

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING 2

Subang 1 meeting room, Subang Grand Dorsett Hotel, Kuala Lumpur
09h30, Sunday 6 March 2016

MINUTES

1. President's welcome and opening remarks

The President welcomed all of the Executive Committee members and staff. He informed the EC that the Athletes Commission Chair could not attend the meeting, and he agreed that AC member, Wang Liqin, would attend the EC meeting as an observer.

2. Presentation of Ekaterinburg representatives

The delegation from Ekaterinburg made a video presentation on the organization of the 2015 ITTF-European Championships and they informed the EC that there is strong interest to host the 2020 World Team Championships. The President congratulated the delegation for the successful organization of the major continental event in Europe.

3. Roll call

Thomas Weikert	President
Khalil Al-Mohannadi	Deputy President
Bruce Burton	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)

In attendance

Judit Faragó	CEO
Glenn Tepper	Deputy CEO
Raul Calin	Director (Operations & Olympic Games)
Steve Dainton	Director (Marketing)
Anders Thunström	TMS Managing Director
Claudia Vatheuer	Assistant to the President
Wang Liqin	Athletes Commission representative

4. Approval of the agenda

The Executive Committee approved the agenda.

5. 2016 World Championships

5.1 Update on organization

- General dissatisfaction was expressed by the President for several reasons: major sponsors complained about hospitality service level and the exhibition stands; no spectator interest except the finals,

lack of promotion; unacceptable playing conditions in the marquees; the Tournament Director had no decision-making power.

- Lack of coordination and leadership between the NA and the event management company; ITTF had contractual agreement with NA.
- ITTF was in "trap" after the repeated changes in venue.
- Athletes wished to have meals both in the hotels and in the venue and complained about the choice and standard of food provided.
- It was stated that WTTC is a too big challenge and lesson has to be learnt to introduce incentive measures to motivate organizers.
- The event looked very good on TV, but the sponsors were on site and had personal bad impression.
- The President requested staff to closely monitor the next major event, the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, even if it is not sanctioned by the ITTF.

5.2 Payments

- The Director of Operations reported that there were only 2 outstanding payments remaining by the end of the championships from Jamaica TTA and Kuwait TTA.
- The Director of Operations was requested to investigate the payment issue with TTA Canada as it seemed their transfer was received with delay.

5.3 EC medal presentations – the order of ceremonies and presenters were submitted to the EC members.

5.4 Official meetings follow-up

5.4.1 Updated committee list: was distributed and published after the Nominations Committee appointment.

5.4.2 Kuwait TTA: after the ITTF AGM gave the Executive Committee the authority to decide on Kuwait TTA status, there was a meeting organized with the Kuwait TTA President involving the President, the Deputy President, the ATTF President and the CEO. Based on the report on the meeting, it was suggested to consult the IOC on their latest position before the EC takes the final decision to suspend or not the Kuwait TTA.

1-EC-03-2016

The Executive Committee resolved to take the final decision on Kuwait TTA suspension after further consultation with the IOC and requested the CEO to contact the IOC and to report on their position.

5.4.3 Libya request: the ITTF CEO was requested at the 1st EC meeting to meet the Libya TTF officials, and the decision was made finally at the Olympic & Paralympic Commission meeting.

- 5.4.4 2016 Planning and Promotion Working Group: the group made its introductory gathering on 5th March in Kuala Lumpur and decided to have their first WG meeting soon, before the Olympic Games, with involvement of an external expert / consultant company. The WG chair highlighted that the discussions have to be technical and not political. The question was raised why the competition program representative is not part of the group and it was recommended for consideration.
- 5.4.5 Voting at EC: question was raised at the BoD meeting that after adding the Athletes Commission Chair as 10th person to the EC with voting rights, how equal votes will be decided in the EC? It was discussed that in most cases the EC makes decisions by consensus, but if for any reason consensus is not reached, then a vote is taken to decide on a matter. It would be good to have a standing order document to describe the policy procedures within the EC.

2-EC-03-2016

The Executive Committee resolved that in the case of a tie vote, the proposal would be considered defeated not obtaining a majority.

6. Competition Program

6.1 Future of World Tour (2017 and onwards)

It is closely connected to the final assessment of the Future Event Working Group, however the fixtures for the 2017 World Tour are urgent due to lack of time. Competition and Marketing Directors will coordinate the announcement of the bid call and conditions soon.

6.2 2017 World Championships

Update was given on the follow-up meeting in Kuala Lumpur with the organizing committee. Hotel and logistic concept will be very similar in Düsseldorf to the one in Dortmund in 2012.

6.3 2016-2017 World Junior Circuit Finals bids

Bids were received from two associations: TTF India – successful host for the last WJCF – applied to allocate the event for 2 more years, Luxembourg TTF – jointly with the China Table Tennis College Europe – submitted a bid for 2017. Both applications were recommended to be accepted by the competition program staff.

3-EC-03-2016

The Executive Committee resolved to allocate the next two editions of the ITTF World Junior Circuit Finals: for 2016 to TTF India with city of Indore, and for 2017 to Luxembourg TTF with city of Luxembourg.

6.4 Ranking Working Group update

Update was given on the experiment and on testing different options. The group is scheduled to meet around June to discuss the final concept proposal on the new ranking to be started from January 2017.

7. **Marketing and Promotion Program**

7.1 TMS International update

- Work is concentrated on renewing contracts for the next Olympic cycle (2017-2020).
- Positive reports on TV-rights sale: China, Singapore, Japan and Chinese Taipei are sold by TMS, while for other territories agreements are pending.
- TSA is replaced, new cooperation is in place with Lagardère Sports and Entertainment for TV rights sales.
- More challenges are on sponsorship sides, as agreement with TISSOT and China Unicom expires at the end of the year, GAC was not yet replaced.
- Equipment supplier contracts are in place, all secured until 2020 for World Championships, except sports floor for the last 2 years. Flooring is the biggest challenge in general.

7.2 Continental agreements

- Preliminary meetings took place in Kuala Lumpur about continental marketing agreements.
- Following presentation of the 2017-2020 Continental Development Agreement formula, budget and guiding principles at the DCC Meeting in December 2015, discussions between the ITTF and the Continental Federations are well underway with the aim to sign both 2017-2020 Continental Development Agreements and 2017-2020 Continental Affiliation documents at the Olympic Games in Rio.

7.3 Star-Awards Gala 2015

The event took place in Lisboa, Portugal, in December and ended with a small income. Next gala is to be allocated later.

7.4 New web-site

After conducting the tender interviews, a London-based company, Skylab, was chosen to create the new web design by 1st August 2016.

8. **Development, Education & Training Program**

8.1 IOC Women in Leadership Forum

- Yelena Druzhkova (KAZ) and Sue Stevenson (AUS) were chosen to receive the IOC Scholarships to attend the first IOC Women in Leadership Forum, 7-9 March in Lausanne, Switzerland, which was an initiative of ASOIF-ASDEG group of which Glenn Tepper is a member.
- The forum was excellent and included a special dinner hosted by IOC president Thomas Bach, which was attended by Raul Calin on

behalf of ITTF. Yelena and Sue also took the opportunity to visit ITTF Headquarters.

- Discussions are continuing regarding a continuation of the forum for new participants and/or a higher level course for this year's attendees.

8.2 World Table Tennis Day

- The second ever World Table Tennis Day on April 6 included 193 events in 82 countries.
- The official launch was in Nepal to coincide with the launch of the United Nations and ITTF „Table tennis for NepALL“ Para Table Tennis project, attended by - among others - ITTF President Thomas Weikert, and Special Advisor to United Nations Secretary-General, Wilfried Lemke.
- Ipong provided prizes for best events in different categories. All information can be found on www.TT4All.com and films celebrating the day will be released shortly.

9. **Professional Staff update**

- GUO Ruiling Leah (ITTF Administration & Finance Assistant / Singapore office) – contract renewed for 1 year in middle of February.
- Chuck HOEY (ITTF Honorary Curator & Historian) travelled back in summer 2015 to his home city in USA for family reasons and confirmed in January 2016 that he will not return to the ITTF Head Office, but offered to continue his services from home office.
- Dimosthenis MESSINIS (Competition Manager) was hired jointly by the ITTF and the ETTU to fulfil Competition Manager duties at international events, shared between ITTF and ETTU approximately 2/3 and 1/3. Besides officiating at events, he continues administrating the ITTF junior online entry system.

10. **Anti-doping**

A letter was sent out in February to all ITTF Sanctioned events organizers to clarify and share important information about the Doping Control authorities and procedures at ITTF sanctioned events.

11. **Athletes' Commission report**

The Commission urges to create a group to study the application of the service rules, as umpires act differently. As a first step it has to be clarified if the problem originates from the rule or from different implementation due to improper understanding of the rule.

At this point the President delegated to chair the meeting to his Deputy as he had to leave for an interview.

12. **Para TT report**

- Para TT Division had a meeting at the World Championships in Kuala Lumpur, it had pros and cons as well, being integrated in the ITTF family, but no full focus because of the World Championships issues.

- It is expected that key persons will retire or quit at the end of the Division's term, if this is the case, successors have to be recruited on time.
- It would be time to consider a committee model for the group and similar staff concept for events like in competition program (CM instead of TD).

13. Any other business

13.1 President Advisory Council

After the resignation of Mr. Walter Rönmark as BoD member, the President appointed him to the President's Advisory Council (PAC) with immediate effect.

13.2 National Associations recognition issues

- Uganda - with 2 groups claiming to be the National Association, the group led by Robert Jjagwe was recognized by the NOC, however the other group continues to function and tries to enter events. Tom Kiggundu, ITTF BOD member from Uganda is following up.
- Sri Lanka - has some issues in relation to their last election which was held when NOC constitution was being changed and all National Associations were asked to not hold elections in that period. After many exchanges Sri Lanka was able to attend the WTTC in Kuala Lumpur, however there are ongoing problems with the NOC which still need to be resolved.

13.3 Referee's Directives for Racket Control

Mr Burton made a summary of the updates presented for approval on the Directives for Racket Control, explaining that it was basically a refinement. Not having further remarks,

4-EC-03-2016

The Executive Committee resolved to adopt the new version of the Referee's Directives effective 1st January 2016.

13.4 Next EC meeting: Will take place on 5th August in Rio, at the Olympic Games.

13.5 2016 World Tour Grand Finals and Star Award Gala

The Deputy President announced that Qatar TTA is interested to host the 2016 WTGF and Star Award Gala in December 2016. QTTA received the organizational conditions just before the WTTC, so will be able to receive government guarantee for the organization by the end of March.

13.6 BoD follow-up

- It was proposed to limit the time of presentations at the BoD to avoid having too long sessions.

- Committees have to coordinate their input and to come up with common sense BoD propositions to avoid long technical discussions at the meeting.

14. Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12h40.

Thomas Weikert, President

Date