

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Room Diltz, Tylosand Hotel, Halmstad, Sweden
Sunday 6th of May 2018, 10:00 h

Minutes

1. Welcome and Opening

1.1 President's opening remarks

The President thanked everyone for attending the meeting and congratulated the Swedish Table Tennis Association (STTA) for the huge team effort and successful World Table Tennis Championships (WTTC) about to finish in Halmstad.

1.2 Roll call

Thomas Weikert	President
Petra Sörling	Executive Vice-President
Bruce Burton	Executive Vice-President
Masahiro Maehara	Executive Vice-President
Alaa Meshref	Executive Vice-President
James Morris	Executive Vice-President
Nestor Tenca	Executive Vice-President
Shi Zhihao	Executive Vice-President
Ryu Seung Min	Athletes Commission Representative
In attendance	
Steve Dainton	CEO
Raul Calin	Secretary General
Michael Brown	CFO
Polona Cehovin	High Performance and Development Director
Iulia Necula	Executive Assistant & Athletes Manager
Claudia Vetheuer	Assistant of the President
Juan Vila	LATTU President (only for the LATTU Agreement signature)
Apologies	
Khalil Al-Mohannadi	Deputy President

1.3 Adoption of the agenda

The Agenda was adopted as proposed.

2. Minutes of the previous Executive Committee meeting

Deferred to the next EC meeting on 17th and 18th August 2018, Prague.

3. LATTU Strategic Investment Agreement

The ITTF President and the LATTU President proceeded with the signature of the Continental Commercialization Agreement between the ITTF and the LATTU.

The President of the LATTU, Mr. Juan Vila, thanked the EC, especially the ITTF President, Mr. Thomas Weikert and ITTF CEO, Mr. Steve Dainton for the opportunity given, mentioning that signing such an Agreement will mark a historical moment that will help elevate the level of

table tennis in Latin America. He also stated that it is very important to work with unity, which will be the key element to move forward.

4. WTTC 2018 Update

4.1 Competition

Mrs. Petra Sörling reported to the EC on the WTTC. The general feeling was that the 2018 WTTC was being a very succesful event, with a great venue and playing conditions, with good hotels, and the only exception being some minor issues regarding the transportation which were solved along the way.

Mr. Bruce Burton informed the EC that he has noted a series of issues and difficulties behind the scenes regarding the planning as well as operations, which is important to follow up after the WTTC.

The CEO also praised the fantastic organization of the Local Organizers and the STTA, however the ITTF needed to improve its directives, documents and overall management to further profesionalize the ITTF's role.

4.2 AGM, BoD and OPC meetings

ITTF President, was happy to announce that all propositions and resolutions presented during the AGM and BoD were overwhelmingly approved.

The Secretary General indicated that everything worked well during the meetings from a technical point of view; nice setting and technology, and thanked the LOC as well as the entire ITTF staff.

The CEO felt it was now time to inform the ITTF members regarding the initiatives of the *new ITTF*, by organizing continental forums to discuss and debate in a colaborative way the future of table tennis.

The Secretary General was pleased to confirm that the OPC had fully ratified the new Olympic Qualification System.

01-EC-20180506

The EC confirmed that the ITTF Management should go ahead with continental based forums over the next 12 months.

4.3. Africa Meeting Update

Mr. Steve Dainton updated the EC in regard to the ATTF EGM outcome, concluded with the establishment of a new Constitution, which was the third and last requirement agreed in relation to the previous discussions held in Astana.

Dr. Alaa Meshref advised the EC that in order to move forward and proceed with the signing and implementation of a continental commercial agreement the ATTF will need to:

- Adopt a clear financial policy that would allow the ITTF CEO to check and follow that all transactions are done accordingly.
- Adopt a Professional Strategic Plan.

5. Unified Korean Team

ITTF President reported on the facts that led to the idea of the Unified Korean Team and thanked Mr. Steve Dainton and Mr. Ryu Seung Min for the efforts and hard work to make it possible.

He also stated that the discussions included all the teams that were directly affected by this decision, and everything moved forward only once they agreed with the idea. He was happy to see all the positive media comments.

Mr. Ryu Seung Min wanted to thank all the members for the help and support for making this astonishing moment possible and expressed that it was an honor for him being part. He also wanted to mention that he hopes for further support to sustain this ongoing process of improving the North and South Korea relationship through table tennis.

Mr. Masahiro Maehara reported to the EC that, in response to this sudden request, the JTTA was grateful for the positive acceptance and that players contributed to the peace in sport through a unified team. He also highlighted that some of the technical implementation issues should have been prepared in a more professional way and hopes that ITTF will learn from this experience.

6. Nominations Committee Appointments

The EC confirmed the new Nominations Committee members.

Mrs. Petra Sörling highlighted the lack of female representation and mentioned that it is very important to encourage female participation in all committees in the future terms more clearly.

The EC agreed to reconsider the process and criteria of selection for committee members is conducted.

02-EC-20180506

The EC confirmed the 2018-2020 Nominations Committee composition: Chair: Wahid Oshodi (Nigeria), Deputy Chair: Abdulla Al-Mulla (Qatar), Members: Sandra Deaton (England), Andreas Georgiou (Cyprus), Lotfi Guerfel (Tunisia), David Jackson (Canada), Henry Reimberg (Chile) and Matthias Vatheuer (Germany).

7. Staff Update

Mrs. Petra Sörling updated the EC on the new organizational and staff structure and specified that a more detailed departmental chart should be discussed in the next meeting, informing about all the positions and corresponding job descriptions.

Mrs. Sörling proposed to formalize Mr. Matt Pound's position as ITTF Marketing Director, as he was already acting with this mandate.

Dr. Alaa Meshref agreed with this action but also wanted to highlight the importance of hiring professional equipment staff in both administration and technical areas.

The EC fully supported this recommendation.

Mrs. Sörling also highlighted that the ITTF Management Team meetings are very positive in order to achieve the Strategic Plan. An ITTF Management Team meeting is to be organized soon after the 2018 WTTC.

After some questions regarding Staffing and Officials the EC decided that an elected official should not act also in the role of a position of staff on the Staff chart.

03-EC-20180506

The EC decided that an elected official should not act also in the role of a position of staff on the Staff chart.

8. Meeting with the Honorary President

The ITTF President, informed the EC that he initiated a meeting on 28th April between the Deputy President, the CEO, the Honorary President, Mr. Adham Sharara and himself. The goal was to move forward working together in a positive manner. It was agreed at the meeting that if both parties can find ways to start working together in a cooperative manner then all legal actions between ITTF, TMS and those responsible within both organizations would cease.

9. Athletes Commission Elections

The President informed that as a result of the end of the four-year term, Mr. Vladimir Samsonov would step down from the position of the Athletes Commission Chair, not running for re-election. 5 new AC members were elected in Halmstad: Jean-Michel Saive (Belgium), Galia Dvorak (Spain), Marcos Madrid (Mexico), Wang Liqin (China and Zoran Primorac (Croatia).

During the AC meeting held on 5th of May in Halmstad, Mr. Ryu Seung Min was elected as the new Interim Chair to represent the athletes during the following meetings, until a new and complete AC will be formed after the World Para Table Tennis Championships (WPTTC).

10. Commercial Registration in Switzerland

The ITTF EC decided to empower the ITTF President, Mr. Thomas Josef Weikert, Executive Vice-President of Finances, Mrs Petra Erika Gummesson Sorling and the ITTF Secretary General, Mr. Raul Calin Clemente, to sign all necessary documents on behalf of the ITTF to conclude the registration in the Chamber of Commerce.

11. High Performance and Development update

Mr. Shi Zhihao highlighted that it is time for action to make things move forward.

Mrs. Polona Cehovin reported to the EC that the 2019 – 2020 Continental agreements of understanding, were presented to each of the continents with the new aim to align them closely with the strategic plan and good governance principles.

The EC congratulated Mrs. Polona Cehovin for the huge job and the big step forward in this area.

12. Marketing update

The CEO reported on the new sponsors as well as the renewed partnerships.

He mentioned that there were a lot of discussions and positive news, since having the rights back in the house and due to the growth of the team.

Mr. Dainton also informed that multi-years deals were signed with long time partner Liebherr, as well as with Uncle Pop for the Women World Cups.

AIA was signed as a new sponsor for the China Open, which might lead to a longer-term partnership in the future.

He also mentioned the ongoing discussions with TV Tokyo regarding the extension of the current contract.

13. Membership update

Dr. Alaa Meshref updated the EC on the Libya case. The EC recommended to send an official letter to the Libya NOC asking for confirmation and recognition of the eligibility of the members. Mr. Raul Calin to follow up on this and other membership issues.

14. ITTF 100 years commemoration – next steps

The EC agreed that an initial discussion should be held between the ITTF and Table Tennis England before the next EC meeting.

15. Any other business

15.1 ITTF Logo

The EC has been informed about the use of the ITTF logo by different organizers for private events and agreed that that is not permitted without previous and explicit approval by the ITTF.

15.2 ITTF Museum

Mr. Shi Zhihao requested that Halmstad 2018 WTTC and future WTTC elements and souvenirs should be considered for heritage and delivered to the ITTF Museum.

15.3 Other meetings

Mr. James Morris requested more information about where the end of year meetings will be held. The CEO reported that negotiations are advanced for the host of the World Tour Grand Finals and Star Awards, and the end of the year meetings will be connected with those events.

15.4 Event operations and implementation

Mr. Masahiro Maehara pointed out several technical problems during the matches in the main arena. He strongly recommended to analyze them and ensure measures and put in place to improve the areas of event operations and implementation.

16. Next EC meeting

To be held on 17th and 18th August 2018, Prague.

17. Adjournment

Without further subjects the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 h.

Thomas Weikert
President

Date

Raul Calin
Secretary General

Date