

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Room "Meeting Plus 3" - Rotana Hotel, Amman, Jordan
Saturday 3rd December 2022 – 09h00 to 13h00 EEST
Tuesday 6th December 2022 – 18h15 to 19h45 EEST

MINUTES

EC members in attendance:

SÖRLING Petra	President
LIU Guoliang (via Zoom ®)	Deputy President
AL-MOHANNADI Khalil	Executive Vice-President
AZEVEDO Alaor	Executive Vice-President
MAEHARA Masahiro	Executive Vice-President
MESHREF Alaa	Executive Vice-President
NATRAN Roland	Executive Vice-President – Finance
OSHODI Wahid	Executive Vice-President
SYMONS Graham	Executive Vice-President
LIU Shiwen	Athletes Commission (AC) Co-Chair
ACHANTA Sharath Kamal	Athletes Commission (AC) Co-Chair
RYU Seung-Min (via Zoom ®)	IOC Member

Staff in attendance:

DAINTON Steve	ITTF Group CEO
CALIN Raul	ITTF Secretary General
BROWN Michael	ITTF Group CFO (section 5.1)
BESSAH Mounir	ITTF Members Relations Director (section 5.5.1)
POUND Matt	WTT Director (section 8)

Guests:

HRH Prince Feisal bin HUSSEIN	President of the Jordan Olympic Committee – IOC Member
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1. Welcome and Opening

1.1. President's opening remarks

Ms SÖRLING welcomed the EC colleagues to Amman, particularly the two new Chairs of the Athletes Commission, Ms LIU Shiwen, and Mr ACHANTA Sharath Kamal, reflecting in the fact that since 2009, the ITTF only had one female member on the Executive Committee. Ms SÖRLING assured the new AC co-chairs that they would get full support from the rest of their EC colleagues. Ms SÖRLING also thanked Jordan Table Tennis Association (**JTTA**) for hosting the Summit, and Mr AL-MOHANNADI for supporting JTTA in the preparations for the ITTF Summit.

Ms SÖRLING also reflected on the excellent World Para Championships held in Granada, Spain, and on the upcoming meetings in Amman and reported on how many representatives at the IF Forum held recently in Lausanne praised the organisation of the WTTTC Finals in Chengdu. Ms SÖRLING added that the presence of the Secretary General in Lausanne is already producing results and finished reporting on the recent attendance to the Gender Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (GEDI) Commission of the IOC, and the appointment to the WADA Foundation Board.

1.2. Ms SÖRLING welcomed HRH Prince Feisal bin HUSSEIN to the meeting, introducing the EC members to him. HRH Prince Feisal thanked the ITTF for the invitation to the meeting and welcomed the EC members to Jordan, hoping they were having a pleasant stay in his country. HRH Prince Feisal addressed the complexity of the recent times due to COVID-19, and the importance of the Olympic Games being held in Tokyo and Beijing during the pandemic. HRH Prince Feisal congratulated the ITTF on the successful organisation of the World Championships also during this period. HRH Prince Feisal spoke about the sports schools' programmes in Jordan, and his role in the IOC GEDI Commission and in the ANOC Gender Equity Commission,

expressing that it is important to have Ms SÖRLING as one of the few female Presidents of Summer Olympic sports.

HRH Prince Feisal also spoke about the IOC Safeguarding Toolkit, launched in 2017, and the importance of addressing Safeguarding and Integrity, highlighting that the younger generations should be able not just to enjoy sports but to do it in a safe and fair manner.

HRH Prince Feisal offered his assistance in these areas and shared with the EB that due to his trip to Lausanne to participate in the IOC Summit, he will not be able to attend the ITTF AGM physically but has recorded a message for the delegates.

HRH Prince Feisal ended his welcome speech hoping that EB members would have during their stay the opportunity to witness the culture and history of Jordan.

Ms SÖRLING thanked HRH Prince Feisal for his attendance and intervention, for the recorded message addressed to the ITTF AGM delegates, and for reflecting on the importance of safeguarding and sustainability, appreciating once again the work being done by the LOC in this historical first Summit.

Mr AL-MOHANNADI also thanked HRH Prince Feisal RH for his attendance praising the JTTF for their active role in recent times and hoping the World Youth Championships will be soon in Jordan.

1.3. Roll Call

The EC noted the full attendance of the EC members, with remote participation via Zoom of Mr LIU Guoliang and Mr RYU Seung-Min.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted, adding at the request of Mr MAEHARA two points: Sport Science and the ITTF website. On request of Mr AL-MOHANNADI about adding his US VISA, it was clarified that this is part of the business arising from the previous Minutes (Agenda item 3.2).

3. Minutes of the previous Executive Committee meeting

3.1. Approval of the Minutes from the last meetings

At the request of Mr AL-MOHANNADI, it was agreed to share the PwC report on TMS with the EC Members. Dr MESHREF reflected that even if the investigation was opened at MOATSZ's request, the EC should evaluate the PwC report, considering this is no longer a MOATSZ decision whether to close the case or not, but a decision of the EC after studying it. In consequence, it was agreed to adjust the last Meeting Minutes (9th October 2022 in Chengdu) to reflect that the TMS review is pending the review of the EC of the PwC report.

The Minutes of the EC Meetings held on the 26th and 27th of July 2022 in Malmö, on the 30th of September 2022 in Chengdu, and on the 9th of October 2022 also in Chengdu were adopted.

Ms SÖRLING suggested that the EC members read the TMS report carefully so a decision can be taken on the TMS review.

20221203-EC-01

The Executive Committee adopted the Minutes of the EC Meetings held on the 26th & 27th of July 2022 in Malmö, the 30th of September 2022 in Chengdu, and the 9th of October 2022 in Chengdu.

3.2. Business arising from the Minutes

The EC was presented with the cumulative action list of business arising from EC Meetings since the meeting in Malmö, noting that it will also be important to review old actions approved by the EC before the system of tracking business arising from the minutes was implemented. In reference to the request from Mr AL-MOHANNADI, it was clarified that the four actions decided in Malmö are in progress, noting that the Integrity Unit has, at the moment, only one person working full-time and that meetings are planned in Amman with the Chair of the Integrity Board and the Head of Integrity to secure enough resources for the Integrity Unit in the future.

4. CEO Report / Strategic Plan

The EC noted the report of the Group CEO, who reflected on the successful organisation of the World Team Table Tennis Championships Finals in Chengdu, in very special circumstances, the two WTT events held immediately after, the WTT Champions event held in Macao and the WTT

Cup Finals in Xinxiang, both fantastic events, and his trip to Beijing where he had good discussions and meetings with business partners, particularly with Mr LEI, and visited the World Sports offices in Beijing.

Mr DAINTON also reported on the 2023 calendar release, for which the first half of the year is already circulated, the Summit preparations, where Mr DAINTON thanked Ms SÖRLING for the idea on the concept and for pushing for it, and on the ITTF Members Extranet, initially dedicated for the Summit, but that following it will adopt the shape of a full services and information point for the ITTF Members.

The EC also noted the words of Mr DAINTON on the World Para Championships held in Granada, Spain, highlighting particularly the excellent presentation, the meetings held in Cologne, Germany, with the new DTTB President, the Asian Cup in Bangkok, Thailand, which Mr DAINTON attended on the invitation of Mr AL-MOHANNADI, and the FIFA World Cup in Doha, Qatar, for which invitation Mr DAINTON thanked Mr AL-MOHANNADI as it allowed him to observe the levels of organisation, operations, protocol, etc., and reflected on the long way to go to reach these levels.

Mr DAINTON also reported on the Wadi Ashar Dialogue held in Alula, Saudi Arabia, and on the upcoming trip to Tunisia, to the World Youth Championships, presenting the list of the tasks ahead from the CEO's office.

Ms SÖRLING reflected on the positive aspect of seeing crowded events in her visits to the five continental events.

In relation to the Strategic Plan (SP), Mr DAINTON explained about the ongoing work, with the hope to present a new one in the Summit 2023, for which the idea is to have three major pillars: Governance & Sustainability, Society and Health, and Business Growth. The timelines foreseen include a consultative process in Q1-2023, a draft to be ready by the end of May and having an interactive version in June/July 2023 with the aim to have it ready for the AGM/Summit approval in August.

5. Operations

5.1. Finances

5.1.1. Finance Webinar

Mr NATRAN reflected on the importance of the Finance Webinar held on 21st November, as this allowed the members to understand better how the ITTF Group works in terms of Finances, to provide them with the latest 2022 forecast, and to raise questions.

5.1.2. Forecast 2022

Mr NATRAN invited Mr BROWN to provide a detailed report, which was noted by the EC. Mr DAINTON highlighted the fact that pre-pandemic, the highest revenue generated by the ITTF was 23.5 million USD, while in 2022, thanks to the reforms, the ITTF is reporting 35 million USD of revenues, which makes everyone very proud, and shows the ITTF Group is on the right track, despite not having a full calendar.

5.1.3. Budget 2023 and 2024

Besides the updated 2022 forecast, the EC noted the adjustments in the 2023 and 2024 budgets, mainly related to currency fluctuations and how the shared services between the different ITTF Group entities will work. Mr BROWN mentioned that prize money for athletes will reach record levels in the coming years and also presented a comparison table of revenue vs staff expenditure growth.

Mr DAINTON suggested that soon a dashboard for finances will be available, so the EC members can have an overall look at the finances without having to wait for a report, which was commended by Ms SÖRLING, particularly now that investors are entering WTT. Mr BROWN indicated that, as earlier discussed, PricewaterhouseCoopers will be proposed to the AGM to be the auditor for 2023, while for 2022, it will still be Mazars.

Mr NATRAN added that IFRS accounting standards will be introduced in the future, which will probably take 1-2 years to be completed.

5.1.4. Risk Management Project progress update

In relation to Risk Management, Mr BROWN referred to the presentation from which an executive summary report has been shared with the EC. On a question from Mr SYMONS, Mr BROWN indicated that the plan is to review every six months the status of the Risk indicators.

On a question from Mr OSHODI about the Member Associations affiliation fees, and whether they bring any value to the organisation, it was agreed that Mr OSHODI should lead a study on whether it is better to keep the current criteria in the Constitution, or to change it to consider a Member to be in good standing in relation to their activity, with certain elements to be identified to consider an Association on good standing

Dr MESHREF suggested developing a strategy in case the income increases to identify the areas where it is better to invest and whether, for the lower tier of the WTT events (Feeder) a model with round-robin groups in the preliminary stages could be considered. In relation to Dr MESHREF's first point, Mr SÖRLING suggested therefore the review of the SP is important, to identify the areas where it is important to invest. Mr DAINTON added that with the new SP certainly more attention should be put into development, while in terms of events structure, this is for WTT to consider.

5.2. HR and Sustainability

The EC noted the written report presented by Ms Charlotte LOURDES.

5.3. Communications and Protocol

The EC noted the written report presented by Mr Tristan LAVIER.

5.4. Table Tennis Sport / Innovation

The EC noted the written report presented by Mr Mikael ANDERSSON.

5.5. Others

5.5.1. ITTF Summit 2022

The EC noted the update from Mr Mounir BESSAH, on the Summit preparations. Mr BESSAH thanked JTTF, Mr AL-MOHANNADI, the QTTA team, and Mr KABBANI.

The EC noted the figures of the event: 400 accredited persons, 220 accredited persons from abroad, all five continents represented, 25 official meetings confirmed, and 187 visas secured. At the time of the EC meeting, 89 associations were registered to attend in person and 46 to attend remotely; all five continental presidents will be present onsite and 29 of the continental members of the BoD will also be in physical attendance. The EC also noted the very good start of the ITTF Extranet, which had over 45,000 accesses in just three weeks. The breakdown of participation by continents, to date, was 49 registered associations from Africa, 40 from Europe, 31 from Asia, 11 from the Americas and 4 from Oceania.

Dr MESHREF reflected that it would be good to compare the attendance to this first standalone event with those that were happening together with the World Championships, and the consensus was that the members' activity, including attendance to major meetings, should be measured.

5.5.2. Equipment

Mr SYMONS expressed being pleased with the hiring of the new Head of Equipment.

5.5.2.1. The EC noted the two propositions presented by Mr Graham SYMONS on behalf of the Equipment Department:

5.5.2.2. To allow the sale of balls with two stamps (on opposite sides of the ball) until this is regulated via Balls Manual in 2023.

5.5.2.3. To authorise a second pilot phase for racket control to check the new devices and procedures, with the aim of preparing a new racket control manual in 2024.

The EC agreed to the two propositions.

20221203-EC-02

The Executive Committee agreed to allow the sale of balls with two stamps on opposite sides of the ball until this is regulated via Balls Manual in 2023.

20221203-EC-03

The Executive Committee agreed to authorise a second pilot phase for racket control in 2023 with the aim of preparing a new racket control manual in 2024.

Mr ACHANTA asked if it would be possible to get for practice before the tournaments the same balls used for competitions. Dr MESHREF endorsed this message and the difficulty the majority of the athletes have to obtain good quality balls, as those in the market are often not the same quality as those in the competitions, and some Member Associations and athletes cannot access those balls. Ms SÖRLING suggested adding this proposal to the Meeting Minutes and trying to find solutions.

5.5.3. WADA – update

The EC noted the update from Mr CALIN in relation to the WADA Code Compliance Questionnaire corrective action plan received, following the submission made in August. The document has been studied together with the ITTF Development Director, ITTF Group Head of Legal and Corporate Affairs, and the Head of Integrity, and the plan to address these corrective actions will be put in place in the coming weeks. Mr CALIN considered positive the evolution since 2018, as less critical areas which require correction were addressed. The main points to work on are Education and Data Protection regulations.

Dr MESHREF considered very important to address the area of Education, as there is little knowledge among the athletes of what they can and can't ingest, and this may affect their careers. Particularly, the situation where the generic names of medicaments are not translated in different countries presents a big risk for the athletes. Ms SÖRLING agreed that education is an area that needs attention, as particularly the younger athletes are not conscious of their obligations in the areas of reporting, etc.

Mr CALIN considered that introducing an ITTF license for the athletes would help to have a mechanism to be in direct contact with them, as some Member Associations do not have the capacity to address to them much relevant information.

The EC noted the election of Ms Petra SÖRLING, ITTF President, to the WADA Foundation Board.

5.5.4. Home of Table Tennis

The EC noted the preliminary remarks of Mr MAEHARA about the plans on this matter, much halted during the pandemic. Mr DAINTON continued suggesting that the EC seeks not just for one "Home of Table Tennis" but for several locations (i.e., Management, Training, Sport Science, Equipment, ...) and that the bidding process becomes a more targeted process in a similar way as the IOC proceeded with the allocation of the 2032 Olympic Games.

20221203-EC-04

The Executive Committee agreed to the new concept of the Home of Table Tennis, as per the proposition outlined by Mr MAHERA and Mr DAINTON.

6. Athletes

6.1. Welcome to the new AC Chairs

The new AC Chairs, Ms LIU and Mr ACHANTA, thanked the EB colleagues for the warm welcome received and stated they will be working with responsibility in this new role, which they consider very honourable, hoping to contribute with their expertise as athletes for the benefit of the whole world of table tennis.

Dr MESHREF, as the EC responsible for the AC, reflected on the importance of being aligned as EC and AC and look forward to interacting with the two Chairs for the benefit of athletes around the world.

6.2. Athletes Commission Report

Being the first meeting of the newly elected members, first report will be presented at the next meeting.

6.3. Entourage

The EC noted the initial comments of Mr MAEHARA about the progress of the composition of the Entourage WG, including Mr Jean-Michel SAIVE as the chair, Mr RYU Seung-Min as a member, and with Mr Mikael ANDERSSON as the coordination staff. Mr RYU continued, encouraging the ITTF to confirm the other appointments as soon as possible because, from his experience in the

IOC Entourage Commission, it would be very good if the ITTF would be the leading IF in this regard, as many NOCs and IFs are not yet at the stage the ITTF is. Mr RYU highlighted the importance of assisting the athletes through this Entourage group in matters such anti-doping, education, safeguarding, human rights, etc., therefore, urging the ITTF to complete the group a.s.a.p.

Ms SÖRLING complemented Messrs. MAEHARA and RYU, explaining that the Entourage WG will help to have the various voices of coaches, medical personnel, and other groups around the athletes, and that in her discussions with the IOC President, Dr Thomas BACH, it was evident the importance the IOC puts on this area. Ms SÖRLING thanked Mr RYU for his push in this area, added that Mr SAIVE has also created such an Entourage group in the Belgium NOC, and hoped for the pending continental federation to appoint their representative as soon as possible.

6.4. High Performance

The EC noted the report of Mr LIU Guoliang, who took the opportunity to congratulate the ITTF for the Summit, and the new Chairs of the AC for their election.

In relation to High Performance, Mr LIU hoped that with the COVID-19 measures lifting in China, hopefully table tennis regular activities will resume, and wondered if it would be possible to receive information on the needs from each of the continents for practice, training camps, etc., so the competition and training dates can be best integrated. In that sense, Mr LIU explained that Mr HE Xiao will be approaching the EC members to better understand the MAs needs, with the aim to improve the High Performance and Development aspects of our sport.

Ms SÖRLING thanked Mr LIU for the support on the WTT events held after the WTTTC Finals in Chengdu, that were reported earlier in the meeting.

6.5. Athletes Commission elections report

Mr RYU reported on the Chairs and Deputy Chairs election process held on 2nd December, in which eight members attended physically and three attended remotely. Mr RYU explained that following the withdrawal one minute before starting the meeting of Ms Elizabeta SAMARA, both remaining candidates, Ms LIU Shiwen and Mr ACHANTA Sharath Kamal, were elected with 100% of the votes. The EC noted that Elizabeta SAMARA and Stefan FEGERL were elected as the deputy chairs.

6.6. Others

6.6.1. Eligibility

There were no outstanding issues to report in this section.

6.6.2. Gender Identity and Sex Variations

Dr MESHREF reported on the IOC statement about the matter, which didn't provide a clear direction to the IFs, but was mainly setting wide principles. The WG has already been discussing and reading available documentation, but more studies will be needed. The EC noted that there is not yet scientific research very elaborated in this area. Despite the pressure of the Media, the ITTF should carefully consider the matter before taking a decision that might be wrong. Dr MESHREF hoped for a more precise direction from the IOC which may help the IFs with better guidance.

On the question from Ms SÖRLING, Mr CALIN confirmed that two ITTF senior staff attended the first conference call from the IOC on the matter on the 15th of June and agreed with Dr MESHREF that it is important to have a cautious approach on this matter and not to take a decision before having solid grounds.

7. Events

7.1. World Title Events

7.1.1. Chengdu 2022 WTTTC Finals update

The EC noted the initial words of Mr AL-MOHANNADI on the successful completion of the WTTTC Finals in Chengdu, the sole international event in China other than the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Mr DANTON continued praising the huge work made by the CTTA and the LOC, presenting figures of attendance and the impressive media impact obtained.

7.1.2. Granada 2022 World Para Table Tennis Championships

The EC noted the statistics on this event, and Mr DAINTON thanked Mr CALIN for the efforts to ensure the ITTF Group was also putting resources into supporting the LOC. Mr DAINTON praised the Spanish Table Tennis Federation for what was considered the best presented Para Table Tennis event in history.

7.1.3. Tunis 2022 World Youth Table Tennis Championships

The EC noted the progress report on the World Youth Championships starting on 4th December in Tunis.

7.1.4. Oman 2023 World Veterans Table Tennis Championships

The EC noted the update on the preparations for the World Veterans Championships to be held in Muscat. Mr DAINTON spoke about the highly motivated Member Association and LOC in Oman despite the pandemic having made some veterans reluctant to travel. Nevertheless, more than one thousand participants are expected, and the EC was encouraged to make a final push for participation through their networks.

7.1.5. Durban 2023 WTTTC Finals update

The EC noted the planned inspection for January, which will happen during a WTT Contender event that has been agreed and that will serve as a test for the operational aspects of the upcoming World Championships, the second one in history to be held in Africa.

7.1.6. Busan 2024 WTTTC Finals update

Mr RYU reported being inspired by Chengdu 2022 event, hoping to finalize the budgeted in December, so further discussions with the ITTF can be held from January and plan the eventual inspection for the signing ceremony in the coming months.

7.1.7. Others

7.1.7.1. WTTTC Finals 2025 – update

The EC noted the progress in the bid process, with the virtual inspections having been completed and a report having been circulated by the Selection committee. The EC was satisfied with the level of both bids and agreed to submit them to the AGM.

20221203-EC-05

The Executive Committee agreed to put forward to the AGM the bids of Qatar and Spain for the World Table Tennis Championships Finals 2025.

Dr AZEVEDO suggested that in the future, the selection committee report should include some analytical figures that allow the delegates to have more information, even if, ultimately, the decision is political.

7.1.7.2. WYTTC 2023 and 2024 – update

The EC noted that following some withdrawals, there is one remaining bid from Slovenia for the 2023 World Youth Championships and one from Sweden for the 2024 edition.

20221203-EC-06

The Executive Committee agreed to put forward to the BoD the bids of Slovenia and Sweden for the World Youth Championships 2023 and 2024, respectively.

7.1.7.3. WVC 2024 – update

Likewise, virtual inspections were completed and following the withdrawal of Slovenia, the EC agreed to put forward the bid of Italy.

20221203-EC-07

The Executive Committee agreed to put forward to the BoD the bid of Italy for the World Veterans Championships 2024.

7.1.8. World Cups

The EC noted previous discussions held in the Continental Council and within the Athletes Commission in relation to this property. Mr DAINTON explained that it was very difficult to have two major events at the end of the year (World Tour Grand Finals and World Cups). Still, with the start of World Table Tennis, the situation has changed. With the permanent

interest of the Continental Federations, Athletes, and Chinese business partners, which are very keen to look at this property, it was agreed to keep them but reimagined; making them bigger and better, and -through the business agreements- potentially also help the continental cups. Mr DAINTON suggested the goal would be to at least try to find the possibility to make the Men's and Women's World Cups in 2023 (singles) and to make another huge IP for our sport.

Mr ACHANTA mentioned that the Asian Cup in Bangkok was great and suggested that the Continental Cups could serve as qualification events for the World Cup, giving a chance to all players across the world to qualify from their own regions to play against the best in the world.

Mr DAINTON cautioned about the challenge of cannibalisation of events of similar structure, like the WTT Champions, to what Mr ACHANTA answered, abounding on the importance of the traditional values of the Europe Top 16, the Asian Cup, or the World Cup, of which Ms LIU Shiwen (as an example) is five times champion.

7.2. Olympic & Paralympic Games

The EC agreed to discuss this point in the Continental Council meeting.

7.3. World Ranking

Ms SÖRLING started mentioning that, traditionally, the World Ranking Working Group (WRWG) is a challenging one. Still, the feedback being received so far is very positive, which speaks highly about the work being done by Mr OSHODI. Ms SÖRLING wanted to express her appreciation to Mr OSHODI for that.

Mr OSHODI thanked Ms SÖRLING for her words and explained to the EC colleagues the reasoning for the seven propositions presented by the WRWG for consideration related to:

- Expiration of points from 2021 and 2022 events
- Inclusion of "International Events"
- Alignment of WTT Handbook and ITTF Table Tennis World Ranking Regulations
- Ranking protection for players in the transition phase
- Retirement procedure
- Penalties in the Youth rankings
- Youth doubles points in Senior events

Dr MESHREF, understanding the rationale of extending the validity of the points due to the lack of WTT events, asked specifically in relation to the 1st proposition, why keeping for a certain period the points of the Continental Championships of the previous year when the next edition is already played, and also in relation to the World Championships and Olympic Games, emphasized his belief, expressed in previous meetings, that those points should not expire after one year, but after the next event of the same category. Dr MESHREF considered there could be a decrease of points every year, but not having them expiring when they are every two and every four years, respectively.

Other than that, Dr MESHREF wanted to congratulate the WRWG for the work done, with documents very well organised and presented, with background and rationale for every proposition.

Ms SÖRLING suggested Mr OSHODI to bring the suggestion of Dr MESHREF on the expiration of points of the World Championships and Olympic Games to the WRWG.

The EC agreed on the proposed modifications of the WR regulations.

20221203-EC-08

The Executive Committee agreed to the adjustments proposed on the Expiration of points from 2021 and 2022 events.

20221203-EC-09

The Executive Committee agreed to the adjustments proposed in relation to the inclusion of "International Events".

20221203-EC-10

The Executive Committee agreed to the adjustments proposed in relation to cancellations and incidents.

20221203-EC-11

The Executive Committee agreed to the adjustments proposed on the regulation for ranking protection for players in the transition phase.

20221203-EC-12

The Executive Committee agreed to the adjustment proposed to include a retirement procedure.

20221203-EC-13

The Executive Committee agreed to the adjustments proposed in relation to penalties in the Youth rankings.

20221203-EC-14

The Executive Committee agreed to the adjustments proposed in relation to Youth doubles points in senior events.

7.4. Others

It was agreed to discuss the ITTF Group calendar under Any Other Business.

8. World Table Tennis

The EC noted that specific presentations on WTT will be part of the Summit starting the day after this EC meeting.

8.1. The EC noted the presentation of Mr Matt POUND, who started being happy to confirm the completion of the World Sports shareholding and services agreement, which is being sent to the Singapore Chamber of Commerce for registration, adding that other investment conversations are being held, and other financing options are being explored.

8.2. Calendar

The EC noted the release to the ITTF Membership the week before the meeting of the 2023 calendar. Mr POUND indicated it is approximately 80% complete, and the first half of the year has been made public for fans for the moment, and once the events in the second half of the year are confirmed, the rest of 2023 will be announced. The work for the 2024 calendar is progressing, trying to have a full program for that year. Mr POUND thanked the support and understanding in the last couple of years of the EC members and stated being looking forward to working with the new AC chairs to ensure good cooperation and communication with the athletes for WTT to achieve all its objectives.

Ms SÖRLING thanked Mr POUND for the good work on the calendar and the realization of the first investment agreement.

9. Development

The EC noted the written report presented by Ms Polona CEHOVIN.

10. ITTF Foundation

The EC noted the written report presented by Mr Leandro OLVECH.

11. Governance**11.1. Members****11.1.1. Russia / Belarus update**

The EC discussed the most recent developments on this matter, including the decision of the WTT Board to request the ITTF EC to allow athletes from BLR and RUS to complete in WTT events starting in 2023.

After an introduction of Ms SÖRLING, Mr CALIN referred to the contacts had with stakeholders of the Olympic movement, confirming that the position remains the same:

the IOC would prefer that all IFs continue having a common approach, and taking into consideration the upcoming IOC Summit on the 9th of December, and a potential round of consultative calls in January, the recommendation would be to wait until then to take a decision. Ms SÖRLING added that in any case, an authorisation to return to competition for athletes from BLR and RUS would require some preparation, for what it is advisable to wait until the outcome of the IOC Summit.

Mr RYU added that different athletes, mainly depending on their background, have different opinions, and the dilemma continues, but in general, the IOC Athletes Commission respects all the different opinions.

After some deliberation, with the intervention of several EC members, and the analysis of the possible repercussions of any decision taken, the EC agreed to accept the proposition from WTT, carefully evaluating the right time for the return to competition of the athletes from BLR and RUS, competing as neutral athletes and only individually without any symbols, flags, or references to their countries or their Associations. For that, the EC entrusted the Task Force to meet and discuss based on the upcoming calendar.

20221203-EC-15

The Executive Committee decided by majority to accept the request from WTT to allow the athletes from BLR and RUS to compete as neutral athletes without any symbols, flags, or references to their countries or their Associations.

11.1.2. Table Tennis Federation of India update

The EC noted the communication received about the elections held on 5th December 2022, and it was agreed to review the situation for TTFI and also for the elected and appointed officials in the different ITTF bodies.

11.2. Continental Council

The EC noted the items to follow-up from the CC meeting held on 3rd December 2022.

11.3. Committee Updates

11.3.1. Appointment of Members of the Nominations Committee

The EC noted the nominations received for the Nominations Committee. After deliberation about the candidates received, past practices, and the aim for diversity and universality, the EC agreed unanimously on the appointments of Mr Abdulla AL-MULA (QAT) as Chair, Ms Sandra DEATON (ENG), as Deputy Chair, Messrs. Henry REIMBERG (CHI), Mr HE Xiao (CHN), Prof. Germain KAROU (CIV), Mr Andreas GEORGIU (CYP), and Mr Lotfi GUERFEL (TUN) as Members of the Nominations Committee for the period 2022-2024.

20221203-EC-16

The Executive Committee decided to appoint Mr Abdulla AL-MULA (QAT) as Chair, Ms Sandra DEATON (ENG) as Deputy Chair, and Messrs. Henry REIMBERG (CHI), HE Xiao (CHN), Prof. Germain KAROU (CIV), Andreas GEORGIU (CYP), and Lotfi GUERFEL (TUN) as Members of the Nominations Committee for the period 2022-2024.

11.4. Working Groups Update

There were no updates at this point.

11.5. Gender/Diversity

11.5.1. Gender Equality & Inclusion Action Plan

The EC noted the proposal to develop and adopt a Gender Equality and Inclusion Action Plan, with monitoring and evaluating processes being put in place to measure and report in the progress being made. This proposal is made following the recommendation from the IOC based on the analysis of the specific situation of Gender Equality within the ITTF. The EC members agreed unanimously to this plan adoption.

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The Executive Committee agreed to develop and adopt a Gender Equality & Inclusion Action Plan.

11.6. Integrity/Safe Sport

The EC noted the comments of Mr SYMONS about the interest during the Summit on Integrity matters. Mr CALIN added that the different interactions show the commitment of the membership to good governance, and it will be important to continue the pathway of development of the Integrity Unit.

11.7. One Hundred Years

The EC discussed that, following the withdrawal of the resolution presented by Table Tennis England, it is important to think about the best plan for celebrating the one hundred years of the ITTF in 2026. The EC considered the importance of making it a global table tennis celebration, eventually having relevant activities across the globe.

Mr DAINTON reported having instructed the Finance department to allocate funding to the specific bank account opened for the One Hundred Years celebrations of the ITTF.

11.8. Others

11.8.1. Dr AZEVEDO insisted in the importance of receiving adequate reports in advance, to properly prepare the meetings, suggesting that some of the reports received are not up to an adequate standard.

Dr AZEVEDO praised the Newsletter received from Africa, suggesting he has better information from Africa than from the Americas, or the Finance Forum, as another example of providing adequate information to Members in advance.

On the contrary, some of the reports lack evaluation parameters and it is important to improve in this area, suggesting that MCAs and contracts with the continents should incentive the best performers.

12. IOC Member Report

The EC noted the report from Mr RYU on IOC matters. Mr RYU has been appointed to a new IOC body, in this case, the Advisory Committee on Human Rights. The EC also noted that the Athletes Forum will be held from 30th September to 2nd October 2023.

The EC noted that the term of Mr RYU as a member of the IOC Athletes Commission expires in 2024. Therefore, it would be important to encourage table tennis athletes to run for the IOC Athletes Commission elections to ensure that table tennis keeps having a voice within the IOC AC, suggesting that this is discussed at the ITTF Summit 2023.

Ms SÖRLING highlighted the excellent work Mr RYU is doing within the IOC AC and as a table tennis ambassador, hoping that the ITTF can continue having Mr RYU within the IOC.

13. Other Business

13.1. Sport Science and Medical Committee

Mr MAEHARA requested the EC to consider having an anti-doping expert with knowledge of table tennis in the SSMC. Dr AZEVEDO asked whether it would be a professional staff or not, and Mr DAINTON suggested that step by step the work being done by the Committees should be professionalised.

13.2. Historical results not available on ITTF.com

Mr MAEHARA requested to investigate why the historical results of the ITTF are not available in the ITTF website.

Dr MESHREF indicated he has asked the IT Department several times, and it is true the link to the historical results is not visible for the general public. The explanation given being that there are trying to professionalise the way the historical information is presented.

Mr RYU suggested that it should be clearer for athletes where they should be looking for results, whether on the ITTF or on the WTT website. Ms SÖRLING added about the previous requests from Mr RYU in Chengdu about the ITTF Social Media. Mr DAINTON suggested that the Communication Department will prepare a report in that area.

Mr LIU thanked the EC colleagues for the fruitful and positive discussions, always finding solutions, and stated he is looking forward to meeting in person the EC colleagues in the next meeting.

14. Next Meetings

The EC noted the date for the next EC meeting, to be held in Singapore, during the Grand Smash, likely on 17th March 2023.

15. Adjournment

Ms SÖRLING indicated that the calendar of attendance for 2023 will be circulated in the coming weeks and thanked the EC colleagues for their attendance and commitment. Not having further matters to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Petra SÖRLING
ITTF President

Date

Raul CALIN
ITTF Secretary General

Date