



**40th ASOIF General Assembly
Lausanne, 19 April 2016**

MINUTES

OPENING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 1 The **President** opened the 40th ASOIF General Assembly (GA) by welcoming the ASOIF members to Lausanne, Switzerland. He reminded that the meeting was open to observers and the media and welcomed them.
- 2 He thanked the SportAccord Convention (SAC) administration for arranging to host everybody in Lausanne and offered thanks to the International Basketball Federation (FIBA), the International Judo Federation (IJF), the International Tennis Federation (ITF) and their Presidents for supporting an excellent ASOIF annual dinner at the Beau-Rivage Palace the previous evening. He also declared open the “bidding” for hosting the dinner in 2017.
- 3 He noted that it was his fourth GA as President of ASOIF and he wished to congratulate the IF Presidents and General Secretaries who had been elected or re-elected since the GA in 2015 in Sochi, Russia:
 - Sebastian Coe who had been elected President of IAAF
 - David Haggerty who had been elected President of ITF
 - Gianni Infantino who had been elected President of FIFA
 - Sergey Bubka who had been re-elected Vice-President of IAAF
 - Markus Kattner who had been appointed Acting Secretary General of FIFA
 - Andy Hunt who had been appointed CEO of WS
 - Jean Gracia who had been appointed Interim CEO/Secretary General of IAAF
- 4 The **President** referred to some of the key issues of the past twelve months and thanked the members for their significant work and contributions during that period highlighting:
- 5 Agenda 2020: the IFs’ contribution to the IOC’s Agenda 2020 had led to a much greater recognition of the vital role the IFs play in the bidding process, preparation and delivery of the summer Olympic Games. This had resulted in an amendment to the Olympic Charter which had paved the way for a central role for IFs in the organisation of the events at future Games.
- 6 Sports Data Project: the long-term project to increase awareness of the importance of IF data for the future as well as to enhance the quality of data provision at the Olympic Games, had recently resulted in an agreement with the IOC to lead and fund this project. This would secure better data provision at future Games through, and in conjunction with, the new Olympic Channel.
- 7 Revenue distribution from the Olympic Games: the positive spirit of cooperation and solidarity following the challenging IOC IF group review had nevertheless led to a satisfactory agreement regarding the revenue distribution for the Rio 2016 Games and to the decision to maintain the new IOC grouping at least for the next cycle (Tokyo 2020).

- 8 IF Governance & ASOIF Governance Taskforce (GTF): as a follow-up to the IF Forum declaration on governance, ASOIF Council had met on 24 November 2015 and formally established an ASOIF Governance Taskforce whose duty was to ensure that earlier discussions would be followed by concrete, transparent and measurable actions. The GTF would analyse the current situation and monitor progress with regular reporting to the ASOIF Council and members.
- 9 IF Anti-Doping & ASOIF Anti-Doping Taskforce: at its meeting on 24 November 2015 the ASOIF Council had formally established an ASOIF Anti-Doping Taskforce whose duty was to commission and oversee a study to analyse the anti-doping activities & processes and the related investment of the ASOIF member federations, as well as the current IF practices surrounding the athletes' health and safety.
- 10 The **President** stated that the expertise and knowledge of the member IFs was beyond comparison and he stated his vision for the future that ASOIF should become, in addition to the traditional mission of being a "house of the common interest" of the IFs, "an added value provider" for the Olympic Movement as a whole.

ROLL CALL AND APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS

- 11 **All 28 of the Summer Olympic International Federations were confirmed as present.**

Mr. Ron Froehlich (FIG) apologised for the absence of the FIG President and Secretary General, both were in Brazil for their test event. Mr. Froehlich had received information from them describing issues they had encountered such as power and lighting failures, and issues with their training centre but he said that positive feedback had been received in many other areas.

The **President** thanked him for the feedback and asked FIG to contact Mr. Christophe Dubi, Olympic Games Executive Director (IOC), and Mr. Kit McConnell, Sports Director (IOC) for follow-up.

- 12 The **President** proposed, on behalf of the ASOIF Council, two scrutineers for the meeting: Dr Tamás Aján, President of IWF, and Tim Goethals, ASOIF Head of Administration and Projects.

- The scrutineers were unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE XXXIX ASOIF GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SOCHI, 22 APRIL 2015

- 13 **Mr Julio Maglione (FINA)** raised a point of clarification that he had requested an equal distribution of the Olympic Games IF revenues to all the IFs in the same groups and not just in Group A. Following his comment it was agreed to amend the minutes of the XXXIX ASOIF General Assembly (2015) accordingly.

- The minutes were unanimously approved.

REPORT OF THE ASOIF COUNCIL

Reminding that the reports of Council had been distributed in writing in advance, the **Executive Director** highlighted the following items from the report of the ASOIF Council:

- 14 Rio 2016 Olympic Games: despite the short time remaining the ASOIF members had continued to play a full and cooperative role in supporting the balanced budget exercise and to work hard in support of the OCOG and the IOC in delivering the Games. He reminded that this item had been covered in full the previous day at the ASOIF working meeting (18.04.2016) and said that Rio 2016 would give a presentation later during the GA.

- 15 Implementation of IOC Agenda 2020 proposals and Olympic Channel: through the work of its Olympic and Multi-Sport Games Advisory Group, ASOIF has continued to be involved in the IOC's Agenda 2020 implementation. Particularly with reference to the future role and involvement of the IFs in the bidding, preparation, and delivery of the Olympic Games. In recent years the capability of the IFs had improved and increased significantly, and the IFs had the greatest experience and expertise in delivering sports events. The new system would be implemented for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games and would be part of the next post-Games debrief. The ED noted that it was important that the work that was done in regards to the IOC Agenda 2020 was closely monitored.
- 16 Autonomy & Governance: the number of territories in which there were on-going issues of interference in the autonomy of sport was continuing to grow. In 2015 at least two instances of government interference through amended sports laws had necessitated the intervention of the Olympic Movement "taskforce" on which ASOIF was represented and had been instrumental in addressing.
- 17 ASOIF Consultative/Advisory Groups: the six ASOIF Consultative/Advisory Groups were fully operational, contributing, increasingly active and meeting regularly.
- 18 Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al-Maktoum Creative Sports award: the winning International Federation for 2015 was the International Judo Federation for its work in Syrian Refugee camps in Turkey.
- 19 SportAccord/SportAccord Convention: work has commenced on finding the host for 2017, 2018 and 2019 events under a readjusted model in order to attract more cities to exploit the opportunity to host the Convention. The President thanked Ms. Lewis (AIOWF/FIS), Mr. Ron Froehlich and Mr Ryan (ASOIF) for all their efficient and hard work during this last year in regards to SportAccord.
- 20 Beach Games: the ASOIF President had requested a clear framework document from ANOC setting out the basis for any cooperation on the Beach Games. Once there would be an agreement in place and clarity on the sports programme, ASOIF would be able to re-engage and represent its members in the project.
- 21 Staff & Administration: a new tenant, Lausanne 2020 winter YOG OC, has been found to occupy the ASOIF office space that ASOIF currently do not require. Tim Goethals had announced his departure after nine years' service to ASOIF as Head of Projects and Administration. The position was expected to be filled in the second quarter of 2016.
 - The Council Report was unanimously approved.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

22 2015 Financial Report

The **Executive Director** reported that ASOIF remained in a strong financial position which had contributed to a year-end situation recording total audited assets of CHF 10.45 million. This was an increase from the CHF 10.2 million at the end of 2014, mainly due to a higher dividend from the SportAccord Convention in 2015 (CHF 700'000 instead of the usual annual budgeted amount of CHF 252'000).

He also drew attention to the fact that ASOIF has reduced its expenditure on the Sports Data Project to a minimum pending a final decision by IOC concerning its future involvement. **The President** informed the members that the annual IOC contribution to ASOIF had increased to US\$ 1'000'000 a year to cover additional costs incurred due to increased engagement and support.

The Executive Director clarified that the CHF 10.4 million total assets could be broken down broadly into three components as follows: the 4-year operational reserve (mandate

by GA) of CHF 6 million, the administrative building valued at CHF 2 million and the Central Projects fund of CHF 2.5 million.

Mr. Guillaume Nayet, audit expert from PWC, was invited to present the 2015 accounts formally.

23 **Auditors' Report on the 2015 Accounts**

The **Executive Director** reported that the 2015 accounts had been approved by ASOIF's auditors, Pricewaterhouse Coopers (PwC), and that they had been accepted by Council for presentation to the GA for its approval.

24 **2015 Accounts**

- The 2015 Accounts were unanimously approved.

25 **Annual Subscriptions 2016**

The **Executive Director** said that Council proposed that the annual subscription should remain at CHF 100 per International Federation for 2016.

- The ASOIF annual subscription of CHF 100 for 2016 was unanimously approved.

26 **Revised 2016 Budget**

The **Executive Director** highlighted that 2016 was an important year considering the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. Expenditures on Rio 2016 had therefore increased due to local costs of staff onsite during the Games and the enhanced issue tracking.

He also reminded the members of the income due to the Central Projects Fund. An estimated CHF 2.6 million would be received from the Olympic revenue, 0.5% of the total revenue, which would be allocated to this fund.

- The revised 2016 budget was unanimously approved.

27 **Draft 2017 Budget**

- The draft 2017 budget was unanimously approved.

IOC/ASOIF/ANOC RELATIONS

28 **ASOIF IFs Sports Data Project**

The ASOIF IF Sports Data Project had been launched following the 2013 ASOIF General Assembly to establish better ownership and control of the IF sports data for all IFs and to significantly improve database standards amongst members. The Primary goals were to improve data integration and quality for the Olympic Games and to facilitate greater media exposure for IFs on all platforms. The launch of the IOC Olympic Channel had changed the dynamic regarding IOC data requirements so the IOC had been given time to evaluate an ASOIF Council proposal to lead the project on behalf of the Olympic Movement while protecting all the interests of the IFs regarding their sports data.

29 **The President** had stressed to IOC that ASOIF and its members were suppliers of the data and not clients. ASOIF should also be well represented in the governance of the project (steering committee).

- 30 **Mr. Kelly Fairweather (FIH)** asked what would be required from the IFs going forward. The President responded that discussions were still ongoing but the data requirements would be centred on the Olympic Games and the Channel.
- 31 **Mr. Marius Vizer (IJF)** asked how much has been spent on the Sports Data Project. **The Executive Director** responded that a total amount of approximately CHF 2 million had been spent and ASOIF was expecting to receive this as part of the discussions with IOC.

IF Governance

- 32 **The President** presented the 1st report written by the ASOIF Governance Taskforce (GTF) to the members. This working document sets out key principles and 50 indicators which would be applied in the assessment and monitoring tool. He added that it had already been referenced by the OECD (France) and the UK Government.

He thanked the Council members and the taskforce for all their hard work and invited Mr. Alex McLin, Executive Director at Swiss Arbitration Association, to present his report on governance ([Appendix A](#)).

Mr. Hassan Moustafa (IHF) stressed that the position of the IFs should always be respected.

Mr. Kelly Fairweather (FIH) congratulated Mr. Alex McLin and the GTF for their excellent work. He mentioned that the IFs should remain proactive in order to demonstrate their credibility and to deserve the respect for their work in the sports world.

Mr. Ingmar de Vos (FEI) urged support for the GTF's request for endorsement of the assessment tool and approval to move ahead with next steps and the commencement of the IF assessments.

Mr. Thomas Lund (BWF) wanted to make sure everybody was clear on what was being endorsed. **The President** asked the members for a consensus on what had been done so far by the taskforce.

Mr. Hassan Moustafa (IHF) wanted to receive confirmation that the work should be accepted as a principle but not as an obligation. **The President** responded that a clear expression of support was needed to go forward.

- A consensus to progress the project was unanimously agreed.

IF Anti-Doping Research Survey

- 33 **The President** explained that Dr. Ugur Erdener (WA) was the Chair of the ASOIF anti-doping taskforce and invited him to report on the status of the IF anti-doping research survey.

Dr. Ugur Erdener, President of WA, informed the members of the purpose of the survey which was to analyse the anti-doping activities and related expenditure of the ASOIF member federations. He warmly thanked the members for their support.

He explained that the next steps would be:

- Questionnaires to be completed by the IFs and in initial results to be received and validated by end of April 2016;
- Analysis of results during the course of May/June 2016;
- Preliminary report ready by early July 2016;
- Subsequently, discussion of findings and resulting actions with all relevant stakeholders, including the IOC and WADA;

- Quarter 4, 2016 (after the Rio 2016 Olympic Games) official publication of the report.

ASOIF STATUTES - AMENDMENT

- 34 **The President** explained that the ASOIF Legal Consultative Group had been requested to carry out a thorough review of the ASOIF Statutes and this would be presented at the 2017 GA.

However with the potential IOC change to the Games programme allowing for new IFs governing events on the programme to join for one edition of the Games on a proposal of the host city (applicable to Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games and future Games thereafter), necessitated one immediate change. Therefore the ASOIF Council proposed to create a category of Associate Member to enable any new IFs to become members until they leave the programme at the end of the year of the Games in which they have been included. These Associate Members would apply for membership at the GA following their inclusion and this would facilitate Games monitoring, issue-tracking and post-Games debrief etc. They would also have access to ASOIF services during their period of membership. They would have speaking rights at the GA but would have no vote and would not receive any share from the Olympic revenue distribution.

Regarding the Statutes in general, **Mr. Hassan Moustafa (IHF)** asked for further clarification on the IF eligibility of Council members and the President. **The President** outlined that in his view the ASOIF constitution was clear enough in this regard, but if the question was related to his personal candidature, he clarified that as Honorary Life President of ITF he was still an officer of the company with a role on its council.

- The amendment concerning the “associate members” was approved.

35 REPORT FROM IOC ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE IFS AND THE OLYMPIC GAMES

The President invited the IOC Sports Director to present the IOC report and thanked the IOC for its great support. The Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer was also invited to make a brief report. ([Appendix B](#))

Mr. Tom Dielen (WA) asked the IOC for the timing of the IF revenue distribution payments. **The President** responded that this question would be raised with the IOC President.

36 PRESENTATION FROM WADA

The President invited the (WADA) President and the Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel to make their presentation. ([Appendix C](#))

Mr. Marius Vizer (IJF) asked how to proceed with case management if athletes would need to be sanctioned because of the presence of the now banned substance meldonium.

Mr. Thomas Weikert (ITTF) asked for an update on the meldonium cases.

Mr. Olivier Niggli (WADA) explained that meldonium was added to the 2016 Prohibited List which took effect on 1st January 2016, having previously been on WADA's monitoring program for the duration of 2015. The final results of studies on meldonium on humans had not yet been received. The intermediary results had shown that the substance could stay for a long period in the human body, which could explain why some athletes could still have traces of it when tested in early 2016. He added that WADA had been working on guidelines on how to deal with different scenarios, for example:

1. The athlete's test either shows a high level of meldonium or was undertaken after 1st March 2016 (results management shall proceed);
2. The athlete's test shows a higher level of meldonium. In this case, wait until the final study results on time of ingestion are available (results management may be stayed) ;
3. The athlete's test was taken before 1st March 2016 and shows a very low dose of meldonium (may be no fault or negligence).

37 **REPORT FROM THE RIO ORGANISING COMMITTEE FOR THE OLYMPIC GAMES IN 2016**

The **President** welcomed and thanked the Rio 2016 organising committee which presented a report on the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. ([Appendix D](#))

Dr. Tamás Aján (IWF) thanked Rio 2016. He highlighted one issue concerning the "feedback time" and asked for a quicker process in order to receive faster answers from Rio 2016. **The President** recommended to copy all the parties when raising an issue. **Rio 2016** clarified that there were no problems to contact any Rio 2016 function areas directly and informed the members that an IF relation area on the website had been put in place to which any questions could be addressed.

Mr. Marius Vizer (IJF) asked ASOIF to help the IFs with communication between them and the OCOG. The **President** informed Mr. Vizer that ASOIF had been doing everything possible to help the IFs, particularly through the issue-tracker activity.

Mr. Hassan Moustafa (IHF) asked Rio 2016 what specific information they would still need in order for the IFs to offer support.

Mr. Matt Smith (FISA) asked Rio 2016 to highlight which possible major risks could be faced for the Games. **Rio 2016** answered that the Games would run as they have always done and they remained confident of excellent Games.

38 **REPORT FROM THE BUENOS AIRES ORGANISING COMMITTEE FOR THE YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES IN 2018**

The **President** welcomed and thanked the Buenos Aires organising committee which presented its first report on the Youth Olympic Games in 2018 to the ASOIF General Assembly. ([Appendix E](#))

39 **REPORT FROM THE TOKYO ORGANISING COMMITTEE FOR THE OLYMPIC GAMES IN 2020**

The **President** welcomed and thanked the Tokyo 2020 organising committee which presented a report on the status of Tokyo 2020 Games preparations. ([Appendix F](#))

Mr. Tom Dielen (WA) thanked Tokyo 2020 for the excellent cooperation so far. He also asked Tokyo 2020 if a new model with an event director, replacing the sports manager/venue manager, would remain in place. **The President** suggested to follow the existing model for the moment and informed the members that further discussions on this would take place in the future with the IOC.

40 **ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT**

The President handed the Chairmanship of the meeting to the ASOIF Vice-President, Mr. C.K. Wu.

As there was only one candidate, according to the ASOIF Statutes, the election was by a show of hands as there were no IFs requesting a secret ballot.

Mr. Francesco Ricci Bitti was unanimously re-elected by a show of hands as ASOIF President for another 4-year mandate with effect from 1 January 2017.

The President returned to the meeting and thanked all the IFs very warmly for their great support.

Mr. Hassan Moustafa (IHF) asked the President to make a programme for the next 4 years which would even further protect the IFs in the future.

The President clarified that the existing strategic plan was a very good reference but the Council was obviously open to any additional contributions.

OTHER BUSINESS

- 41 **The President** informed the members that the ASOIF Council would like to propose the candidacy of AIBA President, C.K. Wu, for another term as the ASOIF representative at the IOC EB.

- The members unanimously agreed to the proposal.

ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED AT THE JOINT MEETING WITH THE IOC EB

- 42 The IOC-ASOIF joint meeting would take place directly after the ASOIF GA. The issues that would be addressed were the following:

- Rio 2016 Olympic Games
- Data project/Olympic Channel
- IF Governance
- Anti-doping/Independent testing
- European Public Authorities
- SportAccord
- YOG Taskforce

CLOSING

- 43 **The President** thanked the Council members for their diligent work and also all the delegates for their support during the year and the meeting and to the IF representatives on the various Consultative and Working Groups for their contributions throughout the past year.

His thanks also went to the staff for their great support to the Council and members and for their contribution to a successful GA. In particular sincere thanks went to Tim Goethals who was leaving ASOIF after 9 years' service during a very important period of growth for the organisation.

The meeting ended at 17.00 hours.