

# MINUTES

## ITTF Board of Directors Meeting (1<sup>st</sup> Session)

Shanghai, China, 30<sup>th</sup> April 2005, at 14:00 hours

### 1 Welcome and President's opening address

The President welcomed all to Shanghai and thanked the Chinese Table Tennis Association and the City of Shanghai for providing excellent facilities and setting such high standards for the future. He also thanked the Executive Committee members who would be ending their mandate at the AGM in Shanghai for their collaboration over the past years. Mr. Adham Sharara appointed Mr. Rabie Al Turk as member of the President's Advisory Council. M. Al Turk who was retiring from the BOD thanked the ITTF and his colleagues in the BOD for their support and said he would continue to work for table tennis all his life. In reply to Mr. Ranga Ramanujan who said that officials leaving their functions should be invited to attend the meetings after elections, the President invited the national associations to make a proposition in this sense to the AGM next year.

### 2 Roll call

Adham Sharara	President
Pierre Albertini	Deputy President
George Segun	Executive Vice President
Nils Bergström	Executive Vice President
Yang Shuan	Executive Vice President
Han Sang Kook	Executive Vice President (Finance)
Judit Faragó	Executive Vice President

Khalil Al Mohannadi	Continental Vice President (Asia)
Chérif Hajem	Continental Vice President (Africa)
Stefano Bosi	Continental Vice President (Europe)
Miguel Angel Delgado	Continental Vice President (Latin America)
Sheri Pittman	Continental Vice President (North America)
Neil Harwood	Continental Vice President (Oceania)

#### Africa

Berthe Bakhary  
Henri Djombo  
Khaled El Salhy  
Olabanji Oladapo  
Jane Pinto  
Philippe Hao Thyn Voon  
Ganief Fataar

#### Latin America

Alaor Gaspar Azevedo  
Melecio Rivera.

#### Asia

M. C. Chowhan  
Rabie Al Turk  
Koji Kimura  
Sharokh Shahnazi  
Choo Wee Kiang

#### North America

Bruce Burton

#### Oceania

Patrick Gillman  
Graeme Ireland

#### Europe

Gérard Velten  
Zdenko Kriz  
Reto Bazzi  
Radivoj Hudetz  
Yuri Posevin  
Alan Ransome  
Walter Rönmark  
Eberhard Schöler  
Miran Kondric

#### Committee Chairmen/women

Claude Bergeret (Athletes')  
Odd Gustavsen (Equipment)  
Arne Madsen (Media)  
André Damman (Ranking)  
Rudi Sporrer (Rules)  
Aksel Beckmann (URC - Co-chairman)

Jean-François Kahn (Sports Science)  
Yuri Posevin (Nomination)  
Tony Yue (Junior)  
Dorte Kronsell (Women's Group)  
Aly Salam (URC - Co-chairman)

**In attendance**

Jordi Serra	Executive Director
Lilamani de Soysa	Project Manager
Glenn Tepper	Development Manager
Mikael Andersson	Global Junior Programme Manager
Steve Dainton	Asia Office Manager
Etsuko Enami	Executive Assistant
Habiba Basic	Executive Assistant
Violet Le Blanc	Executive Assistant (TMS)

**PAC members**

Ranga Ramanujan  
Rufford Harrison

**Absent**

Park Do Cheon	BOD member Asia
S. H. Shah	BOD member Asia
David Jackson	BOD member Oceania
Jorge Herrera	BOD member Latin America
Darwin Goodridge	BOD member Latin America
Normal Carrillo	BOD member Latin America
Yao Zhenxu	Technical Committee Chairman

**3 Minutes of previous Meeting (Doha, 5 March 2004)**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held in Doha, Qatar, were signed by the President as a true record of the meeting.

**4 Membership applications to recommend to AGM**

It was agreed to recommend to the AGM the acceptance of the 3 new member applications from Djibouti, St Kitts & Nevis and Afghanistan.

**5 Update Reports****5.1 Calendar working group (document A26)**

The President congratulated Ms Judit Faragó on her work as Chairwoman the group and explained that a new Chairman would be elected at the next BOD meeting. The report of the Calendar Working Group was accepted as presented.

**5.2 Merit Awards**

It was agreed to recommend to the AGM the nomination of Mr. Yuri Posevin for the Merit Award.

**5.3 Research and development**

Mr. George Segun explained briefly the research work that was being done by the ITTF and said that it was important to keep the research going in order to keep abreast of new technologies.

Dr. Miran Kondric made an extensive demonstration of the experimentation being carried out at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, regarding the possibilities of marking the balls to make the spin more visible. It was explained that marking the ball made it seem larger and was more visible to the players. He also explained that research was being carried out regarding the possibilities of reducing speed and spin by changing the thickness of the sponge and the texture of the rubbers.

It was also reported that research was being done on glues in order to see if organic solvents were detectable as well as research at the CAR in Barcelona, on longer reach table tennis, in particular on the psychological effects of 3 players playing together at the same time as a team.

#### **5.4 Veterans Working Group**

Mr. Bruce Burton explained that the Veterans Working Group was now ready to become a full-fledged ITTF working committee. He thanked all the members of the working group for their input and said that the expertise of the Swaythling Club should be utilised in all activities of the future Veterans Committee. It was decided that a formal committee would be formed and that it would come into effect in 2006.

#### **5.5 Women's Working Group (document A27)**

The document presented by the Women's Working Group was accepted as presented.

#### **5.6 Proxy system Working Group**

Mr. Pierre Albertini gave a detailed report of the work done by the Proxy System Working Group. Mr. Adham Sharara said that all the recommendations would be studied and the Executive Committee together with the Rules Committee would present a proposal to the next AGM in Bremen, Germany.

#### **5.7 ITTF/Continental Development Plans**

Mr. Glenn Tepper distributed a report and explained that all development activities since 1999 were available on the website in a database. He said that apart from the usual development courses, women's courses and Olympic Solidarity Courses there would be a Tsunami rebuilding programme to be implemented soon. He reported that the coaching manual in French was now available and that the Spanish one would be available in 2 months time. Mr. Tony Yue thanked the ITTF for creating the Tsunami Relief Fund and said that the ITTF should continue to keep the fund for special purposes not necessarily connected to development.

### **6 New Structure for Committees and Commissions**

#### **6.1 Update**

An interim report on committee restructure was distributed by Mr. George Segun and the following summary of recommendations was presented:

1. ITTF staff members are to be appointed by the Executive to serve as coordinator on each committee. See Proposition 8 to the AGM.
2. Need for update information on the activities of each committee, see proposition 6 to AGM.
3. Members of the EC to be appointed to look after each committee.
4. More study needed before grouping the committees. President requested to keep this in mind when putting EC members in charge of committees.
5. Autonomy of each committee must be guaranteed.
6. Each special committee should take interest in continental and regional federation activities in their various fields and shall advise the federations through the ITTF EC on ideas for further development.
7. Inclusion whenever possible of representatives from all the Continents in all the special committees.
8. The number of persons needed in each committee should be reconsidered and to be decided by the BOD.
9. Minor alterations to duties of each committee have been recommended.
10. Further study is recommended to cover amongst other items methods of selection, the scope of responsibilities and seeming large powers exerted by some committees.

## **6.2 International Paralympic TT Committee & Veterans WG**

It was decided that the IPTTC would become a full committee of the ITTF as of 2006 supported by a formal proposition to the AGM in Bremen.

## **6.3 Educational and Training**

Mr. Adham Sharara explained that the ITTF was hoping to create an education and training component as part of the tasks of the URC. A member of the URC would be specifically responsible for umpire education and another for referee education. It was also said that one person would be nominated as referee for the Olympic Games and other major events to maintain continuity. The nominations would be approved at the 2<sup>nd</sup> session of the BOD.

## **7 World Junior Championships**

### **7.1 Austria 2005**

An updated document was distributed by the organisers of the Junior World Championships to be held in Linz, Austria 2005.

### **7.2 Egypt 2006**

Mr. Khaled El-Salhy said that the organisation was underway as scheduled.

### **7.3 2007 and 2008**

Mr. Tony Yue said he was proud of the Junior World Championship through which an important objective of the Junior Programme had been achieved. It was reported that a bid from the USA for 2007 and one from New Zealand for 2008 would be presented at the next BOD meeting. If approved by the BOD, the Junior World Championships would then have achieved the objective of a full rotation in all 6 Continents.

## **8 Global Junior Programme (Junior Circuit, JC Finals and Cadet Challenge)**

Mr. Tony Yue thanked the EC for the financial support that had been given to the Global Junior Programme and said it was an investment that was paying off. He said that in 2004 there had been 7 events in the Junior Circuit and the number was increasing to 11 in 2005. He said that it was not only quantity that was needed but also quality and that the Competition Manager was making sure that all events were of the requested standard. The next Junior Circuit Final and Cadet Challenge would be held in the Dominican Republic from the 23-30 of October 2005. Mr. Tony Yue also thanked Olympic Solidarity, Butterfly and Joola for their support. Mr. Adham Sharara said that TMS was looking for a title sponsor for the Junior Programme. Ms Judit Faragó extended her appreciation to all those driving the Junior programme and Mr. Mikael Andersson invited the BOD to Linz to witness the organisation and high level of matches. Mr. Henri Djombo expressed the intention of Congo Brazzaville to host the World Junior Circuit in 2007 and was requested to present a formal bid for analysis. In answer to Mr. M. C. Chowhan it was reported that until 2008 the World Junior Championships would have 16 teams participating.

## **9 WTTC Team System**

The WTTC Team System was further discussed and referred to the 2<sup>nd</sup> session of the BOD for final approval.

## **10 Olympic Solidarity support**

Item referred to 2<sup>nd</sup> session of the BOD.

## **11 Olympic Games 2008**

Item referred to 2<sup>nd</sup> session of the BOD

**12 Next meeting**

The next meeting of the BOD would take place on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 09h00 at the Olympic Hotel, Shanghai, China.

**13 Any other business**

Mr. Miguel Delgado forwarded a message from Mr. Jorge Herrera, BOD member from Guatemala. Mr. Jorge Herrera was a Chemical Engineer who had produced a water-based glue without solvents and Mr. Delgado had in his possession a sample that he would have tested in Shanghai.

**14 Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 17h00, items 9, 10 and 11 referred to the 2<sup>nd</sup> session of the BOD.

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Meeting Chairman, Adham Sharara