

Minutes to the 12th Meeting of the EHF Women's Handball Board (WHB)

Date/Time:	Thursday, 15 December 2016 / 09:00-12:00	
Venue:	Gothenburg, SWE	
Participants:	Narcisa Lecusanu (NL)	Chairwoman (ROU)
	Pirje Orasson (PO)	Vice Chairwoman (EST)
	Nodjialem Myaro (NM)	Member (FRA)
	Leonor Mallozzi (LM)	Member (POR)
	Liudmila Bodnieva (LB)	Member (RUS)
	Gabriella Horvath (GH)	EHF Executive Committee
	Alenka Cuderman (AC)	Coordinator Women's Handball Programme
In Part:	Michael Wiederer (MW)	EHF President
Excused:	Henrik La Cour (HLC)	EHF Executive Committee

1. Welcome

EHF President Michael Wiederer warmly welcomed the participants to the first meeting of the WHB in the new constellation in Gothenburg, at the occasion of the Women's EHF EURO and congratulated the members for elections and nominations, stating that the main aim of the short scheduled meeting is to elect the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the WHB for the electoral period 2016-2020. He also informed on the absence of Henrik La Cour, EHF Executive Committee due to business reasons.

2. Introduction and structural issues

EHF structure

MW presented the EHF Corporate Structure to the WHB members, supported by a visual presentation; he described the components relating to the WHB (and PHB) in detail and explained the direct links to the Executive Committee and other bodies.

Purpose and role of WHB

He highlighted the WHB as strategic platform of the EHF, with the aim of strengthening of women's handball in Europe, for increased global development and improved participation of women's handball and women in handball, including the participation of the related stakeholders – national teams, clubs, leagues and players. He drew the attention to the EHF Statutes, point 8 and in details presented the duties and rights of the WHB members.

MW pointed out that in 2012 there were 8% of women involved in EHF elected/nominated positions whereas there are now 24% based on the supported respective motions by the 2016 EHF Congress. Whilst the evolution can be viewed as satisfactory, it is also unsatisfactory because of the low percentage. In the opinion of the WHB it is important that the female candidates nominated by National Federations for the EHF commissions are competent and motivated for their positions, and that in time the point will

be reached, when they will be elected due to their competences and contribution and not as gender representatives.

The good atmosphere in the previous WHB with a lot of enthusiasm and the working method of brainstorming was described and encouraged the WHB to continue with the ideas and approach in a practical way, whilst the full support of the EHF leadership was expressed.

Gabriella Horvath (GH) stated that she is very motivated as a new EXEC member to work with the WHB and to help women's handball to progress, which is very important for the next 4 years. She also expressed her beliefs in the composition of the group and offered her support.

3. Election of the WHB Chairperson/Deputy Chairperson

MW asked if there were any candidates for the position of the Chairperson. Pirje Orasson (PO) informed that Nodjialem Myaro (NM) and Narcisa Lecusanu (NL), as former WHB members are both interested in the Chairperson position and that she would like to continue as a Vice Chairperson, to be able to support adequately a larger group of less developed handball nations. In her opinion, it is important that the WHB is taking care of their image and to present itself in the best possible way, by two well-known players if possible. She asked, if would be against the Statutes, if the WHB would be represented by two Chairpersons during the elected period, each of them for two years. MW informed that the proposal is not against the Statutes and supported the proposal. The group unanimously elected NL as the Chairperson for the period 2016-2018 and NM as the Chairperson for the period 2018-2020, as well as PO as the Vice Chairperson for the whole period 2016-2020, which was duly accepted by all of them. NL thanked everyone for the confidence and stated that for her is very important to work together and to work closely with every federation to implement the WHB projects. NM thanked everyone for the support and stated that her major assets are the experiences as leader of the French women's handball league and leader of the project of increasing the number of women in French Federation. In her opinion, WHB deserves to be well known and recognised by handball federations, clubs and players.

Leonor Mallozzi (LM) expressed her motivation for the work and happiness to be part of the WHB group and to be able to contribute to development of women's handball in Europe.

Liudmila Bodnieva (LB) stated, that she is taking her role as a players' representative very seriously. The female players are not organized in any players' Union, therefore she is in communication with various players and will bring to the group the issues concerning the players i.e.: sports equipment & medical protection in conjunction with the new IHF rules of the game, etc.

DI, representing the clubs informed, that during the last meeting of the WFCH the strategy for women's club handball for the next two years was discussed, and will be finalised and presented during the coming board meeting/General Assembly in Sweden, on 16/17 December 2016, therefore the input to the WHB will be presented later on.

4. Report EHF

GH briefly informed the WHB on the last EXEC meeting in St. Wolfgang.

5. Women's Handball Programme - Status 2016 - Second milestone review

AC presented the women's handball strategy, objectives and the action plan, including the overview of the projects 2012-2016. This opportunity was used by the group to exchange the views and to discuss the objectives and the future actions plan, providing new ideas with the aim to be able to prepare the work plan for the next four years.

6. Work plan 2016 – 2020

The members already provided in writing their general input for the work plan 2016-2020, however following the discussions it was agreed that the preparation of the plan will continue in January and February 2017 to be able to finalize the master plan at the WHB meeting in March 2017 in order to present it to the EXEC for approval at the end of March.

7. Miscellaneous

All members signed the EHF Code of Conduct Agreement and noted that the next meeting will be held in Vienna on 7/8 March 2017.

Closing the meeting, AC thanked the WHB members for their attendance and hoped that the group continued to work hard together for the future of women's handball.

For the minutes: A. Cuderman
20 December 2016

Cc: WHB, EXEC, NFs