

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of a meeting of the Executive Committee held in the N1-3 Room, Sakura Tower Hotel, Tokyo, Japan on Monday **5 May 2014** at 09h00.

1. President's welcome and opening remarks: the President opened the meeting noting that the World Championships had gone extremely well and congratulated Mr Maehara and the Japan TTA on the success of the event.

2. Roll call

Adham Sharara	President
Thomas Weikert	Deputy President
Khalil Al-Mohannadi	Senior Executive Vice-President
Patrick Gillmann	Executive Vice-President
Chérif Hajem	Executive Vice-President
Masahiro Maehara	Executive Vice-President
Melecio Rivera	Executive Vice-President
Shi Zhihao	Executive Vice-President
Petra Sörling	Executive Vice-President (Finance)
Vladimir Samsonov	Athlete Representative – ex officio

In attendance

Judit Faragó	CEO
Glenn Tepper	Deputy CEO
Alison Burchell	Director (Operations and PTT)

3. Approval of the agenda: the agenda was approved as presented.

4. Operations Program: the Executive Committee noted that:

- 4.1 Continental affiliation agreements update:
 - 5 continental federations had signed the agreement.
 - Since Asia TTU did not sign yet, according to the timelines, the funding for development would be allocated directly to national associations in Asia by the ITTF.
- 4.2 Museum move:
 - Discussions were on-going with Shanghai to ensure financial and legal security for the ITTF.
 - The president would go to Shanghai with Mr Shi to meet the authorities of the Shanghai municipality.
- 4.3 Appointments to the Athletes' Commission:
 - The Executive Committee had appointed Angela Mori (PER), Elsayed Lashin (EGY) and Yu Kwok See (HKG) as members of the Athletes' Commission.
 - The Athletes' Commission had appointed Wang Liqin (CHN) and Ashu Jain (USA).
- 4.4 Directives for Match Officials:
 - Discussions had been held between the URC and Competition Program about the numbers of referees and umpires at different level events.

- There were proposed changes in the directives to bring them into line with the ITTF system.
 - There was provision now for advanced international referees, the racket testing coordinator had been deleted, an evaluators' coordinator would replace the umpires' coordinator.
 - As the daily allowance for match officials had not changed since 2006, the daily allowance should be increased.
 - The implementation date would be 1 January 2015.
- 4.5 Change to the ITTF PTT Hall of Fame:
- Currently, a player had to win 5 gold medals from the Paralympic Games and/or World Championships in team and/or singles events.
 - The PTT Division had proposed that a minimum of 3 gold medals in the singles be required, as this would ensure quality as some players could be helped by a strong team partner or partners.
- 4.6 Agreement with FISU:
- The agreement should have been signed in during the SportAccord Convention but due to logistical issues, this had not happened.
 - ASOIF had a Working Group on multi-sport games working on agreements with multi-sport games organizers.
 - The Deputy President or the CEO should sign the agreement with FISU the next time either one was in Lausanne.
- 4.7 Merit award criteria: the draft criteria were being discussed with the Nominations Committee, the President's Advisory Council and Mr. Hajem. All parties agree that the award has to acknowledge contribution towards and within the ITTF mainly.

9-EC-05-2014

The Executive Committee ratified the appointments of Angela Mori (PER), Elsayed Lashin (EGY) and Yu Kwok See (HKG) as members of the Athletes' Commission.

10-EC-05-2014

The Executive Committee approved the changes proposed to the Directives for Match Officials as well as the increased daily allowance of US\$30,00 and US\$25,00 for world title and ITTF sanctioned events respectively to take effect on 1 January 2015.

11-EC-05-2014

The Executive Committee approved the requirement that a Para Table Tennis player achieve at least 3 of the 5 gold medals required in the singles events at the Paralympic Games or World Championships to be inducted to the Hall of Fame.

12-EC-05-2014

The Executive Committee approved the agreement with FISU and asked the Deputy President or CEO to sign the agreement when next in Lausanne.

5. **Competition Program:** the Executive Committee noted that:

- 5.1 2014 World Championships update and payments:
- Due to the size and logistics for the world championships, it had been difficult to organize and the JTTA had done an excellent job ensuring that the logistics of playing conditions, transportation, food and accommodation had been delivered well.
 - The volunteers were very helpful.
 - The presentation was excellent, the LED screens looked good on TV and TV Tokyo was doing an outstanding job with live broadcasts.
 - One of the best ever playing conditions were provided for lower divisions in the Tokyo Gymnasium.
 - Both Japanese teams finished in medal positions with the women's team making the final for the first time in 31 years.
 - 110 men and 94 women teams had participated in the event with the women's participation being a new record (439 men and 352 women players).
 - Botswana had arrived late; they missed their first 2 matches.
 - A player had been stuck at the airport for 1 week as he had lost his passport. JTTA had provided as much support as possible.
 - 2 players had been disqualified after their lost match as a result of misbehaviour.
 - The delegates from Burundi and Iraq had arrived 3 days after the AGM.
 - The delegates who did not attend the AGM should not receive free hospitality.
 - 5 associations still owed some payments to the JTTA with the total outstanding of about US\$15 000.
 - Feedback was received regarding payment procedure and policy (clearer invoice on the online entry system, earlier requests for payments, cancellation fees for rooms re-sold, etc.)
 - There were several clashes in meetings and ideally the continental meetings should be held at the same time.
 - In order to be proactive, people organizing meetings clashing with key ITTF meetings should be asked to consider changing their schedule.
 - Former world champions as well as PAC members should get access to the VVIP area.
- 5.2 2015 World Tour provisional program:
- The calendar had nearly been finalized and would be published later in May 2014.
 - There were 6 super, 5 major and 12 challenge series scheduled plus the Grand Finals.
- 5.3 Executive Committee medal presentations:
- A review on the basis of availability would be done of which Executive Committee member would present medals.
 - All medals would be presented after the second final.
 - The medal ceremonies should be the last activity to ensure media focus to the end.
- 5.4 Eligibility appeal from Fiji:
- There were 2 appeals for players who had been born in Korea but who had moved to Fiji at an early age.

- The players had received their passports at the age of 9 and 10 respectively.
- According to the regulations, players had to be registered with the ITTF to be eligible for World Title events but the Fiji association had done this only recently.
- The association had not been aware of the regulations so it had asked the Executive Committee to consider the date of receiving their passports as date of registration and start date for the waiting period.
- One of the players had competed in the Oceania Cup in 2012 and 2013, due to an administration mistake, which were part of the World Cup qualification process.
- For the future, the regulations could be adjusted in case if proposed to allow a player to choose between the date of registration and the date on which the passport was obtained.

5.5 Basic principle of ranking:

- Additions to the document clarify that:
- Rating points of players who were “deleted” as a result of not competing for more than 8 months could be used for seeding at non-ITTF events.
- Rating points of players who had not competed for 4 months would be used for seeding at all events on their return to competition.

13-EC-05-2014

The Executive Committee resolved that if a delegate did not attend the AGM, he or she would not be entitled to free hospitality.

14-EC-05-2014

The Executive Committee resolved not to make any exception to the current eligibility rules and, therefore, not accept the eligibility appeals received from the Fiji association.

15-EC-05-2014

The Executive Committee approved the changes to the “Basic Description” document of the world ranking system.

6. **Development:** this item had been addressed at the previous meeting.
7. **Athletes’ Commission report:** the Executive Committee noted that:
- Mr Samsonov had been elected by the new Athletes’ Commission members as chairperson by acclamation.
 - Thanks were reflected to the staff for running the elections.
 - An election would be held during the PTT World Championships in September 2014 for the PTT representative on the Athletes’ Commission.
 - Members of the Japanese team, of the Development Program and 3 top women players had played against the children from the Tsunami region.
 - The Athletes’ Commission would meet members of other committees.

- The Athletes' Commission preferred to find non-ITTF events to test the service, multi-ball and "no let" service proposals and to add – if possible – experiment on the multi-coloured balls.
- For 2015, there would be no fund reserved and deducted from the prize money for the World Tour Grand Finals.
- The new plastic balls with seam from DHS were heavier and harder, however the quality of the plastic balls would improve after accepting slight adjustments in tolerance level for ball approvals.
- The historical data for initial players was being investigated for the ranking system and once the technical issue had been resolved, then the experiments to the rating system could be tested offline.
- Following the meeting about the PTT qualification process for the Paralympic Games and World Championships, the PTT Division would consider incorporating able-bodied events, adjusting qualification requirements for Oceania and reviewing the process for 2020.

8. Honorarium for the new President: the Executive Committee noted that:

- The new president should be paid an amount as a part-time honorarium.
- The amount would be discussed and decided by the current President and Vice-President (Finance). It would be based on the time commitment and country of residence.
- From 2017, the president should be paid according to the amount of time they spent on ITTF business, and that should be a minimum of 50% of their time.

9. Planning 2014-2017, P5 and DBI: the Executive Committee noted that:

- About 15 to 20 proposals had been submitted after the launch of the DBI process in Dubai.
- Since the beginning of the world championships, about 20 more proposals had been received.
- A reminder would be sent out and the list of people invited to comment would be expanded.
- The more people participated in this process, the better.
- Responses had to be sent to the DBI email address dbip5@ittfmail.com
- The final product would be submitted to the Executive Committee at the end of 2014.

10. Any other business: the Executive Committee noted that:

10.1 Transition to the new President:

- A series of meetings would be held, mainly in Europe, to facilitate the transition.
- Some changes would be made to the allocation of responsibilities of the Executive Committee members.
- The outgoing president, Mr. Sharara, would focus on the P5 Plan (DBI), review of the constitution and marketing. Then the President and EC would decide on the allocation of duties for the position of Chair, including chairing the AGM.

10.2 The headquarters in Lausanne:

- Renovations to the ground floor had been completed for the new tenants who had moved in on 1 May 2014.

- The next phase would be the exterior and roof, which would be expensive.
 - A long-term maintenance program would be developed.
- 10.3 Thanks to JTTA: were expressed for the excellent organization of the world championships and activities around the event.
- 10.4 Next meeting: would be held on 22 August 2014 in Nanjing, China during the Youth Olympic Games.

11. Adjournment: there being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11h42.

Adham Sharara
President

Date