

94th Congress

GUANGZHOU, CHINA
21ST NOVEMBER, 2015





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ATTENDANCE

The meeting opened at 10:00 am.

Took a seat at the tribune:

Mr. Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA)	Secretary General
Mr. Jacek Bierkowski (POL)	Secretary-Treasurer
Mr. Giorgio Scarso (ITA)	Vice-President
Mr. Wei Wang (CHN)	Vice-President
Mrs. Nathalie Rodriguez M.-H.	CEO
Mr. Krisztian Kulcsar	Sports Director

Honorary President

Mr. René Roch (MH, FRA)

Members of the Executive Committee:

Mr. Donald Anthony (USA)
Mrs. Erika Aze (LAT)
Mr. Tamer Mohamed El Araby (EGY)
Mrs. Velichka Hristeva (BUL)
Mr. Guk-Hyeon Kim (KOR)
Mr. Oleg Peskov (KAZ)
Mr. Novak Perovic (RSA)
Mr. Stanislav Pozdnyakov (RUS)
Mrs. Ferial Nadira Salhi (ALG)
Mr. Ota Yuki (JPN) (President of the Athletes Commission)

Presidents of the Confederations:

Mr. Vladimir Shklar (ISR)	Vice-President of the European Confederation
Mr. Mbagnick Ndiaye (SEN)	President of the African Confederation
Mr. Vitaly Logvin (MEX)	President of the Pan-American Confederation
Mrs. Helen Smith (MH, AUS)	President of the Oceanian Confederation
Mr. Celso L. Dayrit (MH, PHI)	President of the Asian Confederation

Members of Honour:

Mr. Samuel David Cheris (MH, USA)
Mr. Peter Jacobs (MH, GBR)
Mr. Emmanuel Katsiadakis (MH, GRE)
Mr. Bert van de Flier (MH, NED)
Mr. Jenö Kamuti (MH, HUN)

VIP Guests:

Mr. Gao Zhidan, Assistant Minister of General Administration of Sport of China
& Vice-President of the Chinese Olympic Committee.
Mr. Lin Ji, Deputy Secretary General of Guangdong Provincial Government.
Ms. Lin Ying, Deputy Director of Guangdong Sport Bureau.



FEDERATIONS PRESENT OR REPRESENTED

AFGHANISTAN	Represented by Bangladesh
ALGERIA	Raouf Salim BERNAOUI El Houssine AMEZIANE
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA	Keithroy BLACK
ARGENTINA	Omar Alejandro VERGARA Victor Sergio GROUPIERRE
ARMENIA	Armen GRIGORYAN
ARUBA	Austin Edison THOMAS
AUSTRALIA	Andrew IUS
AUSTRIA	Represented by Luxembourg
AZERBAIJAN	Represented by Russia
BAHAMAS	Lewis ANTHONY
BAHRAIN	Saleh Faraj FATHAN
BANGLADESH	Qamrul ISLAM
BARBADOS	Joseph O.R RODRIGUEZ
BELGIUM	Represented by Netherlands
BELARUS	Aliaksandr HAHIYEU Guennady KHOLIAVSKY
BOLIVIA	Represented by Costa Rica
BRAZIL	Gerli DOS SANTOS Ricardo PACHECO MACHADO
BULGARIA	Velichka HRISTEVA
CAMBODIA	Dr. Meas SARIN
CAMEROON	Marcel AMOUGOU
CANADA	Brad GOLDIE
CHILE	David A. JIMENEZ
CHINA	Daoming JI Xiangyang YUAN Jianqiu QIN Sheng LEI Haibin WANG Jian WU
CONGO	Albert KAYA
COLOMBIA	Vladimir IWANOFF
COSTA RICA	Luis Alberto CRUZ MELENDEZ
CROATIA	Zeljiko KVESIC Reno MAROLT
CUBA	Rigoberto Constantino MOREJON LLANES
CYPRUS	Represented by Greece
CZECH REPUBLIC	Represented by Slovakian Republic
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO	Pitschou BOLENGE YOMA
DENMARK	Jan Sylvest JENSEN Mads-Vetli HEJRSKOV Marlene SPANGLER
DOMINICA	Woodrow LAWRENCE
EGYPT	Tamer HAZEM ZEIN
EL SALVADOR	Melissa ALVARENGA
ESTONIA	Margus HANSON
FINLAND	Represented by Sweden
FRANCE	Isabelle LAMOUR Catherine DEFOLIGNY
GABON	Issa MABADI

GEORGIA	Represented by Armenia
GERMANY	Lothar BLASE Dieter LAMMER Claus JANKA Wilfried WOLFGARTEN Lutz SCHIRRMACHER
GHANA	Mohamed MAHADI
GREAT BRITAIN	Hilary PHILBIN Georgina USHER Clare HALSTED Janet HUGGINS
GREECE	Emmanuel KATSIADAKIS
GUATEMALA	Otto BALDERRAMOS
GUINEA	Soriba SYLLA
GUYANA	Samuel BARAKAT Eugenie BARAKAT
HONDURAS	Marco Antonio IZAGUIRRE
HONG KONG	Wing Sun YEUNG Sze Mun Vicky TONG
HUNGARY	Jenö KAMUTI Katalin TUSCHAK
ICELAND	GudjonIngi GESTSSON Nikolay Ivanov MATEEV
INDIA	Durga DAS BORO
INDONESIA	Suparmanto AGUS Sodik ENDANG
IRAN	Bagherzadeh FAZLOLLAH Peyman FAKHRI
IRAQ	Zeyad Hassan JASIM
IRELAND	Nuala MC GARRITY
ISRAEL	Uri HARLAP
ITALY	Giuseppe CAFIERO
JAMAICA	James MCBEAN
JAPAN	Masashi HOSHINO Mamoru SAITA Masahide YAMAMOTO Yuko KATO Atsushi HARINISHI
JORDAN	Khaled ATIYAT Ghassan BARAKAT
KAZAKHSTAN	Rushidin KICHIKOV
KIRGHISTAN	Samatbek IBRAEV Osmonzhan KAZYMOV
KOREA	Heon Cheol SHIN Hi Yong KIM Chang Gon KIM Chaerin Moon Wan Kun OH Minhee JANG
LATVIA	Klinta AZE
LITHUANIA	Polujanskas VYTAUTAS
LUXEMBOURG	Pascal TESCH
LIBYA	Adel Salem ZITOUNI
MACAO	Lin Chek SOI In Leng NG
MADAGASCAR	Harinelina Alex RANDRIAMANARIVO MarieLouiseRAHONINTSOAEPRANDRIAMANARIVO
MALAYSIA	Abu Hassan RUSNI Ainaa FARIK
MEXICO	Jorge CASTRO REA
MOLDOVA	Olga COJOCARI

MONACO	Represented by France
MONGOLIA	Tserevsamba DAVAATSEREN Bat-Erdene KHOSBAYAR
MALI	Zorome WAHABOU
MAURITIUS	Veena Devi GUNPUT
NAMIBIA	Jonathan RUSH
NEPAL	Sunil Kumar SHRESTHA Narayan Prasad PAUDEL
NETHERLANDS	Etienne VAN CANN
NEW ZEALAND	Stephen E. CLARKE
NICARAGUA	William GENET BARBERENA
NIGER	Idrissa AMADOU TIEMO
NIGERIA	Adeyinka FANYIAN Rachael SAMUEL Babatune SANGOWAWA
NORWAY	Junjie CAO
PANAMA	Jose Luis MORAN AHUMADA Chantal ABREGO
PERU	Carlos LEVI COOK
PHILIPPINES	Celso L. DAYRIT
POLAND	Represented by Italy
PORTUGAL	Frederico VALARINHO Clauso NEVES
QATAR	Saleh AL-HEMAIDI Ziad FERIANI Mohamed AL SALHI
ROMANIA	Mihai COVALIU Anca Ioana Ileana IONESCU Marius Florea
SOUTH AFRICA	Novak PEROVIC
RUSSIA	Alexander MIKHAILOV Yaroslav MALTSEV Ilgar MAMEDOV Elena GRISHINA Semen RIKHTMAN Mark RAKITA
RWANDA	Diogene MWIZERWA Eugene MUSONI
SAMOA	Imo WALTERLEE
KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA	Sami ALBAKR
SENEGAL	Oumar MAIGA
SERBIA	Damir BARALIC
SINGAPORE	Francis KWONG
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	Miroslav BARANIK Julius KRALIK
SLOVENIA	Tomaz PORS Martina TOMSIC
SPAIN	Marco A. RIOJA PEREZ Antonio Garcia HERNANDEZ Jose Luis ALVAREZ GIL DE TEJADA
SRI LANKA	Dian GOMES Sasimi SENERATH
SWITZERLAND	Olivier CARRARD
SWEDEN	Lars LILJEGREN Ana VALERO-COLLANTES
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC	Ahmad ALREFAAI
CHINESE TAIPEI	Monica HO
TAJIKISTAN	Turai ABDURAHMON
THAILAND	Somded TONGPIAM Jakravudh SOMAPEE
TOGO	Katema Victor LAMEGA
TUNISIA	Noureddine ROBBANA

TURKEY	Murat ATALI Muminhan BILGIN
TURKMENISTAN	Meret MEREDOV
UGANDA	Carolynne Joan ADONGO
UKRAINE	Vadym GUTTSAIT
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	Huda AL MATROOSHI
UNITED STATES	Stacey JOHNSON Carl BORACK Ianka DAKOVA
URUGUAY	Rodolfo LOPEZ
UZBEKISTAN	Sabirjan RUZIEV Nodira ALIMOVA
VIETNAM	Le Quang PHUNG Manh Hung NGUYEN



CONGRESS AGENDA

1. Validation of attendance and proxies
2. Address by the President of the FIE and address by the President of the Chinese Fencing Federation
3. Ratification of the new Federations
4. Approval of the report of the 2014 Congress held in Rome (ITA)
5. 2014 (July-December) report of the Executive Committee
6. 2014 Financial report (July-December), auditors' report, approval of the accounts, discharge to the Executive Committee and to the auditors
7. Budget for 2016
8. Designation of the auditors
9. Proposals submitted to the Congress, reports of Commissions and Councils
10. Restructuring of the FIE Rules
11. Urgent decisions
12. Voting to award the World Championships
 - J/C 2017
 - Senior 2018
 - Veterans 2018
13. Candidatures for the World Championships
 - J/C 2018
14. Award of the Challenge Chevalier Feyerick
15. Miscellaneous items

1. Addresses to the Congress

Nathalie Rodriguez: Ladies and Gentlemen, we are starting the Congress, please take your seats.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Good morning, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to present our honorary guests at the tribune:

Mr. Gao Zhidan – Assistant Minister of General Administration of Sport of China and Vice President of the Chinese Olympic Committee

Mr. Frédéric Pietruszka – Secretary General of the FIE

Mr. Lin Ji – Deputy Secretary General of Guangdong Provincial Government

Mr. Jacek Bierkowski – Treasurer of the FIE

Mr. Giorgio Scarso – Vice President of the FIE

Mr. Huan Way – Vice President of the FIE and the President of the Chinese Fencing Association

Ms. Lin Ying – Deputy Director of Guangdong Sport Bureau

The floor is to Mr. Frédéric Pietruszka, Secretary General.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Ladies and Gentlemen, Presidents, Chairman, Secretary-General, Dear Friends of Fencing, Mr. Gao Zhidan, Mr. Lin Ji, Mrs. Ling Ying, I would like to welcome you here in Guangzhou to the Annual Congress of our Federation and I would like to thank our hosts for the warm reception and the quality of the hospitality. Our President Alisher Usmanov regrets that he cannot be with us here today. His travel to China was interrupted in Tashkent due to his health condition. He has expressed to all of you his strongest friendly greetings and congratulations for a successful Congress. And I would like personally to express my best wishes for the excellent work of this Congress, in these hard times for the world of fencing. I am sure that our friendship will help us to continue our work with serenity. I wish you all a good stay in Guangzhou.

Applause.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Mr. Lin Ji, Deputy Secretary General of Guangdong Provincial Government will address the Congress.

Lin Ji: Distinguished President Alisher Usmanov, Secretary General of the FIE, Vice Minister Gao Zhidan, Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends,

Today, the 2015 FIE Congress is held in the beautiful city Guangzhou, hosted by the FIE and organized by the General Administration of Sport of China and Guangdong Province. This Congress is an International Federation sport event, which will not only accelerate the development of international fencing sports and enhance the cooperation and exchange of international sports, but also contribute to the economic and social development of our province. Here, on behalf of People's Government of Guangdong Province and people in our province, I would like to express my sincere congratulations on the occasion of the opening of the 2015 FIE Congress and also extend my warm welcome to all the attending officials and distinguished guests.

Guangdong is the cradle of Lingnan culture, forefront of carrying out the China Reform and Openness policy as well as the pioneer of modernization construction. In 30 years of Reform and Opening-up, the economic development in Guangdong has soared at an average rate of 8% every year, and its GDP exceeded one trillion yuan in 2000 and reached 6.78 trillion yuan in 2014. In addition, we have made great progress comprehensively in fields of sports, culture, education, medical, science and technology, etc. At football and other types of sports, Guangdong is one of the leaders in China. We also witnessed the rapid development and popularization of fencing sport in Guangdong. Especially after the fencing athlete Lei Sheng from Guangdong won the gold medal in the London Olympic Games, fencing is becoming a sport-for-all event locally. All of these have contributed to establishment of a solid foundation for us and motivated to organize this important event, which will play an important role in preparation of our athletes for the next Olympic Games. We will try our utmost to work with the FIE to host this Congress, to deepen your understanding of Guangdong and to enhance further the sport and cultural exchange between Guangdong and other parts of the world. We are also counting on your advice, and hope that this Congress will become a place for a productive exchange of ideas and as a result of our discussions we will share our visions on future development of fencing sport and this work will contribute to strengthening of the friendship between our countries.

In conclusion, I wish the 2015 FIE Congress a successful event and I wish all the distinguished officials, guests and friends a happy stay in Guangdong. Thank you for your attention.

Applause.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Mr. Frédéric Pietruszka will award Mr. Lin Ji with a gift from the FIE.

Applause.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Mr. Wei Wang, Vice-President of the FIE and President of the Chinese Fencing Association will address the Congress.

Wei Wang: Dear President Mr. Usmanov, Dear Assistant Minister and Vice-President Gao Zhidan, Dear friends,
Good Morning!

On behalf of the Chinese Fencing Association, I have a great pleasure to welcome you all to Guangzhou, China to attend the 2015 FIE Congress.

Actually, it is a great honour for us to organize this Congress in China. I would like to express my thanks to the FIE, especially to President Mr. Usmanov for your trusts as well as thanks to Chinese Olympic Committee for your support and help.

As you know, November is the best season in Guangzhou. During these nice days, I hope the Chinese Fencing Association and Guangdong Sports Bureau can offer you a wonderful experience during the Congress.

Of course, I am sure this Congress will bring us a better future. Let us cooperate closely under the leadership of the FIE to promote our sport all over the world.

At last, I wish you a nice stay in Guangzhou and wish this Congress a great success.

Thank you!

Applause.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Mr. Frédéric Pietruszka will award Mr. Wei Wang with a gift from the FIE.

Applause.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Mr. Gao Zhidan, Assistant Minister of General Administration of Sport of China & Vice-President of Chinese Olympic Committee, will address the Congress.

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Gao Zhidan: Dear President Usmanov, Dear friends, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Morning!

On behalf of the General Administration of Sport of China and the Chinese Olympic Committee, I would like to extend our warm welcome to you all. Here, I should also express our sincere thanks to the FIE, Guangdong government, as well as all friends who have supported and helped us.

As we all know, the FIE just hosted its Centennial Celebration two years ago. In the past hundred years, the FIE has been engaged in the promotion of sport of fencing all over the world. During these years under the leadership of President Usmanov the FIE has carried out a series of effective reforms and brought a new vigor for our sport.

The Chinese Olympic Committee will always stand for the development of fencing sport in China and worldwide. With the hard efforts of several generations, we have made great achievements and we will still continue to make contributions.

In fact, the Chinese Olympic Committee pays high attention to this Congress. We will closely cooperate with the Guangdong Government to offer all of you a successful Congress as well as a pleasant experience in Guangzhou.

The Chinese Olympic Committee supported the Chinese Fencing Association to bid for the 2018 World Fencing Championships, to get involved in more international fencing affairs and to make more contributions.

Dear friends, today, we gather in Guangzhou to discuss the future of our sport. Therefore, I do hope Chinese brilliant history and culture as well as the beautiful city of Guangzhou and the hospitality of local people will leave all of you with a wonderful memory.

Finally, I wish sport of fencing a bright future, this Congress a complete success and all of you a nice stay in Guangzhou!

Thank you!

Applause.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Mr. Frédéric Pietruszka will award Mr. Gao Zhidan with a gift from the FIE.

Applause.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Mr. Frédéric Pietruszka will award Ms. Lin Ying, deputy Director of Guangdong Sport Bureau, with a gift from the FIE.

Applause.

Nathalie Rodriguez: The President of the FIE, Mr. Alisher Usmanov, will address the Congress.

Alisher Usmanov: Dear Friends, dear fellow fencers,

I welcome you at the Congress of our Federation in Guangzhou!

Unfortunately, I cannot join you because of the condition of my eyes, and the strong recommendations of my doctors not to take long flights.

First of all, of course, I want to express my gratitude to the government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Fencing Federation for the outstanding organization of our Congress. We know that the Congress is a pinnacle of the sport season.

Next year we will have many exciting and important competitions.

Everybody understands that our priority is the Olympic Games in Rio. We can state that our sport achieved a good progress at the Olympic Games in London in 2012. But it is critical for us not to slow down but to continue progressing and developing and, in particular, to assure that the main television channels broadcast our Olympic fencing competitions. I think we need to make every effort to achieve this goal.

I wish you to work constructively and positively during this Congress.

Thank you very much dear friends, colleagues and athletes.

Applause.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Thank you very much. As our guests at the tribune have to leave us, we will accompany them and the Congress will pause for a couple of minutes. We will then start with the roll call.



2. Validation of attendance and proxies

Nathalie Rodriguez: We will proceed to the roll call:

Algeria
 Antigua and Barbuda
 Argentina
 Armenia
 Aruba – Aruba is not here
 Australia
 Bahamas
 Bahrain
 Bangladesh
 Barbados
 Belarus
 Benin – Benin is not here, correct?
 Bermuda
 Brazil
 Bulgaria
 Cambodia
 Cameroon
 Canada
 Chile
 China
 Chinese Taipei
 Colombia
 Congo
 Costa Rica
 Cote D'Ivoire – is not present.
 Croatia
 Cuba
 Democratic Republic of the Congo
 Denmark
 Dominica
 Egypt
 El Salvador
 Estonia
 France
 Gabon
 Germany
 Ghana
 Great Britain
 Greece
 Guatemala
 Guinea
 Guyana
 Honduras
 Hong Kong
 Hungary
 Iceland
 India – Did India receive the voting box?
 Indonesia – Did Indonesia receive the voting box?
 Iran
 Iraq
 Ireland
 Israel
 Italy
 Jamaica
 Japan

Jordan
 Kazakhstan
 Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
 Korea
 Kuwait – Kuwait is not here
 Kyrgyzstan – Kyrgyzstan is not here
 Latvia
 Libya
 Lithuania
 Luxembourg
 Macao
 Madagascar
 Malaysia
 Mali
 Marocco – Marocco is not here.
 Mauritius
 Mexico
 Moldova
 Mongolia
 Namibia
 Nepal
 Netherlands
 New Zealand
 Nicaragua
 Niger
 Nigeria
 Norway
 Panama – Panama is not here.
 Peru
 Philippines
 Portugal
 Puerto Rico – Puerto Rico is not here.
 Qatar
 Romania
 Russia
 Rwanda – Is Rwanda here?
 Samoa
 Senegal
 Serbia
 Sierra Leone – Sierra Leone is not here?
 Singapore
 Slovakia
 Slovenia
 South Africa
 Spain
 Sri Lanka
 Sweden
 Switzerland
 Syria
 Tajikistan
 Thailand
 Togo
 Tunisia
 Turkey
 Turkmenistan

Uganda
Ukraine
United Arab Emirates
Uruguay

USA
Uzbekistan – Uzbekistan is not here?
Vietnam

Have all federations present been called?

We are now moving to the proxies.

Afghanistan gave proxy to Bangladesh. Does Bangladesh accept it? Yes.

Austria gave proxy to Luxembourg. Does Luxembourg accept it? Yes.

Azerbaijan gave proxy to Russia. Does Russia accept it? Yes.

Uzbekistan arrived. Did you receive a voting box? Please give to the representatives of Uzbekistan a voting box.

Belgium gave proxy to Netherlands. Accepted.

Bolivia has given proxy to Costa Rica. Accepted.

Cyprus has given proxy to Greece. Accepted.

Czech Republic has given proxy to Slovak Republic. Accepted.

Georgia has given proxy to Armenia. Accepted.

Monaco has given proxy to France. Accepted.

Poland has given proxy to Italy. Accepted.

Finland has given proxy to Sweden. Accepted.

We have finished with the proxies. I haven't received anything from Macedonia.

Can I have the number of the voting boxes which were given, please? I have 118 countries present and 119 voting boxes. We need to check the list very quickly.

Rwanda is here, they are the one that didn't have the voting box. We now have 119 countries present and represented.

We now move to the agenda.

You have all received with your voting boxes a document with the voting instructions. This is the same system as usual. You can vote Yes/No/Abstention and then valid. I will announce when the vote will be open and when the vote will be closed. When a participant wants to intervene at the microphone, he will have to raise his hand and then announce his name and country at the microphone. I will also ask the Congress participants to remain in the Congress room during the whole Congress. During the last Congress in Rome, some participants left the room, which caused a major problem with the quorum. In addition, some proposals regarding the statutes, which require 2/3 of the federations present, could not pass because some of the Congress participants had left the room. Please stay during the whole Congress and don't leave the meeting room when you are supposed to vote. Otherwise, we will lock the doors...

Laughter.

Please remember that for the statutes we need 2/3 of the votes of the federations present and represented. For the Rules and General votes we need a majority of the federations present and represented.

Before we move to the agenda, I would like to announce that some items will not be addressed today. One of the items is the restructuring of the FIE Rules for the reason that we need to finish the Material Rules. We cannot vote on the Organization and the Technical Rules without being in line with the Material rules. In addition to this, we would like to restructure the three rules books.

I would thus like to ask the Congress to postpone the restructuring of the rules, being understood that there will be no modifications to these rules, just the restructuring. I thus ask the Congress to postpone this item to the next Congress, even if it is an elective one. Do you have any objection to postponing this item to the Congress in 2016? No objection? Thank you.

The second item which will not be dealt with is the urgent proposal on non-combativity, which was sent to the Congress. Meanwhile, we received one proposal from the Working group, which was nominated by the Executive Committee and this proposal is completely different. We have also received a proposal from the President of Legal Commission and we were told by the Italian Federation that we are going to receive a proposal from this Federation. In these conditions, it will not be possible for the Congress to work on this issue now, as the additional proposals have to be studied by the Commissions and Councils and by the Executive Committee. This discussion will be postponed for the meeting of the Executive Committee in February 2016, which will consider a unique proposal on which everybody agrees.

We move to item 3 of the agenda.

3. Ratification of the new Federations

Nathalie Rodriguez: This year the Executive Committee could not affiliate any Federation, but we expect some in 2016. So we will move directly to item 4 on the agenda.

4. Approval of the report of the 2014 Congress held in Rome (ITA)

Nathalie Rodriguez: Item 4 of the agenda is the approval of the report of the 2014 Congress held in Rome.

If you have no objections, I propose we move to the vote on that issue.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

Item 4 is approved. We move to item 5.

5. 2014 (July-December) report of the Executive Committee

Nathalie Rodriguez: Item 5 is the report of the Executive Committee for the period from July to December 2014. The floor is to Frédéric Pietruszka.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): For our dear friends who have left us this year, I would like to ask you to stand up for one minute of silence to pay tribute to them and to Ana Pascu who recently lost her son in a tragic accident.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We are going to play a video.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Thank you everyone.

Nathalie Rodriguez: I will now open the vote on the annual report of the Executive Committee.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The semi-annual report is approved. We move to the next item on the agenda.

6. 2014 Financial report (July-December), auditors' report, the approval of the accounts, discharge to the Executive Committee and to the auditors.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Item 6 is the 2014 financial report from July to December, the auditors' report, the approval of the accounts, the discharge to the Executive Committee and to the auditors.

The floor is to Jacek Bierkowski, FIE Treasurer.

Jacek Bierkowski (POL): Mr. President, Members of Honour, Presidents of Federations, Ladies and Gentlemen, Attendees of the Congress:

I present for your approval the profit and loss account and the balance sheet for the financial period starting on 1st July 2014 ending 31st December 2014.

Additionally, I present to you the proposed budget for the year 2016 for your approval.

The results of expenses were of 3,168 866 CHF, which were covered by the donation of the President, income planned in the budget and the extra funds, which we had from the excess of income from the previous years.

I would like to note that the amount of expenses in the stated period was lower than the planned budget by 15, 8%.

We continued programs such as the bonuses for the referees and officials: referees and refereeing delegates received bonuses for each competition in which they had officiated, plus additional reward during the World Championships. Officials of Cadet, Junior and Senior World Championships have received also a special bonus from the FIE.

We invested in a training camp before the Senior World Championship and refereeing seminars, exams, and bonuses.

We introduced new program "Club Movement Initiative" for enabling to use leading fencing centers and their talent equity (leading trainers) as points of growth to develop fencing.

Moreover, we gained increased revenue from our sponsor – Tissot.

Our accounts were approved by our auditors Ernst & Young company with a positive result.

I would like to invite your comments and provide explanations as well as kindly thank our CEO Madame Nathalie Rodriguez and her team of professionals in the Administration and Finances Department, for their solid and dependable work.

Do you have any questions regarding the accounts?

Nathalie Rodriguez: If there are no questions on the accounts, we will move to the vote on the financial report, the auditors' report, the approval of the accounts, the discharge to the Executive Committee and to the auditors.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

Item 6 is approved.

7. Budget for 2016

Nathalie Rodriguez: We move to item 7, which is the 2016 budget. The floor is to Jacek Bierkowski.

Jacek Bierkowski (POL): Here are the explanations on the proposed budget for 2016 and I would like to provide additional explanation on what has increased in the budget 2016 versus 2015.

1. ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

1.1 Additional Personnel Costs

A potential estimated increase of 530 000 CHF is proposed, depending on the decisions of the President.

1.2 Introduction of increase of the spending on the marketing activities. We will also provide support to colleagues of the Sport department. We have signed a one year contract to enable them organize all logistics until the Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro.

1.5 Displacements of the Executive Committee and staff (in Junior and Cadet World Championships):

Travel expenses for COMEX and staff for World Championships will increase by 62 000 CHF.

1.6 Commissions and Councils: only 2 refereeing commission meetings

In 2016, when the Elective Congress will take place, the meetings of the Commissions and Councils will not take place, apart from the two meetings of the Refereeing Commission.

2. SPORT

2.1 Confederation Subsidies: 225 000

The proposed increase is CHF 115 000 in order to cover the expenses of the **Regional Sport Directors' offices**.

Yearly grant to the Confederations: Europe 24 000 CHF, Asia 24 000 CHF, America 24 000 CHF, Africa 24 000 CHF, Oceania 14 000 CHF + in 2016 additional support related to the administrative costs of office of the Regional Sport Directors: 4 x 26 000 CHF (Europe, Africa, America, Asia) + 11 000 CHF (Oceania).

2.2 Material for Federations: Development Program – material aid.

The CHF 600,000 proposed for 2016 as "Material for Federations" is the same amount, which we have in our current 2015 budget.

2.3 Schools, Maitres d'armes, training: 380,000 CHF for the school in Dakar and for Budapest we are adding 300,000 CHF for the Coaching courses.

This amount is necessary to finance the 4 coaching courses we would like to organise in 2016. There is no increased financial need concerning Coaching courses. The increase in the point 2.3. by 100,000 Swiss francs comes from the estimated amount allocated to the Fencing school planned to be established in Budapest.

2.4 Courses at Championships: 50 000 for the FIE training camps to be held during the Junior/Cadet World Championships + 200 000 for 3 Regional training camps.

2.5 Refereeing – exams, seminars, primes: This amount also includes the bonuses of the referees. A reduction of costs under this item by 50,000 Swiss francs is due to the fact that there are no refereeing exams this year.

2.6 Aid for Federations: 1 athlete per federation to the J/C WCh + 1 athlete per federation to the senior ZCh + Help to organize the senior and junior Zonal Championships + courses.

2.7 World Junior/Cadet Championships: 60 000 sponsoring + 30 000 bonus to referees and officials + 30 000 general FIE cost

2.9 Grand Prix, World Cups, Zonal Championships: Subsidy to GP organizers (8x25,000) + subsidies to World Cup organizers related to the Video Refereeing.

This is the amount we give to each GP organizer as a subsidy in order to contribute to their increased costs deriving from the high level of organization.

2.10 Service Providers: The expenses related to the Event Managers, Chief of Protocol and other external advisors were outsourced, which decreased the previous costs.

2.11 Athletes Career's Program

We have a commitment towards the IOC concerning this program but because of earlier budgetary issues, we have not launched it yet.

The program was initiated by the FIE in 2013 and was supposed to be launched in 2014. It will consist of vocational training and re-orientation of athletes upon completion of their sport career. The IOC has a similar program.

2.12 The Confederation Sport Directors: 40,000 CHF for each Confederation.

This is to cover the salary and expenses of the Regional Sport Directors.

3. COMMUNICATION/MARKETING/TV

3.1 Website: Website has a new section on the Road to Rio, FIE athletes and the officials' bio - additional data, and a mobile application.

3.3 Communication: An additional 2 press kits. Organization of media-communication workshops for NFs. Increase number of news and press releases (translations).

3.5 Events: TV production for Zonal CH. Photography for all FGP Series and branding.

3.6 TV: Additional: television archives development.

Marketing department and PP commission need to create a data base of fencing TV archives for different distribution needs.

3.9 TV Broadcast (Eurosport, Euronews, CNN): new contract: Eurosport, Euronews, CNN

4. RIO 2016: TEST EVENT (GRAND PRIX, TEAM WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS) AND OLYMPIC GAMES. NEW GROUP OF EXPENSES

4.1 Tickets for fencing: 190, 000 CHF (1000 spectators/day)

4.2 Rooms for the Olympic Games

4.3 Travel of the Executive Committee and staff to Rio – reduced since only the Bureau will go to the test event.

4.4 Test event: Senior World Championships.

4.5 Zonal qualifications and Olympic Games.

4.6 Test event (CMTV): Fencing Film documentary, fencing in Rio schools –demonstrations, promo event during the test event, promo event "Games time" at the venue, website's new section "On the road to Rio".

4.7 Press kits: 1 press kit for the OG – Rio.

Thank you. Do you have any questions?

Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA): I represent the Italian Federation: If we look at the figures, we see that in 2016 the difference between income and expenses is about 6 million Euro. It is also true, that 3 million out of these expenses are related to the organization and preparation for the Olympic Games, and are not repeated every year. However, the amount is still exceeding the 1.4 million that we expected to spend. If this situation is repeated, we can cover 2 years, but sooner or later we will run out of money if we maintain this level of expense. I suggest that by approving this budget, we do an evaluation to decide how to spread these expenses over several years and to avoid the problem of incapacity of maintaining the level of expenses that we have. Thank you.

Jacek Bierkowski (POL): Let me answer your question. We have received 20 million Swiss francs. In the past 7 years, the level of donations to our organization accounted for 30 million of CHF. If we split these 30 million of CHF for the following years, you will see that it should be enough money.

Nathalie Rodriguez: If there are no other questions, we will move to the vote.

The vote is open.

Just to announce to you that Kyrgyzstan has just arrived. We have now 120 countries.

The vote is closed.

Item 7 is approved.

8. Designation of the auditors

Nathalie Rodriguez: We propose to nominate Ernst & Young, our auditors, for another year. If you have no objection, we will move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

Item 8 is approved.

Coffee break

9. Proposals submitted to the Congress, reports of Commissions and Councils

Nathalie Rodriguez: We will start with the modifications of the statutes and with the proposals of the Executive Committee. The date of application of the decisions will be 1st of January, 2016 except when we mention it otherwise.

9.1 PROPOSALS REGARDING THE STATUTES.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Proposal 1 is related to article 1.6 of the statutes – Financial Means, and I would like to ask Sam Cheris, President of the Legal Commission, to take the floor.

Sam Cheris (MH, USA): The proposal that is being put forward is to set the amount of money that is required by the statutes for the amounts that are paid by the Federations for running an event. It is the norm now that the entry fees are a part of the financial resources of the FIE. And, all we are doing here is saying that the amounts will be determined by the Executive Committee and approved by the Congress for the following season and the terms of the proposal is nearly to set up the practice or put in to play the practice that has been in existence for a number of years. The organizer receives the entry fees.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Thank you, Sam. So, actually this proposal clarifies that the entry fees for the World Championships are now paid to the organizers and no longer to the FIE. So, this is just a technical correction of the statutes and we can move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

I have to mention that after Kyrgyzstan, Panama and Aruba have arrived. We have now 122 Federations present.

Nathalie Rodriguez: For Proposal 2, I would like to ask Sam Cheris to take the floor again. This proposal is related to the entry fee for the Team Junior World Cup event.

Sam Cheris (MH, USA): This came before the Legal Commission of having a fee of 300 Euro for the organizing fee for a Junior Team Cup and we modified it to 250 Euro and the Executive Committee was in favour of the modified proposal that we have a 250 Euro fee for organizing a Junior Team competition. This has also increased to this higher amount so the Organizing Committee is able to afford to run these events and as well as to pay a fee to the FIE.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Thank you, Sam. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Regarding **Proposal 3,** I think some Federations wanted to intervene on that issue, which is the entry fee for the Junior World Cup competitions.

Hilary Philbin (GBR): Good morning, my name is Hilary Philbin from Great Britain. In Great Britain, we have held the junior Cups for many years; however, increasingly the costs of running the competition go up from year to year. Without a sponsor, it is becoming impossible to open this competition without making a significant increase. In addition, the entry fee for the juniors has stayed the same for a long time, I think 4 years or more. I think it prevents to help the competition organizers to run the event successfully; we now need to set the entry fee at a realistic level. Therefore, in order to protect the future of the Junior World Cups we need to have a different proposal for the advantage of the organizers organizing the Junior World Cup.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Thank you very much. Is there any other Federation which wants to intervene?

Reno Marolt (CRO): Hello to everyone and the best wishes to the Congress from the Croatian Fencing Federation. I am Reno Marolt, the Secretary General of the Federation. This year in January, we had a bad experience with the Junior World Cup because we could not help them to take the entry fee in amount of 25 Euro. So my best proposal is to have the 25 Euro organizing fee, because in any other situation the organizers will not be in a position to organize this tournament at a successful level. To increase this possibility and because of this, I ask you kindly to vote in favour of this entry fee increase. Thank you very much.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Is there any other Federation which wished to intervene at that proposal? Otherwise, we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Proposal 4 is in the same line. You know that we have created the Junior Team World Cups and up to now, the organizers had to organize these competitions without receiving any entry fee, which is totally unfair. You already had some Federations explaining how difficult it is to organize a competition without a proper entry fee. So, again, this proposal has been done in order to help organizers, being understood that it is very difficult for a Junior competition to get a sponsor. The amount of the entry fee which is submitted to your vote is 150 Euro. This is the amount that has been set by the Legal Commission and on which the Executive Committee agreed. So we will now move to the vote on that proposal.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed. Thank you.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We now move to **Proposal 5**, which is only a slight amendment regarding the Rules Commission. If you remember, at the last Congress, we have established the same texts for all Commissions, but unfortunately, we forgot the Rules Commission. This text is perfectly in line with the texts of the other Commissions. It is just a technical modification. If you agree, we are going to vote and to open the vote on this proposal.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Nathalie Rodriguez: The next proposal is **Proposal 6**. It is a very important proposal for the Athletes' Commission, because so far the statutes mentioned that the expenses for the members of the Athletes' Commission, when they were attending meetings of the FIE, were paid by the National Federations. The Executive Committee thinks that it is not fair and that this Commission should be treated the same way the other Commissions are. The aim is to establish that the expenses of the members of the Athletes' Commission, when attending the meetings of the FIE, are to be paid by the FIE.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We have finished with the proposals from the Executive Committee, we now move to the proposals of the Legal Commission.

Proposal 1 aims at creating a Fair Play Council and also defines the role and functions of that Fair Play Council. The Executive Committee was in favour of that proposal which is very necessary. So we move to the vote on this proposal.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 2 is linked to the rules of good governance and its aim is to amend article 1.1 of the statutes ensuring a spirit of Fair Play, to define rules and appropriate steps to protect the health of athletes, to prevent any abuse, and to take the necessary steps for the social and professional future of the athletes. The Executive Committee was in favour of that proposal. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 3. This proposal aims at having open and transparent tenders for the FIE when it deals with contracts to be signed. This proposal is in line with the principle of good governance, which has been set by the IOC. The Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Legal Commission. So we open the vote on the modified proposal by the Legal Commission.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA): Since this proposal has been approved I would recommend that the Administration Rules are better defined: the minimum amount of contracts for which it is necessary to have the amount and details, how many requests it takes, and define the rules that would create sufficient conditions.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Actually, the FIE always requests, whatever the amount of the expense is, three offers, even for very small amounts. It is because we want the best company for the best quality, for the best price. So we will up-date the Administrative rules.

Proposal 4. Proposal 4 is linked to the report of the auditors, and is also linked to principles of good governance. It is requested that the report of the auditors be based on international standards of recognized financial information. The Executive Committee was in favour of that proposal.

The vote is open for this proposal.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 5. Proposal 5 is also linked to the management of potential risks and the fact that the FIE should identify these risks and the measures which should be adopted in order to identify and minimize these risks. The Executive Committee was in favour of that proposal. So we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 6. This proposal is a better drafting of the current Statutes, it is just a precision in case the President is prevented to attend a meeting or an event. The Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Legal Commission. So we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 7. Proposal 7 is also linked to good governance. The aim is to mention in the financial report a clear indication of the per diem that are paid to the President and members of the Executive Committee. Actually, it already exists in the accounts, but it will be included in the financial report. The Executive Committee is in favour of the proposal and we can move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 8 is actually the same as the one we voted for the FIE, but it is for the National Federations, so as mentioned by Mr. Cafiero earlier, we will set up a text in the Administrative Rules to determine the amount for which this rule should be implemented. It is very clear that if you have to make an expense of 500 Euro, you will not be compelled to open a tender. This is valid only for amounts that are generally high, not the small ones.

Catherine Defoligny (FRA): For France, I would like to better understand the purpose of this proposal. I understand very well that for the legal reasons I have to verify and compare any offer with others. I would like to emphasize that when making a purchase, both the client and partners obviously expect a good service. I would like to be assured whether this edit is just an obligation to make an internal tender before making a decision, but not miss the possibility to go along with the partner or choose a partner that the Federation thinks is the right one? This is what I would like to understand.

Nathalie Rodriguez: The aim is not to ask you to revise all your partnerships or sponsorships. The aim is to allow you to compare the prices and the services. For example, if you have to buy any equipment which is highly expensive,

you request tenders in order to have the best quality equipment, the best price and the best offer for the Federation. Verifying the price doesn't mean that you are going to take the cheapest one. You are going to take the one that has the best quality, the best advantages for you and the best price. This is just a basic principle of good governance. It does not question at all what you already have and the contracts that you have signed for a long time and even the future contracts. If you have a sponsor and if you have a partner, it is because that partner and that sponsor bring something that is satisfactory for the Federation. We are not questioning this at all. And, as I said, it does not concern the small expenses that you are doing every day. If you are paying 140 Euro for a hotel, you will not be asked to have three tenders for this. You will have a very clear text in the Administrative Rules, which explains the amount and the requirements.

Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA): This proposal is important also from the regulations standpoint, making sure that the national legislature is not clashing with the FIE rules and we are not interfering in national affairs, as well as we have to improve the work of auditors.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Thank you. Any other comments? Ok, now we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal did not pass.

Proposal 9. The aim of this proposal is to take into account the principle of environment and sustainability in candidatures for the World Championships. You know that it is a major concern of the IOC and even of the States, so we believe that these words should be introduced into the texts regarding the candidatures. The Executive Committee was in favour of that proposal from the Legal Commission. So we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We don't have a Proposal 10. We have a Proposal 11.

Proposal 11. This proposal relates to the awarding of the World Championships. You have an original proposal and then the modified proposal from the Legal Commission, and I would like to ask Sam Cheri, President of the Legal Commission to take the floor on that proposal.

Sam Cheri (MH, USA): We have had in the past problems with candidatures – which Congress we would vote on their proposal and when they needed to present their proposal. So this modified proposal states that each year request to place on the agenda of the forthcoming Congress completed candidatures, to undertake in the 3rd calendar year ahead, the organization of World Championships must reach the FIE a month before the 3rd meeting of the Executive Committee of that year. Basically, it needs to come to the Executive Committee meeting, which is prior to the Congress, so that they can review it. We are looking to make sure that all of the candidatures fill out all the information requested, so that it is fair for each of the candidates that all of them have committed to the same items and not some of them are incomplete. Should one or more candidates be listed – the awarding will take place at that Congress. Should the Congress not accept the candidate or should there be no candidate – the FIE Bureau will actively seek new candidates to be presented at the following Congress, two years in advance, on procedures that will be presented in the Administrative Rules. It continues – should the ordinary Congress two years before the event, because there is no candidate, not be able to vote on somebody, the Executive Committee will then look to receive candidatures and follow the procedures in the Administrative Rules, which have been listed, noting what elements are to be looked at and would then be able to select that candidate. So, it is creating a procedure where if you have candidates 3 years ahead – they will be elected or not by the Congress. If you do not, we will do it 2 years ahead with the FIE looking for new candidates, if there are still no candidates presented or accepted by the Congress then the Executive Committee will continue searching until they find a candidate, which meets the rules that are stated in the new Administrative Rules, and then elect this candidate

Nathalie Rodriguez: Thank you very much. The Executive Committee was in favour of the text as modified by the Legal Commission and added that we should replace "1 month before the 3rd meeting of the Executive Committee" by "before 1st of September". This way we have a clear date in the statutes. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

A question in the audience but not at the microphone.

Nathalie Rodriguez: As I said we voted for the text modified by the Legal Commission. This is the rule from the beginning of the Congress. We voted for proposal 11, not the original text by the Legal Commission, but on modified

text by the Legal Commission, and in addition we said instead of having “1 month before the 3rd meeting of the Executive Committee” we have “before 1st of September”. Thank you. The proposal passed.

We now move to **Proposal 12**, which is a very important proposal on Ethics. I will give the floor to Sam Chervis, who will explain you in details the aims of this Code.

Sam Chervis (MH, USA): The FIE did not have an Ethical Code; it relied somewhat completely on the IOC Code of Ethics. Two members of the Legal Commission Gerli Santos of Brazil and Marco Rioja of Spain spent a rigorous time with the IOC Code of Ethics and figured out how to adapt it to the FIE and created the Ethical Code that we are presenting. It has the fundamentals and principles: the dignity of the persons and the integrity of the organization rejecting any form of corruption, unfair favouritism, and showing honesty and dignity; limiting gifts that can be received to those that are nominal in the amount that are normal in that particular country; to establish the concept of Fair Play beyond the mirror of compliant with rules and regulations; that the resources of the FIE should be used only for financing the Olympic purposes; that revenue and expenditures are recorded according to recognized international financial reporting standards; respect all of the aspects of the statutes and rules relating to candidate cities or organizations; to fairly choose who should be able to handle and meet the competitions; the relationship between various countries, and rules of conduct, and we have a referee section here; maintaining the objective in the department stances; avoid to accept the assignments where there are conflicts of interest, the computer cannot handle all conflicts of interest, or to note what countries one is from; that they must stay in tune with all of the rules, not tolerate any areas of outside influence, and it talks about levels of conflicts that exist, and to whom they must report about it; talks about fencers competing in the spirit of sportsmanship and Fair Play, the same for coaches and trainers; the implementation part of the Ethics Committee, which will issue advisories on what will be the appropriate conduct and the part was accepted by the Legal Commission. The Executive Committee finished the amount of compensation that Legal Commission had at 150 Euro and put it as those that will exceed the normal standards of hospitality for the local customs of the country providing the gift. I hope you’ve had the opportunity to read this. We are trying to form an Ethics Committee, and an Ethics Code, so then we can review and try to ensure that our view is ethical in all and everything. Thank you.

Nathalie Rodriguez: The Executive Committee agreed to the Code and together with the Legal Commission, we just modified some words in item 2 and 3 in the Section “Integrity”. Yes, Mr. Cafiero.

Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA): One clarification, is this going to be an independent document or a section of the statutes?

Nathalie Rodriguez: It will be integrated in the statutes as Chapter 12.

Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA): Thanks.

Nathalie Rodriguez: So if you have no other questions we can move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Nathalie Rodriguez: The **next Proposal** actually goes with the last one because **Proposal 13** will be an Annex to the Ethical Code of the FIE. You have to know that all International Federations have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the IOC regarding betting and anticorruption. The aim for us is to check, to verify and to control whether illegal betting or manipulations of the results are occurring. All sports have been reviewed by the IOC. The latter has checked if there were activities in fencing during our last World Championships and they could not find any illegal betting. As we want to be in line with actions of the IOC, in line with the General Regulations of the International Federations, the Legal Commission has integrated this text against betting and anticorruption as an appendix to the Ethical Code, so it will be in Chapter 12, as an Annex. The Executive Committee was in favour of the text as drafted by the Legal Commission. If you have no questions about that document, we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 14. As we talked about it, it is the Ethical Code. The Ethical Code is included into Article 7.1.1. “Jurisdiction”, The Executive Committee was in favour of that proposal. So we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We move to the proposal from the Medical Commission. The Medical Commission had drafted a text, which was revised by both Medical and Legal Commissions. If, once the Commission is elected, it appears that there is a lack of persons who are very well informed and specialised in anti-doping issues, then the Medical Commission, with the approval of the Executive Committee, will be able to hire external people, who are specialists in anti-doping issues. You know that the FIE is very careful when it comes to anti-doping and we really need people involved and fully specialized in these issues. The Executive Committee was in favour of that proposal as modified by the Medical and Legal Commissions. This proposal, if it passes, will be implemented at the next elections, in 2016. So we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We now move to the proposal from the Women's Council together with the Legal, Medical and Promotion Commissions.

This proposal is divided into three parts: one proposal relates to the Executive Committee, one to the Commissions and the third one to the Councils. I give the floor to Stacey Johnson and Tamer El Araby.

Stacey Johnson (USA): Good afternoon, Members of the Executive Committee, Presidents of Councils and Commissions; Presidents and Delegates of the Congress.

Thank you for this opportunity for Executive Committee Member Mr. Tamer El Araby and me to address the Congress. I especially want to thank President Usmanov for his support of the time required for this presentation and I want to thank IOC member Lydia Nsekera, Chairwoman of the IOC Women in Sport Commission, who provided a letter of support and is watching carefully what action we take on this important issue today.

I will read this letter:

« Dear Dr. Stacey Johnson,

Thank you for sharing the Women and Fencing Council proposed changes to the FIE statutes, which aims to increase the percentage of women in the FEI Executive Board.

As already highlighted in my correspondence in November last year, I fully support and congratulate you for your tireless efforts. The Olympic Movement has failed to achieve its goal in this regard; no one can be proud of this failure.

We leaders need to take urgent measures in order to accelerate the changes. The IOC President, Thomas Bach, has paved the way by calling upon all sport organizations throughout the Olympic Movement to redouble their efforts in support of gender equality.

May I invite you and all other colleagues working in the area of gender equality promotion to spread widely the IOC President's video message endorsing of the HeForShe campaign.

Wishing you every success in your endeavour and looking forward to strengthening our cooperation. Sincerely»

Stacey Johnson (USA): This is indeed a moment for our sport to see whether or not we seek to move forward or that we go backwards. In this modern day and as history has proven, any organization that remains fixed and does not evolve and move forward is actually moving backward in its policy initiatives.

Please know this is your choice today to support the evolution of fencing's governance and remaining a sport that has been, through its history, a sport that is governed by the smart people who make smart decisions. We hope that we can continue as a leading sport in the Olympic movement with the Women & Fencing Council's recommendation to increase women's participation from 20% to a very modest 30%.

I have a video for you today that outlines our reasons for the statutes proposal and so without any further delay, take just a few minutes to hear from our senior leadership, our athletes and other members about this important proposal. Mr. El Araby will speak to you at the conclusion of the video.

Video presentation

Tamer El Araby (EGY): Ladies and Gentlemen, Members of Congress,

It is time for the FIE to take a leadership position and align the FIE's objective on gender equity within the sports movements and its outcomes. I urge you to join the Executive Committee and the Commissions of the FIE, and vote YES for the proposals of the women Councils and remember – together we are stronger. Thank you.

Applause.

Nathalie Rodriguez: I wish to highlight that the Refereeing, Medical, Promotion, Rules, Semi and Athletes' Commission were in favour of this proposal and the Executive Committee was also in favour of this proposal. This proposal was redrafted by the Legal Commission. Yes, Mr. Valarinho.

Frederico Valarinho (POR): About 60% of the members of the Portuguese Federation board are women and, in my opinion, there shouldn't be a target of having 30 or 60% of women in FIE leadership. I defend that there should be women, but based on their merit and not only on their gender. I prefer to have two or three competent and capable women, elected because of their qualities, than to have a quota that will elect women only because they are women, leaving aside more competent men.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Are there any other comments on that proposal on the Executive Committee?

Rigoberto Morejon (CUB): As one wise person said: "There is no complete work in the world without the sweet touch of a woman hand".

Nathalie Rodriguez: Thank you very much. If you don't have any other comments, we will move to the vote on that proposal as modified by the Legal Commission.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Applause.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We move to the next proposal, which is related to the Commissions. I just wanted to highlight that for the opinion of the Legal Commission, in article 4.4.4, the 3rd paragraph, which is a new paragraph, should read "if there are less than three candidates" and not "five candidates".

Peter Jacobs (MH, GBR): Now that we have very happily decided that we will have 30% of women, please do not hesitate to vote the same for the Commissions and for the Councils. Remember, it is the members of the Commissions and Councils who add experience to our experience, to the Federations, come to work in the FIE, and then add the FIE experience from their work in the Commissions and Councils before they go onto the Executive. If you want to have good Executive members of either gender, you need to have same proportion of members in the Commissions or Councils to ensure the whole pyramid of management of the FIE is cohesive and strong. Thank you.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Thank you. If you have no other comments then we will move to the vote on that proposal, which is related to the Commissions.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal did not pass.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Now you have the rest of the proposal related to the Councils, which is article 4.7.6 with at least 30% of each gender. We open the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal did not pass.

For the Executive Committee, the text that passed will be implemented for the 2016 elections.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We now move to the proposals from the Veterans Council.

Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA): The entry fee that was approved for the Juniors is 150 Euro and this proposal indicated 140, so this has to be adjusted, and in addition, this is including the referee fee that implies that the referee will be appointed by the FIE and the Organizing Committee according to the proposal that we have submitted. As it is now, without any change that way the entry fee doesn't make sense. You should make it consistent without a formal application.

Nathalie Rodriguez: I am sorry but we cannot change the amount of 140, because it is the proposal on the table today, I think this amount is linked to Junior World Championships, Senior World Championships and now Veterans. It cannot be modified without a formal proposal. The way it is proposed today will be applied for the Veterans. There is no proposal for 150. It will stay at 140. So we are voting now for the proposal as modified by the Legal Commission, to add for Veterans an entry fee and then a referee fee for the Individual and Team World Championships. The Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Legal Commission. So now we vote on that proposal.

Can we stop the vote please?

Victor Grouppierre (ARG): I did not understand this proposal very well. Why should we take all the expenses on ourselves, and why should we cover the fees for the referees?

Omar Vergara (ARG): I think you deserve an answer from the tribune.

Nathalie Rodriguez: I think Mr. Cafiero can answer to you.

Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA): I am sorry that Max Geuter cannot be here because he was organizing this revision for the Veterans, because this is the part of the work of the Veterans Council, I was assisting this, but anyway, the explanation that you require is what I was mentioning before. The proposal for the Veterans Council is to change the system of refereeing, to stop paying the referees according to the numbers of 0, 1 or 2, to cancel these points, and to put a fee that is a proportion to the number of participants that in practical terms would represent the same amount of money or even less, but it will be more proportional to the number of athletes of each country, and then referees will be appointed by the FIE in coordination with the organizing country and the number, with the specialization, weapons that are required for the fencers. It is difficult to find qualified ones. In this system as I was mentioning before, we have to approve right now in the Administrative Rules for the amount of money, but then later today we should approve in the Organization Rules that change in the system of appointing the referees, otherwise it doesn't make sense. I think it is more clear now.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Thank you.

Julius Kralik (SVK): Now I do not speak as Slovakia, but as the European Confederation Technical Director. I can say that we have long experience with this principle because we realize what it says, means the task. When referees in world cup proportionally to the amount of the money that they are paid is not correct. On the other hand, our experience since 2009 has shown before that with the 45 Euro, you will never cover real costs with that number of referees, which is not only limited, but it is not possible. In Europe maybe we can organize the Euro Championship, the minimum moves to around 70, 80, 90 Euro as referees fee, but then we are really close. But with 45 Euro, I am sorry, I can guarantee that the organizer of real costs be very limited with financing for referees. Thank you.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Thank you. Any other intervention? In that case we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal did not pass.

Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA): Nathalie, is this an Amendment to Administrative Rules?

Nathalie Rodriguez: No, this is not. The amounts in the Administrative Rules are linked to article 1.6 of the statutes, which says that the Congress establishes the amounts. This is why the amounts are in the Administrative Rules, but it is clearly determined in the statutes and the Administrative Rules that it is the Congress which establishes the amounts.

So I have to specify that we voted on an organizing fee to be paid for the Junior Team World Cup and of course this will be implemented next season, for the season 2016-2017. We also voted in favour of an increased junior individual entry fee and for a new junior team entry fee. These amounts have to be implemented in the next season because the Federations have already received the money for their budgets, and we cannot ask them, during the season, to ask for more money to their governments. So we are obliged to implement this next season because it will not be fair to have started one season with one amount and then to continue with another amount. We have finished with the proposals regarding the statutes and the floor is to Frédéric Pietruszka.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): I think before we move to the proposals on the Rules, we should take a little break and invite you to lunch and I think we can come back to continue in one hour and 15 minutes at 14:15.

Julius Kralik (SVK): I am really sorry, but about this entry fee for competitions, this is as you heard from Croatia, I can say same for Bratislava, we cannot organize a competition without entry fee, this is really not possible. In the last season all teams that came to Bratislava had no problem today as it is, same as for other competitions. I think that the Congress is a Supreme power. So this Congress can decide now for the entry fees for the Junior World Cups as was proposed and approved before, right now.

Nathalie Rodriguez: In that case we need an additional vote of the Congress, which will determine if this entry fee for Junior Individual at 25 euros and the fee for the team are applicable immediately or not. This will be the decision of the Congress. We can ask the Congress now to vote on this.

After we have voted 25 Euro for the Junior World Cup competitions and the entry fee for the Junior team competitions, do you wish to implement that decision immediately? You will vote on this. I would like to open the vote on that proposal. Do you wish to implement these two proposals immediately, yes or no?

Please open the vote.

The vote is closed.

The proposal did not pass because the vote did not reach the 2/3, which means that the date of application of these two proposals will be next season 2016-2017 and not immediate application.

Reno Marolt (CRO): I have a coming competition to welcome in December. I am sorry, I cannot give up 6000 Euro, it is too much, and we are candidate for the season 2016-2017.

Omar Vergara (ARG): I do not think that we need a 2/3 majority for this proposal to pass. Thank you very much.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Can I have the opinion of the President of the Legal Commission? For that proposal do we need the 2/3 or the simple majority?

Samuel Cheris (MH, USA): The proposal passed. The effective date is established normally by the Executive Committee and it is normally to be immediate unless you say otherwise. So its effective dates normally do not have a vote.

Nathalie Rodriguez: So if the Executive Committee decides or accepts that the proposal is implemented with an immediate effect, then it is adopted immediately?

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): I think we need the official statement from the Legal Commission regarding this point, I think we should return to this topic after lunch. I would like to invite you to lunch now.

Nathalie Rodriguez: The congress will start again in one hour.

Lunch Break. 1 hour.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Ladies and Gentlemen, please take your seats we are going to continue with the work of the Congress.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): As we have all returned to the room, I would like to announce that regarding the date of implementation of the entry fees, after a suggestion of Mr. Vergara and consultation with Mr. Cheris, we found out that a majority of 2/3 is not necessary. The majority was enough and the proposals can enter into force immediately.

Nathalie Rodriguez: So the entry fee for the Junior Individual and the entry fee for the team Junior will be implemented immediately. We now move to modifications of the Rules.

9.2 PROPOSALS REGARDING THE RULES

Nathalie Rodriguez: We are starting with the Executive Committee Proposal 1. This proposal is very important for the athletes, because it is related to the Publicity Code, and to the publicity on the equipment. This has been increased and it is in conformity with the norms of the IOC. The Promotion Commission was in favour of it, the Rules Commission was in favour of it, the athletes were in favour, the Coaches Council was in favour and the Executive Committee was in favour. So we move to the vote on that proposal.

The vote is open.

So, I remind you that for the Rules we only need a majority, and the majority is 62 votes.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Peter Jacobs (MH, GBR): I want to draw your attention to point A, to the marking and size of logo, because the new size is smaller and obviously according to new rules a logo should go through a reduction period and new measurements should fit within the requirement.

Krisztian Kulcsar: Peter, this proposition was carefully discussed with the Promotion Commission, and I can tell you that a logo on a mask never exceeded 12.5 cm, this is a parameter, which has been approved by the IOC.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We move to the next proposal, **Proposal 2**. This one is also very important for fencers and for the sponsors. Since we are introducing the opportunity to have a logo of the sponsors on the mask, we have also established a dimension. All Commissions were in favour, the Coaches Council was in favour, and the Executive Committee was in favour.

We move to the vote.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Proposal 3 is a proposal to delete the stickers, which have been obsolete for at least fifty years and which are no longer used. It is thus not necessary to keep this into the Publicity Code. The Promotion, Rules and Athletes Commissions were in favour, the Coaches Council was in favour, and the Executive Committee, too. I propose to move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 4. If it passes, it will be implemented in the season 2016-2017. It relates to article o.32.2. It is the only way to determine clearly the rule on how the ranking of fencers would be done after the barrage. The Rules Commission was in favour and the Executive Committee was in favour.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

For **Proposal 5**, will be displayed on the screen, but I will also read the final proposal.

We were told that the way the opinion of the Executive Committee was drafted, could make people think that video refereeing would be obligatory for Junior Competitions and it was not at all the aim. So the proposal remained the same, but we have redrafted it, so that it will be clear that video refereeing is not at all compulsory for Junior World Cups. The text that we are proposing is the following: "From the last 32 the direct elimination bouts will take place:

- Either on 4 pistes, with each quarter of the table fenced on one piste.

- Or on 8 pistes, with each quarter of the table fenced on 2 pistes.

At the cadet and junior World Championships video refereeing is obligatory on these pistes."

That's all.

Krisztian Kulcsar: Let me add the reason why we have made this proposal. Since there is a lack of referees, and schedule is a problem, following and running eight pistes might be a serious challenge for the organizers and the FIE. This is not an obligation, but we have to take measures to solve this difficulty.

Nathalie Rodriguez: And it will allow the fencers to finish the competition sooner if they are fencing on four pistes, especially when there is a competition with a high number of fencers. If you have no questions, I propose to move to the vote on that proposal.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 6 is important. It is proposed to allow the replacement of the fencer until Wednesday, instead of Tuesday. We also clarify the deadline for entries for the World Championships and for the other Championships. In addition, a name change will be accepted by the FIE, at the latest 24 hours before the competition, but not only in a situation of force majeure. I think this is a major improvement. The Rules Commission was in favour of the proposal of the Executive Committee and slightly redrafted it. The Executive Committee was in favour of the modifications proposed by the Rules Commission. So we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 7 is also a very important one, because we propose to increase the number of fencers who can be entered by Federations at the Individual Junior World Championships so that this number be consistent with the number of fencers who can be entered into the team competition. This, of course, will be implemented on January 1st, before the next Junior World Championships. The Rules Commission was in favour of this proposal, The Athletes' Commission also, the Coaches Council was in favour, and the Executive Committee was in favour. So we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 8 The rules for entries to the Zonal Championships were not into the Rules, but into the Administrative Rules. So with the Rules Commission, we thought it was more consistent to move this article from the Administrative Rules to the Organisation Rules, but there are no modifications. The Rules Commission was in favour and the Executive Committee was in favour. So we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 9 is linked to the clarification of a text which was necessary, because in competitions there are many confusions and many misinterpretations of this rule. To introduce this proposal the floor is to Kristian Kulcsar.

Krisztian Kulcsar: We have seen this previously, and since it is not possible to have uniformity we propose this clarification. The aim of this proposal is to avoid misunderstanding.

Nathalie Rodriguez: You know that in a team, each fencer can have a different sponsor: one fencer can have equipment from one manufacturer and the other one from another manufacturer. In some competitions, the team was disqualified, just because there was a misunderstanding of the rule regarding which part of the equipment is part of the national costume, which should be unique for all members of the team. So we have clarified that rule so that these unfortunate situations cannot happen anymore. The Promotion Commission was in favour, the Rules Commission was also in favour and the Executive Committee was in favour of the Rule as modified by the Rules Commission. So we move to the vote on that proposal.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Proposal 10 is related to the mask and the floor is to Kristian Kulcsar.

Krisztian Kulcsar: During the last two seasons, we could observe many accidents with masks, which could not be properly fixed at the heads of the fencers according to the standards. On July 15, 2014 the Executive Committee sent an urgent letter and made an urgent decision on the double security feature for the mask. The proposal, which was proposed by the Semi Commission, is now submitted to the Congress for a final decision.

Nathalie Rodriguez: The Medical Commission was in favour, the Rules Commission was in favour and the Executive Committee was in favour. So we can vote on this proposal.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Proposal 11. The floor is to Kristian Kulcsar.

Krisztian Kulcsar: Thank you. The aim of this proposition is to increase the blocking time from 120 to 170 milliseconds in sabre. The proposed new blocking time was tested at three FIE competitions: during the last European Games, at the Moscow Sabre GP at both men's and women's competitions. The videos that have been recorded were analyzed and the results were presented to the different Commissions. The Executive Commission supports the proposal. This rule will be applied in the season starting after the Olympic Games in Rio.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Is there any request or intervention? So, as we said, if it passes, the modification will be implemented only at the season 2016-2017.

Catherine Defoligny (FRA): France perfectly understands this proposal and the timing of its application, but we think that it will significantly change the techniques of the fencers. I wonder how the adaptation will take place. Will it be possible to test it with the referees?

Krisztian Kulcsar: Thank you. First of all not much is going to change, there will not be a dramatical change, maybe 10% or 20%, except for the sabre fencing. Second, regarding the sabre fencing, I agree, the change can be significant, so judges have to comply with the new rules. Every year we organize seminars for referees. Seminars will be continued and they will be prepared during these seminars.

Victor Sergio Grouppierre (ARG): What about the costs related to the introduction of these changes?

Krisztian Kulcsar: This is a very important question, and I am happy to provide the information on what are the expenses. It is very easy to modify the apparatuses in this field. I got the correct figure, so it is 20 Euro, which is affordable.

Omar Vergara (ARG): For us the question with equipment is a serious problem, it is not only a matter of finance. I am not very familiar with the issue of sabre, but if this proposal seems rational do we need to have certain tests first or not?

Nathalie Rodriguez: The tests have already been done in several competitions, this was mentioned earlier. I would just like to clarify that this change will be done for all the FIE sabre competitions. Based on the experience of the past, since we already modified all the apparatuses 10 years ago, it appeared that it was not costly to the Federations. I think that 20 Euro is reasonable.

A comment from the audience not in the microphone:

I support your proposal, but we have not heard the position of the Medical Commission on this issue for the safety reasons.

Nathalie Rodriguez: The Medical Commission discussed with the SEMI Commission regarding all safety issues and this proposal is in line with this concern.

Emmanuel Katsiadakis (MH, GRE): A few years ago, I made a proposition to increase the intervals of milliseconds to 170 as the optimum solution. I worked for a long time and performed tests in Athens and found that this interval enables the apparatus to switch on in a normal parade riposte. So this change is really good and I support it. Of course, we must change the chips in the equipment where this is necessary (e.g. Allstar and Ullmann). This is done very easily and with a small cost. For instance in Greece, we have about 50 such machines and we can make the changes with 400-600 Euros. Of course, this interval requires judging of a high level.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Now we move to the vote. If the proposal passes, it will be implemented in the season 2016-2017.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Proposal 13. The floor is to Krisztian Kulcsar.

Krisztian Kulcsar: This proposition is about the re-introduction of the so-called sensor in sabre in the future. The concrete proposition is about to entrust the SEMI commission with the development of this project.

The motivation is to avoid "passé" being a valid hit and also to increase the variety of actions at sabre. This proposal will also help us to increase security.

What is very important to emphasize when we are talking about this proposition, is that the old sensor, which probably has left many bad memories to many of you, was a mechanical device. Now we are in a position (we have discussed with the SEMI Commission) to develop an electronic chip which would work perfectly.

I would also like to inform you that we have discussed this proposition with all Commissions including the Athletes Commission. The Rules Commission, the Semi Commission and the Coaches Council were in favour of this proposition.

Nathalie Rodriguez: The Athletes' Commission received full explanations after receiving the proposal on this issue. They had mentioned in their report that they needed more explanation and an investigation to understand the motivation of this new technology. They were given the explanations when they met them during the World Championships in Moscow. What we are expecting now is the agreement of the Congress to start the process of research. The Executive Committee is in favour to start the process of the research and now we are expecting the green light from the Congress. Do you have any other questions? So in that case we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

We have finished with the proposals from the Executive Committee and we move to the proposals of the Refereeing Commission. The Refereeing Commission has four proposals and if they pass, they will all be implemented in 2016-2017.

Proposal 1 is related to article m 27.3 and adds to the paragraph that a coiled mask wire is no longer allowed. The Refereeing Commission was in favour, the Rules Commission was in favour, the Semi Commission was in favour and the Executive Committee was in favour. So we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 2 is very similar, but for sabre. The Refereeing Commission was in favour, the Rules Commission has redrafted the text so that it would be the same as for the other weapons, the Semi Commission was in favour and the Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission. So we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 3. It relates to article t. 18.5. The Refereeing Commission was in favour, the Rules Commission was in favour, but has redrafted the original proposal from the Refereeing Commission. The Athletes' Commission was in favour, but requests the Refereeing Commission to investigate more precise rules. The Coaches Council was in favour and will ask referees to look carefully at fencing actions when the distance between the fencers is reduced, especially at the situations when fencers using "corps a corps" to avoid being hit with a correct riposte. The Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission. So we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 4 is linked to the former one. The aim is to introduce in the first group of faults and sanctions "Reversing the line of the shoulders". The Refereeing Commission was in favour, the Rules Commission and the Athletes' Commission were in favour, the Coaches Council was in favour, and the Executive Committee was in favour. So we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Now we move to the proposals that were postponed last year and on which we have requested a study by the Working group made of the Rules Commission, the Refereeing Commission, the Promotion Commission, the Athletes' Commission and the Coaches Council.

For the first proposal from the Hungarian Federation, the floor is to Krisztian Kulcsar.

Krisztian Kulcsar: The reason why this proposal was not discussed last year was because the French and English texts were not identical and this prevented our discussion. For example if the fencer leaves the piste and crosses the line, how this position should be judged, should he cross by one leg, by both legs, etc. [...] The issue here is that we have added some words, like "with both legs". We talked a lot about this, that this Rule causes some confusion about the degree of crossing the line. The Rules Commission also provided its opinion on this issue and it is in favour of this proposal.

Nathalie Rodriguez: So if you have no other questions then we move to the vote on that Proposal 1.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 2 from the fencing federation of Russia is related to t.17 and aims at reducing the number of simultaneous attacks for sabre. Increasing the number of actions in order to make matches more spectacular. The working group which was in charge of reviewing the proposal was in favour of the proposal to organise tests, by introducing the rules proposed by the Russian Federation as temporary rules for all categories at sabre, men and women, during the period from the start of the 2016-2017 season until 31 December 2016. The ad hoc commission will study the tests through comparisons with the statistics from the previous season. It will deliver its opinion at the end of 2016 to the Executive Committee, which will decide if the rule will be applied for the rest of the 2016-17 season. The Executive Committee was in favour of the opinion of the working group.

So if you have no questions then we move to the vote on that Proposal 2.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 3 from the Swedish federation is related to article o.83.2 and the coefficient applied to the FIE individual competitions. The Executive Committee was not in favour because it considers that it would not be fair to align the points gained at the Olympic Games to the points gained at the World Championships.

So if you have no questions then we move to the vote on that Proposal 3.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal did not pass.

Lars Liljegen (SWE): I think the proposal passed since it got 55 yes.

Nathalie Rodriguez: The proposal did not pass because the majority required for a proposal regarding the rule to pass is 62 votes.

Proposal 4 from the Swedish federation is related to article o.84.2 and the coefficient to apply for the FIE team competitions. Again, the Executive Committee was not in favour because it considers that it would not be fair to align the points gained at the Olympic Games to the points gained at the World Championships.

So if you have no questions then we move to the vote on that **Proposal 4**.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal did not pass.

Proposal 5 from the Swedish federation is related to article o.48. It aims at introducing into the rules the rotation system for the weapons that will not be at the Olympic Games. The Executive Committee was not in favour because it is working a lot on the issue of our two missing events at the Olympic Games. If we introduce this proposal into the rules now, it implies that we are accepting not to have these 2 events, even at the 2020 Olympic Games. Then, our quest for 2 additional events becomes meaningless. This is the reason why the Executive Committee is not in favour of the proposal at this stage of the process.

So if you have no questions then we move to the vote on that Proposal 5.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal did not pass.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We have finished with the deferred proposals and we now move to the proposals from the Veterans Council.

Proposal 1 is related to article o.87. The Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission and Veterans Council.

If you do not have questions, we can move to the vote on proposal 1.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 2 is related to article o.88. The Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission and Veterans Council.

If you do not have questions, we can move to the vote on proposal 2.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 3 is related to article o.89. The Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission and Veterans Council.

If you do not have questions, we can move to the vote on proposal 3.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 4 is related to articles o.90 and o.91. The Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission and Veterans Council.

If you do not have questions, we can move to the vote on proposal 4.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 5 is related to article 0.92, which provides a completely new text on team participation.

The Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission and Veterans Council.

If you do not have questions, we can move to the vote on proposal 5.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

With **Proposal 6**, we have a problem. The Congress did not accept the referees fees proposed before, so I think we cannot vote on that text. It says that the organizer will pay for the expenses of the referees and as a counterpart will receive the entry fees including the referees fees. Do you agree Mr. Cafiero?

Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA): The problem is, as you have mentioned, if we do not accept any referee fee and at the same time if we have to charge the cost of referees to the organizer, this becomes impossible. In my opinion we should revise that proposal before proposing it to the Congress. At the meeting of the Veterans Council we agreed, as we have done with the Cadets, but here we made then a wrong decision. I think if we accept this together with a reasonable fee, this makes sense; otherwise, we will remain in the present situation, which damages the efficiency.

Nathalie Rodriguez: I do not judge whether this was a good or a bad decision. Actually, there was a vote of the Congress on this. I do not think we can come back now on that decision. Proposal 6 was done based on the fact that the organizer will receive the referee fees. As the Congress rejected these referee fees, then we cannot vote on this proposal.

A question from the audience not in the microphone:

Is there any rule that prohibits the Congress to come back on that decision or to change that decision?

Nathalie Rodriguez: Actually it happened in the past. Some Congress participants wanted to vote again on a decision, and in most cases, the Congress had refused. If there is only objection to proceed to a new vote, then the Congress cannot vote again on the same proposal. Mr. Kralik.

Julius Kralik (SVK): I would like just try to avoid a misunderstanding. My comment before was about the amount for the referees fee, which is not good. The opposite – the European practice shows this is a good measure. 45 Euro will not be enough for the referee fee. If we do not decide on this now at this Congress, can we say that the Organizing Committee will decide on this later?

Nathalie Rodriguez: We cannot say that the Congress will not decide on this now and the Organizing Committee will decide on it later. This is not possible. The point is that if the Congress wants to revote that proposal and there is no objection, then we can vote again, and if there is one objection, this proposal cannot be voted again. So, is there any objection to revote the proposal on the refereeing fee for the Veterans World Championships?

Emmanuel Katsiadakis (MH, GRE): Excuse me, but if we are not sure after two hours, then I have an objection. Perhaps the vote was a mistake but we cannot vote again.

Nathalie Rodriguez: So, we have one objection and Proposal 6 will not be voted again. Then we move to Proposal 7.

Proposal 7 has actually no major modifications; it is mainly to say that there will be 4 members of the Directoire technique and that the officials should preferably come from the same zone as the Organizer of the Veterans Championships. The Rules Commission was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Veterans Council and the Executive Committee also. I propose to move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Regarding **Proposal 8**, it is not a proposal for the Congress, since it is a proposal for the Handbook of the Regulations for the Veterans World Championships. The proposal has been accepted by the Executive Committee. We are not going to vote on that proposal.

We have finished with the proposals.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): After the Urgent Decisions item, I propose to have a short coffee break.

11. Urgent decisions

Nathalie Rodriguez: Urgent decision #1 is to put in conformity article m.25.3 with article t.45.4, which was modified in 2014. One of the problems we sometimes have is that the same rule appears in two different books or places. Then, when we vote on proposal which is in one book, we do not always modify the same rule which is in another book or place. The result is that we have two different texts.

This is why when we voted the modification on article t.45 in 2014, the same article m.25.3 was not updated accordingly. So today we are just updating m.25.3 so that it be in line with t.45.4. When we will discuss next year the restructuring of the Rules, we will eliminate all these double texts, which are either in the Organization or Technical or Material Rules, so that this kind of situation may not happen again.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

As I already said, we will not deal with the **Urgent Decision #2**, which is linked to non-combativity. We move to **Urgent Decision #3** and the floor is to Krisztian Kulcsar.

Krisztian Kulcsar: The proposition to reduce the medical break from 10 minutes to 5 minutes comes from the Medical Commission. It is known that in fencing there may be reasons for having long medical breaks, in case of injuries, etc. However, a 10 minute break makes it difficult to continue the competition and this is totally inconvenient for television. In addition, no other sport allows for such a long break time.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We would like to test this proposal at the 2016 Junior and Cadet World Championships in Bourges. We are going to appoint one member of the Medical Commission to supervise these tests, and to analyse the consequences of the proposal. The member of the Medical Commission will be in charge of supervising the process and then to make a report and a recommendation on whether to finally change this rule or not. What we are requesting now, is the possibility to make tests only at 2016 Junior and Cadet World Championships in Bourges.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Thank you and we will now have a short break for coffee.

Coffee break

12. Voting to award the World Championships

Nathalie Rodriguez: We request the representative of China and the representative of Japan to come to the tribune, please.

We have three World Championships to vote on: the J/C 2017, then the Senior 2018 and then the Veterans 2018. For the 2017 J/C World Championships, the FIE has received the candidature of Plovdiv in Bulgaria. For the candidature of the Senior World Championship in 2018, the FIE has received two candidatures – one from China and one from Japan. For the Veterans World Championship in 2018, the FIE has received a candidature of Italy in Livorno.

We made a draw to determine the order of presentation of the candidatures for the 2018 Senior World Championship. The result of the draw is that Japan will make the first presentation and China will make the second presentation.

We will start with the first item, which is the awarding of the 2017 J/C World Championships and I would like to ask Mrs. Hristeva to take the floor and address the Congress regarding the candidature of Plovdiv.

PRESENTATION OF BULGARIA

Velichka Hristeva (BUL): My Dear Friends, I know that many of you know very well Plovdiv and I only want to show you a video, just to remember.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): We have a little technical difficulty and while the presentation of Plovdiv is being fixed, we will move to the next item, which is the awarding of the 2018 Senior World Championships. According to a draw, Japan will present first about the city Fukuoka and China second about the city Wuxi.

PRESENTATION OF JAPAN

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Soon, we will be greeting the year 2016. It will be the year to complete our Fencing Family's efforts since London to the next Olympic Games in Rio. 2016 is also the year to start our new journey towards the 2020 Games. With such an important year, I am delighted to see all of you here in this wonderful city of Guangzhou.

Being the representative of the voices for all National Federations, on their behalf, we are committed to strengthen our organization for our fencing community. I think one of contributions Japan can do is to bring up the talented youth from all over the world. With all of my members, I am here to announce our candidature for organizing the 2018 World Championships in Fukuoka, Japan. The Japanese government has just established "Japan Sports Agency" to enhance the development of the athletes and sports administration, with an eye to 2020. Here is the support letter from the Head of Japan's Sports Agency. Another great support is a video message from the mayor of Fukuoka city.

Video presentation

We believe 2018 will be a special year for us to "connect" with you.

Where is Fukuoka? It is located in the south of Japan, near China, Korea, and other Asian countries. It is famous for its history, culture, food, and night life. Many tourists from all over the world visit Fukuoka every year. In the survey of "quality of life", Fukuoka became the world's 12th most livable city this year, and 10th last year.

Fukuoka holds one of the biggest airports in Japan: 256 international flights every week from 20 cities. The city can be accessed from anywhere in Japan and the world.

As Mayor Mr. Takashima mentioned, Fukuoka also invites many international events and sport competitions, and has hosted the 1995 FISU Universiade, 2001 World Aquatic Championships, and in 2019 it will host the Rugby World Cup as one of the venues. In 2018, we hope to create a new stage with fencing so that each athlete can show the best performance on this stage.

This is Fukuoka. Marine Messe Fukuoka will be our competition venue. This multi-purpose facility has a seating capacity of 15,000, the total floor area of 8,000 square meters. The competition schedule is planned from 4th to 12th of August, with 8 colored pistes, 1 podium, and 20 pistes for the preliminaries.

The official hotel will be the waterfront hotel, the Hilton Fukuoka Sea Hawk. Its shape became the landmark of Fukuoka. It has 1,053 rooms, has a swimming pool and a gym. Rates are about 150 USD per person per night. There will be several other hotels made available in the range of about 80 USD near the competition venue.

Let us take you beyond this bay area. You can see the airport right there. It is a compact city. Our venue, hotels, and airport are all located within the range of 3.5 kilometers. All transportation times are within 20 minutes.

There are many cultural attractions with both urban elements and a traditional culture. In cooperation with Fukuoka City, we will plan a "Friendship Tour" available to everyone during the competition. Various programs will be based on themes such as culture, history, art, technology, and sightseeing.

One of our important missions is to deliver the exciting fencing sport to spectators and TV viewers more attractively. However, on the other hand, energy for providing a fencing competition is increasing continuously. We cannot ignore a burden of energy on the environment.

Fukuoka city is one of the most advanced eco and clean cities in Japan. With our determination for sustainability, we have prepared an ambitious plan to use solar power for most of the apparatus and equipment. The backup power source is included in this plan, so no interruption will occur during the competition.

In addition, Japanese ecological technologies like hybrid automobiles, soy-ink printing, will lead to the Environmentally Friendly World Championships.

Now, we have explained to you about Fukuoka from the perspectives of Stage, Compact, Culture, and Ecology. Last, but certainly not least, Technology: I will hand over a microphone to Yuki Ota.

During the past 10 years, the visual effect of fencing has rapidly developed to make spectators and TV viewers more excited. We are planning to take the venue to a next level. With the world biggest advertising company Dentsu, we have been developing a "Fencing Visualized Project", using motion capture.

Another new project, "Visual FOP". You will see a new visual effect with the LED on all over the Field of Play (FOP).

Video presentation

I am sure that all athletes hope to stand on this FOP, compete and deliver their highest performances as never before.

Applause.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Thank you very much to the Japanese delegation and now we invite the Chinese delegation for the presentation of Wuxi.

PRESENTATION OF CHINA

Dear Friends, Distinguished Delegates from the Fencing Federation, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Afternoon,

Today, it is my great honor to make this presentation on behalf of Wuxi, China. I would like to thank everyone for this opportunity and I would like to start with a short video.

Video presentation

Wuxi, known as "the shining pearl over Taihu Lake", is located in the core position of the Yangtze River Delta Region. With charming natural landscape, rich cultural background, convenient transportation and a developed economy, Wuxi has ranked among the Top Ten in China in terms of overall urban competitiveness for several consecutive years, and won many honors such as China's Outstanding Tourist City, National Historical and Cultural City, the Best City for Business Development in Mainland China, the Happiest City in the Chinese Mainland and the Most Ecological City with Global Competitiveness. In 2014, Wuxi's per-capita GDP exceeded 20,000 USD.

In recent years, Wuxi has successfully held a series of international sports events, for example, the International Shooting World Cup Final, the International Women's Handball Championships, the World Youth Archery Championships, the Taihu Lake Circling International Road Cycling Competition and the Snooker World Cup. All these events have given us not only a solid foundation but also rich experiences in running competitions. In order to better prepare for the 2018 World Fencing Championships, we've spent a lot of time and energy on making the systematic plan. Now, I will give you a brief introduction.

(1) Stadium Facilities. Wuxi owns a cluster of stadiums. Covering an area of 420,000 square meters, the Wuxi Sports Center will be the main stadium for the competition. As a part of the center, the Wuxi Gymnasium with a construction area of 57,600 square meters will serve as the main competition venue. The gym is well-equipped with 7233 chairs, VIP lounge, lounge for referees and athletes, media workshop, and doping control room, etc, which will better meet the need for competition and training. Besides that, we will further improve and upgrade the venue conditions in accordance with the principle of practicability and the FIE requirements.

(2) Accommodation & Reception. There are more than 150 high-standard (above 3 stars) hotels with 15,000 bed-space in Wuxi, among which over 50 hotels (above 3 stars) are within 5-20 minutes' drive from the competition

venue. Star-rated hotels provide various kinds of facilities, which can meet the requirements well such as accommodation, catering, and meeting of the teams and guests during the championship.

(3) Transportation. Wuxi has a developed transportation infrastructure, with civil aviation, high speed railway, urban rail transit and expressway as its framework. Wuxi Sunan Shuofang International Airport has over 40 domestic and international airlines with a daily flight volume of over 100 flights. It only takes 45 minutes by high speed railway from Wuxi to Shanghai. At the same time, we have a convenient urban traffic network consisting of public transportation, subway, taxi and etc. It is our promise that all the teams will get free local traffic service, also, we will offer free airport shuttle service for those teams in the international airports of Shanghai, Nanjing, Hangzhou and other places near Wuxi. We will prepare special vehicles for convenient and efficient transportation.

(4) Security & Service. Wuxi has several third-grade medical institutions which possess first-class international medical facilities and high level service personnel. During the competition, we will offer all-weather medical service for the match and set up an emergency treatment room in the court. As one of the Chinese cities with the best public security, Wuxi is able to provide a reliable and safe option for all the teams. In addition, Wuxi is now making great efforts to transfer itself into a "smart city", which enables it to offer first-class Internet technical support for the whole competition, and we believe that all of you will experience the multiple services of "smart sports".

(5) Sightseeing. Wuxi boasts rich tourist resources and places of interests, and local people are very hospitable, thus making Wuxi one of the most popular tourism destinations in the Yangtze River Delta Region. During the competition, we will invite all the teams to visit the most distinctive scenic spots in Wuxi, taste local delicacies and experience local traditional culture. Through these visits, you will be able to enjoy the beauty of Wuxi with your own eyes and come to know why the city is known as the right place to view the Taihu Lake, the Grand Canal, Lingshan Buddhist Scenic Areas and to experience an industrial and commercial history of one hundred years. Meanwhile, we will bear all of the tour expenses.

(6) Competition Date. According to the FIE practice, we would like to suggest the tentative date from August 2 to 8, 2018. But the final date will be readjusted by the FIE.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

To host the 2018 World Fencing Championships is the common expectation of 6.5 million Wuxi people. If you choose Wuxi, we believe all of you present here today and the teams will be attracted by the unique charm of Wuxi, known as "the shining pearl over Taihu Lake" and "a city famous for its mountains and rivers"! If you choose Wuxi, together we will create an even brighter future for the World Fencing Championships! If you choose Wuxi, we firmly believe each one of you will be proud of the right decision you've made today!

Wuxi is filled with tenderness and water. We warmly invite athletes, referees and guests from all over the world to take part in the competition here in Wuxi!

Thank you!

Applause.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Thank you very much to the Chinese delegation for its presentation. Now you should be able to make your choice.

Nathalie Rodriguez: You have the numbers on the screen. If you wish to elect Fukuoka, Japan, then you press 1 and Valid, if you wish to elect Wuxi, China, then you press 2 and Valid.

So, we open the vote.

The vote is closed.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): The World Championship in 2018 will take place in Wuxi. Congratulations to you! Congratulations to the Japanese city of Fukuoka for its beautiful presentation.

Applause.

I would also like us to applaud Fukuoka, before congratulating Wuxi. Thank you.

Applause.

The floor is to the Chinese delegation.

Chinese Delegation: Thank you my friends for your support and we look forward to seeing you in 2018 in Wuxi.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We will now come back to the J/C 2017 World Championships with candidature of Plovdiv, Bulgaria and Mrs. Hristeva will take the floor.

PRESENTATION OF BULGARIA

Hello again, I want to show you a short video about our city.

Video presentation

Velichka Hristeva (BUL): This is my city and I hope to see you again in 2017 for Junior and Cadet Championships. Thank you.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We will now move to the vote.

The vote is open for Plovdiv.

The vote is closed.

Nathalie Rodriguez: The 2017 Junior and Cadet Championships are awarded to Plovdiv, Bulgaria.

Applause.

For the Veterans 2018 World Championship we have received the candidature of Italy, Livorno and I ask the representative of Italy to address the Congress.

PRESENTATION OF ITALY

Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA): Dear Friends, I apologize for not having such a wonderful presentation on screen. Actually, we have been working only a short time on this possibility when we realized that we don't have many alternative competitors. Normally, our position from Italy is to be available and to not overimpose our presence since we have had many Championships in the last few years. But in this case, Veterans from Italy are the relevant movement. We have more than 1000 people in those categories and we were present with a very high number in all the last European and World Championships, even at the last and most recent Championships in March. Consequently, we decided that we have the obligation to maintain the good standard of this Championship that we have achieved in the last two years and we are proposing to do this in Livorno. Why Livorno? Livorno is a city that has very high traditions in fencing. Most of you probably remember the name of the family Montano. We have three generations of Montano born in Livorno and getting the Olympic medals, winning the World Championships, and so on. We also have a relevant number of professional veterans in Livorno that are ready to take the commitment to organize this Championship. Obviously, the Organizing Committee will be local, but it will be backed by the Italian Federation because we are confident that they can do a wonderful job, but we are also willing to avoid any possibility of defects and so the Federation will cooperate with them. Livorno, as you probably know, is not very far from Florence, near the sea. There are two airports, which are very close – Florence and Pisa, so it will be very easy to reach it by airplane or by train from Milano and Rome. There are hotels with convenient prices in sufficient quantity. We estimate that we need about 1000 beds to accommodate fencers and the people accompanying them. This is the experience of the last years. Transportation from the airport will be provided. The venue is a Sport Palace of excellent quality. All these details will be prepared and we will send them to you in due time. Obviously, three years is a long time for the Veterans. Maybe for senior World Championship, three years are a minimum, but for Veterans it will not take too much time to prepare. Also because after the Olympic Games, there will be a possibility that someone changes in our Organization, in our Board of Directors, in the Veterans Association and we will be ready with all this in a very short time. I apologize again for not having all this documentation, but I think at this period for the Veterans it is quite clear and we can support it perfectly. Thank you.

Applause.

Nathalie Rodriguez: So we are opening the vote on these 2018 Veteran World Championships.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

Nathalie Rodriguez: The 2018 Veteran World Championships are awarded to Livorno.

Applause.

We are moving now to the next item, which is the Candidatures for the World Championships.

13. Candidatures for the World Championships

Nathalie Rodriguez: We are requesting candidatures for the 2018 Junior and Cadet World Championships. So far we did not receive any candidature, but we would like to know if any Federation wishes to propose its candidature.

Giorgio Scarso informs us that Italy is candidate for the 2018 Junior and Cadet World Championships, but that the formal confirmation of this candidature will be done by the end of this year.

Applause.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We now move to the next item, which is the awarding of the Challenge Chevalier Feyerick.

14. Award of the Challenge Chevalier Feyerick

Nathalie Rodriguez: The Executive Committee is proposing to award the 2015 Challenge to two nominees: the first one is the Fencing Federation of Russia and the second one is František Janda.

The text proposed for the Fencing Federation of Russia is the following: "For its exceptional contribution to the development of the FIE, having organised successfully three remarkable World Championships in four consecutive years.

And also, during those four years, and in the purest spirit of fair play, it has helped another member federation to organise a spectacular World Championship."

And the text for Frantisek Janda is: "Motivated by the sole objective of developing fencing, he never ceased giving the best of himself and his entire energy to the cause of the European Fencing Confederation.

Through his personal involvement and actions and thanks to his tireless and ardent dedication, he was able to strengthen the friendship that unites the leaders of all national federations.

As a leader, member of the FIE Executive Committee, President of the Promotion Commission and international referee, he displayed remarkable human qualities, and in particular, loyalty, fair play and faithfulness under all circumstances."

If you agree to these two nominees, they can be approved by Applause.

Applause.

We will now ask the representative of the Russian Federation to come to the tribune and we will award him with the 2015 Feyerick Trophy.

Applause.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Please accept this beautiful award. Thank you for your friendship and contribution.

Alexander Mikhailov (RUS): Thank you very much.

Applause.

Nathalie Rodriguez: As the Czech Federation is not present but is represented by Slovakia, we invite the representative of Slovakia to come to the tribune to receive the award.

Applause.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Please accept this beautiful award. Thank you for your contribution.

Miroslav BARANIK, on behalf of the Czech Federation: Thank you.

Applause.

15. Miscellaneous items

Nathalie Rodriguez: The first item is the situation of Kuwait. You may know that the IOC has recently decided the suspension of the National Olympic Committee of Kuwait. Many other International Federations have followed that decision.

We have contacted the IOC and we explained that the FIE is in a period of qualification for the games and we have requested the possibility to not suspend the athletes.

So yesterday, the FIE Executive Committee took a decision regarding the situation of the Kuwait Fencing Federation, following the suspension of the Kuwait National Olympic Committee by the IOC.

In accordance with articles 1.2.8 and 2.1.1 of the FIE Statutes, the Executive Committee has decided to suspend the Kuwait Fencing Federation, pending a further decision by the IOC.

This suspension also applies to the referees of the Federation.

However, further to discussions with the IOC, the FIE Executive Committee, decided to authorise the Kuwaiti athletes to take part, under the FIE banner, in competitions under the aegis of the FIE.

Therefore, the name of the athletes and the acronym "FIE" must appear on the back of their fencing jackets. The national colours will be those of the FIE and not the Kuwaiti colours.

The Kuwait Federation will be informed as soon as possible.

The second item is a presentation from two representatives of Rio 2016, in order to provide you with the latest information and to update you with what is going to happen during Rio 2016. I ask the representative of Rio, whom you know very well as he is also an international referee, to come to the tribune

PRESENTATION OF RIO:

Arno Perillier (BRA): Welcome Ladies and Gentlemen.

Video presentation

Applause.

This is our fencing location. In the Olympics, we will have four clusters: Deodoro, Maracanã and Cities of Football, Fort de Copacabana and our Barra cluster. In Barra, we have the Olympic village, Il Centro, Olympic golf, and Olympic park.

The Test Event

Our test event coincides with the World Championship for women foil and men sabre. The test event will be in two venues – in the Military school of physical education in Urca, and the future Arena – Carioca Arena 3 at Barra in the Olympic park. We start with the Grand Prix on April 22 with the preliminary and Table of 64. After this, we have 2 days in the Carioca Arena 3 with women épée and men épée. Come back to Urca on April 25 for Team World Championship for women foil and men sabre (Table 32 and 16), and finish on April 26-27 in Carioca Arena 3 again with Finals for women foil and men sabre.

The Game Training

We start the training on July 24 and finish on August 30. That is the location for the training area with 14 pistes, the village, and the Olympic park. This is our Olympic park. Our village and the training area are just 10 minutes by bus from the Olympic village and the Olympic park is 15 minutes away. The fencing will take place from August 6-14. The gross capacity of Carioca Arena 3 is 4000 people and we are 97% ready. The agenda of the competition is: the first day we start with the women épée, the second day men foil, women sabre and men épée, and the third day we have women foil and men sabre. On August 11, we start with the Team competition that will be: first, women épée, men foil, women sabre and finish with the men épée. We have promotional activities during this year and next year if the FIE will approve it. In May, we have two activities: first, with the big events in the Laguna Rodrigo De Freitas with the Brazilian athletes and local community, and second, the experimentation with the public schools through a socio-cultural project and during our Grand Prix.

For next year with the partners of the FIE, our proposal will be:

1. Education increase awards in the schools with the project "Learn the art of fencing". That project aims to give the opportunity to the kids to see live fencing in the Olympic Games. We are distributing five hundred tickets per session during the games for these kids and for the associated projects.

2. The second project is "Discover fencing in Rio" to promote the fencing event that will be in an iconic place in Rio.

Video presentation

Applause.

See you in Rio in 2016.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Thank you very much. We have now finished with the miscellaneous items and also with the agenda, but I would like to make three announcements.

The photo of the Congress will be taken in the lobby at 19:50 sharp and then we will go to the Gala dinner, which will be held in this room.

Tomorrow morning, for the cultural day, you will be happy to know that you will sleep a bit more because the buses are going to be here at 10:00, and you will have to be in the lobby at 10:00 not before.

After our Congress, there will be a press conference at 18:30. You are all invited to attend the press conference, which will be in 20 minutes.

The Secretary General will address the Congress.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Friends, here we conclude our 94th Congress and I would like to thank you all and everyone for your active participation today. We will continue our celebration and cultural activities. I would also like to thank again Mr. Wei Wang, President of the Chinese Fencing Federation and wish all of you a nice evening.

Applause.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Krisztian will take the floor. I would like to thank the translators for the great job they have done and also the FIE staff, who, in perfect coordination with the Chinese Federation, has prepared this Congress for you.

Applause.

Krisztian Kulcsar: My very last obligation today is a sad obligation. I would like to make an announcement as well. The funeral of František Janda will be held in Prague on 26 of November. Those of you who would like to come please come to me and I will make a list. Thank you.

Peter Jacobs (MH, GBR): Applause to Nathalie for the amazing job she has done chairing this meeting.

Applause.



Annexes