

**MINUTES of the  
IWF Executive Board (EB) Meeting  
22<sup>nd</sup> January 2026 at 13:00 PM CET  
ONLINE – by Video Conference via Zoom**

**PARTICIPATING**

Mohammed Jalood, President and Chairperson of the Meeting,  
Jose Quinones, General Secretary,  
Ursula Papandrea, First Vice President,  
Mohammed Alharbi, Chengliang LIU Vice Presidents,  
Khaled Mehalhel, Mohd Yousef Al Mana, Astrit Hasani – Continental Presidents  
Wen Hsin Chang, Matthew Curtain, Pyrros Dimas, Yassini Esquivel, Gardencia Du Plooy, Karoliina Lundahl, Shakhriilo Makhmudov, Florian Sperl  
Sirilak Thatman, Boukar Tikire, Luis Zambrano – Members; Mohamed Abdelmaksoud, Doris Marrero – Appointed Members  
Forrester Osei, Luisa Peters, Hidilyn Diaz - AC representative(s),  
**24 Voting Board Members joined the meetingonline, Quorum was formed.**  
*Executive Board Delegates: Eshaq Ebrahim Eshaq, Willian Ozuna, Harinelina Jean Alex Randiamanarivo*  
IWF Secretariat Members

**Meeting started at 13:00 am CET Time.**

**AGENDA OF THE MEETING**

|   | Topic  | Speaker                             |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | IWF Budget Y2026   | M. Dastanov, M. Cseresnyes          |
| 2 | AIN Policy   | Dr. Astrit Hasani, Achilleas Tsogas |
| 3 | Presentation of Future Hosts of IWF Qualifiers 2026-2028 to LA OG 2028 | Event Hosts                         |
|   | - Qatar Weightlifting Federation                                       | - QAT WF                            |
|   | - Weightlifting Federation of Uzbekistan                               | - UZB WF                            |
|   | - Peruvian Weightlifting Federation                                    | - THA WF                            |
|   | - Thailand Amateur Weightlifting Association                           | - PER WF                            |
|   | - Weightlifting Federation of Colombia                                 | - COL WF                            |
|   | - Weightlifting Federation of Venezuela                                | - VEN WF                            |
| 4 | Any Other Business   |                                     |

After the Roll Call, the President and the General Secretary welcomed the EB Members attending the meeting. Congratulations were delivered to Jerry Wallwork,

**1. 2026 IWF Budget**

Dastanov and Cseresnyes showed presented the estimated budget for 2026, having been circulated to the EB Members prior to the meeting, attached hereto as Annex 01. A significant reduction from 2025 was approved but the high cost of the ITA Agreement was noted. It was agreed to be reviewed review together with the planned development fund cut in May to ensure support for federations in need. A Motion was made to approve the estimated budget for 2026.

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

**2. IWF AIN Policy Updates**

Before the meeting, the EB Members had received the updated “IWF Policy Concerning the Participation in IWF Events of Participants with a BLR or RUS passport, including Athletes, Athletes’ Support Personnel and Technical Officials” (Annex 02).

Dr. Hasani was given the floor and explained that as Chair of the AIN Panel, he was surprised to learn that the IWF CEO and lawyer had contacted the IOC for clarification regarding youth athlete restrictions without first consulting with the AIN Panel. He stressed that all matters concerning AIN eligibility should first be discussed within the AIN Panel before any formal communication is sent externally. Dr. Hasani further noted that he was not informed about the precise content of the letter sent to the IOC or whether a reply had been received, which is the reason why he did not reply to the emails he received. He emphasized that this raised concerns about the demonstration of proper respect for the role of the AIN Panel and its chair. He mentioned that as he had contacts with another international federation, he was aware that the IOC Sports Director Pierre Ducrey had confirmed that no eligibility checks would be required for youth and junior team officials and ITOs (not including government officials), in addition to the athletes. He argued that,

had the AIN Panel met beforehand, unnecessary bureaucracy and eligibility procedures particularly at the European level could have been avoided. Dr. Hasani further underlined the importance of improved cooperation, transparency, and procedural clarity going forward.

The IWF CEO when given the floor described the situation as a misunderstanding and affirmed that the IWF administration usually acts as the official liaison with the IOC Sports Department. He stated that the AIN policy text was shared promptly with Dr. Hasani out of respect for his position and that the question contained in the follow-up email sent to the IOC came from the IWF President and General Secretary, who are authorized to raise such issues. He clarified that the AIN Panel is not responsible for developing the applicable Policy but for applying such policy in order to make eligibility decisions within the framework approved by the Executive Board. He explained that the IOC in its email confirmed that it accepted allowing the participation without any eligibility checks of both youth and junior age category athletes as these are defined by IWF and that next time a simple reply or a phone call could have avoided the misunderstanding.

Following the discussion, the IWF President and the IWF General Secretary highlighted the importance of continued close coordination in the implementation of related matters.

Furthermore, the IWF President proposed a practical way forward by sending a letter to the IOC to obtain their confirmation regarding team officials and ITOs in youth and junior events. In this way, youth and junior athletes' participation without any eligibility checks would proceed under the current proposal of the updated AIN Policy while the issue concerning team officials and technical officials would be approved subject to IOC confirmation.

After that, a motion was made to approve the amended IWF AIN Policy as it was sent to the IWF Executive Board members before the meeting.

**VOTE 2 To approve the above motion with 22 yes votes, 0 abstention, 0 no vote – PASSED.**

Following the vote, a second motion was made to approve the proposal presented by the EWF President Dr. Hasani that no eligibility checks (vetting) would be required in case of Youth and Junior events for the ITOs and team officials (except for Government Officials) with a Russian or Belarusian passport, subject to IOC decision.

**VOTE 3 To approve the above motion with 22 yes votes, 0 abstention, 0 no vote – PASSED.**

### **3. Presentation of Future Hosts of IWF Qualifiers 2026-2028 to LA OG 2028**

Lencsér presented a summary chart specifying the federations submitting their bid to host the IWF Qualifiers for LA 2028 OG. The Bidding Member Federations were:

- a) Qatar (2026): Proposed Doha, leveraging its experience (2005 World Championships) and world-class facilities like the Aspire Ladies Sports Hall.
- b) Uzbekistan (2027): Proposed Tashkent, highlighting its new Olympic Village and history of hosting major IWF events.
- c) Peru (2027): Proposed Lima, leveraging its status as host of the 2027 Pan American Games for organizational guarantees and new equipment.
- d) Venezuela (2027): Proposed Caracas, featuring the recently renovated 22,000-seat Poliedro arena and strong government support.
- e) Thailand (2027): Proposed Chiang Rai, showcasing a new host city and its proven ability to organize large-scale events.
- f) Colombia (2027): Proposed Cali.

A motion was made to select and approve QAT to host the IWF Qualifier in 2026 in December

**VOTE 4 to approve the aforesaid motion with 22 yes votes, 0 abstention, 0 no vote – PASSED.**

A motion was made to select and approve 4 countries to host the IWF Qualifiers in 2027.

**VOTE 5 to approve PER, THA UZB and VEN to host the IWF Qualifiers in 2027 with 19 yes votes, 0 abstention, 0 no vote – PASSED.**

#### 4. Any Other Business

The IWF General Secretary proposed initiating negotiations with the five countries approved above. It was noted, if any issue arose with an approved host, the IWF EB could subsequently consider Colombia, and potentially Russia (subject to IOC approval on lifting the relevant sanctions) as an alternative host.

It was further agreed to commence negotiations for the production and broadcasting / TV rights, including the sale of rights, for the five IWF Qualifiers. This was communicated to the Board for transparency purposes and to ensure an open process identifying – together with the IWF Secretariat – any potential partner for those activities.

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

**Meeting ended 16:45 p.m. CET on 22/01/2026.**



**Mohammed Jalood**  
IWF President



**Jose Quinones**  
IWF General Secretary

#### Annexes to the Minutes

- Annex 01 IWF Budget for Y2026 (sent to the IWF prior to the meeting)
- Annex 02 Amended IWF AIN Policy (sent to the IWF prior to the meeting)
- Annex 03 Summary PPT of the Bidding Federations for the IWF Qualifiers to LA OG 2028 (sent to the IWF prior to the meeting)