



## Council Meeting No. 1

**Electoral Period**

**2017 - 2021**

**Antalya, Turkey  
12 November 2017**

Present:

Dr Hassan MOUSTAFA (EGY)	President
Joël DELPLANQUE (FRA)	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice-President
Mansourou AREMOU (BEN)	Africa's Vice-President
Bader AL-THEYAB (KUW)	Asia's Vice-President
Michael WIEDERER (AUT, partly)	Europe's Vice-President
Narcisa LECUSANU (ROU)	Executive Committee Member
Frantisek TABORSKY (CZE)	Executive Committee Member
Anna RAPP (SWE)	Treasurer
Per BERTELSEN (DEN)	COC Chairman
Ramón GALLEGO (ESP)	PRC Chairman
Dietrich SPÄTE (GER)	CCM Chairman
Dr François GNAMIAN (CIV)	MC Chairman
Raquel PEDERCINI (CAN)	CD Chairwoman
Charles OMBOUMAHOU (CGO)	Africa's Representative
Yoshihide WATANABE (JPN)	Asia's Representative
Predrag BOSKOVIC (MNE, partly)	Europe's Representative
Ricardo BLAS (GUM)	Oceania's Representative
Jean BRIHAULT (FRA, partly)	Chairman of IHF Working Group of Candidatures for IHF Positions
Amal KHALIFA (EGY)	Managing Director
Patric STRUB (GER)	Competitions Director
Luc WEBER (FRA, partly)	Marketing Department
Hristo BOSHKOSKI (MKD, partly)	IHF Head Office
Marisa STERLY (GER)	IHF Head Office

MEETING TIME: 11:00 - 13:00

Notes: 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.

Due to the fact that the IHF Congress delegated its authority to decide on the motion related to the Pan-American continent to the Council, the confirmation of Pan-America's Vice-President of IHF and Pan-America's Representative of IHF did not take place.

# Agenda

- 1. Welcome by the President**
- 2. Appointment of Commission members**
  - 2.1. Commission of Organising and Competition (COC)
  - 2.2. Playing Rules and Referees Commission (PRC)
  - 2.3. Commission of Coaching and Methods (CCM)
  - 2.4. Medical Commission (MC)
  - 2.5. Commission for Development (CD)
- 3. Finances**
  - 3.1. Awarding of TV rights
- 4. Awarding of 2020 Beach Handball World Championships**
- 5. Miscellaneous**
  - 5.1. Sergey Shishkarev case
  - 5.2. Pan-American motion

# Council Meeting Minutes

## *1. Welcome by the President*

At 11:00 President Moustafa opened the meeting, welcoming the Council members to the meeting in Antalya which was held on the fringes of the 2017 Ordinary IHF Congress in Turkey.

He conveyed his congratulations to those Council members who have been re-elected or confirmed by the Congress for another four-year period. He also congratulated the six new Council members, Mrs Narcisa Lecusanu, Mrs Anna Rapp, Mrs Raquel Pedercini, Mr Per Bertelsen, Mr Ramón Gallego and Mr Dietrich Späte, on their election and welcomed them to the Council meeting. He pointed out that for the first time ever three women are among the Council members. He wished all Council members good luck for the upcoming four years and every success with their activities. He expressed his hopes for a fruitful collaboration with all Council members for the benefit of the further development of handball. A copy of the oath was distributed to the new IHF Council members who signed the document and returned it to the IHF.

Referring to the 2017 Ordinary IHF Congress in Antalya, Turkey, President Moustafa asked the Council members to provide their detailed feedback on the entire event organisation (from the announcement until the close of the Congress) in order to prepare an evaluation including recommendations to be taken into consideration in the organisation of future IHF Congresses. The overall evaluation shall be presented to the Council.

## *2. Appointment of Commission members*

### **2.1. Commission of Organising and Competition (COC)**

### **2.2. Playing Rules and Referees Commission (PRC)**

### **2.3. Commission of Coaching and Methods (CCM)**

### **2.4. Medical Commission (MC)**

### **2.5. Commission for Development (CD)**

The application documents of the candidates applying for membership in one of the permanent IHF Commissions (COC, PRC, CCM, MC, CD) had been distributed to the Council members prior to the Council meeting.

President Moustafa gave the floor to Mr Jean Brihault, Chairman of the Working Group of Candidatures for IHF Positions, who informed the Council members that the working group checked the following six additional applications which were received after the working group meeting in Tbilisi, Georgia on 17 August 2017 during which the continental candidates to the Commissions and Commission members were checked in terms of their compliance with the IHF criteria (outcome of the working group had been reported to the Council meeting in Tbilisi, Georgia on 18 August 2017):

<b>Position</b>	<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Re-nomination</b>	<b>First-time nomination</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Remarks from working group</b>
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## Council Meeting Minutes

	COC Member	Leopold Kalin	✓	SLO	Nomination received on 28.09.2017	Fulfilling all criteria
	PRC Member	Bjarne Munk Jensen	✓	DEN	Email received on 18.09.2017	Fulfilling all criteria
	PRC Member	Monika Hagen	✓	SWE	Email received on 27.09.2017	Fulfilling all criteria
	CCM Member	Mats Olsson	✓	SWE	10.11.2017	Fulfilling all criteria
	CD Member	Damian Drobik	✓	POL	06.11.2017	Fulfilling all criteria
	CD Member	Stefan Albrechtson	✓	SWE	01.11.2017	Fulfilling all criteria

President Moustafa asked the chairpersons of the COC, PRC, CCM, MC and CD to meet and prepare a concept for the future work of their Commissions to be presented to the Executive Committee.

He also stressed the importance of establishing criteria applicable for members of IHF Commissions (continental representatives and additional members) in order to avoid any problems. He asked the chairpersons of the COC, PRC, CCM, MC and CD to meet and define criteria for the Commission members which shall be communicated to the Continental Confederations. Consequently, he proposed to postpone the appointment of Commission members until the next Council meeting.

### *Decision.*

*The Council unanimously agreed to ask the chairpersons of COC, PRC, CCM, MC and CD to meet and define criteria for the Commission members to be communicated to the Continental Confederations. In addition, the Commission chairpersons shall prepare a concept for the future work of their Commissions to be presented to the Executive Committee. The appointment of Commission members shall be postponed until the next Council meeting.*

## 3. *Finances*

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### 3.1. Awarding of TV rights

President Moustafa referred to the IHF Council decision made in Tbilisi, Georgia on 18 August 2017 to form a working group, composed of the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, Executive Committee Member Joel Delplanque, the Managing Director, and representatives of the external IHF auditor and the IHF Marketing Department, to study the TV rights offers received within the deadline and report to the Council accordingly. In its meeting in Antalya, Turkey on 9 November 2017, the Council unanimously decided to authorise the working group to open the envelopes received within the deadline and study the TV rights offers before the next Council meeting.

President Moustafa gave the floor to Mr Luc Weber from the IHF Marketing Department who reported on the meeting of the working group held in Antalya, Turkey on 10 November 2017 following the Council's authorisation to open the envelopes and study the TV rights offers. The meeting was attended by IHF 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Mr Miguel Roca Mas, IHF Executive Committee Member Mr Joel Delplanque, IHF Managing Director Mrs Amal Khalifa, Mr Simon Rey, representative of the external IHF auditor Copartner Revision AG and Mr Luc Weber, representative of the IHF Marketing Department.

Mr Weber pointed out that the working group defined the following criteria before opening the offers:

- Conditions of the tender to be fulfilled
- Cash amount of each offer
- Amount for the production

The working group confirmed that the IHF received three sealed offers by the deadline of 30 September 2017, taking into account that 20 companies had been addressed by the IHF (photos of the sealed envelopes were taken before opening the envelopes).

Mr Weber reported that Mr Roca Mas proceeded with the opening of the three offers, which were then checked by the working group.

The working group met again on 11 November to make recommendations about the different cycles. Mr Roca Mas informed Mr Weber personally about his decision not to take part in the second meeting. Nevertheless, Mr Roca Mas asked to use his signature for the minutes.

MP & Silva was called during the working group meeting to ask them if the indicative amounts mentioned in the offer for the cycles 2019-2021 and 2019-2023 can be taken as offers, as their offer clearly stipulates the acquisition of the rights only for 2019-2025. Mr Ulrich Gutweniger replied that these amounts are indicative and further discussion with the management board of MP & Silva is required to confirm them. Consequently, the working group ended the conversation as the deadline of the tender was 30 September 2017. Therefore, the offer of MP & Silva shall only be considered for the period 2019-2025.

Main conditions from the *Invitation to tender (ITT)* regarding production/distribution:

- Production of the international live TV signal
- Production in line with at least Qatar 2015 and Rio 2016
- Statistics and TV graphics services

## Council Meeting Minutes

- Trailers, highlights, full matches available for the IHF to be used on IHF TV and online platforms, mobile app
- Online streaming in HD
- Full TV and sponsorship report
- Global distribution of the media rights
- Technical checks and responsibility for the TV related part of the event arenas

### Main conditions from the Invitation to tender (ITT) regarding global distribution:

The TV rights holder acknowledges that IHF expects to get the largest global TV audience possible for the events. In addition, the TV rights holder shall use its reasonable efforts to obtain a comprehensive TV coverage in the key handball TV markets for team handball including in particular the host nations of the respective events.

Priority to free-to-air coverage, particularly in host countries and in key handball markets like Germany, France, Spain, Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Poland, Croatia, Serbia, Russia, Brazil, as far as reasonably possible and economically feasible. A broadcasting list shall be discussed with the IHF and included in the agreement. A broadcasting list of sold rights shall be sent to IHF at least three months ahead of the events as well as regular updates, with the latest one being sent one month before the event.

To develop handball TV markets:

- China (public broadcaster as CCTV)
- USA / North America (NBC, CBS, ESPN, Fox)
- Japan (FTA broadcasters as NHK or TBS or TV Asahi)
- UK (BBC, ITV, Channel 4, Channel 5, Sky)

### Offers for 1 cycle – 2 Men’s and 2 Women’s World Championships:

	<b>Infront: Amount to buy the rights</b>	<b>IHF tender conditions</b>	<b>Fee production</b>	<b>Lagardère: Amount to buy the rights</b>	<b>IHF tender conditions</b>	<b>Fee production</b>
<b>19-21</b>	70 000 000 CHF	Infront’s commercial offer is made in consideration of the ITT received on 28 July 2017. Infront will take over the host broadcasting obligations of all the events included in the respective successful offer.	8 000 000 CHF – 2 000 000 CHF per event	73 059 779 CHF (received in EUR 63 million)	Lagardère Sports accepts all “Obligations of the TV Rights Holder” as detailed by the IHF in the ITT issued on 28 July 2017	11 600 936 CHF (received in EUR 10 million)

### Recommendation of the working group:

- Both productions would be done in-house by Infront and Lagardère (who can also outsource)

## Council Meeting Minutes

- Both offers comply with the conditions of the *Invitation to tender*
- Possible impact of the exchange rate in the case of Lagardère (offer received in EUR)
- Lagardère has the better offer

### **Offers for 2 cycles – 3 Men’s and 3 Women’s World Championships:**

	<b>Infront: Amount to buy the rights</b>	<b>Fee production</b>	<b>Lagardère: Amount to buy the rights</b>	<b>Fee production</b>
<b>19-21-23</b>	110 000 000 CHF	12 000 000 CHF	109 605 158 CHF  (received in EUR 94.5 million)	17 401 404 CHF

### **Recommendation of the working group:**

- Both productions would be done in-house by Infront and Lagardère
- Both offers comply with the conditions of the *Invitation to tender*
- Possible impact of the exchange rate in the case of Lagardère (offer received in EUR)

### **Offers for 3 cycles – 4 Men’s and 4 Women’s World Championships:**

	<b>MP &amp; Silva: Amount to buy the rights</b>	<b>IHF tender conditions</b>	<b>Fee production</b>	<b>Infront: Amount to buy the rights</b>	<b>Fee production</b>
<b>19-21-23-25</b>	173 918 750 CHF  (received in EUR 150 million)	MP & Silva will be able to procure production of the TV signal by an established television service or other experienced third party that will guarantee production of all matches of the events on live basis and in accordance with the production requirements set out in the ITT.	23 431 022 CHF	158 000 000 CHF	18 000 000 CHF

### **Recommendation of the working group:**

- The offer from MP & Silva would provide an important yearly income to the IHF and for the next 8 years
- We are not sure how the market will be in 4 or 6 years and the amount IHF can receive



## Council Meeting Minutes

### Cash amounts:

	<b>MP &amp; Silva: Amount to buy the rights</b>	<b>Infront: Amount to buy the rights</b>	<b>Lagardère: Amount to buy the rights</b>
<b>19-21</b>		70 000 000 CHF	73 059 779 CHF (received in EUR 63 million)
<b>19-21-23</b>		110 000 000 CHF	109 605 158 CHF (received in EUR 94.5 million)
<b>19-21-23-25</b>	173 918 750 CHF (received in EUR 150 million)	158 000 000 CHF	

### Amounts for production:

	<b>MP &amp; Silva: Fee production</b>	<b>Infront: Fee production</b>	<b>Lagardère: Fee production</b>
<b>19-21</b>		8 000 000 CHF (2 000 000 CHF per event)	11 600 936 CHF
<b>19-21-23</b>		12 000 000 CHF (2 000 000 CHF per event)	17 401 404 CHF
<b>19-21-23-25</b>	23 431 022 CHF	18 000 000 CHF (2 000 000 CHF per event + 2 000 000 CHF for digital innovation)	

- Infront has its own production department in-house
- MP & Silva is outsourcing the TV production
- Lagardère has a TV production unit but can outsource as well

### Total cash amounts split per year:

	<b>MP &amp; Silva: Amount to buy the rights</b>	<b>Amount per year</b>	<b>Infront: Amount to buy the rights</b>	<b>Amount per year</b>	<b>Lagardère: Amount to buy the rights</b>	<b>Amount per year</b>



## Council Meeting Minutes

<b>19-21</b>			70 000 000 CHF	17.5 million CHF	73 059 779 CHF (received in EUR 63 million)	18.26 million CHF
<b>19-21-23</b>			110 000 000 CHF	18.33 million CHF	109 605 158 CHF (received in EUR 94.5 million)	18.26 million CHF
<b>19-21-23-25</b>	173 918 750 CHF (received in EUR 150 million)	21.73 million CHF	158 000 000 CHF	19.75 million CHF		

After presenting the different TV rights offers to the Council, Mr Weber provided brief information about Infront, Lagardère (Sportfive and UFA Sports now both belong to Lagardère Sports) and in particular MP & Silva, taking into consideration that the IHF has not worked with them so far.

He explained that the MP & Silva group, global sports media agency, has established an exemplary track record in distributing TV and media rights for sports federations, leagues, clubs and rights holders and represents some of the most important and world-class sports events. Their television rights portfolio – providing annually over 10,000 hours of programming to over 200 broadcasters in 215 countries – includes Europe’s top football leagues, Grand Slam tennis, motor racing, handball, baseball, volleyball, boxing and the NFL. Headquartered in London and Singapore, they operate worldwide through regional offices in Beijing, Budapest, Dubai, Dublin, Luxemburg, Monaco, Munich, New York, Paris, Tokyo and Warsaw. Referring to media rights in handball, Mr Weber informed that MP & Silva secured a deal for the exclusive rights to distribute four seasons of DKB Handball-Bundesliga, from 2013/14 until 2016/17, which was marketed by SPORT1 in cooperation with German Handball-Bundesliga GmbH. MP & Silva has worldwide exclusive distribution rights (excluding Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Liechtenstein, Luxemburg and Alto Adige) for television rights across cable, satellite and terrestrial platforms, and for internet, mobile and betting rights. Mr Weber added that MP & Silva agreed to expand the distribution of VELUX EHF Men’s Champions League and the Women’s EHF Champions League for 5 seasons in France and North America. MP & Silva is currently the exclusive distributor of Europe’s pre-eminent club handball competition, the EHF Champions League, in Asia. The expansion deal also includes worldwide streaming rights for betting companies and TV magazine shows after each playing round.

President Moustafa first asked the Council members to decide on the duration of the contract, i.e. 1 cycle (2 Men’s and 2 Women’s World Championships, 2019-2021), 2 cycles (3 Men’s and 3 Women’s World Championships, 2019-2023) or 3 cycles (4 Men’s and 4 Women’s World Championships, 2019-2025).

The Council members considered the uncertainty of the market in four or six years and the amount IHF can receive, while acknowledging that a 3-cycle contract would guarantee an important yearly income to the IHF for the next 8 years. Therefore, the Council unanimously decided to conclude a TV rights contract for 3 cycles (4 Men’s and 4 Women’s World Championships, 2019-2025).

# Council Meeting Minutes

President Moustafa concluded that the following two TV rights offers are present for the period 2019-2025:

**MP & Silva:**

- Amount to buy the rights: 173 918 750 CHF (received in EUR 150 million)
- Fee production: 23 431 022 CHF

**Infront:**

- Amount to buy the rights: 158 000 000 CHF
- Fee production: 18 000 000 CHF

President Moustafa asked the Council members to vote on the TV rights partner for the period 2019-2025, taking into consideration that exclusive negotiations shall be initiated with the company before signing the contract.

Result of the voting (*President Moustafa as usual abstained from voting*):

MP & Silva: 16

Infront: 0

Abstentions: 0

President Moustafa informed the Council that the IHF will officially announce that negotiations on the global TV/media rights for the IHF Men's and Women's World Championships for the period from 2019 to 2025 shall be initiated exclusively with MP & Silva. Referring to the contract which shall be signed by the IHF President and the Treasurer, he asked the Managing Director to send a copy of the contract concluded with the former TV rights partner to the Treasurer.

President Moustafa asked the Council members to respect the confidentiality of the figures and information of all tenders.

***Decision.***

*The Council unanimously decided to conclude a contract on the global TV/media rights for the IHF Men's and Women's World Championships for 3 cycles (2019-2025).*

*The Council unanimously decided to initiate negotiations on the global TV/media rights for the IHF Men's and Women's World Championships for the period from 2019 to 2025 exclusively with MP & Silva.*

## ***4. Awarding of 2020 Beach Handball World Championships***

President Moustafa gave the floor to Mr Hristo Boshkoski from the IHF Head Office who informed the Council that the IHF received bids for the 2020 Beach Handball World Championships from ALB, GEO, ITA and USA, adding that ALB and USA withdrew their bids. Therefore, he presented the bids from GEO and ITA to the Council:

	<b>GEORGIA</b>	<b>ITALY</b>
<b>HOST CITY/DISTRICT</b>	Batumi	Pescara
<b>DATES</b>	23.06. - 28.06.	30.06. - 05.07.

## Council Meeting Minutes

<b>PRICE PER PERSON/PER DAY</b>	110 CHF	110 CHF
<b>PRICE EXTRA DAY/EXTRA PERSON</b>	110 CHF	110 CHF
<b>EVENT AREA</b>	Batumi Beach Stadium	Stadio Del Mare
<b>NUMBER OF COMPETITION COURTS</b>	3	3
<b>TRAINING COURTS</b>	1	1
<b>TYPE OF PROPOSED AREA</b>	Permanent beach venue with the 3 already built courts	Sport Ground in the city centre (temporary)
<b>CAPACITY OF MAIN COURT</b>	2'500	2'500
<b>CAPACITY COURT 2</b>	500	500
<b>CAPACITY COURT 3</b>	500	500
<b>ACCOMMODATION IHF OFFICIALS</b>	Hotel Radisson Blu Batumi 5* hotel	Hotel Carlton or Best Western Plaza classified as 4* hotel
<b>ROOM TYPE</b>	Double for referees and single for the others	Double for referees and single for the others
<b>ACCOMMODATION TEAMS</b>	Hotel Hilton and Hotel Sky Tower 5* hotels	Grand Hotel Montesilvano and Grand Hotel Adriatico 3* hotels
<b>ROOM TYPE</b>	5 single and 4 double	5 single and 4 double
<b>CATERING OFFICIALS</b>	Buffet in the hotel	Breakfast in the hotel but other meals outside
<b>CATERING TEAMS</b>	Buffet in the hotel	Buffet in the hotel
<b>ARRIVAL AIRPORT(S)</b>	Batumi (Tbilisi and Kutaisi upon payment)	Pescara (both Rome airports included in daily fee)
<b>DISTANCE TO VENUE</b>	15 minutes/2 hours/6 hours	15 minutes/3 hours
<b>VENUE ACCESS</b>	Walking distance	20 minutes transfer
<b>SECURITY</b>	secure	highly secure
<b>LIVE STREAMING</b>	3 courts	3 courts

Mr Boshkoski explained that inspection visits to Batumi (GEO) and Pescara (ITA) have recently been carried out by the IHF Beach Handball Working Group which confirmed that both bids are very serious and prepared in a professional way.

Mr Boshkoski provided the Council members with the conclusions of the IHF Beach Handball Working Group, pointing out that the Georgian Handball Federation has a high level of understanding of the IHF workflow based on their organisation of the 2017 Men's Youth (U19) World Championship, while the Italian Handball Federation is very experienced when it comes to understanding the needs of beach

# Council Meeting Minutes

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handball. Pescara also has the know-how of organising high-level sports events, taking into consideration that the city hosted the 2009 Mediterranean Games and the 2015 Mediterranean Beach Games. The budget from the Georgian bid is mostly generated through participation fees and government support, while the Italian Handball Federation's budget will come from contributions from different entities as well as marketing, sponsorship and advertising. The Georgian bid is stronger when it comes to accommodation and distance to the venue for both the teams and IHF officials, while the Italian bid is stronger in terms of previous beach handball culture, climate conditions and natural scenery. Hypothetically, the weather would be optimal in Italy in early July. The technical capabilities of both federations are on a good level, with the possibilities of Georgia already demonstrated last summer. The government support for the event seems higher in Georgia, but on the other hand, the accessibility for the participating federations to Pescara and Rome is better than Batumi. Therefore, the final opinion of the IHF Beach Handball Working Group is to ask the Council to award the event to Italy.

President Moustafa asked the Council members to vote on awarding the 2020 Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships to Italy. Europe's Vice-President and Europe's Representative did not take part in this vote as they left the meeting prior to this agenda item, however both of them confirmed to President Moustafa before leaving the meeting that they are in favour of awarding the event concerned to Italy. The Council unanimously decided to award the 2020 Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships to Italy. The daily participation fee amounts to CHF 110.-.

## *Decision.*

*The Council unanimously decided to award the 2020 Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships to Italy. The daily participation fee amounts to CHF 110.-.*

## **5. Miscellaneous**

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### **5.1. Sergey Shishkarev case**

*Note: This agenda item was treated at the beginning of the present meeting.*

President Moustafa referred to Article 13.3.5 of the IHF Statutes, according to which the IHF Council shall confirm the candidates' applications (submitted to the IHF Head Office by 11 August 2017) and their compliance with the conditions stipulated in the Statutes. Therefore, similar to the procedure applied in 2013, the IHF Council decided (electronically on 4 May 2017) to form a Working Group of Candidatures for IHF Positions as per Article 13.3.15 of the IHF Statutes, which shall study all candidatures for the different IHF positions, including the continental candidates to the Council and Commissions and Commission members. At the same time, due to the fact that some IHF Council members are involved in the elections, the IHF Council authorised the Working Group of Candidatures for IHF Positions to confirm the candidatures which will be submitted to the Congress for decision.

President Moustafa explained that the Working Group of Candidatures for IHF Positions, according to the Council decision, is composed of Mr Jean Brihault (FRA), formerly Europe's Vice-President of the IHF and Honorary President of European Handball Federation, as chairman, as well as Mr Jörgen Holmqvist (SWE), IHF Honorary Member, and Mr Gerhard Hofbauer (AUT), President of Austrian Handball Federation, as members. President Moustafa added that Mr Ulrich Rubeli, President of Swiss

## Council Meeting Minutes

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Handball Federation, had also been invited to join the working group, but he apologised for his non-availability.

President Moustafa gave the floor to Mr Jean Brihault, Chairman of the Working Group of Candidatures for IHF Positions, who reminded the Council members of the working method as well as the outcome of the working group, which had been reported to the Council meeting in Tbilisi, Georgia on 18 August 2017. The Working Group of Candidatures for IHF Positions met in Tbilisi, Georgia on 17 August 2017 to study the candidatures received by the deadline of 11 August 2017 in terms of their compliance with the IHF criteria for candidates standing for IHF positions, which had been communicated by the IHF Head Office to the IHF stakeholders on 11 July 2017, including Article 12.3.15 of the IHF Statutes (*"A candidate standing for one of the IHF major positions must have held six years' high level involvement and experience in his National Federation or Continental Confederation as an administrator, player, coach or referee"*). Mr Brihault stressed that the work of the working group was based on information received from federations/candidates and did not reflect any personal opinion concerning the candidates. He emphasised that the working group had no political function or mission, as they undertook a technical work under the mandate of the Council.

After studying the candidatures based on information received from federations/candidates, the Working Group of Candidatures for IHF Positions grouped the candidates into the following categories:

- ✚ Fulfilling all criteria
- ✚ Not fulfilling criteria, such as the 6-years high-level involvement in handball according to Article 12.3.15 of the IHF Statutes

According to the IHF Council decision dated 18 August 2017, official letters including the input of the working group were sent to all candidates separately on 1 September 2017. In the case of Mr Sergey Shishkarev, the IHF informed him that the Working Group of Candidatures for IHF Positions concluded that his candidature for the position of IHF Executive Committee Member is not in compliance with the aforementioned criteria, due to the fact that the criterion of 6-years high-level involvement in handball is not fulfilled according to Article 12.3.15 of the IHF Statutes (see above). No reply has been received from Mr Sergey Shishkarev to the aforementioned IHF letter until the date of the 2017 Ordinary IHF Congress (11 November 2017).

The Managing Director took the floor, reporting that ten minutes before the opening of the 2017 Ordinary IHF Congress in Antalya, Turkey on 11 November 2017, a representative of the Handball Federation of Russia gave her a letter on the entrance door of the Congress meeting room and disappeared afterwards. She quickly read through the letter, in which Mr Sergey Shishkarev justified that his candidature for the position of IHF Executive Committee Member complies with the provisions stipulated in the IHF Statutes and asked to vote on his candidature. Immediately, she informed the IHF President who instructed her to present this letter to working group chairman Mr Brihault. Despite the limited time she had, she handed over the letter to Mr Brihault who said that the letter was not relevant, as no proof of the 6-year high-level involvement in handball was attached to the letter. The Managing Director stressed that her duty has been fulfilled by handing over the letter to the relevant body.

The Managing Director further reported that after the election of the IHF Executive Committee was completed, the Congress session was interrupted for the lunch break. At that moment, the President of the Handball Federation of Russia, Mr Sergey Shishkarev, approached the head table and headed



## Council Meeting Minutes

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directly to her while she was surrounded by delegates. He asked her why she did not present his motion to the Congress to vote on. She simply answered him that he did not give her a motion, believing that he might have forgotten to give her the claimed motion, as the letter he previously submitted was not according to the opinion of the IHF Arbitration Tribunal Chairman and the IHF Working Group of Candidatures for IHF Positions. He started to scream and record the conversation using his mobile phone, telling her that she is a liar, stating that he gave her the motion and she did not present it to the Congress. She told him that he is recording the conversation, which was answered by him saying "Yes I do, because you are a liar". She informed him that he has no right to record the conversation, while telling him that what he gave to her during the Congress was not a motion and that she immediately handed over the letter to the relevant body. In front of her staff member and others, he rudely repeated saying that she is a liar and he will go to court, then he left to his seat.

The Managing Director stated that afterwards Mr Sergey Shishkarev approached her again, giving her the German and French version of the same letter he had handed over to her, saying that she must present this to the Congress to vote on. At this moment, she told him that he has no right first of all to record the conversation and secondly to call her a liar, adding that she regrets having previously respected him and she will report to the Council.

The Managing Director explained that afterwards she again approached the chairman and the member (who is a lawyer by profession) of the IHF Working Group of Candidatures for IHF Positions as well as the IHF Arbitration Tribunal Chairman, giving them the letter again. The three of them confirmed that the content of the letter was not a motion and Mr Sergey Shishkarev had the chance to present his arguments. Nevertheless, the entire issue was voted on by the Congress before agenda item 19, and by doing so Mr Sergey Shishkarev's request was fulfilled.

She pointed out the following two questions to the Council: why did Mr Sergey Shishkarev not respond to the letter sent by the IHF Head Office on 1 September 2017, reporting the decision of the IHF Working Group of Candidatures for IHF Positions, and why did Mr Sergey Shishkarev not hand over his claimed motion immediately after his arrival to Antalya two days before the Congress and despite his presence shortly before the IHF Council meeting on 9 November 2017, but preferred to submit (without any further instruction) the letter ten minutes before the opening of the Congress on 11 November? Mr Sergey Shishkarev did not take advantage of the 70 days between the date of the IHF letter (1 September 2017) and the opening of the Congress (11 November 2017).

President Moustafa proposed to submit the issue to the IHF Ethics Commission to take action against Mr Sergey Shishkarev who insulted the IHF Managing Director in front of a group of people while performing her duty as IHF Managing Director. President Moustafa stressed the good communication among the IHF family. He added that all stakeholders should respect each other and express their opinion or complaints without abusing each other.

### *Decision:*

*The Council agreed to President Moustafa's proposal to submit the issue occurred at the 2017 Ordinary IHF Congress to the IHF Ethics Commission to study and take necessary action.*

### **5.2. Pan-American motion**

*Note: This agenda item was treated at the beginning of the present meeting.*

## Council Meeting Minutes

President Moustafa stated that further to the IHF Council decision made in its meeting in Tbilisi, Georgia on 18 August 2017 with four abstentions, the motion related to the Pan-American continent was put forward to the 2017 Ordinary IHF Congress in Antalya, Turkey on 11 November 2017, and following his proposal, the Congress agreed by a two-third majority to delegate its authority to decide on the motion and consequently on the relevant Statutes changes to the IHF Council after careful analysis by the Council.

President Moustafa remarked that the topic has been discussed many times. He pointed out once again that the intention of the IHF is to develop handball in the continent and preserve the position of handball at the Olympic Games, adding that the IHF is not against or in favour of any persons or entities.

The CD Chairwoman explained that she is facing a conflict of interest in this case. She argued that some Pan-American countries did not understand why their continent shall be divided into two continents. She added that in principle most of the Pan-American countries agree that the development of handball needs to be improved. Therefore, she pointed out the importance of providing clear detailed information on the motion to the countries concerned. As President Moustafa asked the CD Chairwoman, who is President of Canadian Handball Federation, if her federation received any support from the Pan-American Team Handball Federation, she answered that the Canadian federation has not received any help from PATHF.

President Moustafa informed the Council that all details related to the Pan-American motion will be sent to the Council to enable especially the new Council members who did not attend the Council meeting in Georgia to have the full picture of the disadvantages of the current system and the benefits of the new system.

Europe's Vice-President expressed his doubts on whether one Continental Confederation may decide on the structure of another Continental Confederation. Therefore, he requested that the in-depth analysis of the Council also include clarifications from a legal point of view.

### *Decision.*

*The Council took note of the information provided regarding the Pan-American motion and referred to the IHF Congress decision taken by a two-third majority authorising the IHF Council to evaluate and decide on the motion. The decision shall be taken in the next Council meeting. According to the IHF President's suggestion, the IHF Head Office shall communicate the relevant information to the IHF Member Federations with the reasons and justifications of the motion.*

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 13:00.

INTERNATIONAL HANDBALL FEDERATION

  
Dr Hassan Moustafa  
President