

MINUTES TO THE 3RD MEETING OF THE NATIONS COMMITTEE WOMEN

Date: Tuesday, 12 October 2021

Time: 14:00 - 17:00 Venue: Vienna, AUT

Participants: Nodjialem Myaro NCW/FRA

> Leonor Mallozi NCW/ POR Paola Fiorillo NCW/ ITA Pirje Orasson NCW/ EST Cristina Varzaru NCW/ROU

Excused: Sarka Drozdova NCW/ CZE

EHF Office: Women's Handball Coordinator Alenka Cuderman

In Part: Michael Wiederer President

In Part: Martin Hausleitner Secretary General In Part: Markus Glaser **Chief Sports Officer** In Part: Mario Kovacic

Director National Teams

1. Welcome and Introduction

Myaro welcomed the members of the Nations Committee Women (NCW) to the meeting encouraging them to provide the input to the EHF. She also acknowledged the absence of Drozdova due to health reasons.

2. EHF Information

Reference to be taken to the minutes of the common NCM/NCW meeting;

3. National Team Competitions

Reference to be taken to the minutes of the common NCM/NCW meeting;

4. Calendar/Meetings

Reference to be taken to the minutes of the common NCM/NCW meeting;

5. Follow-up to Common Meeting

No topics were additionally discussed.

6. Women's National Team Competitions

Following the review of the EHF YAC events 2021 the access/registration of the federations to the EHF YAC competitions was praised, as well as by the EHF announced re-evaluation of the YAC competition structure/product in respect of the size of the



championships, efficiency of the organisers, relegation/promotion, nations YAC ranking list, etc.

The NCW discussed and highlighted the importance of the provided workshop for the Qualifiers in respect of the Women's EHF EURO 2022, the introduced digital marketing supervision platform for an arena video and TV graphics as a pre-match support service of the EHF, all with the target of strengthening the product. The NCW members requested an EHF match review feedback to federations on the EURO Qualifiers 2022 matches, which has not yet been provided.

Further the NCW discussed the women's EHF EURO events 2022-2028 and took specific focus on the EURO 2024, which will be the first women's EURO with 24 teams. The EHF will use the same qualification structure and playing system as for the men's EURO with 24 teams. It is therefore important to have enough teams registered (a minimum of 36) for the Qualifiers. At the same time this means that some of the National Federations will be involved for the first time in Qualifiers, therefore the respective workshops, guidance and mentoring for this group shall be organised, thus ensuring that the product standards will be upheld/respected (playing hall standard, marketing,..), while on the other hand these federations can view their participation as an opportunity for the further development of women's handball in their territory.

Furthermore, the NCW discussed the EHF Covid Hygiene concept for the 2021/22 competitions and the significant challenges that could arise due to the low vaccination rate of the population in some countries (30-50%), and consequently in some of the respective clubs and /or national teams where the vaccination rate of the players is under 50%, means that in the event of a detected infection more than 50% of the players must go into quarantine for 10 days, which means the team is not able to play the scheduled matches. In general, the vaccination rate of women is lower than for men. The importance of the cooperation and communication of the federations with the local clubs was highlighted in respect of the encouragement of the players to get vaccinated.

7. Miscellaneous

Following the common debate, the NCW Members provided the following statement in respect of the Women's Referee Project: "We require more female referees in the future, who can be developed to the top level. The key is their encouragement, good working environment and given opportunities in the National Federations, so that they can grow in their role. Furthermore, it is very important that the EHF is providing support and opportunities to female referees in the individual matches, allowing them to collect experiences and strengthen their competences. However, when it comes to the referee nominations in respect of the EURO final tournament the competences and experiences should be in the focus and not the gender criteria".

Myaro concluded the meeting and thanked the members for participation.

For the Minutes: A. Cuderman Vienna, 12 October 2021

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