

# MINUTES

## ITTF Board of Directors Meeting (2<sup>nd</sup> Session)

Shanghai, China, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2005, at 09:00 hours

An Extraordinary meeting of the Executive Council was held from 08h30 – 09h00 prior to the BOD meeting in order to discuss and prepare the following items to be presented at the BOD:

- Chairmen of committees and commissions, special situation of URC
- Continental Vice-President Asia
- WTTC Playing system

---

### 1. Welcome and President's opening remarks

The President welcomed all new members to the BOD.

### 2. Roll call

Adham Sharara	President
Khalil Al-Mohannadi	Deputy President (till 12:30)
Yang Shuan	Executive Vice President
Neil Harwood	Executive Vice President (Finance)
Koji Kimura	Executive Vice President
Claude Bergeret	Executive Vice President
Ivo-Goran Munivrana	Executive Vice President

Chérif Hajem	Continental Vice President (Africa)
Stefano Bosi	Continental Vice President (Europe)
Miguel Angel Delgado	Continental Vice President (Latin America)
Bruce Burton	Continental Vice President (North America)
Patrick Gillman	Continental Vice President (Oceania)

#### Africa

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

#### Asia

M. C. Chowhan  
Michel de Chadarevian  
Chan Foong Keong  
Sharokh Shahnazi  
Choo Wee Khiang  
Cai Zhenhua

#### Europe

Gérard Velten  
Zdenko Kriz  
Goran Vukobratovic  
Radivoj Hudetz  
Polona Cehovin Susis  
Alex Murdoch  
Walter Rönmark  
Eberhard Schöler  
Andrejz Grubba

#### Latin America

Alaor Gaspar Azevedo  
Melecio Rivera  
Keith Neblett  
Jairo Orlando Paez  
Juan Carlos Garcia

#### North America

Sheri Pittman

#### Oceania

Graeme Ireland  
David Jackson

#### Committee Chairmen/women

Sachiko Yokota (Athletes')  
Odd Gustavsen (Equipment)  
Arne Madsen (Media)  
André Damman (Ranking)  
Rudi Sporrer (Rules)

Jean-François Kahn (Sports Science)  
Yuri Posevin (Nomination)  
Yao Zhenxu (Technical)  
Tony Yue (Junior)  
Dorte Kronsell (Women's Group)

#### PAC members

Ranga Ramanujan  
Nils Bergström

#### PAC members

Rabie Al Turk  
Rufford Harrison

**In attendance**

Jordi Serra	Executive Director
Lilamani de Soysa	Project Manager
Mikael Andersson	Global Junior Programme Manager
Steve Dainton	Asia Office Manager
Etsuko Enami	Executive Assistant
Habiba Besic	Executive Assistant
Mr. Hu	Translator

**Absent**

Khalil Al-Mohannadi	Deputy President (as of 12:30)
Henri Djombo	Africa BOD member
Park Do Cheon	Asia BOD member
Anthony Ho	Oceania BOD member
Vacant	Continental Vice President (Asia)

**3. Introduction of new members**

All new Board members were introduced and welcomed.

**4. Appointment of Committee Chairmen**

The following Committee and Working Group Chairmen/women were appointed on proposal of the Executive Council:

Sachiko Yokota	Athletes' Commission
Odd Gustavsen	Equipment Committee
Tony Yue	Junior Commission
Arne Madsen	Media Committee
Yuri Posevin	Nomination Committee
André Damman	Ranking Committee
Rudi Sporrer	Rules Committee
Jean-François Kahn	Sports Science Committee
Yao Zhenxu	Technical Committee

It was decided that the position of the chairperson of the URC would be left vacant until the end of the WTTC, keeping in mind the education and training component to be added to the URC in the future. It was said that a referee would be appointed for all the major events for the next 4-year period.

On proposal by Ms Sheri Pittman, Mr. Mikael Scott was appointed Special Advisor of the Sports Science Committee.

**5. Co-option of Chairmen as per Constitution**

It was confirmed that all Chairmen/women were co-opted to the BOD and as such were entitled to vote.


**6. Propositions and Resolutions (Document A29)**

**Simple majority required**

<b>21</b>	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee</p> <p>3.1.1.5 An invitation tournament is one that is restricted to specified <b>Associations</b> or players, individually invited.</p> <p><i>This would make clear that if at an invitation tournament team events are played, not individual players but also Associations may be invited.</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>
-----------	--

22	<p>Proposed by the Equipment Committee</p> <p>To insert a remark on paragraph 3.2.1.1 From 1st January 2006 only glues based on not volatile organic solvents will receive the ITTF authorisation. <del>Current</del> Glues with the ITTF authorisation based on volatile organic solvents will keep such authorisation until 1st September 2007.</p> <p><i>Motivation:</i> <i>The main reason is to try to obligate to the manufacturers to develop glues based on not organic solvents as soon as possible.</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED with the removal of the word "Current" from the proposal, line 2.</b></p>
23	<p>Proposed by the Equipment Committee</p> <p>To insert a new paragraph 3.2.1.4 3.2.1.4 The blade shall be of a brand and type authorised by the ITTF, and the brand and the ITTF logo shall be clearly visible.</p> <p><i>Remark: The implementation time to be determined by the Executive Committee. This would also include racket blades due for ITTF approval.</i></p> <p><b>WITHDRAWN.</b></p>
24	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee</p> <p>3.2.2.10 Where opposing players or teams have a similar clothing <b>shirt</b> and cannot agree which of them will change, the decision shall be made <b>by the umpire</b> by lot.</p> <p><i>By this the rule would be brought in line with the current practice to consider only the shirt.</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>
25	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee</p> <p>3.2.3.1 The playing space shall <b>be rectangular and</b> not be less than 14m long, 7m wide and 5m high, <b>but the 4 corners may be covered by surrounds of not more than 1.5 m length, arranged in an angle of 45° relating to the long and the short side of the playing area.</b></p> <p><i>By this the geometric form of the playing space would be defined in accordance with the current practice, providing an exception for arranging additional surrounds cutting the 4 corners of the box.</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED</b>, with provision that wording should be amended.</p>
26	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee</p> <p>To insert a new paragraph 3.2.3.2 and to renumber subsequent paragraphs</p> <p>3.2.3.2 The following equipment and fittings are to be considered as part of each playing area: The table including the net assembly, umpires tables and chairs, score indicators, towel boxes, printed numbers identifying the table, surrounds and floor mats.</p> <p><i>By this "the equipment and fittings that are normally present" inside the playing area (3.2.4.1) would be defined explicitly.</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>
27	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee</p> <p>To amend 3.2.4.1 only if proposition 26 is passed</p> <p>3.2.4.1 Inside the playing area, advertisements shall be displayed only on equipment or fittings <b>listed in 3.2.3.2</b> that are normally present and there shall be no special additional displays.</p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>

<p><b>28</b></p>	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee</p> <p>To insert a new paragraph 3.2.4.2 and to renumber subsequent paragraphs</p> <p>3.2.4.2 At Olympic Games advertisement on playing equipment, on playing clothing and on umpires' clothing shall be according to IOC regulations.</p> <p><i>This would make clear that there are specific advertisement regulations at Olympic Games.</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>
<p><b>29</b></p>	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee</p> <p>3.2.4.6 There may be <b>1 permanent maker's trademark, symbol or name and 1 temporary advertisement, each within a total length of 30cm, clearly separated from each other</b>, on each half of each side of the tabletop and <del>±</del> on each end, <del>clearly separated from any permanent advertisements and each contained within a total length of 60cm;</del> they shall not be for other table tennis equipment suppliers.</p> <p><i>This would clearly define acceptable printings on the sides of the table top.</i></p> <p><b>WITHDRAWN.</b></p>
<p><b>30</b></p>	<p>Proposed by the German Table Tennis Federation</p> <p>3.2.4.9 <b>Advertisements</b> on playing clothing shall be limited to . . .</p> <p>3.2.4.9.4 not more than 2 advertisements, contained within a combined total area of 80cm<sup>2</sup> <b>160</b> cm<sup>2</sup>, on shorts or skirt.</p> <p>Explanation: <i>The increase from 80 to 160 cm<sup>2</sup> is to improve the visibility of the advertisement for spectators and television viewers, and therefore to raise the value for potential sponsors.</i></p> <p><b>WITHDRAWN.</b></p>
<p><b>31</b></p>	<p>Proposed by the Umpires and Referees Committee</p> <p>To split 3.3.2.4 in 3.3.2.4.1 and a new paragraph 3.3.2.4.2</p> <p>3.3.2.4 <b>the assistant umpire shall</b></p> <p>3.3.2.4.1 decide whether or not the ball in play touches the edge of the playing surface at the side of the table nearest him;</p> <p>3.3.2.4.2 <b>inform the umpire for breaches of the advice or behaviour regulations.</b></p> <p>Rationale: To effectively enforce the regulations on advice and behaviour. Regulation 3.3.2.3.10 makes the umpire responsible for "taking action for breaches of the advice of behavior regulations." Advisors frequently sit in positions not easily seen by the umpire. Players sometimes commit violations of behaviour regulations observed by the assistant umpire but hidden from the umpire. The Handbook for Match Officials provides: "16.7 The assistant umpire may often be in a better position than the umpire to see that advice is being given illegally. He may warn the adviser informally between rallies, perhaps by a signal, but only the umpire can give a formal warning. If further advice is given illegally the assistant umpire should immediately draw this to the umpire's attention, interrupting play if necessary by calling "stop" and raising his hand." Although the assistant umpire is equally qualified, he has no responsibility in the regulations to report such violations. The proposed change leaves the responsibility to the umpire to take action to enforce the regulations. It authorizes the assistant umpire to inform the umpire when the assistant umpire observes violations.</p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>

<p><b>32</b></p>	<p>Proposed by the Umpires and Referees Committee</p> <p>3.4.1.2.1 When a point has been scored, he may raise to shoulder level the hand <del>his arm</del> nearer to the player or pair who won the point <b>so that the upper arm is horizontal and the forearm is vertical with the closed hand upward.</b></p> <p>Rationale: The URC has developed hand signals to make clear to the players and spectators which player won a point and other decisions. The Regulations and Handbook for Match Officials specify different signals. Our advanced umpire training course uses the following signal for point won:</p>  <p>This signal is clearer to more spectators than the signal specified in the Regulations. The proposed change brings the Regulations into line with what our instructors are teaching.</p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>
<p><b>33</b></p>	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee</p> <p>3.4.4.1 Play shall be continuous throughout a <b>an individual</b> match except that any player is entitled to</p> <p>3.4.4.1.1 an interval of up to 1 minute between successive games of a <b>an individual</b> match;</p> <p>3.4.4.1.2 brief intervals for towelling after every 6 points from the start of each game and at the change of ends in the last possible game of a <b>an individual</b> match.</p> <p>3.4.4.2 A player or pair may claim one time-out period of up to 1 minute during a <b>an individual</b> match.</p> <p><i>This would make clear that 3.4.4.1 and 3.4.4.2 apply only to individual matches (as part of an individual event or as part of a team match). The proposition is connected with proposition 34 which shall cover the continuity of team matches (as a set of individual matches).</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>
<p><b>34</b></p>	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee</p> <p>To move 3.7.7.4 to 3.4.4 and insert it as 3.4.4.2 and to renumber subsequent paragraphs</p> <p>3.4.4.2 <b>Observing the set practice period (3.4.3.1) successive matches of a team match shall be played continuously except that</b></p> <p>3.4.4.2.1 a player who is required to play in such successive matches may claim an interval of up to 5 minutes between those matches.</p> <p><i>By this the continuity of team matches would be required.</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>
<p><b>35</b></p>	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee</p> <p>3.5.2.1 Players and coaches <b>advisers</b> shall refrain from behaviour that may unfairly affect an opponent, offend spectators or bring the sport into disrepute, such as abusive language, deliberately breaking the ball or hitting it out of the playing area, kicking the table or surrounds and disrespect of match officials.</p>

	<p>3.5.2.2 If at any time a player or coach <b>adviser</b> commits a serious offence the umpire shall suspend play and report immediately to the referee; for less serious offences the umpire may, on the first occasion, hold up a yellow card and warn the offender that any further offence is liable to incur penalties.</p> <p>3.5.2.7 Except as provided in 3.5.2.2, if a coach <b>an adviser</b> who has been warned commits a further offence in the same individual match or team match, the umpire shall hold up a red card and send him away from the playing area until the end of the team match or, in an individual event, of the individual match.</p> <p><i>In order to be consistent with 3.5.1 "Advice", this would change "coach" to "adviser".</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>
<b>36</b>	<p>Proposed by the Executive Committee and the Rules Committee</p> <p>To move 3.5.3 "Gluing" from the present position to 3.2.4 (as part of 3.2 "Equipment and Playing Conditions"), to renumber present 3.2.4 "Advertisements" to 3.2.5 and to introduce a new paragraph 3.5.3 "Good Presentation".</p> <p><b>3.5.3 Good Presentation of the sport</b></p> <p>3.5.3.1 Players, coaches and officials shall uphold the object of good presentation of the sport; in particular players have to do their utmost to win a match and shall not withdraw except for reasons of illness or injury.</p> <p>3.5.3.2 Any player who deliberately fails to comply with these principles shall be disciplined by total or partial loss of prize money in prize events and/or by suspension from ITTF events.</p> <p>3.5.3.3 In the event of complicity proven against any adviser or official the relevant national Association is also expected to discipline this person.</p> <p>3.5.3.4 A Disciplinary Panel appointed by the Executive Committee, consisting of 4 members and a chairman, shall decide on whether an infringement committed and if necessary on appropriate sanctions; this Commission shall decide according to directives given by the Executive Committee.</p> <p>3.5.3.5 An appeal against the Disciplinary Panel's decision may be made by the disciplined player, adviser or official within <del>30</del> <b>15</b> days to the ITTF Executive Committee whose decision on the matter shall be final.</p> <p><i>On one hand this would introduce a "Good Presentation Policy" of the ITTF; on the other hand this would move "Gluing" from a disciplinary matter (3.5) to an equipment matter (3.2).</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED with amendment to title: Good Presentation of the Sport as well as 3.5.3.5, 15 days instead of 30 days.</b></p>
<b>37</b>	<p>Proposed by the New Zealand Table Tennis Association</p> <p>To insert new paragraph 3.6.3.8 and to renumber subsequent paragraphs</p> <p>3.6.3.8 Alternatively, any doubles pair consisting of players from different Associations may be considered a pair of both of these Associations.</p> <p><i>This would offer 2 options how to deal with a "2 Associations" doubles pair at a draw.</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>
<b>38</b>	<p>Proposed by the European Table Tennis Union</p> <p>3.7.1.4 A player <b>or team</b> may not take part in an international competition if he/<b>it</b> is suspended by his/<b>its</b> Association <b>or Continental Federation</b>.</p> <p><i>This would make a suspension by a Continental Federation relevant for the ITTF.</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>
<b>39</b>	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee</p> <p>3.7.5.6 Unless otherwise authorised by the Jury, if 1 player <b>or team</b> is to qualify the final match in the group shall be between the players <b>or teams</b> numbered 1</p>

	<p>and 2, if 2 are to qualify the final match shall be between the players <b>or teams</b> numbered 2 and 3 and so on.</p> <p><i>This would make this principle applicable to team events too.</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>
<b>40</b>	<p>Proposed by the Executive Committee and the Rules Committee</p> <p>3.8.3 A player is eligible to represent an Association only if he is a national of the country in which that Association has jurisdiction, except that a player who has <b>legally</b> represented an Association of which he was not a national before 1st September 2004 <b>in accordance with previous rules</b> may retain that eligibility.</p> <p><i>By this the wording of the present rule would be improved by explaining explicitly what is meant by "legal representation".</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>
<b>41</b>	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee</p> <p>To insert a new paragraph 3.8.4 and to renumber present paragraphs 3.8.4 until 3.8.7.</p> <p>3.8.4 A player is eligible to represent a Continental Federation (1.17.1) in an event of continental teams only if he is eligible to represent a member Association of this Continental Federation according to 3.8.3.</p> <p><i>This would define a "Continental Eligibility".</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>
<b>42</b>	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee</p> <p>To insert new paragraphs 4.1.2.6 and 4.4.2.5 and to renumber subsequent paragraphs</p> <p>4.1.2.5 and 4.4.2.4 The organisers are <del>recommended to</del> <b>shall</b> meet the cost of transport between the place of accommodation and the playing hall.</p> <p>4.1.2.6 and 4.4.2.5 <b>Organisers shall</b> <del>and to</del> request its <b>their</b> national authorities to waive visa charges for all participants.</p> <p><i>This would make the relevant responsibilities of organisers mandatory</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>
<b>43</b>	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee</p> <p>4.1.2.8 (World Championships) and 4.4.2.6 (World Junior Championships) The organisers shall provide the ITTF with offices at the venue of the Championships and place at its disposal translation, <del>typing-computer,</del> <b>internet, telephone, telefax</b> and duplicating facilities.</p> <p><i>This would bring provisions of World Championships' organisers to an updated level.</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>
<b>44</b>	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee</p> <p>4.1.9.2 The system of play in <b>team and individual</b> events, <del>in groups and stages,</del> shall be decided by the Board of Directors, on the recommendation of the Technical Committee, and shall be notified to all Associations not later than 6 calendar months before the start of the Championships.</p> <p><i>This would define that the system of play of World Championships' individual events shall also be decided by the Board of Directors.</i></p>

	<p><b>ACCEPTED with the amendment: removal of "team and", line 1..</b></p> <p><b>44B ACCEPTED as follows: The system of play for the following team championships will be decided before the start of the previous team championships (30-36 months).</b></p>
<b>45</b>	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee</p> <p>4.1.9.6 Each Association shall be entitled to at least a set number of five (5) entries in each singles event, <del>but additional entries may be allowed to the organising Association and to other Associations with players near the top of the ranking list current 3 calendar months before the Championships</del> with 1 additional entry in the appropriate event for each place held by its player in the first 10 places of the first issue of the ITTF world ranking list in the year of the Championships, up to 7 players in each individual event.  <del>The number of entries permitted to each Association and the basis on which entries may be assigned to a qualifying competition shall be authorised by the Board of Directors and notified to all Associations not later than 6 calendar months before the start of the Championships.</del></p> <p>4.1.9.6.1 The host Association may enter up to 7 players in each individual event.  4.1.9.6.2 Different players may be entered in each doubles event.</p> <p><i>This would include the (present) maximum number of players per Association at World Championships' into the ITTF-Handbook instead of being stated in the prospectus only.</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>
<b>46</b>	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee</p> <p>To introduce a new paragraph 4.1.9.7</p> <p>4.1.9.7 Players of the same Association shall be separated only according to 3.6.3.1, 3.6.3.3, 3.6.3.4, 3.6.3.5 in preliminary rounds and groups and in the first round of the draw but not in further rounds.</p> <p><i>This would bring in to the ITTF-Handbook that the main principles of "Seeding per Association Nomination" (3.6.3) will not be applied to World Championships. Up to now this was announced by additional ITTF publications.</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>
<b>47</b>	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee and the Junior Commission</p> <p>4.4.1.3 All applications shall be considered by the Executive Committee and shall be submitted to the <b>AGM Board of Directors</b>, together with details on venues for the occasion in question.</p> <p>4.4.1.4 Where necessary, the <b>AGM Board of Directors</b> or the Executive Committee may ask one member of the Junior Commission to visit the country of an Association applying for the right to organise the Championships to satisfy themselves as to the adequacy of the proposed playing and other arrangements; the cost of such visits shall be borne by that Association.</p> <p><i>By this the rule would be brought in line with the current practice.</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>
<b>48</b>	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee and the Junior Commission</p> <p>4.4.2.2 The organisers shall provide accommodation and meals from the evening before the Championships begin until the morning after the Championships end for . . .</p> <p>4.4.2.2.3 not more than 1 coach of an Association entering <del>participating in</del> 1 or 2 team events;</p>



	<p>4.4.2.2.4 members of the ITTF Executive Council <b>Committee</b> and the Junior Commission;  <i>By this the rule would be brought in line with the current practice.</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>
<b>49</b>	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee and the Junior Commission</p> <p>4.4.3.2 The system of qualification for team and individual events shall be determined by the <del>Board of Directors</del> <b>Executive Committee</b> not later than 1 year before the start of the Championships.</p> <p><i>By this the system of qualification at World Junior Championships could be changed based on recommendations made by the Junior Commission at the previous Championships. Otherwise the provision of the 1 year term could not be observed.</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED with amendment: The system of qualification for team and individual events shall be determined by the BOD 18 months before the start of the Championships.</b></p>
<b>50</b>	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee and the Junior Commission</p> <p>4.4.5.4 An Association may nominate up to <b>4 qualified boys' and up to 4 qualified girls' players</b> for a team event and qualified players for an individual event.</p> <p><i>This would clearly identify the maximum number of players per Association eligible at World Junior Championships.</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>
<b>51</b>	<p>Proposed by the Rules Committee and the Junior Commission</p> <p>4.4.8.1 The Jury shall consist of the Chairman of the ITTF Junior Commission, the Chairmen of the ITTF Ranking and Rules Committees, a representative of the Umpires &amp; Referees Committee, the ITTF Junior Program Manager, <b>the ITTF Competition Manager</b>, the Championships Director (or his equivalent), a representative of the organising committee and the referee; the referee shall have the right to speak but not to vote.</p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>

## Resolutions to the Board of Directors

### Simple majority required

<b>A</b>	<p><i>put forward by the Executive Committee</i></p> <p>The ITTF anti-harassment policy and procedures shall be adopted with immediate effect.</p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>
<b>B</b>	<p><i>put forward by the German Table Tennis Federation</i></p> <p><u>Gluing</u>  The Executive Committee, through the Equipment Committee, to initiate comprehensive scientific research about the existing health risks of ITTF approved speed glues. After thorough examination of such report to review the present procedures and to take, if necessary, any additional measures by issuing precise regulations regarding the use of glues, coming into effect latest by September 1st, 2006.</p> <p>Explanation :  There is growing uncertainty about health risks for players using speed glues.</p> <p><b>ACCEPTED.</b></p>

## **7. Appointment of Working Groups**

All working groups Chairmen/women were appointed and approved as presented:

George Segun	Research and New Technologies
George Segun	Glue Working Group
Khaled El-Salhy	Calendar Working Group
Dorte Kronsell	Women's Working Group
Chan Foong Keong	Veteran's Working Group
Hans Giesecke	Merit Awards and Hall of Fame

## **8. Next meeting**

The next meeting of the BOD will be held in Bremen, during the period April 24 - May 1<sup>st</sup>. The exact date will be communicated in due course.

## **9. Any other business**

### **9.1 WTTTC team system (brought over from BOD 1)**

A new WTTTC Team playing system was adopted based on the proposal made by the WTTTC Working group with several modifications. The new system will be implemented in Bremen. However, the effect of the promotion and guaranteed positions in each division will be based on the results from Bremen.

Due to the fact that it was decided that each Division will consist of 24 Teams, it was decided to "double up" the teams from the 2004 Doha Team Championships and therefore guarantee in the first division the top 12 teams from Doha (similarly for lower divisions) as well as to promote the 25<sup>th</sup>, 49<sup>th</sup>, etc. teams to the higher division (noting that in Doha Divisions were composed of 12 teams).

A detailed playing system for Bremen will be distributed to all associations as soon as possible but not later than 6 months before the event.

It was decided to adopt a new deadline to make changes to the playing system of 3 years in advance (at the 2006 or 2007 BoD for the 2010 Championships, etc.).

### **9.2 Olympic solidarity support**

Mr. Jordi Serra said that a meeting had been held with Olympic Solidarity and that Olympic Solidarity would continue to support ITTF programmes with increase in funds for young athletes. An increase in the daily allowance of experts had been requested. Olympic Solidarity had also pledged to offer 10 full scholarships to participants in the Lausanne Sport Management Seminar for women. The IOC had also been approached for support for a coaching project in the Caribbean as well the Tsunami rebuilding project and continental women's project.

### **9.3 Beijing update**

Mr. Yang Shuan gave a detailed update report on the Beijing organisation and said that work was in progress according to schedule. Mr. Yao Zhenxu had been appointed Competition Manager for the Games.

### **9.4 Athlete's commission**

Ms Claude Bergeret presented a letter signed by a large number of athletes who were concerned about the banning of glues. They requested in their letter that the ITTF should first test the substitute products and that it should forbid the glues with organic solvents only after an adequate alternative product had been found. In the letter they also raised some concerns about the inadequate quality of tables and balls. Mr. Adham Sharara said that he was glad the players were taking an interest in the evolution of the sport and hoped that they would extend their cooperation to the ITTF in the testing process.

### **9.5 Other information about glue**

Mr. Koji Kimura presented a new method of gluing in the form of a roll-on stick, which was said to dry very quickly.

- Several presentations were made during the meeting:
- Dr. Yao Congping, President of the Shanghai University of sport bestowed an honorary professorship upon the President.
- With the aim of bringing the International Paralympic Table Tennis Committee under the governance of the ITTF, Mr. Christian Lillieroos, Chairman of the IPTTC, presented a film of their activities and structure. The final goal would be one organisation for all, one sport one family, while sustaining membership with the IPC & the IOC.
- Dr. Andreas Bleicher, Sports Manager of the new Academy of Sports Excellence, located in Qatar, presented the institution and explained its goal of supporting talent and table tennis, not only in Qatar but in the Middle East and the rest of the world.
- The University of Stanford, California, made a bid presentation for the 2007 Junior World Championships which was unanimously approved by the BOD.
- The City of North Shore, New Zealand presented a bid for the 2008 Junior World Championships which was unanimously approved by the BOD.
- It was reported that one BOD member had anonymously transferred his share of airfare to the Tsunami Fund.
- Mr. Miguel Delgado thanked the Table Tennis Association of China for their support to Latin America and for the excellent organisation of the Shanghai WTTC.

### **10. Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 15h10.

---

Meeting Chairman, Adham Sharara