



**SECRETARY GENERAL
COMMISSIONS AND COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Medical Commission

16 May 2026

Online

Present:

Gulnora Saidova
Henriette Tamas
Antoinio Fiore
Hosam El Sherbiny
Lisa Husel
Lazar Miceta
Jeno Kamuthy
Stella Skaliaraki

FIE Secretary General
Representative of the Executive Committee
President of the Commission
Member of the Commission
Member of the Commission
Member of the Commission
Member of the Commission
Projects and Development

Absent:

Davood Reza Shafaat, announced
Carpiro Quintana Victor Hugo
Ferjani Jameleddine
Halaimia Sabrina Imene
Maksimova Anastasiia

Meeting Agenda

1. Sofia Meeting – Plan and Strategic Outlook
2. Action Plan and KPIs Until Year-End
3. Sustainability and Environmental Initiatives
4. Questions and Answers

The meeting opened with remarks regarding the growing role of the Medical Commission and the need for stronger preparation ahead of upcoming meetings in Sofia, Hong Kong, and Congress. Gulnora Saidova emphasized the importance of better coordination, proactive planning, and closer collaboration among Commission members. She encouraged members to prepare materials in advance and to approach Sofia with clear priorities and proposals.

1. Strategic Planning and KPI Reporting

Gulnora Saidova informed members that all FIE commissions are expected to present a concise annual overview at Congress summarizing achievements, KPIs, and completed activities. She emphasized the importance of documenting Medical Commission work, including meetings, competitions attended, educational activities, and implemented initiatives.

She encouraged members to begin preparations before Sofia to avoid last-minute reporting and requested that progress be consolidated into a short, structured presentation.

Antonio Fiore highlighted that one of the Medical Commission's main priorities remains the standardization of medical protocols at FIE competitions. He informed members that significant work is underway to revise the FIE Medical Handbook, following a request from Natalie Rodriguez, with the objective of making it more practical and comprehensible, particularly for event organizers who often lack clarity regarding their medical responsibilities during World Cups and World Championships.

Antonio also noted that the Commission plans to review progress on the injury surveillance system, particularly the development of its digital platform, and expressed interest in updates from the working group. In addition, he confirmed that anti-doping matters would remain on the agenda, including updates on the anti-doping code and prohibited list, expected to be presented through upcoming regional webinars following changes to the Congress schedule.

Hosam El-Sherbiny proposed preparing a concise five-slide strategic summary, highlighting Medical Commission achievements, KPI implementation, and future priorities before Sofia.

Participants agreed that collecting evidence of completed work would strengthen the Commission's visibility and support future planning.

Decisions, action items and deadlines:

- The Medical Commission will prepare a KPI-based annual summary for Congress.
- Strategic progress should be consolidated before Sofia.
- Hosam El-Sherbiny to prepare a five-slide Medical Commission strategic presentation.
- Commission members to collect and share records of meetings, conferences, competitions, and medical activities.
- Preliminary presentation to be prepared before Sofia.
- Final reporting to be completed before Congress.

2. Sustainability and Environmental Responsibility

Gulnora Saidova introduced sustainability as an important FIE priority and encouraged the Medical Commission to contribute practical ideas for environmentally responsible practices in fencing events. She suggested exploring:

- Reduced paper usage through digital reporting;
- Sustainable operational practices during competitions;
- Medical-related environmental awareness initiatives.

Hosam El-Sherbiny reported that Version 4 of the Sustainability Strategy had already been approved and explained that the final version would be completed shortly. He informed members that implementation planning was already underway and that a pilot sustainability project would be tested during selected FIE competitions.

Hosam further explained that one section of the strategy specifically concerns medical operations and healthcare-related sustainability measures.

Decisions

- Sustainability considerations will be integrated into Medical Commission planning.
- Medical aspects of sustainability will be included in future operational discussions.

Action Items

- Hosam El-Sherbiny to finalize and circulate the sustainability strategy.
- Commission members to explore how sustainability measures can be incorporated into medical guidelines and event operations.

3. Medical Education and Certification

Secretary General emphasized the importance of strengthening medical education in fencing, particularly in developing federations where access to sports medicine expertise remains limited. She proposed developing:

- Educational opportunities for medical personnel working at competitions;
- Practical guidance for event organizers;
- More structured medical support systems across federations.

Hosam El-Sherbiny suggested expanding the concept beyond doctors alone and including broader healthcare professionals involved in fencing competitions, reflecting operational realities at events. Members discussed the possibility of introducing a more structured educational or certification framework to improve medical standards and consistency across competitions.

- Medical education and knowledge-sharing should become a priority area.
- The Commission will explore medical certification and education opportunities.
- Medical Commission members to prepare ideas for educational and certification programs.
- Gulnora Saidova and Commission members to explore support mechanisms for developing federations.

4. Sofia Preparation and Inter-Commission Coordination

Gulnora Saidova stressed the importance of advance preparation for Sofia and encouraged members to exchange proposals and discussion points before arriving at the meeting. She recommended:

- Sharing materials beforehand;
- Aligning agendas in advance;
- Planning meetings with other commissions to improve collaboration.

Antonio Fiore agreed to coordinate with Medical Commission members regarding possible inter-commission meetings and proposed preparing a draft structure ahead of Sofia.

Lisa Huzel raised the recent IOC statement on gender testing and proposed that the Medical Commission review the issue and discuss how it may affect fencing regulations and athlete protection policies. Members agreed that the topic may require coordination with additional commissions due to its broader implications.

- Sofia preparations should begin in advance.
- The IOC gender testing topic will be included in the Commission agenda.
- Antonio Fiore to coordinate discussion priorities and inter-commission meetings.
- Lisa Huzel to support agenda discussion regarding IOC guidance.

5. Medical Commission Capacity and Governance

Antonio Fiore raised concerns regarding the increasing workload of the Medical Commission and the limited number of active contributors. He noted that responsibilities continue to expand while participation remains concentrated among a relatively small group of members, creating challenges for implementation and continuity.

Tamás Henriette acknowledged these concerns and supported the need for stronger engagement and improved workload distribution within the Commission.

Lazar Mičeta raised concerns about the lack of communication with continental medical commissions, noting that some confederations have no medical structure and reporting concerns from the recent European Championships regarding non-compliance with FIE medical regulations. He proposed regular meetings with continental medical representatives and requiring confederations without medical commissions to appoint responsible medical contacts.

Lazar also referred to the incident at the Rio World Championships, emphasizing the need for improved education of LOC doctors and proposing a mandatory licensing system for national team medical staff. In addition, he suggested mandatory medical training for local doctors and physiotherapists involved in FIE competitions to strengthen medical standards at major events.

- The Medical Commission acknowledged the need to strengthen member participation and workload distribution to improve operational effectiveness and continuity.
- Greater coordination with continental medical structures was recognized as a priority, including improved communication and oversight mechanisms.
- The Commission agreed to further explore measures aimed at strengthening medical standards at FIE competitions, including education, licensing, and compliance with FIE medical regulations.
- Medical Commission members to explore mechanisms for regular communication with continental medical representatives, including confederations currently lacking medical commissions.
- Lazar Mičeta's proposals regarding mandatory education for LOC doctors, medical training for local healthcare staff, and a potential licensing framework for national team medical personnel to be reviewed for further discussion.
- The Commission to continue discussions on medical rule amendments and compliance standards during upcoming meetings, including coordination with relevant FIE commissions where required.

6. Hong Kong Medical Conference Preparation

Hosam El-Sherbiny provided an update regarding preparations for the Hong Kong Medical Conference, informing members that abstracts had already been received from multiple countries and keynote speakers had been identified.

He stressed the importance of timely communication and early invitations to speakers and federations.

Stella Skaliaraki informed participants that invitations had already started to be distributed and explained that communication with medical representatives often depends on national federations due to limited direct contact information.

Marina Petrova supported the coordination process by distributing speaker lists and facilitating communication.

Gulnora Saidova encouraged members to ensure strong participation and highlighted the importance of the Hong Kong conference as an opportunity to strengthen medical cooperation and visibility.

Secretary General encouraged the Medical Commission to strengthen coordination with continental confederations by requesting meetings with their leadership and medical representatives. She suggested contacting the General Secretaries of the European and Asian confederations, as well as exploring coordination opportunities with Pan American and African representatives, to improve communication and medical cooperation across regions.

- Hong Kong Medical Conference preparations will continue as planned.
- Speaker outreach and federation communication will be strengthened.
- Zoom meeting with Confederations Medical Commissions

7. Closure

In her concluding remarks, Gulnora Saidova encouraged Commission members to remain proactive and collaborative, emphasizing the importance of preparation, communication, and practical implementation of ideas.

She reiterated the importance of strengthening medical education, sustainability, athlete welfare, and international cooperation, while encouraging members to contribute actively to upcoming meetings and events.

The meeting concluded with a shared commitment to continue preparations for Sofia, Hong Kong, and Congress, while strengthening the role and visibility of the Medical Commission within the FIE structure.
