



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING NO.1

**Minutes** of a meeting of the Executive Committee held at 14h05 on **7 May 2011** in the Rotterdam Room, Manhattan Hotel, **Rotterdam, The Netherlands**

1. **President's welcome and opening remarks:** the President welcomed all members to the meeting.

2. **Roll call**

Adham Sharara	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 and Olympic Games)
Glenn Tepper	Executive Director (Development)
Anders Thunström	Managing Director (TMS)

**Apologies**

Yang Shu'an	Deputy President
Khalil Al-Mohannadi	Executive Vice-President

3. **Approval of the agenda:** the agenda was approved with the addition of:

- 3.1 World Championships of Ping Pong for the second meeting.
- 3.2 Appointment of members of the Athletes' Commission.

4. **Minutes**

- 4.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 26 February 2011 were confirmed and signed.
- 4.2 There was no business arising from the minutes not otherwise covered by the agenda.

5. **AGM and Board of Directors:** the Executive Committee noted that:

5.1 Kuwait, Ghana, India, Panama:

- For Kuwait, the 2010 AGM agreed to suspend Kuwait at the request of the association providing that the suspension would be lifted when the IOC lifted its suspension of the Kuwait NOC, which had not happened to date.
- The IOC would consider lifting the suspension of the Ghana NOC in July 2011 after the government had apparently interfered in the autonomy of sport.
- The IOC would consider suspending the India and Panama NOCs in July 2011 as a result of apparent government interference.

5.2 Audit report:

- The audited financial statements had been circulated to all national associations.
- The auditors had presented a report and recommendations to address risks identified which the audit panel would consider at its meeting to be held during the World Championships.

5.3 Committees nominations (chairpersons):

- The Nominations Committee had submitted the recommendations for chairperson and vice-chairperson.
- The final recommendations would be submitted to the Board of Directors.

5.4 Calendar Working Group:

- Mr El Salhy had submitted a proposal for the working group to be dissolved and the work integrated into the Competition Department, offering to assist the Competition Department, or that another chairperson be appointed due to his commitments to the African TTF.

**The Executive Committee resolved to:**

- a) recommend the nominations for chairpersons and vice-chairpersons for the Board of Directors to approve.
- b) integrate the responsibility for the Calendar Working Group into the work of the Competition Department with immediate effect.

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

6.1 2011 World Championships update:

- 709 players had entered the event.
- With GAC becoming the title sponsor, much of the promotional material had been updated.
- Many side events had been organised and technically, the event was set to be well organised.
- Some issues related to transport had been experienced.
- The Jury, according to the Handbook, included the full Technical Committee.
- There was likely to be a good atmosphere as ticket sales had been good.
- A transport strike was expected on 11 May 2011 (morning).
- Problems had been experienced with visas (Sierra Leone, Congo, Uganda, Nigeria, Burundi, Pakistan, Colombia, Iraq, Togo), which would cause some late arrivals or cancellations.
- Where associations had applied on time, they experienced some administrative blockages despite a letter of guarantee the ITTF had received from the Government; nevertheless, some associations had applied for visas late.
- There was no consistency between different consulates.
- For Dortmund, the organisers had started to work with their Government to identify visa application deadlines and the ITTF should also identify those associations who applied after the deadline.

6.2 2011 World Junior Championships update:

- The site inspection had taken 2 days covering a new sports facility but the hotels were not inspected.
- The dates for the event had been changed to 13 to 20 November 2011 so as not to clash with the Arab Games.
- Bahrain had been asked to confirm that they would host the Championships at the Board of Directors meeting.

6.3 2014 and 2015 WTTC:

- Qatar and Japan had considered hosting the event in 2014.
- In view of the tsunami, the Japanese authorities had expressed an interest and Qatar had withdrawn in favour of Japan.
- Japan had asked for confirmation that, should there be a deficit, it would not be for Japan's account.

- Several sports had withdrawn their events from Japan whereas sport assisted to bring communities together.
  - The proposed dates were 28 April to 5 May 2014 in Tokyo.
  - The invitations for applications for 2015 had been issued with a deadline of 30 September 2011.
- 6.4 Global (World) Cadet Challenge and Junior Circuit Final: the proposals from the Junior Commission would be discussed at the Board of Directors.
- 6.5 Pro Tour concept:
- The bids for 2012 events had closed on 6 May 2011, and 15 events could be confirmed for 2012 plus the Pro Tour Grand Final.
  - A new Euro-Africa Circuit was being considered for smaller associations as an initiative from the ETTU and ATTU with full support from the ITTF.
  - The conditions for the streaming rights for the new Circuit had to be finalised with the ETTU.
- 6.6 Illegal On-Line Betting:
- 6.6.1 ISM survey:
- The cost for monitoring the German Open was CHF7 000,00 for 2 days.
  - The report indicated that the level of betting at the German Open was low and there had been no indication of match fixing connect to sport betting.
- 6.6.2 Streaming certification fee:
- An interim fee should be established, as certification was required for streaming from 1 July 2011.
  - ASOIF had proposed a template for ensuring that the IFs maintained control of all betting on events for its sport.

**The Executive Committee resolved to:**

- a) approve the Jury composition of the chairpersons of the Technical, Rules and Umpires' and Referees' Committees, the competition manager, the championships director; plus the referee without voting rights.
- b) establish a streaming certification fee to be charged from 1 July to 31 December 2011 of a maximum of €1 000,00 per day.

The Executive Committee asked:

- i) the Executive Directors (Competitions) and (Operations and Olympic Games) to work with the DTTB to ensure that the problems associated with visa applications were addressed, including a visa application deadline.
- ii) the Executive Director (Operations and Olympic Games) to circulate the ASOIF and SportAccord proposals to the Executive Committee for consideration.

**7. Equipment issues:** the Executive Committee noted that:

- 7.1 Technical leaflets for leisure equipment: currently, technical leaflets for equipment existed for leisure play although no control or testing was implemented.
- 7.2 Technical leaflet on administration: currently, the technical leaflet T7 set out administrative procedures for equipment and therefore changes had to be approved by the Board of Directors whereas some flexibility was required.

**The Executive Committee resolved to:**

- a) establish technical guidelines for leisure equipment, to replace the current technical leaflets, which would be approved and issued by the Equipment Committee.
- b) request the Equipment Committee to develop administrative procedures, which would be approved by the Executive Committee as necessary.

**8. London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games:** the Executive Committee noted that:

- 8.1 Test event:
- The test event would be the 2011 Pro Tour Grand Final in London.

- The dates had been issued and, as not all technical aspects would be tested in the process, some aspects would need to be tested prior to the arrival of players.
- There was sufficient funding from LOCOG and our sponsors to ensure the financial viability of the test event.

8.2 Other pending issues:

- Accommodation had been confirmed within walking distance of the venue.
- The number of technical officials' had been approved and was close to approval for the Paralympic Games.
- Bids to host the Final Olympic Qualification Tournament had been requested and 4 associations had applied to host the event before May 2012.
- Traditionally the event had been held in Europe.
- The Olympic and Paralympic Commission would make the decision at its meeting.

9. **New ITTF regional offices:** the Executive Committee noted that:

9.1 Vienna: Europe and Competition:

- The Werner Schlager Academy had proposed an ITTF grant as a contribution from the ITTF to the Academy.
- The proposal was amended to pay rent rather than make a grant annually.
- The translation of the ITTF website into German would be discontinued due to low traffic.
- The Vienna office would be used as a base for the Competition Department.

**The Executive Committee resolved to** open the ITTF Europe and Competition office in Vienna, Austria at the Werner Schlager Academy.

10. **Membership applications:** the Executive Committee noted that:

10.1 Virgin Islands: the application had not been received.

10.2 British Virgin Islands: the application had been received recently.

**The Executive Committee resolved to** recommend that the AGM consider the application for membership from the British Virgin Islands.

11. **Any other business:** the Executive Committee noted that:

11.1 Peace and Sport Cup:

- The Cup event would take place on 21 and 22 November 2011 in Doha, Qatar, after the World Junior Championships.
- Invitations to 8 to 12 teams had to be finalised before the AGM.

11.2 Athletes' Commission: the process for appointing the members and the chairperson by the Executive Committee was confirmed.

The Executive Committee agreed to meet on 12 May 2011 at the conference room at the Ahoy Centre, after the Board of Directors meeting, to finalise the members of the Athletes' Commission.

12. **Adjournment:** there being no further business, the meeting ended at 16h35.

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Adham Sharara  
President

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Date