

## Minutes to the 148<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting in Cologne, Germany

**Date:** 21 November 2019  
**Time:** 09:00 – 12:30  
**Venue:** Radisson Blu Hotel – Concilium 2

**Participants:**

Michael Wiederer	President
Predrag Bošković	First Vice President
Henrik La Cour	Vice President Finance
Božidar Djurković	Chairman Competitions Commission
Jerzy Elias	Chairman Methods Commission
Stefan Lövgren	Member
Gabriella Horvath	Member
Anrijs Brencans	Member
Gerd Butzeck	Chairman Professional Handball Board
Nodjialem Myaro	Chairwoman Women's Handball Board
Martin Hausleitner	Secretary General
Andrea Moser	Chief Finance Officer
Vesna Lazić	PA to the President
Marsha Brown	Corporate Liaison

**Excused:**

Ole R. Jørstad	Chairman Beach Handball Commission
Markus Glaser	Chief Sports Officer

### 1. Welcome, programme and agenda

President Wiederer welcomed the members to the 148<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Executive Committee held in Cologne. The absence of BC Chairman Jørstad and CSO Glaser, who were unable to attend due to other professional obligations, was mentioned. The Chairmanship of the meeting was shared between President Wiederer and First Vice President Bošković.

### 2. Minutes

#### 2.1. Executive Committee 09/2019

The minutes were approved.

### 3. Reports and decisions

#### 3.1. Finance Delegation 11/2019

In addition to the report submitted prior to the meeting, Secretary General Hausleitner elaborated on a few points. Compensation for elected persons was discussed and adapted accordingly; reflecting the information given at the 2016 Congress, no compensation was awarded to the President. An end of year bonus for the professional staff was confirmed. The area of transfers remains stable and no major changes are expected. The accounts of the National Federations are balanced; however, based on the advice of the EHF Comptrollers, the EHF will refund deposits exceeding EUR 150k at the end of the year as part of an overall risk strategy; at the request of the Vice President Finance, the Executive Committee confirmed the action to refund the deposits.

##### 3.1.1. General report

President Wiederer briefly referred to the paper containing an overview of the recent activities (stakeholder-, strategic-, cooperation-, and regular business meetings) since the last EXEC meeting.

### **3.1.2. 2019 Budget / Accounting**

Vice President Finance, Henrik La Cour provided a brief overview to the current status regarding revenues where the line items that exceeded the original forecast, i.e. Other Partnerships (attributed to EHF) and Transfers, were highlighted. In comparison to the forecast presented at the Congress, the current information showed an increase (EUR 820k) in the area of revenues.

Concerning 2019 expenses, La Cour drew attention to the new line item that represents personnel costs relating to the new Infront/DAZN agreement. With reference to the EHF Office, an increase in the expenditure was attributed to the headcount increase, structural modifications, and internal refurbishments. With some line items below budget i.e. Congress/Meetings, and increased investments for the Men's EHF EURO 2020, the forecast indicated only a small total increase in Expenditure. Wiederer added that intermediate reports (2019 accounts, 2020 budget) will be given in Stockholm in January 2020 at the Extraordinary EHF Congress.

### **3.1.3. 2020 Budget**

Continuing with a focus on the 2020 Budget, La Cour noted the expected increase in revenues (approx. EUR 580k) related to the new partnerships (Men's EHF EURO) and the exploitation of data rights. To summarise the status of expenses, La Cour highlighted the anticipated reduction in certain areas i.e. Congress/Meetings – specifically the upcoming Extraordinary Congress. In anticipation of the activation of the new Infront/DAZN agreement, adjustments were made in the line item 'Personnel' as the staffing process for the new contract will be continued. Additional funds have been made available in the areas of 'Development' (Respect Your Talent), 'Business Development 2020+' (Brand, EHF Master Plan, Home of Handball), and 'Competitions' (Anti-Doping). Closing the report, La Cour underlined that despite the increases foreseen (revenues and expenses), the forecasted result over the two-year period remained close to the information presented at the 2018 Congress.

## **3.2. Secretary General – report**

### **3.2.1. Business Report**

To supplement the report at hand, Secretary General Hausleitner expanded on key points. In the area of personnel, Joseph Banholzer joined EHF Media as the new Social Media Manager, and the search for a successor to CFO Moser, as well as additional support in the area of EHF IT, is ongoing. Nancy Johnson joined the EHF Events department. At this time, though the project for the new EHF House is continuing, there is no new information to impart.

In addition to the standard scheduled meetings (HUB, Management Board, General Management), in light of the increased workload and in order to enable a seamless efficiency between internal departments, two new meetings (Product Portfolio Meeting, IT and Media) were added to the regular processes.

Moving on to 'IT Strategy and Investments', Hausleitner informed that the 'Home of Handball' project is proceeding accordingly; an agreement with Oracle (to handle CRM aspects) has been signed. Cooperation with EOS Data on the EHF Enterprise Layer project, as well as the official EHF App project, was started. The solution for an accreditation system was also started and it is expected that the project will be finalised in March 2020. Wiederer added that many of the elements discussed are to be seen in connection with the start of the I&D agreement in 2020.

Referring to business partnerships following the decision of the Executive Committee, a draft contract was prepared with **eventim**; it was underlined that the interests of the National Federations will be safeguarded, in this respect cooperation with HUN/SVK was initiated. The EHF extended the partnership with **Select** until 2024; the EHF EURO cycle including the Women's EHF EURO in December is covered. The collaboration with **Kinexon** remains within the timeline defined and the

project setup therefore for the future is from EHF EURO 2020 onwards. The negotiations with a new equipment partner reached a successful conclusion; this would be a 'Value in Kind' arrangement with no cash payments.

As to the current data tender, the EHF enters into first negotiations with Sportradar to which the Executive Committee was provided detailed information. Upon recommendation, the Executive Committee gave approval for the EHF to conclude the equipment agreement with a new equipment partner starting from 01.07.2020 and will be informed on the ongoing negotiations with Sportradar. **Europe Versicherung** (German insurance company) signed on as a service partner for the (left) sleeve and board advertising at the Men's EHF EURO 2020; it was underlined that the deal does not damage the interests of the National Federations.

### *3.2.2. Legal Management*

With the report at hand, Hausleitner added that due to the increased workload in the department (GDPR, trademarks, new contracts, safeguarding, regulations, etc.), Sophia Touiker will remain in her position until June 2020.

### *3.2.3. Anti-doping Unit*

The report confirming that all the tests conducted in this season so far are negative and informing on the recent activities was in hand. The proposed budget will be part of the overall budget 2020 and was confirmed by the Executive Committee. Concerning the recent cases in Romania, the President and the Vice President provided the Executive Committee with a brief recap of the situation; it was underlined that these cases (initiated by the Romanian National Doping Agency) are not linked to EHF activities, although it does affect handball as several players are to be suspended. In relation to the Romanian club in the third round of the EHF Cup, the EHF position will be examined.

## **3.3. Report EHF Marketing GmbH**

### *3.3.1. 2018/2019 Business Year / General Assembly*

The General Assembly took place the day prior to the Executive Committee meeting; it was reported that EHF M successfully closed its business year, and following the controls undertaken by the Comptrollers' Council (for the first time together with the club representatives), the financial outcome for both the clubs (and the EHF) was double than the granted payments according to the regulations. Due to additional sponsorships and the careful handling of the MP&Silva case, it was classified as the best EHF M year to date.

### *3.3.2. 2019/2020 Business Year*

During the General Assembly the EHF M budget for 2019/2020 was approved. The 2021 budget was also approved eight months prior to the corresponding season; the early preparation and approval of the budget was due to the analysis undertaken by the EHF M Managing Director that assessed the situation following the activation of the I&D agreement that will see a major shift in the EHF M financial landscape.

### *3.3.3. Information MCB / WCB*

With the minutes of the Men's Club Board (MCB) at hand, no additional remarks were given. To the topic of the Women's Club Board (WCB) several issues were raised (i.e. meeting participation, WCB structure, no direct link to Advisory Board). The relevant stakeholders are to be informed through the respective channels that a change is needed as the current system is no longer sustainable.

### *3.3.4. Advisory Board meeting 11/2019*

The meeting dealt with the preparation of the General Assembly; a major part of the meeting also covered the finances of the organisation. The Advisory Board also dealt followed up on questions discussed at the level of the MCB on various matters such as regulation changes, venues, etc.

### 3.4. Further reports

President Wiederer opened the agenda point by mentioning the written report available on the EUSA Conference and Extraordinary Assembly, which was attended by Member Brencans. To the minutes of the IHF-EHF-EHPU meeting it was noted that although the campaign of the players targeted IHF issues, the EHF was addressed as the initiative came from Europe. Following a brief discussion of the situation, Wiederer added that the minutes fully reflect the content and the run-down of the meeting. To the IHF Council meeting, the Executive Committee were informed that a proposal for the international transfer of players (specifically the definition of top, developed, emerging nations) was confirmed. President Wiederer provided an overview of the current information concerning the 2021 IHF Ordinary Congress, as well as the position of the EHF. It was noted that the formal confirmation on the awarding of the event will be undertaken by the IHF Council in February 2020.

## 4. Commissions / Boards

### 4.1. Competitions Commission and Technical Refereeing Committee

Božidar Djurković, Chairman of the Competitions Commission, provided an update on the current status of club and national team competitions. The women's club competitions have entered the winter hiatus and matches will resume in 2020. Legal proceedings were initiated against a Turkish club after it withdrew from the Women's Challenge Cup in October 2019. The men's club competitions enter the final two weeks of matches before the winter break; the draws of the Men's Challenge Cup and the EHF Cup Group Phase together with a workshop of the qualified teams will take place in Vienna next week.

The first rounds of the Women's EHF EURO 2020 Qualifiers took place without incident in late September; the competition continues in March (R3/R4) and May (R5/R6) 2020. The initial matches of the Men's WCh 2021 Qualification phase 1 took place towards the end of October; the qualification will resume in January 2020. The Men's EHF EURO 2022 relegation round between GEO-FIN, LUX-EST and BEL-CYP will be played in home and away format between 15 and 19 January 2020. The winners will qualify for the Men's EHF EURO 2022 Qualifiers (phase 2). The 2020 YAC Organisers' Workshop was held in Vienna at the beginning of November; all organisers of the M18 EURO (SLO) and championships (BUL, MKD, and MNE) as well as of the M20 EURO (AUT/ ITA) and championships (BIH and LAT) were present.

### 4.2. Methods Commission

Chairman Elias noted that though no meetings had taken place since the last meeting, many activities such as the final preparations of the 2020 European Wheelchair Handball Championship and the withdrawal of ESP, participation at the IHF Working Group Wheelchair Handball in Basel, etc. had taken place. Elias also referred to the written report submitted to the Executive Committee prior to the meeting. Subsequently, the motions of the Methods Commission were treated.

#### **Motion 1: 2020 EHF EUROS and EHF CL 2020/2021 coaches' licensing (mandatory pro-license)**

Explaining the current situation to the documents already presented, Elias noted that the motion stemmed from the enquiries received from National Federations concerned about the mandated coaching requirements for the competitions mentioned. Following analysis of the situation, the MC recommended a change in the procedure to allow for the stakeholders to gain the required license and in particular for the EHF EURO 2020 coaches until the end of June.

***The motion was approved by the Executive Committee; however, it was made clear that information is to be distributed with the clear statement that the stakeholders had enough time to attain the respective license.***

## **Motion 2: EHF RINCK Convention Panel**

In accordance with the motion and respective documentation submitted by the MC, the RINCK Convention Task Force shall be reformed into the EHF RINCK Conventional Panel.

***The motion was approved as written by the Executive Committee with the amendment that upon recommendation of the Methods Commission, the Executive Committee will nominate the persons to the panel.***

## **Motion 3: Wheelchair Handball Manuals**

The documents are based on other EHF documents but with minor changes e.g. financial punishments. In the brief discussion that followed, the EHF leadership intoned the importance of developing the area of wheelchair handball in relation to Paralympic activities on a national and international level.

***Based on the written information submitted prior to the meeting and the additional information given during the meeting, the Executive Committee approved the motion as a package (Regulations, Rules, Classification, Organisers' Manual, and Code of Conduct). The IHF and the National Federations are to be informed of this decision accordingly.***

## **Motion 4: Memorandum of Understanding - SOEE**

The EHF MC supports the request of SOEE to sign a Memorandum of Understanding, as many other sport federations already did in the past. The MoU does not contain any financial obligation and is aimed at promotion and spreading awareness of handball for athletes with mental disabilities.

***The motion was approved as written by the Executive Committee.***

Closing the report, Chairman Elias mentioned the start of the 5<sup>th</sup> EHF Scientific Conference that would follow the meeting of the Executive Committee at the Sport University of Cologne. The Conference will see several keynote addresses, and over 40 additional presentations. Following the event, all articles will be published in the conference documentation.

Referring to the discussion at the previous meeting of the Executive Committee (see minutes EXEC°147, AP4), it was already confirmed that the EHF had released MC Member Klaus Feldmann (GER) from duty. With the tasks already distributed among the remaining Commission Members and as well tasks be taken over by the Chairman, the position will remain vacant for the remainder of the electoral period.

### **4.3. Beach Handball Commission**

Secretary General Hausleitner presented the report of the Beach Handball Commission, due to the absence of BC Chairman Ole R. Jørstad. Expanding on points 3 and 5 of the written report, and with beach handball entwined in the future I&D agreement, the BC was invited to submit a long-term strategic plan (incl. budget, regulations, licensing, etc.). A meeting with Chairman Jørstad to discuss the future perspective of beach handball will take place on 3 December in Vienna. Mentioning the resignation Juan Carlos Zapardiel Cortés, it was proposed and confirmed that the position will be assumed by the additional Member Rakonjac for the remainder of the electoral period.

EOC Sport Director, Peter Brüll, will attend a meeting with the EHF on 25 November 2019 in Vienna where the possible inclusion of beach handball in the program of the European Games and EYOF will be discussed. This follows the contacts made by President Wiederer at the EOC General Assembly in Warsaw, and discussions and contact with Janez Kocijančič (EOC President) and Andrzej Kraśnicki (ZPRP President, POL NOC President, and EOC Executive Committee Member). Wiederer mentioned that to include handball would have a positive impact on IOC aspirations; he underlined that beach handball was not a substitute, but an addition to the EYOF. The situation must be seen in a broader context; to this the Executive Committee expressed its support.

## **BC Motion - Awarding of the 2020 beach handball events**

Based on the information submitted by the Beach Handball Commission, the 2020 events were awarded by the Executive Committee as follows:

- ebt Finals (4-7 June): CYP  
*It was noted that the BC should encourage the Russian organiser to apply for the 2021 event.*
- BH Championship 1 (3-5 July): GRE
- BH Championship 2 (3-5 July): GEO
- MW16 BH EURO (9-12 July): ITA  
*Dealing with the request for financial support from FIGH for the 2019 BH Champions Cup as well as the application to host the 2021 YAC BH EURO, from the brief discussion that followed, it was decided that prior to any decision on financial support being taken, the final accounting from all three events 2019/2020 held in ITA is to be concluded. Additionally, the FIGH will be contacted to supply additional information as to the concrete figures.*

### **4.4. Nations Board (Men)**

Opening the report, President Wiederer provided an overview of the major meeting sessions throughout the year (stakeholders, EHF Board/FD). On this occasion it was decided to combine the meetings with the understanding that information needed to be imparted in relation to the new agreement as financial questions were still open in some of the fields. The combined meetings also allowed for information to be given in an efficient manner. Thus, the first blended meeting was that of the Nations' Board (NB) and the European Handball League Board (EHLB) followed by the individual sessions.

To the 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Nations' Board, the minutes are at hand; in this session, the main topic of discussion was financial issues concerning the national team events in order to optimise the situation. To this end, in a working group (financial distribution at the national team level) at which NB representatives were present, and during the meeting of the Nations' Board, the members were provided comprehensive information and asked for input regarding investments.

### **4.5. European Handball League Board (EHLB)**

The minutes of the meetings (individual and EHLB/NB sessions) held in October are available; no additional special report was given.

### **4.6. Women's Handball Board (WHB)**

The minutes of the meetings (individual and PHB/WHB sessions) held in October are available; to supplement the report submitted prior to the meeting, Chairwoman Myaro added the WHB made several proposals related to the EHF Master Plan 2020-2027. Furthermore, Myaro made the correction that seven participants will take part in the Women's Handball Project, and not three as previously reported. The preparations for the 'Respect Your Talent' Camp in December (with 29 selected young top players) are ongoing and proceeding accordingly, as are the plans for the Women's Handball Network Workshop in 2020.

La Cour elaborated on the discussions held on the matter of emerging nations, as smaller Federations have indicated to WHB Members that they want to play and need a good championship, and requested that a solution be found. Therefore, the WHB submitted the information to the Competitions Commission; in an initial response, the CC deemed the proposal interesting and will be on the agenda of the next CC meeting. Wiederer added that it is important to find out what the IHF is doing on this level in order to harmonise the activities in the interest of the participating teams.



#### **4.7. Professional Handball Board (PHB)**

PHB Chairman Butzeck informed the Executive Committee on the joint meeting with the WHB where a guest speaker, Michael Naversnik, presented information on the EHF Master Plan – a detailed and updated presentation will be given at the upcoming Congress in Stockholm. Continuing, Butzeck noted that the PHB discussed the Men's EHF EURO 2020 and it was mentioned that it would be a big challenge to have one championship and not three; meaning that the co-hosts have to present a unified event to ensure that it is perceived as one event to the public and the participants. Looking to the stakeholders that comprise the PHB, the Executive Committee were informed that the EHLB aim to realise best practice workshops; the leagues have identified an opportunity with beach handball and aim to get closer to that branch of the sport. Furthermore, problems still exist around the calendar and its match days as of 2020/21 in particular in France. Regarding the EHPU, the group wants to include players from minor markets as direct members; as to the meeting with the IHF, the EHPU is happy that the meeting took place, but still want to be represented in the IHF Athletes Commission, which is not the case at the moment.

Other discussions within the PHB also touched on the upcoming IHF elections, where it was mentioned that it should be a topic for the whole, as it is important for the future of handball. Bringing his report to a close, Chairman Butzeck also mentioned that the whistle blower system was in place and, according to the information available, it is running smoothly, and there had been no major actions in this regard.

### **5. Competitions – reports and decisions**

#### **5.1. Organization of events**

Opening the agenda point, President Wiederer said that in addition to the report from the Competitions Commission an events report is also submitted to the Executive Committee prior to meetings to provide an overview on the major events with the current status. The report would not be reiterated, but only points of relevance for the coming events and those necessary for a decision-making process.

##### *5.1.1. 2019 events – status report*

Secretary General Hausleitner noted that the 2019 European Wheelchair Handball Nations' Tournament in Croatia is the final event of the year; preparations are ongoing. All other events came to a successful conclusion and were reported at previous meetings.

##### *5.1.2. 2020 events – preview*

**Men's EHF EURO 2020:** on the marketing level, the event is sold out; eight partners found by Infront are ready to activate their sponsorships. TV broadcasting issues in France and Austria were resolved; the event will see an increase in the number of broadcasted matches, resulting in more TV transmission hours. The final preparations are underway; the nomination of officials is complete and was published, and the contact to the referees and delegates was established. More investment in media environment for the production and distribution of clips, etc. has been organised, as well as to ensure a more developed event App and surprises in the area of entertainment. When it comes to the Kinexon project to visualise the game for the spectators (display cube), progressive steps have been taken.

**2020 YAC Events:** the workshop with the organisers of the men's YAC events has taken place; the 'Respect Your Talent' initiative will implemented during these events.

**EHF Masters Championships:** the required inspections have taken place.

**Women's EHF EURO 2020 NOR/DEN:** after the men's event, the intensive final preparations for the women's event will begin. The Final Tournament Draw Event is scheduled for June 2020 to be

followed by the Heads of Delegations Conference in autumn. Based on the experience of the organisers, as well as from the experience gained in January 2020, this will be the first EURO where the EHF will organise the merchandising element together with the new equipment provider. Though it is expected to be a challenge, more steps are being taken to bring the spotlight to women's handball.

#### *5.1.3. 2021 – 2024 events*

**Men's EHF EURO 2022 HUN/SVK:** workshops with the OC teams (>20 persons) have taken place; the topics of discussion included brand, ticketing, and promotion. Issues concerning venues were resolved. The Qualifiers draw event will take place in Bratislava (SVK) on the fringes of the Conference for Secretaries General; the opportunity will also be used to stage the next EURO 2022 workshop.

**Women's EHF EURO 2022 SLO/MKD/MNE:** contact has been established with the organisers. Information on the venue construction in MNE was also given. The first workshops for this event will be scheduled in spring 2020 following the EURO in January.

**Men's EHF EURO 2024 GER:** initial contact with the OC has been excellent and good discussions have taken place. It is foreseen that the opening match will take place in the Düsseldorf stadium (55k spectator capacity). The application for the venues is ongoing on a local level; however, excellent venues are on offer for the entire event.

**Women's EHF EURO 2024:** the official bid books from Hungary, Switzerland and Austria (HAS), Poland, Slovakia and Czech Republic (PSC), and Russia (RUS) were made available to the Executive Committee. The inspections have taken place. The awarding was referred back to the Congress in October by the Executive Committee; thus, the event will be on the agenda in Stockholm.

## **5.2. Club Competitions**

### *5.2.1. 2019/2020 Season*

**Awarding of the EHF CUP Final 2020:** President Wiederer reiterated that the process for this final tournament was been handled jointly by EHF Marketing and the Competitions Commission. Two applications to host the event were submitted by Nantes HB (FRA) and Füchse Berlin (GER); both applicants fulfil the requisite conditions.

***Following a brief discussion, the Executive Committee awarded the event to Berlin/GER organised by Füchse Berlin (GER) with one abstention.***

### *5.2.2. Preview 2020/2021*

CC Chairman Djurković introduced the motion giving a brief overview of the document at hand; it was noted that this proposal was discussed in the Competitions Commission, the EHF Men's and Women's Club Boards. It was underlined that this was not about having the clubs buying a new floor, but having only handball lines. In order to grant the qualitative conditions as the competitions progress (as the rounds discussed are the direct qualification to the respective group phases) it was deemed to have the matter decided prior to the start of the season.

### **Motion to the 2020/2021 season: European Handball League - Handball Lines only**

All matches of the European Handball League in Qualification Round 2 (Men) and Qualification Round 3 (Women) have to be played on a floor with "Handball Lines only".

***The motion was approved as written.***

## **5.3. Other Competitions**

Secretary General Hausleitner stated that in light of the cooperation with Infront & DAZN, the EHF was in the process of adapting competition regulations; due to the bidding and application process



starting in December for the events in 2021, the YAC EURO/Championship regulations were amended accordingly; this enables the EHF to fulfil its contractual obligations. All changes were submitted to the Executive Committee for review.

### **Motion - Adaptation of the YAC EHF EURO Regulations for 2021:**

### **Motion - Adaptation of the YAC EHF Championship Regulations for 2021:**

The exact wording will be formulated in cooperation with the legal department and then implemented into all YAC EHF EURO and EHF Championship regulations in order to prepare the announcement/bidding and registration documents in due time.

***Both motions were approved as written.***

## **5.4. Competition related issues**

### **5.4.1. Officiating**

CC Chairman Djurković delivered a brief update on the activities in the area of officiating, specifically the preparation of the officials nominated to the EHF EURO 2020 SAN; the officials have been encouraged to make use of the Mental Coaching Support on offer, and guidance for physical preparation was given. In order to allow for a unified line within the framework of the competition, a video platform with clips in several different categories are also be made available to the delegates and the participating teams.

The nominations for the EURO 2020 matches are conducted by the EHF Office (Refereeing Operations) in coordination with the CC Member refereeing Dragan Nachevski. As in the past, referees will change the groups between the matches and will never have the same team twice in the preliminary round. All nominated couples will be present during the Officials Seminar in Vienna from 5-7 January 2020.

Furthermore, due to changes in the EHF competition repertoire and the general financial framework, payments to referees and delegates in all EHF competitions (club and national team) are currently under review. Following the analysis, which includes qualitative analysis, a proposal will be presented to the Executive Committee in January.

***The Executive Committee took note of the information provided.***

President Wiederer mentioned the meeting that took place with the organisers of the Partille Cup to which the minutes are available. Three main topics were discussed; this included the potential of a Champions League draw in Gothenburg, which was dismissed due to logistical reasons. The hosting of the 2020 Wheelchair Handball Championship was also discussed; more clarification to this matter is needed. Also the initial discussions concerning the prolongation of the EHF cooperation with Partille Cup in the area of the European Open events as of 2021; however, there remain matters to be clarified.

## **6. Marketing agreement 2020+ - Information and decisions**

### **6.1. Status report**

### **6.2. Commercial partnership / Work flow**

Due to the constant flow of information surrounding the topic, Secretary General Hausleitner highlighted points of activity. Intense discussions around **digital strategy** specifically content production have taken place; in order to cover the basic obligations, the EHF must create the competence within. The processes surrounding **media sales** are going well as major agreements have been concluded and smaller agreements have been added. In order to gain exposure in 'weaker' markets, DAZN will offer the use of its platform. In the area of **marketing sales** it was noted that although Infront continues to do a good job in the area, difficulties are still being experienced as there is no 'green light' for contracts on the level of club competitions; talks regarding the future

approach have taken place. Concerning **brand**, the logos for future competitions were unveiled, which includes a third colour; also a new font for YAC and BH competitions was created.

The EHF will also be a main stage participant at the 2020 SPOBIS Conference; President Wiederer, John Gleasure (DAZN), and a representative from Infront will present the envisaged 10 years of best practice and discuss the potential of handball.

Closing the report, the most recent meetings of the Steering Board and the Strategy Committee that took place in London were mentioned; the careful handling of the key topics, as well as the positive cooperation with Infront and DAZN, has the EHF very optimistic that the agreement will start as planned.

### **6.3. Financial Agreements**

President Wiederer reiterated that there are two financial agreements covering clubs and national teams; the respective budgets provide the overview of the figures. The situation with national teams was previously discussed in the meeting. On the side of the clubs, a concrete proposal was confirmed by the Executive Committee and the figures were to be implemented into the regulations; following an evaluation, the proposal was renewed and sharpened; however it was underlined that there were no major changes. Only small adaptations are to be confirmed by the Executive Committee once again; this is also necessary due to the impositions on EHF Marketing concerning granted payments to the clubs. Butzeck added that the considerations were made based on the estimations produced in January 2019, and the new budget is comparatively different. Thus, the expected outcome is significantly better, and there are more revenues to be delivered; how to deliver the (financial) difference is to be determined.

***The Executive Committee confirmed the adaptations.***

## **7. Upcoming activities**

### **7.1. Scientific Conference**

MC Chairman Eliasz reiterated that the 5<sup>th</sup> EHF Scientific Conference is being hosted in cooperation with the University of Cologne. Over 70 papers have been submitted; during the event approximately 50 presentations will be held in parallel sessions. Eliasz noted that the event sees a larger participation than at the last event.

### **7.2. 15<sup>th</sup> EHF Conference of Presidents 2020**

#### *7.2.1. Organisation*

#### *7.2.2. Task distribution*

The organisation of the event is proceeding accordingly; the timetable of the event also covers the entire final weekend (EHF EURO 2020) in Stockholm. Regarding the agenda, a draft is available with an outline of the estimated timings are given based on the decisions to be made in the Extraordinary Congress; it was noted that there will be no additional reports.

### **7.3. 13<sup>th</sup> EHF Extraordinary Congress 2020**

#### *7.3.1. Agenda*

The EHF Extraordinary Congress will commence immediately after the Conference of Presidents; the draft of the agenda is available. It is foreseen that the discussion of the EHF Master Plan will take place during the Conference of Presidents with the confirmation of the Master Plan to take place during the Extraordinary Congress in order to strengthen the project. The main target of the Congress will be finance questions in relation to the 2021/2022 period.

#### *7.3.2. 2021/2022 Budget*

Vice President Finances La Cour provided information on the 2-year budget under the new contract; the figures presented at the 14<sup>th</sup> Conference of Presidents were allocated to the individual years of

2021 and 2022. The budgets also follow the distribution key decided at the 2008 Congress. It was mentioned that in 2021 an additional share resulting from the 'old' Infront contract is budgeted and distributed as in the past.

CFO Moser provided additional information regarding individual budget items. A moderate increase in compensations to EHF elected officials; it was repeated that no compensation was awarded to the President. The budget for Congress and Meetings was increased to reflect the upcoming 30<sup>th</sup> EHF anniversary. The line item for Personnel and Office is based on the 2020 amounts and include an index based increase. Budgets for the activities of the MC and CC were also increased (after 10 years). In the area of development along with the amounts resulting from the distribution key, additional funds were allocated for the various measures in connection with the EHF Master Plan. Furthermore the budget for support and activities for Younger Age Categories was doubled.

Measures foreseen in the 2020 budget for Business Development are continued and extended; the obligatory investments according to the I&D contract are included. Under further expenses related to Infrastructure/new office building, the reserve for construction, as well as the respective systematic depreciation, was increased.

It was noted that a surplus of approximately of EUR 1.2 million is budgeted. In accordance with the Austrian regulations for non-profit organisations reserves in the amount of a year's turnover can be accumulated. Wiederer underlined that the presentation of the budgets at the EHF Congress have to be seen in the context of the 2019 accounting, the 2020 budget, and the preparation for the future, which is part of the business.

***The Executive Committee confirmed that the budget for 2021/2022 can be tabled at the 13<sup>th</sup> EHF Extraordinary Congress.***

Closing the report, it was mentioned that the extension of the electoral term is also to be dealt with at the Extraordinary Congress.

### 7.3.3. Awarding

Please refer to agenda point 5.1.3.

### 7.4. 12<sup>th</sup> EHF Conference for Secretaries General 2020

The preparations for the 12<sup>th</sup> EHF Conference for Secretaries General are ongoing; the event will take place in Bratislava (SVK) on the fringes of draw event for the EHF EURO 2022 HUN/SVK.

## 8. Various

Due to professional obligations Carmen Manchado is no longer able to serve as the technical delegate to the European Universities Sports Association; the Executive Committee approved the proposal for Jelena Rakonjac to assume the technical role in EUSA.

The updated meeting calendar (2020) is now available.

President Wiederer thanked the members of the Executive Committee for their participation and their contributions to the discussions; the last EXEC meeting in 2019 was officially closed.

For the Minutes: M Brown  
Vienna, 25 November 2019

exec\meetings\1911\_ger\_148\exec minutes\*148\_191125e