

MINUTES of the IWF Executive Board Meeting (EB)

held on 3rd December 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Doha, QAT time

in person from the 2023 IWF GP II. in Doha, QAT

and ONLINE – by Video Conference via Zoom

PARTICIPATING

Mohammed Jaloud, President and Chairperson of the Meeting, in-person

Ursula Papandrea, First Vice President, in-person

Antonio Urso, General Secretary, in-person

Doris Marrero, Attila Adamfi, Pyrros Dimas, Petr Krol Vice Presidents, in-person

Mohamed Alharbi, Sam Coffa, Yassiny Esquivel, Matthew Curtain, Dr. Fathi Masmoudi, Gardencia Du Ploy, Tom Liaw, Boukar Tikire, Maria Jose Alcalá in-person and Florian Sperl, Hiromi Miyake, online - Members

Mohd Yousef Al Mana, Antonio Conflitti, Jose Quinones, Khaled Mehalhel, Continental Presidents in-person

Forrester Osei, Hidilyn Diaz-Naranjo, Luisa Peters AC representatives, in-person

Mr. Michel Raynaud (FRA) – Ex Officio, in-person

25 Voting EB Members joined the meeting in person and online, Quorum was formed.

IWF Secretariat Members

Guests: Dr. Michael Irani, Honorary President; Mr. Benjamin Cohen, ITA Director General; Rune Andersen, IWF ADC Chair; Jean-Pierre Morand, IWF Legal Counsel

Meeting started at 10:00 a.m. Doha, QAT time.

Agenda of the Meeting

	Topic	Speaker
	Welcome Words of the IWF President	M. Jaloud
	Welcome Words of the President of QAT WF, LOC of IWF GP II.	M. Y. Al Mana
1.	IWF President Report	M. Jaloud
2.	IWF General Secretary Report	A. Urso
3.	Co-optation IWF CEO	
4.	Provisional Financial Report 2023 and 2024 Budget	M. Dastanov, M. Cseresnyes
5.	Anti-Doping Report	M. Exhenry
6.	Sustainability Report	Florian Sperl
7.	IWF Refugee Project Programme for 2024	Florian Sperl
8.	Sole Suppliers for 2026 and 2028	Antonio Urso
9.	Presentation of Country-Candidates for 2025-2026 IWF Events	
9.1	Candidates for 2025 World Youth Championships	
9.2	Candidates for 2025 World Junior Championships	
9.3	Candidates for 2026 World (Senior) Championships	
10.	Any Other Business	

After the Roll Call, the President and the General Secretary welcomed the EB Members attending the meeting both in person and online, the President of the QAT WF, H.E. Mr. Al Mana hosting the 2023 IWF GP II. in Doha, being also a qualification event for Paris 2024 OG, also offered greetings.

1. Report of the President

The President after welcoming the participants highlighted the very good level of participation, with almost 400 lifters from 100 countries attending the competition. *"It will be a great event, with very good performances, and perhaps some World Records. Everyone is very happy to be here in Qatar, where the hospitality of our hosts is excellent,"* declared the IWF President. He also expressed his confidence and optimism on a very fruitful EB meeting, recalling that the *"IWF Family is very united and working together in a positive direction"*. Being the first meeting in-person since the IOC decision reinstatement of weightlifting in the 2028 Olympic programme in Los Angeles, Mr Jalood took the opportunity to recognise *"the hard work, support and trust"* from his EB colleagues. *"This is a very happy moment for the IWF and for our athletes around the world. We now need to make the IOC proud for trusting in us,"* he concluded.

2. Report of the General Secretary

The Secretary General also recalled the *"very positive work"* that had been done since the election of the present EB, in June 2022. Highlighting some milestones during this 18-month period - namely the improvement of the Constitution, the implementation of additional good governance, the strengthening of the anti-doping programme, and the creation of a Strategic Plan -, Mr Urso emphasised that this *"enormous effort is transforming the IWF into a very professional and reliable structure"*. Reflecting on the importance of having this qualification event in Qatar, the Secretary General considered that the *"future of the sport is in the Middle East"*, after the very successful staging of the IWF World Championships last September in Riyadh (KSA) and the upcoming edition of our Federation's showcase, in December 2024 in Manama (BRN).

3. Appointment of the CEO

The EB discussed internally the applications for the IWF CEO position, and the following motion was made: To approve to enter into consultation with the Final Candidate for appointing him as IWF CEO subject to the negotiation of terms and conditions of his employment.

VOTE 1 to approve the above motion with 24 yes votes, 0 abstention, 0 no vote – PASSED.

4. Provisional Financial Report and Budget for 2024

Dastanov and Cseresnyes showed the financials of the first eleven months in 2023 for informational purposes only and presented the estimated budget for 2024 attached hereto as **Annex 01**.

A Motion was made to approve the estimated budget for 2024.

VOTE 2 to approve the 2024 IWF estimated budget with 23 yes votes, 3 abstentions, 0 no vote – PASSED.

5. Anti-Doping Report

Mr. Benjamin Cohen, and Mr. Rune Andersen also joined the EB meeting online; the President, on behalf of all the EB members, thanked them both for their support and contribution in attaining the IWF objectives and particularly for their assistance in the successful update of the IWF Anti-Doping Rules which would come into force as of 1 January 2024, addressing challenges faced with the application of the version of the Rules currently in force, especially in the area of the availability of athletes for testing and the categorisation of MFs into categories. Then Exhenry presented her report, attached hereto as **Annex 02**, to the EB on Anti-Doping matters, providing an update on the case of unavailability of athletes from certain countries for testing due to border restrictions and informing the EB members on the new Anti-Doping Rules which would come into force on 1 January 2024, particularly with respect to the new MFs categorization rule. Additionally, she provided an update on mandatory anti-doping education and a report on education activities managed by the IWF in 2023 during the 3 main events.

Having noted recent media reports regarding International multi-sport events scheduled to take place in June and September 2024 in Russia, the IWF Executive Board reconfirmed its current position where no IWF internationally sanctioned weightlifting events shall be organised in Russia or Belarus.

6. Sustainability Report and 2024 Refugee Project Programme

Sperl given the floor summarised what having been circulated among the EB Members in the matter prior to the EB meeting attached hereto as **Annex 03**. The IWF Refugee Team programme for the following year was revalidated.

7. Sole Suppliers for 2026 and 2028

The General Secretary asked the approval of the EB to start working on the tender documents with the Secretariat regarding the selection of the sole supplier for 2026 and 2028 Games.

Lunch break: 14:00 – 15:00

After the lunchbreak the roll call was completed – 24 EB members joined the meeting in person and 2 online.

8. Presentation of Country-Candidates for 2025-2026 IWF Events

8.1 IWF World Youth Championships - 2025

- a) ALB – Tirana
- b) PER – Lima
- c) TKM – Ashgabat

Motion was made to select the host for the 2025 IWF World Youth Championships.

VOTE 3 Peru was approved to host the 2025 World Youth Championships with 23 yes votes, 1 abstention, 0 no vote – PASSED.

8.2 IWF World Junior Championships - 2025

- a) ALB – Tirana
- b) CHN – Jiangshang
- c) NZL – Auckland
- d) UZB – Tashkent

Motion was made to select the host for the 2025 IWF World Junior Championships.

VOTE 4 Uzbekistan was approved to host the 2025 World Junior Championships with 23 yes votes, 1 abstention, 0 no vote.

8.3 IWF World (Senior) Championships - 2026

- e) PER – Lima
- f) CHN – Ningbo
- g) UZB – Tashkent

Motion was made to select the host for the 2026 IWF World (Senior) Championships.

VOTE 5 China was approved to host the 2026 World Senior Championships with 23 yes votes, 1 abstention, 0 no vote.

9. Any Other Business

9.1 Two new barbell companies were introduced to the EB, requesting to become licenced suppliers in the upcoming Olympic Cycle, 2025 till 2028. The EB agreed that the applicant barbell company from India – NELCO – should be tested in the duration of a year: 20 barbell sets to be provided to countries for testing and only after the report submitted to the Technical Committee for approval (or disapproval) could any negotiations start. The second applicant barbell company making a presentation was from China – CLUSTER. The EB agreed that it is needed for the company to present an endorsement / recommendation letter from the Chinese Weightlifting Association (CWA) and evidence of use of their equipment in Chinese Weightlifting events, before the EB would consider starting the negotiations.

A motion was made to approve NELCO from IND for a testing period of one-year with the above-mentioned conditions.

VOTE 10 to approve NELCO (IND) for a testing period with 23 yes votes, 0 abstention, 0 no vote – PASSED.

9.2 Bylaws – The Constitution Working Group would continue to work on the Bylaws of the IWF under the leadership of the First Vice President.

9.3 It was proposed and accepted **to annually celebrate the World Weightlifting Day on October 16**, the date on which **the IOC decided in 2023 to reinstate the sport in the programme of the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games**.

9.4 Right at the end of the meeting, the EB agreed (upon the recommendation of the President) to appoint the following members to lead the **Olympic Qualification Systems of the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026 and the Olympic Games Los Angeles 2028**: Sam Coffa (Co-Chair), Matthew Curtain (Co-Chair), Forrester Osei (AC Chair), José Quiñones (Continental Federation Representative), and Mátyás Lencsér (IWF Competition Manager).

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

Meeting ended 17:30 p.m. Doha, QAT time on 03/12/2023.



Mohammed Jalood
IWF President



Antonio Urso
IWF General Secretary

Annexes to the Minutes

- | | |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Annex 01 | IWF Financials 2023 and IWF Estimated Budget for 2024 |
| Annex 02 | Anti-Doping Report |
| Annex 03 | IWF Refugee Team Programme 2024, Sustainability Project update |