

REPORT of IWF Executive Board Meeting Held on 2020 September 23 By Video Conference



PARTICIPATING:

Ursula Papandrea, 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 P. Baishya, Maxim Agapitov, Shakhriillo Makhmudov, Mahmoud Mahgoub,
Luis Zambrano, Dr. Michael Irani, Members
Khaled Mehalhel, Continental President, **15 Voting Board Members in total on the call.**

Apologies: Zhanat Tussupbekov, Antonio Urso, Mohamad Yousef Al Mana, Marcus Stephen

Guest: Sam Coffa, EB Honorary Advisor, Sarah Davies, Chair of Athletes Commission

Secretariat: Phil Andrews, DDG, Dr. Lilla Sági, LC, Dr. Péter Molnár, LC, Mátyás Lencsér, CM, Réka Földesi CMM, Zoltán Veres, ITM, Mária Cseresnyés, BAM,

Meeting started at 21:00 p.m. CET.

ORIGINAL ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

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| 1. Opening Remarks and Welcome Message | Interim President Ursula Papandrea
General Secretary Mohamed Jalood |
| 2. ADC Vote Results | Interim President Ursula Papandrea |
| 3. Introduction of Minutes May and June (E-Voting) | Interim President Ursula Papandrea |
| 4. Disciplinary and Ethics Commission and Candidates (E-Voting) | Interim President Ursula Papandrea |
| 5. Operational Updates | DGG Phil Andrews |
| A) Competitions | Comp. Mgr. Matyas Lencsér |
| a) 2020 Youth World Cup | |
| b) Online Competition Application | |
| c) 2021 Junior World Championships | |
| d) 2020 Junior World Championships | |
| B) Legal Response to Aján Letter | Nicu Vlad |
| C) Communications UN Project | Dr. Lilla Sági and Peter Molnar |
| D) IT Proposal | Interim President, M&C Mgr. Réka Földesi |
| E) Barbell Business Proposal and Sponsorship | IT Mgr. Zoltan Veres |
| 6. IWF Foundation Proposal | DGG Phil Andrews |
| 7. Reform and Governance Commission | DGG Phil Andrews |
| a) Status and Members | DGG Phil Andrews |
| b) Revised Terms of Reference | |
| c) Proposed Roadmap and Timeline by Independents | |
| d) Second meeting | |
| 8. Elections update | DGG Phil Andrews |
| a) Audit of Elections | |
| b) Potential Venues | |
| 9. Organizational Chart Positions | Interim President Ursula Papandrea |
| A) Interim CEO Job Post | |
| B) Education/Online Education Administrator | |
| 10. Financial update: Auditor Proposal | Financial Advisor Maxat Dastan (if available) |
| 11. In Person Executive Board Meeting Proposal | Bness. Admin. Mgr Maria Cseresnyés
Interim President Ursula Papandrea
General Secretary Mohamed Jalood
EB Member Maxim Agapitov
Chairman Nicu Vlad |
| 12. Technical Committee | |
| A) TC Honorarium Proposal | |
| 13. Committee and Commission Updates | Committee and Commission Chairs |
| 14. Closing Remarks | Interim President & General Secretary |

1. Opening Remarks and Roll Call

After Roll Call, Papandrea, Interim President greeted, participants, welcomed Sarah Davies, the Chair of Athletes Commission. Jalood, General Secretary also offered greetings and confirmed the EB did not meet that often, so, one time one part of the EB suffered of the timing, while others suffered other times, but they strived to attain balance.

Out of the Agenda, an update was given to the EB about a meeting held with IOC representatives in the morning. IWF would need to present some progress in terms of reforms that had been started.

2. Anti-Doping Commission (ADC) Vote Results

Results of E-voting of the EB selecting the members for the 4 remaining positions of the ADC were presented:

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|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Cristiam MORAGA ROJAS (CRC) | 3. Lawrence TOWNSEND (AUS) |
| 2. Cheng YAO (CHN) | 4. Gyanendra SHAH (NEP) |

3. Approval of May and June EB Minutes

Vote on approving the Minutes of 2020 May 31 as well as 2020 June 21 EB meetings was postponed, it would be subject to e-voting (email or WhatsApp) after being thoroughly reviewed by the Board Members.

~~4. Disciplinary and Ethics Commission and Candidates (E-Voting)~~

The discussion of the point was cancelled.

5. Operational Updates

A) Competitions

- a) **2020 Youth World Cup**
- b) **Online Competition Application**

The EB was informed as the 2020 IWF Youth World Championships was cancelled due to the global health crisis, PERU WF offered organizing the first online Youth World Cup, on the same dates between 11 and 18 November (8 days). The agreement and the regulations, prepared jointly with PERU WF, were finalized, and would be published soon. The planned date for closing entries would be 1 month before the competition; the number of entries was limited to an optimum of 400: each MF could enter 10 male and female athletes, however, the final entries and the final list of athletes would be chosen based on entry totals: the first 12 highest entry totals by the weight category, each MF would have the option to enter at least one male and one female athletes regardless of entry total. The number of entries was limited to avoid an unpredictable number of entries going up to 800 or 1000 which could not be managed under the current set-up – system and manpower. The entries could be completed through the IWF e-entry system, all entries would be handled electronically.

- c) **2021 Junior World Championships (JWC)**
- d) **2020 Junior World Championships (JWC)**

The EB was informed in case the 2020s JWCs – being a gold level qualification event for Tokyo OG – to be held in Bucharest by ROU WF would be cancelled, JWC to be held in the following year should become a gold level qualification event according to the qualification system: “like-for-like” event. As JWC was an important competition, it was proposed to merge, combine the two competitions: the 2020 JWC and 2021 JWC, however, a solution must be sought regarding the age of the athletes.

The EB was discussing the matter thoroughly including the pandemic, restrictions in the host country, qualification, also the age issues related to athletes who could possibly miss chances to compete and get qualification points.

A motion was made to vote on whether to cancel or not the 2020 Junior World Championships

VOTE 1 on cancelling 2020 Junior World Championships to be held in Bucharest (ROU) was approved with 14 yes votes and 5 not on the call, unanimously passed.

It was requested to remove the 2020 JWC from the Competition Calendar.

B) Legal Response to Dr. Aján Letter

Dr. Sági made a summary about the situation with Dr Aján.

C) Communications UN Project

Földesi made a presentation on the UN project with the proposal to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with UN. Papandrea asked the EB if they opposed for her to sign the Memorandum and go on work with them on Communication and Marketing. There were no objections.

D) IT Proposal

Veres made a proposal for the information system present and future considering the needs of online competitions due to COVID. The EB was informed that the aim of the presentation was just to get an idea of the direction that Veres worked in IT, to try to improve both the competitions, the online competitions, and the membership experience.

E) Barbell Business Proposal and Sponsorship

Andrews informed the EB about his proposal on generating more revenue by introducing a new tiered system for the sponsors. The EB requested to get the barbell business proposal in writing and to have a time to review it thoroughly before deciding on the matter.

6. IWF Foundation Proposal

Andrews informed the EB about another way to generate income to fund the IWF's most significant costs on anti-doping, based on already existing schemes, via creating an "*IWF Clean Sport Foundation*"; and the potential income would be spent on anti-doping issues. The foundation proposal should be distributed among the EB members for review and further discussions.

7. Reform and Governance Commission (RGC)

a) Status and members

The EB was informed about the members of the RGC. One position was still open, in progress.

b) Revised Terms of Reference – TOR

The EB had received a revised RGC terms of reference (TOR) one week before the meeting to be approved.

c) Proposed Roadmap and Timeline by Independents

The roadmap served only informative purposes, the timeline therein, considering Coronavirus, felt to be realistic. Based on the proposed timelines, the plan would be to have elections in January 2021 in Lausanne, however, the formal procedure had not been launched yet.

The RGC TOR should be agreed and discussed by all RGC Members before presented to the IWF EB, thus no decision was made.

8. Elections Update

a) Audit of Elections

b) Potential Venues

The EB discussed the matter related to IWF Electoral Congress thoroughly.

In regard to the date of elections, concerns were raised that holding elections in January [2021] in Lausanne was unrealistic and would require substantial financial sources: venues, deposits, auditing, with the risk of no refund in case the elections were to be postponed.

It was noted if the elections were planned to be held in January 2021, the call for elections should be sent to MFs 120 days before the elections which would mean either the following day [24 September 2020] or day after tomorrow [25 September 2020]. The call should be sent out with a note: "*reserving the right of changing the date of elections due to COVID-19*".

The EB also discussed to change relevant clauses of the IWF bylaws prior to elections to ensure the integrity of the elections. Majority of the EB Members tended to agree to have elections in March 2021.

A motion was made to approve to review the bylaws pertaining to elections to ensure the integrity of the elections.

Vote 2 on approving to review the IWF Bylaws pertaining to elections to ensure the integrity of elections with 12 YES votes, and 7 not on the call passed.

A motion was made to vote whether the elections should be held in January or March 2021 (clearly stating the month).

Vote 3 on selecting the month to have elections – January or March: with 11 votes for March and 1 vote for January, and 7 not on the call passed for March.

A motion was made to vote on approving to have a back-up plan B – reserve city if the elections could not be held in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Vote 4 on approving to have a back-up plan B (to have the elections other city than Lausanne) for elections with 12 YES votes and 7 not on the call passed.

A summary was made to the EB on the audit of elections about the companies having been approached by the IWF.

9. Financial update: Auditor

A proposal for IWF financial statements audit was presented that should be thoroughly reviewed and discussed by the EB before approval.

10. Organizational Chart Positions

- A) Interim CEO Job Post
- B) Education/Online Education Administrator

It was ascertained that the contract of DDG expired and the EB did not wish to prolong it. A job post for the CEO position should be published together with an (online) education administrator being a part time position. The posts should be distributed to the MFs as well.

There had been proposals for the positions of the interim CEO until a CEO was found through a job post.

11. In Person Executive Board Meeting Proposal

Agapitov invited the EB for an in-person Executive Board meeting to be held in Moscow as the Russian Weightlifting Federation had its 135th anniversary. Dates proposed for the following IWF EB meeting: November 8-11.

Papandrea thanking Agapitov for the invitation added the meeting of November 8-11 would most probably be a combination of in-person and virtual EB meeting.

12. Technical Committee Issues

It was proposed and put to a vote to pay honorarium to Sam Coffa, the Advisor to the IWF EB.

As there was no quorum, it was proposed and agreed to vote online (via email) on the matter together with other outstanding issues.

The EB was also informed about some changes in the TCRR being finalised by the TC, which should be sent to the EB for approval in a couple of days.

There being no other matter to transact, the meeting was closed.

Meeting ended 06:30 am CET on Thursday, 24 September 2020.