

Executive Committee (2nd session)

Minutes

Of the Executive Committee of the International Table Tennis Federation, held on **1st March 2008** at the Baiyun Convention Centre, Guangzhou, China at 09h30.

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

The President expressed his satisfaction at the smooth progress of the championships.

2. **Roll call**

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

In attendance

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

3. **Approval of Agenda**

The Agenda was approved with the addition of item:
11.1 Committee feed-back

4. **World Table Tennis Championships**

4.1 2008 WTTC Guangzhou. Update and Issues

Ms Claude Bergeret said that issues raised at the BOD concerning the lack of information to the spectators had been raised with the organisers and several suggestions for improvement made, in particular having an announcer, writing the names of the players in English and having more scorers on the sides of the tables. It was reported that problems of payment of fees by associations were on the decrease.

Prize ceremony procedures were established and ITTF representatives informed of their various tasks.

5. **Women's Working Group update**

Ms Claude Bergeret gave a short update on the WWG meeting held in Guangzhou and mentioned in particular two issues raised at the meeting: the need for more female Umpire evaluators and the need to seriously consider the applications of female candidates for the new positions open at the ITTF. It was said that the Latin American Women's forum to be held in Cuba was cancelled and would be held in Argentina in October. Ms Lilamani de Soysa said that she had discussed a sponsorship package for the Women's Development Programme with the Director of Stag, Mr. Vivek Kohli. Draft proposal had been accepted by Mr. Kohli, to be finalised in the coming days in conjunction with Glenn Tepper and Steve Dainton.

6. Pro-Tours

Ms Claude Bergeret said that 4 Pro Tour events (Japan, China, Germany and France) would be played with the Olympic team format. She said it would be good to include some smaller tournaments in the Pro Tour, like a Challenge Tour, or a Junior event one week before the main Pro Tour event. All ideas would be considered by the new Competition Director.

7. Audit Working Group

Mr. Neil Harwood said he had discussed the issue with Mr. Hans Giesecke and Mr. Han Sang Kook who felt that there was no need for this group, however, they were willing to help and serve on this newly formed group. It was decided that the Audit Group should consist of three persons. After careful consideration, it was decided to form an Audit Group composed of Mr. Hans Giesecke, Mr. Han Sang Kook and Mr. Melecio Rivera. The terms of reference to be developed by the Group in concert with Neil Harwood.

8. Court of Arbitration

Mr. Adham Sharara said that he had held several meetings with the Belgian TTA and Mr. Jean-Michel Saive and that he had explained the position of the ITTF to both parties. It was decided that the ITTF would withdraw from the proceedings due to the fact the Appellant (Belgian TTA and J.M. Saive) had not respected two of the ITTF's conditions for Arbitration, and due to the fact that Mr. Saive had made it clear that he was seeking a direct entry to the Games, which was not in the power of the ITTF to provide. It was therefore agreed unanimously to withdraw from the Arbitration.

9. Temporary Bank accounts in China

Mr. Jordi Serra said that a temporary bank account would be opened in China for the duration of the Olympic Games. It was decided that Mr. Steve Dainton and Mr. Neil Harwood to be the signatories.

10. Next Meetings

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will take place on 17 and 18 May in London. Ms Claude Bergeret said that the French Table Tennis Federation would like to host the EC in France, on the first weekend of October (dates to be confirmed).

It was said that the last EC meeting of 2008 would take place at the Pro Tour Finals 2008 in Macao. Dates to be confirmed after further discussions with Macao

11. Any other business

11.1 Update committees

Ms Judit Faragó reported that the Junior Commission had met after the BOD and had decided to change the names of the World Cadet Challenge to ITTF Cadet Challenge and the World Junior Circuit to ITTF Junior Circuit so that it would be clearer that they do not come under the new eligibility rule (World Title Events). She said that there would be a new U15 cadet ranking list from August 2008. Racket control officials had been nominated for the next junior events and the new racket control procedure would be distributed to all the national associations.

Ms Judit Faragó said that several answers had been received to the "Media Survey" distributed at the AGM and the results would be analysed in due

course. She said that the Media Committee expressed the wish to publish a high level pictorial publication as well as an annual book containing statistics. It was decided that Mr. Arne Madsen, Mr. Marius Widmer and Mr. Jean-Jacques Huberman would work together and propose a budget and publication plan.

Mr. Yang Shuan apologized that he may not be able to attend the next EC meeting in London due to his workload related to the Olympic Games.

12. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11h05.

Meeting Chairman, Adham Sharara