



Electoral Period

2013 - 2017

Council Meeting No. 10

**Paris, France
28 January 2017**

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
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
Ricardo BLAS (GUM)	Oceania's Representative
Michael WIEDERER (AUT)	President European Handball Federation
Predrag BOSKOVIC (MNE)	Vice-President European Handball Federation
Per BERTELSEN (DEN)	COC Caretaker Chairman
Dietrich SPÄTE (GER)	CCM Caretaker Chairman
Amal KHALIFA (EGY)	Managing Director
Patric STRUB (GER)	Competitions Director
Luc WEBER (FRA, partly)	IHF Marketing Department
Marisa STERLY (GER)	IHF Head Office

MEETING TIME: 10:00 - 17:00

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.

President Moustafa as usual abstained from voting.

Agenda

- 1. Minutes**
 - 1.1. Council Meeting No. 9, 11 November 2016 in Herzogenaurach, GER
 - 1.2. Executive Committee Meeting No. 15, 10 November 2016 in Herzogenaurach, GER
- 2. President's activities**
- 3. Competitions**
 - 3.1. 2017 Men's World Championship in FRA – Review
- 4. 2017 Ordinary IHF Congress**
- 5. Finances**
 - 5.1. Current situation of IHF investment
 - 5.2. TV rights 2019-2021
- 6. IHF Regulations**
 - 6.1. Regulations for IHF Competitions
 - 6.2. Regulations concerning Penalties and Fines
 - 6.3. Regulations for Awards
 - 6.4. IHF Hall of Fame
- 7. Continents**
 - 7.1. EHF Ordinary Congress 2016 in AUT
 - 7.2. Nomination of Pan-American representative to IHF CCM
- 8. IHF Membership**
 - 8.1. Fiji
 - 8.2. Scotland
 - 8.3. England
- 9. Awarding of IHF events which are subject to a Council decision**
 - 9.1. 2021/2023 Women's World Championships
- 10. Miscellaneous**
 - 10.1. IHF ranking systems
 - 10.2. IHF Lecturers' course
 - 10.3. IHF Coaches' Symposium 2017
 - 10.4. Council decisions made by electronic communication
 - 10.4.1. 2023 Women's World Championship – Joint bid of DEN, NOR and SWE
 - 10.5. IHF Handball Academy

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At 10:00 President Moustafa opened the meeting, welcoming the Council members to the meeting in Paris which was held on the fringes of the 2017 Men's World Championship in France. He conveyed his gratitude to the French Handball Federation for the excellent organisation of the 2017 Men's WCh.

President Moustafa also welcomed newly elected EHF President Michael Wiederer and EHF Vice-President Predrag Boskovic, conveying his congratulations on their election during the 13th EHF Ordinary Congress held in St Wolfgang, Austria on 17/18 November 2016. He stated that they are welcome to express their opinion during the present meeting without voting right.

1. Minutes

1.1. Council Meeting No. 9, 11 November 2016 in Herzogenaurach, GER

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 9th Council Meeting, which was held in Herzogenaurach, GER, on 11 November 2016.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Council Meeting No. 9 held in Herzogenaurach on 11 November 2016.

1.2. Executive Committee Meeting No. 15, 10 November 2016 in Herzogenaurach, GER

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 15th Executive Committee Meeting, which took place in Herzogenaurach, GER, on 10 November 2016.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Executive Committee Meeting No. 15 held in Herzogenaurach on 10 November 2016.

2. President's activities

President Moustafa presented an overview of his activities between the last Council meeting in Herzogenaurach in November 2016 and the present meeting in Paris. He briefly reported on the different meetings and events which he attended, for example the ANOC General Assembly in Doha, Qatar from 13 to 16 November 2016, the 13th EHF Ordinary Congress held in St Wolfgang, Austria from 16 to 19 November 2016 as well as the 25 Years EHF Gala held after the EHF Congress. He was also present at the final weekend of the Women's EHF EURO 2016 in Gothenburg, Sweden from 16 to 19 December 2016, where Norway defended the title defeating the Netherlands 30:29.

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In addition he briefly reported on his travel to Auburn, USA from 4 to 7 December 2016 where he met with representatives of USA Team Handball and Dr Dave Pascoe of Auburn University, who also presented the School of Kinesiology facilities and introduced the faculty, to discuss the IHF Academy. He also reported on his visit to Tokyo, Japan from 12 to 15 December 2016 to meet with representatives of the Kumamoto and Japan Handball Association, adding that the discussions focused on the promotion and development concept for the 2019 Women's World Championship and the 2020 Olympic Handball Tournaments. On the occasion of his visit to Japan, he also met with Molten representatives to test the new resin-free ball.

He added that he travelled to Lausanne on 16/17 January 2017, i.e. during the 2017 Men's World Championship in France, to meet with the new Minister of Sports of China, Mr Gou Zhongwen, who is also newly elected President of the Chinese National Olympic Committee, to discuss the further handball development plans in China.

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. 2017 Men's World Championship in FRA – Review

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who briefly reported about the 2017 Men's World Championship held in the host cities of Albertville, Brest, Lille, Metz, Montpellier, Nantes, Paris and Rouen from 11 to 29 January 2017. One day prior to the final, he reported that three big European teams were eliminated during the Eighth-Finals and that several surprises occurred during the Preliminary Round, as Saudi-Arabia and Chile showed good performances proving the great development achieved on continental level. He stressed that the referee performances have so far been very good. He added that 540,000 match tickets have been sold so far, and briefly reported on the excellent TV figures (67.8% market share in Norway during the Quarter-Final NOR vs. HUN). He stated that 183 TV stations in total are covering the event, and that 400 media representatives were present in the venue during the Semi-Final FRA vs. SLO, concluding that the event has so far been a great success.

Decision:

The Council took note of the information provided by the Competitions Director regarding the 2017 Men's World Championship.

4. 2017 Ordinary IHF Congress

President Moustafa referred to the IHF Council decision dated 23 July 2016 to withdraw the organisation of the 2017 Ordinary IHF Congress from Australian Handball Federation according to

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Article 13.3.21 of the IHF Statutes due to the fact that the Australian Handball Federation did not fulfil its promises made during the bid presentation in terms of participation fee and visa. He also referred to the IHF Council decision dated 11 November 2016 to award the 2017 Ordinary IHF Congress to United Arab Emirates Handball Federation after an inspection visit has been carried out. Consequently, the IHF Managing Director travelled to Dubai on 26/27 November 2016 to conduct the first inspection visit. During the visit meetings were organised with representatives of United Arab Emirates Handball Federation as well as several technical equipment companies to discuss all organisational matters and IHF requirements. After the inspection, the Managing Director concluded that Dubai offered excellent facilities for the organisation of the IHF Congress. Nevertheless, the IHF received a letter from the United Arab Emirates Handball Federation on 8 January 2017, informing about an estimated deficit in the organisational budget of the IHF Congress to the amount of AED 2,030,000.- (approx. EUR 515,000). President Moustafa informed the Council about his travel to Dubai from 6 to 9 January 2017 on the occasion of the ceremony for awarding the 2016 winners of the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Creative Sports Award, stating that the UAE government expressed their willingness to grant financial support in order to organise the IHF Congress in Dubai. President Moustafa stressed that he refused the offer from UAE government to guarantee the transparency and integrity of handball, taking into consideration that elections are held during the next IHF Congress. Referring to the investment which might be made by the IHF, he stressed that the money should rather be spent on the further development of handball worldwide.

The letters of intent received from Turkish Handball Federation dated 29 December 2016 and 17 January 2017, confirming their interest in organising the IHF Congress in Antalya in the first week of November 2017, were presented to the Council. The accommodation fees proposed by TUR amount to EUR 220.- per night for a single room and EUR 350.- per night for a double room, compared to \$ 490 (EUR 320) per person per night (single room) for delegates, and \$ 150 (EUR 70) per person per night (twin share) for accompanying persons as initially proposed by AUS and approved by the 2015 Ordinary IHF Congress. The Turkish Handball Federation confirmed that they have received the approval of their Ministry of Youth and Sports and that all organisational conditions of the IHF will be fulfilled.

President Moustafa emphasised that Egypt, who had applied for the organisation of the 2017 Ordinary IHF Congress apart from Australia, can't be taken into consideration as a potential Congress host, due to the fact that they lost to Australia in the respective voting during the 2015 Ordinary IHF Congress.

Europe's Vice-President pointed out that the offer submitted by the Turkish Handball Federation is reasonable. Referring to security in Turkey which many people might consider as an issue, he stressed that Turkey can guarantee a high level of security for special events. President Moustafa added that the Congress organiser shall place a special focus on security measures, similar to the organising committee of the 2017 Men's World Championship in France, to guarantee the safety of all Congress participants.

The Managing Director stated that no inspection has been made yet to Turkey. Europe's Vice-President informed about the 2004 Beach Handball European Championships for Men and Women held in Alanya, Turkey as well as the 2007 Women's 19 European Championship held in Izmir, Turkey, confirming that the conditions in terms of quality of accommodation were exceptional.

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The Council members discussed the question of financially supporting some IHF Member Federations to facilitate their participation in the 2017 Ordinary IHF Congress, taking into consideration that the IHF as usual covers the accommodation expenses for one delegate of each federation during the official Congress period. Similar to the procedure applied for previous Congresses, the Council unanimously agreed to cover the travel expenses for one delegate of some emerging National Federations to the 2017 Ordinary IHF Congress in order to give all federations the chance to take part in the Congress enabling them to make their input and contribution.

Decision.

According to Article 13.3.21 of the IHF Statutes, the Council unanimously decided to award the XXXVI Ordinary IHF Congress 2017 to the Turkish Handball Federation. The accommodation fees shall be as follows: EUR 220.- per night for single room; EUR 350.- per night for double room.

In order to guarantee the fruitful participation of all affiliated members in the IHF Congress and to give them the opportunity to interact and express their opinions and suggestions to the IHF, the Council, in accordance with past Council decisions, unanimously decided to financially support some of the IHF emerging National Federations which shall apply to the IHF for financial assistance in terms of travel costs for one delegate to the 2017 Ordinary IHF Congress in Turkey, taking into consideration that the federations' requests for financial assistance are subject to approval by the IHF Executive Committee.

5. Finances

5.1. Current situation of IHF investment

Referring to the IHF Council decision dated 23 July 2016, according to which the investment proposal of Julius Bär was unanimously approved in order to save negative interest (-0.75%) being imposed on IHF income, the Managing Director welcomed Mr Robert Nef, Director Private Banking Switzerland of Julius Bär, by conference call to provide the Council with a second update of the current situation of the IHF investment following the first update given during the last Council meeting held in Herzogenaurach on 11 November 2016.

Mr Nef confirmed that the situation of the investment reported to the IHF Council is still maintained, explaining that 60% out of 100% of the IHF money has been invested in bonds (minimum rating A3/A), considering that the required minimum yield at the end of maturity is 0.37% while the average yield at purchase stands at 0.56%. He added that the remaining 40% of the IHF money (in CHF) is still in the account.

As the acting Treasurer asked Mr Nef about his recommendation regarding the remaining cash which has not yet been invested, Mr Nef proposed to buy a first part of USD (approx. 5 million) now to be invested in the bond market and in the next few weeks another part of USD (approx. 5 million) to be reinvested in the bond market.

President Moustafa explained to the Council that the main problem in this regard is that the IHF receives money in different currencies, e.g. the instalments of the TV rights contract in CHF, the Olympic Games revenue from the IOC in USD, some marketing payments in EUR, adding that in

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Switzerland a negative interest rate of -0.75% is usually charged for CHF cash holdings (-0.50% for EUR cash holdings). Therefore the IHF paid to its former bank UBS a high amount of negative interest in 2015 and 2016. He stressed the importance of avoiding to play with the money of the IHF.

The acting Treasurer stated that the main aim is to avoid paying negative interest and to save the money of the IHF belonging to the IHF Member Federations. He also reported that the IHF Executive Committee discussed in its last meeting on 25 January 2017 an investment proposal received from Raiffeisenbank Birsig for the IHF cash (CHF) which may be affected by the negative interest and is not needed for the IHF ongoing expenses:

Term deposits:	3 years 0.00%	4 years 0.01%	5 years 0.01%
	6 years 0.05%	7 years 0.09%	8 years 0.16%
	9 years 0.22%	10 years 0.28%	

The value is always 100% and the repayment is guaranteed at 100 %. The acting Treasurer added that the Executive Committee proposed to the Council to approve the investment proposal of Raiffeisenbank Birsig (10 years) for the current CHF amount which shall be affected by the negative interest to benefit from a good yield at the end of maturity on condition that any withdrawal of the invested amount during the maturity period by the IHF (in case the money is needed) will be without any penalties.

Decision.

The Council took note and unanimously approved the update report from Julius Bär about the investment portfolio of the IHF in order to save negative interest (-0.75% for CHF and -0.50% for EUR) being imposed on IHF income.

Following the proposal of the Executive Committee, the Council unanimously approved the investment proposal of Raiffeisenbank Birsig (10 years) for the IHF cash (CHF) which may be affected by the negative interest and is not needed for the IHF ongoing expenses on condition that any withdrawal of the invested amount during the maturity period by the IHF (if applicable) will be without any penalties.

5.2. TV rights 2019-2021

President Moustafa gave the floor to Mr Luc Weber, representative of the IHF Marketing Department, who informed the Council that the current contract with IHF TV rights partner beIN Sports, which had been concluded for the four IHF senior events during the period 2015-2017 according to the IHF Council decision dated 21 December 2013, will end on 31 December 2017. The contract includes a period of three months starting on 31 March 2017 during which beIN Sports has the priority right to negotiate a new contract with IHF. In case no mutual agreement will be found between both parties, a tender procedure will be carried out for the four senior events during the period 2019-2021. The offers from all companies will be collected by the IHF Marketing Department representative and presented to the next Council meeting for decision.

President Moustafa stressed the importance of supporting underdeveloped countries as part of the TV rights contract for the period 2019-2021, similar to the support granted by beIN Sports for the period 2015-2017.

Decision.

The Council took note of the information provided by Mr Luc Weber regarding the TV rights for the period 2019–2021 and unanimously agreed on the procedures to be taken according to the current contract provisions.

6. IHF Regulations

6.1. Regulations for IHF Competitions

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who presented to the Council the proposed changes to the Regulations for IHF Competitions, which had been elaborated during the COC meeting held in Basel, Switzerland from 12 to 14 December 2016.

Change 1: to oblige Continental Confederations to have a minimum number of teams participating in their continental qualifications to get the respective number of compulsory places

Regulation text update:

2.3. Compulsory and performance places

Compulsory places for World Championships (Men)

The following conditions apply to receive the compulsory places

- a) At least eight teams must take part in the qualification on the continents in order to receive the three compulsory places.*
- b) If the total number of teams is higher than three due to possible performance places, the minimum number of participating teams in the qualification round must be at least twice the number of places.*
- c) If this condition is not fulfilled, the number of places is reduced by one.*
- d) In this case, the open place is awarded to the continent of the reigning champion.*

For junior, youth and women's paragraph a) shall be as follows:

- a) At least eight teams must take part in the qualification on the continents in order to receive the three compulsory places. In case of less teams participating, at least twice the number of entitled compulsory places must take part in the qualification on the continents in order to receive the three compulsory places.*

Change 2: to clarify the Oceania pathway to World Championships and the awarding of the free place in case of non-participation

Regulation text update:

2.3. Compulsory and performance places

The Continental Confederation of Oceania is not having a direct compulsory place for a Continental Confederation qualification event. The continent of Oceania is invited to take part in the Asian

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qualification events. The compulsory place is awarded to Oceania if the representative from Oceania is ranked 5th or better in the Asian qualification.

In case Oceania is not reaching rank 5 or not participating the IHF Council is awarding this place as a free wild card.

Change 3: to add further details to the so-called competitive clause in case of qualification and to define the re-awarding of the respective place

Regulation text update:

2.3. Compulsory and performance places

The IHF must analyse such situations within two months after the respective WCh in order to make sure that the number of places for the different Continental Confederations are defined before their qualification process starts.

In case performance or compulsory places are reduced the places are awarded to the continent of the reigning World Champion.

In case the continent of the World Champion is the continent from which the place is reduced, the IHF Council has to award the place to a Continental Confederation.

Change 4: Clarification regarding “where the place” of second organiser will be reduced from and details regarding the seeding and draw

Regulation text update:

2.3. Compulsory and performance places

In the case of a World Championship awarded to two organisers, the place of “Continent of reigning World Champion” will be awarded to the 2nd host. In case of more than two organisers, the necessary places will be taken additionally from the compulsory places. All hosting federations are automatically entitled to take part at the World Championship.

As a rule the organiser will be allocated the first place behind the performance places. Should the organiser achieve a better place as a result of the previously staged World Championship, it will be allocated the corresponding performance place. In case the organiser did not reach a better place at the previously staged World Championship, but reached a better position at the continental qualification event, they will be seeded on this performance place.

In case of more than one organiser, the hosting federations will be allocated the places behind the performance places if the above criteria do not apply. The order of the multiple organisers is done based on the result of the preceding World Championships. If this is not possible the IHF COC shall decide the order.

One organiser can decide on choosing group or assigning teams. In the case of more than one organiser the OC has to assign one team per group including themselves.

2.7. Draw

In the case of more than one organiser, the performance row of the main organiser (to be defined by the organisers) is drawn last and the main organiser shall have a free choice of its preliminary round group within its performance row. The performance row of the secondary organiser is drawn second to last and the secondary organiser shall have as well free choice of its preliminary round group.

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Change 5: to increase the number of player replacements from two to three

Regulation text update:

2.9. Team registration

Player replacement

*During the World Championship each team may replace up to **three** players (against **three** players indicated in the provisional list) at any time (e.g. each team may put in **three** new players or may put in a player who has already been replaced once). Players may be replaced against players indicated in the provisional delegation list ('list of 28') only.*

Change 6: Player eligibility shall be checked by IHF after receiving the provisional lists. Further minimum age shall apply to the first appearance, not to the start of the tournament.

Regulation text update:

3.1. Player eligibility

*The Player Eligibility Code shall apply. Players shall prove their citizenship by presenting a passport, which will be checked by the COC before the start of the World Championship. **IHF shall check the eligibility of all players within one week after receiving the provisional lists.***

*The minimum age of 16 is fixed for the participation at Men's and Women's World Championships, meaning that players eligible to participate have to turn 16 years on the day of **his/her match at the latest.***

Change 7: Option to start Women's World Championship already on 28 November instead of 1 December

Regulation text update:

3.2. Competition dates

The IHF-COC shall fix the exact dates of the competitions with the following periods being set:

Men: 2nd half of January (ending 2 February at the latest)
Women: **28 November** – 22 December

Change 8: Alternative match scheme for Quarter-Finals in case of more than one organiser to avoid that the two hosts meet in the QF in one or the other country and to define in a better way the logistics for media, spectators and teams

Regulation text update:

3.3. Match scheme

Alternative match scheme for Quarter-Finals in case of two organisers (4 matches in total)

QF 1: W EF 1 – W EF 3
QF 4: W EF 6 – W EF 7
QF 2: W EF 2 – W EF 4
QF 3: W EF 5 – W EF 8

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The winners advance to the semi-finals; the losers compete in the placement round (5th-8th rank).

Change 9 (applicable for Junior/Youth regulations only): to update the competition dates options since more and more events are affecting the younger age categories and flexibility is needed (end of season, exams, other events such as Youth Olympic Games and Olympic Games)

Regulation text update:

3.2. Competition dates

The IHF-COC shall fix the exact dates of the competitions with the following periods being set:

Women's Youth (U18): August; taking place in even years

Women's Junior (U20): July; taking place in even years

Men's Youth (U19): August; taking place in odd years

Men's Junior (U21): July; taking place in odd years

COC will add the exact dates to the international calendar. One week break shall be in between the youth and junior competitions.

Change 10: to clarify seeding and draw options in Junior/Youth regulations

Regulation text update:

2.3. Compulsory and performance places

The distribution of the performance and compulsory places is in general done in accordance with the result of the preceding World Championship. The overview of the seeding will be done by the COC and announced one month after the respective World Championship.

All above-mentioned changes proposed by the COC were unanimously approved by the Council.

Referring to the 2017 Men's World Championship in France, where three big nations were eliminated in the Eighth-Finals, President Moustafa outlined the disadvantages of the knock-out system, stating that the main target of the IHF is to see strong teams playing in the Semi-Finals and Finals. He pointed out that the former system (main round) is fairer, as it gives teams the possibility to come back with a better performance after a weaker performance which might be due to an injured player or a weak referee performance.

EHF President Michael Wiederer commented that President Moustafa's initiative should be strongly supported, as the main round guarantees TV times and offers better planning opportunities for the fans following their respective teams.

Europe's Vice-President supported President Moustafa's perspective, pointing out the necessity of separating the concept of development from the concept of competition. While the President's Cup is a combination of both development and competition, the real World Championship should be only a competition concept and not based on a development concept.

President Moustafa asked the COC Caretaker Chairman to study the matter with the COC and submit a corresponding proposal to the IHF Head Office within one week, which shall be submitted to the Council for decision.

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Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the changes 1 to 10 to the Regulations for IHF Competitions as proposed by the COC. In addition, the Council asked the COC Caretaker Chairman to study the playing system of World Championships with the COC and to submit their corresponding proposal within one week to be presented to the Council for decision.

6.2. Regulations concerning Penalties and Fines

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Managing Director who informed the Council about the necessity of updating the IHF Regulations concerning Penalties and Fines (date of last edition: September 2007) due to several changes which have been made to the IHF Statutes and Regulations over the last years. The updated IHF Regulations concerning Penalties and Fines contain information on penalties and fines to be imposed in case of violations of the IHF Statutes and all IHF Regulations, e.g. the Regulations for IHF Competitions, Regulations for Transfer between Federations etc., whereas measures and sanctions to be imposed in case of violations of the IHF Ethics Code are provided for in the Ethics Code. A first draft of the updated IHF Regulations concerning Penalties and Fines has been communicated to the Council members.

All Council members confirmed having received the draft of the updated IHF Regulations concerning Penalties and Fines.

Europe's Vice-President stressed that the main issue of the new IHF Regulations concerning Penalties and Fines is coherence. Despite the importance of the democratic aspect, he was not in favour of the Council changing one point which might affect another point. Specific remarks, however, should be taken into account. After a period of reflection, the new regulations should be either approved or rejected globally to avoid destroying the coherence of the project.

President Moustafa asked the Council members to send any input related to the draft of the updated IHF Regulations concerning Penalties and Fines to the IHF Head Office within two weeks. Failing to reply within two weeks will be considered as consent to the updated Regulations concerning Penalties and Fines.

Decision.

The Council took note of the draft of the updated IHF Regulations concerning Penalties and Fines. Failing to comment on the draft within two weeks will be considered as consent to the updated Regulations concerning Penalties and Fines. The input of the Council to be received within the deadline shall be considered in the final version of the IHF Regulations concerning Penalties and Fines.

6.3. Regulations for Awards

The Managing Director informed the Council about the necessity of updating the IHF Regulations for Awards (date of last edition: September 2007) in order to include the IHF Hall of Fame according to the IHF Council decision dated 23 July 2016. In addition, the name of the Hans Baumann Trophy is proposed to be changed to IHF Presidential Development Award. The updated IHF Regulations for Awards contain a provision, according to which internal regulations on the IHF Presidential

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Development Award and IHF Hall of Fame will be formulated, taking into consideration that those internal regulations will be submitted to the Council for decision. Furthermore, the different IHF awards have been revised and are clearly listed in the updated IHF Regulations for Awards, a draft of which has been communicated to the Council members.

All Council members confirmed having received the draft of the updated IHF Regulations for Awards.

President Moustafa asked the Council members to send any input related to the draft of the updated IHF Regulations for Awards to the IHF Head Office within two weeks. Failing to reply within two weeks will be considered as consent to the updated Regulations for Awards.

Decision.

The Council took note of the draft of the updated IHF Regulations for Awards. Failing to comment on the draft within two weeks will be considered as consent to the updated Regulations for Awards. The input of the Council to be received within the deadline shall be considered in the final version of the IHF Regulations for Awards.

6.4. IHF Hall of Fame

This agenda item has been dealt with by the IHF Council under agenda item 6.3.

7. Continents

7.1. EHF Ordinary Congress 2016 in AUT

President Moustafa informed the Council about his attendance at the 13th Ordinary Congress of the European Handball Federation held in St Wolfgang, Austria on 17/18 November 2016 during which elections were held (2016-2020):

Executive Committee:

President:	Mr Michael WIEDERER (AUT)
Vice-President:	Mr Predrag BOSKOVIC (MNE)
Treasurer:	Mr Henrik LA COUR (DEN)
Chairman CC:	Mr Bozidar DJURKOVIC (SRB)
Chairman MC:	Mr Jerzy ELIASZ (POL)
Chairman BC:	Mr Ole R. JORSTAD (NOR)
Member:	Mr Stefan LÖVGREN (SWE)
Member:	Ms Gabriella HORVATH (HUN)
Member:	Mr Anrijs BRENCANS (LAT)
Chairman PHB:	Mr Xavier O'CALLAGHAN FERRER (ESP, elected by PHB on 15 December 2016)
Chairperson WHB:	Ms Georgeta Narcisa LECUSANU (ROU, elected by WHB on 15 December 2016)

A detailed list of all election results regarding the different EHF bodies, e.g. the Commissions, was presented to the Council.

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The EHF Congress nominated EHF President Michael Wiederer (AUT) as Vice-President Europe to the IHF Council, and mandated by the EHF Congress, the EHF Executive Committee nominated EHF Vice-President Predrag Boskovic (MNE) as Council Member Europe to the IHF.

The continental representatives to the IHF Commissions will be nominated by the EHF Executive Committee in due course.

As the Council members approved the nominations from the European Handball Federation to the IHF Council until the next IHF Congress in 2017 according to Article 10.2.4 of the IHF Statutes, President Moustafa conveyed his congratulations to Mr Michael Wiederer and Mr Predrag Boskovic and wished them good luck for their missions. EHF President Michael Wiederer, also on behalf of EHF Vice-President Predrag Boskovic, thanked the Council members for their support, confirming that they are ready to contribute to the welfare of international handball.

Decision.

The Council took note of the information regarding the EHF Ordinary Congress 2016 and unanimously confirmed the following nominations from the European Handball Federation to the IHF Council until the next IHF Congress in 2017 according to Article 10.2.4 of the IHF Statutes.

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

Council Member Europe. Mr Predrag Boskovic (MNE)

7.2. Nomination of Pan-American representative to IHF CCM

President Moustafa informed the Council about the letter the IHF received from the Pan-American Team Handball Federation on 2 December 2016, stating that the PATHF Ordinary Congress held in Buenos Aires, Argentina on 30 July 2016 nominated Mr Mike Cavanaugh (USA) as Pan-American representative of the IHF Commission of Coaching and Methods (CCM).

Decision.

According to Article 15.1.5 of the IHF Statutes and following the nomination of the Pan-American Team Handball Federation, the Council unanimously approved to appoint Mr Mike Cavanaugh (USA) as Pan-American representative of the IHF Commission of Coaching and Methods (CCM).

8. *IHF Membership*

8.1. Fiji

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Managing Director who presented the application of Handball Fiji (in the continent of Oceania) for full 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 Handball Fiji until the 2017 Ordinary IHF Congress.

8.2. Scotland

The Managing Director presented the application of Scottish Handball Association (in the continent of Europe) for associated 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 associated membership.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved to grant provisional associated membership to Scottish Handball Association until the 2017 Ordinary IHF Congress.

8.3. England

The Managing Director informed the Council that the England Handball Association (in the continent of Europe) announced their intent to become an associated IHF member and to submit all the required documents by the end of January 2017. She asked the Council to grant them provisional associated membership.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved to grant provisional associated membership to England Handball Association until the 2017 Ordinary IHF Congress provided that the required documents will be submitted to the IHF.

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

9.1. 2021/2023 Women's World Championships

President Moustafa referred to the key facts of the biddings for the 2021 and 2023 Women's World Championships, which had been communicated to the Council members.

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.

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- 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 Women's World Championship**

President Moustafa informed the Council that Spain and Hungary compete for the right to organise the 2021 Women's World Championship.

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

The Spanish delegation:

- ✚ Mr Francisco V. Blázquez García – President of Royal Spanish Handball Federation
- ✚ Mr Alejandro Blanco Bravo – President of Spanish Olympic Committee
- ✚ Mr Josep Mayoral i Antigas – Mayor of Granollers (representing all venues)
- ✚ Mr David Barrufet – Handball Director of FC Barcelona (venue for the final weekend)
- ✚ Ms Marta Mangué – Captain of the Spanish women's national team
- ✚ Mr Iker Romero – Men's Handball Ambassador of Royal Spanish Handball Federation
- ✚ Ms Laura Steinbach – former German women's national team player and currently playing and living in Granollers
- ✚ Mr Josep Blanchart – Manager of Club Balonmano Granollers
- ✚ Mr Jordi Romea – Technical Responsible for Sports of Granollers City Council
- ✚ Mr Pere Garcia – former Sports Responsible of Granollers City Council
- ✚ Ms Elena Borrás Alcaraz – International Relations' Responsible of Royal Spanish Handball Federation

At the beginning of the presentation, the bid delegation was introduced to the Council.

The bid includes the following six host cities/venues:

- Barcelona – Nuevo Palau Blaugrana (capacity: 12,000)
- Granollers – Palacio de Deportes de Granollers (capacity: 5,200)
- Tarragona – Palacio de Deportes de Tarragona (under construction, capacity: 5,000)
- Lleida – Pabellón "Barris Nord" (capacity: 5,500)
- Castellón – Pabellón "Ciutat de Castelló" (capacity: 5,200)
- Badalona – Pabellón Olímpico de Badalona (capacity: 12,500)

The representatives of the Spanish delegation provided information about the arenas, accommodation (hotels complying with all requirements of the IHF, team hotels close to training and competition venues) and transportation (a safe, reliable and efficient transportation service for each of the groups involved in the event is guaranteed; all host cities connected with regular or high-speed trains, distance between venues guarantees short and fast transfers to offer optimal conditions of transport). They mentioned several handball events, both on European and international level, which have been hosted by Spain until now. Their main goal now is to invest in the future and attract generations of new players, fans and media to be interested in women's handball.

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The President of Royal Spanish Handball Federation confirmed that full support is granted by the Olympic Movement, Spanish government and the handball community. The Spanish government has guaranteed the introduction of all the necessary measures so that the event is celebrated in a full security setting, with special attention paid to key infrastructures for the staging of the competitions and to IHF operations, its subsidiaries and delegations from different countries.

The representatives of the Spanish delegation added that one of their key strategic goals is to increase the level of public exposure of handball in Spain and to develop the next handball generation in Spain. Young people and children are the main target of the event and the marketing and communication strategies defined, including the use of social media, will target this population. A plan has been developed to enjoy full arenas during all the matches of the tournament. Another target is to increase the popularity of handball not only in Spain but also in other countries from the moment of the awarding until far beyond the end of the tournament through the legacy plan.

Following the question of the MC Chairman regarding visas for all participants, the Spanish delegation confirmed that all teams and delegates involved will receive entry visas without problems. IHF nominees and staff members, participants and national delegations, IHF sponsors, TV partners and their service providers as well as media will enjoy priority treatment through the provision of special immigration, customs and check-in procedures. These special procedures will be put in place in the main airports involved in the event as well as in any other relevant entry point to Spain.

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

The Hungarian delegation:

- ✚ Dr László Szabó – Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- ✚ György Károlyi – H.E. the Ambassador of Hungary in Paris
- ✚ László Marosi – Vice-President of Hungarian Handball Federation, former top player, Vice World Champion
- ✚ Sándor Andorka – President of HHF International Commission, former top international referee, delegate and Commission member
- ✚ Adrienn Szücs – Deputy chief of cabinet
- ✚ Zsuzsanna Mátrai – Counsellor in the Embassy of Hungary
- ✚ Beáta Siti – National coach, former top player, Olympic silver medallist, EURO and Champions League winner, Vice World Champion among other results
- ✚ Dorina Korsós – Top young talent, twice Champions League winner
- ✚ Zoltán Szabó – External advisor, UEFA EURO 2016
- ✚ Gabriella Horváth – Deputy Secretary General responsible for International Affairs (HHF)

Zoltán Szabó opened the presentation, introducing the bid delegation to the Council.

The bid includes the following six host cities/venues:

- Veszprém – Arena Veszprém (current capacity: 5,500; capacity by 2021: 8,000)
- Győr - Győri Audi Arena (capacity: 5,500)
- Szeged – Arena Szeged (yet to be constructed, capacity: 8,000)
- Budapest – Arena Budapest (capacity: 12,000)
- Debrecen – Főnix Arena (capacity: 6,000)
- Tatabánya – Tatabánya Arena (under construction, capacity: 6,000)

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The representatives of the Hungarian delegation gave some information about Hungary and mentioned several large sports events which have been held in Hungary in the last few years as well as successful IHF events in Hungary including the 2016 Beach Handball World Championships in Budapest. They provided information on the arenas, accommodation and transportation (buses for each team, a fleet of branded cars for officials and guests, dedicated cars for high representatives). They pointed out the widespread services for media representatives as well as the marketing concept, and presented the global handball promotion concept, including the use of social media and special activities for spectators such as fan zones. They also outlined the great developments for the Hungarian handball infrastructure which could be achieved through the awarding of the World Championship to Hungary, including the reconstruction of Arena Veszprém and the construction of Arena Szeged and Tatabánya Arena, as well as the promotion of handball all over the country. They added that thanks to the support of the government, a rapid handball development has been achieved, e.g. the number of players almost doubled over the past three years, handball will be included in the national core curriculum of Physical Education, and 60 new training halls and 6-8 performance halls are being built or extended.

As Asia's Vice-President asked about the visa procedure, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade confirmed the Hungarian government's support in this regard and guaranteed that no visa issues will occur for the World Championship. He added that all Hungarian diplomatic missions worldwide will be instructed to facilitate the visa procedure for all participants. Following President Moustafa's request for a guarantee letter from the government, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade confirmed that visas will be issued if the corresponding visa applications are submitted in time, taking into consideration that Hungary has to abide by the Schengen Agreement.

After the presentations were terminated the Council members were convened to vote. 14 Council members were entitled to vote for the 2021 Women's WCh, as the 1st Vice-President had been excluded due to his Spanish nationality, and the President as usual abstained from voting, and 14 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 Women's World Championship**



With regard to the 2023 Women's World Championship, President Moustafa informed the Council that Hungary and Denmark/Norway/Sweden compete for the right to organise the mentioned event after Russia withdrew their bid.

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

President Moustafa then welcomed the representatives of the Danish Handball Association, the Norwegian Handball Federation and the Swedish Handball Federation and opened the floor for the presentation.

The Danish, Norwegian and Swedish delegations:

DEN

-  Morten Stig Christensen – Secretary General of Danish Handball Association
-  Camilla Andersen – former national team player, Olympic and World Champion

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- ✚ Lars Lundov – CEO Sport Event Denmark
- ✚ Judy Jacobsen – Project coordinator Sport Event Denmark
- ✚ Tanya Heimlich-Ng Yuen – TSE project coordinator
- ✚ Katrine Kjølner Christensen – Bid coordinator
- ✚ Ulla Essendrop – TV presenter

NOR

- ✚ Kåre Geir Lio – President of Norwegian Handball Federation
- ✚ Erik Langerud – Secretary General of Norwegian Handball Federation
- ✚ Per Otto Furuseth – Senior Consultant of Norwegian Handball Federation

SWE

- ✚ Fredrik Rapp – President of Swedish Handball Federation
- ✚ Jörgen Holmqvist – Vice-President of Swedish Handball Federation
- ✚ Christer Thelin – Secretary General of Swedish Handball Federation
- ✚ Stefan Lövgren – CEO Swedish National Teams
- ✚ Stefan Albrechtson – Manager Partille Cup
- ✚ Johanna Ahlm – current national team player

Ulla Essendrop opened the presentation, introducing the bid delegation to the Council. She emphasised that the united Scandinavian bid from Denmark, Norway and Sweden offers three passionate and handball crazed nations ready to deliver a fantastic event and set new standards for the game, for the event and for IHF. She stressed the long handball tradition in all three countries, including their experience in hosting several major international events.

The bid includes the following six host cities/venues:

- Herning (DEN) – Jyske Bank Boxen (capacity: 14,500)
- Kolding (DEN) – Sydbank Arena (capacity: 5,000)
- Oslo (NOR) – Jordal Amfi (under construction, capacity: 5,500)
- Trondheim (NOR) – Trondheim Spectrum (under construction, capacity: 8,800)
- Malmö (SWE) – Malmö Arena (capacity: 13,000)
- Gothenburg (SWE) – Scandinavium (capacity: 12,000)

The Danish, Norwegian and Swedish delegations provided information on the arenas, accommodation (first class hotels located in and around each of the proposed venue cities; tailor-made solutions for each participating team) and transportation (compactness of Scandinavia makes getting to and getting around during the championship easy and convenient for all; international airports are in close proximity to each of the proposed venues, from as close as 22 km and a maximum of 55 km).

The Danish, Norwegian and Swedish delegations confirmed that their bid is strongly supported by partners of each handball community including local governments from the three nations. They pointed out that an ambitious marketing plan based on a strong promotion and communication platform will be carried out to ensure complete exposure of the event and attract the largest possible number of partners and sponsors to participate and support the event and handball in general. They guaranteed an exciting atmosphere at sold out venues as well as an increase of commercial possibilities for the benefit of the entire handball family. They also informed about their plans to cooperate with countries around the world to develop women's handball and secure a long lasting legacy for the sport within this group.

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In terms of visa, the Danish, Norwegian and Swedish delegations ensured full cooperation with the relevant authorities in order to secure an efficient visa procedure for all delegations, officials etc. As for security, they stated that their National Police and National Authorities are used to working closely across the national borders, adding that a private Security Management Company will be engaged by all three countries apart from many dedicated volunteers.

After the presentations were terminated the Council members were convened to vote. 14 Council members were entitled to vote for the 2023 Women's WCh, as Europe's Representative had been excluded due to his Swedish nationality, and the President as usual abstained from voting, and 14 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 five National Federations (ESP-HUN-DEN/NOR/SWE). Spain won the 2021 Women's World Championship; Denmark/Norway/Sweden won the 2023 Women's World Championship. The Council members unanimously confirmed the awarding of the 2021 Women's World Championship to Spain and of the 2023 Women's World Championship to Denmark/Norway/Sweden.

10. Miscellaneous

10.1. IHF ranking systems

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who informed the Council about the main outcome of the meeting of the working group, composed of the 1st Vice-President, Executive Committee Member Frantisek Taborsky, Europe's Vice-President, the COC Caretaker Chairman, the CCM Caretaker Chairman and the Competitions Director, dealing with the IHF ranking system for indoor and beach handball according to the decision of the IHF Council dated 11 November 2016.

The working group proposed to create two different rankings:

a) Performance Ranking

b) Activity Ranking

The following criteria shall apply for the **performance ranking**:

- friendly matches will not be counted
- only official matches will be taken into consideration
- matches on different competitions, different continents shall have a different value/weight
- certain matches/events will receive a certain coefficient
- the coefficient shall be connected with strength/performance/results of the respective continent/National Federation
- the ranking shall be based on a mathematical approach which is applicable at all times
- results valid for the ranking have to be limited to a certain time frame, year by year the earliest year taken into consideration shall lose a certain part of its value/weight
- a ranking shall be made for each category, meaning youth, junior, senior women and men as well as beach handball

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- the different rankings shall be combinable to define the 'strongest handball nation'
- different proposals will be worked out and presented to the working group for final decision

The following criteria shall apply for the **activity ranking**:

- additionally some so-called soft criteria shall apply and be taken into consideration
- friendly matches to be taken into consideration
- participation and qualification to World Championships get extra points
- participation in other events such as Mediterranean Games, Islamic Solidarity Games or All Africa Games are considered with points
- involvement in IHF activities to get extra points, such as number of referees on IHF list, international delegates, participation in IHF Trophy etc.

The target of the activity ranking is to appreciate and recognise the work and activity of the respective National Federation. In the future out of this ranking some benefits may occur.

President Moustafa invited the Council members to send any input related to the proposal of the working group to the Head Office to be studied by the working group. The final proposal of the working group will be submitted to the Council for approval.

Decision.

The Council took note of the proposal of the working group regarding the IHF ranking systems for indoor and beach handball presented by the Competitions Director. The working group will study any input to be submitted by the Council members and elaborate a final proposal which will be sent to the Council for approval.

10.2. IHF Lecturers' course

President Moustafa gave the floor to Executive Committee Member Frantisek Taborsky who briefly reported on the third edition of the IHF CCM Lecturers' Seminar held in Serris, FRA on 10 January 2017 on the fringes of the 2017 Men's World Championship, after the organisation of the first edition in Prague, CZE from 7 to 9 October 2011 (18 lecturers) and the second edition in Doha, QAT from 15 to 17 January 2015 (14 participants). 35 lecturers attended the seminar which was for the first time organised together with Handball@School Lecturers. The most important topics discussed were the IHF Education Structure and IHF Education Centre, educational activities 2015/2016, the lecturers' nomination, H@S activities as well as new goals in the education of teachers. As part of the seminar the lecturers were divided into six groups for a workshop which discussed, among other topics, the organisation of courses during IHF Trophy, self-made material for training at schools, improvement of education in continents, and the organisation of follow-ups to the courses. The workshop concluded with a presentation of the group results and mutual discussion, aiming to use the experiences of IHF CCM and H@S Lecturers to further improve IHF educational activities. He added that each lecturer had the possibility to choose his/her individual contribution for the IHF Education Centre in 2017 and to participate in the 2017 IHF Coaches' Symposium organised after the seminar. He stressed the positive attitude of all participants and their large interest in all matters discussed.

Decision.

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The Council took note of the information on the 3rd IHF CCM Lecturers' Seminar held in Serris, FRA on 10 January 2017.

10.3. IHF Coaches' Symposium 2017

President Moustafa gave the floor to the CCM Caretaker Chairman who briefly reported on the IHF Coaches' Symposium which was organised in cooperation with the French Handball Federation in Serris, FRA from 11 to 14 January 2017 on the fringes of the 2017 Men's World Championship. He pointed out the great success of the symposium which was attended by more than 400 participants from about 30 countries, stating that the IHF invited coaches from European emerging National Federations, CCM Lecturers, Handball@School experts and CCM members, while the French Handball Federation invited coaches from African countries. The symposium consisted of theoretical and practical lessons, and the participants focused on new training methods as for the new IHF Rules of the Game, practical consequences as well as new tendencies in the future goalkeeper training. He added that the original materials of the symposium will be handed over by the organiser to be presented in the IHF Education Centre. He conveyed his thanks to the President of French Handball Federation for the excellent organisation of the symposium which may serve as a model for the future.

President Moustafa added that an IHF Coaches' Symposium, especially for women, shall be organised on the fringes of the 2017 Women's World Championship in Germany.

Decision.

The Council took note of the information on the IHF Coaches' Symposium held in Serris, FRA from 11 to 14 January 2017.

10.4. Council decisions made by electronic communication

10.4.1. 2023 Women's World Championship – Joint bid of DEN, NOR and SWE

The Council members unanimously confirmed the following via electronic communication:

- Inclusion of SWE in the bid of DEN/NOR for the 2023 Women's World Championship / Letter sent to Council on 29 November 2016, Council approval received by 1 December 2016

10.5. IHF Handball Academy

President Moustafa gave the floor to the CCM Caretaker Chairman who presented to the Council the concept of the IHF Handball Academy, the central institution for the IHF handball development project in defined regions. He outlined the general goals of the IHF Academy, e.g. to include handball in the curriculum of schools and universities, to create different communication strategies to promote handball and develop the image of the sport, and to establish a modern infrastructure for training, education, competitions and communication. As a first step, IHF Academies are currently being established in important countries and regions such as China (Shanghai University of Sport and Beijing Sport University), USA (Auburn University) and Japan (University of Tokyo). As a next step IHF Academies shall be launched in each continent and eventually in each National Federation. He added that the topics of the IHF Academies can be modified according to the universities.

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President Moustafa stressed the importance of involving the National Federations in the process of establishing IHF Academies worldwide, taking into consideration that coaches are collaborating with the National Federations.

Decision:

The Council took note of the information on the IHF Handball Academies which shall be established in each National Federation.

Europe's Vice-President took the floor expressing his thanks to President Moustafa and the Council members for the cooperation, friendship and the intellectual debate. He appreciated the experience of being part of the IHF Council and jointly working on different ideas. He added that the successors of himself and Europe's Representative will continue in a spirit of friendship.

Europe's Representative took the floor conveying his thanks to President Moustafa and the Council members for the collaboration and good friendship throughout more than 30 years as well as for always respecting the opinion expressed by himself and Europe's Vice-President.

On behalf of the Council, President Moustafa thanked Europe's Vice-President and Europe's Representative for the excellent cooperation, stressing that they did a very good job. Referring to the collaboration between IHF and EHF, he expressed his hopes to continue working in the same direction, including regular meetings of both entities, in order to achieve further development of handball worldwide and build on the success achieved together at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games where handball was ranked second in terms of sold tickets. He awarded certificates of gratitude to Europe's Vice-President and Europe's Representative and invited both of them to the next IHF Congress, adding that they might be involved in future projects of the IHF to benefit from their experience.

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

President Moustafa thanked the participants for the constructive meeting and closed the session at 17:00.

INTERNATIONAL HANDBALL FEDERATION



Dr Hassan Moustafa
President