



**International
Handball
Federation**



Council Meeting No. 11

15.07.2021 by video conference



Present

Dr Hassan MOUSTAFA (EGY)
Joël DELPLANQUE (FRA)
Mansourou AREMOU (BEN)
Bader AL-THEYAB (KUW)
Michael WIEDERER (AUT)
Anna RAPP (SWE)
Narcisa LECUSANU (ROU)
Dr Frantisek TABORSKY (CZE)
Per BERTELSEN (DEN)
Dietrich SPÄTE (GER)
Dr François GNAMIAN (CIV)
Charles OMBOUMAHOU (CGO)
Yoshihide WATANABE (JPN)
Predrag BOSKOVIC (MNE)
Ricardo BLAS (GUM)
Mario GARCIA DE LA TORRE (MEX)
Marcel MANCILLA BRAVO (CHI)

Amal KHALIFA (EGY)
Patric STRUB (GER)
Marisa STERLY (GER)

President
1st Vice-President
IHF Vice-President Africa
IHF Vice-President Asia
IHF Vice-President Europe
Treasurer
Executive Committee Member
Executive Committee Member
COC Chairman
CCM Chairman
MC Chairman
IHF Representative Africa
IHF Representative Asia
IHF Representative Europe
IHF Representative Oceania
IHF Representative North America and the Caribbean
IHF Representative South and Central America

General Director
Competitions Director
IHF Head Office

MEETING TIME: 12:00-14:00 and 15:00-16:20

Notes: These minutes constitute a record of decisions taken and only contain the most important spoken contributions. The proceeding of this meeting was recorded. The record is kept at the Head Office in Basel.

President Moustafa as usual abstained from voting.



Agenda

1. Minutes

- 1.1. Council Meeting No. 10, 19 February 2021 by video conference
- 1.2. Executive Committee Meeting No. 13, 19 February 2021 by video conference
- 1.3. Executive Committee Meeting No. 14, 7 July 2021 by video conference

2. President's activities

3. Competitions

- 3.1. Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games
- 3.2. 2021 Men's Super Globe
- 3.3. 2021 Women's World Championship in ESP
- 3.4. 2021 World & European Wheelchair Handball Championship
- 3.5. 2023 Men's Junior (U21) World Championship
- 3.6. Beach handball

4. 2021 Ordinary IHF Congress

- 4.1. Working Group of Candidatures for IHF Positions
- 4.2. Organisational details
- 4.3. Non-active Member Federations
- 4.4. Motions regarding IHF Statutes

5. IHF bodies

- 5.1. Resignation of PRC Chairman

6. IHF Virtual Academy

7. Finances and marketing

- 7.1. Debts of National Federations
- 7.2. IHF-Sportfive partnership

8. IHF Regulations

- 8.1. Player Eligibility Code
- 8.2. Wheelchair Handball Classification Rules and Regulations

9. Continents

9.1. Report from the continents

9.2. Nomination of European representatives to IHF bodies

10. Miscellaneous

10.1. Council decisions made by electronic communication

10.2. IHF Athletes' Commission





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President Moustafa opened the meeting, welcoming the Council members to the meeting held by video conference due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He expressed his hopes that all Council members as well as their families are in good health.

1. Minutes

1.1. Council Meeting No. 10, 19 February 2021 by video conference

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 10th Council Meeting, which was held by video conference on 19 February 2021.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Council Meeting No. 10 held by video conference on 19 February 2021.

1.2. Executive Committee Meeting No. 13, 19 February 2021 by video conference

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 13th Executive Committee Meeting, which was held by video conference on 19 February 2021.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Executive Committee Meeting No. 13 held by video conference on 19 February 2021.

1.3. Executive Committee Meeting No. 14, 7 July 2021 by video conference

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 14th Executive Committee Meeting, which was held by video conference on 7 July 2021.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Executive Committee Meeting No. 14 held by video conference on 7 July 2021.

2. President's activities

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who presented an overview of the President's activities since the last IHF Council meeting in February 2021, stressing that it is just a summary in view of the many activities carried out by the IHF President between the two IHF Council meetings:

10-12 March 2021: 137th Session of the International Olympic Committee (held virtually).

12-14 March 2021: Attendance at the Tokyo 2020 Men's Olympic Qualification Tournament in Berlin, GER.

19-21 March 2021: Attendance at the Tokyo 2020 Women's Olympic Qualification Tournament in Llíria, ESP



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and meetings with the Organising Committee of the 2021 IHF Women's World Championship to discuss the ongoing preparations for the event.

24 March 2021: Informal conference call with IOC President Dr Thomas Bach attended by Presidents of Summer and Winter Olympic International Federations to discuss the IOC Executive Board's new strategic roadmap, Olympic Agenda 2020+5, which consists of 15 recommendations and follows Olympic Agenda 2020.

1 April 2021: Meeting with French Handball Federation President Philippe Bana in Basel to discuss the Paris 2024 Olympic Games among other topics.

14 April 2021: Virtual meeting with the IOC and Team Sport International Federations including FIBA, FIFA, FIH, FINA, FIVB, WBSC and World Rugby (following President Moustafa's initiative) to discuss the upcoming Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

20 April 2021: Lunch meeting with IOC President Dr Thomas Bach at the Olympic House in Lausanne.

23/24 April 2021: Attendance at the 15th Ordinary Congress of the European Handball Federation (EHF) in Vienna, AUT.

26 April 2021: Virtual meeting with Paris 2024 Organising Committee President Tony Estanguet, IOC Sports Director Kit McConnell and French Handball Federation President Philippe Bana to discuss the organisation of a Beach Handball Showcase Tournament on the fringes of Paris 2024.

6 May 2021: Virtual meeting with representatives of Forum Club Handball (FCH), North America and the Caribbean Handball Confederation (NACHC) and USA Team Handball (USATH) to discuss the progress of the IHF New Markets' Project in USA.

23 May 2021: Virtual meeting of Ethics Commission of Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA).

24/25 May 2021: Attendance at 19th Ordinary General Assembly of ANOCA in Cairo, EGY.

25 May 2021: Virtual International Federation Forum 2021 following the invitation of SportAccord President Raffaele Chiulli.

27 May 2021: Remote Annual General Meeting 2021 of International World Games Association (IWGA).

28 May 2021: Brisbane 2032 and Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) Member IFs working meeting (held virtually).

5 June 2021: Attendance at General Congress 2021 of International Swimming Federation (FINA) in Doha, QAT.

8 June 2021: Attendance at the Arab Super Cup final in Doha, QAT and meeting with Arab Handball Federation to discuss the ongoing development and promotion of handball in the Arab region.

8 June 2021: Meeting with Qatar Handball Association President Ahmed Mohammad Al-Shaabi in Doha, QAT to discuss the further development of handball in Qatar.

8 June 2021: 45th ASOIF General Assembly (held virtually).

12-14 June 2021: Attendance at the final days of the World Championships Modern Pentathlon and Laser Run in Cairo, EGY following the invitation of International Union of Modern Pentathlon (UIPM) President Dr Klaus Schormann.

15-17 June 2021: Attendance at the 24th Forum Club Handball General Assembly in Athens, GRE. On the fringes, President Moustafa met with Hellenic Olympic Committee President, European Olympic Committees (EOC) President and IOC Member Spyros Capralos, inviting him to the IHF Head Office in Basel to discuss the future of handball at international sporting events. Additional meetings were held with Greek Deputy Minister of Culture and Sports Lefferis Avgenakis as well as with the President and other representatives of Hellenic Handball Federation.

5 July 2021: Attendance at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games preparation friendly match between France and Egypt in Paris, FRA.

7 July 2021: Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games Preparatory Meeting (held virtually) with the presidents, head coaches, team physicians, and team captains of all participating National Federations as well as all nominated IHF referees to point out the most important regulations regarding COVID-19 and entry to Japan.



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9-11 July 2021: Attendance at the Three-Nation Tournament, a Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games preparation friendly competition staged in Nuremberg, GER featuring Egypt, Brazil and Germany.

12 July 2021: Virtual meeting of Board of Trustees of Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Creative Sports Award.

13 July 2021: Virtual meeting with representatives from the Swedish and Polish Handball Federations and the Organising Committees of the 28th IHF Men's World Championship scheduled to take place in 2023 in Sweden and Poland to discuss the ongoing preparations for the event.

13 July 2021: Virtual meeting with representatives of Malta Handball Association to discuss their newly-ratified Strategic Business Plan 2021-2030.

14 July 2021: Virtual meeting with Chinese Handball Association President Ms Wang Tao to discuss the current status of the IHF New Markets' Project in China. The meeting was also attended by IHF CCM Chairman Dietrich Späte and IHF Handball@School Working Group Chairwoman Dr Ilona Hapková.

The IHF Vice-President Europe took the floor, asking to be involved in the planned meeting with the President of European Olympic Committees (EOC) in Basel.

Decision

The Council took note of and approved the President's activities and appreciated the efforts he made for the worldwide development of handball.

3. Competitions

3.1. Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who provided the Council with several general information as well as latest updates regarding the Men's and Women's Olympic Handball Tournaments taking place during the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

He reported on the virtual meeting with the IOC and Team Sport International Federations including FIBA, FIFA, FIH, FINA, FIVB, WBSC and World Rugby which was held on 14 April 2021 following President Moustafa's initiative and the subsequent meetings with the IOC and Tokyo 2020 to discuss the Olympic Handball Tournaments in the light of the COVID-19 situation and define COVID-19 sport-specific regulations. He outlined that the participating teams have the possibility to bring two additional players on-site for replacements, as two additional P-Accreditations Training Partners for Handball Teams are distributed to the NOCs. Furthermore, the teams may nominate a match squad of 14 out of a group of 15 players (14 Aa accredited athletes and 1 Ap accredited athlete) for each match without making any Late Athlete Replacement. In case of injury or special circumstances, all teams may replace one player with any player from the provisional list up until the quarter-finals, and replace on one occasion a goalkeeper with another goalkeeper who figures on the provisional list up until the final. Each team needs to have a minimum of nine athletes, including one goalkeeper, on the start list to be allowed to take part in the match. If a team fails to appear for a match in which they are scheduled to play, their opponent will be awarded a 10-0 victory with 2 points for the winner and 0 points for the team that did not appear. In case a team misses a total of three matches throughout the tournament, the team is excluded from the competition and any further match shall be considered as a 10:0 and a 2:0 defeat.

He also presented an overview of the nominated Technical Delegates and referees (16 couples including 4 female couples for the first time) taking part in the Olympic Handball Tournaments as well as the applicable regulations imposed by Tokyo 2020, e.g. the mandatory use of transport arranged by the Organising



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Committee and the prohibition to visit any other places than the official IHF hotel and the handball venue.

Moreover, he referred to the decision taken by the Organising Committee and the Government of Japan on 8 July 2021 not to allow any spectators into any venues in Tokyo during the Olympic Games.

He also provided brief information about the referee preparation which is running smoothly, stating that an IHF Physical Training Plan has been elaborated by the Fitness Coaches, including full workout routines and exercises. He added that all referee-related matters during the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Handball Tournaments will be handled by IHF PRC Member Bjarne Munk Jensen.

The IHF Representative South and Central America asked why only one referee couple from South and Central America is among the nominees for the Olympic Handball Tournaments although more than one couple from South and Central America had been invited. President Moustafa explained that only a small number of referees may take part in the event, considering that only 12 teams are participating in the competition per gender. He confirmed that the currently best referee couples worldwide have been selected. The General Director added that additional referees had initially been approached, informing them that they might be nominated for Tokyo 2020 in case of a good performance.

Decision

The Council took note of the information provided regarding the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

3.2. 2021 Men's Super Globe

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who informed the Council that the 2021 Men's Super Globe is scheduled to take place at King Abdullah Sports City Hall in Jeddah, KSA during the period from 4 to 10 October 2021 (exact dates yet to be determined). He stated that 10 teams will participate in the competition, considering that the following teams have already qualified:

- Reigning champion – FC Barcelona (ESP)
- Europe – Aalborg Håndbold (DEN)
- Asia – Al Duhail (QAT)
- Two clubs representing host nation KSA
- Wild card awarded by IHF – SC Magdeburg (GER, as per IHF Executive Committee decision of 7 July 2021)

The remaining four teams will be determined in continental qualification events as follows:

- Africa – Winner of the Super Coupe 23.08.2021 in Agadir (MAR)
- North America and the Caribbean – tbd
- Oceania – Qualification event 14-15.08.2021 in Brisbane (AUS)
- South and Central America – Qualification event 24-28.08.2021 in Taubaté (BRA)

He also briefly outlined the match schedule, including quarter-finals qualification (4 teams), quarter-finals (8 teams), placement round 5-10 as well as semi-finals and finals.

The IHF Vice-President Europe remarked that the awarding of the wild card to SC Magdeburg was decided by the IHF Executive Committee without any involvement of the European Handball Federation, which however is not deemed necessary. In view of the Champions League final of the season 2019/20 held in December 2020 due to COVID-19 (won by THW Kiel), as well as the Champions League final of the season 2020/21 held in June 2021 (won by FC Barcelona), he concluded that Europe has two Champions League winners within one season. President Moustafa replied that the Executive Committee has the right to award the wild card without



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any criteria.

As the IHF Vice-President Europe commented that he considers two clubs representing host nation KSA too many, President Moustafa replied that the same condition had been applied at the last Men's Super Globe in 2019.

Decision

The Council took note of the information provided regarding the 2021 Men's Super Globe in KSA.

3.3. 2021 Women's World Championship in ESP

President Moustafa briefly reported about his meetings with Royal Spanish Handball Federation President Francisco V. Blázquez García, Spanish Olympic Committee President Alejandro Blanco, as well as mayors of the host cities, members of the Organising Committee of the 2021 IHF Women's World Championship, the Minister of Culture and Sports and the President of the Spanish Senate, which were held on the fringes of the Tokyo 2020 Women's Olympic Qualification Tournament in ESP from 19 to 21 March 2021. He confirmed that the preparations for the event were going well.

The Competitions Director took the floor, informing that the 2021 Women's World Championship is scheduled to be held from 1/2 to 19 December 2021 and will be staged in four venues, namely Castellón de la Plana, Granollers, Llíria and Torrevieja, taking into consideration that the IHF Executive Committee, on 10 June 2021, approved the Royal Spanish Handball Federation's request to change the venue of the World Championship finals from Barcelona to Granollers. An on-site inspection was carried out by the IHF Inspection Working Group in May 2021 followed by an TV inspection (IHF TV partner Sportfive and host broadcaster) in June 2021.

For the first time, 32 teams will be participating in the Women's World Championship. He presented an overview of the participating teams and the related qualification events:

Host:	ESP
Reigning World Champion:	NED
Asia:	6 (18 th Asian Women's Championship, 15-25 September 2021 in KOR)
Africa:	ANG, CMR, TUN, CGO (24 th African Women's Championship, 8-18 June 2021 in CMR)
Europe:	NOR, FRA, CRO, DEN (EHF EURO in DEN, December 2020) RHF, GER, MNE, HUN, SWE, ROU, SRB, AUT, CZE, SLO (Qualification Europe Phase 2, April 2021)
South and Central America:	3 (Women's Central America Senior Classification (NCA, ESA, CRC), 5-7 August 2021 in ESA and Women's Senior Classification SC America (BRA, ARG, URU, PAR, BOL + Central team), 4-10 October 2021 in CHI)
North America and the Caribbean:	1 (Women's North American and the Caribbean Championship, 22-27 August 2021 in USA)



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Oceania: NZL / AUS not able to participate for COVID-19 reasons -> Wild card

Wild card: 2 (including the wild card mentioned under "Oceania" above)

He pointed out that the exact date of the draw is yet to be determined, considering that it should be held before 15 August 2021 following the requests from different stakeholders such as National Federations, TV, media and spectators.

Decision

The Council took note of the information provided regarding the 2021 Women's World Championship in ESP.

3.4. 2021 World & European Wheelchair Handball Championship

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who presented the letter received from European Handball Federation on 23 June 2021, informing that after various attempts to find an organiser for the 2021 World & European Wheelchair Handball Championship (postponed from 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic), unfortunately no organiser was ready under the given circumstances. Consequently, the EHF decided to cancel the 2021 European Wheelchair Handball Championship and will focus on the organisation of a 2022 European Wheelchair Handball Championship which shall take place at the end of 2022 instead. The EHF requested a confirmation from the IHF on the organisation of a combined World & European Wheelchair Handball Championship in 2022 as initially agreed upon.

Executive Committee Member and IHF Wheelchair Handball Working Group Chairman Dr Frantisek Taborsky took the floor, supporting the idea of the EHF and stating that the 2022 World & European Wheelchair Handball Championship (six-a-side) should be held approx. in November 2022, taking into account the IHF's plans, in collaboration with South and Central America Handball Confederation (SCAHC), to organise a world championship of wheelchair handball four-a-side at the beginning of 2022.

Referring to the high costs involved, the IHF Representative South and Central America asked about the IHF's possibility to support one team per continent to participate in the 2022 World & European Wheelchair Handball Championship.

President Moustafa concluded that in a first step the organiser of the 2022 World & European Wheelchair Handball Championship needs to be determined, afterwards the organisational details for the participating teams will be defined.

Decision

The Council unanimously endorsed the organisation of the combined World & European Wheelchair Handball Championship in 2022 (host country yet to be determined) in collaboration with European Handball Federation according to the conditions initially agreed upon. As a second step, the 2nd Wheelchair Handball World Championship should be organised in South and Central America in 2022, if possible (date and place yet to be defined).



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3.5. 2023 Men's Junior (U21) World Championship

President Moustafa gave the floor to the COC Chairman who commented to the Council on the letter from German Handball Federation and Hellenic Handball Federation dated 21 June 2021, informing that GRE approached GER, expressing their interest to co-host the 2023 Men's Junior (U21) World Championship due to the cancellation of the 2021 Men's Youth (U19) World Championship, which was supposed to be hosted by GRE.

The COC Chairman stated that he is generally in favour of the initiative of GER and GRE to co-host the 2023 Men's Junior (U21) World Championship. At the same time, he stressed the importance of considering several aspects, including the following:

- Proposed match schedule differs from the match schedule as per Regulations for IHF Competitions. However, Article 2.3.4. of section III in the Regulations for IHF Competitions allows for "a different allocation of teams to compose the main round and President's Cup groups or a different pairing of teams in the match scheme".
- The match schedule requires additional travel activity for the teams and IHF nominees.
- The Organisers must submit a detailed proposal, especially for the teams travelling from one country to the other.
- Neither the teams nor the IHF shall be harmed in their activity due to the new concept.
- None of the teams should have any extra costs in case they need to arrive in GER and to depart from GRE or vice versa.
- The daily fee shall not be changed.
- The extra day needed for travel shall be covered by the OC.
- The venues need to be announced to the IHF no later than 1 October 2021.

He added that an inspection shall be carried out by the IHF Inspection Working Group by the end of 2021, with a corresponding report to the COC to develop the best possible match schedule.

President Moustafa underlined that the initiative to co-host the 2023 Men's Junior (U21) World Championship was made by the German Handball Federation and Hellenic Handball Federation. Consequently, any extra costs resulting from the joint organisation of the event shall be covered by the Organising Committee, not by the IHF or the participating teams. He added that during his visit to Greece to attend the Forum Club Handball General Assembly in June 2021, the Greek Ministry of Culture and Sports expressed their full support towards the organisation of the World Championship.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the request from GER and GRE to co-host the 2023 Men's Junior (U21) World Championship. Any extra costs resulting from the joint organisation of the event shall be covered by the Organising Committee.

3.6. Beach handball

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who presented a current overview of the bidders for upcoming Beach Handball World Championships following the IHF's invitation to tender sent to all IHF Member Federations on 14 May 2021 (deadline on 31 July 2021). She added that letters of intent have been submitted, and full concepts will follow:



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IX Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships in 2022

- BRA
- GRE
- TUR

II Men's and Women's Youth (U18) Beach Handball World Championships in 2022

- GRE

X Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships in 2024

- ESP
- JPN (not a formal letter of intent)

She stated that no letters of intent have been received so far for the following events:

- III Men's and Women's Youth (U17) Beach Handball World Championships in 2025 (qualification to the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026)
- XI Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships in 2026

Afterwards, the minutes of the meeting between the IHF, French Handball Federation (FFHB) and Paris 2024 Organising Committee held in Paris on 5 July 2021 were presented to the Council. The meeting was attended by IHF 1st Vice-President Joël Delplanque, IHF Beach Handball Working Group Chairman Giampiero Masi, IHF CCM Member Paul Landuré, FFHB President Philippe Bana and Paris 2024 Executive Sports Director Jean-Philippe Gatien. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the organisation of the Beach Handball Showcase Tournament on the fringes of Paris 2024. During the meeting, Paris 2024 informed that no extra competitions are allowed during the Olympic Games, but only matches for demonstration and promotional purposes. Furthermore, the number of participating teams and delegation members proposed by the IHF with regard to the beach handball showcase event will need to be reduced. The 1st Vice-President added that a nice venue has been found for the organisation of the beach handball showcase event (La Défense Arena).

In addition, the General Director presented the proposal of the IHF Beach Handball Working Group to move Beach Handball World Championships from even to odd years (in anticipation of beach handball being included in the Olympic Games). The IHF Vice-President Europe remarked that such change of the championship system would largely affect the activities of the Continental Confederations. He requested a careful analysis of the issue between IHF, IOC, continental associations of NOCs and Continental Confederations before taking any decision in this regard.

President Moustafa explained that the idea is to organise a Beach Handball World Championship in 2027, possibly hosted by USA, as a preparation for the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games. As the IHF Vice-President Europe asked to take into consideration the European Beach Handball Championship taking place in 2027, President Moustafa concluded that the IHF Beach Handball Working Group will study the entire matter in cooperation with the EHF Beach Handball Commission and submit a corresponding proposal to the Council.

Decision

The Council took note of the current overview of bidders for the upcoming Beach Handball World Championships as well as the information provided regarding the organisation of a beach handball showcase event on the fringes of Paris 2024. The IHF Beach Handball Working Group, in cooperation with the EHF Beach Handball Commission, shall study the possibility of organising a Beach Handball World Championship in 2027 and submit a corresponding proposal to the Council.



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4. 2021 Ordinary IHF Congress

4.1. Working Group of Candidatures for IHF Positions

Referring to the elections for different IHF positions taking place during the next Ordinary IHF Congress in Antalya, Turkey from 5 to 8 November 2021, President Moustafa informed that according to Article 14.3.6 of the IHF Statutes, the Council shall appoint an independent electoral working group which shall ensure the compliance of the candidates' applications with the conditions stipulated in the Statutes. The working group shall inform the Council and report to the Congress on its decisions. The following composition of the Working Group of Candidatures for IHF Positions was proposed:

Chairperson: Mr Jean Brihault, former IHF Council Member (chairperson of Working Group of Candidatures for IHF Positions in 2013 and 2017)

Members:

- Mr Jörgen Holmqvist, IHF Honorary Member
- Mr Francisco V. Blázquez García, President of Royal Spanish Handball Federation

The proposed chairperson and members confirmed their availability to join the working group.

Following the enquiry of the IHF Representative South and Central America, President Moustafa confirmed that the proposed chairperson and members of the working group are not standing for election for any IHF position.

Decision

In view of the upcoming elections for different IHF positions, the Council, according to Article 14.3.6 of the IHF Statutes, unanimously decided to appoint an independent electoral working group which shall ensure the compliance of the candidates' applications with the conditions stipulated in the Statutes. The working group shall inform the Council and report to the Congress on its decisions.

4.2. Organisational details

The email communication received from the Turkish Handball Federation on 1 July 2021 was presented to the Council, informing the IHF that the foreseen Congress hotel (Granada Luxury Belek Hotel) is fully booked during the official Congress period (5-8 November 2021). On 13 July 2021, TUR offered to host the Congress at another hotel (The Nirvana Hotel) from 5 to 8 November 2021, considering that the accommodation fee would need to be increased from EUR 255.- to EUR 300.- per person per night. Alternatively, they offered to organise the Congress at the Granada Luxury Belek Hotel during the period from 18 to 21 November 2021, with an accommodation fee of EUR 255.- per person per night.

Taking into account that the alternative period proposed by TUR collides with the European Handball Federation Jubilee and Extraordinary Congress, President Moustafa stressed that the Congress period initially agreed upon shall be maintained. Therefore, the IHF is currently studying the possibility of organising the Congress at another hotel, for example in Istanbul, considering that the accommodation fee is subject to change. Furthermore, the Hellenic Handball Federation expressed their interest in organising the Congress in Greece, if need be. At the same time, the IHF is constantly monitoring the development of the COVID-19 pandemic, which might force the IHF to hold its Congress by video conference due to different travel and entry restrictions applicable worldwide.



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Further to the request of the IHF Vice-President Europe, President Moustafa confirmed that all IHF Council members will be invited to Basel if the Congress is taking place by video conference.

The General Director reported that the IHF Head Office sent out the organisational information of the upcoming Congress to all IHF stakeholders on 6 July 2021, including but not limited to election-related information, the Congress timetable and an overview of dates and deadlines, stressing that 6 August 2021 will be the deadline for submitting registrations for the Congress, motions to the Congress as well as nominations for the different IHF positions.

Referring to Article 13.7.3 of the IHF Statutes, according to which a candidate who is in office must be nominated by the respective Member Federation or the IHF Council to stand for re-election, President Moustafa asked the Council members for their approval to nominate any Council member who would like to stand for re-election in 2021. All Council members agreed.

Decision

The Council took note of the organisational details provided regarding the 2021 Ordinary IHF Congress scheduled to be held from 5 to 8 November 2021. The final decision on whether the Congress is taking place as a physical meeting (hotel and accommodation fee yet to be determined) or by video conference is yet to be taken.

In accordance with Article 13.7.3 of the IHF Statutes, the Council unanimously approved to nominate any Council member who would like to stand for re-election in 2021.

4.3. Non-active Member Federations

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who referred to Article 13.3.5 of the IHF Statutes which states the following:

Only Member Federations that have met their financial obligations towards the IHF are entitled to vote at the Congress. Non-active Member Federations are not entitled to vote at the Congress. At the start of the Congress decisions in that respect shall be announced as a part of the roll call and determination of the number of votes.

Bye-law to Article 13.3.5.

Non-active Member Federations:

*A Member Federation shall be considered non-active if all of the following **three criteria apply**:*

- No handball activities in the country*
- No handball stakeholders (organisations, coaches, referees, players) in the country*
- No communication with the Continental Confederation concerned and the IHF*

She informed that the following 13 Member Federations are considered non-active according to the aforementioned definition:

Asia: BHU, CAM, LAO

Africa: GEQ, NAM

North America and the Caribbean: CAY, IVB, GRN

Oceania: NRU, PLW, TUV

South and Central America: BIZ, GUY



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Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on sports activities worldwide, President Moustafa proposed to ask the IHF Congress to postpone the decision on depriving the non-active Member Federations of their voting right, which was taken by the IHF Congress in 2019.

Decision

Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on sports activities worldwide, the Council unanimously approved President Moustafa's proposal to ask the IHF Congress to postpone the decision on depriving the non-active Member Federations of their voting right. In case the Congress approves this motion, the federations concerned will be entitled to vote at the upcoming Congress.

4.4. Motions regarding IHF Statutes

President Moustafa gave the floor to the IHF Vice-President Europe who presented the EHF's motion regarding the IHF Statutes, which had been submitted to the IHF by official letter dated 25 June 2021.

The IHF Vice-President Europe explained that the EHF moves to amend the Statutes of the International Handball Federation, specifically Article 16 (Permanent Commissions), with the introduction of a commission to deal with the topic of beach handball at the technical level, namely the 'IHF Beach Handball Commission (BC)'. Beach handball as a sport has grown substantially worldwide and therefore needs a permanent body including representatives from the different Continental Confederations for the further development of the sport on a technical and organisational level. The initiatives of the IHF to further develop the sport by introducing major competitions resulted in a consultation process with the IOC regarding the introduction of beach handball as an Olympic discipline. Currently, a working group is dealing with beach handball matters frequently and, by that, not having a permanent impact on the level of the Continental Confederations, but as well not having a voice in the IHF Council. The introduction of a Beach Handball Commission in accordance with the foreseen system with continental representatives may have a positive impact on the activities of the Continental Confederations and, in a second step, filtering through to the National Federations.

He pointed out that the EHF proposes to amend the Articles 16 and, in the follow-up, 16.1. point 1 and point 3 in particular; the EHF further proposes, taking into consideration the timetables in the rundown of a Congress, that in case of an acceptance of the amendment of the motion, the right for nominating a Chairperson for the first electoral period will be delegated to the IHF Council in order to guarantee a smooth transition. Subsequently, the Congress agenda for the election Congress shall be amended under Article 13.4., a new point 'J. Election of the Chairperson of the Commission for Beach handball (BC)' leading to the reordering of the subsequent points.

He stated that one of the key points for the positive development of beach handball on the continent of Europe, which finally led to the integration in the European Games 2023 but as well being a part of the commercial products to be marketed, was the implementation of a Beach Handball Commission on a technical, but as well on the sport-political level. The successes of Beach Handball at the IOC Youth Olympic Games and, as well, the growing interest in many countries worldwide can make the coordination feasible to be bundled on an IHF level.

He added that the motion will be submitted by the EHF to the IHF Congress; however at the same time he requested the IHF Council's approval in order to submit a joint IHF-EHF motion to the IHF Congress.

President Moustafa proposed to the IHF Vice-President Europe to further discuss the EHF's motion regarding



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the IHF Statutes before the official submission deadline (6 August 2021).

The IHF Vice-President Asia commented on the motion, stating that in the future, apart from an IHF Beach Handball Commission, the IHF will have more commissions such as a Wheelchair Handball Commission, which will result in an increase of the number of IHF Council members.

Decision

The Council took note of the EHF's motion regarding the IHF Statutes, which will be further discussed between the two Presidents of IHF and EHF.

5. IHF bodies

5.1. Resignation of PRC Chairman

As is usual within International Federations, every stakeholder and body of the IHF is subject to supervision. The IHF Commissions, for example, are supervised by the IHF Executive Committee as per Article 15.3.1, point 4 of IHF Statutes.

According to the usual practice and in compliance with Articles 19.6.4 and 19.6.8 of the IHF Statutes, the IHF COC and IHF PRC submit their proposed nominations of officials and referees for upcoming IHF events to the IHF Executive Committee for approval, considering that the Executive Committee has the right to request changes to the nominations, if applicable. Afterwards, the PRC Chairman is free to appoint the referee couples for the respective matches of the IHF events concerned.

In his capacity as Chairman of the Executive Committee, IHF President Dr Hassan Moustafa informed and advised the PRC Chairman on several occasions not to engage referee couples from the same regions to officiate matches of the teams concerned, aiming not only to guarantee neutrality (despite the IHF's trust in the neutrality of all IHF referees), but also to avoid any criticism, complaints or arguments for the referees and/or the IHF. The instruction was not limited to a particular region, as for example the PRC Chairman was advised not to nominate Arab referees for any matches of Arab teams, mainly to protect the referees from being criticised by the public or media after the match despite their neutrality throughout the match. Moreover, engaging referee couples from the same region could lead to advantages for one team speaking the same language. Such impact on the players should be avoided.

The nomination of a Norwegian referee couple for the Preliminary Round match Sweden versus Egypt, played on 18 January 2021 during the IHF Men's World Championship in Egypt, was highly criticised by the public as well as the media. Therefore, the IHF approached the PRC Chairman to remind him again to consider the aforementioned instruction, which he disregarded once again by appointing the Danish referee couple for the match Norway versus Romania, played on 20 March 2021 during the IHF Women's Olympic Qualification Tournament in Montenegro. The President of the Romanian Handball Federation, by official letter dated 29 March 2021, complained to the IHF about the above-mentioned referee nomination. He stated, among others, that "the delegation of a couple of referees from Denmark to a game in which one of the teams is Norway was uninspired and unfortunate."

During the match Argentina versus Spain, played on 21 March 2021 as part of the IHF Women's Olympic Qualification Tournament in Spain, which was officiated by the Uruguayan referee couple and attended, among others, by the Spanish Minister of Sports, several decisions taken by the referees were criticised by the attendees.



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In the finals of major IHF events, the PRC Chairman used to consult with the COC Chairman on the nomination of the referees. However, at the 2021 IHF Men's World Championship in Egypt, the PRC Chairman decided, without any consultation, to appoint the Spanish referee couple to officiate the final match.

According to the usual practice, the referee nominations for IHF events are limited to one couple per National Federation. However, the PRC Chairman insisted on nominating two referee couples from Spain for the 2021 IHF Men's World Championship in Egypt. Even after the remark from the IHF President to avoid nominating two couples from one National Federation to ensure diversity and a fair distribution among the National Federations, the PRC Chairman again proposed nominating two referee couples from Spain for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games despite the availability of further top-level IHF referees.

In March 2021, the IHF approached the PRC Chairman asking for his explanation about the aforementioned incidents. However, his input did not justify his above-mentioned decisions in terms of referee nominations.

Additionally, the PRC Chairman created a constant conflict with the European Handball Federation, which forced both IHF and EHF to convene mutual meetings to resolve the issues through mediation by their Presidents. Due to the PRC Chairman's differences with IHF PRC Member Dragan Nachevski, the PRC Chairman did not consider top-level IHF referee Gjorgji Nachevski (Dragan Nachevski's son) in his initial referee nominations for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. Afterwards, the PRC Chairman apologised for his inappropriate behaviour and nominated Gjorgji Nachevski for the mentioned event.

On 20 April 2021, the IHF Executive Committee organised a video call to discuss the above-mentioned incidents occurred at recent IHF events in terms of referee nominations as decided by the PRC Chairman. The Executive Committee considered the importance of avoiding any criticism, complaints or arguments as to referee nominations in order to protect the image of the IHF, and unanimously decided not to include PRC Chairman Ramón Gallego in the list of IHF nominees for the Olympic Handball Tournaments at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. The Executive Committee decision did not concern any other responsibility in connection with Ramón Gallego's position as IHF PRC Chairman.

However, by official letter dated 25 May 2021, Ramón Gallego resigned from all responsibilities in connection with his position as IHF PRC Chairman.

One of the IHF's duties is to protect the best interests of all IHF stakeholders, taking into consideration the huge investment made by the National Federations in the preparation of their national teams. Therefore, the IHF is always keen to conduct all matches of IHF events at the highest level avoiding any criticism, complaints or arguments whatsoever.

The content of Ramón Gallego's letter of resignation, which was disclosed by himself to the public, is not acceptable. The IHF President was of the opinion that Ramón Gallego only committed human mistakes, which, however, was not reflected in his resignation campaign.

The IHF Vice-President Europe commented that from his point of view the case is closed, with no necessity for further discussions. All Council members agreed not to discuss the matter further and unanimously accepted the PRC Chairman's resignation.

Decision

The Council took note of and unanimously accepted the resignation of IHF PRC Chairman Ramón



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Gallego from his positions in the IHF with immediate effect.

6. IHF Virtual Academy

President Moustafa gave the floor to the CCM Chairman who briefly informed about the three new digital media projects, starting with the revamp of the Education Centre, which is deemed highly necessary due to the fact that the Education Centre was launched in 2016 and huge technical development has occurred since then. In addition, he provided further details on the e-learning project, aiming to involve further target groups (not only referees and coaches, but also delegates as well as stakeholders from beach handball and wheelchair handball). The creation of a comprehensive content library will be crucial. He pointed out that also the usability of the current Education Centre needs to be further improved. Furthermore, he stressed the significance of the IHF Virtual Academy which had been launched at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020, but needs to be maintained in the future thanks to the huge possibilities it offers in terms of further education of different target groups. In this context, he briefly outlined the highly successful webinars and courses held recently as well as the planned activities in the near future, including but not limited to multipliers' coaching courses for Continental Confederations, IHF licence courses for coaches, and the 2022 IHF Live Online Symposium. The third project is the IHF rule interpretation module to be integrated into the mobile app. He stated that the IHF would like to establish an attractive medium not only for referees but also for coaches, players, spectators and media representatives, allowing them to have a better understanding of the IHF Rules of the Game while helping to create a common line regarding the rules. He also briefly presented the planned structure of the module and showed some video examples. The users will have the possibility to watch a video followed by a series of images analysing this video. Afterwards, the users will see the decision of the referees shown in the video along with the information whether this decision was correct. He also stressed the importance of connecting the printed rule documents to the interactive mobile app, in consideration of the rapid technical development.

The General Director informed that the IHF Executive Committee, in its meeting on 7 July 2021, unanimously approved to accept the offer from IHF web provider Link Development (EGY) regarding the revamp of the IHF Education Centre portal, IHF Virtual Academy, mobile app basic features, mobile Virtual Academy and mobile official IHF rule interpretation. Link Development shall provide a warranty period of two years to be counted after the delivery of the entire project.

Decision

The Council took note of the information provided by the CCM Chairman regarding the revamp of the IHF Education Centre portal, IHF Virtual Academy, mobile app basic features, mobile Virtual Academy and mobile official IHF rule interpretation and unanimously agreed to the decision of the IHF Executive Committee dated 7 July 2021 to accept the corresponding offer from IHF web provider Link Development (EGY).

7. Finances and marketing

7.1. Debts of National Federations

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who presented to the Council the current situation of the debts of some of the IHF Member Federations. The list includes the debt of Mauritius Handball Association, resulting from the 2017 Men's and Women's U17 Beach Handball World Championships in Mauritius, amounting to CHF 169,301.55, while the remaining National Federations' debts are relatively small.



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BEL, BIH, CHA, CIV, ECU, FAR, GRE, LBA, MNE, NGR, PAR and SGP have small amounts of debts towards the IHF, mostly related to IHF membership fees.

Decision

The Council unanimously agreed to waive the small amounts of debts of the National Federations of BEL, BIH, CHA, CIV, ECU, FAR, GRE, LBA, MNE, NGR, PAR and SGP, taking into consideration that this money shall be used for the development of handball in the countries concerned.

7.2. IHF-Sportfive partnership

President Moustafa referred to the decision of the IHF Council made in its last meeting on 19 February 2021 to approve in principle the extension of the IHF's partnership with Sportfive for several IHF events until 2029. He informed that in April 2021, Sportfive submitted an offer to acquire TV and marketing rights for all IHF Senior World Championships (indoor and beach handball), IHF Olympic Qualification Tournaments, IHF Junior and Youth World Championships (indoor handball) and IHF Beach Handball Global Tour until 2029, taking into consideration the existing TV rights contract between IHF and Sportfive for Senior World Championships (indoor handball) until 2025 and the existing TV and marketing rights contract between the two entities for Olympic Qualification Tournaments until 2024.

President Moustafa reported that after several negotiations, Sportfive submitted a revised offer on 14 July 2021 to acquire TV and marketing rights for all above-mentioned IHF events until 2031 (instead of 2029).

President Moustafa outlined again all IHF competitions included in the offer, except for the IHF Super Globe. He asked the Council members to study the offer thoroughly, as the offer was submitted one day prior to the present meeting and was forwarded immediately to the Council members by email. He requested the Council members to provide their input regarding the offer within two weeks. In case of unclear points or concerns regarding any point, the issue will be submitted again to the next IHF Council meeting.

Decision

The Council took note of the revised offer submitted by Sportfive in terms of TV and marketing rights for the above-mentioned IHF events until 2031. The Council members shall study the offer thoroughly and submit their corresponding input within two weeks. In case of unclear points or concerns regarding any point, the issue will be submitted again to the next IHF Council meeting.

8. IHF Regulations

8.1. Player Eligibility Code

President Moustafa gave the floor to the IHF Vice-President Europe to present the European Handball Federation's motion regarding the IHF Player Eligibility Code to the Council:

Article 1 – Basic Principles

2. The Player Eligibility Code is valid for Indoor Handball, Beach Handball and Wheelchair Handball players and players with learning disabilities alike. ~~as well as for players crossing from one of the aforementioned forms of handball to another.~~



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Article 2 – Player Status

1.1 Players participating in organised handball as professionals or amateurs may have the status of Indoor Handball, Beach Handball and Wheelchair Handball players and players with learning disabilities.

Justification:

Following the swift development of beach handball in the past years, the structural conditions for international competitions need to be adapted to facilitate the future development and professionalism of the discipline. Secondly, the adaption leads to the necessity to include players with learning disabilities for future competitions in the field of "Special Handball".

Currently, there is no separation between beach handball and indoor handball players and the same eligibility and transfer rules apply to the latter. A large number of players are still involved in both beach handball and indoor handball activities. As these two disciplines face different conditions and structural requirements, a clear separation is essential for the future. As a first step, it is necessary to introduce a players' registration and a club licencing for beach handball. This introduction leads to the integration of the current international transfer rules for beach handball in the future as well. An intermediate step is therefore required to allow a separate transfer of players depending on the discipline (beach handball or indoor handball) into which they are to be transferred.

In view of the European Games 2023, the European Handball Federation introduced a player's registration project to establish a clear and transparent structure in beach handball on a European level. To facilitate this project at all levels and ensure a sustainable impact, the IHF Player Eligibility Code shall be adapted. For beach handball, it is important that players can be registered for indoor clubs and at the same time for other beach handball clubs (even in different countries). In the future, a registered beach handball player should be able to register for any indoor handball club, regardless of the beach handball club and the country in which he/she plays beach handball, and vice versa. This implies that the registration and status of indoor handball player is independent from the status of beach handball player but that in both cases the respective transfer rules apply. The motion will clarify the presence of players in different clubs and as well support the integrity of the competitions on a club and national team level.

The General Director remarked that the present motion is rather related to the IHF Regulations for Transfer between Federations than the IHF Player Eligibility Code and proposed that the IHF transfer experts will liaise with the EHF transfer experts to prepare the final wording of the provisions concerned accordingly. The IHF Vice-President Europe agreed, stating that he requests the Council to approve the EHF's motion in principle.

Referring to the proposed wording "players with learning disabilities", Executive Committee Member Dr Frantisek Taborsky commented that from his understanding the term refers to mentally disabled athletes. He asked about the possibility to include also deaf athletes. The IHF Vice-President Europe recommended to consult experts for the correct formulation.

In addition, President Moustafa referred to the decision of Forum Club Handball not to remunerate player agents for international transfers any longer, if the agent represents the interests of the player. As a global solution is required, President Moustafa proposed to form a working group composed of representatives from IHF, EHF and FCH to deal with this matter.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved in principle the EHF's motion regarding the IHF Regulations for Transfer between Federations and the IHF Player Eligibility Code. The final wording of the provisions



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concerned will be prepared by the IHF and EHF transfer experts accordingly.

8.2. Wheelchair Handball Classification Rules and Regulations

President Moustafa gave the floor to Executive Committee Member and IHF Wheelchair Handball Working Group Chairman Dr Frantisek Taborsky who presented the Wheelchair Handball Classification Rules and Regulations Six-a-Side and Four-a-Side elaborated by the IHF Wheelchair Handball Working Group to implement the requirements of the 2015 IPC Athlete Classification Code and International Standards. The entire document (consisting of 14 articles and seven appendices as well as a glossary) had been communicated to the Council prior to the meeting.

He explained that classification is undertaken to define who is eligible to compete in wheelchair handball and to group athletes into sport classes which aim to ensure that the impact of impairment is minimised and sporting excellence determines which athlete or team is ultimately victorious.

He stressed the importance of the present regulations for the organisation of the first IHF Wheelchair Handball World Championship. He added that the 2015 IPC Athlete Classification Code is currently being reviewed and the revised version is planned to enter into force in January 2025. Therefore, the Wheelchair Handball Classification Rules and Regulations will have to be adapted accordingly in due course.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the Wheelchair Handball Classification Rules and Regulations Six-a-Side and Four-a-Side elaborated by the IHF Wheelchair Handball Working Group. The document shall be sent to all IHF Member Federations for information.

9. Continents

9.1. Report from the continents

President Moustafa asked the continental representatives to provide a brief report on the handball activities in the continents.

The IHF Vice-President Asia took the floor, informing the Council that the 17th Asian Men's Junior Championship in IRI as well as the 9th Asian Men's Youth Championship in KAZ had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 23rd Asian Men's Club League Championship was successfully organised from 12 to 21 June 2021 in Jeddah, KSA. The following events are scheduled to take place in the upcoming months:

- 18th Asian Women's Championship from 15 to 25 September 2021 in KOR
- 9th Asian Women's Youth Championship from 20 to 29 November 2021
- 20th Asian Men's Championship from 15 to 27 January 2022 in IRI
- 16th Asian Women's Junior Championship from 12-21 February 2022

He added that several online meetings and courses are being held in Asia, including but not limited to the B-licence coaching course from 2 to 15 December 2020 and the IHF Multiplier Course for AHF to be organised in three parts from July to September 2021.

The IHF Vice-President Europe took the floor, referring to the written report of the EHF's activities from March



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to June 2021 and future perspectives, which had been communicated to the Council prior to the meeting. He informed that the EHF managed to complete the season both on club and national team level in a good way. All EHF club and national team competitions, covering both men's and women's, indoor and beach handball have been carried out successfully under highly challenging circumstances due to COVID-19.

Referring to education and training, he reported that several meetings and courses have taken place since February 2021, pointing out that the virtual organisation of most of the meetings resulted in a higher number of participants. For the future, a reasonable system needs to be developed to have both physical and virtual meetings, as the case may be.

He outlined that a lot of investments have been made for the younger age category events coming up in July and August, with the EHF never having had so many tournaments running parallel, including the nomination of organisational and technical staff as well as dealing with various organisers and participating national teams across Europe.

Referring to the new season, the EHF has received 254 registrations from clubs for the European Cups, which proves the positive development.

He pointed out that the 15th Ordinary EHF Congress (election Congress for the period 2021-2025) was successfully carried out in Vienna with 40 nations in the Congress room and 10 nations connected remotely. The President, Vice-President and Vice-President Finances of the EHF were re-elected. Altogether, the EHF has now a strong percentage (34%) of female representatives in different functions.

President Moustafa conveyed his gratitude to the IHF Vice-President Europe for the great efforts accomplished by the EHF in further developing handball not only in Europe but also worldwide.

The IHF Representative North America and the Caribbean took the floor, reporting that handball activities are being resumed little by little in North America and the Caribbean. He pointed out that NACHC successfully organised their Ordinary Congress on 26 June 2021, which was held both physically (in Acapulco, MEX) and virtually, followed by the NACHC Junior Men's Qualification Tournament for the Junior Pan-American Games with the participation of four teams (CUB, DOM, MEX, PUR). He informed that NACHC is currently preparing the organisation of the NACHC Senior Women's Qualification Tournament for the 2021 Women's World Championship, which will take place in Chicago, USA at the end of August 2021, adding that four teams will participate in the event (GRL, MEX, PUR, USA). Referring to the qualification event for the 2021 Men's Super Globe, he asked for the authorisation from the IHF to postpone the competition by one week to the beginning of September. He expressed his hopes that NACHC will be able to carry out all their planned activities in the near future.

The IHF Representative South and Central America took the floor, reporting that the 1st Technical Congress of SCAHC took place from 19 to 22 April 2021 by video conference, stating that all nine commissions of SCAHC were represented during the meeting. In this context, he briefly informed about the working roundtable concerning women and handball which was attended among others by IHF Women's Handball Working Group Chairwoman Narcisa Lecusanu. Furthermore, a virtual school handball course was successfully organised in April/May 2021 with the participation of 13 National Federations from South and Central America (122 participants). He mentioned that SCAHC concluded agreements with two universities (Universidad de León from ESP and Universidad de las Américas from CHI), aiming to benefit the further development of handball in the continent. He briefly outlined the efforts exerted with regard to the foundation of national coach academies planned to be implemented in all countries of South and Central America. In terms of beach handball, he explained that a coaching course was held from 23 June to 3 July 2021, pointing out that 83



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coaches from 14 National Federations participated. He concluded his report by providing information about the work of the SCAHC Wheelchair Handball Commission and the different wheelchair handball competitions organised in South and Central America since 2010. Following the enquiry of President Moustafa, the IHF Representative South and Central America stressed that currently eight National Federations from South and Central America are practising wheelchair handball.

President Moustafa thanked the IHF Representatives North America and the Caribbean and South and Central America for the efforts and asked them to work together to further strengthen handball in both continents.

The General Director referred to the IHF Council meeting dated 19 February 2021 at which the settlement of the allocated IHF sponsorship amounting to USD 1,000,000 granted to the former Pan-American Team Handball Federation (PATHF) in 2014 was discussed. During the mentioned meeting, the IHF Representatives North America and the Caribbean and South and Central America were asked to finalise the issue (receive documentation on the spending of the USD 1,000,000 by the former PATHF and dissolve the account) within one month. The General Director informed that several video conferences were held between IHF and the IHF Representatives North America and the Caribbean and South and Central America to further discuss the matter.

The IHF Representative South and Central America explained the difficulties in collecting the required information, as official accounting documents are not available. According to the information he received from the former PATHF, which however is not clearly documented, an amount of USD 200,000 has been spent in cash to the CEO of PATHF, in addition to USD 118,000 paid to the lawyer hired by Mr Mario Moccia.

The IHF Vice-President Europe took the floor, stating that the accounts of PATHF should be dissolved first. Taking into consideration that a lack of accounting documents might be fraud, he stressed that legal action should be taken against PATHF, if applicable.

The IHF Representative North America and the Caribbean proposed to approach the former Treasurer of PATHF (who resigned in 2017) on the occasion of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, asking him a last time whether or not the required documentation on the spending of the USD 1,000,000 will be provided to the IHF.

President Moustafa proposed that the IHF Representatives North America and the Caribbean and South and Central America, on behalf of NACHC and SCAHC, respectively, authorise the IHF to handle the case by forwarding the entire matter to the IHF Ethics Commission and subsequently going to court. He added that for the time being the issue is to be handled within the IHF family, stating that in case of failure to settle the issue, the IHF shall file a lawsuit against PATHF in Switzerland. The IHF Representatives North America and the Caribbean and South and Central America agreed to President Moustafa's proposal. President Moustafa asked the IHF Representatives North America and the Caribbean and South and Central America to send the corresponding letter of authorisation to the IHF within one month.

The IHF Representative Oceania took the floor, informing that handball activities are still suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Border closures are continuing while infection rates are increasing in many parts of Oceania, which make it impossible to travel or even to practise sports. He briefly explained the challenges faced by the delegations of the Oceania NOCs in terms of travelling to the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. Referring to the planned continental qualification event for the 2021 Men's Super Globe in Australia in August, he stressed the difficulties in organising a competition under such challenging circumstances. He expressed his hopes that the governments will allow sports to continue.

President Moustafa wished all Continental Confederations good luck and reconfirmed that the IHF is always



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at the disposal of the Continental Confederations in case they need any help or support.

Decision

The Council took note of the activity reports provided by the continental representatives.

9.2. Nomination of European representatives to IHF bodies

President Moustafa gave the floor to the IHF Vice-President Europe who presented the following nominations of EHF representatives to IHF bodies following the 15th Ordinary EHF Congress held in April 2021, which had also been communicated by official letter dated 16 June 2021:

- Council
 - Michael Wiederer (AUT) as IHF Vice-President Europe
 - Predrag Boskovic (MNE) as IHF Representative Europe
- Commission of Organising and Competition (COC): Bozidar Djurkovic (SRB)
- Commission of Coaching and Methods (CCM): Pedro Sequeira (POR)
- Playing Rules and Referees Commission (PRC): Dragan Nachevski (MKD)
- Medical Commission (MC): Marina Gillard (external/RUS)
- Commission for Development (CD): Francisco Blázquez Garcia (ESP)

Further contact persons: Gabriella Horvath (HUN) for beach handball matters and Hans Holdhaus (AUT) for anti-doping matters.

All the nominations are foreseen for the period after the 2021 IHF Congress for the function period until 2025.

Decision

The Council unanimously and provisionally confirmed the following nominations from the European Handball Federation to the IHF Council until the next IHF Congress in 2021 according to Article 11.2.4 of the IHF Statutes:

IHF Vice-President Europe: Mr Michael Wiederer (AUT)

IHF Representative Europe: Mr Predrag Boskovic (MNE)

The appointment of Commission members for the period 2021-2025 shall be dealt with by the Council after the 2021 Ordinary IHF Congress.

10. Miscellaneous

10.1. Council decisions made by electronic communication

The Council members confirmed the following via electronic communication:

- *Suspension of Egyptian Handball Federation President - Input from Eng. Hisham Nasr*

Reference was made to the IHF Council decision dated 19 February 2021 to suspend Egyptian Handball Federation President Eng. Hisham Nasr from all handball activities with immediate effect until the next IHF Congress due to his serious and repeated violations of the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan during the 2021 IHF Men's World Championship.

According to Article 14.3.27 of the IHF Statutes, Eng. Hisham Nasr has the right to present his arguments to the Council. The Council thoroughly studied Eng. Hisham Nasr's corresponding input and confirmed the



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decision of suspension taken by the IHF Council.

Date of communication: 14 March 2021

Date of decision: **14 March 2021**

- ***IHF Ethics Commission decision - Conduct of Eng. Alaa Elsayed***

Reference was made to the decision of the IHF Executive Committee taken in its meeting held by video conference on 19 February 2021 with regard to the behaviour of IHF Inspection Working Group Chairman and COC Member Eng. Alaa Elsayed (EGY) during the 2021 Men's World Championship in Egypt. The Executive Committee unanimously decided to exclude Eng. Alaa Elsayed from the IHF Inspection Working Group and submit the issue to the IHF Ethics Commission to study the matter and take further action, if applicable.

The decision rendered by the IHF Ethics Commission on 28 April 2021, given the serious nature of the failure and the principle of proportionality of the sanction, is to impose on Eng. Alaa Elsayed: a).- a three month suspension counted from the day following notification of this resolution, from taking part in any handball related activity including any official international Event organised, endorsed or approved by the IHF, and b).- a fine of CHF 2,500, both for violation of the Integrity principle contained in Article 5 of the Ethics Code, in accordance with the provisions of Article 9 of the IHF Ethics Code, further urging Eng. Alaa Elsayed not to repeat the conduct in the future.

Date of communication: 21 June 2021

For information only (no Council decision)

10.2. IHF Athletes' Commission

The IHF Vice-President Europe took the floor, stating that the current mandate of the IHF Athletes' Commission which was elected at Rio 2016 ends with the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. He asked about the current status in view of this year's election.

The General Director replied that the IHF sent a communication to all IHF Member Federations on 4 June 2021, informing them that an election is taking place on the fringes of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games in order to renew the composition of the IHF Athletes' Commission for the 2021-2024 period. The Member Federations were asked to submit corresponding candidatures by 30 June 2021. As the IHF Executive Committee shall check the candidates' eligibility to stand for election according to Article 3.1.a of the Regulations for IHF Athletes' Commission, the IHF Executive Committee studied the submitted candidatures and confirmed on 13 July 2021 that eight candidates fulfil the criteria stipulated in Article 4.2.1 of the Regulations for IHF Athletes' Commission and are thus eligible to stand for election. General information on the candidates was published on the IHF website on 14 July 2021. She pointed out that the 360 athletes participating in the Men's and Women's Olympic Handball Tournaments (15 athletes per participating team) are entitled to vote. All information related to the voting process will be sent to the participating teams in due course.

Decision

The Council took note of the information provided regarding the IHF Athletes' Commission.



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The date and place of the next IHF Council meeting will be communicated by email.

President Moustafa thanked the participants for the constructive meeting and closed the session. He conveyed once again his wishes for continued good health and safety to all participants.

INTERNATIONAL HANDBALL FEDERATION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Moustafa', positioned above the printed name.

Dr Hassan Moustafa
President

