



Council Meeting No. 5

Electoral Period

2017 - 2021

**Gothenburg, Sweden
1 July 2019**

Present:

Dr Hassan MOUSTAFA (EGY)	President
Joël DELPLANQUE (FRA)	1 st Vice-President
Bader AL-THEYAB (KUW)	Asia's Vice-President
Michael WIEDERER (AUT)	Europe's Vice-President
Anna RAPP (SWE)	Treasurer
Narcisa LECUSANU (ROU)	Executive Committee Member
Frantisek TABORSKY (CZE)	Executive Committee Member
Per BERTELSEN (DEN)	COC Chairman
Ramón GALLEGO (ESP)	PRC Chairman
Dietrich SPÄTE (GER)	CCM Chairman
Dr François GNAMIAN (CIV)	MC Chairman
Charles OMBOUMAHOU (CGO)	Africa's Representative
Yoshihide WATANABE (JPN)	Asia's Representative
Predrag BOSKOVIC (MNE)	Europe's Representative
Ricardo BLAS (GUM)	Oceania's Representative
Amal KHALIFA (EGY)	General Director
Patric STRUB (GER)	Competitions Director
Marisa STERLY (GER)	IHF Head Office
Invited:	
Mario GARCIA DE LA TORRE (MEX)	Chairman of Handball Working Group for North America and the Caribbean
Marcel MANCILLA BRAVO (CHI)	Chairman of Handball Working Group for South and Central America
Excused:	
Mansourou AREMOU (BEN)	Africa's Vice-President (Flight cancellation)
Not present:	
Raquel PEDERCINI (CAN)	CD Chairwoman (suspended as per IHF Council decision)

MEETING TIME: 10:00-15:30

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.

Agenda

- 1. Minutes**
 - 1.1. Council Meeting No. 4, 28 January 2019 in Herning, DEN
 - 1.2. Executive Committee Meeting No. 6, 22 February 2019 in Basel, SUI
- 2. President's activities**
- 3. Competitions**
 - 3.1. 2019 Men's World Championship in DEN/GER – Statistics
- 4. IHF bodies**
 - 4.1. 2019 IHF Congress in SWE
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 - 4.1.2. IHF President's Development Award
 - 4.1.3. Bidder of the 2021 Ordinary IHF Congress
 - 4.2. PRC – Timeline for changes to the Rules of the Game
 - 4.3. Resignation of Athletes' Commission Chairwoman
 - 4.4. Decision of Ethics Commission in Mario Moccia case
 - 4.5. Decision of Ethics Commission in Philippe Bana case
- 5. Finances**
 - 5.1. Debts of National Federations
 - 5.1.1. Overview
 - 5.1.2. Request from BRA
 - 5.2. Auditors' report 2018
 - 5.3. IHF budget 2020 and 2021
 - 5.4. IHF membership fees
 - 5.4.1. Membership fees 2020-2021
 - 5.4.2. Request from SGP
 - 5.5. New IHF website, mobile application and augmented reality innovation – Presentation by Link Development
 - 5.6. New IHF OTT (IHF online TV platform)
- 6. IHF Statutes and Regulations**
 - 6.1. Meeting of Working group for IHF Player Eligibility Code in Basel on 27 May 2019 – Motions regarding Player Eligibility Code and Regulations for Transfer between Federations
 - 6.2. Regulations for IHF Competitions
 - 6.3. Amendments to IHF Ball Regulations
- 7. Pan-American continent**
 - 7.1. Current situation of handball in North America and the Caribbean and South and Central America
 - 7.2. Resignation of Mario Moccia as PATHF President
- 8. Miscellaneous**
 - 8.1. Council decisions made by electronic communication
 - 8.2. Nominations of delegates for IHF events
 - 8.3. IHF Inspection Working Group

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At 10:00 President Moustafa opened the meeting, welcoming the Council members to the meeting in Gothenburg which was held on the fringes of the XXXVII Ordinary IHF Congress and Extraordinary IHF Congress.

President Moustafa welcomed the President of Swedish Handball Federation, Mr Fredrik Rapp, who addressed some words to the Council members, stating that it is a great pleasure to welcome the Council members to Sweden, and wishing them a successful and constructive meeting.

1. Minutes

1.1. Council Meeting No. 4, 28 January 2019 in Herning, DEN

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 4th Council Meeting, which was held in Herning, DEN, on 28 January 2019.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Council Meeting No. 4 held in Herning on 28 January 2019.

1.2. Executive Committee Meeting No. 6, 22 February 2019 in Basel, SUI

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 6th Executive Committee Meeting, which took place in Basel, SUI, on 22 February 2019.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Executive Committee Meeting No. 6 held in Basel on 22 February 2019.

2. President's activities

President Moustafa presented an overview of his activities between the last Council meeting in Herning in January 2019 and the present meeting in Gothenburg, including but not limited to the following:

Date	Meeting/event	Place
18 Feb	Meeting with KOS	Basel, SUI
19 Feb	Meeting with ITA	Basel, SUI
22 Feb	IHF Executive Committee Meeting	Basel, SUI
27-28 Feb	22 nd AHF Ordinary Congress	Bangkok, THA
2-3 Mar	38 th OCA General Assembly in THA	Bangkok, THA
8 Mar	Meeting with ROU	Basel, SUI
11 Mar	Meeting with Stefan Albrechtson	Basel, SUI
12 Mar	Meeting with Jean Brihault	Basel, SUI
22 Mar	Meeting with Lagardère Sports	Basel, SUI
31 Mar - 3 Apr	Asian Club League Championship	KUW
4 Apr	Meeting with Giampiero Masi	Basel, SUI
5-8 Apr	REWE Final Four	Hamburg, GER
18 Apr - 1 May	IHF Congress preparation in EGY	Cairo, EGY

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2-12 May	SportAccord Convention in AUS	Queensland, AUS
21-22 May	Meeting with EHF President Michael Wiederer in Vienna	Vienna, AUT
27 May	Meeting with Working Group for IHF Player Eligibility Code	Basel, SUI
29 May	Draw of 2019 IHF Men's Youth (U19) World Championship	Basel, SUI
31 May - 2 June	VELUX EHF Final Four in Cologne	Cologne, GER
13 June	Meeting with Lagardère Sports	Basel, SUI
21 June	Draw of the 2019 IHF Women's World Championship	Tokyo, JPN
22-27 June	IOC Events in Lausanne	Lausanne, SUI

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. 2019 Men's World Championship in DEN/GER – Statistics

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who presented to the Council the TV Media Evaluation prepared by Nielsen Sports with regard to the 2019 Men's World Championship which was held in Denmark and Germany from 10 to 27 January 2019.

The World Championship generated a cumulative audience of 1,661 million across all markets. Germany accounts for the largest share of audience, contributing more than 853 million TV viewers while Denmark ranks 3rd behind France and accumulated 155 million TV viewers. The markets of the participating teams account for 98% of the total cumulative audience. For example, in Germany 11.4 million viewers followed the semi-final between Germany and Norway on ARD, resulting in an average market share of 34.4%.

He pointed out that 10,409 programmes delivered a total broadcast time of 6186 hours, with almost 3,000 hours of live programming. Romania (583 hours) and Slovenia (552 hours) contribute the largest share of broadcast time, accounting for 18% of the overall total.

He added that brand visibility amounts to almost 10,306 hours across all global markets and thus created 75,039 million sponsorship impressions. Analysed signage accumulated a total QI media value of EUR 194 million. Although the static boards generated the most visibility, the highest QI media value comes from the on surface brandings (EUR 80 million).

He concluded that the broadcast time increased by 37% and the cumulative audience by 31% compared with the 2017 Men's World Championship in France, proving the success of the 2019 Men's World Championship.

The PRC Chairman informed that the referee performance was in general satisfactory, adding that the referees tried to reduce the number of interruptions during the matches to make the game more attractive.

Europe's Vice-President praised the quality of the TV Media Evaluation prepared by Nielsen Sports with regard to the 2019 Men's World Championship. President Moustafa recommended to send the statistics to all IHF Member Federations.

Referring to the World Championship being organised in two countries for the first time, the 1st Vice-President suggested to make a corresponding evaluation. President Moustafa commented that as usual an evaluation is carried out by the IHF after each World Championship based on the feedback

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received from all parties involved. He invited the Council members to submit any remarks and/or recommendations related to the organisation of the 2019 Men's World Championship to the IHF.

Decision.

The Council took note of the statistics presented regarding the 2019 Men's World Championship in DEN/GER.

4. IHF bodies

4.1. 2019 IHF Congress in SWE

4.1.1. Overview of final preparations

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who briefly reported on her second inspection visit carried out for the 2019 IHF Congress in Gothenburg, Sweden on 21/22 May 2019.

She informed that all conditions and technical specifications stipulated in the IHF bidding conditions were discussed and will be met by the organiser, except for the flags of the Member Federations (on poles) and the Congress room branding/decoration. Therefore, the costs for the aforementioned items will be covered by the IHF to ensure that all IHF requirements are fulfilled. She pointed out that delegates from approx. 15 countries were facing visa issues for different reasons, and that some of the delegates concerned received their visa after the intervention of the Swedish Handball Federation.

She added that different printing materials (Congress books, 2017-2019 Activity Report, GER/DEN 2019 brochure, WHM Tech, Handball@School), trophies (IHF President's Development Award, trophies for each Member Federation, trophies for hosts of past events since the 2017 Congress) and corresponding certificates have been prepared, which were presented to the Council members.

President Moustafa referred to the visa issues which have occurred at past IHF events (Congresses, World Championships, etc.) when participants or teams applied for visas for event hosting countries in the Schengen Area. He stressed the importance of guaranteeing that all participants are able to obtain visas without difficulty (e.g. without travelling to another country) and unhindered entry to the country concerned. He recommended to contact other IFs such as FIFA to ask for their experiences in terms of visa issues and possible solutions, if applicable. In addition, he proposed to form a working group headed by Europe's Vice-President to elaborate solutions to the visa issues and to present their outcome to the IHF Council. He also suggested to involve the United Nations in the process, considering that sports events aim to bring people together from around the world.

Further to the enquiry of the 1st Vice-President, the General Director informed that 165 National Federations were registered for the Congress one day prior to the present meeting.

Decision.

The Council took note of the information provided regarding the 2019 IHF Congress to be held in Gothenburg, Sweden from 2 to 5 July 2019. The Council unanimously agreed to form a working group headed by Europe's Vice-President to elaborate solutions to the visa issues and to present their outcome to the IHF Council.

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4.1.2. IHF President's Development Award

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who referred to Article 2 of the IHF Regulations for Awards, according to which the IHF President's Development Award is granted to two IHF Member Federations every two years at the Ordinary Congress of the IHF. It is awarded for particular services to the development and spread of handball in the Member Federations' own countries and/or throughout the world. She informed the Council that the IHF received three applications for the 2019 IHF President's Development Award in the category 'Handball developed countries' (NED, NOR, ROU) while no application was submitted for the 2019 IHF President's Development Award in the category 'Emerging federations'. She reported that the IHF Executive Committee discussed the applications (which were included in the working documents of the present meeting) in its meeting held in Gothenburg, Sweden on 30 June 2019 and recommended to grant the 2019 IHF President's Development Award in the category 'Handball developed countries' to Norwegian Handball Federation. As for the category 'Emerging federations', she reported that the Executive Committee recommended to grant the 2019 IHF President's Development Award to Cuban Handball Federation due to their achievements in the development of handball, in particular since 2017, including but not limited to the first place at the 2019 Men's North American and Caribbean Emerging Nations Championship in DOM and the second place at the 2019 IHF Men's Emerging Nations Championship in GEO.

Referring to the decreased number of applications compared to the 2017 IHF President's Development Award, Executive Committee Member Frantisek Taborsky asked the continental representatives to encourage their National Federations to apply for the 2021 IHF President's Development Award.

Decision.

The Council unanimously decided to grant the 2019 IHF President's Development Awards as follows:

- + Handball developed countries: NOR*
- + Emerging federations: CUB*

The IHF President's Development Awards shall be awarded at the 2019 Ordinary IHF Congress in Gothenburg, SWE.

4.1.3. Bidder of the 2021 Ordinary IHF Congress

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who informed the Council that the IHF put out to tender the 2021 Ordinary IHF Congress, which shall be awarded during the 2019 Ordinary IHF Congress in Gothenburg, SWE. National Federations interested in organising the 2021 Ordinary IHF Congress were asked to submit their complete bid, including detailed information about Congress venue, accommodation, transportation, meeting rooms' layout, proposal for the Congress date, etc. She pointed out that initially four letters of intent were received (EGY, GER, MAR, TUR), but that only the Turkish Handball Federation submitted their event concept within the deadline. TUR proposed to host the Congress in Antalya during the period from 5 to 8 November 2021. The proposed accommodation fees are:

- For the official delegation (up to three persons): **275 EUR** per person per day
- For accompanying persons: **275 EUR** per person per day

TUR confirmed in their bid that all requirements stipulated in the IHF bidding conditions will be fulfilled.

President Moustafa remarked that the main issue in the organisation of the upcoming Congress is to guarantee that all participants are able to obtain visas without difficulty. Europe's Vice-President

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agreed that the visa issue is of major importance, but that the organisational requirements as a whole should be considered, adding that the 2017 Ordinary IHF Congress in Antalya, Turkey was well organised.

Decision.

The Council took note of the bid of the Turkish Handball Federation for the 2021 Ordinary IHF Congress, which shall be presented to the 2019 Ordinary IHF Congress in Gothenburg, SWE.

4.2. PRC – Timeline for changes to the Rules of the Game

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who presented to the Council the timeline for any future changes to the Rules of the Game according to the IHF Statutes. The timeline precisely stipulated that any amendment or change to the Rules of the Game must be subject to a one-year test, then be submitted to the Council for decision, be announced at the Congress taking place the year of the Men's World Championship, be published by 1 March of the following year and come into force on 1 July of the same year.

Europe's Vice-President remarked that it might be useful to publish the mentioned timeline for a better understanding.

President Moustafa suggested to use the term "amendments" rather than "changes" when referring to modifications of the Rules of the Game.

The PRC Chairman confirmed that the PRC is working in close cooperation with the CCM, aiming to join forces in making handball more attractive. He reported that currently three books are being prepared: 1. Rules of the Game; 2. Hand signals/clarifications/guidelines; 3. Regulations on equipment.

Decision.

The Council took note of the timeline for future amendments to the Rules of the Game.

4.3. Resignation of Athletes' Commission Chairwoman

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who informed the Council about the email received from the Chairwoman of the IHF Athletes' Commission, Mrs Gro Hammerseng-Edin, on 3 April 2019, in which she resigned from her position as Athletes' Commission Chairwoman due to the fact that she does not have enough time to make a positive impact on behalf of the players in view of her professional and private commitments.

The General Director added that the next elections of the IHF Athletes' Commission will be held at the 2020 Olympic Handball Tournaments in Tokyo.

President Moustafa emphasised the importance of the Athletes' Commission whose mission is to represent the views of the athletes and make their voice heard within the IHF, and stated that methods need to be defined on how to make the commission more active.

Decision.

The Council took note of and unanimously accepted the resignation of Mrs Gro Hammerseng-Edin from her position as IHF Athletes' Commission Chairwoman.

4.4. Decision of Ethics Commission in Mario Moccia case

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The General Director took the floor, informing the Council about the official request dated 19 July 2018 signed by the IHF Executive Committee to submit the case related to the behaviour of Mr Mario Moccia, President of the suspended Pan-American Team Handball Federation (PATHF) and President of Argentine Handball Federation, in particular after the IHF Council Meeting held in Zagreb, Croatia on 14 January 2018 to the IHF Ethics Commission as per Article 4 of the IHF Ethics Code.

She then presented the corresponding decision issued by the IHF Ethics Commission on 16 April 2019 after having thoroughly studied the case. As the IHF Ethics Commission considered the behaviour of Mr Moccia a violation of the IHF Ethics Code, particularly Article 5 (good governance), the IHF Ethics Commission decided to impose a ban on Mr Moccia from taking part in the IHF Congress, official meetings and events that the IHF convenes in 2019, in accordance with Article 9 of the IHF Ethics Code.

She explained that the IHF Ethics Commission decided to notify Mr Mario Moccia as well as the IHF Council of their decision. She stated that on 29 May 2019, Mr Moccia appealed against the IHF Ethics Commission decision to the IHF Arbitration Tribunal according to Article 12 of the IHF Ethics Code. Consequently, the case is currently being handled by the IHF Arbitration Tribunal.

Referring to the communication related to the Ethics Commission decision in the Mario Moccia case to be sent by the IHF to the different parties concerned, Europe's Vice-President pointed out the importance of informing about the pending appeal submitted by Mr Moccia.

President Moustafa referred to a communication which the IHF received from the suspended Pan-American Team Handball Federation on 11 June 2019, informing about the resignation of Mr Mario Moccia as PATHF President as well as the new composition of the PATHF Executive Committee headed by new President Mr Julio Noveri.

Decision.

The Council took note of the decision of the IHF Ethics Commission dated 16 April 2019 to impose a ban on Mr Mario Moccia, President of the suspended Pan-American Team Handball Federation (PATHF) and President of Argentine Handball Federation, from taking part in the IHF Congress, official meetings and events that the IHF convenes in 2019, in accordance with Article 9 of the IHF Ethics Code due to the fact that his behaviour, in particular after the IHF Council Meeting held in Zagreb, Croatia on 14 January 2018, is considered a violation of the IHF Ethics Code, particularly Article 5.

4.5. Decision of Ethics Commission in Philippe Bana case

The General Director took the floor, informing the Council about the official request dated 22 February 2019 signed by the IHF Executive Committee to submit the case related to the behaviour of Mr Philippe Bana, Member of IHF Commission of Organising and Competition (COC), to the IHF Ethics Commission as per Article 4 of the IHF Ethics Code. Mr Bana had criticised the IHF in two articles published on 14 January 2019 (on the French handball portal *handnews.fr*) and on 15 January 2019 (on the website of the French newspaper *Ouest France*), respectively.

The General Director then presented the corresponding decision issued by the IHF Ethics Commission on 5 June 2019 after having thoroughly studied the case. As the IHF Ethics Commission considered the behaviour of Mr Bana a violation of the IHF Ethics Code, particularly Article 5 (integrity), the IHF Ethics Commission decided to suspend Mr Bana from taking part in any handball related activity including any events and IHF events during 2019, in accordance with Article 9 of the IHF Ethics Code.

She explained that the IHF Ethics Commission decided to notify Mr Philippe Bana as well as the IHF Council of their decision.

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Europe's Vice-President remarked that the wording of the Ethics Commission decision ("*suspension to take part in any handball related activity including any events and IHF events during 2019*") should be legally clarified with the Ethics Commission to avoid misinterpretations, taking into consideration that Mr Bana has several functions, i.e. in the European Handball Federation as a member of the elected Nations Board and as a delegated member to the Professional Handball Board, but also as a professional Technical Director of the French Handball Federation. He requested to involve a neutral expert in employment law in the process.

Decision.

The Council took note of the decision of the IHF Ethics Commission dated 5 June 2019 to suspend Mr Philippe Bana, Member of IHF Commission of Organising and Competition (COC), from taking part in any handball related activity including any events and IHF events during 2019, in accordance with Article 9 of the IHF Ethics Code due to the fact that his behaviour is considered a violation of the IHF Ethics Code, particularly Article 5.

The wording of the Ethics Commission decision shall be legally clarified with the Ethics Commission in consultation with an employment law expert and reported to the Council.

5. Finances

5.1. Debts of National Federations

5.1.1. Overview

The General Director took the floor, presenting to the Council an overview of the current situation of the debts of the National Federations, stating that most of the federations' debts are resulting from the 2017 IHF Congress and the 2018/2019 membership fees.

Due to the fact that different categories of federations (top, developing and emerging federations) are involved, President Moustafa proposed to form a working group for finances composed of the Treasurer (chairwoman) and the General Director and Competitions Director (members) to study each case of the National Federations' debts individually and elaborate corresponding proposals to be presented to the Council for decision.

Decision.

The Council unanimously decided to form a working group for finances composed of the Treasurer (chairwoman) and the General Director and Competitions Director (members) that shall study the debts of the National Federations on a case-by-case basis and elaborate corresponding proposals to be presented to the Council for decision.

5.1.2. Request from BRA

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director to provide the Council with the history of the debts of the Brazilian Handball Federation towards the IHF.

She reported that as a result of the organisation of the 2011 Women's World Championship in Brazil, the IHF had to invest a total amount of CHF 3,219,238.75 to guarantee the organisation of the event due to huge problems occurred to the organiser. The stated total amount is composed as follows:

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1. The IHF paid all the invoices directly to the organisational service providers amounting to CHF 2,301,569.75.
2. The Brazilian Handball Federation bought out the marketing rights from the IHF amounting to CHF 917,669.00.

Since 2011, the Brazilian Handball Federation according to the IHF Council decision has repaid the debts in instalments.

- Brazilian Handball Federation paid from 2011 until 2019 an amount of CHF 2,699,679.08
- The remaining amount due is: CHF 519,559.67

Due to the fact that the 2011 Women's World Championship had no major sponsors, the Brazilian Handball Federation did not receive any income from sponsors. The Brazilian Handball Federation requested by official letter dated 15 May 2019 to waive the rest of the debts amounting to CHF 519,559.67, taking into consideration their current financial crisis.

President Moustafa stressed the importance of avoiding to harm handball in Brazil in general and the players in particular, and he praised the Brazilian Handball Federation's commitment to paying off their debts. The IHF should consider the current financial crisis in the country in general and the financial problems the federation has faced in particular.

Decision.

In order not to harm handball in Brazil in general and the players in particular, the Council unanimously decided to waive the rest of the debts of the Brazilian Handball Federation towards the IHF amounting to CHF 519,559.67, taking into consideration that the mentioned amount should be used for the development of handball in Brazil.

5.2. Auditors' report 2018

Internal IHF auditors:

The Treasurer took the floor, presenting to the Council the report of the internal IHF auditors who verified the bookkeeping and annual accounts (balance sheet and profit and loss accounts) of the IHF for the financial year 2018. The internal auditors confirmed in their report that the bookkeeping and annual accounts are consistent with the provisions of Swiss law and IHF Statutes as well as IHF Council and Executive Committee decisions.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the internal auditors' report 2018 to be presented to the 2019 Ordinary IHF Congress in Gothenburg, SWE.

External IHF auditors:

The Treasurer presented to the Council the report of the external IHF auditors (Copartner Revision AG) who audited the financial statements of the IHF, comprising the balance sheet as at 31 December 2018, the income statement, the cash flow statement and notes for the year 2018. The external auditors confirmed in their report that the financial statements for the year 2018 comply with Swiss law and the IHF Statutes and Regulations.

Decision.

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The Council unanimously approved the external auditors' report 2018 to be presented to the 2019 Ordinary IHF Congress in Gothenburg, SWE.

5.3. IHF budget 2020 and 2021

The Treasurer presented to the Council the IHF budget proposal for 2020 and 2021, which had been confirmed by the Executive Committee on 30 June 2019. She underlined the healthy financial status of the IHF, adding that most of the expected income for 2020 and 2021 is dedicated to be invested into the different IHF projects, which have been tailored to assist the National Federations and further develop handball worldwide.

Further to the enquiry of Europe's Vice-President, the General Director informed that the increased amount foreseen for the Emerging Nations Tournaments is due to the fact that the event concerned is planned to be organised for both genders and on different continents in 2020 and 2021.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the budget proposal for 2020 and 2021 to be presented to the 2019 Ordinary IHF Congress in Gothenburg, SWE.

5.4. IHF membership fees

5.4.1. Membership fees 2020-2021

President Moustafa referred to the decision of the 2017 Ordinary IHF Congress in Antalya, Turkey, according to which Member Federations of categories A and B shall pay membership fees to be used for the development of handball, while Member Federations of category C shall be exempted from paying membership fees for the years 2018-2019. The allocation of Member Federations to the membership fees' categories A-C as per Article 1 of the IHF Financial Regulations had been approved by the Council prior to the 2017 IHF Congress.

President Moustafa stated that the above-mentioned decision regarding the membership fees was taken by the IHF Congress as highest IHF body and should thus be maintained. However, he proposed that the working group for finances composed of the Treasurer (chairwoman) and the General Director and Competitions Director (members) shall study the allocation of Member Federations to the membership fees' categories A-C as per Article 1 of the IHF Financial Regulations and elaborate corresponding proposals for amendment, if applicable, to be presented to the Council for decision.

Decision.

The Council unanimously decided to apply the same conditions approved by the 2017 Ordinary IHF Congress and agreed that the working group for finances (formed as per the decision of agenda item 5.1.1) shall study the allocation of Member Federations to the membership fees' categories A-C as per Article 1 of the IHF Financial Regulations and elaborate corresponding proposals for amendment, if applicable, to be presented to the Council for decision.

5.4.2. Request from SGP

The General Director informed the Council about the request received from Singapore Handball Federation on 22 January 2019, asking to be re-allocated from IHF membership fee category B (annual fee of CHF 2,000) to category C (annual fee of CHF 150) in order to continue contributing to IHF and striving together with their partnering federations in Southeast Asia to develop handball further.

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She added that the IHF Executive Committee, in its meeting in Basel on 22 February 2019, discussed the above-mentioned request and unanimously decided to exempt Singapore Handball Federation from paying membership fees for the years 2018 and 2019 to be used for the development of handball in Singapore.

As decided under agenda item 5.4.1., the request of Singapore Handball Federation to be re-allocated from IHF membership fee category B to category C will be studied by the working group for finances. The input of the working group shall be submitted to the Council.

Decision.

The Council unanimously agreed that the request of Singapore Handball Federation to be re-allocated from IHF membership fee category B to category C will be studied by the working group for finances. The input of the working group shall be submitted to the Council.

5.5. New IHF website, mobile application and augmented reality innovation – Presentation by Link Development

Mr Ahmed Abdel Hameed, Digital Services General Manager of Link Development, took the floor and conveyed his appreciation to the IHF for giving him the opportunity to present the cooperation between Link Development and the IHF, which was established in 2009. He then gave a brief introduction of Link Development, a global technology solutions provider leading the digitalisation of the private and public sector:

- in the market since 1996 for more than 20 years
- more than 600 professionals with thousands of successful engagements across different industries and countries
- regional and international awards from Microsoft reflecting Link Development's digital transformation projects around the world
- operated in more than 24 countries such as Italy, Switzerland, Montenegro, Greece, Canada, Mauritius, Nigeria, United Arab Emirates, Jordan and many countries in the Middle East
- four offices: Egypt (headquarter), Italy, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates

Then he highlighted the achievements of the revamp of the IHF website including many news features and functionalities. He presented the home screen and the dynamic menu of the new portal, allowing the user to access all the portal's content. It also includes gadgets for all the important components including featured news, latest news, upcoming events, competitions, and media centre. One of the most important sections in the news portal is the competition sub-site which contains all relevant information on the competitions. User will find the media centre, news and highlights and full-fledged dynamic content detailing all the information related to the teams, groups, matches, schedule and scores. The Match Center is a real-time dynamic statistics section retrieving data directly from the scouting companies. In alignment with the IHF's vision to boost the users' interactions on the website, a games section is launched to encourage users to visit the site and play different games. He also highlighted the rest of the features which shall be released by the end of July and by the end of December 2019 (final phase), including minute by minute, players' listing, players' profile. In addition, federations can request players' transfers and the process will be carried out through the new portal. He added that "Be a Manager" is a module of gamification which will allow IHF portal users to play a game in which they act as coaches and manage their favourite teams.

He then turned to the new proposal of Link Development to the IHF in terms of Mobile Application, stating that mobile apps are essential for any successful business. The IHF Mobile Application will be beneficial in terms of personalisation, analysis, brand, usability, preference and loyalty. He went

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through the features which shall be included in the Mobile Application and offered additional augmented reality features which can be integrated into the IHF Mobile App such as the following:

1. Camera filters: Users can take photographs with AR filters such as teams' t-shirts, medals, trophies & images of handball superstars
2. 360° live streaming: Streaming the tournament's opening and closing ceremony or matches with AR techniques using 360° video
3. Match statistics: Visualising the match statistics using AR features
4. Mini games: Increasing the user loyalty and interactions by simple games using AR features
5. Reports and dashboards

President Moustafa thanked Mr Abdel Hameed for his detailed presentation and for the long-term cooperation between Link Development and IHF. After Mr Abdel Hameed left the meeting room, President Moustafa asked the Council members if the IHF is in need of the new features presented by Mr Abdel Hameed. After the unanimous positive input from the Council members, the General Director presented the offer of the new technology presented by Link Development including the Mobile Application and the augmented reality features:

Item	Description
· IHF Mobile App (one-time fee)	· Native app for both Android and iOS
· AR App (one-time fee)	· 360° live streaming, match statistics, mini games
· AR App (per competition)	· Navigation to seats (4 venues) · Camera filters (16 t-shirts)
· Reports and dashboard (one-time fee)	· 8 dashboards
· Reports and dashboard subscription (annual)	· 5 users
· Chatbot (one-time fee)	
· Chatbot Azure & chat subscription (annual)	· 7,000 messages per day, 10 users

Europe's Vice-President asked the IHF how the data protection, use of players' images and data management of the Mobile Application shall be handled. The General Director took the floor, clarifying that the data protection is now handled before each championship directly with the National Federations, only the players' images of the championship in question will be used, and the IHF shall manage the Mobile Application data internally. Therefore, the IHF shall increase the media group to manage this new task. In addition, the IHF lawyer will be consulted in relation to the usage of the players' images.

The offer related to the navigation to seats and camera filters was commented on by several Council members, as the offer is per competition which would be considered very expensive. The General Director confirmed that if the indicated price is for each competition, the related features shall not be considered in the Mobile Application.

Decision.

The Council unanimously confirmed the necessity of developing the permanent IHF Mobile Application and unanimously agreed to the presented offer from Link Development which included.

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Mobile App, 360° live streaming, match statistics, mini games, reports and dashboard, and Chatbot, except for the navigation to seats and camera filters unless a one-time fee applies for this service.

5.6. New IHF OTT (IHF online TV platform)

President Moustafa welcomed the representatives of Lagardère Sports, Mr Nikolaus von Doetinchem (Executive Vice President Media, Global) and Mr Erik Steinmeyer (Manager Team Media).

Mr von Doetinchem took the floor, informing the IHF Council members about the concept of establishing a professional OTT platform for the IHF. He emphasised the necessity of developing this modern platform for the IHF, which will be a turning point to have a professional IHF.tv.

The concept is based on two proposals:

1. IHF.tv platform:

The platform shall include all data generated out of the competition homepage and the available rights of all IHF championship matches (live and replay). An example of the presented data was showed including the landing page, event overview, video section, news and statistics. The platform shall serve a worldwide distribution of content as follows:

- First tier rights: World Championships and Olympic qualifiers:
 - Live – Blackout markets
 - Clips – Worldwide
- Second tier rights: Junior and Youth World Championships and Continental Championships (without Europe):
 - Live – Worldwide
 - Clips – Worldwide
- Third tier rights: Beach Handball World Championships:
 - Live – Worldwide
 - Clips – Worldwide
- Fourth tier rights: Archive:
 - On-demand – Worldwide
 - Clips – Worldwide

The IHF shall be the owner of the platform while Lagardère Sports shall be responsible for the service, consulting and platform management. The IHF investment as per the offer is for 10 years while most of the investment is expected to be made in the first five to six years until the platform attracts fans and sponsors. Afterwards the platform cost is expected to be covered by the return of the sponsorship.

2. Handball.tv:

IHF becomes a global handball broadcaster. The platform shall include the structure of the IHF.tv platform as presented above in addition to the following:

- Buying the rights from the non-IHF rights such as:
 - European Championships, European qualifiers, Olympic Games
 - Top European leagues
 - Continental club competitions outside Europe
 - Domestic club competitions (mainly outside Europe)

Lagardère Sports shall have a joint venture with the IHF which shall include media rights, content creation, brand marketing, sponsorship rights, rights acquisition, content management and content distribution.

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According to the offer of Lagardère Sports, the investment phase will take approx. 5-7 years followed by the monetarisation phase, considering that the investment is expected to be recouped in years 10 to 12. 80% of the investment shall be made by the IHF (financial backing and rights access) while 20% of the investment shall be made by Lagardère Sports (staff and services; overall platform and content management).

President Moustafa thanked Mr von Doetinchem for his detailed presentation. After the representatives of Lagardère Sports left the meeting room, President Moustafa asked the IHF Council members if such platform is needed by the IHF, which the Council members unanimously agreed to.

Due to the huge investment to be made by the IHF, it was recommended to start with the IHF.tv platform. President Moustafa asked the IHF Council members about their thoughts related to the offer. Europe's Vice-President was in favour of starting with the IHF.tv platform, and advised to be careful with risky business models in order not to harm handball.

President Moustafa added that the idea would add value to the IHF, but as the investment is too huge to be decided on, he proposed to undertake a tender process.

Decision.

The Council unanimously agreed to the concept of establishing the IHF.tv platform which shall add value to the IHF, conveyed its appreciation for the excellent presentation of Lagardère Sports and unanimously agreed to the IHF President's proposal to undertake a tender process for establishing the IHF.tv platform to be able to decide on the best offer in terms of quality and price.

6. IHF Statutes and Regulations

6.1. Meeting of Working group for IHF Player Eligibility Code in Basel on 27 May 2019 – Motions regarding Player Eligibility Code and Regulations for Transfer between Federations

President Moustafa referred to the decision of the IHF Council made in its meeting in Herning, Denmark on 28 January 2019, according to which a working group was formed which shall study CAHB's motions regarding the Player Eligibility Code and submit a corresponding proposal to the Council for approval. In his presence, the Working Group for IHF Player Eligibility Code composed of Chairman Mr Predrag Boskovic (Europe's Representative of the IHF) and the members Mr Mansourou Aremou (African Handball Confederation), Ms Cécile Mantel (French Handball Federation) and Mr Gautier Muller (IHF) met in Basel on 27 May 2019 and discussed several motions related to the Player Eligibility Code and Regulations for Transfer between Federations.

President Moustafa gave the floor to Mr Gautier Muller, representative of the IHF Legal and Player Transfer Department, to present to the Council the motions elaborated by the working group.

IHF Player Eligibility Code:

Motion no. 1:

6.1. National team players shall meet the following conditions

- a) Citizenship of the country concerned
- b) ~~They shall not have played in any national team of another country in the three years preceding their first appearance in the national team in an official match. With the exception~~

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of the conditions specified in Articles 6.2 and 6.3 below, any player who has participated in a match (either in full or in part) in an official competition of any category or any type of handball for one national team may not play an international match for another national team. Official matches are considered to be: the qualifying matches for a continental championship, matches in a continental championship, qualifying matches for IHF World Championships and Olympic Games, matches in IHF World Championships and Olympic Games and other competitions recognised by the International Handball Federation as listed in the Appendix.

Justification: *The 3 years period was removed by the Working Group and will only be applicable for the change of eligibility.*

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved motion no. 1 regarding the IHF Player Eligibility Code elaborated by the Working Group for IHF Player Eligibility Code.

Motion no. 2:

6.2. Player eligibility in case of multiple nationalities

Players who hold more than one nationality may choose which senior national team they want to represent.

6.2.1 Conditions

A player who holds more than one nationality is eligible to officially represent one of those countries if:

- a) he/she complies with Article 6.1 and
- b) he/she was born in the territory of the federation concerned or
- c) his/her biological mother or biological father were born in the territory of the federation concerned or
~~he has been living in the territory of the federation concerned for more than 36 consecutive months.~~
- d) one of his/her biological grandparents was born in the territory of the federation concerned.
~~A national team playing in an official match of the International Handball Federation may have only three players on its team who have received the nationality of that country by naturalisation or by any other means after having reached the age of sixteen (16). This provision also applies to any player having the right to acquire a second nationality at birth but who did not use this right until after having reached the age of sixteen (16).~~

6.2.2 Restrictions

6.2.2.1 With the exceptions mentioned in Article 6.3, a player's choice of a senior national team is definitive and irreversible.

6.2.2.2 If a player chooses to play for a senior national team, but has previously represented the National Federation of their other nationality in the youth and/or junior category, they must respect a six-month waiting period between the last selection with the youth or junior team and the first selection with the senior team.

6.2.2.3 A player cannot play for two different national teams in the youth or junior category.

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Justification:

- It was agreed by the Working Group to take into consideration only the blood link when a player has to choose which National Federation he/she wishes to represent.
- A player chooses the National Federation of his/her nationality at senior level. He/she may have played with another national team in the younger-age categories.
- A player cannot go from one nationality to another in the younger-age category; he/she must stick with one.
- A player who chooses a national team in accordance with Article 6.2 will not be considered as a naturalised player anymore.

Decision:

The Council unanimously approved motion no. 2 regarding the IHF Player Eligibility Code elaborated by the Working Group for IHF Player Eligibility Code.

Motion no. 3:

6.3. Change eligibility to play for a National Federation

6.3.1 Conditions

Players who hold more than one nationality and do not fulfil the conditions specified in Article 6.2 may change sporting nationality, even after having already represented a different senior national team, provided that they:

- a) comply with Article 6.1.a), and
- b) have been living in the territory of the federation concerned for more than 36 consecutive months, and
- c) have not played in any national team of another country in the three years preceding their first appearance in the national team in an official match. Official matches are considered to be: the qualifying matches for a continental championship, matches in a continental championship, qualifying matches for IHF World Championships and Olympic Games, matches in IHF World Championships and Olympic Games and other competitions recognised by the International Handball Federation as listed in the Appendix.

6.3.2 Limitation per national team

A national team playing in an official match of the International Handball Federation may have only two players on its team who changed their sporting nationality based on Article 6.3.1.

6.3.3 Special case

Players who have played with a senior national team (see Article 6.1.b) may not play for a national team of another country if they do not comply with Article 6.3.1. However, under exceptional circumstances, the IHF Executive Committee may authorise, case by case, such players to play for the national team of an “emerging National Federation” (listed in the Appendix) if they have not played in the last three years with their former national team and if this is in the interest of the development of handball in this country. Such players shall come from a “top National Federation” national team and their former National Federation shall be consulted during the process, before the decision of the Executive Committee.

6.3.4 Specifications

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It is only permitted to change the National Federation and thus to obtain eligibility to play for a new national team one time. In case of disputes or unclear circumstances over eligibility, the Executive Committee of the International Handball Federation will decide after examining each case individually. The Head Office of the International Handball Federation has the right to request further documents from the parties involved to determine the circumstances regarding the eligibility of the player concerned. If a National Federation presents incorrect documents concerning eligibility of a player, Article 21 of the Regulations concerning Penalties and Fines is applicable. In case of dissolution of an existing federation or a constitution of a new one, the IHF shall create a separate body to examine the cases should disputes over eligibility arise.

Justification:

- *The Working Group agreed to keep a possibility to change sporting nationality even though the player already played for another national team and has no blood link with the one he/she wishes to represent next.*
- *However, a limit of 2 players was decided to prevent any excess.*
- *The IHF President proposed that a player of a top nation, who is no longer called to play for his national team, should be able to represent an emerging nation without any condition of living or blood link.*

Note: Referring to the emerging National Federations mentioned in Article 6.3.3. of the above-mentioned motion (to be listed in the Appendix of the Player Eligibility Code), President Moustafa asked the IHF Head Office to elaborate a proposal for the classification of National Federations based on clear criteria to be defined. The proposal shall be sent to the Council for decision.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved motion no. 3 regarding the IHF Player Eligibility Code elaborated by the Working Group for IHF Player Eligibility Code.

Motion no. 4:

6.4. Administrative procedures

1. All National Federations requesting change of eligibility must provide all necessary documents as stipulated in Article 6.2 not later than 30 days prior to the potential release date. **Any requested additional document submitted within seven days prior to the beginning of a competition will be refused.**
2. All changes of nationality must be approved directly by the International Handball Federation and communicated to all parties involved (National Federations and Continental Confederations).
3. **Any player who has the right to choose or change national teams in accordance with Articles 6.2 and 6.3 above shall submit a written, substantiated request to the IHF Head Office. Within this request, the player shall especially acknowledge the consequences of his/her choice.**
4. **The documents to prove that a player fulfils the conditions to be eligible to play for a National Federation shall be official documents, including, but not limited to, passport, birth certificates, certificate of residency, family record book. All documents shall be official state documents delivered, stamped and signed by official state authorities.**
5. **All documents shall be translated in an official language of the IHF by a certified translator.**
6. **Once all necessary documents are sent by the National Federation requesting the eligibility of a player, the International Handball Federation will have 15 days to hand down a decision.**

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7. National Federations must request a confirmation of eligibility to the IHF if they wish to include a player holding multiple nationalities within their provisional list. This request must be sent only for the first appearance of the player within a list of the National Federation in question. In case the Continental Confederation is in charge of the reception of the provisional lists, the Continental Confederation shall request the confirmation of eligibility to the IHF. This provision applies to all age categories.

Justification:

Addition to point 1:

The IHF aims to avoid a situation like CAN 2018 (all documents were sent at the last minute and some eligibilities were confirmed while the competition was ongoing).

New point 3:

- *As for now, the National Federation contacts the IHF in order to request eligibility of a player. The question is what would happen if we agree to change the eligibility of a player, but this player comes to us arguing he/she did not want it and that he/she did not sign anything. The signed request would be a means of safety.*
- *The written request would also help us with data protection regarding this activity. We could, on the signed form, warn the player that his/her data will be processed by the IHF, and by signing the form, he/she will agree to that.*

New points 4 and 5: The IHF aims to avoid:

- *Unnecessary documents sent by National Federations or documents in languages that are not an official language of the IHF.*
- *Sending of fake documents.*
- *Inequalities between the National Federations; standardisation of the procedure will increase equality between National Federations to find and translate the documents and will increase their understanding of the importance of providing official documents to prove that a player fulfils the conditions specified in Article 6.*

New point 6:

The IHF aims at avoiding that National Federations put pressure on the IHF for a decision. It will help the National Federations to understand that they need to begin the eligibility procedure as soon as possible.

New point 7:

The EHF always asks its National Federations to request a confirmation from the IHF when they only have the information that the player was born abroad or that he/she plays in a club from a different country than the one which included him/her in its list. However, other Continental Confederations do not act like this. Every National Federation should be aware of the Regulations and ask for the confirmation of eligibility even when the concerned players play for their youth or junior teams.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved motion no. 4 regarding the IHF Player Eligibility Code elaborated by the Working Group for IHF Player Eligibility Code.

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IHF Regulations for Transfer between Federations:

Motion no. 1:

Article 11: Education Compensation

§1.2. The club(s) with which the player was under contract (including players with a written educational agreement) before the transfer is/are ~~entitled to demand compensation.~~ **entitled to a maximum compensation of CHF 3,500 per professional player and season for club competitions.** Education compensation shall not be demanded later than 12 months after the end of the last employment contract **for a professional player.**

~~§1.3. Clubs are entitled to a maximum compensation per professional player and season of CHF 3,500 for club competitions.~~

~~The clubs(s) with which the player was an amateur player before the transfer is/are entitled to demand compensation if the player is transferred to become professional. Clubs are entitled to a maximum compensation per amateur player and season as follow:~~

- ~~- CHF 1,500 for a releasing club of a top National Federation~~
- ~~- CHF 1,000 for a releasing club of a developing National Federation~~
- ~~- CHF 500 for a releasing club of an emerging National Federation~~

~~The IHF shall issue the list with the classification of National Federations at the beginning of every new season. The list shall be published within the Appendix.~~

~~Education compensation shall not be demanded later than 12 months after the signing of the first employment contract for a player transferred as an amateur.~~

Justification:

This new disposition allows all clubs to receive an education compensation for a player (between 16 and 23) that will leave the club to become professional elsewhere. This is a compensation for the training and it encourages them to put more effort in the training of young players.

Note: Referring to the list with the classification of National Federations mentioned in Article 11.§1.3 of the above-mentioned motion (to be published in the Appendix of the Regulations for Transfer between Federations), President Moustafa asked the IHF Head Office to elaborate a proposal for the classification of National Federations based on clear criteria to be defined. The proposal shall be sent to the Council for decision.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved motion no. 1 regarding the IHF Regulations for Transfer between Federations elaborated by the Working Group for IHF Player Eligibility Code.

Motion no. 2:

Article 12: Rules for Amateur Players

§2.4. [...] In such cases, the transfer administration fees and **education compensation** are due at the date of the completion of the contract. Any failures in announcing the completion of a contract in the said case shall be penalised in accordance with the IHF Regulations.

Justification: *Modification made in order to follow up with the modification in Article 11 regarding education compensation. It avoids that clubs transfer an amateur player as an amateur player and*

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give him a contract as a professional two days after, for the sole purpose of avoiding paying the education compensation.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved motion no. 2 regarding the IHF Regulations for Transfer between Federations elaborated by the Working Group for IHF Player Eligibility Code.

6.2. Regulations for IHF Competitions

President Moustafa gave the floor to the COC Chairman who reported on his meeting with the IHF President in Basel on 28 March 2019. Referring to the IHF Council decision to increase the number of teams at Senior, Junior & Youth World Championships of both genders from 24 to 32 teams starting from 2021, he proposed the following amendments to the Regulations for IHF Competitions in order to create better conditions for the players:

1. Increase the options of National Federations during a competition related to the number of players
 - a. Increasing the number of players per team on the definitive list from 16 to 18 players as from 01.01.2020, while the number of players in the match report (16) shall remain unchanged
 - b. Costs for additional players to be borne by the respective National Federation
 - c. Subsequently enlarging the provisional list from 28 to 35 players, but with an amended submission date of two months (instead of one month) prior to the start of the competition
 - d. Increasing the number of replacements of the proposed 18-player squad from currently three (3) to five (5)
2. New match scheme
 - a. Adding a phrase in the regulations which guarantees that each team has a rest day after a matchday. No back-to-back matches possible anymore in IHF Senior World Championships
 - b. Clarifying the definition of "rest day". A day with a travel duration of less than 4 hours and 30 minutes from the place of accommodation to the next place of accommodation can be considered as rest day. Days with a longer travel duration require an additional rest day in the match scheme.

In addition, the COC Chairman referred to the IHF Council decision dated 12 February 2019 not to increase the host fee for the 2021 and 2023 Women's Senior World Championships, since the amount had already been increased to CHF 1,500,000.- by the Council in 2015. He proposed to increase the host fee for Women's Senior World Championships by another CHF 100,000.-. This increase is based on a simple calculation connected with the host fee that has been paid until 2019. CHF 1.2 million divided by 24 teams multiplied by 32 teams (as from 2021) is resulting in CHF 1,600,000.-.

President Moustafa remarked that some World Championship host countries receive a higher income from ticket sales than others. Therefore, the host fee should be decided on a case-by-case basis.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the following amendments to the Regulations for IHF Competitions.

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- ✚ *Increasing the number of players per team on the definitive list from 16 to 18 players as from 01.01.2020, while the number of players in the match report (16) shall remain unchanged*
- ✚ *Costs for additional players to be borne by the respective National Federation*
- ✚ *Enlarging the provisional list from 28 to 35 players, with an amended submission date of two months (instead of one month) prior to the start of the competition*
- ✚ *Increasing the number of player replacements of the 18-player squad from three (3) to five (5)*
- ✚ *Guaranteeing that each team has a rest day after a matchday. No back-to-back matches possible anymore in IHF Senior World Championships*
- ✚ *Including an additional rest day in the match scheme in case the travel duration from one place of accommodation to the next exceeds 4 hours and 30 minutes*

In addition, the Council unanimously decided to increase the host fee for the 2021 and 2023 Women's Senior World Championships by CHF 100,000.- (to a total amount of CHF 1,600,000.- per event).

6.3. Amendments to IHF Ball Regulations

President Moustafa gave the floor to the CCM Chairman who informed the Council that the first version of the resin-free ball developed by Molten has been finalised. He briefly reported on the different development phases of the resin-free ball since 2014 as well as on the satisfactory results of the long-term test conducted from February to April 2019 in the talent centers of Eaubonne (men's youth) and Chatenay (women's youth) as well as the supplementary tests with the national teams of France (male, female). He stated that the overall feedback was mainly positive, adding that some players faced problems with spin shots. He conveyed his gratitude to the French Handball Federation for their cooperation in conducting the different ball tests. He also stressed the requirement, as per the IHF Executive Committee decision dated 17 October 2018, to have technical specifications for balls with and without resin.

In the context of a planned revision of the IHF Ball Regulations, he proposed to include the following three categories of handballs:

- a) Handballs played with resin
- b) Handballs played without resin
- c) Handballs for beginners

a) Handballs played with resin

To remain unchanged as per Article 2.1.2 of the IHF Ball Regulations as well as Rule 3 of the Rules of the Game

Note: Detailed technical specifications for these handballs will be determined later.

The following will be added only to the IHF Ball Regulations:

b) Handballs played without resin

Handballs that are played without resin require a different ball handling. In contrast to handballs played with resin, a more intensive contraction of the forearm and hand/finger muscles is necessary to guide the ball safely. To compensate for this, different sizes and weights were tested, and it is recommended to include the following sizes/weights for handballs played without resin in the IHF Ball Regulations:

- **IHF size 3:**

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55.5cm to 57.5cm in circumference and 400g to 425g in weight for men's senior and youth (aged 16 and older)

- **IHF size 2:**

51.5cm to 53.5cm in circumference and 300g to 325g in weight for women's senior and youth (aged 14 and older) as well as men's youth (aged 12 to 16)

- **IHF size 1:**

49cm to 51cm in circumference and 290g to 315g in weight for women's youth (aged 8 to 14) and men's youth (aged 8 to 12)

Note: Handballs played without resin must meet specific technical criteria. Detailed technical specifications for these handballs will be determined later.

c) Handballs for beginners

The current IHF Ball Regulations only contain a reference to size 0 handballs for children. Based on the experience and scientific findings in the development of new methodical handballs for beginners, it is recommended to expand the repertoire of handballs accordingly:

- Size 0 handballs:
46 to 48 cm in circumference and 255 to 280 g in weight for children (aged 8 and younger) or beginners of different age groups
- Size 00 handballs:
44 to 46 cm in circumference and 165 to 190 g in weight for children or other beginners
- Non-inflatable squeeze balls:
46 to 48 cm in circumference and 190 to 225 g in weight for children or other beginners
- Non-inflatable sponge balls:
46 to 48 cm in circumference and 190 to 225 g in weight

Note: Detailed technical specifications for these handballs will be determined during the revision of the IHF Ball Regulations. Following a discussion with technical experts, there are also recommendations for the use in different age categories.

The General Director pointed out that the exact wording of the respective amendments to the IHF Ball Regulations will be adapted accordingly.

As the MC Chairman asked about possible allergies when playing with the resin-free ball, the CCM Chairman informed that so far no problems have occurred during the ball tests in this respect. However, the Empa institute (SUI) will conduct corresponding analyses of the material.

As several Council members asked whether in the future only resin-free balls shall be used, President Moustafa stressed the importance of going step by step, first ensuring that the players accept the new resin-free ball before taking any decisions about the future use.

President Moustafa welcomed the representatives of Molten Corporation, Mr Kiyooki Nishihara (Executive General Manager) and Mr Ryo Kurahashi (International Market Sales & Marketing Department Sports Division). The Molten representatives briefly outlined the development phases of the resin-free ball and presented the new resin-free ball to the Council members, adding that they are ready to place the ball on the market.

President Moustafa conveyed his gratitude to the Molten representatives for their great efforts in developing the resin-free ball.

President Moustafa proposed to use the resin-free ball at the 2020 IHF Women's Youth (U18) World Championship.

Decision.

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The Council unanimously approved the addition to the IHF Ball Regulations proposed by the CCM Chairman. The exact wording of the IHF Ball Regulations will be adapted accordingly. In addition, the Council unanimously agreed that the resin-free ball should be used at the 2020 IHF Women's Youth (U18) World Championship as a first step towards the application in the rest of the IHF events.

7. Pan-American continent

7.1. Current situation of handball in North America and the Caribbean and South and Central America

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Chairman of Handball Working Group for North America and the Caribbean as well as the Chairman of Handball Working Group for South and Central America to report about the progress in terms of development of handball in North America and the Caribbean as well as in South and Central America.

The Chairman of the Handball Working Group for North America and the Caribbean informed the Council on the steps taken and benefits achieved in North America and the Caribbean. He outlined that the following meetings have taken place:

- **27 February 2018** – Meeting of representatives of 16 National Federations in Mexico City to discuss the motion and establish a working group to develop statutes and regulations for the new Continental Confederation
- **19 November 2018** – Second meeting of representatives of the National Federations of North America and the Caribbean in West Dundee, Chicago, USA, where the 'Declaration of West Dundee' was signed by 16 NFs in order to consolidate the NACHC as a non-profit organisation, and a Constitution Committee was established to draft the statutes and regulations
- **13 April 2019** – Third meeting of representatives of 15 National Federations of North America and the Caribbean in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, to constitute the North America and Caribbean Handball Confederation (NACHC), approve the corresponding statutes and agree on the establishment of an electoral committee in charge of organising the election
- **1 June 2019** – First electoral assembly of NACHC in Mexico City with the attendance of 16 NFs (out of 21 NFs) to elect the first ever NACHC Executive Committee for the following four-year term

Afterwards the Chairman of Handball Working Group for South and Central America reported on the steps taken and benefits achieved in South and Central America. He informed that the following meetings have taken place:

- **2 October 2018** – Meeting of the Team Task South and Central America (TTSC) in Santiago de Chile (composed of representatives of the NFs of BRA, CHI and PAR) to evaluate the 19 National Federations in South and Central America in terms of handball, management, performance level, etc. and discuss the plan for the future of the continent
- **2 December 2018** – Meeting of representatives of 14 National Federations in Maceió, Brazil where the 'Declaration of Maceió' regarding the founding of the South and Central America Handball Confederation (SCAHC) was signed and a Constitution Committee was established to draft the statutes and regulations
- **5 April 2019** – Meeting of representatives of 15 National Federations in Cali, Colombia to approve the statutes of SCAHC

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- **1 July 2019** – First electoral assembly of SCAHC in Gothenburg, Sweden with the attendance of 14 NFs (out of 19 NFs) to elect the first ever SCAHC Council for the following four-year term

Decision.

The Council took note of the progress in terms of development of handball in North America and the Caribbean as well as in South and Central America.

7.2. Resignation of Mario Moccia as PATHF President

Note: This issue was treated under agenda item 4.4 of the present meeting.

8. *Miscellaneous*

8.1. Council decisions made by electronic communication

The Council members confirmed the following via electronic communication:

- **IHF Senior World Championships with 32 teams**

Reference was made to the IHF Council decision made in its meeting in Doha, Qatar on 18 October 2018, according to which the Council unanimously agreed in principle to increase the number of teams at Senior, Junior & Youth World Championships of both genders from 24 to 32 teams starting from 2021. The detailed proposal, including the distribution of places and the match schedule for Senior and Junior/Youth World Championships of both genders with 32 teams, prepared by the IHF Commission of Organising and Competition (COC) was communicated to the IHF Council on 21 December 2018 and approved by the Council on 2 January 2019.

As for IHF Senior World Championships, the IHF investigated the relevant financial consequences of the Council decision, which included

1. Extra costs on the organiser
2. Extra costs on the IHF

The IHF shall cover the **extra costs** of IHF Senior World Championships, including but not limited to players' compensation fees, qualification bonus, travel cost and insurance, estimated to amount to CHF 1,500,000.- for one Men's Senior World Championship and one Women's Senior World Championship.

It was proposed to support the organiser by increasing the host fee for Men's Senior World Championships by CHF 100,000.- to be in total CHF 900,000.- as from 2021, while the amount of the host fee for Women's Senior World Championships shall remain CHF 1,500,000.- as decided by the IHF Council in 2015, applicable as from 2021.

Letter sent to Council on 5 February 2019, Council approval received on 12 February 2019

- **2019 Ordinary IHF Congress in Gothenburg, SWE - Financial assistance**

Referring to the upcoming Ordinary IHF Congress to be held in Gothenburg, Sweden from 2 to 5 July 2019, the IHF received several requests from different Member Federations, asking for financial assistance from the IHF regarding the travel expenses for their delegates to participate in the Congress.

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As for previous IHF Congresses, the IHF Council had decided to financially support some of the IHF emerging National Federations in terms of travel costs in order to guarantee the fruitful participation of all affiliated members in the most important gathering on IHF level and to give them the opportunity to interact and express their opinions and suggestions to the IHF.

Proposal that the IHF Council authorises the IHF Executive Committee to study the whole matter in detail and decide on which National Federations shall be financially supported by the IHF in terms of travel costs in order to give all federations the chance to take part in the Congress in Gothenburg and to enable them to make their input and contribution. The Executive Committee shall report to the Council accordingly.

Letter sent to Council on 18 March 2019, Council approval received on 25 March 2019

- **IHF Extraordinary Congress**

The IHF received requests for recognition from the newly founded North America and Caribbean Handball Confederation (NACHC) and South and Central America Handball Confederation (SCAHC) on 16 April 2019 and on 12 April 2019, respectively.

The conditions required for recognition of Continental Confederations as per Article 11.2.1 and 11.2.6 of the IHF Statutes, i.e. having at least ten Member Federations and compliance of their Statutes with IHF Statutes and Regulations, are fulfilled by both NACHC and SCAHC.

The mentioned requests for recognition entail amendments to Article 11 of the IHF Statutes and need thus to be submitted along with corresponding motions to the IHF Congress. In the meantime, the deadline for submitting motions to the upcoming IHF Ordinary Congress, which is taking place in Gothenburg, Sweden on 3/4 July 2019, expired on 3 February 2019 as per Article 13.3.8 (point a) of the IHF Statutes. Therefore, the following was proposed:

- ✚ Convening an Extraordinary Congress in Gothenburg, Sweden, on 3 July 2019 at 9:00 am (followed by the Ordinary Congress at 11:00 am), in accordance with Article 13.2.1 of the IHF Statutes, taking into consideration that the only agenda item shall be *“Modification of and amendment to Article 11 of the IHF Statutes”*;
- ✚ Withdrawing the motions of the IHF Council dated 28 January 2019 related to Article 11 of the IHF Statutes (*Continental Confederations*) due to the fact that they contradict the concept of the revised motions to be prepared in view of the above-mentioned requests for recognition;
- ✚ Submitting revised motions related to Article 11 of the IHF Statutes on behalf of the Council to the Congress.

Letter sent to Council on 18 April 2019, Council approval received on 25 April 2019

- **2019 IHF Women’s Super Globe**

The Chinese Handball Association (CHA) expressed their interest in hosting the first edition of the IHF Women’s Super Globe in 2019, offering the following:

- ✚ Place: Wuxi
- ✚ Period: 1-4 August 2019
- ✚ Participants: 8 club teams
- ✚ Schedule:
 - 1 August: Quarter-Finals → 4 matches
 - 2 August: Semi-Finals / Placement Round 5-8 → 4 matches
 - 3 August: Rest day
 - 4 August: Finals 1/2, 3/4, 5/6, 7/8 → 4 matches
- ✚ Visibility: For the moment, the event is planned to be livestreamed, no indication about TV broadcasting considering the high cost of the national TV.
- ✚ Financial obligations of CHA:

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- Accommodation and local transportation of the eight participating teams
- USD 120,000 as compensation for flight tickets of the teams and prize money (as this amount will not be enough, sponsors are approached to cover the rest of the financial obligations for the event).

✚ TV and marketing rights: All rights belong to the IHF.

The Council approved the awarding of the 2019 IHF Women's Super Globe to the Chinese Handball Association.

Letter sent to Council on 13 May 2019, Council approval received on 20 May 2019

8.2. Nominations of officials for IHF events

Europe's Vice-President requested that the nominations of officials for upcoming IHF events be shared with the IHF Council members directly after the confirmation of the IHF Executive Committee.

President Moustafa asked the Chairmen of COC and PRC to send their proposed nominations of delegates and referees six months before the respective IHF event.

Decision.

The Council unanimously agreed that the nominations of delegates for upcoming IHF events shall be shared with the IHF Council members directly after the confirmation of the IHF Executive Committee. In addition, the Council unanimously agreed that the proposed nominations of delegates and referees shall be submitted by the Chairmen of COC and PRC six months before the respective IHF event.

8.3. IHF Inspection Working Group

President Moustafa referred to the IHF Council decision dated 18 October 2018 to form an IHF inspection working group for IHF World Championships which shall carry out inspections for IHF World Championships and report to the IHF accordingly.

The Competitions Director took the floor, informing that several experts/companies shall be involved in the different inspection fields as listed below to allow for a more professional event preparation:

- Venue management
- Venue installation
- Accommodation, transportation, application of IHF Regulations
- Media/written press
- Information technology
- TV matters
- Constructional matters
- Marketing
- Security
- Bid and Event Manual, documents, forms, reports
- Technical partners:
 - ✚ Balls
 - ✚ Floors
 - ✚ Goals

President Moustafa added that during the inspection for an event, every field should be represented by at least one member. The working group members should be subject to training courses.

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Decision.

The Council took note of the information provided regarding the IHF Inspection Working Group.

The next IHF Council meeting will be held in Kumamoto, Japan on 14 December 2019.

President Moustafa thanked the participants for the constructive meeting and closed the session at 15:30.

INTERNATIONAL HANDBALL FEDERATION


Dr Hassan Moustafa
President