



Electoral Period

2013 - 2017

**Belgrade, Serbia
21 December 2013**

Council Meeting No. 2

Present:

Dr Hassan MOUSTAFA (EGY)	President
Miguel ROCA MAS (ESP)	1 st Vice-President
Mansourou AREMOU (BEN)	Africa's Vice-President
Bader AL-THEYAB (KUW)	Asia's Vice-President
Jean BRIHAULT (FRA)	Europe's Vice-President
Joël DELPLANQUE (FRA)	Executive Committee Member
Frantisek TABORSKY (CZE)	Executive Committee Member
Sandi SOLA (CRO)	Treasurer
Leon KALIN (SLO)	COC Chairman
Manfred PRAUSE (GER)	PRC Chairman
Naser ABU MARZOUQ (KUW)	CCM Chairman
Dr François GNAMIAN (CIV)	MC Chairman
Rafael SEPULVEDA (PUR)	CD Chairman
Charles OMBOUMAHOU (CGO)	Africa's Representative
Yoshihide WATANABE (JPN)	Asia's Representative
Arne ELOVSSON (SWE)	Europe's Representative
Mario GARCIA DE LA TORRE (MEX)	Pan-America's Representative
Amal KHALIFA (EGY)	Managing Director
Patric STRUB (GER)	Competitions Director
Luc WEBER (FRA, partly)	IHF Marketing Department
Hristo BOSKOSKI (MKD)	IHF Head Office
Marisa STERLY (GER)	IHF Head Office
Excused:	
Mario MOCCIA (ARG)	Pan-America's Vice-President

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MEETING TIME: 10:00 - 14:30

Note: 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.

Agenda

- 1. Minutes**
 - 1.1. Council Meeting No. 11, 24 October 2013 in Doha, QAT
 - 1.2. Council Meeting No. 1, 27/28 October 2013 in Doha, QAT
 - 1.3. Executive Committee Meeting No. 29, 23 October 2013 in Doha, QAT
- 2. 2013 Ordinary IHF Congress in QAT**
 - 2.1. Event evaluation
- 3. Competitions**
 - 3.1. 2014 Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championship
 - 3.2. 2015 Men's Junior World Championship
 - 3.3. 2015 Men's Youth World Championship
 - 3.4. 2016 Olympic Games
 - 3.5. 2017 Men's Junior World Championship
- 4. Finances**
 - 4.1. TV and marketing
 - 4.1.1. Marketing 2013
 - 4.1.2. TV rights 2014-2017
 - 4.2. UFA Sports consulting offer
 - 4.3. National Federation debts – Report from the Treasurer
 - 4.4. Compensation
- 5. Nomination of representatives to IHF bodies**
 - 5.1. Commission for Development – Pan-American representative
 - 5.2. Arbitration Tribunal
 - 5.3. Arbitration Commission
 - 5.4. Medical Commission – European representative
- 6. Miscellaneous**
 - 6.1. CAHB motions – Player Eligibility Code / Regulations for Transfer between Federations
 - 6.2. Player eligibility of Renato Vugrinec
 - 6.3. Application for membership – American Samoa Handball Association
 - 6.4. Athletes' Commission
 - 6.5. IHF projects
 - 6.6. IHF website
 - 6.7. Salary increase for IHF President
 - 6.8. EHF scientific conference
 - 6.9. IOC criteria for OG revenue
 - 6.10. Working group for the development of handball in big nations

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At 10:00 President Moustafa opened the meeting, welcoming the Council members to the meeting in Belgrade, which was held on the fringes of the 2013 Women's World Championship in Serbia. He praised the excellent organization of the World Championship and mentioned the good performance of the players and the officials. He welcomed the President of the Serbian Handball Federation, Mr Velimir Marjanovic, who addressed some words to the Council members, stating that it is a great pleasure to welcome the Council members to Serbia and wishing them a successful and constructive meeting.

1. Minutes

1.1. Council Meeting No. 11, 24 October 2013 in Doha, QAT

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 11th Council Meeting, which was held in Doha, QAT, on 24 October 2013.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Council Meeting No. 11 held in Doha on 24 October 2013.

1.2. Council Meeting No. 1, 27/28 October 2013 in Doha, QAT

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 1st Council Meeting, which took place in Doha, QAT, on 27/28 October 2013.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Council Meeting No. 1 held in Doha on 27/28 October 2013.

1.3. Executive Committee Meeting No. 29, 23 October 2013 in Doha, QAT

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 29th Executive Committee Meeting, which took place in Doha, QAT, on 23 October 2013.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Executive Committee Meeting No. 29 held in Doha on 23 October 2013.

2. 2013 Ordinary IHF Congress in QAT

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2.1. Event evaluation

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Managing Director who presented the evaluation of the 2013 Ordinary IHF Congress held in Doha, Qatar from 25 to 28 October 2013 to the Council members. The evaluation is based on the feedback received from the delegates of the National Federations who participated in the Congress. 57 federations had submitted the corresponding evaluation questionnaire to the IHF. The key positive aspects were the good atmosphere among the participants, excellent work of the IHF staff and the local organizer as well as the high technology standard. On the other hand, the hotel deposit, the social programme as well as the transportation to the airport upon departure were regarded as key problem issues. She explained that some federations proposed to allow two representatives from each federation to participate in the next IHF Congress at the IHF's charge, and to give the opportunity to choose between printed and electronic Congress documents. She also reported about the proposals of some federations not to organize the Congress during the fasting month and other important events during the Muslim calendar and to provide more free time to experience local culture and sights.

Europe's Vice-President remarked that it does not belong to the duties of the IHF to include holidays in the Congress programme, as the main purpose of the Congress is work.

President Moustafa asked the Managing Director to collect the National Federations' proposals to be presented to the next Council meeting for approval in order to improve future IHF Congresses and to avoid negative comments from the participants.

Decision.

The Council took note of the evaluation of the 2013 Ordinary IHF Congress in QAT and asked the Managing Director to collect the National Federations' proposals to be presented to the next Council meeting for approval.

3. *Competitions*

3.1. 2014 Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships

3.2. 2015 Men's Junior World Championship

President Moustafa referred to the recent Council decision regarding the settlement of the debt of the Brazilian Handball Federation towards the IHF. He welcomed the President of the Brazilian Handball Federation, Mr Manoel Luiz Oliveira, and seized the opportunity to congratulate Mr Oliveira on the performance of the Brazilian women's team who had reached the final during the 2013 Women's WCh in Serbia. He gave the floor to Mr Oliveira, to present the status of the preparations for the 2014 Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships.

Mr Oliveira expressed his pride of having the opportunity to organize these events, and conveyed his thanks to the Council for the support in promoting handball in Brazil, thanks to which the Brazilian Handball Federation had the possibility to settle the debts towards the IHF.

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A video was shown regarding the Beach Handball WChs 2014 in BRA, outlining regional competitions of beach handball and presenting the national beach handball team of BRA. The video has been shown to potential sponsors in BRA. Another video was shown to the Council presenting the hosting region of the event (Espírito Santo, city of Vitória). Mr Oliveira added that the event is scheduled to be held from 30 July to 11 August 2014.

With regard to the 2015 Men's Junior WCh, Mr Oliveira explained to the Council that the event shall be organized in the region of Rio Grande do Sul.

As Europe's Representative asked about the organizational budget of the two events, Mr Oliveira referred to the letter of guarantee from the Brazilian National Olympic Committee for the 2014 Men's and Women's Beach Handball WChs, confirming that a major part of the expenses will be covered. He added that they will proceed with the accommodation arrangements.

After the COC Chairman asked about the progress of the 2015 Men's Junior WCh, Mr Oliveira informed the Council that several meetings were organized in this respect, and that the corresponding budget will be presented soon.

President Moustafa asked Mr Oliveira to leave the room in order for the Council to take a decision.

Afterwards President Moustafa referred to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Brazilian Handball Federation and the IHF, according to which the IHF will receive 287,040 CHF for the 2014 Men's and Women's Beach Handball WChs and 1,008,000 CHF for the 2015 Men's Junior WCh. He added that both parties agreed that handball in Brazil should not be killed.

Referring to the letters of guarantee presented for the 2014 Beach Handball WChs, the COC Chairman remarked that the complete amount would be covered, adding that it has been announced that the IHF will receive the same guarantee documents for the 2015 Men's Junior WCh until April 2014. He recommended to approve the awarding of the 2014 Beach Handball WChs to Brazil, and to postpone the final decision on the 2015 Men's Junior WCh until April 2014 when the mentioned documents have been received.

Europe's Vice-President agreed with the COC Chairman and expressed his satisfaction with the methods of controlling, which are a good measure to control and support Brazil in financial and organizational terms.

President Moustafa proposed to the Council to approve the awarding of both events to BRA, to form a working group consisting of the 1st Vice-President, the Treasurer and the COC Chairman to supervise the event preparations in organizational and financial terms, and to authorize the Executive Committee to take a decision in this matter in case of any problems.

After the Council unanimously adopted the above-mentioned proposal, Mr Oliveira came back into the meeting room.

Mr Oliveira thanked all Council members for their trust, pointing out that the organization of the two events concerned is a great opportunity for Brazilian handball. He reiterated his apologies for the financial situation occurred. President Moustafa once again conveyed his thanks to Mr Oliveira who then left the meeting room.

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President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who presented the letter received from TUN expressing once more their willingness to organize the 2015 Men's Junior WCh.

Decision.

The Council unanimously decided to approve the awarding of both events to BRA, to form a working group consisting of the 1st Vice-President, the Treasurer and the COC Chairman to supervise the event preparations in organizational and financial terms, and to authorize the Executive Committee to take a decision in this matter in case of any problems.

3.3. 2015 Men's Youth World Championship

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who referred to the Congress decision regarding the 2015 Men's Youth WCh. He informed the Council about the letter of intent received from BIH to host the 2015 Men's Youth WCh, and reported about the meeting with the Handball Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina held in Belgrade on 20 December 2013 regarding their federation's current financial situation, which is connected with the organization of the 2013 Men's Junior WCh. He outlined that BIH requested a loan from the IHF to the amount of 200,000 CHF due to the fact that they did not receive a state guarantee of 250,000 CHF from the government, which had been promised to them.

The Council members expressed their doubts about this request.

Europe's Vice-President pointed out that the main partners of the IHF are the National Federations, stating that any problems of a National Federation with an institutional partner should be of no concern to the IHF.

The Council was unanimously not in favour of granting a loan to BIH and awarding the 2015 Men's Youth WCh to BIH.

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who informed the Council about the application from RUS to host the 2015 Men's Youth WCh in the city of Ekaterinburg, stating that no inspection has so far taken place. He added that the bidding documents submitted are according to the IHF requirements. The daily participation fee amounts to 110 CHF per person.

President Moustafa proposed to the Council to carry out an inspection in RUS and to award the 2015 Men's Youth WCh to RUS provided that the outcome of the inspection will be in accordance with the IHF requirements.

Decision.

The Council did unanimously not approve granting a loan to BIH and awarding the 2015 Men's Youth WCh to BIH. In addition the Council unanimously approved President Moustafa's recommendation to carry out an inspection in RUS and to award the 2015 Men's Youth WCh to RUS provided that the outcome of the inspection will be in accordance with the IHF requirements.

3.4. 2016 Olympic Games

President Moustafa gave the floor to the 1st Vice-President to report on the inspection visit for the Olympic Handball Tournament of the 2016 Olympic Games, which was conducted by the 1st Vice-President and the COC Chairman from 25 to 28 November 2013.

The 1st Vice-President outlined the two main problems at the moment. For one thing, accommodation for IHF nominees must be in Barra near the Olympic Park in order to facilitate transportation. The decision on accommodation will be made in March 2014. In addition he explained that the capacity of the venue is 12,000 seats compared to 14,000 in London 2012, adding that the IHF will lose 16,000 quality tickets with the current venue proposal. He also reported to the Council about the efforts to advance the starting date of the full-time Handball Manager, which was foreseen for January 2015, to August 2014.

The COC Chairman presented a map in order to give the Council members an idea of the distances between Rio and Barra.

President Moustafa stated that the IHF will deal with the people concerned in collaboration with Mr Oliveira, and inform the Council accordingly.

Decision.

The Council took note of the inspection report for the 2016 Olympic Games presented by the 1st Vice-President. The IHF will communicate these issues to the organizing committee as well as seek advice from Ms Nawal El Moutawakel, Chairperson of the Coordination Commission for the Games of the XXXI Olympiad in Rio de Janeiro in 2016, in order to settle the pending issues.

3.5. 2017 Men's Junior World Championship

President Moustafa referred to the Congress decision, according to which the Council is authorized to award the 2017 Men's Junior WCh and gave the floor to the Competitions Director who informed the Council members that the IHF will announce the event in due course.

4. *Finances*

4.1. TV and marketing

4.1.1. Marketing 2013

President Moustafa gave the floor to Mr Weber from the IHF Marketing Department who presented to the Council the IHF marketing income of 2013 amounting to 3.5 million EUR for both senior world championships (2 million EUR for Men's WCh in Spain and 1.5 million EUR for Women's WCh in Serbia).

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4.1.2. TV rights 2014-2017

As for the TV rights, Mr Weber informed the Council that the current contract with UFA Sports (fee of 52 million CHF + 8 million CHF for production) will end on 31 December 2013. He outlined that for the new TV rights contract, no classic tender process was effected as per the IHF Council decision made in Barcelona on 26 January 2013, according to which the Executive Committee was authorized to start investigating the value of handball and to present the best possible offer for the TV rights (2014-2017) to the Council for decision. Therefore several partners were invited to tender for the four senior events during the four-year period 2014-2017 (2015 Men's WCh in Qatar & 2015 Women's WCh in Denmark, 2017 Men's WCh in France & 2017 Women's WCh in Germany).

He reported that the following offers had been received, explaining that several companies also submitted offers for 1.5 cycles (2015-2017 + 2019) and 2 cycles (2015-2017, 2019-2021), but that only one-cycle offers shall be taken into consideration in order to give the future Council the freedom to decide on the TV rights holder of the next period. He added that one offer from EBU had been withdrawn:

Al Jazeera – 1 cycle 2015-2017; buy-out model

License fee:	88 million CHF
Production:	12 million CHF
Total:	100 million CHF

Infront – 1 cycle 2015-2017; buy-out model

License fee:	46 million CHF
Production:	12 million CHF
Total:	58 million CHF

Sportfive – 1 cycle 2015-2017; buy-out model

License fee:	42 million EUR (= 52,752,000 CHF)
Production:	full production covered, amounts not specified
Total:	42 million EUR (= 52,752,000 CHF)

After submission of their first offer, the IHF received another offer from Sportfive on 23 October 2013:

Sportfive – 1 cycle 2015-2017; buy-out model

License fee:	33 million EUR (= 41,448,000 CHF)
Production:	full production covered (but amounts not specified for Women's 2015 and 2017, Qatar and France excluded and to be done by Al Jazeera)
Total:	33 million EUR (= 41,448,000 CHF)

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UFA Sports – 1 cycle 2015-2017; partnership model

License fee: 62 million CHF

Production: 8 million CHF

Total: 70 million CHF

The COC Chairman stressed the necessity of including a provision in the contract that guarantees that the host broadcaster of an event covers the highest market share in the respective host country.

President Moustafa remarked that the Council should first decide on the partner before the contract will be dealt with in detail, pointing out that any ideas from the Council members will be taken into consideration. He added that the contract (in CHF) will be signed first by the Treasurer and then by himself, and asked the Treasurer to prepare the draft contract to be sent to all Council members.

With regard to the procedure proposed by President Moustafa, Europe's Vice-President commented that the Council members should be provided with information about the main elements of the contract, stressing that the specificities of the contract, especially in terms of the quality of the production, must be in conformity with the IHF requirements.

The Treasurer confirmed that all information have been disclosed to the Council, stressing that the highest possible value should be achieved while at the same time guaranteeing the best production available according to IHF standards. He informed the Council that the new contract will include detailed production specifications for every event similar to the last contract with UFA Sports.

President Moustafa asked the Council members to vote on the TV rights partner for the next four years:

Result of the voting:

UFA Sports: 0

Sportfive: 0

Infront: 0

Al Jazeera: 16 (President Moustafa as usual abstained from voting)

The Council unanimously supported to work with Al Jazeera. President Moustafa proposed to the Council to negotiate the offer from Al Jazeera (88 million CHF in cash + 12 million CHF for production) to increase the amount of the license fee and to reduce the amount of the production, provided that the quality of the production will remain the same. He added that he will also try to support the Continental Confederations.

Decision.

The Council unanimously decided to award the TV rights for the period 2015-2017 to Al Jazeera.

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4.2. UFA Sports consulting offer

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who outlined the production requirements during the last years, such as the number and position of the cameras, and venue and media management, stating that a big step forward has been made with UFA Sports during the last period.

The Treasurer took the floor and presented a proposal from current TV rights partner UFA Sports for an IHF consulting in respect of television, media and event handling and TV production management at major IHF World Championships to the Council members, aiming to maintain and further develop the production quality of future events. He informed the Council about the fields of cooperation according to their offer, including television production services for major events on behalf of IHF, pre-event preparations on behalf of IHF, event management on behalf of IHF as well as reporting after the event.

The Treasurer outlined that the offer from UFA Sports contains a consulting and implementation management fee to the amount of 250,000 CHF per event, which includes all costs for on site event presence of UFA Sports personnel (incl. Henrik Saabye as main creative director), all creation of paper works and overall IHF support before and during the World Championships. Costs for flights and accommodation for the UFA Sports personnel (approx. 110,000 CHF according to the budget prepared by the Competitions Director) shall be borne by IHF or the respective local event organizer.

The COC Chairman referred to the excellent collaboration with UFA Sports during the last period and expressed his satisfaction with the present offer, which would add additional value to all organizational activities.

Europe's Vice-President considered the offer as an excellent initiative to ensure continuity in the organization of IHF events in every aspect.

As the 1st Vice-President asked about negotiation possibilities in terms of the price, the Competitions Director confirmed that the offer from UFA Sports is very fair based on the experience made with UFA Sports. Europe's Vice-President stressed the importance of good quality and availability to be provided and recommended not to negotiate the price.

President Moustafa asked to ensure that such consulting partnership with UFA Sports will not be in contradiction to the main contract with Al Jazeera.

The Council unanimously approved the proposal from UFA Sports.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved concluding a consulting partnership with UFA Sports.

4.3. National Federation debts – Report from the Treasurer

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Treasurer who presented his report regarding the debts of the National Federations to the Council. The Treasurer informed the Council members about the amount of the debts of the National Federations concerned as well as the corresponding source of the debts, pointing out that the debts of some federations date back to 2005.

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The Council members discussed different possibilities on how to solve the problem such as the cancellation or reduction of the debts. Europe's Vice-President remarked that the cancellation of the debts would be the wrong signal towards the NFs, stressing that he is in favour of payment facilities such as delayed payments or instalments.

As several Council members suggested authorizing the Executive Committee to check each individual case and to take a decision, President Moustafa stressed the importance of involving the continental representatives of the Council in the decision-making process.

President Moustafa proposed to postpone the decision in this matter until the next Council meeting and to authorize the Executive Committee to prepare a corresponding proposal to be presented to the Council for approval.

Decision.

The Council unanimously decided to postpone the decision regarding the National Federation debts until the next Council meeting and to authorize the Executive Committee to prepare a proposal to be presented to the Council for approval.

4.4. Compensation

President Moustafa asked the newly elected Executive Committee member Mr Frantisek Taborsky to leave the room for the treatment of this agenda item. President Moustafa referred to the election of Mr Taborsky as IHF Executive Committee member during the last Ordinary IHF Congress in Doha. President Moustafa proposed to the Council to grant him the same amount of compensation and asked the Council members for their opinion.

Europe's Vice-President commented that the two members of the Executive Committee should receive the same amount of compensation.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved granting the same amount of compensation to Executive Committee Member Frantisek Taborsky as for the other Executive Committee Member (50,000 CHF).

5. *Nomination of representatives to IHF bodies*

5.1. Commission for Development – Pan-American representative

Referring to Article 15.1.2, according to which each Commission must have a representative from each continent, President Moustafa presented the letter received from the Pan-American Team Handball Federation dated 19 November 2013 regarding their nomination of Ms Carline Choute, President of the Haiti Handball Federation, as Pan-American representative in the IHF Commission for Development.

Decision.

In accordance with Article 15.1.4 of the IHF Statutes, the Council unanimously approved to appoint Ms Carline Choute (HAI) as Pan-American representative of the IHF Commission for Development for the next four years.

5.2. Arbitration Tribunal

President Moustafa referred to the decision of the 2013 IHF Congress, according to which the Council is authorized to fill the three vacant places of the IHF Arbitration Tribunal. He presented the letter received from the Czech Handball Federation dated 20 November 2013 regarding their nomination of Ms Liběna Vondráčková as Member of the IHF Arbitration Tribunal as well as Ms Vondráčková's CV.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved to appoint Ms Libena Vondrackova (CZE) as IHF Arbitration Tribunal Member for the four-year term 2013-2017.

5.3. Arbitration Commission

President Moustafa referred to the decision of the 2013 IHF Congress, according to which the Council is authorized to fill the two vacant places of the IHF Arbitration Commission. He presented the letter received from the Croatian Handball Federation dated 22 November 2013 regarding their nomination of Mr Tomislav Grahovac as Member of the IHF Arbitration Commission as well as Mr Grahovac's CV. In addition President Moustafa presented to the Council the letter from the South African Handball Federation dated 10 December 2013, nominating Ms Ruth Saunders, President of the South African Handball Federation, as Member of the IHF Arbitration Commission, as well as Ms Saunders's CV.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved to appoint Mr Tomislav Grahovac (CRO) and Ms Ruth Saunders (RSA) as IHF Arbitration Commission Members for the four-year term 2013-2017.

5.4. Medical Commission – European representative

Referring to Article 15.1.2, according to which each Commission must have a representative from each continent, President Moustafa presented the letter received from the European Handball Federation dated 20 December 2013 regarding their nomination of Dr Marina Sakharova (RUS) as European representative in the IHF Medical Commission.

Decision.

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In accordance with Article 15.1.4 of the IHF Statutes, the Council unanimously approved to appoint Dr Marina Sakharova (RUS) as European representative of the IHF Medical Commission for the next four years.

6. Miscellaneous

6.1. CAHB motions – Player Eligibility Code / Regulations for Transfer between Federations

President Moustafa presented the motions received from CAHB which are based on the motions initially drafted by CAHB for the IHF Congress 2013, and gave the floor to Mr Boskoski from the IHF Transfer Department to comment on the motions.

As for the first motion regarding education compensation for players moving from amateur to professional status (Regulations for Transfer between Federations):

to add to Article 11, point 3.1:

“This education compensation is also valid for non-professional clubs of which a player becomes professional during his transfer.

In this case, the playing license signed by the player with the previous club applies.”

Mr Boskoski outlined the legal problem this motion entails, referring to the current legal dispute between two European clubs in terms of education compensation. In addition he pointed out that the motion is against the definition of an amateur player, “who pursues sport just for fun or as a hobby, without any material gain, and who does not receive any remuneration other than for the actual expenses incurred” (Article 2.2b of the Player Eligibility Code). Further he underlined that players with education agreement are subject to education compensation as per the current regulations.

In terms of the second motion regarding national players (Article 6 of Player Eligibility Code):

“Every player who was on the match report of an official match at continental or intercontinental level in senior category and above his 21st anniversary, will not be able, in the future, to play for another country than the one represented on this occasion.”

“The dissolution of an existing federation or the creation of a new federation are the only exceptions which can allow a change of the player’s nationality.”

Mr Boskoski informed the Council that the motion is against the current version of the Player Eligibility Code, pointing out the negative effects on the whole world of handball that an immediate implementation of this motion could involve. He stated that in case the motion is accepted, it should be implemented within a certain time frame in order to enable the National Federations to adapt to such major change.

With regard to the third motion regarding intercontinental transfers of minors (Regulations for Transfer between Federations):

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to add to Article 7:

“In the case of an intercontinental transfer of a minor aged 16, the federation of the previous club shall submit its advice on the planned transfer. A lack of advice within 15 days of the request from the new club shall be deemed as positive advice. In case of negative advice, the validity of the transfer shall be confirmed by the IHF.”

Mr Boskoski referred to the United Nations Charter of Human Rights, according to which employment of persons under the age of 16 is not allowed. He mentioned the exceptional cases, in which intercontinental transfers of players under 16 are currently permitted (reasons not linked to handball). He added that the motion is in contradiction to the wording of the Regulations for Transfer between Federations and the Player Eligibility Code.

Africa’s Vice-President once again presented his arguments in favour of the motions concerned. As for the motion regarding education compensation for players moving from amateur to professional status, he stressed the fact that the amateur system is prevailing in many African countries.

Europe’s Vice-President informed the Council about his consultation, on behalf of six team sport federations in Europe, with the European Court of Justice, confirming the legality of requesting education compensation based on the Bernard case. He referred to cases of African amateur players transferring to European professional clubs, stating that he is in favour of rewarding clubs or National Federations from other continents for their work done for the sake of justice. As for the intercontinental transfers of minors, he stressed the complexity of this issue, adding that mediation between the different arguments will be difficult. As for the motion regarding national players he pointed out the legality of the motion according to the confirmation of different legal services, for example of FIFA.

President Moustafa pointed out the sensitivity of this issue due to different regulations in the continents. He proposed to the Council that the IHF Transfer Department liaise with the EHF Transfer Department to study the entire case and work out a proposal to be coordinated with CAHB and presented to the next Council meeting.

Decision.

The Council unanimously decided to ask the Transfer Departments from IHF and EHF to study the motions from CAHB and submit a proposal to be coordinated with CAHB and presented to the next IHF Council meeting.

6.2. Player eligibility of Renato Vugrinec

President Moustafa gave the floor to Mr Boskoski to inform the Council about the request received by the IHF from the Macedonian Handball Federation regarding the interpretation of the IHF Player Eligibility Code. Mr Boskoski outlined that Mr Renato Vugrinec had not been included by the EHF in the provisional registration list of the Macedonian national team for the 2014 Men’s European Championship.

Mr Boskoski referred to Article 6.1 and 6.2 of the IHF Player Eligibility Code, according to which Mr Vugrinec is eligible to represent Macedonia on an international level, based on the documents submitted by the Macedonian Handball Federation. In particular, he referred to the document of the

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Macedonian Ministry of Interior, proving that he has been living in Macedonia for in total over 40 months.

Europe's Vice-President explained that the request from the Macedonian Handball Federation to include Mr Vugrinec in the team registration list, which was submitted shortly before the respective deadline, was not approved by the EHF, due to the fact that the player has not been living in Macedonia for more than 24 months, as Macedonia did not exist as a country in the period concerned (1980-1983). The confirmation document from the Macedonian Ministry of Interior had been presented to the EHF after the deadline. He added that the Macedonian Handball Federation failed to submit an appeal to the EHF in this respect within the provided deadline.

President Moustafa proposed either to accept the opinion of Europe's Vice-President and Europe's Representative or to submit the case to the IHF legal bodies.

Europe's Vice-President stressed once more that the Macedonian Handball Federation did not use all legal possibilities inside the EHF system, concluding that the federation's request should thus not be accepted by the IHF.

Decision.

The Council unanimously decided to follow the opinion of the EHF and not to accept the request of the Macedonian Handball Federation.

6.3. Application for membership – American Samoa Handball Association

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Managing Director who presented the application of American Samoa Handball Association (in the continent of Oceania) for IHF membership to the Council. She explained that the federation concerned has submitted all the required documents, and asked the Council to grant them provisional membership.

As American Samoa is the 200th IHF Member Federation, the Treasurer conveyed his congratulations to President Moustafa on achieving this historic and symbolic number.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved to grant provisional membership to American Samoa Handball Association until the 2015 Ordinary IHF Congress.

6.4. Athletes' Commission

President Moustafa referred to the decision of the 2013 IHF Congress, according to which the IHF Athletes' Commission was introduced. He gave the floor to the Competitions Director who informed the Council about the election procedure for the Athletes' Commission, stating that male athletes having participated in the 2013 Men's World Championship in Spain and female athletes having participated in the 2013 Women's World Championship in Serbia were eligible to vote in the first-time Commission election which was effected online and took place during the 2013 Women's WCh in Serbia.

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President Moustafa presented the corresponding voting results to the Council, showing that 353 (41.5%) of 850 electors voted in this ballot. He outlined that the IHF liaised with the Arbitration Commission and Arbitration Tribunal and gave the floor to the Managing Director who presented the letter received from Arbitration Tribunal Chairman Zoran Radojicic. According to both IHF legal bodies, the quorum was not achieved as per Article 12.5.5 of the IHF Statutes (“Elections require an absolute majority of votes present”). The Managing Director reported that the IHF legal bodies recommended repeating the voting process according to the same procedure as in the previous elections. She added that in the repeated voting process, Articles 12.5.6 and 12.5.7 of the IHF Statutes would apply.

President Moustafa stressed the importance of following the opinion of the IHF legal bodies, which is in accordance with the IHF Statutes, as the Chairperson of the Athletes’ Commission will be a full member of the IHF Council. Therefore he proposed to the Council to repeat the voting process for the Athletes’ Commission. The exact conditions of the second ballot are to be determined in coordination with the IHF legal bodies.

Decision:

The Council members, with one abstention, approved to follow the legal opinion of the IHF legal bodies and repeat the voting process for the Athletes’ Commission. The conditions of the second ballot shall be coordinated with the IHF legal bodies.

6.5. IHF projects

6.6. IHF website

President Moustafa presented a brief overview of the different projects the IHF has launched or maintained to further develop handball worldwide, such as Handball at School, IHF Trophy, Global Coaching Clinic, Global Referee Training Programme, Development Aid Project, Four-Year Plan and wheelchair handball. He added that the IHF plans to organize the inter-commission meeting as well as the second edition of the IHF Future of Handball Forum in 2014 in order to create and exchange ideas. He stated that the Council members will be provided with all information regarding the mentioned projects for their input and recommendations.

He gave the floor to the Managing Director who informed the Council about the new facelift of the IHF website, presenting some examples of the new features. She also explained about the integration of the IHF into Social Media, including the launch of the IHF TV channel on YouTube, as well as the introduction of online coaching courses. President Moustafa proposed to send the link of the new website, which shall be launched in January, to the Council members for information.

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who explained to the Council about the IHF Education Centre, a service platform for the worldwide education of coaches, referees, players, teachers and delegates, which has been prepared in collaboration with Dietrich Späte and is to be implemented on the IHF website.

President Moustafa informed the Council about the plans of nominating mixed referee couples (consisting of referees from two different countries) to ensure excellent performances. He outlined

that this proposal shall be tested before being implemented for youth and junior events, and senior events at a later stage. The PRC will study the testing phase and report to the Council accordingly.

Decision.

The Council took note of the overview of IHF projects including the information regarding the new IHF website and the education centre.

6.7. Salary increase for IHF President

The 1st Vice-President took the floor, referring to the amazing TV rights offer which had been received thanks to the excellent efforts of President Moustafa for handball. He proposed to the Council to increase the salary of President Moustafa.

President Moustafa pointed out that he is not working for the money, but for his love for handball, and stressed the excellent collaboration between the Council members for the benefit of the handball family. He proposed to the Council that the Executive Committee should deal with this matter.

Decision.

The Council unanimously decided to authorize the Executive Committee to deal with this matter.

6.8. EHF scientific conference

Europe's Vice-President took the floor, informing the Council members about the scientific conference which had recently been held in Europe. He pointed out that the other continents are welcome to request information in this regard.

6.9. IOC criteria for OG revenue

As Europe's Vice-President asked about the current status of the ranking of handball in the IOC, President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who presented the overview of criteria which had been presented to the Council meeting in Sarajevo on 29 July 2013.

The Competitions Director outlined some of the criteria of the IOC such as spectators, television or Internet. He explained that for example the TV audiences were rated in some countries where handball is not strong or whose handball team was not participating, like South Africa, Germany, Egypt, China, India and USA, referring to the qualification of countries with a small number of inhabitants. In addition activities in social media were evaluated, which the IHF had not been using. He pointed out that the IHF is working on the points, in particular on those which are of major importance for the IOC, in order to improve the position of handball within the IOC. He stated that the IHF will focus on certain countries important for the IOC such as South Africa, USA, China, etc. He also stressed the efforts made by the IHF in terms of website and social media.

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President Moustafa announced that a meeting will be convened with the IOC to follow up this issue and promised to make great efforts to improve the handball status at the Olympic Games.

Decision.

The Council took note of the information regarding the IOC criteria for OG revenue provided by the Competitions Director.

6.10. Working group for the development of handball in big nations

The 1st Vice-President took the floor and referred to the decision of the IHF Executive Committee made on 20 December 2013 regarding the development of handball in big nations. He gave the floor to the Competitions Director who reported that a working group will be formed, consisting of experts from different fields such as technical issues, development, media, marketing and administration, with the aim of developing handball and supervising the development process in big countries such as USA, China and South Africa.

The following persons were proposed as experts:

Mr Heiner Brand, Mr Ulrik Wilbek, Mr Claude Onesta, Ms Marit Breivik, Mr Iñaki Urdangarin, Mr Kim Klastруп and others if applicable.

The following persons were proposed as technical experts providing the content:

Mr Dietrich Späte, Mr Zoltan Marczinka, Mr Paul Landuré and others if applicable.

The 1st Vice-President reported to the Council about the meeting between President Moustafa and himself with Mr Pere Miró, Director of the IOC Olympic Solidarity, informing about a specific Olympic Solidarity programme aiming to develop handball in the countries concerned. He suggested that one of the experts of the working group could be Mr Iñaki Urdangarin, a former famous handball player from Spain.

President Moustafa proposed to collaborate with the IOC Olympic Solidarity in this respect as part of their "Development of a national sport structure" world programme.

Decision.

The Council unanimously approved the implementation of the development project for the development of handball in big nations in collaboration with IOC Olympic Solidarity as well as the nomination of Mr Heiner Brand, Mr Ulrik Wilbek, Mr Claude Onesta, Ms Marit Breivik, Mr Inaki Urdangarin, Mr Kim Klastруп, Mr Dietrich Späte, Mr Zoltan Marczinka and Mr Paul Landuré (among others if applicable) as experts of the working group.

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 wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He closed the session at 14:30.

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INTERNATIONAL HANDBALL FEDERATION



Dr Hassan Moustafa
President

