

Olympic Commission

Minutes

Of the Olympic Commission of the International Table Tennis Federation, held on **25th February 2008** at the Baiyun Convention Centre, Guangzhou, China at 14h00

1. President's welcome and opening remarks

The President welcomed members of the Olympic Commission.

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
Chérif Hajem	Continental Vice-President (Africa)
Choo Wee Kiang	Continental Vice-President (Asia)
Stefano Bosi	Continental Vice-President (Europe)
Melecio E. Rivera	Continental Vice-President (Latin America)
Bruce Burton	Continental Vice-President (North America)
Patrick Gillmann	Continental Vice-President (Oceania)

Invited to attend

Yao Zhenxu	Competition Manager Beijing 2008
Georgios Seliniotakis	Technical Delegate Beijing 2008

In attendance

Jordi Serra	Executive Director
Lilamani de Soysa	Project Manager
Rebecca Zhu	BOCOG

3. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with the addition of item 8.1.

4. Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes of previous meeting (Palo Alto, USA, 10 December 2007)

The Minutes of the previous meeting 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 arising from the Minutes.

5. Beijing 2008

5.1 Proposal of BOCOG to introduce a schedule change

Mr. Yao Zhenxu (assisted by Miss Rebecca Zhu) made a comprehensive update report regarding the preparations for the Olympic Games. Several pending issues were discussed at length in particular concerning the mixed zone, racket control station, and the schedule. The schedule change proposed by BOCOG was accepted.

5.2 Replacement of the International umpire from Qatar

The request from Qatar and ATTU with the support of the Umpires and Referees Committee to replace one umpire from Qatar by another Qatari Umpire at the Olympic Games was accepted.

5.3 Alternate players. Impact on the Rules

It was explained that a request had been made to the IOC to have alternate players for the team events (in case a player had to be replaced because of sickness or injury) and that there may be a possibility for the NOCs to allocate "P" accreditations for table tennis. If the IOC answer were positive, some changes would have to be made to the rules, with IOC agreement.

5.4 World ranking qualification. Issues

It was explained that two female players from Hong Kong qualified by Ranking for the Olympics were not eligible according to ITTF rules. The ITTF was waiting the answer from the IOC as it could affect the qualification system.

6. Olympic Qualification Tournaments

6.1 Continental Qualification Tournaments update

It was said that the latest deadline for continental qualifications was the 15th of April 2008. The Latin American continental qualifications would be taking place in the Dominican Republic.

6.2 Final World Qualification Tournament update

The deadline for entries for the Final World Qualification Tournament was the 15th of April, to be held in Budapest, Hungary. It was decided that the playing system would be changed in order to reflect the actual Olympic Competition (see document attached). The modified system was accepted unanimously.

7. Youth Olympic Games update

Awaiting final directives from the IOC concerning the first Youth Olympic Games.

8. Any other business

8.1 Number of Olympic accreditations

It was reported that the ITTF had requested more accreditations for the Olympic Games and was awaiting the final answer from the IOC.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 17h38.

Meeting Chairman, Adham Sharara