



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of a meeting of the Executive Committee held at 09h05 on Sunday 22 August 2010 in the Mercury Room, Raffles City Convention Centre, Singapore.

1. **President's welcome and opening remarks:** the President welcomed all Executive Committee members to the meeting.

2. **Roll call**

Adham Sharara	President
Yang Shu'an	Deputy President
Khalil Al-Mohannadi	Executive Vice-President
Neil Harwood	Executive Vice-President (Finance)
Chérif Hajem	Executive Vice-President
Koji Kimura	Executive Vice-President
Melecio Rivera	Executive Vice-President
Petra Sörling	Executive Vice-President
Thomas Weikert	Executive Vice-President

In attendance

Mikael Andersson	Executive Director (Education and Training)
Alison Burchell	Secretariat
Steve Dainton	Director (Marketing)
Judit Faragó	Executive Director (Competitions)
Jordi Serra	Executive Director (Operations & Olympic Games)
Glenn Tepper	Executive Director (Development)

3. **Approval of the agenda:** the Agenda was approved as presented.

4. **Minutes**

4.1 Approval of the minutes of the previous meetings: the Executive Committee approved the minutes of the meetings held in Moscow on 22 May, 24 May and continued on 30 May 2010.

4.2 There was no business arising from the minutes that was not otherwise covered by the agenda.

5. **Competition update:** the Executive Committee noted:

5.1 World Championships update:

5.1.1 WTTTC Moscow 2010 final report:

- Most of the recommendations from Yokohama in 2009 had been implemented;
- The Championships had been successful from a sponsorship perspective.

5.1.2 WTTTC Rotterdam 2011:

- The Organising Committee was present in Moscow with a large delegation;

- A meeting was to be finalised to set deadlines for submission of information so that the directives could be updated;
 - Spectators would be attracted to the event and other parallel events would be organised as the venue had the capacity for this;
 - Hospitality rates had been agreed and included in the signed contract;
 - Final hotel reservations had to be submitted by 1 February 2011 and the hotels were traditionally strict regarding cancellations in the Netherlands.
- 5.1.3 WTTTC Dortmund 2012:
- The commercial contract had been signed but the general contract and directives still had to be signed;
 - The organisers had started to cooperate with Rotterdam on the issue of spectators for both the World Championships;
 - The cancellation policy of the hotels would similarly be strict;
 - The reports from Yokohama and Moscow had proved useful;
 - A Pro Tour event in 2011 would serve as a test event.
- 5.1.4 WTTTC Paris 2013:
- The second competition hall and practice hall would be a challenge due to limited space;
 - The host broadcaster had to be confirmed.
- 5.1.5 Ideal number of entries per association and competition format:
- The number of teams for the last Division of the Championships was not known in advance and could not be fixed till the last moment. It depended on the number of entries and it made it difficult to plan the competition schedule properly to apply to this Division.
 - Reducing the number of teams could have an impact on countries still developing the sport.
- 5.1.6 World Junior Championships Slovakia 2010
- A second inspection was done in August 2010;
 - The contract had been signed and the directives finalised;
 - The organisers had previous experience of European events;
 - The quantity and quality of food would be assessed;
 - The national television network would be the host broadcaster;
 - The next inspection would be done in October 2010.
- 5.1.7 World Junior Championships Bahrain 2011:
- The first draft of the contract and directives had been sent to the organisers;
 - The new hall would be opened in February 2011 and would be one of the best in the region.
- 5.1.8 World Junior Championships South Africa 2012: the city still had to be confirmed officially.
- 5.1.9 World Junior Championships India 2013: the Board of Directors (BoD) had awarded the Championships subject to a satisfactory site inspection, which still had to be done.
- 5.1.10 PTT World Championships 2010 and 2014:
- The organisation of the 2010 World Championships was well on schedule;
 - The Marketing Director was supporting the organising committee to provide feed to show some finals on itTV;
 - There had been 2 bids received from Italy and China for the 2014 PTT World Championships and a recommendation on the host would be submitted once site inspections had been done.
- 5.2 General update:
- 5.2.1 Payment of debts: Chile, Ecuador, and 5 associations from WTTTC 2010 had still not paid their overdue invoices (Congo Kinshasa, Ecuador, Philippines, Angola, Algeria) for the WTTTC.
- 5.2.2 List of events associated with betting and match fixing:

- The IOC had hosted a conference on this matter and seemed to be taking actions similar to anti-doping;
- All online betting was illegal in China and USA;
- There was 20 times more revenue involved in illegal betting than legal betting;
- Due to the amount of money involved, there was greater pressure to create upsets;
- Table Tennis events were organised in Germany, Sweden and Spain specifically for betting and the ITTF and national associations had no control over this;
- FIFA and ISM had developed a software to detect irregular betting and the IOC had adopted and tested this software at the Beijing and Vancouver Olympic Games;
- The software would be made available to International Federations, which could adapt it to their needs;
- A list of events used for betting only should be developed in conjunction with the national associations and the ITTF should withdraw permission to participate;
- In order to maintain the ITTF's international good image, a clear policy was needed and the national associations had to be informed about the dangers of illegal betting;
- Access to the public wireless Internet at ITTF competitions should be restricted;
- The ITTF must certify live streaming according to ISM standards and "early warning" systems.

5.2.2.1 PDA use for umpires:

- The Competition Department would prepare a PDA (iPad) for umpires to enter results directly to the ITTF website and tournament control;
- Once finalised, it would be tested in Dubai at the World Team Cup, then it would need to be considered by the URC for use at all ITTF events.

5.2.3 LED screens proposal: this had been approved in Moscow.

5.2.4 PTT approved events: the calendar for 2011 was circulated.

5.2.5 Eagle eye system:

- The system used by tennis was difficult to use in table tennis as the table could be moved;
- The sensor system was not sufficiently accurate;
- An umpire could review the replay from broadcast images;
- The table edges could also be shaved inwards to avoid "edge" ball uncertainty.

The Executive Committee asked:

- a) All EC members to submit their comments to the Executive Director (Competitions) to present recommendations on the ideal number of entries per association and competition format for future WTTTC;
- b) The Executive Director (Operations and Olympic Games) and Mr Rivera to seek a solution to the outstanding payments from Chile and Ecuador, Mr Hajem for Congo Kinshasa, Angola and Algeria and Mr Kimura for Philippines; failing which, deductions against the contributions for development activities or other actions could be considered;
- c) The Executive Director (Competitions) to contact the national associations about events being held in their countries for betting purposes and to include restricted access to wi-fi in the directives for events (IP numbers must be known);
- d) The Executive Director (Operations and Olympic Games) to request from the IOC the system to protect the integrity of Olympic sports and monitoring the betting activities and the inclusion of ITTF in the ISM's "Early Warning System (ESM)";

- e) Mr Weikert to propose an appropriate amendment to the international regulations for the Executive Committee's consideration to sanction a player who or an association which participated in illegal betting;
- f) The Executive Director (Competitions) to follow up with the Hungarian specialist about an electronic eagle-eye type system for table tennis;
- g) The Marketing Director to test the video replay system at the Women's World Cup.

The Executive Committee resolved to issue the following declaration on betting:

Noting the increase in the number of table tennis events being used for legal and illegal betting, the ITTF believes that the rise in illegal betting is tantamount to cheating and will work closely with its national associations and players to eradicate illegal betting and maintain the integrity of the sport.

The President would issue a statement after meeting to all concerned.

6. YOG update: the Executive Committee noted:

- 6.1 Training camp: all countries participated except China and Korea, and good cooperation was received from participants.
- 6.2 Cultural programme: the "Future Spin" was not widely distributed initially due to the commercial rules in force at the Games so the STTA would distribute it outside the venue.
- 6.3 Withdrawals:
 - the quota of 32 boys and girls had initially been filled;
 - there were 3 withdrawals and the players had been replaced;
 - Due to a German female player being sick while in Singapore, the final participation was 32 boys and 31 girls.

The Executive Committee noted that, after negotiation, video cameras used by the coaches to record matches could be used except on the TV table.

7. Follow-up on AGM and BoD: the Executive Committee noted:

- 7.1 Kuwait: new legislation was being processed which would resolve the situation and till then, the Kuwait association would remain suspended.
- 7.2 Athletes' Commission: the new policy approved by the Board of Directors would come into effect in Rotterdam.
- 7.3 Filling vacancies on the Executive Committee: this would require a constitutional change and a proposal would be prepared in due time by the President and Mr Harwood.
- 7.4 Procedures for a stand-in for the President when absent: the current system where the President appointed one of the Executive Vice-Presidents to represent him based on their areas of responsibilities would continue.
- 7.5 Travel cost and hospitality policy for BoD members at the WTTC:
 - The proposal suggested by Pakistan to pay a percentage of the airfare for the newly elected BoD members and the hospitality for the old BoD members in the year of elections was accepted;
 - The BoD would be held before the AGM every year except the year of elections.
- 7.6 Equipment update
 - 7.6.1 Step-by-step guide for racket control: was being finalised once the T9 had been approved.
 - 7.6.2 Leaflet for players: the final version was in process in the format of frequently asked questions (FAQ).
 - 7.6.3 T9 leaflet: the changes decided by the BoD had been incorporated in the T9 and had been coordinated between the Equipment Committee and URC.
 - 7.6.4 Directives for referees: this had incorporated the changes from the BoD meeting and had been discussed with the Equipment Committee.

- 7.7 Illegal betting issue: this had been considered in 5.2.2.
- 7.8 Consolidation of all technical documentation: the technical leaflets were being reviewed and would be submitted to the Executive Committee over time for approval as needed.
- 7.9 Review of all committees: the structure of the committees would be reviewed to ensure all areas of work were covered appropriately.

The Executive Committee asked:

- a) To include in the constitution review, the matter of replacing an EC member when an EC member could no longer serve for whatever reason (resignation, death, etc.);
- b) Mr Weikert to present some proposals for the management of the sanction process for racket control and publishing the register of racket test failures;
- c) Ms Sörling and the Project Manager to undertake the review of committees and Mr Harwood to provide any support needed.

The Executive Committee resolved:

- i) that, in the year of the elections, the percentage contribution to the airfare would be made to the new BoD member and the old BoD member would receive free hospitality to attend the BoD meeting;
- ii) to approve the directives for referees for racket control;
- iii) to approve the updated T9.

8. London 2012: the Executive Committee noted:

8.1 Olympic Games:

- 8.1.1 Update: LOCOG seemed to be considering every aspect of its budget.
- 8.1.2 Athletes' Commission input for invitations for the test event: this issue would be addressed in December 2010 during the TD visit.
- 8.1.3 Qualification system and competition system: through a consolidation process by the IOC, various aspects on the wording of the qualification system had changed, affecting the meaning. This would be addressed in a follow-up meeting with the IOC.
- 8.1.4 "P" accreditations: the IOC was currently reviewing the "P" accreditation system for team events and was aware of the ITTF's position.
- 8.1.5 Selections for the doubles in the team events: the position of the doubles and the order of the players would be considered by the Olympic and Paralympic Commission in December 2010.
- 8.1.6 Nominations for the jury from the continental vice-presidents: nominations had been received from Europe and Oceania.
- 8.1.7 Proposal for mixed doubles in the 2016 Olympic Games: this proposal should be prepared in time and presented before the deadline.

8.2 Paralympic Games

- 8.2.1 Inclusion of athletes with an intellectual disability: the background to the exclusion of athletes with an intellectual disability and the process to create a reliable classification process was incorporated in the report presented.
- 8.2.2 Proposal for inclusion in the 2016 Paralympic Games: this proposal had been submitted to the IPC by the deadline of 15 July 2010.

The Executive Committee asked the Executive Director (Operations and Olympic Games) to:

- a) follow up the nominations for the jury from Latin America, North America, Asia and Africa;
- b) present proposals for the inclusion on the mixed doubles for the 2016 Olympic Games to the President and Mr Harwood for consideration before submitting them to the IOC.

The Executive Committee resolved *in principle* that:

- i) athletes with an intellectual disability be included in the programme for the 2012 Paralympic Games and in the qualification process leading to these Games;

ii) once the report on the meeting to be held in September 2010 was available from the working group, the President, with the concurrence of the chairperson of the PTT Division and Sports Science Committee, act on behalf of the Executive Committee in notifying the IPC by the end of September 2010 that athletes with an intellectual disability may be included in the programme for the 2012 Paralympic Games.

9. Development Department update: the Executive Committee noted that:

- the coach accreditation system was being increasingly implemented resulting in more course conductors being trained;
- the development magazine would be produced every 2 years and would be ready for the World Championships in 2011;
- significant contributions of equipment and funding were being held back due to lack of cooperation between the Haiti NOC and national association;
- a new centre in Haiti facilitated by the IOC would include table tennis and the ITTF would contribute to this project;
- 2 projects (East Timor and Palestine) would be run by the ITTF and Peace & Sport supported by Butterfly;
- a “table tennis for peace” manual would also be developed which could be used as a model for other sports;
- the Korean national broadcaster wanted to sponsor a peace event involving DPR Korea, and Peace & Sport had agreed to take the initiative with 10 invited countries to be hosted for a table tennis event in 2011 in Qatar (DPR Korea, Korea R, China, USA, Japan, Russia, Pakistan, India, Iran and Qatar);
- marketing courses had been offered in 4 continents;
- the ITTF had been selected again for the international sports movie award;
- the Development and Competition Departments had successfully integrated Ms Cehovin-Susin into their work.

10. Education and Training update: the Executive Committee noted that the written report had been circulated and further that:

10.1 “Hello Future” conference financial update: the organisers had covered 55 nights/persons for accommodation in addition to sponsorship raised. If another conference were to be held in Rotterdam, arrangements would need to be finalised urgently.

10.2 Athletes’ development model:

- Various aspects of the model had been discussed in Barcelona;
- The concept of the IOC Solidarity scholarship could be used to limit the involvement of the ITTF in favour of the association managing the process.

10.3 World Hopes Team:

- players born in 1998 and 1999 had been selected for the second WHT;
- they had participated in training camps and events in Korea and France;
- the agreement with Butterfly continued for next year.

10.4 Training centres:

- A platform on the website should be developed;
- The various training centres currently existed should be brought into the training centre programme;
- If they met the criteria, Ochsenhausen, Düsseldorf, the Schlager Academy, Budapest (formerly Statistica) and the new training centre in Guangzhou (after the Asian Games), etc., would form the basis of the new programme. Additional approved centres would be added in due time.

The Executive Committee asked the Executive Director (Education and Training) to develop the minimum criteria for accreditation as a training centre.

11. Marketing update: the Executive Committee noted:

- The World Team Cup would be sponsored by Nittaku (ball 2010 to 2013), Tinsue (floor), Cornilleau (table);
- Joola would sponsor the Global Junior Programme (GJP) from 2011 to 2014;
- Donic would sponsor the tables for the Men's World Cup 2011 to 2013;
- ITTF-Oceania events would be sponsored by Double Happiness for 3 years;
- Tinsue would provide floors for the 3 main events of the Olympic qualification, world cup and continental championships for ITTF-Africa, ITTF-Oceania and ITTF Latin America events;
- Marketing courses held had been successful to support the continental development agreements;
- With the GJP, PTT and Development Programme, a process of branding as part of the social responsibility programme of the ITTF was being developed by the ITTF's Marketing Division;
- The ITTF's overall branding was under review including the Pro Tour;
- Innovations for broadcasting were being developed to enhance the excitement of the sport e.g. speed of the ball, the spin on the ball;
- The Marketing Division had produced a new promotional DVD for the ITTF.

The Executive Committee asked the Executive Director (Competitions) to recommend to the Korean Table Tennis Association that the Pro Tour Finals be hosted in Incheon City (or Seoul) due to the excellent report received of the Korea Open.

12. ITTF Regional offices:

- An office for Asia-Pacific had been established in China (Shanghai and then Beijing) since 2005, but the ITTF still could not obtain an official status as an organisation in China;
- Consideration was being given for the Asia-Pacific office to relocate to Singapore;
- An office had been offered and accepted in Vienna by the Schlager Academy and the Austrian TTA;
- A proposal for office space from Latin America was awaited;
- A review of the administration office for Africa would be undertaken by Messrs Hajem, El-Salhy and the President in the near future.

13. Professional staff update:

- The candidate for the Media Manager post had been interviewed and a response to the offer made was awaited;
- The Project Manager would be given additional responsibilities beginning 1 September 2010 with a modified job description and title;
- The transfer of responsibilities from the CEO, currently assumed by the President, to relevant staff members was being studied and would be reported to the Executive Committee for implementation from 1 January 2011.

14. AISTS report on the positioning of Table Tennis based on 2008 Olympic Games Report: the Executive Committee noted the report submitted by AISTS following on from the report done in 2005 after the Athens 2004 Olympic Games. The Executive Committee agreed to discuss the report and recommendations at its next meeting.

The Executive Committee asked the Executive Director (Operations and Olympic Games) to develop a short comparative analysis of 2004 and 2008 to be sent to all concerned.

15. Dates of future meetings: the Executive Committee noted that its meetings would be held:

- on 9 December 2010 in Bratislava, Slovakia;
- in February 2011 in Dortmund, Germany;
- in May 2011 in Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

To date, the arrangements for the meeting in Korea had not been confirmed.

The Executive Committee asked Messrs Harwood and Kimura, in addition to the President, to represent the ITTF at the PTT World Championships.

16. Any other business

16.1 Luxembourg eligibility: the Executive Committee agreed that the player in question in the Luxembourg TTA's appeal could register to play for Luxembourg from 1 September 2013.

17. Adjournment: there being no further business, the meeting ended at 16h01.

Adham Sharara
President

Date