



**International
Handball
Federation**



Council Meeting No. 8

16.07.2020 by video conference



Present

Dr Hassan MOUSTAFA (EGY)
Joël DELPLANQUE (FRA)
Mansourou AREMOU (BEN)
Bader AL-THEYAB (KUW)
Michael WIEDERER (AUT)
Anna RAPP (SWE)
Narcisa LECUSANU (ROU)
Dr Frantisek TABORSKY (CZE)
Per BERTELSEN (DEN)
Ramón GALLEGO (ESP)
Dietrich SPÄTE (GER)
Dr François GNAMIAN (CIV)
Charles OMBOUMAHOU (CGO)
Yoshihide WATANABE (JPN)
Predrag BOSKOVIC (MNE)
Ricardo BLAS (GUM)
Mario GARCIA DE LA TORRE (MEX)
Marcel MANCILLA BRAVO (CHI)

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

President
1st Vice-President
IHF Vice-President Africa
IHF Vice-President Asia
IHF Vice-President Europe
Treasurer
Executive Committee Member
Executive Committee Member
COC Chairman
PRC Chairman
CCM Chairman
MC Chairman
IHF Representative Africa
IHF Representative Asia
IHF Representative Europe
IHF Representative Oceania
IHF Representative North America and the Caribbean
IHF Representative South and Central America

General Director
Competitions Director
IHF Head Office

MEETING TIME: 12:00-13:00

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.



Agenda

1. Minutes

- 1.1. Council Meeting No. 7, 29 April 2020 by video conference
- 1.2. Executive Committee Meeting No. 11, 14 April 2020 by video conference

2. International Handball Week

3. Competitions

- 3.1. Wild cards for 2021 Men's World Championship – Fee
- 3.2. IHF events in 2020 and 2021

4. IHF Virtual Academy

5. Continents

- 5.1. Report from the continents on the restart of handball activities after COVID-19

6. IHF bodies

- 6.1. COVID-19 Medical Task Force

7. Miscellaneous

- 7.1. Council decisions made by electronic communication



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President Moustafa opened the meeting, welcoming the Council members to the meeting held by video conference due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He expressed his hopes that all Council members as well as their families are in good health.

1. Minutes

1.1. Council Meeting No. 7, 29 April 2020 by video conference

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 7th Council Meeting, which was held by video conference on 29 April 2020.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Council Meeting No. 7 held by video conference on 29 April 2020.

1.2. Executive Committee Meeting No. 11, 14 April 2020 by video conference

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 11th Executive Committee Meeting, which took place by video conference on 14 April 2020.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Executive Committee Meeting No. 11 held by video conference on 14 April 2020.

2. International Handball Week

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who referred to the decision of the 2019 Ordinary IHF Congress to introduce an International Handball Week, a week dedicated to the celebration of handball all over the world which shall start on the founding date of the IHF, i.e. 12 July.

Due to the global COVID-19 pandemic which has resulted in the suspension of handball activities worldwide, the first International Handball Week had to be focused online. After the IHF encouraged its Member Federations to organise their very own International Handball Week activities for 12 to 18 July 2020 and share them with the IHF, Member Federations around the world joined the online conversation in a variety of ways. Content visible from around the world included live online streams with either discussions on different handball topics or the provision of educational lectures, the sharing of stories of different nations' and teams' histories, sharing information on current activities and projects, or simply posting photos. Some examples of the Member Federations' activities during the International Handball Week were presented to the Council, including the organisation of online courses, the streaming of matches on their social media channels and the publication of special articles on their websites as well as special #handballweek posts on their social media channels.

President Moustafa conveyed his sincere gratitude to all IHF Member Federations who have actively taken part and encouraged their own communities to join the International Handball Week activities.

The General Director also informed the Council about the refreshed and updated IHF logo which was unveiled



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on 12 July 2020 following a decision of the IHF Executive Committee on 10 July 2020. She outlined that the previous IHF logo has been modernised with a sleek, minimalist look suitable for, and responsive to, the digital age in order to stay relevant in the global sporting market and to appeal to a modern audience. She added that the IHF will launch an expanded branding package and identity, covering all IHF events, activities and resources, later this year.

Furthermore, the General Director provided the Council with brief information about the new IHF technologies, including but not limited to the Augmented Reality Handball Mini Game set to be introduced in August 2020, the IHF 'Be a Manager' game set to be launched at the next IHF competition, the new camera filter to be added to the IHF mobile app and the special statistical-based dashboard to be added to the IHF website.

Decision

The Council took note of the information provided regarding the first-ever International Handball Week.

3. Competitions

3.1. Wild cards for 2021 Men's World Championship – Fee

President Moustafa referred to the decision of the IHF Council dated 9 July 2020 (please refer to agenda item 7.1), according to which the Council, following the proposal of the IHF Executive Committee, awarded the two available wild cards for the 2021 Men's World Championship to Poland and Russia, considering that both receiving National Federations of the wild cards shall contribute to the IHF solidarity fund an amount to be defined by the IHF Executive Committee.

Decision

The Council unanimously reconfirmed the awarding of the two available wild cards for the 2021 Men's World Championship to Poland and Russia, considering that both receiving National Federations of the wild cards shall contribute to the IHF solidarity fund an amount to be defined by the IHF Executive Committee.

3.2. IHF events in 2020 and 2021

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who provided a brief overview of the planned IHF events in 2020 and 2021.

Referring to the 2020 Women's Youth (U18) World Championship in CRO, the Competitions Director stated that the event is planned to take place in Porec, a well-known handball venue and host of several major events in the past, from 29 September to 11 October 2020 as per the IHF Council decision of 29 April 2020, but that so far no inspection has taken place due to travel restrictions, bearing in mind that the Croatian Handball Federation had only been awarded the organisation of the event by the IHF Council on 28 February 2020. The concept and all details have been exchanged electronically and based on this exchange, several preparatory measures have been initiated. He explained that according to the Croatian government, only the ten participating European teams are allowed to enter Croatia without any special measures while ANG, ARG, BRA, CAN, CHI, CHN, EGY, KAZ and RUS as per the status of today are not allowed to enter Croatia (European Union). Furthermore, 21 out of 61 proposed nominees yet to be confirmed by the Executive Committee are not allowed to enter Croatia as per the status of today. In case the IHF medical precautions for restarting handball activities are applied, a high burden on the teams and the host nation is to be expected. He added



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that the draw for the event has not taken place, taking into consideration that the qualification in South and Central America as well as the IHF Trophy that serves as qualification for the Women's Youth (U18) WCh have not yet been played. Due to the restrictions in the host country and several organisational challenges the IHF and Croatian Handball Federation would have to face, it was proposed to postpone the 2020 Women's Youth (U18) World Championship to a later date in 2020, taking into consideration that the IHF shall coordinate the new date of the event together with Croatian Handball Federation and the Croatian government as well as with the other stakeholders involved. The Council unanimously agreed to the proposal.

Referring to the 2020 Men's Super Globe in KSA scheduled to be held from 6 to 10 October 2020, the Competitions Director informed that the IHF sent a letter to Saudi Arabian Handball Federation requesting updated feedback by 15 July 2020 following the IHF Council decision of 29 April 2020, according to which a final decision shall be taken by 1 July 2020 on whether the event will take place as scheduled or needs to be postponed. He mentioned that the airports in KSA are currently closed for arrival of foreigners according to information received from the KSA embassies in Germany and Switzerland. He reported that so far only the reigning champion FC Barcelona, the representative of host nation KSA and the Asian representative are known while all other continents have not played their respective qualification events. Furthermore, no competition-related information such as the match schedule, venue, place, hall, etc. has been received from KSA until now. Due to the restrictions in the host country and several organisational challenges the IHF and Saudi Arabian Handball Federation would have to face, it was proposed to postpone the 2020 Men's Super Globe to a later date in 2020, taking into consideration that the IHF shall coordinate the new date of the event together with Saudi Arabian Handball Federation and the Saudi Arabian government as well as with the other stakeholders involved. The Council unanimously agreed to the proposal.

The IHF Vice-President Europe referred to the very busy competition schedule at the end of 2020 as well as in 2021, stating that at some point of time an event cancellation needs to be considered rather than further postponements of the event in question. Consequently, coordination between all stakeholders involved, in particular between IHF and the Continental Confederations, is of major importance. President Moustafa emphasised that the IHF is trying its utmost to organise all competitions and to avoid any cancellation.

Referring to the 2020 Women's Junior (U20) World Championship in ROU, the Competitions Director stated that the event is planned to take place from 1 to 13 December 2020 as per the IHF Council decision of 29 April 2020, adding that Romania's Ministry of Sport officially confirmed the postponement of the event. He reported that all details for the event and the different preparations have been defined and agreed upon. He mentioned that as per the status of today RUS, CHN (partly), ANG, LBN, GUI and MEX are not allowed to enter Romania (European Union). Furthermore, the three teams from South and Central America as well as the IHF Trophy representative are not allowed to enter the European Union, i.e. currently ten qualified nations do not have the possibility to take part. He added that the draw for the event has not taken place, taking into consideration that the qualification in South and Central America as well as the IHF Trophy that serves as qualification for the Women's Junior (U20) WCh have not yet been played. President Moustafa stated that the IHF will closely monitor the situation in coordination with Romanian Handball Federation and the Romanian government.

Referring to the 2021 Men's World Championship in EGY, the Competitions Director stated that the scheduled date of 13-31 January 2021 shall be maintained. He reported that the first inspection took place in March 2020 and the venues are still under construction. General elements such as the match schedule and logistical concept have been presented by the Organising Committee. He outlined that the TV and media preparations are still ongoing. The IHF Inspection Working Group shall work on the details as soon as travel restrictions have been lifted. He informed that the IHF is selling the marketing rights of the event including packages to the Organising Committee and is trying to involve Egypt Air as official carrier of the event. He mentioned that



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the TV rights holder might face issues with on-site presence since for most major marketing companies, rules do not allow travelling outside the European Union. In a video call on 14 July 2020, the TV rights holder reported that international TV stations are requesting different scenarios for different developments of the event. He stressed that one team from North America and the Caribbean and one team from South and Central America have yet to qualify and that different organisational aspects such as ticketing are yet to be developed. He pointed out that COVID-19 countermeasures for all stakeholders involved need to be developed and implemented.

President Moustafa informed the Council that as per the status of today, the 2021 Men's World Championship in Egypt will take place as scheduled following a confirmation from the Egyptian government. He added that the draw of the 2021 Men's World Championship shall be staged in Cairo on 5 September 2020.

Referring to the 2020 Men's and Women's Olympic Qualification Tournaments, the Competitions Director informed that the Men's OQTs shall be held in FRA, GER and NOR from 12 to 14 March 2021 while the Women's OQTs shall take place in ESP, HUN and MNE from 19 to 21 March 2021 as per the IHF Council decision of 29 April 2020. He pointed out that the same concepts prepared for the 2020 OQTs shall be applied, adding that amendments to the event contracts in view of the new dates have been sent to the host federations for signature.

Referring to the 2021 Men's Junior (U21) World Championship in HUN, the Competitions Director informed that the event shall take place from 22/23 June to 4 July 2021 in the greater Budapest area (instead of Debrecen) due to the increase of the number of participating teams to 32. He reported that the inspection and event preparation are planned to take place soon, pointing out that the on-site inspection had to be cancelled due to COVID-19. He mentioned that the event will coincide with the European Football Championship after the named event had been postponed to 2021. Furthermore, the German handball league is playing until end of June 2021 due to COVID-19, and most of the league's U21 players might not be able to participate.

Referring to the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games which were postponed to be held from 23 July to 8 August 2021, the Competitions Director informed that no changes in the match schedule of the Olympic Handball Tournaments are expected. He pointed out that the handball venue availability during the new dates has been confirmed by the Organising Committee. In addition, the IOC and Organising Committee confirmed that the same services and quality on FOP level will be maintained. He referred to the common efforts requested by the IOC to save costs incurred due to the postponement of the Games, including but not limited to the probable reduction of the opening period of the Olympic Village as well as the draw event now being under the (financial) responsibility of the IHF.

Referring to the 2021 Men's Youth (U19) World Championship in GRE, the Competitions Director informed that the event is planned to take place from 17/18 August to 29 August 2021, considering that the mentioned period is yet to be confirmed. He stressed that new concepts are needed due to the increase of the number of participating teams to 32 as well as due to the rescheduling of the event in view of the postponement of the 2020 Olympic Games as agreed by the IHF Council on 29 April 2020. He reported that GRE is currently coordinating with the responsible ministry and local authorities to know about the availability of the infrastructure on the new dates.

Decision

The Council took note of the information provided regarding the IHF events in 2020 and 2021. Due to the restrictions in the host countries and several organisational challenges the IHF and the organisers



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would have to face, the Council unanimously decided to postpone the 2020 Women's Youth (U18) World Championship in CRO as well as the 2020 Men's Super Globe in KSA to a later date in 2020, taking into consideration that the IHF shall coordinate the new dates of the events together with the host federations and the respective governments as well as with the other stakeholders involved.

4. IHF Virtual Academy

President Moustafa gave the floor to the CCM Chairman who provided brief information about the first activities as well as the upcoming events of the newly launched IHF Virtual Academy, which is targeting coaches, referees, delegates and Handball@School coaches/teachers. He reported on the successful 1st IHF Live Online Symposium for coaches and referees worldwide, which is being held from 26 June to 25 July 2020, comprising a total of 20 live seminars presented by top coaches and IHF top lecturers. The live seminars are simultaneously translated into French, Spanish, Arabic and Russian and can be watched via the IHF Education Centre and Facebook. He pointed out that the live seminars attracted a large interest, as several thousand users followed the sessions live and on demand. He outlined that more than 5,000 persons from more than 120 countries have registered for the IHF Education Centre over the last four weeks. A lot of positive feedback on the live seminars has been received from the handball family.

He added that IHF licence courses for Continental Confederations, special IHF courses as part of the IHF New Markets' Project or the IHF development projects, as well as education courses and e-learning programmes for coaches, referees and delegates are planned to take place. From 17 to 22 August 2020, the IHF Children's Handball Week will be held, containing six live online seminars presented by IHF Handball@School Lecturers, aiming to inform about and further promote the IHF Handball@School programme. Furthermore, he announced that an IHF Discussion Forum with top coaches is scheduled to be staged at the end of August, aiming to discuss current proposals regarding the further development of handball and the Rules of the Game. He also informed about the IHF Education Centre 2.0, which shall comprise several features including but not limited to the e-learning platform, personalised content and exam creation tools, and will thus be a major step forward in the further development of handball worldwide.

Decision

The Council took note of the information about the IHF Virtual Academy presented by the CCM Chairman.

5. Continents

5.1. Report from the continents on the restart of handball activities after COVID-19

President Moustafa asked the continental representatives to provide a brief report on the restart of handball activities in the continents after COVID-19.

The IHF Vice-President Europe took the floor, reporting that the EHF is planning the upcoming season in a normal way, as they are positive that matches may be organised either with or without spectators in September 2020. All the related draw events have been conducted by video conference.

The IHF Vice-President Asia took the floor, informing that the AHF is currently monitoring the situation of COVID-



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19 to decide if the following events can be held as scheduled:

17th Asian Men's Junior Championship in Shiraz IRI: 3-13 October 2020

9th Asian Men's Youth Championship in Almaty KAZ: 24 October - 3 November 2020

2nd Asian Men's and Women's Youth Beach Handball Championship in THA: November 2020

18th Asian Women's Championship (place tbd): 10-22 December 2020

5th Asian Women's Club League (place tbd): 1-9 October 2020

23rd Asian Men's Club League (place tbd): 1-12 November 2020

President Moustafa asked the IHF Vice-President Asia to liaise with the respective host federations and the governments of the countries concerned whether the mentioned events can be organised as scheduled and to inform the IHF accordingly.

President Moustafa wished all Continental Confederations good luck in restarting their handball activities after COVID-19.

Decision

The Council took note of the activity reports provided by the continental representatives.

6. IHF bodies

6.1. COVID-19 Medical Task Force

President Moustafa referred to the current situation of the COVID-19 crisis which has not yet come to an end, stating that the situation has improved in some countries but still the fear of a second wave of infections is prevailing in many countries worldwide. Therefore, further to President Moustafa's proposal, the IHF Executive Committee decided on 1 July 2020 to create the IHF COVID-19 Medical Task Force whose main objectives shall include but are not limited to the following:

- Ensure that all national teams and federations participating in IHF competitions and the Olympic Handball Tournaments implement medical precautions from the departure in their home country to the arrival in the host country and vice versa.
- Support the Local Organising Committees with the use of WHO's "Mass Gatherings" guidance in the context of COVID-19.

The task force's key points for discussion shall include the following:

- Establish and conduct a risk assessment for "Mass Gatherings" in handball in the context of COVID-19.
- Present precautions while travelling, e.g. upon check-in and boarding at the airport, during the flight, upon arrival at the final destination.
- Create handball-event and operation-specific medical guidelines to be implemented for upcoming IHF competitions, including but not limited to the IHF Men's World Championship in Egypt from 13 to 31 January 2021.



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The task force is proposed to consist of the following specialists:

- ❖ Chairperson:
 - Prof. Hosny Abdelrahman Ahmed, Chairman of IHF Anti-Doping Unit (ADU)
- ❖ Members:
 - Prof. Hazem Khamis, Professor of Cardiology, General Manager of Wadi El-Neel Hospital Cairo
 - Prof. Maria Borodina, Expert working with World Health Organization (WHO) on mass gatherings
 - Mr Dietrich Späte, Chairman of IHF Commission of Coaching and Methods (CCM)
 - Dr Florian Kainzinger, Director of Think.Health Hygiene Solutions
 - Mr Robert Müller von Vultejus, Chief Growth Officer of Sportfive
 - Mrs Amal Khalifa, IHF General Director
 - Mr Patric Strub, IHF Competitions Director
- ❖ Partial participants:
 - Dr Hassan Moustafa, IHF President
 - Dr Ashraf Sobhy, Minister of Youth and Sports of Arab Republic of Egypt

The IHF Vice-President Europe informed that the EHF is publishing on the EHF website information received from the IHF and different National Federations as well as from other sports on the restart of their activities after COVID-19, adding that this information is regularly updated.

In order to avoid conflicts between the different continents, President Moustafa proposed to form a working group composed of the IHF General Director, the IHF Competitions Director and one representative from each Continental Confederation to discuss the restart of handball activities after COVID-19, taking into consideration all IHF events as well as all continental events, and to submit a corresponding proposal to the Council.

Decision

Further to the IHF Executive Committee's decision, the Council unanimously reconfirmed the creation of the IHF COVID-19 Medical Task Force and approved the following composition:

- ❖ Chairperson:
 - **Prof. Hosny Abdelrahman Ahmed, Chairman of IHF Anti-Doping Unit (ADU)**
- ❖ Members:
 - **Prof. Hazem Khamis, Professor of Cardiology, General Manager of Wadi El-Neel Hospital Cairo**
 - **Prof. Maria Borodina, Expert working with World Health Organization (WHO) on mass gatherings**
 - **Mr Dietrich Späte, Chairman of IHF Commission of Coaching and Methods (CCM)**
 - **Dr Florian Kainzinger, Director of Think.Health Hygiene Solutions**
 - **Mr Robert Müller von Vultejus, Chief Growth Officer of Sportfive**
 - **Mrs Amal Khalifa, IHF General Director**
 - **Mr Patric Strub, IHF Competitions Director**
- ❖ Partial participants:
 - **Dr Hassan Moustafa, IHF President**
 - **Dr Ashraf Sobhy, Minister of Youth and Sports of Arab Republic of Egypt**

In addition, the Council unanimously approved President Moustafa's proposal to form a working group



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composed of the IHF General Director, the IHF Competitions Director and one representative from each Continental Confederation to discuss the restart of handball activities after COVID-19, taking into consideration all IHF events as well as all continental events, and to submit a corresponding proposal to the Council.

7. Miscellaneous

7.1. Council decisions made by electronic communication

The Council members confirmed the following via electronic communication:

- Wild cards for 2021 Men's World Championship

The IHF received an official request to be awarded a wild card for the 2021 Men's World Championship from BIH - MKD - MNE - NED - POL - RUS - SRB - SUI.

The IHF Executive Committee reviewed the following criteria included in a memorandum prepared by the IHF Competitions Director:

- Organisation of upcoming IHF senior events
- Ranking achieved at the previous IHF Men's World Championship (2019 in DEN/GER)
- Population
- Media presence of handball / TV audience

The IHF Executive Committee proposed to the Council to award the two available wild cards for the 2021 Men's World Championship to Poland and Russia, considering that both receiving NFs of the wild cards shall contribute to the IHF solidarity fund an amount to be defined by the IHF Executive Committee.

Letter sent to Council on 2 July 2020, Council approval received on 9 July 2020

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. He conveyed once again his wishes for continued good health and safety to all participants.

INTERNATIONAL HANDBALL FEDERATION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hassan Moustafa'.

Dr Hassan Moustafa
President