference as well as selected the 4 candidates to the IWF IMG. Actions to be taken by the EB:

- To vote to approve or disapprove: the 4 ITA selected candidates,
- To approve or disapprove: revised Terms of Reference for IMG

Motion was made either selecting option A to approve all 5 candidates selected by ITA, or option B to approve the first 4 candidates and request a replacement for the 5th Member.

VOTE 1 on approving the ITA selected 5 ADC members – with 10 yes (for option A) and 4 no votes (for option B) and 5 not on the call passed.

It was also proposed it would be fair to extend the list, nominated by NFs, from which the EB can select – from 5 to 13, the full list.

Motion was made whether the EB should select 4 members for the remaining positions to the ADC from the ITA pre-selected list of 7 candidates, nominated by NFs or from the full list of 13 nominations.

VOTE 2 on approving to choose, by the IWF EB, 4 members from the ITA pre-selected shortlist of 7 candidates with 10 yes and 4 no votes and 2 not on the call passed.

Terms of Reference for the ADC

The EB was informed that they should vote on approving the new terms of reference (TOR) for the ADC, terms of reference for the independent monitoring group (IMG) and the members to the IMG, corrected by ITA.

EB was informed that the changes made in the ADC TOR, compared to the version, approved by the EB on 25 July 2020, were mainly formal. The only substantial change was to give the possibility for the IWF MC chair to be invited to participate in ADC meetings as an ex-officio non-voting member.

Motion was made to vote on approving the TOR of ADC, corrected by ITA.

VOTE 3 on approving the TOR for ADC – with 15 yes votes and 4 not on the call, unanimously passed.

After going through again on the list of members proposed by the ITA to IMG, motion was made to vote on approving the ITA selected IMG Members.

VOTE 4 on approving the IWF IMG members with 15 yes votes and 4 not on the call, unanimously passed.

After the EB was informed about the changes made to the IMG TOR motion was made to vote on approving the IWF IMG TOR.

VOTE 5 on approving the TOR IWF IMG with 15 yes votes and 4 not on the call, unanimously passed.

Article 12 Changes, Proposed by ITA

ITA Representatives made general statements on the changes made to the Article 12 of the IWF Anti-Doping Rules (ADR). ITA had been tasked to modify Article 12 based on the input that there had been voices in the IWF EB that the current provisions in effect may lead to some unfair results. Thus, ITA introduced a rather fairer and balanced system, revised the concept of suspension, rather fairer one to the MF: The notion of "Suspension" had been substituted with "Member Consequences". The Independent Member Federation Sanctioning Panel (IMFSP) could now decide which consequences were most appropriate in each case and graduated the sanction accordingly (i.e., suspension of only one or more rights). ITA also introduced the possibility to allow the athletes to compete in a neutral capacity and under a neutral flag, while the possibility of a total ban had been maintained. ITA also clarified that the seriousness of the underlying ADRVs and the gravity of the circumstances of each case should be considered when determining the applicable sanction. They clarified the role and prerogatives of the IMG and introduced the right to appeal the IMG decisions before CAS. ITA introduced a more rational and fair system of fines. The fines collected should be reinvested by the IWF in the IWF anti-doping programme. The IWF should keep detailed financial records on the use of the funds collected from fines. The automatic 10'000 USD fine per year of Suspension was removed.

The topic was discussed extensively by the EB members pointing out in the provided ADRV rules - the list of the mandatory violations and mandatory suspension and fines were not altered, there was a disagreement on the mandatory, punitive financial impositions to be put on each federation in case of ADRVs, many of the EB members wanted to abolish that point completely, based on the findings of the McLaren report. However, no agreement could be attained on the matter, thus:

VOTE on approving "Article 12 of IWF ADR" was postponed, ITA was asked to revise it and come back with a new version considering the concerns and proposals brought up by the IWF EB.

3. WADA update and ADRV by Dr. Lilla Sáqi

Dr Sáqi made a presentation on the ongoing investigations by WADA informing the EB that three requests were received by WADA after the McLaren report was published.

4. Update on a Lawsuit

Dr. Sáqi gave an update on the lawsuit of D.T. The IWF EB requested further information on the matter thus, VOTE by the IWF EB was postponed.

5. Safeguarding Policy

Lundahl made a presentation on the **IWF Safeguarding and Protection Policy** (IWF SPP) underlining nothing in the Policy intended to supersede, replace, or otherwise invalidate the IWF constitution and bylaws or the applicable Swiss Laws. She added there was nothing new in it as it somehow already existed in the IWF policies and laws: all forms of misconduct were intolerable and in direct conflict with the Olympic ideals. The IWF EB was kindly requested to review the IWF SPP to be sent for EB approval.

6. Technical Committee Issues

Vlad informed the EB that the Commonwealth Games would be held in Birmingham in 2022. According to the IWF rules, the Technical Committee (TC) should nominate the technical delegate. The most suitable person to represent the IWF with the necessary experience would be Sam Coffa who was voted and approved by the TC. He also gave an update on the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games issues.

7. Elections

Papandrea brought up an issue to be discussed by the EB to be able to comply with the Swiss law, which had been passed in response to COVID-19 allowing any non-profit organisation to host a virtual meeting in a very temporary fashion. The problem was that the order would terminate midnight so if the IWF EB wished to have the possibility of holding a virtual Congress, then it should be decided at the given moment to simply give the option for the IWF to have a virtual congress in the future if needed.

Most of the EB Members on the call were against that option as the constitutional and electoral Congress had to be held jointly and in person, moreover the preparation of the constitutional Congress considering the work associated with it would take a huge amount of time.

Motion was made to the IWF EB to vote on organising a virtual constitutional Congress.

VOTE 6 on the approval of holding a virtual constitutional Congress was NOT approved with 9 no and 3 yes votes while 7 not on the call.
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There being no other matter to transact, the meeting was closed.

Meeting ended 21:18 pm CET on Sunday, 13 September 2020.