



Electoral Period

2013 - 2017

Council Meeting No. 6

Present:

Dr Hassan MOUSTAFA (EGY)	President
Miguel ROCA MAS (ESP)	1 st Vice-President
Mansourou AREMOU (BEN)	Africa's Vice-President
Bader AL-THEYAB (KUW)	Asia's Vice-President
Jean BRIHAULT (FRA)	Europe's Vice-President
Mario MOCCIA (ARG)	Pan-America's Vice-President
Joël DELPLANQUE (FRA)	Executive Committee Member
Frantisek TABORSKY (CZE)	Executive Committee Member
Sandi SOLA (CRO)	Treasurer
Leon KALIN (SLO)	COC Chairman
Manfred PRAUSE (GER)	PRC Chairman
Dr François GNAMIAN (CIV)	MC Chairman
Rafael SEPULVEDA (PUR)	CD Chairman
Charles OMBOUMAHOU (CGO)	Africa's Representative
Yoshihide WATANABE (JPN)	Asia's Representative
Arne ELOVSSON (SWE)	Europe's Representative
Mario GARCIA DE LA TORRE (MEX)	Pan-America's Representative

Not present:

Naser ABU MARZOUQ (KUW) CCM Chairman
(suspended due to the IHF Council decision dated 11 September 2015)

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

Managing Director
Competitions Director
IHF Head Office

**Sochi, Russia
6 November 2015**

MEETING TIME: 09:00 - 14:15

Note: 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.

Agenda

1. Minutes

- 1.1. Council Meeting No. 5, 26 January 2015 in Doha, QAT
- 1.2. Executive Committee Meeting No. 6, 16 April 2015 in Basel, SUI
- 1.3. Executive Committee Meeting No. 7, 24 June 2015 in Kolding, DEN
- 1.4. Executive Committee Meeting No. 8, 9 September 2015 in Doha, QAT

2. President's activities

3. Competitions

- 3.1. IHF 4-Nations Tournament in Almaty KAZ
- 3.2. 1st IHF Emerging Nations Tournament 2015 in KOS
- 3.3. 2016 Olympic Games Qualification Tournaments
- 3.4. 2017 Men's Junior (U21) World Championship
- 3.5. Host fee for Senior World Championships

4. Finances

- 4.1. Auditors' report 2014
- 4.2. IHF Budget 2016 and 2017
- 4.3. Membership fees 2015-2016-2017
- 4.4. National Federation debts
- 4.5. Compensation

5. Commissions

- 5.1. Playing Rules and Referees Commission (PRC)
 - 5.1.1. Changes to the Rules of the Game

6. IHF New Markets Project

- 6.1. China
- 6.2. Great Britain

7. IHF Membership

- 7.1. South Sudan
- 7.2. Tonga
- 7.3. Nauru
- 7.4. Palau
- 7.5. Equatorial Guinea

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8. Autonomy


- 8.1. Kuwait
- 8.2. IHF Council Member Mr Naser Abu Marzouq

9. Awarding of IHF events which are subject to a Council decision


9.1. 2021/2023 Men's World Championships

- 2021

 EGY

 HUN

- 2023

 HUN

 POL/SWE

9.2. 2021/2023 Women's World Championships

10. Miscellaneous

- 10.1. 2015 IHF Congress – Costs for presents, Congress documentations, and give-aways
- 10.2. Sportfive case
- 10.3. Report from CD Chairman

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At 09:00 President Moustafa opened the meeting, welcoming the Council members to the meeting in Sochi which was held on the fringes of the XXXV Ordinary IHF Congress 2015 and Extraordinary IHF Congress 2015 in Russia. He conveyed his gratitude to the Handball Federation of Russia and welcomed the President of the Handball Federation of Russia, Mr Sergey Shishkarov, who addressed some words to the Council members, stating that it is a great pleasure to welcome the Council members to Russia and wishing them a successful and constructive meeting.

1. Minutes

1.1. Council Meeting No. 5, 26 January 2015 in Doha, QAT

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 5th Council Meeting, which was held in Doha, QAT, on 26 January 2015.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Council Meeting No. 5 held in Doha on 26 January 2015.

1.2. Executive Committee Meeting No. 6, 16 April 2015 in Basel, SUI

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 6th Executive Committee Meeting, which took place in Basel, SUI, on 16 April 2015.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Executive Committee Meeting No. 6 held in Basel on 16 April 2015.

1.3. Executive Committee Meeting No. 7, 24 June 2015 in Kolding, DEN

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 7th Executive Committee Meeting, which took place in Kolding, DEN, on 24 June 2015.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Executive Committee Meeting No. 7 held in Kolding on 24 June 2015.

1.4. Executive Committee Meeting No. 8, 9 September 2015 in Doha, QAT

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 8th Executive Committee Meeting, which took place in Doha, QAT, on 9 September 2015.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Executive Committee Meeting No. 8 held in Doha on 9 September 2015.

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2. *President's activities*

President Moustafa presented an overview of his activities between the last Council Meeting in Doha in January 2015 and the present meeting in Sochi. He briefly reported on different meetings, for example with representatives from the USA Team Handball Federation on the occasion of the ANOC General Assembly in Washington DC on 29/30 October 2015 and with Russia's Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin on 22 August 2015. He also briefly reported about his meeting with the Russian Minister of Sport Mr Vitaly Mutko on 5 November 2015 in the presence of the President and 1st Vice-President of the Handball Federation of Russia, where the participants discussed possibilities on how to bring back handball to the top of Russian sports and the Russian Minister of Sport confirmed his support for handball.

He also mentioned the different events which he attended, such as the Beach handball exhibition match in Lausanne on 16 July 2015, which was attended by IOC President Dr Thomas Bach, the 128th IOC Session in Kuala Lumpur from 29 July to 3 August 2015, the 2015 Men's Junior World Championship in Brazil in July, the 2015 Men's Youth World Championship in Russia in August as well as the IHF Super Globe in Qatar in September. He also reported about his trip to Egypt in October to attend the draw of the CAHB African Nations' Cup, during which he met with the President and Treasurer of CAHB following the CAHB President's request. During the same period a meeting with the Egyptian Tripartite Commission was held to resolve Olympic Movement related issues of some Egyptian National Sports Federations.

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. IHF 4-Nations Tournament in Almaty KAZ

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who presented the report from the 4-Nations Tournament held in Kazakhstan from 15 to 17 June 2015, informing the Council about the difficulties occurred during the event.

Following the conclusion of the report and according to the decision of the IHF Executive Committee made on 5 November 2015, the qualification pathway of Oceania for the 2017 Men's World Championship in France is proposed to be amended as follows:

- Oceania representative to take part in the Asian men's qualification (respectively another continental qualification),
- If the Oceania representative is ranked 5th or better, they will be qualified for the MWCh 2017,
- If the Oceania representative is ranked 6th or worse, the place of Oceania will be awarded as a wild card by the IHF Council.

In case the system works well, the same should be applied for the qualification for all IHF Senior World Championships in the future (ranking criteria should be adapted accordingly for women).

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the Executive Committee's proposal to amend the qualification pathway of Oceania for the 2017 Men's World Championship in France as well as for all IHF Senior World Championships in the future (ranking criteria to be adapted accordingly for women) in case the system works well as follows:

- Oceania representative to take part in the Asian men's qualification (respectively another continental qualification),*
- If the Oceania representative is ranked 5th or better, they will be qualified for the WCh,*
- If the Oceania representative is ranked 6th or worse, the place of Oceania will be awarded as a wild card by the IHF Council.*

3.2. 1st IHF Emerging Nations Tournament 2015 in KOS

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who presented the report from the 1st IHF Emerging Nations Tournament held in Kosovo from 20 to 26 June 2015, stressing that the date of the event being announced at short notice was the main issue for the participants and resulted in increased flight expenses, taking into consideration that the accommodation and travel expenses of all teams were covered by the IHF. The total cost of the championship amounted to CHF 568,051.58.

President Moustafa pointed out the excellent collaboration between IHF and EHF in the organization of the event. The feedback from the participating National Federations as well as the players was positive and gives the emerging nations' players the chance to compete in an international event organized by the IHF. He also praised the excellent cooperation of Kosovo Handball Federation and their high standard level of organization for this event.

Referring to the membership status of Kosovo Handball Federation within IHF and EHF being changed from associated to full member, Europe's Vice-President added that the first step of hosting the event concerned was a real success and further progress can be achieved.

Decision.

The Council took note of the report of the 1st IHF Emerging Nations Tournament 2015 in Kosovo.

3.3. 2016 Olympic Games Qualification Tournaments

President Moustafa gave the floor to the COC Chairman who referred to the IHF Council meeting in Doha on 24 October 2013, where the Council decided, based on his proposal, to organize the three Olympic Games Qualification Tournaments on three different continents, as well as to the Council meeting in Zagreb on 8 July 2014, where the Council decided on the criteria for hosting the three tournaments, which is connected to the ranking of the teams in row 3. The main idea was to maintain a global practising of handball in order to give proof to the IOC that handball is a global sport. After further study of his proposal to the IHF Council, he recommended modifying the Council decision taken in July 2014 and giving the duty of awarding the organization of the Olympic Games Qualification Tournaments to the IHF Council, which was unanimously approved by the Executive Committee in its meeting in Kolding on 24 June 2015. The new concept guarantees that the

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organizational, financial and technical IHF standards but also the best interest of the players are respected and considers the popularity of handball in the host countries to guarantee the further development of handball globally.

President Moustafa stated that the bidding criteria should be communicated to the potential qualifiers, asking them to submit their bidding concepts to the IHF in order for the IHF Council to take a decision in its next meeting.

Europe's Vice-President requested including the performance level in the criteria, giving an advantage to the best-ranked team.

President Moustafa added that the IHF Council decision of awarding will be based on the bidding criteria while the performance level will be one of the elements.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the Executive Committee's proposal to modify the Council decision related to the OGQTs taken in July 2014 and give the duty of awarding the organization of the Olympic Games Qualification Tournaments to the IHF Council.

The 2016 Olympic Games Qualification Tournaments will be awarded by the Council in its next meeting.

3.4. 2017 Men's Junior (U21) World Championship

President Moustafa referred to the IHF Council decision made in its meeting in Zagreb on 8 July 2014, according to which the bidding of the Algerian Handball Federation for the 2017 Men's Junior (U21) World Championship was accepted and the COC was requested to carry out an inspection in Algeria and to report to the Council. He informed the Council about the difficulties the IHF faced in setting up an inspection and several failures of Algerian Handball Federation to keep deadlines or at least to reply officially. Therefore he discussed this issue with the President of Algerian Olympic Committee, Mr Mustapha Berraf, whom he met during the ANOC General Assembly in Washington DC on 29/30 October 2015, stressing the importance of carrying out an inspection in Algeria to ensure a successful organization of the World Championship concerned. Following his meeting with the NOC President, the IHF received an official letter from the Algerian Olympic Committee and Algerian Handball Federation guaranteeing their commitment to the event in question.

Decision.

The Council took note of the information about the organization of the 2017 Men's Junior (U21) World Championship provided by President Moustafa.

3.5. Host fee for Senior World Championships

President Moustafa referred to his proposal to the IHF Executive Committee in its meeting on 5 November 2015 with regard to the host fee which is paid by the IHF to the organizers of Senior World Championships amounting to CHF 1,200,000.--.

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President Moustafa added that the organization of Women's World Championships brings about more challenges to the IHF, but also and mainly to the organizer. Spectator, media and marketing interest is on a lower level compared to Men's World Championships but the organizational requirements are similar or the same as for Men's World Championships, also resulting in the same or similar organizational costs.

President Moustafa proposed the following new distribution of the host fees for Senior World Championships as from 2021:

Women's World Championship: CHF 1,500,000.--

Men's World Championship: CHF 800,000.--

According to the proposal, the total investment is reduced from CHF 2,400,000.-- to CHF 2,300,000.--. The corresponding amount of CHF 100,000.-- shall be invested into a special fund to finance participation and travel costs of teams participating in Junior and Youth World Championships.

Europe's Vice-President considered the proposal as good approach, taking into account that it is more difficult to organize a Women's WCh than a Men's WCh. The increased amount of the host fee for Women's WChs could be used for promotion of the events.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved President Moustafa's proposal to redistribute the host fees for Senior World Championships as from 2021 as follows.

Women's World Championship. CHF 1,500,000.--

Men's World Championship. CHF 800,000.--

4. Finances

4.1. Auditors' report 2014

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Treasurer who presented to the Council the reports of the internal and external IHF auditors on the annual accounts of the IHF for the financial year 2014, stating that no objections from the auditors were raised. He explained that the report includes more details due to changed local laws and the increased turnover, adding that the IHF achieved to further increase the profit of the year 2014, proving the success of handball. The internal and external auditors' report 2014 had been confirmed by the Executive Committee on 24 June 2015.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the internal and external auditors' report 2014 to be presented to the XXXV Ordinary IHF Congress to be held in Sochi, RUS on 7 November 2015.

4.2. IHF Budget 2016 and 2017

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Treasurer who presented to the Council the IHF budget proposal for 2016 and 2017, which had been confirmed by the Executive Committee on 24 June

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2015. He explained that the amounts of the profit expected for 2016 and 2017 differ due to the organization of the Men's and Women's World Championships in 2017. The Treasurer outlined the provisions assigned for the IHF projects serving the Member Federations as well as the compensations of the senior events. He also presented the expected income according to the contracts concluded with sponsors and partners.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the budget proposal for 2016 and 2017 to be presented to the XXXV Ordinary IHF Congress to be held in Sochi, RUS on 7 November 2015.

4.3. Membership fees 2015-2016-2017

President Moustafa referred to the communication sent to the Council members on 17 September 2015, proposing to exempt the IHF Member Federations from paying the 2015 membership fees. He explained that this proposal had been approved by the Council electronically and asked the Council members to reconfirm their approval. In addition, the proposal of waiving the membership fees for 2016 and 2017 was presented to the Council, taking into consideration the good IHF budget for these years. Therefore no financial burden should be imposed on the IHF Member Federations.

Decision.

The Council unanimously reconfirmed their decision, which had been taken electronically, to waive the membership fees for 2015. In addition, the Council unanimously approved waiving the membership fees for 2016 and 2017.

4.4. National Federation debts

President Moustafa informed the Council about his meeting with the President of the Brazilian Handball Federation (CBHb) to settle the remaining debts of the CBHb towards the IHF resulting from the organization of the 2011 Women's World Championship. Following President Moustafa's invitation, Mr Manoel Luiz Oliveira travelled to Basel on 30 September 2015. The CBHb has paid since the end of 2011 a total amount of CHF 2,113,736 out of CHF 3,219,238. During the meeting in Basel, the parties discussed the repayment of the remaining debts amounting to CHF 1,105,502 and agreed on the following:

- Women's WCh DEN 2015
The IHF will not transfer the travel costs, qualification bonus, prize money and players' compensation to the CBHb, which will amount to approximately CHF 50'000.00 + the potential prize money.
- 1st Women's Super Globe 2016
The CBHb will organize the first Women's Super Globe to be held in April 2016. The CBHb will pay marketing rights to the IHF amounting to CHF 300'000.00.
- Olympic Games Rio 2016
The CBHb is obliged to pay to the IHF the daily allowances of all IHF nominees during the Olympic Games 2016 no later than 1 July 2016 and amounting to USD 390'000.00.

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The above-mentioned amounts will be deducted from the current debts of the CBHb towards the IHF.

The remaining CHF 300'000.00 will be waived provided that the CBHb fulfils all the above-mentioned points and covers any remaining outstanding amounts.

President Moustafa added that the waiving of the CHF 300,000 from the total debt is part of the marketing rights bought by CBHb which were not used by either party during the championship. Therefore President Moustafa considered that CBHb paid to the IHF for unused marketing rights of the event a total amount of CHF 700,000.

The Council members expressed their satisfaction for the efforts done by President Moustafa as well as CBHb to pay off the debts, which helps to maintain handball activities in Brazil. President Moustafa added that his aim was to pay off the debts avoiding to impose sanctions on the Brazilian Handball Federation and preserving their handball progress.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the final settlement of the debts of the Brazilian Handball Federation and waiving the amount of CHF 300,000 from the total debts of the CBHb towards the IHF, conveying their appreciation for the efforts exerted by President Moustafa to pay off the debts of CBHb.

4.5. Compensation

President Moustafa informed the Council about the request from the two internal IHF auditors to be included in the list of payments for elected people since the beginning of their mandate. He reported that the IHF Executive Committee had discussed the mentioned request in its meeting in Kolding on 24 June 2015 and was not in favour of the request, due to the fact that the internal auditors control the IHF by auditing the IHF's books and should thus remain independent.

Europe's Vice-President underlined that the internal auditors are on the one hand independent, but on the other hand perform professional work for the IHF. He recommended reflecting on this issue at a later point of time.

Decision.

The Council was unanimously not in favour of the request from the two internal IHF auditors to be included in the list of payments for elected people since the beginning of their mandate, due to the fact that the internal auditors control the IHF by auditing the IHF's books and should thus remain independent. Nevertheless, the Council shall consider the remark of Europe's Vice President in the future.

5. *Commissions*

5.1. Playing Rules and Referees Commission (PRC)

5.1.1. Changes to the Rules of the Game

President Moustafa gave the floor to the PRC Chairman who reported that since the Forum for the Future of Handball in Denmark in October 2014, the IHF New Rules Working Group has elaborated several new rules to further develop handball and make the sport even more attractive. The results could be observed at the 2015 Men's Junior and Youth World Championships in Brazil and Russia, respectively. After both World Championships, the IHF sent surveys to the teams, technical delegates and referees participating to see if the rules concerned could be possibly integrated into the Rules of the Game. As the rules were positively received and met the approval of the participants of the survey, the IHF New Rules Working Group met on 16/17 October 2015 to finalize the wording and make their last amendments. The following proposals were presented to the Council:

1. Goalkeeper as a player

Rules 4:1 paragraph 3, Rules 4:4-5-6-7

Rule 4 remains fully valid in view of the stipulations for a goalkeeper being substituted by a player. However, the following rule extension will be implemented:

- 1) A team may be on the court with seven field players at the same time. This is the case if a field player substitutes a goalkeeper. It is not mandatory to be dressed in the same colour of the goalkeeper's shirt.
- 2) If the team is playing with seven field players, no player may carry out the function of the goalkeeper, i.e. no player may enter the goal area to take the goalkeeper's position. When the ball is in play and one of the seven field players enters the goal area destroying a clear chance of scoring, the opposing team receives a 7-meter throw. Rule 8:7f applies.
- 3) In case of substitution, Rules 4:4-7 (normal rules for substitution of players) shall apply. In such a case, the goalkeeper regains all his rights according to Rules 5 and 6.
- 4) If a team is playing with 7 field players and must execute a goalkeeper throw, one of them must leave the court and a goalkeeper must change back to the goal area to execute that throw. The referees will decide if a time-out is necessary.

2. Injured player

Instructions to the Referees about the Rule 4:11, paragraph 1:

- If the referees are absolutely sure that the injured player needs medical treatment on the field, they will immediately show the hand signals no.15 and 16. It is not allowed for the team officials to refuse to enter the field of play.
- In all other cases, the referees will ask the player to stand up and receive medical care outside the court, before they show hand signal no.16.
- Any player or team official failing to comply with this provision will be punished due to unsportsmanlike conduct.

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Paragraph 1 is amended as follows:

- After receiving medical care on the court, the player must leave the playing court.
- He can only re-enter it when the third attack of his team is complete. The Technical Delegates will be responsible for controlling this situation.
- An attack starts with the possession of the ball and ends when a goal is scored or the team in attack loses the ball.
- If the team is in possession of the ball when his player needs medical care, this attack is counted as first attack.
- If the player enters the playing court before the end of the three attacks, it shall be punished as illegal entry (faulty substitution).
- The above-mentioned provision does not apply if the required treatment of injury on the playing court is the result of irregular behaviour by an opposing player who has been punished progressively by the referees.
- This rule does not apply when the goalkeeper's head is hit by a ball and medical care inside the court is necessary.

3. Passive play

Basic rule provisions:

- The Rules 7:11 and 7:12 remain valid.
- Clarification 4, Sections A, B, C and appendix E remain unchanged.

Clarification 4, Section D, is specified as follows:

- After showing the forewarning signal, the referees can whistle for passive play at any moment, if they don't recognize an attempt to reach a position to shoot on goal.
- After showing the forewarning signal the team forewarned has a total of **6 passes** to shoot on goal.
- If after a maximum of **6 passes** no shot on goal is taken, one of the referees whistles for passive play (free-throw for the other team).
- If a free throw is awarded to the attacking team, the number of passes is not interrupted.
- If a shot is blocked by the defending team, the number of passes is not interrupted.
- If the defending team commits a foul after the sixth pass, but before the referees have whistled for passive play, this infraction will result in a free-throw for the attacking team. In this case, the attacking team has an additional pass to complete the attack, besides the possibility of a direct free-throw.
- The number of passes by the referees is a decision on the basis of their observation of facts according to rule 17:11, paragraph 1.

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4. Last minute

Rule 8:5, 8:6, 8:10c, d are adjusted as follows:

1. The wording “last minute of a game” should be replaced by “last 30 seconds of a game”.
2. A foul under Rule 8:10c (ball out of play) will be punished with a disqualification **without written report**, and a 7-meter throw must be awarded to the opposing team.
3. A foul under Rules 8:10d and 8:5, will be punished with a disqualification **without written report**, and a 7-meter throw must be awarded to the opposing team.
4. A foul under Rules 8:10d and 8:6, will be punished with a disqualification **with written report**, and a 7-meter throw must be awarded to the opposing team.
5. In the cases 3) and 4) the following shall apply:
 1. *The attacker is able to throw and score a goal: No 7-meter throw*
 2. *The attacker passes the ball, his teammate fails to score a goal: 7-meter throw*
 3. *The attacker passes the ball, his teammate scores a goal: No 7-meter throw*

5. Blue card

Rule 16: 8 (Rules 8:6, 8:10), the last paragraph is amended as follows:

- Information is provided by showing a blue card (in addition to the red card).
- The blue card must be in possession of the referees.
- The referees will first show the red card and later, after a short discussion, the blue card.

Referring to the blue card, Europe’s Vice-President remarked that the National Federations should be given the power to decide on whether to use the blue card on a low (local) level or not. The PRC Chairman commented that the blue card only provides more information about the consequences of the red card, which is for the benefit of the players, coaches and spectators. President Moustafa added that the blue card provides more transparency, considering that in case a blue card is shown by the referee, a written report will in any case accompany the score sheet and the Disciplinary Commission will be responsible for further actions.

President Moustafa informed the Council that an implementation test of the five rules concerned shall be made on Senior World Championship level during the 2015 Women’s WCh in Denmark unless at least one of the 24 participating teams rejects this proposal. In this context, Europe’s Vice-President recommended not using the word “test” in conjunction with World Championships. President Moustafa added that in case one of the 24 participating teams rejects the mentioned proposal, the five rules concerned would be implemented as from 1 July 2016.

Referring to the different studies which have been conducted in terms of the size of the ball used by women, Europe’s Vice-President stressed the necessity of taking a decision in this matter soon.

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President Moustafa asked the PRC Chairman to present his corresponding proposal to the next Council meeting.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the proposed changes to the Rules of the Game presented by the IHF New Rules Working Group to be announced at the XXXV Ordinary IHF Congress to be held in Sochi, RUS on 7 November 2015.

The following five changes to the Rules of the Game shall be published by 1 March 2016 and come into force on 1 July 2016.

- 1. Goalkeeper as a player. The goalkeeper may be used as a seventh field player.*
- 2. Injured player. An injured player should leave the playing court after receiving medical care on the court and can only re-enter after the third attack of his team is complete.*
- 3. Passive play. After showing the forewarning signal the team forewarned has a total of 6 passes to shoot on goal.*
- 4. Last minute. In Rules 8:5, 8:6, 8:10c and 8:10d, the wording "last minute of a game" should be replaced by "last 30 seconds of a game".*
- 5. Blue card. The referee has a blue card in addition to the yellow and red ones to provide more clarity regarding the disqualification of a player. If this card is shown, a written report will accompany the score sheet and the Disciplinary Commission will be responsible for further actions.*

6. IHF New Markets Project

6.1. China

According to the Four-Year Plan presented at the 2013 IHF Congress and the major target to develop handball in new and important markets, President Moustafa briefly reported about the different meetings which have been held within the framework of the handball development project in China, including IHF consultant Prof. Helmut Digel.

During his visit to China in April 2015, President Moustafa met with the vice-mayor of Shanghai Prof. Zhao Wen to discuss the possibilities and options for staging a major IHF event in Shanghai as well as with representatives of the Shanghai University of Sport to discuss the implementation of a big handball programme as part of the regular university activities. In addition, a meeting was organized in Beijing with the Vice-President of Beijing Sports University Prof. Chi Jian to introduce handball to the curriculum of the university and to establish a university league in the greater area of Beijing. BSU confirmed its willingness to focus on handball and to support this project and to cover all the related cost for this project, while the IHF shall only provide the teaching materials and nominate the experts. Two meetings were held with the Chinese Sports Minister Mr Liu Peng in Beijing and Lausanne to discuss the potential and importance of the development of handball in China. The Sports Minister expressed his willingness to develop handball in China.

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Referring to the collaboration between IHF and Shanghai University of Sport, President Moustafa reported that both parties agreed on the establishment of the IHF Academy at Shanghai University of Sport. The Vice-President of SUS Prof. Wang Xingfang has been invited to the 2015 IHF Congress in Sochi where the corresponding contract shall be signed on 7 November 2015. Afterwards, IHF will prepare the IHF Academy curriculum (in November), the translation of the teaching materials is to be finalized by the beginning of 2016, and the IHF Academy shall be launched in February 2016.

Decision.

The Council took note of the information about the IHF New Markets Project in China provided by President Moustafa.

6.2. Great Britain

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Managing Director who informed the Council about the current status of the handball development project in Great Britain, which shall be implemented in collaboration with Olympic Solidarity according to the Executive Committee decision dated 7 July 2014. The dedicated 2-year project cost of USD 300,000 will be paid by the IHF (USD 200,000) and the Olympic Solidarity (USD 100,000). In a meeting between IHF and GBR held in London on 23 March 2015 attended by Mr Iñaki Urdangarin (project supervisor according to the IHF Council decision dated 21 December 2013), it was agreed to focus on three major points:

1. Schools/Colleges Development Programme
2. Coach Development Programme
3. GB Youth National Squad Programmes

After the final development programme had been elaborated, Olympic Solidarity confirmed the project and their financial share in the project. Mr Urdangarin, in collaboration with the National Federation of GBR, is preparing the final breakdown of the project budget, but also the implementation process. The project will be evaluated every six months, and the financial support will be paid accordingly.

Decision.

The Council approved the implementation process as well as the budget for the IHF New Markets Project in Great Britain.

7. IHF Membership

7.1. South Sudan

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Managing Director who informed the Council that the South Sudan Handball Association (in the continent of Africa) was granted associated membership by the XXXIV Ordinary IHF Congress held in Doha, Qatar from 25 to 28 October 2013.

She explained that the South Sudan National Olympic Committee has been recognized officially as a full member of the IOC since 2 August 2015, pointing out that the requirements for full IHF

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membership according to the IHF Statutes are thus fulfilled. She asked the Council to grant provisional full membership to South Sudan Handball Association.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved to grant provisional full membership to South Sudan Handball Association until the XXXV Ordinary IHF Congress to be held in Sochi, RUS on 7 November 2015.

7.2. Tonga

President Moustafa informed the Council about his different communications and discussion with OCHF President Mr Ricardo Blas regarding the potential Member Federations of Tonga, Nauru and Palau in addition to his meeting with Mr Blas on the fringes of the ANOC General Assembly in Washington DC on 29/30 October 2015 regarding the same issue.

The Managing Director took the floor to present the application of Tonga Handball Association (in the continent of Oceania) for IHF membership to the Council. She explained that the federation concerned has submitted all the required documents, and asked the Council to grant them provisional full membership.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved to grant provisional full membership to Tonga Handball Association until the XXXV Ordinary IHF Congress to be held in Sochi, RUS on 7 November 2015.

7.3. Nauru

The Managing Director presented the application of Nauru Handball Association (in the continent of Oceania) for IHF membership to the Council. She explained that the federation concerned has submitted all the required documents, and asked the Council to grant them provisional full membership.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved to grant provisional full membership to Nauru Handball Association until the XXXV Ordinary IHF Congress to be held in Sochi, RUS on 7 November 2015.

7.4. Palau

The Managing Director presented the application of Palau Handball Federation (in the continent of Oceania) for IHF membership to the Council. She explained that the federation concerned has submitted all the required documents, and asked the Council to grant them provisional full membership.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved to grant provisional full membership to Palau Handball Federation until the XXXV Ordinary IHF Congress to be held in Sochi, RUS on 7 November 2015.

7.5. Equatorial Guinea

President Moustafa informed the Council about his meeting with the President of the NOC of Equatorial Guinea during the ANOC General Assembly in Washington DC on 29/30 October 2015, who expressed his interest in establishing a handball federation in his country. The Managing Director presented the application of Equatorial Guinea Handball Association (in the continent of Africa) for IHF membership to the Council. She explained that the statutes and the letter of intent of the handball federation are yet to be submitted to the IHF. She asked the Council to grant provisional full membership to Equatorial Guinea Handball Association and to ask the Congress to grant them definite full membership provided that the documents which are still missing will be submitted to the IHF.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved to grant provisional full membership to Equatorial Guinea Handball Association until the XXXV Ordinary IHF Congress to be held in Sochi, RUS on 7 November 2015. The Congress shall decide on granting definite full membership to Equatorial Guinea Handball Association provided that the documents which are still missing will be submitted to the IHF.

President Moustafa concluded that the IHF is now composed of 204 Member Federations.

8. *Autonomy*

8.1. Kuwait

Referring to the different communications exchanged between the IHF Council and the IHF Head Office in this regard and the decision passed electronically on 11 September 2015, President Moustafa gave the floor to the Managing Director who briefly summarized the case of Kuwait Handball Association:

- The IHF Council decided, after exhausting all possible remedies, to suspend the Kuwait Handball Association (KHA) with immediate effect as a result of failing to organize an electoral General Assembly to legitimate the governing body of the federation.
- Over the last eight years the IHF has undertaken major efforts to adapt the Statutes of the KHA to be in compliance with the IHF Statutes and the IOC Olympic Charter and organize an electoral General Assembly to elect the KHA Board of Directors.
- The current KHA Board of Directors whose term of office was terminated already in 2012 has lost its legitimate status.
- The non-recognized KHA Board of Directors did not succeed to organize the General Assembly to approve the Statutes and the subsequent GA to organize the elections.
- Therefore the IHF Council, upon authorization of the Kuwait Olympic Committee and Asian Handball Federation, appointed an Interim Committee to carry out the convocation of the two General Assemblies in question.

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- The former President of the KHA did not comply with the IHF Council decision by not handing over the federation to the KHA Interim Committee until he gets the permission from the Kuwaiti government, which is considered a violation of Article 7.3a of the IHF Statutes.
- In addition the Public Authority for Youth and Sports in Kuwait did not react to the IHF request for intervention to resolve the currently illegitimate status of the KHA by the given deadline.

According to Article 13.3.25 of the IHF Statutes, the IHF Council decided on 11 September 2015 (by electronic communication) as follows:

1. Suspending the Kuwait Handball Association with immediate effect.
2. The suspension will include all handball activities on national and international level.
3. The suspension will include all people involved in the handball activities in Kuwait (players, coaches, referees, officials, clubs).
4. The KHA shall not maintain sporting contact with the IHF Member Federations.
5. All IHF Member Federations will be informed accordingly. The IHF Member Federations shall not maintain any sporting activities with the suspended National Federation of Kuwait.

The Managing Director reported that the whole case was submitted to the IHF lawyer Mr François Carrard whose legal opinion included the following:

- “It is my view from the above [*breaches of Articles 8.1, 7.3, 8.5 and 8.6 of the IHF Statutes*] that KHA has repeatedly breached its obligations as member arising from the IHF Statutes. Moreover, the offences are serious. The duty for a member to abide by the decisions of its federation is elementary and crucial. In the case at hand, the KHA has on several occasions refused to abide by decisions of the IHF.”
- “It is my opinion that the decision made by the IHF to suspend KHA on the basis of Article 13.3.25 was justified as the latter had committed serious and repeated violations of its member obligations.”

President Moustafa informed the Council that the Kuwait Olympic Committee was suspended by the IOC for political interference on 27 October 2015, adding that the KOC belongs to the IOC while the Kuwait Handball Association is affiliated to the IHF.

Decision.

Excluding Asia's Vice-President, the Council reconfirmed its decision of 11 September 2015, which had been taken electronically, to suspend Kuwait Handball Association with immediate effect until the next Congress according to Article 13.3.25 of the IHF Statutes. The suspension shall be confirmed by the XXXV Ordinary IHF Congress to be held in Sochi, RUS on 7 November 2015 by a two-third majority of votes cast according to Article 7.4.7 of the IHF Statutes.

8.2. IHF Council Member Mr Naser Abu Marzouq

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Managing Director who briefly summarized the case of IHF Council Member Mr Naser Abu Marzouq:

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- After the IHF Council decision related to the creation of the KHA Interim Committee was issued and communicated to KHA on 31 July 2015, Mr Naser Abu Marzouq's reaction was acknowledged through several press and interview statements dated 3 and 12 August 2015 (for example he stated that he is with the government and will not hand over the federation to the KHA Interim Committee), which is considered as violation of the autonomy provisions of the IHF Statutes (Article 7.2, point 4, Articles 8.1, 8.5 and 8.6) and the IOC Olympic Charter (Articles 2.5, 25, 27.6 and *Fundamental Principles of Olympism*, point 5). In addition, failing to comply with the IHF Council decision is considered another violation of Article 7.3a of the IHF Statutes, apart from his criticism against the IHF Council decision by considering the decision as "bullying".
- According to Article 11, point 7b of the IHF Statutes, which authorizes the IHF Council to take decisions, the IHF Council decided on 11 September 2015 (by electronic communication) to:
 - Suspend Mr Naser Abu Marzouq with immediate effect,
 - Authorize the IHF Executive Committee to conduct the interrogation of Mr Naser Abu Marzouq,
 - Invite Mr Naser Abu Marzouq to a hearing to present his arguments.
- IHF informed Mr Naser Abu Marzouq by letter about the IHF Council decision, defining the date of the hearing which shall take place at the IHF Head Office. Mr Naser Abu Marzouq informed the IHF by email that he will not be able to come to Basel on 21 September 2015 due to special and family circumstances. IHF informed Mr Naser Abu Marzouq by email that the IHF understands his reasons for not being able to come to Basel and that the IHF will send him an IHF representative to conduct the interrogation in Kuwait on 28 September 2015.
- IHF informed Mr Moosa Khamis Al Bulushi, Secretary General of Oman Handball Federation, by letter that the IHF Executive Committee authorized him to conduct the interrogation of Mr Naser Abu Marzouq in Kuwait on Tuesday, 29 September 2015 and to report to the IHF accordingly. The hearing shall be held in Arabic language.
- On 24 September 2015, Mr Naser Abu Marzouq addressed a letter to the IHF Managing Director, stating that he insists to face the IHF Council members regarding the interrogation.
- On 29 September 2015, Mr Moosa Khamis Al Bulushi travelled to Kuwait to conduct the interrogation of Mr Naser Abu Marzouq, on behalf of the IHF Executive Committee, at the headquarters of KHA on 29 September 2015 at 18:00. According to Mr Al Bulushi's report, Mr Naser Abu Marzouq failed to attend the meeting.
- On 2 October 2015, IHF sent a new invitation for the hearing to Mr Naser Abu Marzouq to be held at the IHF Head Office in Basel on 12 October 2015 at 11:00 o'clock. Mr Naser Abu Marzouq answered on 5 October, asking for the IHF Statutes articles on which the IHF Council decision was based and stressing that the hearing should be in the presence of the IHF Council members. After IHF replied to his questions, he informed IHF on 6 October that his availability will be based on knowing the names of the hearing panel members. After IHF sent him the composition of the hearing panel (IHF lawyer and interpreter), he informed IHF

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on 7 October about his non-availability to come to Basel for the hearing due to his special family circumstances during the month of October.

The Managing Director reported that the whole case was submitted to the IHF lawyer Mr François Carrard whose legal opinion included the following:

- “It appears that Mr Marzouq has seriously and repeatedly breached his obligations towards the IHF. The decision of 11 September 2015 to suspend Mr Marzouq seems thus materially justified.”
- “My view is that the suspended individual shall lose all its rights within the IHF and all handball-related activities during the period of the ban. It would not make any sense that a person banned by the IHF would still have a right to sit on the IHF Council.”

Decision.

Excluding Asia’s Vice-President and with two abstentions, the Council reconfirmed its decision of 11 September 2015, which had been taken electronically, to suspend Mr Naser Abu Marzouq with immediate effect until the next Congress according to Article 13.3.25 of the IHF Statutes. The suspension shall be confirmed by the XXXV Ordinary IHF Congress to be held in Sochi, RUS on 7 November 2015 by a two-third majority of votes cast according to Article 7.4.7 of the IHF Statutes.

9. Awarding of IHF events which are subject to a Council decision

9.1. 2021/2023 Men’s World Championships

President Moustafa referred to the key facts of the biddings for the 2021 and 2023 Men’s World Championships, which had been distributed to the Council members prior to the meeting.

He then gave the floor to the Competitions Director who explained to the Council the voting procedure, which had already been sent to the bidders.

Voting will be carried out after all presentations in compliance with the IOC procedure:

- The voting is a secret voting.
- The simple majority decides.
- The result but not the number of votes per federation is announced.
- In the case of equality of votes, voting shall be repeated.
- If there is still equality of votes, a decision shall be made by drawing lots.
- The applicants are informed after the voting.

All members of the IHF Council will vote, except Council members from the respective bidding nations. The President has the right to vote but as usual will be neutral and will abstain from voting.

Each bidder has the right to hold a 20-minute presentation and to be available for questions for 10 minutes. The presentation of the bidders is based on alphabetical order.

- 2021 Men’s World Championship

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President Moustafa informed the Council that Egypt and Hungary compete for the right to organize the 2021 Men's World Championship.

He welcomed the representatives of the Egyptian Handball Federation and opened the floor for the presentation.

The Egyptian delegation:

- Eng. Khaled Abdel-Aziz, Minister of Youth & Sports of Arab Republic of Egypt
- Prof. Khaled Hammouda, President of Egyptian Handball Federation
- Mrs Basma Omar Tawfik Darwish, Representative of Egyptian handball parents
- Eng. Hisham Nasr Soliman Ahmed, Council member of Egyptian Handball Federation and former international player
- Mr Sherif Salama, marketing expert of Egyptian Handball Federation and former youth team goalkeeper

The President of Egyptian Handball Federation opened the presentation, introducing the bid delegation to the Council.

The bid includes the following five host cities/venues (minimum capacity of 5,000 was guaranteed):

- Cairo – Cairo Stadium Complex - Main Hall (capacity: 20,000) and Cairo Stadium Complex - Middle Hall (capacity: 5,000)
- Alexandria – Al Ittihad Alexandria Club Hall (capacity: 5,000)
- Hurghada – International Center for Sports Development (capacity: 5,000)
- Sharm El-Sheikh – Sharm El-Sheikh Sports Hall (capacity: 5,000)
- Luxor – Luxor Sports Hall (capacity: 5,000)

The representatives of the Egyptian delegation explained that touristic cities have been chosen due to the fact that they offer the possibility to accommodate a large number of participants in 4-star and 5-star hotels by providing the best available services to teams, delegates and spectators. They also provided information about the transportation concept, stating that shuttle services will be offered between the hotels and the arenas in addition to flights between the different venues in collaboration with Egypt Air. As for the visa procedures, they outlined that the organizer guarantees for all participants to obtain visas without difficulty at the airports of arrival.

The representatives of the Egyptian delegation added that the latest technology available on the market in 2021 will be used for the World Championship, including online ticketing and livestreams. They emphasized the importance of using social media for promoting the event and promised that the 2021 WCh will become the most high-tech event ever.

The Minister of Youth & Sports of Arab Republic of Egypt confirmed his support in delivering the best and most outstanding organization of the 2021 World Championship. In terms of the budget, he guaranteed that the country does not have any financial problems and that all costs will be covered.

As the 1st Vice-President asked about the security concept, the Minister of Youth & Sports of Arab Republic of Egypt confirmed that the organizer will guarantee full protection for all participants throughout the event, adding that police escorts and access controls at all arenas and hotels will be applied.

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The COC Chairman asked if the Egyptian delegation will comply with all (future) IHF requirements in terms of organizing the World Championship, which was confirmed by the Egyptian delegation.

The Egyptian delegation agreed on the changed host fee amounting to CHF 800,000.-.

Afterwards President Moustafa welcomed the representatives of the Hungarian Handball Federation and opened the floor for the presentation.

The Hungarian delegation:

- Prof. Dr. h.c. Lajos Mocsai, Honorary President of Hungarian Handball Federation
- Mr László Fábián, Sports Director of Hungarian Olympic Committee
- Mr Attila Ballai, Communication and Marketing Director of Hungarian Handball Federation
- Mr Peter Kovács, Legendary Player, coach, IHF/EHF Commission member
- Mrs Gabriella Horváth, Director of International Affairs of Hungarian Handball Federation
- Mr Ádám Juhász, Youth EURO Silver medallist and MVP

Mrs Horváth opened the presentation, providing information about Hungary and mentioning some large sports events which have been hosted by Hungary in the last few years.

The bid includes the following four host cities/venues:

- Veszprém – Arena Veszprém (current capacity: 5,000)
- Szeged (arena yet to be constructed, capacity: 6,000)
- Budapest – Arena Budapest (capacity: 12,000)
- Debrecen – Fönix Arena (capacity: 6,000)

Mrs Horváth presented the transportation concept (buses for each team, a fleet of branded cars for officials and guests), the marketing concept and widespread services for the media representatives, but she also stressed the global handball promotion concept, including the use of social media and special activities for spectators such as fan zones. The presentation focused on the great developments for the Hungarian handball infrastructure which could be achieved through the awarding of the World Championship to Hungary, for example the construction of a new, state-of-the-art handball facility for Budapest which would seat 15,000 spectators as well as the promotion of handball all over the country.

Mrs Horváth explained that an international scientific conference on improving the physical and mental health at Budapest University of Physical Education is planned to be held on the fringes of the World Championship, aiming to improve the dialogue among young researchers, professional players and coaches to advance the well-being of society.

As the 1st Vice-President asked about the visa procedure, the Hungarian delegation confirmed the Hungarian government's support in this regard and guaranteed that no visa issues will occur for the World Championship.

The Hungarian delegation agreed on the changed host fee amounting to CHF 800,000.-.

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After the presentations were terminated the Council members were convened to vote. 16 Council members were entitled to vote for the 2021 Men's WCh, as President Moustafa had been excluded due to his Egyptian nationality, considering that the President usually abstains from voting, and 16 votes were cast. The voters followed the aforementioned procedure. The Managing Director and the Competitions Director counted the votes and put the results in a sealed envelope which was opened during the announcement of the results.

- 2023 Men's World Championship

With regard to the 2023 Men's World Championship, President Moustafa informed the Council that Hungary and Poland/Sweden compete for the right to organize the mentioned event.

The bid of the Hungarian Handball Federation had already been presented before.

President Moustafa then welcomed the representatives of the Polish Handball Federation and Swedish Handball Federation and opened the floor for the presentation.

The Polish and Swedish delegations:

- Mr Andrzej Kraśnicki, President of Polish Handball Federation
- Mr Janusz Czerwiński, Honorary President of Polish Handball Federation
- Mr Bogdan Sojkin, Vice-President of Polish Handball Federation
- Mr Jörgen Holmqvist, Vice-President of Swedish Handball Federation
- Mr Marek Góralczyk, Secretary General of Polish Handball Federation
- Mr Stefan Lövgren, General Manager of Swedish Handball Federation
- Mr Jan Mosiejczuk, Director of Dentsu (partner of Polish Handball Federation)

in addition to several representatives from sponsors and host cities

The President of the Polish Handball Federation and the Vice-President of the Swedish Handball Federation opened the presentation, emphasizing the excellent collaboration and friendship between Poland and Sweden as well as the long handball tradition in both countries, including their experience in hosting several major international events.

The representatives of the Polish and Swedish delegations pointed out that the main objective of the joint organization of the 2023 World Championship is to "redefine handball", i.e. to bring handball to the next level, by increasing the attractiveness of the event and the emotions behind the game.

The bid includes the following eight host cities/venues:

- Malmö (SWE) – Malmö Arena (capacity: 13,000)
- Gothenburg (SWE) – Scandinavium Arena (capacity: 12,000)
- Stockholm (SWE) – Ericsson Globe Arena (capacity: 14,000) and Tele2 Arena (capacity: 22,000)
- Krakow (POL) – TAURON Arena (capacity: 15,000)
- Gliwice (POL) – NEW Arena (capacity: 15,000)
- Katowice (POL) – SPODEK Arena (capacity: 11,000)
- Gdansk (POL) – ERGO Arena (capacity: 11,000)
- Lodz (POL) – ATLAS Arena (capacity: 11,000)

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The representatives of the Polish and Swedish delegations provided information about the arenas, accommodation (best hotels at greatest locations, exquisite cuisine, cultural attractions and entertainment facilities), and transportation (maximum distance between the host cities: 3 hours), referring to the theme of their bid, which is "It's not a plan, we are ready". They added that innovative state-of-the-art technology will be used, including livestreaming coverage of the games and game apps.

Following the question of the COC Chairman related to team-oriented services, the representatives of the Polish and Swedish delegations confirmed that they will comply with the IHF requirements, by accommodating at maximum two teams per hotel.

As Executive Committee Member Joel Delplanque asked about the place of the final, the representatives of the Polish and Swedish delegations stated that this question is yet to be decided, but for the moment Stockholm (SWE) has the biggest arena with a capacity of 22,000 people. They confirmed that no conflicts will arise between Poland and Sweden in this respect.

Following the question of the 1st Vice-President regarding the budget, the representatives of the Polish and Swedish delegations informed that both countries started preparing their own budget amounting to in total approx. EUR 20,000,000. In addition, support has been granted from government authorities of both countries. POL and SWE confirmed fulfilling the standards and requirements of the IHF.

The Polish and Swedish delegations agreed on the changed host fee amounting to CHF 800,000.-.

After the presentations were terminated the Council members were convened to vote. 15 Council members were entitled to vote for the 2023 Men's WCh, as Europe's Representative had been excluded due to his Swedish nationality, and the President as usual abstained from voting, and 15 votes were cast. The voters followed the aforementioned procedure. The Managing Director and the Competitions Director counted the votes and put the results in a sealed envelope which was opened during the announcement of the results.

Decision.

The results of the votes were announced in the attendance of the IHF Council members and the three bidders from four National Federations (EGY-HUN-POL/SWE). Egypt won the 2021 Men's World Championship; Poland/Sweden won the 2023 Men's World Championship.

The Council members unanimously confirmed the awarding of the 2021 Men's World Championship to Egypt and of the 2023 Men's World Championship to Poland/Sweden.

9.2. 2021/2023 Women's World Championships

President Moustafa informed the Council that the 2021/2023 Women's World Championships have to be reannounced after the IHF Council's approval of the redistribution of the host fees for Senior World Championships as from 2021.

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10. Miscellaneous

10.1. 2015 IHF Congress – Costs for presents, Congress documentations, and give-aways

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Managing Director who presented to the Council an overview of the costs incurred by the IHF for different purchases for the 2015 IHF Congress in Russia, including presents for all participants as well as documentations for both Ordinary and Extraordinary Congress and shipping costs. The total costs, including the publication of the history and statistics books and World Handball Magazine, amount to CHF 197,042.- and had been approved by the Executive Committee on 5 November 2015.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the costs for presents, Congress documentations, and give-aways for the 2015 IHF Congress in Russia amounting to CHF 197,042.-.

10.2. Sportfive case

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Managing Director who briefly informed the Council about the Sportfive case.

After losing the tender for the TV rights in 2009, Sportfive failed to pay the last two instalments of their contract with the IHF (2005-2009) amounting to CHF 6,456,000. Due to President Moustafa's strong message sent to Sportfive threatening to disclose this issue to the IOC, IFs and sports organizations in case of not paying the amount overdue, Sportfive eventually paid their arrears plus the interest, which Dr Moustafa insisted on receiving from them due to their delay of payment, amounting to CHF 227,043.

The payment of arrears plus interest by Sportfive forced Sportfive to launch a complaint against the IHF President to the German prosecutor, and in addition the German magazine *Der Spiegel* published the news about the consultancy contract between Sportfive and Dr Moustafa. Both aforementioned incidents resulted in opening the investigation by the German prosecutor. The Swiss and German police visited the IHF and searched all IHF archives, but there was no evidence to confirm the allegations. Some of the witnesses from the three parties (IHF, Sportfive, UFA) were investigated by the German prosecutor. The accusation was limited to the non-implementation of the consultation duties stipulated in the contract between Dr Moustafa and Sportfive. The testimonies of different TV and media companies and decision makers were presented including the contracts of Sportfive resulting from the mediation of Dr Moustafa.

The Managing Director outlined that the IHF lawyer approved by the IHF Council presented the legal statement to the German prosecutor explaining the above-mentioned and highlighting the absence of the evidence that may support the allegations. Due to the absence of evidence and the proof presented confirming the implementation of the consultation duties stipulated in the contract between Dr Moustafa and Sportfive, the German prosecutor decided to close the proceedings on 7 August 2015, as there is no suspicion of criminal act.

President Moustafa conveyed his gratitude to the Council members for their support during this difficult time, adding that the closing of the case proved his position on the case and the transparency of the information provided to the Council, to the lawyers as well as to the prosecutor.

Decision.

The Council took note of the information provided regarding the Sportfive case.

10.3. Report from CD Chairman

The CD Chairman took the floor and informed the Council on the recent activities of the IHF Commission for Development (CD).

He pointed out that the CD has supported all development programmes of the IHF, including Handball@School, Four Year Plan, Development Aid programme, and the IHF Trophy. In addition, the CD is working on several special projects which have received the endorsement of the IHF President and the Head Office, such as the International Handball Federation Hall of Fame, the Women's Handball awareness project, the Presidential Award for Development and special projects for education (e-learning). He stressed the importance of mentioning that the CD draws special attention to new variations of handball, which are in the process of development, such as wheelchair handball and snow handball.

He concluded his report praising the work and contributions of the CD members and thanking the IHF President and Head Office for the support. He also seized the opportunity to congratulate President Moustafa on the efforts accomplished in terms of the IHF New Markets Project to develop handball in countries such as China and USA.

Decision.

The Council took note of the report from the CD Chairman on the recent activities of the IHF Commission for Development.

The next IHF Council Meeting will be held in Herning, Denmark on 19 December 2015 on the fringes of the 2015 Women's World Championship.

President Moustafa thanked the participants for the constructive meeting and closed the session at 14:15.

INTERNATIONAL HANDBALL FEDERATION



Dr Hassan Moustafa
President