

OLYMPIC COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

Of the Olympic Commission Meeting of the International Table Tennis Federation, held on **8th December 2008** at the Husa Princesa Hotel, Madrid, Spain at 09:00.

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

M. George Segun welcomes all to the meeting and wishes all a fruitful meeting. He apologised for the absence of the President who was missing a meeting for the first time since his election in 1999 due to family reasons. He Thanked Mr. Yang Shuan and Mr. Yao Zhenxu for the fantastic Olympic Games and the help extended to the ITTF in Beijing.

2. **Roll call**

George Segun	Deputy President
Claude Bergeret	Executive Vice President
Neil Harwood	Executive Vice President (Finance)
Koji Kimura	Executive Vice President
Yang Shuan	Executive Vice President
Cherif Hajem	Continental Vice President (Africa)
Stefano Bosi	Continental Vice President (Europe)
Choo Wee Khiang	Continental Vice President (Asia)
Bruce Burton	Continental Vice President (North America)
Melecio Rivera	Continental Vice President (Latin America)
Patrick Gillman	Continental Vice President (Oceania)

Invited to attend

Yao Zhenxu	Competition Manager Beijing 2008
Richard Scruton	Representative LOCOG

In attendance

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

Excused

Adham Sharara	President
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3. **Approval of Agenda**

Agenda approved with the addition under 7: Visit to London.

4. **Minutes**

4.1 Approval of Minutes of previous meeting (Guangzhou, China, 25 February 2008)

The Minutes were approved by the Deputy 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. Beijing 2008/London 2012 (Discussion only)

5.1 Post-Games Report

M. Jordi Serra briefly explained that the Post Games Report from the IOC had been completed after consultation of key persons involved in the Games. Mr. Yang Shuan explained that the report was not about the Beijing Games but the future Games and that it was important to clearly think about how to present our sport at the highest level in London. Mr. Neil Harwood said that the Paralympic Games had been staged excellently and that the Olympic Commission should now become the body to also monitor the Paralympics and ensure that the Paralympics are always staged at the same high level as the Olympics.

5.2 Survey

M. Jordi Serra explained that a survey was done with the help of a programme downloaded freely from the Internet, which was easy to use regarding the playing system at the Olympic Games. The survey was sent to all the National Associations, officials and players and a total of 68 answers had been received. A summary of the answers was explained and several recommendations highlighted and discussed. The validity of the survey was questioned by Mr. Stefano Bosi who said that it was important to know exactly who answered the questionnaire. Mr. Yang Shuan said that it was also very important to seriously consider the recommendations and suggestions from the media and the IOC. It was decided that the survey would be extended to the media.

5.3 Proposals received and Recommendations for London 2012

5.3.1. Hong Kong Table Tennis Association

The proposal from the Hong Kong Table Tennis Association, to add mixed doubles and to provide 2 bronze medals was discussed at length. On proposal from Mr. Yang Shuan, it was decided that a working group would be formed by the EC in order to work on the possibility of adding mixed doubles and allocating two bronze medals in 2016. Item referred to the Executive Committee meeting for the creation of a working group.

5.3.2. French Table Tennis Federation (Gadal/Birocheau)

The proposal made by the French Association regarding the Qualification system for the 2012 Games was discussed. Item to be further studied by the working group.

5.3.3. From the Survey

Recommendations from the survey to be studied by the working group.

5.4 List of decisions to be made in Yokohama

To be decided after the deliberations of the working group.

6. Youth Olympic Games

6.1 Qualification System

Mr. Jordi Serra presented the document prepared by the Junior Commission regarding the qualification system, which had already been submitted to the IOC. After a lengthy discussion, the document was approved by the Olympic Commission as presented (**see document attached**). Mr. Neil Harwood congratulated all those who had worked on the preparation of the document.

6.2 Competition System &

6.3 Venue visit inspection

Items 6.2 and 6.3 discussed together. Due to the lack of information regarding the number of days and the exact size of the venue for the Youth Olympic Games it was not possible to decide on the competition system yet. The main principles of the proposed system were discussed. The item was referred to the next OC meeting in Yokohama for a final decision.

7. Any other business

- **Visit to London**

M. Richard Scruton introduced himself and explained his involvement with former Olympic Games. Mr. Neil Harwood reported that he had met with Mr. David Lukas from LOCOG a few days previously and explained several items that had been discussed - test event (November 2011), finances for table tennis (uncertain situation due to global financial crisis), relations with ITTF (very good), number of days (11 days) and number of tables (4 tables ideally). It was reported that day one of the Games would feature table tennis. The Technical Delegates to be confirmed at the Olympic Commission meeting in Yokohama.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11h40.

Meeting Chairman, George Segun