



# MINUTES of the IWF Executive Board Meeting Held on 2021 November 20 By Video Conference via Zoom

## **PARTICIPATING**

Dr. Michael Irani, Interim President and Chairperson of the Meeting  
Mohammed Jalood, General Secretary  
Intarat Yodbangtoey, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
José Quinones, Zhanat Tussupbekov, Petr Krol Vice Presidents  
Karoliina Lundahl, Pyrros Dimas, Birendra Baishya, Maxim Agapitov, Shakhrillo Makhmudov, Mahmoud Mahgoub, Luis Zambrano, Sam Coffa, Members  
Mohamed Yousef Al Mana, Marcus Stephen, Khaled Mehalhel Continental Presidents,  
Sarah Davies, AC Chair, Forrester Osei, AC Vice Chair.

**19 Voting Board Members in total on the call. Quorum has been formed.**

Secretariat: Fabien Verbrugge, CEO, Dr. Lilla Sági, OD, Mária Cseresnyés BAM

*Meeting started at 09:00 am CET*

## **ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

The meeting had been convened without a specific Agenda.

### **Opening Remarks and Roll Call**

After the Roll Call, **Dr. Irani** Interim President greeted all the participants of the IWF Executive Board meeting; **Jalood**, General Secretary also offered greetings.

**Dr. Irani** confirmed there had been no Agenda for the meeting was meant to be a discussion among the EB members of any outstanding issues.

### **1. Eligibility Vetting Conducted by the EDP**

EB Members such as Al Mana, Coffa, Jalood, Quinones expressed their views and disappointment related to the eligibility monitoring conducted by the EDP. They all highlighted legal issues regarding the establishment of the EDP and the delegation of eligibility vetting by the EDC to the EDP. Furthermore, they emphasized based on the complaints received from many candidates it seemed that double standards and controversialities applied in the process done by the EDP.

They also raised the issue that candidates had no right to appeal the determinations of the EDP to any Swiss Court which seemed totally non-compliant with Swiss Law, the IWF was governed by.

EB Members raised that they had also submitted complaints to the Legal Commission and the Electoral Commission Chair, Ms. Damaris Young, however, no answer was received.

**Sági** made an extensive report on the eligibility determination process done by the EDP. However, she highlighted that the IWF Secretariat was not involved in the vetting, they had only transferred the required information to the EDP where verification of the IWF was needed. She confirmed that the IWF had received many complaints from IWF Member Federations regarding the vetting process.

She also confirmed based on the advice of the IWF's Swiss External Lawyers nobody could be withheld from its own appealing right, therefore anyone who believed that his rights were infringed could go to court whether to CAS or the Swiss Civil Court.

The EB Members agreed to authorise Sági to forward the following questions, gathered by the EB Members, to the Legal Commission and the Electoral Commission to ask for their written advice as followed:

- “If The EDP has not been properly constituted as per the Constitution and cannot prevent a person to have his candidacy submitted to the vote of the Congress?”
- Whether the decisions of the EDP are appealable to the CAS or not taking into consideration the Rule 43 (43.1) of the IWF Constitution, as well as the Swiss law principle deriving from art. 75 Swiss Civil Code that any decision by a Swiss association is subject to review by a court or arbitration tribunal?
- If the EDP has the authority to determinate if a candidate is ineligible based on the interpretation of Rule 13 of the Constitution (which seem to apply to National Federation Members only)?
- If the EDP has the authority to determinate if a candidate is ineligible based on a breach of the IWF Ethics and Disciplinary Code (EDC) (Section E.II (4) in the absence of any decision by the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission?
- If the EDP has jurisdiction to interpret and apply the EDC, and rule upon whether a breach of the EDC occurred or not?
- Does the EDP have the right to approve or disapprove the eligibility of a candidate after the official deadline for the final determinations set out in the IWF Constitution?
- Does the Candidate have the right to receive the evidence from the EDP which they ask the Candidate to comment on?
- The Legal and the Electoral Commission is asked to clarify the application of rule 13.12 of the IWF Constitution and Rules, because the IWF Executive Board believes that this article goes against the spirit of the IWF Constitution.
- Can the IWF Executive Board submit an appeal to CAS or the Swiss Court as a group or individuals shall appeal individually. If Candidates appeal individually how can Executive Board Members support them in their appeal?”

**VOTE 1 to approve the report of the EDP vetting process and to submit to LC and EC a list of questions for clarification and ask for their written opinion/advice was approved with 19 yes votes, no abstention – unanimously PASSED.**

## **2. Implementation of WADA vs RUSADA CAS Award**

**Sági** took the floor and informing the EB about the implementation of the WADA vs. RUSADA CAS Award. The Award would impact 2 IWF Events, the 2021 IWF World Championships and the 2022 IWF World Championships. She highlighted that the IWF had an excellent cooperation with the Russian Weightlifting Federation Staff Members. All necessary information was provided by the Russian Federation and forwarded to WADA by the IWF Staff. The IWF and the Russian Federation agreed that Athletes from Russia would compete under the flag of the Russian Weightlifting Federation, using the acronym of RWF. For these two events specific uniforms would be made for the Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel as well.

The IWF Staff had prepared a guideline for the implementation like the one the IOC used for the Tokyo Olympic Games. This guideline would be sent to the IWF Executive Board for approval.

She also informed the EB that the IWF received a request from the UZB WF related to candidature fee and the event fee for the coming WWC in Tashkent.

**VOTE 2 to approve the request of the UZB WF was approved with 17 yes votes, 1 abstention and 1 not online PASSED.**

**Jalood** informed that many countries approached him about the outstanding AD fines asking deadline extensions and/ or paying in some instalments because in some countries at the end of the year the budgets had already been used and no further funds could be allocated by Governments.

**Coffa** underlined that the same “treatment” possibility, equal terms should be provided to any of the MFs approaching with such request.

**Motion** was made to extend the payment of AD fines until the 31/01/2022.

**VOTE 3 to approve** to extend the payment of AD fines until the 31/01/2022 **with 16 yes votes, 1 No, no abstention and 2 not online PASSED.**

**Quinones** asked the EB to extend the deadline of using the Development Programme grants allocated and sent to the MFs until the end of February 2022.

**VOTE 4 to approve** to extend the deadline of using the Development Programme grants allocated and sent to the MFs until the end of February 2022.

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

***Meetings ended at 10:40 a.m. CET on 20 November 2021.***

***Minutes taken by Mária Cseresnyés***



**Dr. Michael Irani**  
IWF Interim President



**Mohammed Jalood**  
IWF General Secretary

### **Annexes to the Minutes**

ANNEX 1 Transcript of the voice record of the IWF EB online meeting of 20/11/2021

Notice: ANNEX 1 the “Transcripts” of the voice record of the IWF EB online meeting of 20/11//2021 was generated by the ZOOM programme.