

# International Table Tennis Federation

## **OLYMPIC COMMISSION MEETING**

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### **MINUTES**

Of the Olympic Commission Meeting of the International Table Tennis Federation, held on **18<sup>th</sup> December 2006** at the Olympic House of Hong Kong, China, at 09:00 hours.

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

Mr. Adham Sharara said it had been a privilege to have attended the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations of the Hong Kong Table Tennis Association the previous night and thanked the HKTTA for the invitation to the banquet.

He congratulated the Japanese TTA and the Chinese TTA for the gold medals won in the boys and girls singles at the Junior World Championships that had just ended in Cairo where 43 nations had participated and all 96 boys and 96 girls selected for the event had attended. He congratulated Oceania on the progress made. He also said that he recommends that the OC and EC+ meetings should be held annually at the Junior World Championships.

#### **2. Roll call**

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

Cherif Hajem	Continental Vice President (Africa)
Choo Wee Kiang	Continental Vice President (Asia)
Stefano Bosi	Continental Vice President (Europe)
Melecio Rivera	Continental Vice President (Latin America)
Bruce Burton	Continental Vice President (North America)
Patrick Gillman	Continental Vice President (Oceania)

Yao Zhenxu	Competition Manager (Beijing 2008)
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#### **Invited to attend**

Sachiko Yokota	Technical Delegate (Beijing 2008)
Georgios Seliniotakis	Technical Delegate (Beijing 2008)
Tony Yue	Chairman Junior Commission
Cindy Leung	Chairwoman URC

#### **In attendance**

Jordi Serra	Executive Director
Lilamani de Soysa	Project Manager

#### **Excused**

Judit Faragó	Executive Vice President (Representing the ITTF at the 4 <sup>th</sup> World Junior Championships in Cairo, Egypt)
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#### **3. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved as presented.

#### **4. Minutes**

- 4.1 Approval of Minutes of previous meeting (Bremen, 28 April 2006)  
The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
- 4.2 Business arising from the Minutes (not covered by Agenda)  
No other business.

#### **5. Beijing 2008**

- 5.1 ORIS meetings, TDs visit to Beijing update  
Mr. Neil Harwood reported that he had attended the last ORIS (Olympic Results Information System) meeting held in Montreux, Switzerland last September, together with Mr. Georgios Seliniotakis and Mr. Jordi Serra. Work on the programme was progressing rapidly and the final homologation tests of the system would be done in March 2008 in Beijing. The sports scoreboards on the floor had to be adjusted to reflect results of teams and were being currently fixed.  
Mr. Neil Harwood explained that two inspection visits had been made to Beijing. The Tianhong Plaza hotel, 4 stars, with all modern amenities where all technical officials and ITTF officials would be accommodated, was very good. The construction of the venue was scheduled to end in July 2007 and the lighting and air conditioning would be tested at that time. The transport schedules were still being established and the number of accreditations for the ITTF was still to be decided by the IOC. The main arena would contain 8 tables and 16 warm up tables. There would be two training halls. The movement of television cables once tables were removed was still to be resolved.
- 5.2 Specific rules for Beijing 2008  
A compendium of all previous Olympic documents including the IOC Olympic Qualification documents had been prepared by Mr. Neil Harwood, Mr. Georgios Seliniotakis, Mr. Yao Zhenxu and Mr. Jordi Serra and adapted for the Beijing Games. The document was adopted (except for a final correction on racket control procedure). It was unanimously agreed by the Olympic Commission to slightly modify the knock-out system according to the attached document.

It was also decided that the ITTF World Ranking list published on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2008 (RL 7/08) would be used for the draw of the Beijing Olympics and would be the last ranking published before the Olympic Games.

Several proposals from the German Table Tennis Association (DTTB) regarding the regulations for the seeding in the 1<sup>st</sup> stage of the Team Events in the Olympic Games, Regulation for the draw of the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage of the Team Events and the team match system for the Olympic Games were discussed at length. However, the Olympic Commission decided not to adopt these proposals but to thank the DTTB and request them to resubmit the proposals at a later date for future consideration.

- 5.3 International Technical Officials  
Mr. Neil Harwood reported that the number of technical officials had been approved by the IOC – 42 in total with 1 medical officer, 3 racket control officials, 6 jury members and 32 umpires (28 International technical officials and 4 national technical officials). The Continental Vice Presidents were requested to submit the names of the jury members. The URC was requested to present the names of the selected international umpires to the Olympic Commission for approval.

5.4 Memo of Understanding (MOU) update  
It was reported that the MOU specifying the responsibilities of each International Federation and each sport had been signed. The updated appendices would be signed soon.

5.5 Technical booklet update  
Technical booklet scheduled to be ready one year before the Games.

## **6. Olympic Qualification Tournaments**

6.1. Continental Qualification events  
Mr. Jordi Serra said that some dates for the continental qualification events had been confirmed:  
- Africa 11-23 July 2007  
- Europe 2-6 April 2008 in Nantes, France  
- Oceania 5-8 April 2008 in Noumea, New Caledonia  
Other Continents to confirm as soon as possible.

6.2. World Final Qualification Tournament  
The established time for holding the World Final Qualification Tournament was between 1 – 18 May 2008. The bid process had not been opened yet, but one application had already been received from Hungary. Mr. Jordi Serra was requested to send a general request for bids in the new year with a deadline for receiving bids before the next EC meeting.

## **7. Equipment**

It was confirmed that all equipment issues concerning Beijing 2008 had been finalised and contracts signed, DHS for blue tables, Double Fish for white balls and Gerflor for flooring.

## **8. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Olympic Commission will be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2007 in Zagreb, Croatia.

## **9. Any other business**

In answer to a question from Tony Yue regarding surprise anti-doping tests by WADA it was said that according to current WADA and ITTF agreements, WADA had the authority to conduct out-of-competition tests anytime and anywhere.

## **10. Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11h20.