



**International
Handball
Federation**



Council Meeting No. 10

19.02.2021 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
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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: 12:30-15:15

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

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- 1.2. Executive Committee Meeting No. 12, 9 December 2020 by video conference

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3. Competitions

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 - 3.1.2. Report on implementation of COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan
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 - 3.2.2. Women's Junior (U20) and Youth (U18) World Championships
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- 3.3. 2021 IHF events
 - 3.3.1. Men's Junior (U21) and Youth (U19) World Championships
 - 3.3.2. Men's and Women's U17 Beach Handball World Championships
 - 3.3.3. Men's Super Globe
 - 3.3.4. Men's Emerging Nations Championship
 - 3.3.5. Women's World Championship

4. Finances and marketing

- 4.1. Marketing income of 2021 Men's World Championship
- 4.2. IHF-Sportfive partnership

5. IHF bodies

- 5.1. Honorary Member – Manfred Prause
- 5.2. Disciplinary Commission decision at 2021 Men's World Championship

6. IHF Regulations

- 6.1. Rules of the Game for Indoor Handball
- 6.2. Rules of the Game for Wheelchair Handball Four-a-Side

7. Continents

7.1. Report from the continents

8. Miscellaneous

8.1. 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. 9, 9 December 2020 by video conference

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 9th Council Meeting, which was held by video conference on 9 December 2020.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Council Meeting No. 9 held by video conference on 9 December 2020.

1.2. Executive Committee Meeting No. 12, 9 December 2020 by video conference

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 12th Executive Committee Meeting, which was held by video conference on 9 December 2020.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Executive Committee Meeting No. 12 held by video conference on 9 December 2020.

2. President's activities

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who presented an overview of the President's activities since the last IHF Council meeting in December 2020, stressing that it is just a summary in view of the many activities carried out by the IHF President between the two IHF Council meetings:

14 December 2020: Meeting with Egyptian Minister of Youth and Sports Dr Ashraf Sobhy, Egyptian Minister of Health and Population Dr Hala Zayed, as well as members of the Egypt 2021 Organising Committee to discuss the latest updates regarding the organisation of the tournament.

16 December 2020: Attendance at the 39th Olympic Council of Asia General Assembly in Muscat, Oman following the invitation of OCA President Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah.

24 December 2020: Meeting with Egyptian Prime Minister H.E. Dr Mostafa Madbouly, alongside Khaled El Anani, Minister of Antiquities and Tourism, Maj. Gen. Mahmoud Tawfik, Minister of Interior, Dr Hala Zayed, Minister of Health and Population, Mohamed Manar, Minister of Civil Aviation and Dr Ashraf Sobhy, Minister of Youth and Sports, to discuss the final preparations of the 2021 Men's World Championship.

26 December 2020: Cairo Stadium Indoor Complex tour with Egyptian Prime Minister H.E. Dr Mostafa Madbouly, Minister of Youth and Sports Dr Ashraf Sobhy, Head of the Cairo Stadium Maj. Gen. Ahly Darwish and the representative of the Military Engineering Authority.

30 December 2020: Meeting with Egyptian Minister of Youth and Sports Dr Ashraf Sobhy and the Egypt 2021 Medical Delegation to discuss the different medical precautions in place for the tournament.



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10 January 2021: Meeting with Egyptian Prime Minister H.E. Dr Mostafa Madbouly, Minister of Health and Population Hala Zayed and Minister of Youth and Sports Dr Ashraf Sobhy to discuss spectators at Egypt 2021. The decision was made to have no spectators at Egypt 2021 in order to keep the stakeholders involved in the event safe and healthy.

13-31 January 2021: Attendance at the 27th IHF Men's World Championship in Egypt, including the opening alongside Egypt's State President H.E. Abdel Fatah Al Sisi at Cairo Stadium Sports Hall. During the event, President Moustafa attended two Zoom meetings with all Heads of Delegations and team doctors of the participating nations – on 16 January and 23 January – to discuss the COVID-19 situation during the World Championship, resolve any issues which have occurred during the World Championship and answer questions from the teams. After the final between Denmark and Sweden, he presented the World Championship trophy and took part in the ceremony of handing over the IHF flag to the hosts of the 2023 Men's World Championship, namely POL and SWE.

25 January 2021: Dr Moustafa participated in an informal conference call with International Olympic Committee President Dr Thomas Bach, ASOIF representatives and the Presidents of the Summer Olympic International Federations upon the invitation of IOC President Bach.

President Moustafa added that further meetings with the Egypt 2021 Organising Committee as well as the eight Egyptian Ministers forming part of the Working Group of Egyptian Ministries were held on a regular basis to follow up the organisational preparations for the World Championship staged during these unprecedented and challenging times.

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. 2021 Men's World Championship in EGY

3.1.1. Report from Competition Management

President Moustafa gave the floor to Egypt 2021 Competition Management Chairman and CCM Chairman Dietrich Späte who presented the report from the Competition Management of the 2021 Men's World Championship to the Council. He explained the challenges in organising the World Championship for all stakeholders involved, due to the fact that a full bubble concept was applied for the first time during an IHF event to ensure a healthy and safe environment for all stakeholders in view of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, the World Championship was staged without spectators and, for the first time ever, with 32 participating teams. He briefly outlined the main pillars of the bubble concept, including but not limited to the four hotels exclusively reserved to World Championship stakeholders, means of transportation and arenas, and presented several important medical precautions implemented throughout the event, such as separate dining rooms for each group of stakeholders, separate buffets for each team as well as regular disinfection measures in the arena during the half-time break and after each match. He reported that all meetings held on site, e.g. preparatory meetings for referees and delegates and debriefings of the matches, were consistently carried out virtually to maintain physical distance. He underlined that 30,000 PCR tests and 1,450 rapid antigen tests were carried out throughout the event, adding that 27 positive cases were detected among the teams, IHF nominees and media representatives, considering that all positively tested cases occurred during the incubation period of an infection prior to arrival in Egypt or were the result of virus residuals from an earlier infection. The fact that no transmissions of infection occurred during the event shows that the



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COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan worked.

He provided brief information about the withdrawals of CZE and USA shortly prior to the World Championship as well as the withdrawal of CPV a few days after their arrival to Egypt due to several positive COVID-19 cases among their team members. The good performances of MKD and SUI (replacing CZE and USA, respectively) proved that both teams were well prepared for a World Championship participation.

Referring to the key facts of the new match scheme of IHF World Championships with 32 teams, such as a rest day for teams after each match and the reintroduction of the quarter-finals, he concluded that the new concept provides more efficient ways of regeneration for players and has a huge impact on the quality and attractiveness of the World Championship. Greater differences in the performance of the teams could not be noticed.

He stressed that the performance of the delegates was in general good, stating that some problems occurred in the organisation of video proof situations. He explained that delegates should not only have an excellent knowledge of the rules, but the scope of their tasks also include communication with players and team officials. Therefore, a good (tactical) understanding of the game, good communication skills and, in particular, a professional behaviour according to the situation (personality) is especially required in critical phases of a match. Therefore, he proposed to develop a new educational structure for delegates, to be implemented as of the next IHF World Championships of the younger age categories.

Egypt 2021 Competition Management Member and PRC Chairman Ramón Gallego informed that the IHF nominated 19 referee couples, a mixture of young and more experienced couples, including one female couple. He stated that no differences can be observed between the male and female referees. Among the 19 referee couples, three represent Africa, one Asia and one South America. All nominated referees have whistled between four and eight matches. From 108 matches only four needed special analysis of the PRC as the work of the referees was found insufficient. He expressed his satisfaction with the work of the IHF referees who had to show enormous focus, especially in the critical matches of the quarter-finals and semi-finals, adding that the referees' outstanding performances have contributed to the success of this World Championship.

Referring to several problems occurred related to the services provided by Swiss Timing, including but not limited to the video proof system, he stressed that technical and content-related further development is required.

President Moustafa concluded that the World Championship has successfully proved that it is possible to live and perform handball activities alongside COVID-19. He emphasised that handball delivered a worldwide message for sports during these unprecedented and challenging times, and he thanked all stakeholders involved in the World Championship for their outstanding joint efforts, and in particular their compliance with the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan at all times. On behalf of the IHF Council, he also conveyed his sincere gratitude to Egypt's State President H.E. Abdel Fatah Al Sisi as well as the eight Egyptian Ministers forming part of the Working Group of Egyptian Ministries for their outstanding contribution to the successful organisation of the World Championship.

He informed the Council that the IHF received an official letter of congratulations on the great success of the 2021 Men's World Championship from International Olympic Committee President Dr Thomas Bach, which has been forwarded to all IHF Member Federations and Continental Confederations. Furthermore, President Bach praised the organisation of the 2021 Men's World Championship in a short video message, which was shown during the closing event of the World Championship.



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The IHF Vice-President Europe expressed his appreciation to the Egypt 2021 Organising Committee and the Egyptian government for hosting a successful World Championship under such challenging circumstances. He added the necessity of paying tribute to the positive approach of the stakeholders mainly the clubs releasing the players, but also the leagues and the big majority of players, all of them understanding that the championship is important for handball.

Decision

The Council took note of the report from the Competition Management of the 2021 Men's World Championship in Egypt, unanimously congratulated President Moustafa on the successful World Championship staged in Egypt and agreed to send a letter of appreciation to Egypt's State President H.E. Abdel Fatah Al Sisi as well as the Egyptian Prime Minister for their support and dedication which contributed to the successful organisation of the 2021 Men's World Championship in Egypt.

3.1.2. Report on implementation of COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who briefly presented the report on the implementation of the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan for Egypt 2021 which has been shared with the International Olympic Committee following IOC President Dr Thomas Bach's request (complete file is available [here](#)). She informed that the report outlines the main pillars of the bubble concept as well as the implementation of the medical precautions before arrival to Egypt (including training camps in the home country, friendly matches, regular PCR testing, self-isolation, etc.), upon arrival to Egypt (special airport reception procedure for teams and the remaining stakeholders) and throughout the World Championship (at the hotels and arenas).

In terms of PCR testing, all stakeholders except team delegation members (including officials and Heads of Delegations) and officiating members were tested every 72 hours at the beginning of the World Championship while team delegation members and officiating members were tested every 48 hours. Shortly after the beginning of the World Championship, the PCR testing rhythm applicable for all team delegation members and officiating members was adapted to every 24 hours (after each match on match days; in the evening on rest days). Substitute players, team officials or media representatives arriving during the course of the competition were obliged to provide a certificate of a negative PCR test carried out within 72 hours before the arrival date and to receive two negative PCR test results on site, taking into consideration that the period between the two tests must be 48 hours. Afterwards, they were allowed to enter the bubble. In addition to the PCR tests (approx. 30,000 tests in total), several rapid antigen tests were carried out where applicable (approx. 1,450 tests in total).

Out of the 27 positive COVID-19 cases detected during the World Championship, 16 cases occurred among players, which corresponds to 2% of all players participating in the event. Six out of 32 participating teams (i.e. 19%) were affected by positive COVID-19 cases among their players, taking into consideration that the highest number of cases (8) occurred among the team of CPV during the first four days after their arrival to Egypt. Consequently, the match CPV-GER on 17 January 2021 had to be cancelled. On 18 January 2021, CPV officially withdrew from the World Championship.

Based on the experience gained during the World Championship, several recommendations were issued, including but not limited to the following:

- Any person who has recovered from a previous COVID-19 infection should be aware that his/her PCR



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test results might continue to be positive or might be subject to fluctuations.

- A cycle threshold (CT) value of at least 40 should be considered for all stakeholders willing to participate in the event (40 is the CT value applicable in Egypt for a person to be considered as fully recovered/negative; a different CT value may be applicable in other countries).
- Appointing a mental health doctor to assist the positive cases, considering that the positive cases should be isolated in a separate isolation sector to avoid concerns in the bubble hotels. In this context, it should be considered that positive cases might have to stay longer in the host country.
- Investigating the training camps of the teams to avoid any positive cases upon arrival.
- Elaborating COVID-19 competition-related regulations (e.g. substitute nations, substitute players, etc.)
- Holding regular online meetings with the Heads of Delegations, aiming to immediately resolve any issues arising before and during the event.

Decision

The Council took note of the report on the implementation of the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan for Egypt 2021.

3.1.3. Report on IHF portal and mobile application

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who presented the report on the IHF portal and mobile application during the 2021 Men's World Championship, which has been prepared by IHF web provider Link Development and shows excellent figures.

As for the IHF portal, the number of active users during the competition amounts to 557,227, taking into account that 534,550 first-time users visited the page during the competition. The total number of page views during the competition amounts to 8,184,142. The General Director added that due to the high interest, the IHF web provider even had to expand the server capacity in order to be able to host the large number of users on the IHF website.

As for the iOS application, the total number of app downloads is 20,300 devices. The total number of application downloads during the competition is 14,635 new devices (72% increase).

As for the Android application, the total number of app downloads is 28,300 devices. The total number of application downloads during the competition is 20,443 new devices (72% increase).

Decision

The Council took note of the report on the IHF portal and mobile application during the 2021 Men's World Championship.

3.1.4. Report on IHF social media channels

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who presented the report on the IHF social media channels during the 2021 Men's World Championship, which shows how the IHF channels on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube have developed between 1 January and 1 February 2021. The Facebook reach, for example, has increased from 983,342 to 11,986,109, i.e. by 1,119%, while the Twitter impressions have increased from 430,000 to 8,890,000, i.e. by 1,967%. The report also provided information on the top



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posts on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram as well as the monthly top videos on YouTube.

The General Director informed that 108,803 new followers have been gained on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter in addition to 60,800 new subscribers on YouTube, i.e. in total 169,603 new followers. The combined reach across all channels amounts to 39,259,156. Consequently, the 2021 Men's World Championship is the most successful event in history (more than double the figures of the 2019 World Championships).

Decision

The Council took note of the report on the IHF social media channels during the 2021 Men's World Championship.

3.1.5. Report from IHF TV Partner Sportfive

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who presented the preliminary report from IHF TV Partner Sportfive on the broadcasting figures during the 2021 Men's World Championship.

She informed that broadcast deals on the World Championship have been concluded in more than 180 countries including news access, with premium broadcast partners in all key markets (majority with free-to-air broadcast). She emphasised that the World Championship was also broadcast in key development markets such as USA and China.

She referred to the outstanding figures of Denmark, considering that the final between Denmark and Sweden was watched by 2.6 million viewers, which corresponds to a market share of 95.5%. On average, the Danish matches were watched by 1.55 million viewers per match, which corresponds to a market share of 68.65%. Furthermore, all-time highs in market shares / audience have been achieved in selected markets, e.g. Sweden.

President Moustafa added that the final report from IHF TV Partner Sportfive will be communicated to the IHF Council.

Decision

The Council took note of the preliminary report from IHF TV Partner Sportfive on the 2021 Men's World Championship.

3.2. Postponed 2020 IHF events

3.2.1. Men's and Women's Olympic Qualification Tournaments

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who informed the Council about the status of the preparations for the Men's and Women's Olympic Qualification Tournaments planned to be held from 12 to 14 March 2021 (men) and from 19 to 21 March (women). He outlined the difficulties in the organisation due to many travel and entry restrictions applicable in different countries. As for the women's tournaments, he stated that the events will be hosted by ESP, HUN and MNE as planned. Referring to the men's tournaments, he reported that two events will be hosted by FRA and GER while NOR cannot host OQT 1 composed of NOR, BRA, CHI and KOR due to a decision of the Norwegian government according to which foreigners are currently not allowed to enter Norway in view of COVID-19.



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He provided brief information about the hygiene concepts to be implemented during the tournaments, including but not limited to regular testing procedures prior to arrival and during the tournaments, stressing that the hygiene concepts are based on the Egypt 2021 Medical Precaution Plan and the experience gained during the World Championship, combined with the local laws and requirements of the different host nations of the OQTs.

He informed that the IHF was in contact with different National Federations to check on their availability of hosting the Men's OQT 1. While the hosts of the men's tournaments (FRA, GER) cannot organise the OQT 1, all three hosts of the women's tournaments (ESP, HUN, MNE) confirmed that they are ready to host Men's OQT 1 in the period from 12 to 14 March 2021. ESP and MNE proposed to stage Men's OQT 1 in the same host cities as the women's tournaments (Lliria and Podgorica, respectively) while HUN proposed to organise the event either in Budapest or Erd. In addition, ESP, HUN and MNE submitted budget-related information for hosting Men's OQT 1.

President Moustafa proposed to the Council to authorise the IHF Executive Committee to decide on the host of Men's OQT 1 (ESP, HUN or MNE), stressing that the health and safety of all stakeholders involved in the events are of utmost importance and should be considered in the decision-making process.

The IHF Vice-President Europe referred to the IHF Council decision dated 30 October 2019 made by electronic communication, according to which CRO was selected as substitute nation by the IHF Council and shall be awarded the right of hosting the respective 2020 Men's Olympic Qualification Tournament on condition that one of the three hosting nations (FRA, GER, NOR) qualifies directly for the Olympic Games at the 2020 European Championship or in case any difficulties occur in the preparation phase. The Competitions Director commented that a change in the composition of the teams participating in each tournament is not possible. The IHF Vice-President Europe requested to include a corresponding note in the decision on the new host of Men's OQT 1.

As the IHF Representative South and Central America remarked that CHI expressed their interest in hosting Men's OQT 1, President Moustafa appreciated the offer from CHI. However, he pointed out the difficulties of organising the tournament concerned in Chile under the present circumstances (e.g. high costs, long travelling times).

Decision

The Council took note of the non-availability of NOR to host Men's OQT 1 due to COVID-19 and unanimously approved to authorise the IHF Executive Committee to decide on the host of Men's OQT 1 (ESP, HUN or MNE).

3.2.2. Women's Junior (U20) and Youth (U18) World Championships

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who referred to the IHF Council decision dated 30 September 2020 made by electronic communication, according to which the 2020 Women's Junior (U20) World Championship (scheduled to be held in ROU) and the 2020 Women's Youth (U18) World Championship (scheduled to be held in CRO) were postponed to 2021 due to the many restrictions resulting from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

He pointed out the challenges in organising the Women's Junior (U20) and Youth (U18) World Championships in 2021, including but not limited to the tight calendar of handball events, different issues



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faced by several National Federations from a sporting point of view (e.g. new generation in focus, new coaches, teams dissolved, no financial support, etc.) as well as the continuing COVID-19 pandemic and the related travel and entry restrictions.

President Moustafa emphasised the difficulties of organising the Women's Junior (U20) and Youth (U18) World Championships under the present circumstances, taking into consideration that a huge financial investment would be required to implement necessary medical precautions before and during the events concerned. He reiterated that the health and safety of all stakeholders involved in IHF events are the main concern of the IHF. Therefore, it was proposed to cancel the 2020 Women's Junior (U20) and Youth (U18) World Championships. The IHF Vice-President Europe remarked that he fully supports the idea.

Referring to the efforts exerted so far by the two host countries (ROU and CRO) with regard to the organisational preparation of the events concerned, the COC Chairman proposed to offer them the possibility to host the 2022 Women's Junior (U20) and Youth (U18) World Championships, respectively, if applicable and after consultation with the respective organisers, which was accepted by the Council.

Decision

Due to the difficulties of organising the events concerned under the present circumstances, the Council unanimously decided to cancel the 2020 Women's Junior (U20) and Youth (U18) World Championships. ROU and CRO shall have the right to host the 2022 Women's Junior (U20) and Youth (U18) World Championships, if applicable, after consultation with the respective organisers (SLO and GEO).

3.2.3. Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who informed the Council about the status of the postponed Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships which had initially been scheduled to take place in Italy from 30 June to 5 July 2020. She reported that POR confirmed their availability to host the event in Nazaré during the period from 22 to 27 June 2021, taking into consideration that the daily participation fee amounts to CHF 130 (extra persons: CHF 150), excluding any precaution measures that may need to be taken for COVID-19. She added that a total of 32 teams – 16 men's and women's teams each – are qualified to participate in the event concerned.

President Moustafa emphasised the difficulties of organising the Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships under the present circumstances, taking into consideration that a huge financial investment would be required to implement necessary medical precautions before and during the event concerned. Therefore, it was proposed to cancel the 2020 Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships.

Decision

Due to the difficulties of organising the event concerned under the present circumstances, the Council unanimously decided to cancel the 2020 Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships.

3.3. 2021 IHF events

3.3.1. Men's Junior (U21) and Youth (U19) World Championships



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President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who informed the Council about the status of the 2021 Men's Junior (U21) and Youth (U19) World Championships, stating that both host nations (HUN and GRE) submitted their respective concepts.

He explained that the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the corresponding medical precautions have not yet been discussed with the two host nations. He also outlined the challenges in organising a bubble concept for 32 teams of the age category concerned. Furthermore, no continental qualification event has been held yet, considering that the European Handball Federation nominated teams based on the 2018 EURO results while the African Handball Confederation and Asian Handball Federation informed about their impossibility to organise respective qualification events. Moreover, it will not be possible to determine the winner of the IHF Trophy. He added that most of the IHF nominees travelling to the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games will also be involved in the 2021 Men's Junior (U21) and Youth (U19) World Championships. Following the latest requirements from Tokyo 2020, the IHF nominees concerned might not be allowed to travel to Hungary beforehand. He stressed that the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games should have the highest priority.

President Moustafa emphasised the difficulties of organising the Men's Junior (U21) and Youth (U19) World Championships under the present circumstances, taking into consideration that no continental qualifications are being organised and a huge financial investment would be required to implement necessary medical precautions before and during the events concerned. Therefore, it was proposed to cancel the 2021 Men's Junior (U21) and Youth (U19) World Championships.

President Moustafa reiterated that the IHF in general is willing to organise all its events. In case the COVID-19 situation has significantly improved in six months, the IHF will restudy the situation with the Continental Confederations. The IHF Vice-President Europe agreed with President Moustafa, stating that the Continental Confederations might compensate for the cancellation by organising a smaller tournament on continental level, aiming to develop the age category concerned.

Decision

Due to the difficulties of organising the events concerned under the present circumstances, the Council unanimously decided to cancel the 2021 Men's Junior (U21) and Youth (U19) World Championships.

3.3.2. Men's and Women's U17 Beach Handball World Championships

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who informed the Council about the status of the Men's and Women's U17 Beach Handball World Championships, which were scheduled to be held in Nazaré, POR during the period from 22 to 27 June 2021. She also referred to the postponement of the Youth Olympic Games (featuring beach handball) in Dakar from 2022 to 2026.

In view of the difficulties of organising the event concerned under the present circumstances as well as the postponement of the 2022 Youth Olympic Games to 2026, it was proposed to postpone the Men's and Women's U17 Beach Handball World Championships to 2022 (exact dates to be determined). Due to the fact that POR is not available to host the event concerned in 2022, a new host will be needed.

Decision

Due to the difficulties of organising the event concerned under the present circumstances and the postponement of the 2022 Youth Olympic Games to 2026, the Council unanimously decided to



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postpone the Men's and Women's U17 Beach Handball World Championships to 2022. The host nation and date are yet to be determined.

3.3.3. Men's Super Globe

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who informed the Council about the status of the 2021 Men's Super Globe, which is scheduled to be held in Saudi Arabia in the first week of October 2021. He pointed out that continental qualification events are currently scheduled in Europe only. He stressed the necessity of thoroughly monitoring the overall situation of the COVID-19 pandemic and the continental club activities on other continents before taking a final decision on the organisation of the 2021 edition of the Men's Super Globe.

President Moustafa added that KSA accepted to stage the 2021 Men's Super Globe in Jeddah in October 2021.

Decision

The Council took note of the information provided regarding the 2021 Men's Super Globe.

3.3.4. Men's Emerging Nations Championship

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who informed the Council about the status of the 2021 Men's Emerging Nations Championship, which is scheduled to take place at the end of April 2021, taking into account that the host has yet to be determined.

He pointed out the challenges in organising the 2021 Men's Emerging Nations Championship within the scheduled period, including but not limited to the tight calendar of handball events as well as the continuing COVID-19 pandemic and the related travel and entry restrictions. In addition, a huge financial investment would be required to implement necessary medical precautions before and during the event concerned. Furthermore, no continental qualification tournaments have taken place, i.e. corresponding nominations of the participating teams by the IHF are needed. It was proposed to postpone the 2021 Men's Emerging Nations Championship to a later date. The host nation and exact date need yet to be determined.

President Moustafa stressed the importance of closely coordinating the matter with the European Handball Federation, taking into account that the Men's Emerging Nations Championship is integrated into their qualification system.

Decision

Due to the difficulties of organising the event concerned under the present circumstances, the Council unanimously decided to postpone the 2021 Men's Emerging Nations Championship to a later date. The host nation and exact date are yet to be determined.

3.3.5. Women's World Championship

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who provided brief information about the status of the 2021 Women's World Championship, which is scheduled to take place in Spain during the period from



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2 to 19 December 2021. He explained that continental qualification events are scheduled in Europe (April), Africa (June) and Asia (September). Consequently, referring to the IHF Council decision dated 29 April 2020 to extend the qualification deadline for the 2021 Men's World Championship, a similar decision will be required for the 2021 Women's World Championship due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the Olympic Games in summer.

He expressed his hopes that a positive development of the COVID-19 pandemic, including an advanced vaccination process worldwide, will facilitate the successful organisation of the 2021 Women's World Championship within the scheduled period.

Decision

The Council took note of the information provided regarding the 2021 Women's World Championship and unanimously decided to extend the qualification deadline for the 2021 Women's World Championship until the Continental Confederations have completed their qualification events.

4. Finances and marketing

4.1. Marketing income of 2021 Men's World Championship

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who informed the Council that the marketing income generated in relation to the 2021 Men's World Championship in Egypt amounts to EUR 5,182,141.13 or USD 6,270,390.77, including rights sold before the event and rights sold during the event, which is a new record of the IHF. She stressed that the marketing income of the 2021 Men's WCh has increased by 64% compared to the 2019 Men's WCh.

She reported that due to the worse-than-expected performances of Germany and Austria and the withdrawal of Cape Verde, potentially higher amounts of income have been lost although foreseen in the respective contracts. The total amount signed in contracts but not executed for the above-mentioned reasons equals EUR 549,103.15 or USD 664,414.81.

She added that due to the high interest, new sticker positions were launched in the semi-finals and finals, stating that positive feedback was received from the contracting partners. Consequently, the new sticker positions should be considered in the future.

The Council members expressed their congratulations to the IHF management as well as the IHF Marketing Department on the excellent figures in terms of marketing income despite the fact that the World Championship was staged during these unprecedented and challenging times.

Decision

The Council took note of the marketing income of the 2021 Men's World Championship and conveyed its congratulations to the IHF on the new record achieved.

4.2. IHF-Sportfive partnership

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who informed the Council about the offer received from IHF TV Partner Sportfive to extend the partnership with IHF in terms of TV and marketing rights for the



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following IHF events (no amounts included in the offer yet):

- IHF Men's and Women's World Championships (TV: existing contract until 2025, i.e. all editions from 2027 until 2029; marketing: all editions from 2023 until 2029)
- IHF Men's and Women's Olympic Qualification Tournaments (TV and marketing: existing contract until 2024, i.e. one edition of OQTs in 2028)

As for the above-mentioned events, the following services are included in the offer:

- All matches produced and delivered by Sportfive
- Global media & sponsorship rights distribution / sales
- Full implementation of all marketing materials (e.g. LED, static boards, etc.)
- IHF Men's Junior (U21) and Men's Youth (U19) World Championships (all editions from 2023 until 2029)
- IHF Women's Junior (U20) and Women's Youth (U18) World Championships (all editions from 2022 until 2028)
- IHF Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships (all editions from 2022 until 2028)
- IHF Beach Handball Global Tour (all editions from 2022 until 2029)
- IHF Super Globe (all editions from 2024 until 2029)

As for the above-mentioned events, the following services are included in the offer:

- Supervision on production towards host
- International signal distribution (access point to be defined)
- Global media & sponsorship rights distribution / sales
- Host to receive local media and marketing rights to be defined
- Supervision and service offering towards host on marketing implementation

The General Director pointed out that the IHF used to carry out tender procedures for long-term contracts. In this case, the IHF Council is asked to decide in principle on the extension of the IHF's partnership with Sportfive. In case the Council agrees, Sportfive will submit a concrete offer including amounts after careful study.

President Moustafa proposed to agree in principle to extend the IHF's partnership with Sportfive for the above-mentioned IHF events until 2029 and to take a final decision on the concrete overall offer (including amounts) once submitted by Sportfive, for the benefit of the further development of handball.

The IHF Vice-President Europe agreed to President Moustafa's proposal and referred to the EHF's long-term contract on TV and marketing rights including services and shared responsibilities. He stated that the biggest challenge is not to lose control over its own products. Therefore, he recommended to clearly define the responsibilities to avoid being dictated from the outside.

Referring to the offer including similar services for all IHF events, the IHF Representative South and Central America suggested to consider special requirements for the different IHF events, if applicable, due to the fact that for example beach handball varies from indoor handball.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved in principle to extend the IHF's partnership with Sportfive for the above-mentioned IHF events until 2029. A concrete overall offer shall be submitted by Sportfive which will be presented to the Council for decision.



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5. IHF bodies

5.1. Honorary Member – Manfred Prause

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who informed the Council about the request of former PRC Chairman Manfred Prause (GER) to be appointed as Honorary Member of the IHF. Such appointment is subject to approval by the IHF Congress according to Article 5 of the IHF Regulations for Awards.

Mr Prause started as a handball player in 1956 and also worked as handball referee and coach before he became IHF PRC member in 1995 and PRC Chairman in 2009 (until 2017).

On behalf of the International Handball Federation, President Moustafa conveyed his sincere gratitude to Mr Prause for his great dedication and remarkable contribution to the sport of handball.

Decision

The Council unanimously decided to recommend to the Congress appointing former PRC Chairman Manfred Prause as Honorary Member for his remarkable contribution to the sport of handball. The 2021 Ordinary IHF Congress shall decide on the appointment according to Article 5 of the IHF Regulations for Awards.

5.2. Disciplinary Commission decision at 2021 Men's World Championship

The Egypt 2021 COVID-19-Related Regulations as well as the legal procedures with regard to the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan (including but not limited to the scope of application and sanctions) were approved by the IHF Council on 4 December 2020 and communicated to all National Federations participating in the 2021 IHF Men's World Championship. The National Federations were urged several times by the IHF to comply with all obligations set out in the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan at all times throughout their stay to ensure the organisation of the 2021 IHF Men's World Championship in a healthy and safe environment for all parties involved.

The reports from the Competition Management Chairman and the IHF Representative as well as the decision of the Disciplinary Commission related to the case of Egyptian Handball Federation President Eng. Hisham Nasr who violated the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan during the 2021 Men's World Championship were discussed by the IHF Executive Committee in its meeting held by video conference on 19 February 2021. The mentioned reports and the corresponding Disciplinary Commission decision state that Eng. Hisham Nasr switched between the bubble and non-bubble zones in the arena and had external contact with persons not staying in the bubble, taking into consideration that he was accommodated in one of the bubble hotels.

On 13 January 2021, Eng. Hisham Nasr switched between the bubble and non-bubble zones by being part of the VIP tribune during the opening ceremony.

On 15 January 2021, Eng. Hisham Nasr met with CPV embassy representatives and switched between the bubble and non-bubble zones during the match HUN-CPV according to the report from IHF Representative Dr Frantisek Taborsky.

On 17 January 2021, the IHF sent an official email to Eng. Hisham Nasr on his violations of the COVID-19



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Medical Precaution Plan as mentioned above. Furthermore, Eng. Hisham Nasr received guests not staying within the bubble, such as representatives of the Parliament, and showed them around the bubble zones. IHF asked him for an explanation on the mentioned violations.

On 18 January 2021, Eng. Hisham Nasr sent a letter to IHF, confirming that he and all LOC members respect the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan. He also stated that in case he met any person not staying in the bubble, an antigen test has been carried out by the person concerned the result of which was negative.

On 19 January 2021, Competition Management Chairman Dietrich Späte reported on a repeated violation of the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan committed by Eng. Hisham Nasr (switching between the bubble and non-bubble zones during the match MKD-CHI on 18 January).

Based on the report from the Competition Management Chairman, the Disciplinary Commission studied the case and decided on 19 January 2021 to impose on Eng. Hisham Nasr entry restrictions into red zones (bubble zones) of the sports halls where the matches of the 2021 Men's World Championship were played, as well as into red zones of the hotels where the participants of the championship concerned were accommodated. The decision shall be submitted to the Competition Management and to the IHF Executive Committee. The Disciplinary Commission did not impose a more severe sanction on Eng. Hisham Nasr (e.g. full exclusion from the competition), considering that the event concerned was organised in Egypt. Therefore, the final decision on the sanction was left to the IHF Executive Committee's discretion.

The Competition Management Chairman took the floor, informing the Council about Eng. Hisham Nasr's behaviour who, despite an earlier warning (official IHF communication on his violations of the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan), committed another serious violation during the match MKD-CHI on 18 January by going down from the VIP area (not included in the bubble zone) and walking through the field of play to be seated in the bubble zone, considering that this action was shown for a long time in front of running TV cameras. All IHF delegates observed this incident as a violation of the existing rules. Together with the LOC responsible for the arena, Eng. Hisham Nasr was referred back to the VIP stand. The Competition Management Chairman added that he was very strict with Eng. Hisham Nasr due to the fact that he had committed the same violation before and additionally his violation was witnessed by many other stakeholders. In general, several IHF stakeholders observed Eng. Hisham Nasr's behaviour several times.

As instructed by the Disciplinary Commission, the entire issue was presented to the IHF Executive Committee in its meeting held by video conference on 19 February 2021. Taking into consideration his serious and repeated violations of the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan during the 2021 IHF Men's World Championship, which also represent a violation of Article 8.3.a of the IHF Statutes, the Executive Committee proposed to the IHF Council to suspend Eng. Hisham Nasr from all handball activities with immediate effect until the next IHF Congress according to Article 14.3.27 of the IHF Statutes, which states the following:

The Council shall be entitled to suspend any stakeholders that seriously and repeatedly violate their obligations as members with immediate effect until the next Congress. The Council shall give the opportunity to the members concerned to present their arguments and give them the benefit of the doubt until the members present their defence to the Council, after which the Council may revoke the decision and lift the suspension.

The Council took into consideration the serious and repeated violations of the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan committed by Eng. Hisham Nasr, which could have jeopardised the organisation of the World Championship, taking into account the huge investment made by the Egyptian government in implementing the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan, aiming to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 and safeguard the health of all stakeholders involved in the World Championship.



Decision

The Council unanimously decided, according to the proposal of the IHF Executive Committee and in compliance with Article 14.3.27 in conjunction with Article 8.3.a of the IHF Statutes, to suspend Egyptian Handball Federation President Eng. Hisham Nasr from all handball activities with immediate effect until the next IHF Congress due to his serious and repeated violations of the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan during the 2021 IHF Men's World Championship. Eng. Hisham Nasr shall have the right to present his arguments to the Council.

6. IHF Regulations

6.1. Rules of the Game for Indoor Handball

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who presented the following amendments to the Rules of the Game for Indoor Handball, which had been communicated to the Council prior to the meeting:

Rule 3: The Ball

3:1 *The ball is made of leather or a synthetic material. It must be spherical. The surface must not be shiny or slippery (17:3).*

3:2 ~~*The ball sizes, i.e. the circumference and weight, to be used by different categories of teams are as follows:*~~

~~*–58-60cm and 425-475g (IHF Size 3) for Men and for Male Youth (over age 16);*~~

~~*–54-56cm and 325-375g (IHF Size 2) for Women, Female Youth (over age 14), and Male Youth (age 12 to 16);*~~

~~*–50-52cm and 290-330g (IHF Size 1) for Female Youth (age 8 to 14) and Male Youth (age 8 to 12);*~~

The following two different categories of handballs shall apply:

a) Handballs played with resin

The following ball sizes (i.e. circumference and weight) shall be used for the different age categories:

- 58 to 60 cm in circumference and 425 to 475 g in weight (IHF size 3) for men's senior and men's youth (aged 16 and older) players;*
- 54 to 56 cm in circumference and 325 to 375 g in weight (IHF size 2) for women's senior, women's youth (aged 14 and older) and men's youth (aged 12 to 16) players;*
- 50 to 52 cm in circumference and 290 to 330 g in weight (IHF size 1) for women's youth (aged 8 to 14) and men's youth (aged 8 to 12) players.*

b) Handballs played without resin

The following ball sizes (i.e. circumference and weight) shall be used for the different age categories:

- 55.5 to 57.5 cm in circumference and 400 to 425 g in weight (IHF size 3) for men's senior and men's youth (aged 16 and older) players;*
- 51.5 to 53.5 cm in circumference and 300 to 325 g in weight (IHF size 2) for women's senior, women's youth (aged 14 and older) and men's youth (aged 12 to 16) players;*
- 49 to 51 cm in circumference and 290 to 315 g in weight (IHF size 1) for women's youth (aged 8 to 14) and men's youth (aged 8 to 12) players.*

Comment:

The technical requirements for the balls to be used in all official international games are described in the "IHF Ball Regulations".



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The size and weight of balls to be used for "Mini-Handball" are not regulated in the normal playing rules.

3:3 *For every game there must be at least two balls available. The reserve balls must be immediately available at the timekeeper's table during the game. The balls must meet the requirements of Rules 3:1-2.*

3:4 *The referees decide when to use a reserve ball. In such cases, the referees should get the reserve ball into play quickly in order to minimise interruptions and avoid time-outs.*

Justification:

Following the amendments of the IHF Ball Regulations as decided by the IHF Council on 1 July 2019, the Rules of the Game for Indoor Handball need to be adapted accordingly to offer the possibility to use the new resin-free handball in official IHF matches.

The General Director informed that after the Council's approval, the amendments concerned shall be announced at the 2021 Ordinary IHF Congress, and reported to all Member Federations by the Head Office. They shall be published by 1 March 2022 and come into force on 1 July 2022.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the amendments to the Rules of the Game for Indoor Handball, which shall be announced at the 2021 Ordinary IHF Congress, published by 1 March 2022 and come into force on 1 July 2022.

6.2. Rules of the Game for Wheelchair Handball Four-a-Side

President Moustafa gave the floor to Executive Committee Member and IHF Wheelchair Handball Working Group Chairman Dr Frantisek Taborsky who presented the Rules of the Game for Wheelchair Handball Four-a-Side elaborated by the IHF Wheelchair Handball Working Group, which had been communicated to the Council prior to the meeting.

He explained that the IHF Rules of the Game for Wheelchair Handball Four-a-Side are basically compatible with the IHF Rules of the Game for Wheelchair Handball Six-a-Side (which were approved by the IHF Council on 27 February 2020) with some influence of beach and indoor handball as well as adaptations to the needs of people with physical disabilities to use the wheelchair. They contain, however, specific characteristics created according to the dynamics of this sport. He outlined that the rules provide better individual use of space, increase the dynamics of the game, and give better preconditions for separate men's and women's competitions. He informed about the advantages of wheelchair handball four-a-side compared to wheelchair handball six-a-side, taking into consideration the difficulties in finding and recruiting sufficient wheelchair handball players as well as the high costs of wheelchair handball. Wheelchair handball four-a-side has so far been practised mainly in South America.

While wheelchair handball is popular in Europe and South America, he pointed out the importance of promoting wheelchair handball also in the other continents, in particular in Africa and Asia, to increase the number of nations practising wheelchair handball worldwide.

He also expressed his hopes that the Wheelchair Handball World/European Championship, which was scheduled to be held in Sweden in November 2020 but could not be organised due to the COVID-19 pandemic, can be staged in 2021, pointing out that the EHF is currently trying to find a host for the named event.



Decision

The Council unanimously approved the Rules of the Game for Wheelchair Handball Four-a-Side elaborated by the IHF Wheelchair Handball Working Group.

7. Continents

7.1. Report from the continents

President Moustafa asked the continental representatives to provide a brief report on the handball activities in the continents.

The IHF Vice-President Africa took the floor, informing that CAHB is currently developing a programme of handball activities in Africa, which will be adapted based on the competition-related decisions taken in the present IHF Council meeting. He mentioned that CAHB Executive Committee and Council meetings are taking place next week at which this matter will be on the agenda. He also stressed the importance of continuing to organise virtual meetings and courses in coordination with the chairpersons of IHF CCM and PRC. He added that the planned programme of the different courses will be shared with the IHF.

President Moustafa conveyed his congratulations to the IHF Vice-President Africa for the excellent performance of the African teams during the 2021 Men's World Championship in Egypt.

The IHF Vice-President Europe took the floor, reporting that the 2020 business year has been completed, stating that the General Assembly of EHF Marketing was held in November 2020. The Women's EHF EURO 2020 held in Denmark in December was a success in every aspect, taking into consideration that only 10 days before the event, co-host NOR informed about their impossibility to host the event in Norway due to governmental orders in view of the COVID-19 pandemic. In this context, he conveyed his gratitude to the Danish Handball Federation for their great efforts in organising the event under these difficult circumstances. The hygiene concept was implemented, taking into account that only a few positive COVID-19 cases occurred upon entering the bubble at the beginning followed by zero cases during the event. He pointed out that the Women's EHF EURO 2020 saved the EHF finances due to the fact that the existing contract could be fulfilled. In sporting terms, both the Women's EHF EURO 2020 and the postponed 2019/20 VELUX EHF FINAL4 (Men's Champions League) played in Cologne on 28/29 December 2020 were excellent as the teams showed great performances despite the fact that no spectators were allowed in the arenas. He also reported on the difficulties in organising several individual matches since the beginning of January due to travel and entry restrictions in many countries. He stated that the competition system is running, adding that 95% of the matches are being played, either on the original or a different date. He conveyed his thanks to the clubs for their great cooperation in this challenging situation.

The IHF Vice-President Asia took the floor, informing about the necessity of organising an AHF Executive Committee meeting to discuss and adapt their programme of activities including qualification championships, based on the competition-related decisions taken in the present IHF Council meeting. He briefly reported about the different meetings and courses held virtually for coaches and referees with the support of IHF, adding that further courses are planned to take place. Following the Beach Handball Week, Wheelchair Handball Week and Children's Handball Week which were celebrated in Asia, he pointed out the AHF's efforts to continue the related activities in coordination with the IHF.

The IHF Representative North America and the Caribbean took the floor, reporting that no single official



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handball match has been played since March 2020 in North America and the Caribbean as the COVID-19 pandemic is continuing. He explained that the Junior Pan American Games scheduled to be played in Colombia in September 2021 are considered the fundamental event of the year. Referring to the IHF Council decision dated 27 February 2020 related to the new concept of the IHF Trophy in the Americas, he asked the IHF to consider maintaining the IHF Trophy as qualification pathway to the Junior Pan American Games. In view of the COVID-19 situation, it is not clear if regular handball activities will be possible in 2021, considering that the vaccination process has started in several countries. He reported that many virtual meetings have taken place throughout the period of the pandemic. The success of the 2021 Men's World Championship has created hope among the handball family in North America and Caribbean to return to regular handball activities soon.

The IHF Representative South and Central America took the floor, informing that unfortunately no handball activities are currently taking place in South and Central America except for some local and regional activities in Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil and Chile. He pointed out that a new programme of activities including qualification championships needs to be established by SCAHC, based on the competition-related decisions taken in the present IHF Council meeting. He also stressed the importance of continuing to organise virtual meetings and courses in coordination with the IHF.

The General Director referred to the IHF Council meeting dated 9 December 2020 at which the settlement of the allocated IHF sponsorship amounting to USD 1,000,000 granted to the former Pan-American Team Handball Federation (PATHF) in 2014 was discussed. Further to President Moustafa's request to ascertain if any of the Member Federations of NACHC and SCAHC received funds of the USD 1,000,000 from the former PATHF, the IHF Representative North America and the Caribbean stated that, according to the information received from the NACHC Member Federations, only two federations (MEX and PUR) received USD 2,000 each as compensation for the participation of the Youth Men Team in the 2017 Youth Men Panam Championship in Chile. Referring to the liquidation of assets of the former PATHF, he reported that a face-to-face meeting in Puerto Rico is required with the Treasurer and responsible person of the bank account of the former PATHF as soon as the travel situation allows in order to review the financial statements. He added that according to information he received from former leaders of PATHF, the remainder of the USD 1,000,000 amounts to approx. USD 20,000 to USD 25,000.

President Moustafa urged the IHF Representatives North America and the Caribbean and South and Central America to finalise the issue (receive documentation on the spending of the USD 1,000,000 by the former PATHF and dissolve the account) within one month, considering that the IHF will provide any assistance they may need to accomplish their mission. He reconfirmed that the IHF will financially support both of them in terms of their travel to Puerto Rico to dissolve the account.

The IHF Representative Oceania took the floor, informing that border controls still prohibit any sporting exchange in Oceania, stating that all island communities are currently locked down. He reported that the Cook Islands are the only member nation of OCHF that has been able to continue hosting handball events, including a successful beach handball tournament in Rarotonga. He also referred to the organisation of the Australian Open tennis tournament currently being held in Australia. For the purpose of efficiency during the pandemic, he proposed that the IHF Executive Committee should continue to decide on re-awarding events or reviewing contracts, if applicable, taking into consideration that he trusts the work of the IHF President and his team, which is in the best interest of handball.

President Moustafa wished all Continental Confederations good luck and reconfirmed that the IHF is always at the disposal of the Continental Confederations in case they need any help or support.



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Decision

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

8. Miscellaneous

8.1. Council decisions made by electronic communication

The Council members confirmed the following via electronic communication:

- *2021 Ordinary IHF Congress - Date and place*

Reference was made to the decision of the IHF Council taken in its meeting in Cairo, Egypt on 27 February 2020, according to which the Council awarded the 2021 Ordinary IHF Congress to the Turkish Handball Federation.

The XXXVIII Ordinary Congress of the IHF (electoral Congress) was proposed to be held in **Antalya, Turkey from 5 to 8 November 2021**. The proposed Congress hotel is the Granada Luxury Belek Hotel (same as for the 2017 IHF Congress). All relevant dates and deadlines regarding the upcoming IHF Congress were attached to the IHF letter.

The IHF is continuously monitoring the development of the COVID-19 pandemic. The IHF hopes to organise the event during the defined period and will address the Council again should any concerns arise in this regard.

Date of communication: 26 January 2021

Date of decision: **31 January 2021**

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

Dr Hassan Moustafa
President