



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

**Minutes** of a meeting of the Executive Committee held at 09h00 on Saturday 26 February 2011 in Saal 9, Congress Centre, Westfalenhalle, Dortmund, Germany

- 1. President's welcome and opening remarks:** the President welcomed all members to the meeting and welcomed Mr Yang who had not been able to attend the last meeting due to work commitments.

The Executive Committee noted the welcome from the Secretary General of the German Table Tennis Federation, Mr Matthias Vatheuer, to Dortmund and to the German Open.

- 2. Roll call**

Adham Sharara	President
Yang Shu'an	Deputy President
Khalil Al-Mohannadi	Executive Vice-President
Chérif Hajem	Executive Vice-President
Neil Harwood	Executive Vice-President (Finance)
Koji Kimura	Executive Vice-President
Melecio Rivera	Executive Vice-President
Petra Sörling	Executive Vice-President
Thomas Weikert	Executive Vice-President

**In attendance**

Mikael Andersson	Executive Director (Education and Training)
Alison Burchell	Deputy Executive Director (Operations)
Steve Dainton	Director (Marketing)
Judit Faragó	Executive Director (Competitions)
Jordi Serra	Executive Director (Operations & Olympic Games)
Glenn Tepper	Executive Director (Development)
Anders Thunstrom	Managing Director (TMS)
Liu Yi	Chinese Table Tennis Association
Khaled El-Salhy	African Table Tennis Federation

- 3. Approval of the agenda:** the agenda was approved with the addition of:
  - Membership applications from Mozambique and Antigua and Barbuda (new item 12.4 and 12.5 respectively);
  - Progress report on the review of URC education and training system (new item 15.2);
  - Education and Training report (new item 15.3);
  - Eligibility issues (new item 15.4);
  - 2014 PTT World Championships (new item 6.6.).
- 4. Minutes**
  - 4.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2010 were approved and signed.
  - 4.2 There was no further business arising from the minutes which was not otherwise covered by the agenda.

## 5. Propositions for the AGM and Board of Directors

5.1 EC propositions and resolutions: the Executive Committee reviewed the proposals it had made:

- Proposed suspension clause had been drafted to differentiate between a sports versus an administrative suspension, to allow an appeal to the CAS for an association suspended or expelled, the AGM to decide the suspension or expulsion but with the EC empowered to suspend or expel in between AGMs by an unanimous decision;
- With the elimination of celluloid by governments world-wide, the proposal Technical Leaflet had to be introduced.

5.2 Review propositions and resolutions received:

- In relation to *proposition 1* (adding Chinese to the list of languages), on a ranking of the number of associations using various languages, German (5), Russian (6), Portuguese (7) and Italian (8) were ranked above Chinese (9).
- For *proposition 2* to amend the relevant clauses of chapter 1 and 2 and chapter 3 and 4 (BoD proposition 5, 9, 10, 14, 17, 19, 20, 23) to add "Paralympic" where "Olympic" appeared was an editorial issue.
- To incorporate the necessary provisions from the current regulations of PTT in relation to PTT competitions into chapter 4 (covered proposals 24 and 25).
- Proposition 5: approach PTT to withdraw this proposition and request the URC to confirm to all referees that disabled sitting players should be allowed to wear tracksuit trousers.
- Proposition 7: the detection of some additions to playing equipment was not currently possible and the JTTA and EC should propose that a working group should be established to investigate the necessary detection methods.
- Proposition 18: currently the ITTF eligibility regulations allowed permanent residence to indicate the sports nationality of a player where the CTTA had proposed that associations should enter players holding the nationality of that association.
- Proposition 22: brought the current situation relating to competitions into line with changes to the composition of the jury, entries no longer going to the Secretariat, changing allocation of television money to the organisers.
- Amendment to and deletion of technical leaflets: a document would be circulated by 10 April 2011 to the Board of Directors with the updated technical leaflets and those to be deleted as these had already been incorporated into the Handbook or directives.

The Executive Committee asked:

- a) The Executive Director (Operations and Olympic Games) to send a notice to all associations after the AGM outlining which decisions were made by the AGM (chapter 1 and 2), the Board of Directors (chapter 3, 4 and 5) and the Executive Committee (all other issues which would be directed to the relevant committee, AGM or Board of Directors).
- b) the Equipment Committee to test racket coverings more frequently.
- c) the URC to ensure that referees at all events allowed disabled sitting players to wear tracksuit trousers if they so wished.

## 6. Competition issues: the Executive Committee noted that:

6.1 2011 World Championships update:

- the report had been circulated from the largest ITTF delegation's last site inspection;
- the venue supported the Championships being organised at a high standard;
- the organising committee was very active;
- the budget may have to be reduced if full funding was not finally secured;
- the final transport schedule still had to be presented;

- reminders should be sent out periodically to associations about arrangements to apply for visas.
- 6.2 2011 World Junior Championships: the site visit would be finalised when the situation in Bahrain had been assessed but a final decision would have to be taken in Rotterdam whether these Championships would take place in Bahrain.
- 6.3 Disqualification at the World Junior Championships:
- After the mixed doubles, there was a player who had a racket which failed the test before the final and the replacement racket used failed after the match (second failure), so the pair had to forfeit the match which they had lost anyway.
  - According to the rules, the pair had to return the medals.
  - Where the event had a joint 3<sup>rd</sup> place, the medals would not be re-allocated.
  - For other events where there was a 3<sup>rd</sup> place, the medals would be re-allocated.
- 6.4 Issues: 2014 WTTC: Qatar TTA was given till 31 March to confirm its bid.
- 6.5 Global (World) Cadet Challenge and Junior Circuit Final eligibility rules: the Junior Commission had submitted proposals for the BoD to consider.
- 6.6 2014 World Para Table Tennis Championships: an assessment report on the site inspections had been circulated.
- 6.7 Illegal On-Line Betting:
- 6.7.1 ISM survey: the process had been implemented for the German Open.
- 6.7.2 Streaming certification fee: this would need to be decided once more information was available.

The Executive Committee resolved to confirm the disqualification of the mixed pairs in line with 3.5.2.12 and to ask the Executive Director (Competition) to inform the relevant association and not to re-allocate the medals once the silver medals had been received from the mixed team disqualified.

The Executive Committee reminded the URC that the duties of the referee included the disqualification of a player or players and the implementation of the consequences arising from the disqualification (3.5.2.12).

The Executive Committee agreed to:

- a) request Qatar to finalise its interest in hosting the 2014 world championships by the AGM.
- b) request the Executive Director (Operations and Olympic Games) to establish the streaming certification fee.
- c) allocate the 2014 PTT World Championships to China.

**7. Follow up on AGM and BoD:** the Executive Committee noted that:

- 7.1 Kuwait, Ghana, India and suspension procedure:
- currently Kuwait remained suspended by the ITTF until the IOC lifted the suspension on the NOC;
  - in India, the IOC had opposed the intervention of the Government in implementing a possible decision to institute an age limit on persons on the executive committee of the NOC, even though the NOC could decide this itself;
  - in Ghana, the NOC had finally elected a new NOC.
- 7.2 Athletes' Commission: 7 nominations had been received for the players to vote for 5 places and 7 nominations for the appointment places.
- 7.3 Review of committees and first recommendations: there were some recommendations being developed for a new committee to be established and some to be merged but the final recommendations would be submitted to the EC in Rotterdam for approval by the AGM and BoD in 2012 for implementation in 2013.

The Executive Committee approved the nominations for athletes to be elected in Rotterdam for distribution to national associations.

- 8. Equipment issues:** the Executive Committee noted that:
- 8.1 Non-celluloid balls and ball size tolerance: this had been covered under item 5.
  - 8.2 Advertising on the table and undercarriage: this had been covered under item 5.
- 9. London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games:** the Executive Committee noted that:
- 9.1 Test event decision: after a meeting between the ITTF and LOCOG, a test event (Pro Tour Grand Final) would be held on 26 to 29 November 2011 under the auspices of the ETTA and agreement had been reached on respective responsibilities.
  - 9.2 Other pending issues: no pending issues were discussed.
- 10. New ITTF regional Offices:** the Executive Committee noted that:
- 10.1 Singapore: Asia-Pacific & Marketing:
    - A contract had to be signed by the Executive Committee members for the office space.
    - The Singapore Economic Development Association would provide financial support for the office and assist with office staff.
  - 10.2 Vienna: Europe & Competition:
    - Office space had been offered by the Austrian Table Tennis Association initially at no cost but financial assistance had been requested for the Werner Schlager Academy.
    - A proposal was awaited for rental payments for the office space.

The Executive Committee resolved to sign the contract for the office space in Singapore.

- 11. Anti-Doping:** the Executive Committee noted that:
- 11.1 WADA Code compliance:
    - WADA had recently indicated that ITTF was Code compliant except that the number of out of competition tests did not match the number of players in the registered testing pool;
    - A proposal had been sent to WADA that the number of OOC tests would be increased with the number of players being reduced if approved by the Board of Directors.
- 12. Membership applications:** the Executive Committee resolved to recommend to the AGM that the following applications for membership be approved:
- 12.1 Wallis and Futuna: the French association would not oppose the application.
  - 12.2 Curacao: as Netherlands Antilles no longer existed, it would dissolve if Curacao became a member of the ITTF.
  - 12.3 Tokelau.
  - 12.4 Mozambique.
  - 12.5 Antigua and Barbuda.
- 13. Professional staff update:** the Executive Committee noted that:
- the new staff structure would provide stability to the organisation with responsibilities for staffing being transferred to the CEO and Deputy CEO.
  - the job descriptions the CEO and Deputy CEO would be developed after Rotterdam.
  - if minor changes needed to be made to the structure, this would be possible.
  - the staff structure began to address some risks identified by the audit panel.
  - the staff structure would provide continuity in a similar way to the public service.
  - the Executive Directors should consider internal appointments for the posts of Deputy Executive Directors.
  - the IT function should be part of the Operations Department.
  - the staff structure would allow the President and Executive Director (Operations and Olympic Games) to work to better position the ITTF in international sport political structures.

The Executive Committee formally approved the staff structure as presented, including the appointment of current staff as CEO and Deputy CEO in addition to their current responsibilities. The Executive Committee asked:

- a) the Executive Directors to recommend the appointment of Deputy Executive Directors from staff currently employed failing which, outside appointments could be made if approved by the Executive Committee.
- b) the Executive Directors to develop job descriptions for all staff in their departments.

**14. Dates of future meetings:** the Executive agreed that its next meetings would be held in:

- Rotterdam, Netherlands on 7 and 15 May 2011 (EC), 9 May 2011 (OPC).
- Suzhou, China on 27 August 2011 (EC) if it was not possible to meet one week later due to the end of Ramadan.
- Manama, Bahrain on 15 December 2011 (EC), 16 December 2011 (DCC and OPC).

**15. Any other business**

15.1 Merit Awards nominations: Cor de Buy had been nominated for a Merit Award.

15.2 URC education and training review: Bruce Burton, a professional educator by profession, had interviewed key personnel involved in this programme and had made some useful initial recommendations which would be finalised for the Executive Committee's consideration in Rotterdam.

15.3 Education and Training Department update: 27 applications had been received for training centre status.

15.4 Eligibility: 4 players from China had been playing for Singapore based on their residential status in Singapore but CTTA had invited STTA to explore an amicable resolution.

The Executive Committee resolved to recommend to the AGM the presentation of a Merit Award to Cor de Buy.

The Executive Committee asked:

- a) the CTTA and STTA to inform it of the resolution of the eligibility of the 4 players.
- b) the Vice-President (Finance), the Executive Directors (Development) and (Education and Training) to consider a contribution from the ITTF and IOC for the education and training budget not exceeding US\$250 000.

**16. Adjournment:** there being no further business, the meeting ended at 13h30.

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Adham Sharara  
President

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Date