

# Executive Committee (1)

---

## MINUTES

Of the Executive Committee meeting of the International Table Tennis Federation held on **20th May 2007 at the Westin Hotel, Zagreb, Croatia** at 15h00

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

The President welcomed all to Zagreb and reported that the Director of the WTTC, Mr. Gojko Skrbic, who had been taken to hospital two days previously was recovering and was hoping to attend the event in a few days time. It was said that the organisation was running smoothly except for a few technical problems, which should be solved in due course.

### 2. Roll call

Adham Sharara	President
George Segun	Deputy President
Koji Kimura	Executive Vice-President
Judit Faragó	Executive Vice-President
Claude Bergeret	Executive Vice-President
Neil Harwood	Executive Vice-President (Finance)

#### In attendance

Jordi Serra	Executive Director
Glenn Tepper	Development Manager
Lilamani de Soysa	Project Manager

#### Invited to attend

Anders Thunström	TMS Managing Director
Jean-François Kahn	Chairman Sports Science Committee (for items 6 & 7)

#### Apologies for absence

Yang Shuan	Executive Vice-President
------------	--------------------------

### 3. Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was approved as presented.

### 4. Minutes of previous Meetings

#### 4.1 Approval of Minutes of previous meeting (Istanbul, 3 March 2007)

The Minutes of the previous meeting held in Istanbul were signed by the President as a true record of the meeting with the following correction:

- Item 10.3, paragraph 2, line 4 to read «..... to postpone the expansion of the Junior World Championships to 20 teams until **2010**».

#### 4.2 Business arising from the Minutes (not covered by Agenda)

No other business than that covered by the Agenda.

### 5. World Table Tennis Championships

#### 5.1 2007 WTTC Zagreb

Ms Claude Bergeret reported that the organisers, despite Mr Skrbic's absence, seemed to be ready. There were small problems to be solved concerning the lighting, the ITTF offices and a change in the place for the mixed zone. Issues rising from accreditation and a problem with the

racket control room were being addressed. There did not seem to be any major issues with visas. It was reported that the welcome at the airport had been very good which included a special lane at customs for the WTTC participants.

## **5.2 2008 WTTC Guangzhou**

Ms Claude Bergeret reported that a large delegation from Guangzhou would be present in Zagreb, including the Mayor. The ITTF will host a breakfast meeting with the Guangzhou delegation, Chinese TTA representatives and the ITTF EC. A second coordination visit to Guangzhou would take place in September this year.

Mr. Koji Kimura was requested to propose dates for the visit to Yokohama (2009). Mr. Kimura said that the organisation committee had been formed and that the delegate from Japan would make a brief report at the AGM.

## **5.3 2010 WTTC Selection**

It was reported that Linz would withdraw its bid for the 2010 WTTC, therefore, the event would take place in Moscow, Russia.

The EC decided to allocate the World Team Cup to Linz in 2009.

Ms Claude Bergeret said that it was the first time Russia would organise the World Championships and given the involvement of all the political bodies and the vast experience of Moscow in organising big sport events, it should be a very successful WTTC. It was said that all Russian embassies around the world would have a green channel and that visa procedures would be facilitated and free of charge for WTTC participants. There would also be a special traffic lane for the WTTC on the roads in Moscow in order to facilitate transport and public transport would be accessible free of charge with the event accreditation pass (**see detailed inspection visit report attached**).

## **6. Glue Issue**

Based on the report received from Japan regarding the case of a player suffering from an anaphylactic shock after gluing his racket with an ITTF approved table tennis glue, the EC decided to recommend to the BOD to change the date of ban for glues to 1st September 2007 and to request all players to stop the use of glues containing harmful volatile compounds as soon as possible.

## **7. Anti-doping**

### **7.1 Missed tests**

Dr. Jean-François Kahn explained that he had been informed by WADA that on two occasions doping tests could not be carried out as the players were not present at the competitions or training sites where they were supposed to be. Dr. Kahn said that players had the obligation to inform clearly of their whereabouts and that sanctions should be taken if they missed doping controls. Dr. Kahn and Mr. Jordi Serra were asked to write a warning letter to all the Associations concerned informing them of the doping control procedures and obligations of their players.

### **7.2 Positive Test (USA player)**

It was reported that an American player had been tested positive for Cannabis and that a three-year sanction had been taken against him. His request to the TUE panel had also been rejected. His name cannot be mentioned yet as he is in the process of appealing this sanction.

## **8. Decisions**

### **8.1 Pro Tour entries limitations – 2007**

Item referred to the next EC meeting.

### **8.2 Pro Tour changes to Directives – 2008**

Item referred to the next EC meeting.

### **8.3 New Staff**

#### **8.3.1 Media Coordinator**

Mr. Adham Sharara informed the EC that interviews had been conducted on the 8th of May for the Media Coordinator position and that there had been 3 very good candidates. One had been invited on a trial basis to Zagreb. The selected candidate would work for two years from the Lausanne office under the guidance of the Event Media Manager and then if suitable would take over the full job of Media Manager. Mr. Hubert Gueriau will continue as Event Media Manager for the next WTTC and Olympic Games. The new Media Coordinator would report to the Executive Director.

#### **8.3.2 Development positions(s)**

Ms Judit Faragó and Mr. Glenn Tepper reported that interviews had been conducted for the position of Coordinator of Development Programmes; but that the selected candidate had turned down the job offer. Therefore, it was decided that the tasks would be divided amongst several of the development officers, with the help of Ms Etsuko Enami for some of the administrative work, and that another interview would be conducted in Zagreb with a potential candidate.

### **8.4 Development Financial Contribution to Continents**

Item referred to the next EC meeting.

### **8.5 Proposal for Future Publications**

Item referred to the next EC meeting.

### **8.6 Committees (AGM)**

Mr. Adham Sharara explained the principle of opening up the possibilities for individuals to be nominated for the positions of Chairman/woman of a committee. Several such nominations were received. When the EC will recommend the Committee Chairmen/women to the Board of Directors, the selected Chairmen/women will be asked to name a Deputy Chairman/woman for each Committee.

### **8.7 Commissions and Working Groups (BOD)**

Item referred to the BOD. Lists to be completed before the BOD.

## **9. Merit Award**

The EC approved the Merit Award proposal from the German Table Tennis Association to Mr. Hans-Jurgen Haase, to be awarded at the AGM.

## **10. Next Meeting (Zagreb, 26 May 2007, 8h, Hotel Westin)**

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will take place on the 26th of May at the Westin hotel, in Zagreb at 8:00 a.m.

## **11. Any Other Business**

Anders Thunström reported that a deal had been signed at the last moment with China Unicom for these World Championships as an additional sponsor

getting the four corner surrounds and the back numbers. Representatives from China Unicom will be attending the entire Championships.

Anders Thunström also reported on the extensive TV coverage for the event.

**12. Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 17h40.

---

Meeting Chairman, Adham Sharara