

MINUTES of the IWF Executive Board Meeting Held on 3rd October at 10:00 CET

In person from Rome, Italy and by Video Conference via Zoom

PARTICIPATING

Mohammed Jalood, President and Chairperson of the Meeting

Antonio Urso, General Secretary

Ursula Papandrea, 1st Vice President

Doris Marrero, Petr Krol, Attila Adamfi, Pyrros Dimas Vice Presidents

Mohamed Alharbi, Wen Hsin Chang, Sam Coffa, Fathi Masmoudi, Gardencia Du Plooy, Matthew Curtain, Florian Sperl, Hiromi Miyake, Tom Yong Liaw, Yassini Esquivel, Boukar Tikire Members

Antonio Conflitti, Jose Quinones, Khaled Mehalhel in person and Mohd Yousef Al Mana - online Continental Presidents, Forrester Osei, AC Chair, in-person and Dora Tchakounte AC Vice Chair and Zacarias Bonnat online

25 Voting Board Members in total joined the online meeting. Quorum was formed.

Secretariat: Mária Cseresnyés BAM; Tímea Horváth EDPM, Mátyás Lencsér Competition Manager, Réka Földesi, Olivier Ducrey, Legal Counsel, Maxat Dastanov, CFA.

Meeting started at 10:00 a.m. CET.

ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

	Topic	Speaker
1.	Welcome Words of IWF President	M. Jalood
2.	Report of IWF President	M. Jalood
3.	Report of IWF General Secretary	A. Urso
4.	Anti-Doping	B. Cohen, R. Andersen
5.	Financial Report	M. Dastanov
6.	Report of IWF Chairman of Technical Committee	S. Coffa
7.	Report of IWF Chairman of Medical Committee	F. Masmoudi
8.	Report of IWF Chairman of Coaching and Research Committee	P. Krol
9.	Report of IWF Development and Education Commission	K. Mehalhel
10.	Report of IWF Membership Committee	A. Adamfi
11.	Constitution	M. Jalood, A. Urso
12.	Media and communication	M. Jalood, A. Urso
13.	Athletes' Commission Elections	F. Osei
14.	Continental Federations	M. Jalood, A. Urso
15.	Competitions 2022 – 2023	M. Jalood
	12.1 IWF World Senior Championships 2022 Bogotá COL O.Q. Event (update)	A. Urso
	12.2 IWF World Youth Championships Tirana ALB – (update)	A. Urso
	12.3 IWF World Junior Championships Guadalajara, MEX – date to be confirmed	
	12.4 IWF World Senior Championships – Riyadh, KSA O.Q. Event	
16.	Awards	M. Jalood
17.	Proposal of EB Members	
18.	Any Other Business	

1. Welcome of the President

The President welcomed the EB Members participating both in-person in Rome and online. He thanked the General Secretary and the Italian Federation for their kind hospitality as well as for organising the EB meeting in Rome. The President also congratulated the Italian Federation for their success in the 2021 Tokyo Olympic Games winning Olympic medal after 37 years. He said one of the 9 sports on the first Olympic Games in 1896 was weightlifting, and that the Board should work hard and closely cooperate to keep weightlifting in the Olympic Programme.

2. Welcome and Report of the General Secretary

The General Secretary also offered greetings adding that it was a historical moment for him, being an honour to have the IWF Executive Board meeting in Rome for the first time.

Urso informed the EB he had the chance to meet Thomas Bach, IOC President in person in Italy who clearly stated that the weightlifting was under the looking glass and where and what the expectations of the IOC were, even giving some time to improve, however, three areas requiring immediate action were: doping, governance and Constitution that would be reviewed in December this year.

The General Secretary informed the EB that he would update the EB about the preliminary findings of the due diligence of the last 6 months. Regarding the 10-year due diligence, he said that it would require huge financial sources and the that the EB would need to consider.

He said he also reviewed the IWF Development Programme – which is the second most significant expenses of the IWF after the AD costs: IWF invested huge money: investing in equipment and in education but there were no results returned, it should be understood what the money was spent for; how to check, how to monitor.

Mr. Giovanni MALAGO, President of the Italian National Olympic Committee, IOC Member, hosting the IWF Executive Board meeting at the headquarters of the Italian National Olympic Committee – joined the EB meeting for some welcoming words to the IWF Executive Board.

The General Secretary informed the EB that the IWF Olympic Qualification System (OQS) having been approved by the IOC needed some further adjustments and gave the floor to Curtain to update the EB on that, his briefing document attached as Annex 01. Curtain admitted the work performed thereon was to strengthen the existing OQS in three areas to protect the clean athletes of the world:

- 2024 World Cup was part of the OQS – compulsory event to be participated in, for the OQS – to be more objective as the quota place in the OG were sharply decreased.
- AD issues – for World Championships submission of whereabouts was 3 months before the event while in case of the other OQS events only two months. The proposal would be 3 months for all OQS events.
- Alignment and consensus of IWF Event Calendar for 2023.

Exceptional circumstance – should be applied only once – the proposal to be approved by the EB.

Given the floor, Rune Andersen admitted he would welcome and agree to increase the whereabouts info to three months, but the only question was whether it could be attained as it was a huge task to do and would require enormous resources.

Benjamin Cohen said the principle to extend from two to three months could be supported to follow the IWF objectives. It would mean to increase the workload for the ITA which was certainly possible, but they would need to analyse it internally in terms of resources to be invested in completing this huge administrative task.

The EB discussed in detail the proposed changes to the OQS presented by Curtain and a motion was made to approve the new updated OQS in principle subject to the final approval in writing of the Athletes' Commission to be submitted to the IOC.

VOTE 1 to approve the in principle modified OQS subject to the written approval of the Athletes' Commission 25 yes votes, 0 abstention and 1 not online – PASSED.

Veres made a summary on the cyber security seminar organised by the IOC seminar he participated in, his presentation attached as Annex 02. f security.

3. Anti-Doping (AD)

Rune Andersen made a summary on the tasks performed and discussed by ADC and informed the EB about the following:

- IWF had achieved a lot in the field of fighting with doping resulting in possessing one of the best AD policy in sports.
- Would need to strengthen intelligence and investigations that would require some rule change.
- Another field that would need significant improvement was to increase a lot in education on AD
- Increase testing
- Storage of samples – IOC continued to analyse samples from previous OG that produced a lot of positive cases, ADRVs.

Benjamin Cohen given the floor in his presentation (attached hereto as Annex 03) touched the below subjects:

1. Expansion of investigative powers
2. Mandatory education requirements
3. Eligibility testing regime
4. Addressing resourcing gaps

Expansion of investigative power – to strengthen IWF. In the past the aim was testing / sanctioning which should shift to prevention and education, and it should not be an option but obligation.

Mandatory education requirements should be involved in the contract of the IWF e. g. Athletes registered testing pool should participate in the ADEL – WADA education seminar – if not participated they would not have the right to compete, e. g. the “Article” 12 – should be applied in relation to the education activities of the athletes, exclusions. He also informed the Board that increased investment in AD was still a huge need.

Both IWF President and the General Secretary supported the request / proposal of ITA and ADC Chair to increase education but also with the request to simplify the language for athletes / coaches to be more comprehensive for them.

Benjamin Cohen was asked about the legal consequences regarding the 5 countries where AD tests could not be taken. Cohen promised to provide a legal memo on the possible consequences that could be applied.

A motion was made to approve in principle to exclude countries to compete where doping tests could not be taken.

VOTE 2 to approve exclude in principle countries to compete where doping tests could not be taken with 24 yes votes, 0 abstention and 2 not online – PASSED.

The General Secretary, as part of his report, informed the Executive Board about two letters received from two different national federations that affected the IWF Committees. The Board agreed that the requests of the member federations should be respected.

Maxim Agapitov, President of the Russian Weightlifting Federation, was invited to make his speech. He requested the EB to kindly consider allowing the Russian and Belorussian athletes to participate in international weightlifting events, even online.

Urso replied to Agapitov that he agreed with him that governance was crucial point for the IWF, but the current EB should not be responsible for the past 40 years and to change everything in 3 months (from the date of elections) was not possible, but the Board was working in the right direction.

He also informed that there was a meeting with the IOC where economic consequences of the war in sports federations were discussed as the federations lost significant incomes for excluding the Russian and Belorussian athletes (sponsorship, TV rights, etc.) based on the IOC recommendations.

The EB discussed the topic in the detail and the below was ascertained:

- Athletes should not suffer from the consequences of the war.
- AD tests were not possible in the country, OQS, submission of whereabouts already started, no lifters submitted – no info.
- The IWF would wait for and follow the recommendations of the IOC.

4. Competitions 2022-2023

The representatives of the countries hosting IWF events made their presentations:

- IWF YWC 2023, ALB – Tirana, Durrës, Mr. Elez Gjoza, President showed a video.
- IWF WWC 2023, KSA – Riyadh, Mr. Mohammed Alharbi, President made his presentation on the progress they made, a video was shown.
- IWF WWC 2025, NOR – Mr. Stian Grimseth, President made a presentation to the EB
- IWF JWC 2023, MEX – Guadalajara, Dr. Rosalio A. Alvarado Del Angel, President made a presentation
- JWC 2024, ESP – Juan Lama, General Secretary informed the EB about the progresses made.
- IWF WWC Bogota 2022, Progress report to the EB was presented by Andrea Pena, Competition Director

A motion was made to grant 25,000 USD to the Colombian Weightlifting Federation for WWC under the IWF Development Programme as equipment support.

VOTE 3 to approve to provide equipment support under the DP to COL amounting to 25,000 USD with 22 yes votes, 0 abstention and 4 not online – PASSED.

The newly re-elected President of the International Federation of Sports Medicine – Mr. Fabio Pigozzi joined the meeting for some welcoming words.

5. Report of the Technical Committee (TC) Chair

Coffa informed the EB about the proposed changes made to the Technical Competitions Rules and Regulations (TCRR). Annex 04

The EB accepted that the IWF could hold a WWC in the year of the Olympic Games – 2024 and should issue a call for a tender to the Member Federations for hosting the event.

Dimas proposed to consider introducing the 7th – bonus – attempt at youth and junior events only.

A motion was made to approve the Report of the TC Chair.

VOTE 4 To approve the report of the TC Chair with 24 yes votes, 0 abstention and 2 not online – PASSED.

6. Report of the Medical Committee Chair

Dr. Fathi, gave a brief report on the Medical Committee meeting held in September. The meeting was mainly about the COVID guidelines to be followed and applied for the IWF WWC in Bogota. Another issue was to have a database of doctors per each continent, also nomination of doctors for the competitions should be coming from the member federation.

A motion was made to approve the Report of the MC Chair.

VOTE 5 to approve the report of the MC Chair with 23 yes votes, 0 abstention and 3 not online – PASSED.

7. Report of the Coach and Research Committee (CRC) Chair

Krol gave a presentation on the CRC meeting held in September to the EB attached as Annex 05. The main goal of the CRC was the coaching licence programme – as this had been discussed for years without any factual results, they would work and present some materials on the next EB meeting.

The EB discussed the certification of the coaches should be introduced and controlled by the IWF.

A motion was made to approve the report of the CRC Chair.

VOTE 6 to approve the report of the CRC Chair with 23 yes votes, 0 abstention and 3 not online – PASSED.

8. Financial Report

Dastanov showed a presentation on the introduction of the accounting software to be used in the IWF.

A motion was made to approve the report of Dastanov.

VOTE 7 to approve the financial report with 23 yes votes, 0 abstention and 3 not online – PASSED.

The EB was presented the Contributions payable to the IWF Officials and offices attached as Annex 06.

A motion was made to approve the contributions as discussed payable to IWF officials.

VOTE 8 to approve the contributions payable to IWF officials 23 yes votes, 0 abstention and 3 not online – PASSED.

9. Report of the Membership Committee (MSC) Chair

Adamfi reported to the EB that the Terms of Reference (TOR) had been finalised and circulated among the EB members prior to this EB meeting and asked the EB to approve the Membership Committee Terms of Reference attached hereto as Annex 07

A motion was made to approve the Terms of Reference of the Membership Committee.

VOTE 9 to approve the TOR of the Membership Committee with 23 yes votes, 0 abstention and 3 not online – PASSED.

10. Media and Communication

The General Secretary informed the EB during his technical visit in Colombia met with a local TV production company ready to work in the IWF 2022 WWC event, submitted their offer. On the other hand, a revised offer was received from Quality Media Producciones (QMP) that included discounts and related only to 3 events. Regarding the agreement with SportFive, the General Secretary informed the EB that was stipulated in the agreement if Russian and Belorussian athletes would be allowed to compete the terms of the agreement would be re-negotiated.

Adamfi made a remark that Quality Media should provide broadcasting according to the IWF TV production standards to be submitted to Quality Media.

A motion was made to approve Quality Media, based on their revised offer on production for 3 events only.

VOTE 10 to approve the revised discounted offer of QMP for 3 events with 23 yes votes, 0 abstention and 3 not online – PASSED.

11. Athletes Commission (AC) Update

Osei made an update on the elections, there were some amendments made in the rules and regulations, which were rather clarifications. (Annex 08) To be approved by the EB and the Electoral Commission. There was a call for nominations, the deadline of which was this day. The composition of the AC was fixed at 10 members from each continent also attaining the gender balance.

The deadline should be extended as no nominations from certain continent were received, and there were some open spaces for both female and male positions. Osei requested a 5-day deadline extension.

The EB discussed whether the five-day extension should apply only to the open / missing positions for which no nominations were received or for all the positions.

A motion was made to approve the amendments in the Athletes' Commission elections documents.

VOTE 11 to approve the amendments in the Athletes' Commission elections documents with 22 yes votes, 0 abstention and 2 not online – PASSED.

A motion was made to approve to extend the deadline of submitting nominations with 5 days:

Option A: to open for all AC positions

Option B: to open for only missing AC positions

VOTE 12 to approve the extension of deadline with 5 days for submitting nominations to AC elections with 10 votes for option A, 7 votes for option B, 5 abstentions and 4 not online, that is to open for all AC positions – PASSED

The General Secretary also informed the EB that 2 cases were filed against the IWF at CAS.

On another the General Secretary informed that he and the President met two communication companies in Birmingham (Commonwealth Games):

- John Tibbs
- Inside the Games

Due to the shortage of time, the agreements with the two related companies would be circulated among the EB members for review before signing.

Mehalhel made a complaint on the vetting procedure of the EDC on members appointed to different committees and commissions during the EB meeting held on 13 July 2022 in Lausanne – 82 days passed, in some cases still no decisions made yet. The General Secretary said he would look into the matter.

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

Meetings ended 20:00 p.m. CET on 03/10/2022



Mohammed Jalood
IWF President



Antonio Urso
IWF General Secretary

Annexes to the Minutes

Annex 01	Amendments to IWF OQS for Paris 2024 OG
Annex 02	PPT Cyber Security
Annex 03	Presentation of ITA by Benjamin Cohen
Annex 04	Amendments to IWF TCRR
Annex 05	Report of CRC Chair
Annex 06	IWF Officials Contributions
Annex 07	Membership Committee Terms of Reference
Annex 08	Amendments to IWF AC Elections Documents

Notice: Annex 9 the “Transcripts” of the voice record of the IWF EB online meeting was generated by the ZOOM programme.