

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes

Of the Executive Committee of the International Table Tennis Federation, held on 19 December 2003 at the Mapocho Station Table Tennis venue of the First Junior World Championships, Santiago, Chile beginning at 09:00.

1. President's welcome and opening remarks

Mr. Oswaldo Arce, President of the Chilean Table Tennis Association welcomed all to Chile and wished the Executive Committee a successful stay. He said that the Chilean TTA was doing its best to promote table tennis in Chile and that it was an honour to host the First Junior World Championships and the ITTF in Chile. Mr. Adham Sharara in turn thanked Mr. Oswaldo Arce for the invitation and said that he was extremely happy to see that, in spite of the worries about the event, the Chileans had done a great job and that the organisation exceeded expectations. He mentioned the volunteers and spectators who were making the event a success. He also said that the ITTF's JWC web site was excellent and that the same efforts would be made in Japan next year. He also said that the JWC would be included in the Rules of the ITTF. Mr. Adham Sharara apologised for the absence of Mr. Yang Shuan, who due to his new duties as the Vice-Minister of Sport and Vice President of Beijing Olympic Games Organising Committee (BOCOG), was unable to take leave at this moment. Mr. Han Sang Kook also delivered best wishes from Mr. Yang Shuan to the Executive Committee.

2. Roll call

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

In attendance

Jordi Serra	Executive Director
Lilamani de Soysa	Project Manager

Invited to attend

Rudi Sporrer	Chairman Rules Committee
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Apologies for absence

Yang Shuan	Executive Vice-President
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3. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with the addition of item 8.2b Selection and Voting System.

4. Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes of previous meeting (Bremen, 8 November 2003)
The Minutes of the previous meeting held in Bremen were corrected as follows: item 5.1 to read "... was big enough to hold the planned 21 competition tables together with 3 more tables in a special TV court". The Minutes of the meeting held in Bremen were signed by the President as a true record of the meeting.

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

No other business than that covered by the Agenda.

5. World Table Tennis Team Championships

5.1 2004 Doha

It was decided that the Bulletin sent out by the Qatar Association would be put on the ITTF web site. The information regarding visas would be sent out from the Lausanne office to all the Associations. It was decided that all Associations that have not settled arrears related to the Paris World Championships would not be allowed to participate in Qatar.

5.1.1 Inspection visit

It was reported that another inspection visit comprising Mr. Nils Bergström, Mr. Jordi Serra and Mr. Peter Jensen would take place in January 2004.

5.1.2 Visas

It was reported that an agreement had been made with Qatar so that all Associations could obtain visas for the sum of USD 35.- per person. The exact information would be sent out as soon as possible.

5.1.3 Development Workshop and Women's Forum

It was reported that the Development Workshop and Women's Forum would be held in Qatar on the 4th of March. All preparations were well underway. Ms. Judit Faragó informed the EC that a Women's Education programme was being organised by the University of Lausanne under the aegis of the ITTF. She also said that the ITTF had been invited by the IOC to present the success of the ITTF Women's Development Programme at the IOC 3rd World Conference on Women and Sport to be held in Marrakech, 8-10 March 2004.

5.2 2005 Shanghai

Mr. Nils Bergström reported that he had visited Shanghai in October 2003. He said that some changes had taken place since then regarding the seating but that the hall would contain 30 tables all together and there would be 16 practice tables. He said that a visit after the Qatar World Championships should be planned.

5.3 2006 Bremen

Mr. Adham Sharara reported that the EC had visited the facilities in Bremen and that the venue would be ideal and the general organisation would be very good.

5.4 2007 Bids and visits

Mr. Jordi Serra reported that the Stockholm inspection had been made by Mr. George Segun and Ms. Claude Bergeret and that a report had been submitted. Zagreb would be visited in January by Mr. Jordi Serra and Claude Bergeret; Mr. Adham Sharara or Anders Thunström would visit Chicago and that Cheju Island Korea would be visited by Mr. George Segun, 25-28 January 2004.

6 Finances

6.1 Current

Mr. Jordi Serra presented the combined Profit and Lost statement of ITTF updated till 31 October 2003. Mr. Han Sang Kook reported that, due to the early date of the Qatar World Championships, the audited financial reports

for 2003 may not be available in Qatar but would be distributed as soon as possible and approved in Shanghai. A letter containing this information would be sent out to all Associations accordingly.

6.2 Investment policies

Mr. Adham Sharara asked the Executive Committee members to think of ways to invest the Olympic funds. He said that there had been requests for establishing international training centres and that Mr. Mikael Andersson would be asked to create a document containing the criteria required for a national centre to become an ITTF training centre. He said that some of the money would be invested in the Museum at the Headquarters in Renens, Switzerland.

6.3 Olympic funding

Mr. Adham Sharara explained the proposed distribution plan for Olympic Funds that would be received in 2004. He said that there would probably be a 50%. The amount would be applied over a period of 5 years as agreed by the 2003 AGM in Paris. It was said that two more Continents had to be audited regarding the development funds and Olympic allocation provided by the ITTF and they would be chosen at the EC+ meeting the next day.

7 Marketing

7.1 TMS International

Mr. Adham Sharara gave a brief update on the current situation concerning ITTF sponsors. He said that he had meetings with Liebherr and Volkswagen concerning their future involvement with the ITTF. Liebherr would be the second sponsor in Shanghai and they have also shown interest in sponsoring the World Cup for Men and Women. He said that several countries including Belgium and France were interested in organising the World Cup in Europe. The Volkswagen contract comes to an end in 2005 and they will be present in Qatar in order to discuss the future. Volkswagen also seems to be interested in sponsoring the Table Tennis Academy in Beijing, which they would link to another education programme in China.

8 AGM and BOD

8.1 Eligibility rules

Mr. Rudi Sporrer presented the document prepared by the Rules Committee, which was reviewed and finalised. It would be presented to the BOD as a proposition.

8.2 WTTC Bids 2007

Jordi Serra reported that there were 4 bids for the 2007 World Championships from Sweden, Croatia, Korea Republic and the USA. It was decided that each candidate would have 15 minutes for a presentation and 15 minutes for questions and answers during the AGM.

8.2b Selection and Voting system

As there were more than 2 candidates for 2007, it was necessary to find a suitable selection system. It was decided that a multiple ballot system, simple majority, similar to the IOC system for the Olympic Games would be used and that the EC would propose a resolution for future selections.

8.3 Propositions

Propositions for the AGM and the BOD were reviewed and finalised and decisions made for follow-up on certain propositions.

It was decided that due to the lack of time, the AGM reports, in English, would be distributed in a photocopy form. The translations would be

available on the web site in due course. Reports should be submitted to the ITTF not later than the 15th of January 2004.

9 Competition Manager positions

It was reported that Mr. Didier Leroy (BEL) and Mr. Raul Calin (ESP) had been selected as Competition Managers. Mr. Leroy would be in charge of Pro Tour events and Mr. Calin of the Junior events. Mr. Jordi Serra was requested to finalise the offers.

It was reported that Mr. Georgios Seliniotakis, the Competition Manager of the Athens Games had suffered a heart attack. This item would be further discussed at the Olympic Commission Meeting.

10 Next Meeting (Doha, March 2004)

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will take place on 29th February 2004 in Doha, Qatar.

11 Any other business

Mr. Han Sang Kook reported that he would not be able to be in Qatar before the 3rd of March due to professional obligations and would thus miss the first EC meeting.

12 Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12h45.