

# **International Fencing Federation**

## **90th Congress**

### **Ordinary Congress**



**Philadelphia (USA)**

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011**

# Contents

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Appendices .....	3
Attendance .....	4
Federations present or represented.....	5
Agenda.....	10
1. Address by the President .....	11
2. Validation of attendance and proxies.....	12
3. Ratification of the new Federations.....	15
4. Approval of the report of the 2010 Congress in Moscow (RUS).....	16
5. 2010-2011 Report of the Executive Committee .....	17
6. Financial report, study of the accounts for 2010/2011, report of the auditors .....	19
7. Approval of the accounts, discharge to the Executive Committee and to the auditors.....	21
8. Budget for 2012/2013 .....	22
9. Designation of the auditors .....	23
10. Proposals submitted to the Congress and opinions of the Commissions .....	24
11. Urgent decisions.....	40
12. Ethics .....	41
13. London 2012 Progress Report.....	48
14. Candidatures for the World Championships .....	51
15. Voting to award the World Championships Veteran 2012 .....	53
16. Chevalier Feyerick Trophy.....	54
17. Miscellaneous Items .....	55
17.1 The Situation of the Netherlands Antilles.....	55

## Appendices

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List of decisions of the Congress

2010 – 2011 report of the Executive Committee (1<sup>st</sup> semester)

Financial documents

Minutes of the Refereeing Commission

Minutes of the Legal Commission

Minutes of the Medical Commission

Minutes of the Promotion and Publicity Commission

Minutes of the Rules Commission

Minutes of the SEMI Commission

# Attendance

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The meeting opened at 10 a.m.

## Were seated on the tribune:

- |                                |                                  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • M. Alisher USMANOV (RUS)     | President                        |
| • M. Maxim PARAMONOV (UKR)     | Secretary General                |
| • M. Giorgio SCARSO (ITA)      | Vice-President                   |
| • M. Wei WANG (CHN)            | Vice-President                   |
| • Mrs Ana Pascu (ROU, MH)      | Vice-President                   |
| • M. Peter JACOBS (GBR, MH)    | Secretary-Treasurer              |
| • Mrs Nathalie RODRIGUEZ M.-H. | CEO                              |
| • M. Ioan POP                  | International Technical Director |

## Members of the Executive Committee present:

- |                                     |                                     |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • M. Max GEUTER (GER, MH)           |                                     |
| • Mrs Velichka HRISTEVA (BUL)       |                                     |
| • M. Emmanuel KATSIADAKIS (GRE, MH) |                                     |
| • M. Frederic PIETRUSZKA (FRA)      |                                     |
| • M. Sunil SABHARWAL (USA)          |                                     |
| • Mrs Ferial Nadira SALHI (ALG)     |                                     |
| • M. Per Palmstroem (SWE)           |                                     |
| • M. Omar Alejandro VERGARA (ARG)   |                                     |
| • M. NDIAYE Mbagnick (SEN)          | African Confederation President     |
| • M. David MUNGUIA PAYES (ESA)      | Panamerican Confederation President |
| • Mme Helen SMITH (AUS, MH)         | Oceanian Confederation President    |
| • M. Celso DAYRIT (PHI, MH)         | Asian Confederation President       |

## Absent excused:

- |                                   |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • M. Guk-Hyeon KIM (KOR)          | Member of the Executive Committee |
| • M. Ali Youssef HUSAIN (KUW, MH) | Member of the Executive Committee |
| • M. Frantisek JANDA (CZE)        | European Confederation President  |

## Honourary Members present:

- |                              |                          |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| • M. Jenö KAMUTI (HUN)       | Vice-President of Honour |
| • M. Samuel CHERIS (USA, MH) |                          |

## Federations present or represented

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<b>AFGHANISTAN</b>	<i>Represented by India</i>
<b>ALBANIE</b>	<b>Bardhyl Minxhozi</b>
<b>ALGERIA</b>	<b>Ferial Nadira Salhi</b>
<b>ANTIGUA</b>	<b>Chat Greene</b>
	<b>Antoine Kelesha</b>
<b>ARGENTINA</b>	<b>Victor Sergio Groupierre</b>
	<b>Gabriela Navas</b>
<b>ARMENIA</b>	<b>Armen Gregoryan</b>
<b>ARUBA</b>	<b>Thomas Austin Edison</b>
	<b>Leslie Franklyn</b>
<b>AUSTRIA</b>	<b>Ursula Hinterseer</b>
<b>BAHAMAS</b>	<b>Anthony Lewis</b>
<b>BANGLADESH</b>	<b>Islam Qamrul</b>
<b>BELGIUM</b>	<b>Alexandre Walnier</b>
<b>BENIN</b>	<b>Jacques Okoumassoun</b>
<b>BELARUS</b>	<b>Alexandre Romankov</b>
	<b>Guennady Kholiavsky</b>
<b>BERMUDA</b>	<b>Travis Stevens</b>
<b>BRAZIL</b>	<b>Gerli Dos Santos</b>
	<b>Ricardo Machado</b>
<b>BRUNEI</b>	<b>Haji M. Yusof H. Z.</b>
<b>BULGARIA</b>	<b>Detelina Zhelyazkova</b>
<b>BURKINA FASO</b>	<i>Represented by Mali</i>
<b>CAMBODGE</b>	<b>Sok Ang</b>
<b>CANADA</b>	<b>Stephen Symons</b>
	<b>Manuel Belmonte</b>
	<b>John Makela</b>
<b>CHILE</b>	<b>Rodrigo Moreno Castro</b>
<b>CHINA</b>	<b>Xiangyang Yuan</b>
	<b>Sun Yujie</b>

<b>CHINESE TAIPEI</b>	<b>Monica Ho</b>
<b>COLOMBIA</b>	<b>Clara Ines Rodriguez</b>
<b>COSTA RICA</b>	<b>Luis Alberto Cruz</b>
<b>CYPRUS</b>	<i><b>Represented by Greece</b></i>
<b>CROATIA</b>	<b>Reno Marolt</b>
<b>CUBA</b>	<b>Rigoberto Morejon</b>
<b>CZECH REPUBLIC</b>	<i><b>Represented by Germany</b></i>
<b>DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO</b>	<b>Yoma Pitshou Bolenge</b>
<b>DENMARK</b>	<b>Jan Sylvest Jensen</b>
	<b>Mads Vetli Hejrskov</b>
<b>EGYPT</b>	<b>Ismail Ahmed</b>
<b>EL SALVADOR</b>	<b>Adid Campos</b>
<b>ECUADOR</b>	<b>Pedro Manzano Torres</b>
<b>ESTONIA</b>	<b>Tonis Kaasik</b>
<b>FORMER-YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA</b>	<b>Nikola Isajlovski</b>
<b>FINLAND</b>	<b>Kimmo Pentikainen</b>
<b>FRANCE</b>	<b>Jean Pierre Kessler</b>
<b>GEORGIA</b>	<b>David Sakhvadze</b>
<b>GERMANY</b>	<b>Gordon Rapp</b>
	<b>Claus Janka</b>
	<b>Wilfried Wolfgang</b>
	<b>Lutz Schirrmacher</b>
<b>GREAT BRITAIN</b>	<b>Steve Higginson</b>
	<b>David King</b>
	<b>Hilary Philbin</b>
<b>GREECE</b>	<b>Emmanuel Katsiadakis</b>
<b>GUATEMALA</b>	<b>Wilfredo Ramirez</b>
<b>GUINEA</b>	<b>Soriba Sylla</b>
<b>EQUATORIAL GUINEA</b>	<b>Federico Modu E.</b>
<b>GUYANE</b>	<b>Juman Kalam Azad</b>

<b>HOLLAND</b>	<b>Etienne V. Cann</b> <b>Bert Van de Flier</b>
<b>HONDURAS</b>	<b>Marco Antonio Izaguirre</b>
<b>HONG-KONG</b>	<b>Tsan Wong</b> <b>Wing Rever Yau</b>
<b>HUNGARY</b>	<b>Krisztian Kulcsar</b>
<b>ICELAND</b>	<b>Gudjon Ingi Gestsson</b> <b>Nicolay Mateev</b>
<b>INDIA</b>	<b>Arun Kumar Vij</b>
<b>INDONESIE</b>	<b>Tanjung Aslizar</b>
<b>IRAN</b>	<b>Sarkis Assadourian</b>
<b>IRELAND</b>	<b>Tom Rafter</b>
<b>ISRAEL</b>	<b>Lydia Czuckermann</b>
<b>ITALY</b>	<b>Giuseppe Cafiero</b>
<b>IVORY COAST</b>	<b>Mekrokro Dosso</b>
<b>JAPAN</b>	<b>Yuko Kadowaki</b> <b>Atsushi Harinishi</b> <b>Kazushige Hirano</b>
<b>JORDAN</b>	<b>Hakam Al Khalidi</b>
<b>KAZAKHSTAN</b>	<b>Oleg Peskov</b>
<b>KOREA</b>	<b>Lee Kwang Kee</b> <b>Jae Sung Shim</b>
<b>KYRGYZSTAN</b>	<b>Osmonjan Kasymov</b> <b>Valerii Kariakin</b>
<b>LATVIA</b>	<b>Erika Aze</b>
<b>LEBANON</b>	<b>Ziad El-Choueiri</b>
<b>LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA</b>	<b>Salem Zitouni Adel</b>
<b>LUXEMBURG</b>	<b>Pascal Tesch</b>
<b>MALAYSIA</b>	<b>Abu Hassan Rusni</b>
<b>MALI</b>	<b>Wahadou Zorome</b>
<b>MALTA</b>	<b><i>Represented by Italy</i></b>

<b>MOROCCO</b>	<i>Represented by Algeria</i>
<b>MEXICO</b>	Jorge Castro Rea
<b>MOLDOVA</b>	Mihail Paghiev
<b>MONACO</b>	Georges Prat
<b>MONGOLIE</b>	Judger Otgontsagaan Bat-Erdene Khosbayar
<b>NAMIBIA</b>	<i>Represented by South Africa</i>
<b>NEPAL</b>	Shrestha Sunil Kumar
<b>NEW ZEALAND</b>	Kenneth Claridge
<b>NICARAGUA</b>	William Barberena Genet
<b>NIGERIA</b>	Adeyinka Faniyan Rachel Taiwo A.
<b>NORWAY</b>	<i>Represented by Sweden</i>
<b>PANAMA</b>	<i>Represented by Cuba</i>
<b>PERU</b>	Carlos Levi Cook
<b>PHILIPPINES</b>	Leah Gonzalez
<b>POLAND</b>	Jacek Bierkowski Jacek Slupski
<b>PORTUGAL</b>	Frederico Valarinho Clauso Neves
<b>PUERTO RICO</b>	Gregorio Lima
<b>QATAR</b>	Saleh Amer Al-Hemaidi Feriani Ziad
<b>SLOVAK REPUBLIC</b>	Julius Kralik
<b>SOUTH AFRICA</b>	Novak Perovic
<b>SPAIN</b>	Marco A. Rioja Perez
<b>ROMANIA</b>	Octavian Zidaru
<b>RUSSIA</b>	Alexander Mikhailov Stanislas Pozdniakov Semen Rikhtman Ilgar Mamedov



<b>SENEGAL</b>	<b>Mbagnick Ndiaye</b>
<b>SINGAPORE</b>	<b>Nicholas Kuo Wei Fang</b>
<b>SERBIA</b>	<b>Damir Baralic</b>
<b>SIERRA LEONE</b>	<b>Joseph Kaneka Kanu</b>
<b>SLOVENIA</b>	<b>Represented by Croatia</b>
<b>SRI LANKA</b>	<b>Ushaan Abeywickrama</b>
<b>SWEDEN</b>	<b>Lars Liljegren</b>
	<b>Pierre Thullberg</b>
<b>SWITZERLAND</b>	<b>Olivier Carrard</b>
<b>TADJIKISTAN</b>	<b>Turai Abdurahmon</b>
<b>THAILAND</b>	<b>Somded Tongpiam</b>
	<b>Jakravudh Somapee</b>
<b>TUNISIA</b>	<b>Moncef Ben Jilani</b>
<b>TURKEY</b>	<b>Muminhan Bilgin</b>
<b>TURKMENISTAN</b>	<b><i>Represented by El Salvador</i></b>
<b>UKRAINE</b>	<b>Vadym Guttsayt</b>
<b>UNITED ARAB EMIRATES</b>	<b><i>Represented by Egypt</i></b>
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>Kalle Weeks</b>
	<b>Greg Dilworth</b>
	<b>Derek Cotton</b>
<b>UZBEKISTAN</b>	<b>Saidakhmed Kamalov</b>
<b>VENEZUELA</b>	<b>Manuel Rondon</b>
<b>VIETNAM</b>	<b>Le Quang Phung</b>
	<b>Vinh Giang Hoang</b>
<b>VIRGIN ISLANDS</b>	<b>Joyce Bolanos</b>

# Agenda

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1. Address by the President of the FIE
2. Validation of attendance and proxies
3. Ratification of the new Federations
4. Approval of the report of the 2010 Congress in Moscow (RUS)
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6. Financial report, study of the accounts for 2010/2011, report of the auditors
7. Approval of the accounts, discharge to the Executive Committee and to the auditors
8. Budget for 2012 / 2013
9. Designation of the auditors
10. Proposals submitted to the Congress and opinions of the Commissions
11. Urgent decisions
12. Ethics
13. London 2012 Progress Report
14. Candidatures for the World Championships
  - J/C 2013
  - Senior 2014
  - Veteran 2013
15. Voting to award the World Championships Veteran 2012
16. Chevalier Feyerick Trophy
17. Miscellaneous Items
  - Situation of the Netherlands Antilles

## 1. Address by the President

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**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** I'm happy to see everybody here and I want to address some words to our delegates.

Dear Delegates, dear Friends, dear Guests,

On behalf of the Executive Committee of our Federation, I declare open the 2011 Congress of the International Fencing Federation.

First of all, my thanks go to the United States Olympic Committee, the Fencing Federation of the United States and the city of Philadelphia for their hospitality, strong commitment and support. As the President of our Federation, I'm proud of the recent developments of fencing. During the last three years, fencing has changed and we have dramatically increased the number of fencers, coaches and national Federations who participated in the World Championships. The prize fund is bigger than in many other sports. It is even more important that the FIE provides financial and material support to national Federations and to regional Confederations. This gives young fencers the choice to master their skills and Federations can conduct training courses and competitions and it has brought a new life to fencing in many countries. This has never happened before, that so many delegates from so many countries come to participate in a non elective congress. How many do we have registered today?

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** I think we have about 120.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** In reality, 120 countries participate in our Congress. I think this a record and a big success. Thank you for coming.

*Applause*

All this provides us with high hopes and expectations. I believe in the big success of fencing in the next Olympic Games in London. I look forward to the future of our sport and development of fencing, to make it more interesting, attractive and competitive; and also to provide more financial and other resources to develop our sport all over the world.

I wish you all the best and let us begin our work today.

*Applause*

## 2. Validation of attendance and proxies

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**Sunil Sabharwal (USA):** Good morning Ladies and Gentlemen, I hope everybody had a great evening the first night in Philadelphia. This morning, all I want to point out is, first of all, you have all seen a letter from the President of the United States of America welcoming you to the Congress. It is on your desk. The President Barack Obama is very busy these days so he could not be with us. Nevertheless, he sends his greetings to all the delegates and to all the fencers.

*Applause*

And at this point, I would like to welcome the President Kalle Weeks, the host Federation President of USA Fencing.

**Kalle Weeks (USA):** Thank you, Sunil. Good morning everyone and welcome to the United States and to Philadelphia once again. Thank you to President Usmanov and to all of you for allowing us to host the Congress. We are delighted that you are here and are looking forward to continuing to have a really successful Congress and having some entertaining and amusing events to come. I also want to thank our local organizing committee, Mr. Sabharwal, and the Philadelphia sports organizations and sports congress who have helped to support us as well as the United States Olympic Committee, without whose assistance we would not been able to host this event.

Mainly, I bring you greetings and best wishes from our USA Fencing board of directors and from our 20.000 members who are very pleased to know that you're here with us this week end. So, we are very pleased that you are here and we are looking forward to making good decisions to bring our sport forward through the next years, decades, and to learning from one another as we work together during this Congress.

Finally, we would also like to welcome you and your fencers to our country again. We will be hosting a Junior Women's and Men's Sabre World Cup in February. We will have the competition again with the Senior World Cup in June. Some of you may not know that we have a very large competition each summer that is attended by over 3500 people over ten days. They amount about 7000 different entries in various events, so we have a very large event and many of those are open to international fencers. We would be delighted to see you and your fencers come to join us once again in the spirit of international sport here in the US. Thank you for coming and let's move on to our busy agenda. Thank you.

*Applause*

**Maxim Paramonov (UKR):** And now, the president of the International Fencing Federation offers a gift on behalf of the FIE to Kalle Weeks, President of USA Fencing.

*Applause*

**Sunil Sabharwal (USA):** Thank you, Kalle. And at this point, I would like to mention a very special award that is being presented by the President of the US Olympic Committee, Mr. Larry Probst. It is a special recognition award to the FIE and to its leader, Mr. Alisher Usmanov.

*Applause*

**Larry Probst:** On behalf of the United States Olympic Committee, I would like to present this award to President Usmanov in recognition of all he has done to develop the sport of fencing around the world and for his tremendous support of the Olympic movement. Thank you, President.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** I already received a big honour in this Congress. Now, I think we can begin to work. I give the floor to our Chief Executive, Mrs. Rodriguez.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Thank you, Mr. President. Good morning everybody. Just some quick information on the translation: channel 1 is for English, channel 2 for French, channel 3 for Russian and channel 4 for Spanish. Before starting with the roll call I will maybe give you some information because we made some changes in the program of the Congress.

At 11:50 am, we will go outside for the photo of the Congress. At 1 pm, we will leave from the lobby to a restaurant which is just in front of the hotel. We will come back for the Congress at 2:30 pm sharp because the Mayor of Philadelphia will come. Then, we will continue the Congress and instead of stopping at 4 pm and start again on Sunday, we will continue the Congress today until the end. Tomorrow morning we will have the meetings of the Confederations from 10 am to 1 pm. Then, again, you will have lunch at the same place as today. Then, there will be the tour in the afternoon, which is optional but I recommend you to register because otherwise we won't have enough buses. And then, we will have the gala dinner tomorrow evening.

We start with the roll call and the distribution of the voting devices. It is the same system as the past years, that is, you vote "yes" and "valid", "no" and "valid", "abstention" and "valid". We start with:

USA, please raise your hand so that the hostesses can see you. Afghanistan, no, Afghanistan is not present. We will deal with the proxies afterwards. Netherland Antilles, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Aruba, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, is there any country in the second row that has not been called? In this row, all the countries have been called? Ok. Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bermuda, Belize, Belarus, Botswana, Botswana is not here? Brazil, Brunei, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Congo, Chili, China, Ivory Coast, Cameroun, Cameroun is not here. Congo, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cuba is not here? Denmark, Dominica, Dominica is not here. Equator, Egypt, El Salvador, Spain, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, is Gabon here, no. Great Britain, Georgia, Equatorial Guinea, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Guam, Guam is not here. Hong Kong, Honduras, Hungary, Indonesia, India, Iran, Ireland, Iceland, Israel, Virgin Islands, Italy, Jordan, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Korea, Latvia, Libya, Lebanon, Lithuania, Lithuania is not here. Luxembourg, Malaysia, Moldova, Mexico, Mongolia, Macedonia, Mali, Monaco, Nicaragua, Netherlands, Nepal, Nigeria, New Zealand, Peru, The Philippines, Palestine, Palestine is not here. Poland, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Qatar, Romania, South Africa, Russia, Senegal, Senegal is in the first row. Singapore, Sierra Leone, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Slovakia, Sweden, Syria, Syria is not here. Thailand, Tajikistan, Togo, Togo is not here. Taipei, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam. Antigua and Barbuda.

Did I call all the countries?

What country is it?

Are you Morocco?

Egypt? I did not call Egypt?

We will see now the proxies. We want to know if everybody here has been called.

We have 106 countries present.

Now for the proxies:

Afghanistan gives proxy to India. Does India accept?

Burkina Faso gives proxy to Mali. Does Mali accept?

Cyprus gives proxy to Greece. Does Greece accept?

Minutes of the 2011 Congress -FIE

Czech Republic gives proxy to Germany.

Morocco gives proxy to Algeria.

Malta gives proxy to Italy.

Namibia gives proxy to South Africa.

Norway gives proxy to Sweden.

Panama gives proxy to Cuba, who is not here. Puerto Rico?

Slovenia gives proxy to Croatia.

Turkmenistan gives proxy to El Salvador.

United Arab Emirates gives proxy to Egypt.

So it is over for the proxies. We have 106 countries present and 12 represented, that makes 118.

All the countries that received a proxy have now two devices or not? One is missing, which one? Egypt, do you have two devices? Two. India? Mali? Greece? Germany? Algeria? Italy? South Africa? Sweden? Puerto Rico? Croatia? El Salvador, one is missing here.

You will remember that when we vote on the statutes, we need 2/3 of the Federations present and represented. For the proposals on the statutes to pass, we need 79 votes. For the rules, it is the simple majority for a proposal to pass.

### 3. Ratification of the new Federations

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**Nathalie Rodriguez:** So, we now come to item 3 on our agenda, which is the ratification of the new Federations. This year, we have affiliated Albania and Guam. We will vote now on the ratification of these Federations.

We will open the vote and you will remember, “yes” and “valid”, “no” and “valid”, “abstention” and “valid”. 1 for “yes”, 3 for “no”, 0 for “abstention”.

We open the vote.

The vote is closed.

The two Federations are finally affiliated to the FIE.

*Applause*

## 4. Approval of the report of the 2010 Congress in Moscow (RUS)

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**Nathalie Rodriguez:** We now move to item 4 which is the approval of the report of the 2010 Congress in Moscow. I did not receive any comment. If you agree, we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

We would like to have everybody voting even if it is by abstaining.

**Maxim Paramonov (UKR):** Just a word to draw your attention to the fact that we are all here to put our vote. I invite you to be more active and to push the button, please. It is vitally important for the international Federation. We need your opinion as well.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Do not forget that if you do not vote on the statutes, we will never reach the 2/3 of the Federations. You really have to vote even if it is to press "abstention".

I explained at the beginning that the use of the device is that you press "yes" and "valid", "no" and "valid", "abstention" and "valid". You have displayed the numbers for... ok.

*Laughter*

It is the same system as last year and the year before. Nothing has changed. Now, I am sure we will have 118 votes.



## 5. 2010-2011 Report of the Executive Committee

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**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Now, we move to item 5 which is the annual report of the Executive Committee for 2010 and 2011. I give the floor to Maxim Paramonov.

**Maxim Paramonov (UKR):** Dear friends, you have of course received the Annual Report. It is full of many interesting things and I advise you to read it carefully. However I would like to let you know that this year, the International Federation has suffered the loss of many friends. Here is the list:

Mr. Hee-Woo Kim, Korea  
Mr. Attila Kovács, Hungary  
Mr. Moris Sakhvadze, Georgia  
Mr. Alfred Grasnek, Austria

We just learnt that Vratislav Janda, the father of Frantisek Janda, who was the President of the Czech Federation since a long time, is deceased.

We express our sympathies to the families and Federations for their loss.

I give the floor again to Mrs. Rodriguez.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** We will have to approve the annual report of the Executive Committee for 2010 and 2011. We will open the vote. You remember, 1 for “yes”, 3 for “no”, 0 for “abstention” and “valid”.

The vote is closed.

Much better! But still to be improved.

*Laughter*

Do you want me to explain again?

*Laughter*

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** Please explain about this button. We must explain with a demonstration.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** The test is functioning; I think some people forget to valid their vote. It you push 1 but nothing else, you do not valid your vote and it does not count.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** Please demonstrate.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** But they all have one.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** Yes, have but they don't understand which one it is.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** But it is written on the screen each time. Mr. Moudoux, could you please show the numbers again? So, if you want to vote “yes”, you press 1 and “valid”. If you want to vote “no” you press 3 and “valid”. And if you want to abstain, 0 and “valid”.

Yes?

*Someone speaks in the room*

We will make a test now. Mr. Moudoux, could you open the vote? I ask everyone to vote!

The vote is open. Please, vote.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** Please, everybody vote. Would you please push the button. “Yes” and “valid”, afterwards we’ll check. How many don’t work? Please. The vote is open.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** We ask everyone to vote; if you have two voting devices use them both.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** Everybody, push the button.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Did you all vote? “Yes”, “no” “abstention” and “valid”?

One is missing. Please, we suppose that there is one person who did not understand how it works or a person who left the room.

**Maxim Paramonov (UKR):** I would like to remind you that if you have two devices you have to vote on both. You will have to press two buttons.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** We come back to the Agenda.

## 6. Financial report, study of the accounts for 2010/2011, report of the auditors

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**Nathalie Rodriguez:** We now move to item 6 which is the financial report, the examination of the accounts, the report of the auditors. I give the floor to Peter Jacobs.

**Peter Jacobs (GBR, MH):** Thank you, Nathalie. Good morning everybody. I will be very quick with this. You have all received the financial papers and had the opportunity to study them so I will not try and explain in any detail. Just to say that on the profit and loss account, the results were slightly better than budgeted, 122.000 Swiss francs, better than was budgeted. We have actually balanced on profit versus loss and the result of this is that on our balance sheet on the end of June, I can say that our financial position is satisfactory to maintain the long term reserve requested and supported by the president and to protect this through the Olympic cycle. Obviously, with the currently turmoil in the exchange markets and the currencies, nothing is absolutely sure but that is the situation as of the 30<sup>th</sup> of June. Does anybody have any question on the finances, please?

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Yes, please, come to the microphone if you want to intervene. When you want to speak and thus come to the microphone, please announce your name and your country. Thank you.

**Ismail Ahmed (EGY):** This budget is about 30 million Swiss francs, about 30 million dollars. On the second page, there is only 2.300.000 dollars for the Federations.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** This is not the budget; it is the annual report, the financial report, not the budget.

**Ismail Ahmed (EGY):** The budget is about 30 million Swiss francs, which means 30 million dollars, ok?

**Peter Jacobs (GBR, MH):** Ok, I understand the question...

**Ismail Ahmed (EGY):** No, wait there is about 2.300.000 for all the Federations. The African Federation takes 137.000 dollars. Another equipment for all the Federations, about 800. Africa takes about 2000. Our Federation doesn't take two pistes and about 30 lamps I want to tell you that the price of the equipment is very high. The best cost, in Turkey, is about 1500 Euros they come from Allstar Uhlmann and they sell them 3500 Euros. It is very expensive and very different from the price. The lamps cost 10 dollars and we paid 100 dollars.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** I understand your question. Why do we buy at a price if you can buy at another price in Turkey, right?

**Ismail Ahmed (EGY):** Yes. It is very different.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** First of all, it is not the first time you ask that question. Our General Secretary has already answered you in Catania. The choice of the equipment in the FIE is made by people who, I think, are very professional. If you calculate the quality of what you propose and what we buy... First, it is an absolute question that shouldn't be asked in the Congress. Second, Allstar quality is much different from the Turkish one. Which company in Turkey makes equipment?

**Ismail Ahmed (EGY):** It is an example.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** In Russia we say: "If a horse is given to you as a gift, don't criticize it". You are asking "why do you buy this present for me at this price and not that price?" It is a very interesting question. But in reality, we checked it and Mr. Pop, you can

answer this but it is the last concrete question because we have a general agenda for our one year work and we need to finish it today. Don't waste our time; if you have a concrete question for your concrete Federation and you very much want to buy cheap equipment, talk to Mr. Pop and he can buy for you what you want. You must work with Mr. Mbagnick, the president of your Confederation. Ok?

**Ismail Ahmed (EGY):** No. I'm going to tell you why not. It is very expensive for our Federation.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** Expensive? You don't pay!

**Ismail Ahmed (EGY):** I know.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** I don't understand. If you don't pay, what is expensive?

**Ismail Ahmed (EGY):** One minute, please. I am saying that the FIE lost control of these companies regarding a limitation of the price. The FIE must control the price because we pays 25% more than we should.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** Your position is absolutely not understandable; it is not a dialogue. You ask a question and we give you an answer. In my opinion, it is an absolutely unrespectable question, when you ask "why do you buy this and at this price". You don't even buy it, you receive it. I don't know the prices of equipment; we have Mr. Pop taking care of it.

**Ismail Ahmed (EGY):** My second point -

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** I'm sorry but we cannot give you the floor for so much time.

**Peter Jacobs (GBR, MH):** May I make a request, please? The purpose of this moment in the agenda is to approve the accounts and the integrity of the accounts from the auditors. It is not to discuss how the FIE spent its money during the year.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** In this case, you can vote against this budget. I don't understand your question. If you receive support from the FIE, what's your question? Does everyone understand me or not? But, again, Mr. Pop, it is your responsibility to close this problem. My proposal is to speak with the president of the African Confederation to give money to Egypt to buy their equipment. Don't send them any more equipment. Ok? Thank you. Choose cheap equipment, no problem.

## 7. Approval of the accounts, discharge to the Executive Committee and to the auditors

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**Peter Jacobs (GBR, MH):** Ladies and Gentlemen, let's return to the subject. I want to say that the auditor's report, which you find in your papers, gave the FIE a completely clean bill of health and therefore Nathalie will agree that we ask the Congress to approve the accounts as they are and to give discharge to the Executive Committee and the auditors for the accounts of 2010-2011.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** We will vote on the financial items.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The financial report is approved.

## 8. Budget for 2012/2013

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**Peter Jacobs (GBR, MH):** And now, come to the budget for the 2012/2013 financial year which, again, you have in your paperwork. It is aimed to balance which includes a significant sum for the centenary of the FIE that will be celebrated in 2013. Otherwise, it is a normal budget, as part of the financial planning for the next Olympiad. I think you have all had the chance to see it, so I propose that we go immediately to a vote to approve the 2012/2013 financial year FIE budget.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The budget is approved.

## 9. Designation of the auditors

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**Peter Jacobs (GBR, MH):** Finally, on the financial side, I would ask the Congress formally to approve the appointment continuation of the auditors of the FIE, Ernst & Young, in Lausanne, who have audited our accounts for a large number of years.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The auditors are nominated.

## 10. Proposals submitted to the Congress and opinions of the Commissions

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**Nathalie Rodriguez:** We now move to item 10, which are the proposals submitted to the Congress with the opinions of the Commissions. As usual, we will start with the Statutes and I want to remind you that for a proposal to pass, we need 2/3 of the Federations present and represented. We need 79 “yes” for a proposal to pass. I give the floor to the President.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** Dear colleagues, we now move on to issues that deal directly with our Statutes so I will ask you the following: the leadership of the Federation has put together an excellent program for our time in the United States but now we are here to work and we need you to participate in this work in a most serious fashion. I will ask all of you to pay attention to all the questions and the changes we are making to our Statutes. I would like to ask to please stay in the room. I see a few empty chairs in the room already and yet we are just moving onto the very important part of our work. It is not going to take much time, I hope, but I would like to ask you to participate in the most responsible way. We are here representing all fencers of the world.

I would like to give an explanation to everyone, including the gentleman from Egypt. The FIE has never provided in the past more than 100.000 or 200.000, that is how things used to be up until 2008. This year, the amount that was mentioned by the delegate from Egypt, over 2 million, is direct help from the FIE. Certainly, we provide this assistance and we conduct bidding. I was just informed that we have significant discount for pistes, for example. And in the future, we will provide all the equipment taking into account requests coming from particular Federations. If the question is that we need to somehow exert more control over prices of other suppliers, I can understand the point but I would also ask you not to spend Congress time on minor issues. Instead, pay a full attention to this part of work, which is serious and we are going to have lots of time to relax. Thank you.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Please, take your documents on the proposals of modification of the Statutes that are in three languages. Each proposal is first in French, second in English and third in Spanish. For each proposal you have the opinion of the commissions concerned and finally the opinion of the Executive Committee. I am starting with proposals from the Executive Committee.

**Proposal 1.** The Legal Commission preferred to create a preamble in the statutes instead of three different chapters. This preamble is called “Constitutive Principles” and gathers proposal 1 and 3. The Promotion Commission and the Executive Committee were in favour of the opinion of the Legal Commission. If you agree we move to the vote on this proposal that is also linked to proposal 3 from the Executive Committee.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been accepted.

We now move to **proposal 2** of the Executive Committee which is related to article **1.1.2**. The Legal Commission was in favour of the proposal while saying that in the text, the words “a pour objet” should remain as it is. The Promotion Commission agreed. The Executive Committee was in favour of the opinion of the Legal Commission. If you agree, we move to the vote. May I also remind you that unless specifically mentioned otherwise, the proposals for the statutes will come into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> January. That is unless we specify it otherwise.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been accepted.



**Proposal 3** has already been dealt with in proposal 1 of the Executive Committee.

We move to **proposal 4** of the Executive Committee which is related to article **2.1.1** with the deletion of some words. The Legal Commission was in favour of the proposal. If you agree we will now move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been accepted.

We move to the proposals of the French Fencing Federation.

**Proposal 1** is related to article **10.3.1** of the statutes, which is similar to the proposal 1 from Germany and proposal 7 from Italy. The proposal wishes to move the Senior World Championships between 15 July and 15 August. The Promotion Commission was in favour; the Rules Commission approved in majority the proposal and the Executive Committee accepts that the period suggested be tested during the next Olympic cycle and then afterwards to analyze the consequences. We will first vote on the proposal and then determine the date of application. I have already been contacted by the future organizers of World Championships and they say they are ready to implement the new dates in 2013. We open the vote on this proposal.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been finally accepted.

*Applause*

The date of application, if Hungary agrees, would be 2012/2013 if Hungary is able to organize the World Championships between July and August.

**Krisztian Kulcsar (HUN):** I confirm.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Ok, Hungary has just confirmed that they can organize the World Championships at that date. So the date of application is 2012/2013.

May I remind you that we have also dealt with proposal 1 from Germany and proposal 7 from Italy.

We now move to page 14 of your document which are the proposals from the Italian Federation on the Coaches Council.

The proposal was reviewed by the Legal Commission which has made some modifications. The Executive Committee agreed on the revised proposal from the Legal Commission. I just have to mention that there are two slight typos in the proposal. In the article **6.8.3**, the words "est composé de dix membres" be kept and not deleted as it is in the document and also in article **4.7.5**, there is a reference to article **4.3.3** and it should be **4.7.3** minus typos. So actually the proposal was revised by the Legal Commission and the revised proposal has been accepted by the Executive Committee. We will vote on this proposal and, of course, on the revised proposal.

The vote is open.

It is **proposal number 1** from Italy, page 14 of your documents. The Coaches Council.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been accepted. The date of application is the 2012 Congress.

As the proposal was long, we now move to page 24 of the documents for **proposal 2** from Italy, regarding the elections of the Refereeing Commission. The Refereeing Commission thinks that the conditions are very selective and thus, is against the proposal.

*Someone speaks in the room, without microphone. Inaudible.*

As it was said in the 2009 and 2010 Congresses, when a proposal is modified by a body that was in charge of this modification, we always vote on the modified proposal. Because the FIE is based in Switzerland and functions according to Swiss laws, when a proposal is modified and is presented as modified, we vote on the modified proposal. We voted on the revised text from the Legal Commission.

On proposal 2, as I said, the Refereeing Commission is against the proposal. The Legal Commission is against and also the Executive Committee. So, we vote on proposal 2.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been rejected.

We move to **proposal 3**, which is on the re-writing of the article. The Refereeing Commission, the Legal Commission and the Executive Committee were in favour of the proposal. We will now vote if you agree.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been accepted.

We now move to **proposal 4**, which is related to article **6.1.2**. The Legal Commission was in favour of a revised text, which is "The Congress or the Executive Committee can also create Temporary Councils and Special Working Groups, when they deem it necessary to do so". The Executive Committee was in favour of the opinion of the Legal Commission. We can vote now.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been accepted.

We now move to **proposal 5**, which is also related to **proposal 6** from Italy and to **proposal 8** from Italy. It relates to several articles. The aim is to eliminate the cadet World Championships and to replace them with the Minus 23 World Championships.

Yes?

**Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA):** I would like to give you some explanations regarding this proposal.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** Which explanation? You gave all the explanations when you sent this proposal to the Executive Committee and to the Commissions. Why do you need to give an explanation now? You must ask the floor to give this explanation and if give you the floor then you can give the explanation.

**Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA):** *without microphone. Inaudible.*

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** I don't know, why?

**Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA):** *without microphone. Inaudible.*

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** Yes, but in my view we gave every opinion. The Italian Federation proposed; the Legal Commission is against; the Promotion Commission is against, no, is in favour...

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** The Commission was in favour and against actually.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** The Executive Committee is against it. Now, we ask the Congress to vote. We don't need any explanation. Thank you.

We don't have a lot of time... Your Federation made 8 proposals. Because I respect Italy, we give you the floor but, please, if you make a proposal, you have to respect the procedure. You made that proposal and you had to send the explanation to us. Please, Mr. Cafiero, come.

**Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA):** The reason of this proposal is to give the opportunity to fencers that when they come out of the category of juniors and are not really prepared, and this is common in many countries especially countries with lower level of champions, to be ready for the senior category. This is the opportunity to give them a kind of second level circuit for a few years up to 23 years. This is not against the cadet. The cadet is, in many opinions, a Championship that should be on the regional championship level. The best of them have already the possibility, to be at world level in the junior. The two conditions are not counterpoised. But the major point is to give the possibility of having a 23 years old Championship as well because many fencers in many countries have to close their activity after the junior without this.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** Because you gave the explanation, I also need to explain our position, as Executive Committee and President. In my view, it looks as if we increased the age to get married. It is not logical. Maybe we must change it to 25 years. Why 23? After 21 in sports, you are no more a junior. If you are not a junior, you can't be a senior. How can we split sport life into categories of 3 years each? Today it is difficult for us to arrange and find organizers for the Cadet and Junior Championships. Our fund, my fund, supports at least 20-30% of this competition. We now also have competitions for veterans. Only the FIE can afford to organize all these competitions. First, if we have one more category, who will give it a budget? Second, what is the biological difference between 21, 25 and 23? Can you explain? No. There is a difference between 16 and 21, between 17, 19 and 21, yes. It exists in every sport. But what is this category? I know you explained it and I respect your explanations. There are many big competitions in Italy, a fencing empire, but we can't split the principle. It is my opinion, with my full respect to the contribution your Federation makes to our sport, I think it is absolutely additional and it is an artificial creation of additional categories for the World Championships. It is only because you explained that I needed to answer. Thank you.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** I just wanted to add that we have seen in the past five years more and more fencers entering in Cadet World Championships. This proposal 5 is also related to proposal 6 and 8. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been rejected.

*Someone speaks in the room, without microphone. Inaudible.*

Yes, because I said that they were related. 5, 6 and 8 are withdrawn. If you remember we also have already voted proposal 7 with the French and German proposal.

We move to page 36, proposals from the USA. I think USA wanted the floor.

**Derek Cotton (USA):** Thank you for the floor and the opportunity to present. The proposal from the USA was designed to spread the work load of the Arbitrage Commission amongst more people, so to increase the size from 10 to 15 in an attempt to alleviate some of the work load. After consulting with other members of the FIE and after careful consideration, we still support the idea in theory but we are going to withdraw our proposal before this Congress and we will work for other ways to come up with ideas to support our Commission. Thank you.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Thank you very much. So, the proposal is withdrawn.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** I want to add the opinion of the Executive Committee. We discussed it a lot and everyone must understand the increasing role of the Arbitrage Commission because it is in any case sometimes a very subjective conclusion from the Referee which influences the results of our competition. We thought about it and the proposal of the USA is a variation and we must find an alternative during next year. We will come back on this problem. We can find solutions that increase the status, the influence and the role the Arbitrage Commission. We are continuing to work on this item.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** So, we have finished with the proposals related to the Statutes and I thus suggest a small break of 15 minutes. Then we come back afterwards for the Rules proposals and for the photo of the Congress and the lunch. So 15-minute break.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** 15 minutes, my friends,

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** I have to inform you that Guam has arrived.

*Applause*

We are very happy. The number of Federations present and represented is 119.

*15-minute break*

We now move to the proposals on the Rules and we start with the proposals of the Executive Committee. Again, for these proposals the application is January 1<sup>st</sup> 2012 unless it is indicated differently.

**Proposal 1**, which is similar to proposal 1 from Germany. The Medical Commission was in favour of the proposal and they wanted to add the words “or illness”, which has been accepted by the Executive Committee that maintains its proposal regarding the medical doctor on the competition. The Rules Commission was in favour of the proposal and the Executive Committee was in favour with the modification of “injury or illness”. We can vote now on the proposal.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been accepted.

We move to the proposals from the Rules Commission with **proposal 1** related to article **t.23.2**. The Refereeing Commission was in favour of the proposal and the Executive Committee also. If you agree, we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been accepted.

We move to **proposal 2**, which is related to **t.28.1**. The Refereeing Commission was in favour. The Rules Commission was in favour and just wanted to add the word “but” and the Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal and the amendment from the Rules Commission. If you agree, we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been accepted.

We move to **proposal 3** on **t.36** and **t.37**. The Refereeing Commission was not in favour. The Rules Commission was in favour but wanted to add a paragraph a). The Executive Committee was not in favour of the renumbering of **t.36** but was in favour of the proposal as being an introduction of article **t.37**. If you agree, we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been accepted.

What has been accepted is the fact that the Executive Committee was not in favour of renumbering **t.36** but in favour of the inclusion of the text in **t.37**.

*Someone speaks in the room, without microphone. Inaudible.*

This is what I said at the beginning. That is, when there is a proposal which is modified by the Commissions or by the Executive Committee, we vote on the proposal that is modified. It has always been the rule in all our Congresses.

*Someone speaks in the room, without microphone. Inaudible.*

**Proposal 4** which is related to **t.38**. The Refereeing Commission was in favour of the proposal and the Executive Committee too. If you agree, we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 5** related to **t.102** and **t.28**. The Refereeing Committee has formulated a simpler proposal on **t.28.1** and **t.102**. The Executive Committee was in favour of the revised text proposed by the Refereeing Commission. If you agree, we move to the vote.

*Someone speaks in the room, without microphone. Inaudible.*

Sorry? Yes, we are dealing now with the revised text by the Refereeing Commission.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 6** is similar to proposal 2 of Iran. The Refereeing Commission agreed to the proposal and the Executive Committee also. I have to mention that if this proposal is voted, as it requires a modification in all the software of competitions and the related documentation the application will be for the next season because we cannot ask now the manufacturers to make all the modifications for the current season. If you agree, we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 7** related to article **o.53.3**. The Refereeing Commission and the Executive Committee were in favour of the proposal. If you agree, we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 8** related **o.81.1**. With the agreement of the Rules Commission there are two slight modifications to this proposal.

First, we cannot add the word "satellites" in this article because it would imply that only A and B referees must be used in these competitions, though in satellites you can have also candidates to the refereeing examination. So, if you add the word "satellites" it means that the candidates can no longer be referees in these competitions.

Second, it is very important that, if the proposal is accepted, from January 1<sup>st</sup> you will be able to enter referees in junior competitions. This is very important and we wanted to add the words that these referees "must have an FIE category in the weapon of the competition for which they are entered". It is important because we cannot use in a foil competition, for example, a referee who has only a category at epee. We just add the words that the referees "must have an FIE category in the weapon of the competition". It will be implemented in January 2012. If you agree, we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 9** related to **o.81.2** and **o.86**. The Refereeing Commission was in favour. The Rules Commission was in favour but also adds that they want to renumber the articles. The Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission. If you agree, we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 10** related to **m.8**, **m.16** and **m.23**. The Semi Commission and the Executive Committee were in favour of the proposal. If you agree, we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 11.** The Semi Commission and the Executive Committee were in favour of the proposal. If you agree, we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been accepted.

The **last proposal** of the Rules Commission is related **m.12.2**, **m.12.3** and **m.20.1** and **m.20.2**. The Semi Commission and the Executive Committee were against the proposal. If you agree, we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal has been accepted.

I now propose to have a break for the photo of the Congress. You will find hostesses showing you the way to do the photo outside and then you will leave from the lobby to go to the restaurant, which is just in front of the hotel. Please, leave your voting devices on your table. Don't take them with you. You will have lunch at 1pm and we have to start at 2:30 pm sharp because the mayor of Philadelphia will come so we cannot be late. Thank you.

*Photo of the Congress & lunch break*

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Please, let's start the Congress again. Please, dear delegates. Ladies and gentlemen please, take your seat, we are starting again.

**Maxim Paramonov (UKR):** We definitely need to finish our work today if you don't mind because after this we have a lunch. It is a very important part of the Congress, we should attend it as well as the Congress itself. So I do hope we continue our work as soon as possible.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** An important issue. Please, excuse me. I was told by some delegates that there might have been a misunderstanding when it came to vote on the last proposal. I would like to remind you that when you vote "yes", you vote in favour of a proposal or of a revised proposal. If you vote "no" it means that you vote against a proposal or a revised proposal. I was told by some delegates that there was a misunderstanding on the last proposal because some of you, by voting "yes", supported the opinion of the Executive Committee and Commission, though when you voted "yes" it means you voted in favour of the proposal. So for the coming proposals please, if you vote "yes" it means you are in favour of the proposal or the revised proposal, if there is any. If you vote "no", you vote against the proposal or the revised proposal. My question to you as I was told there is that misunderstanding: do you want to come back to the last proposal and vote it again so that we be sure of what you wanted to vote.

*People speak in the room.*

Yes? Ok, so if you remember, it was **proposal 12** of the Rules Commission. The SEMI Commission was against the proposal and the Executive Committee was against the proposal. So if you want to vote in favour of the proposal you vote "yes". If you want to vote against the proposal you vote "no". Proposal 12 of the Rules Commission. So is it understood? "Yes" in favour of the proposal, "no" against the proposal. Since you agree we will come to a vote. So the vote is open.

**Julius Kralik (SVK):** Julius Kralik, Slovakia, just to help what you tried to introduce now. I am not sure that everyone understood. The problem is we have text which was considered not correct by competent commissions so the proposal of the Executive Committee and the SEMI Commission is not accepted. So it should be clear –

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** It is not the proposal from the Executive Committee. It is just an opinion of the Executive Committee.

**Julius Kralik (SVK):** Exactly.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** We are not voting on the opinion. We are always voting on a proposed text. Whether it be original or modified.

**Julius Kralik (SVK):** Perfect, now we have to decide if we want to say “yes” for the text or say “no” and follow what is proposal of SEMI Commission and Executive Committee. I think this should be clear.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** So again, when you vote “yes” you are in favour of the proposal whether it be modified or not. And if you vote “no” you vote against the proposal whether it be modified or not. We never vote on an opinion of a Commission or the Executive Committee so when you vote it is not in support of an opinion but for or against a proposal.

The vote is closed.

So I think that in the end we understood each other. So thank you. By the way I wanted to announce that Cuba arrived, finally.

*Applause*

And we are now 120 Federations present or represented, and I also wanted to add, because I forgot at the beginning, that you have all received a poster of the Congress with the compliments of the FIE.

**Maxim Paramonov (UKR):** Dear friends, I have a small announcement to present the excuses of the President. I'd like to inform you that Russia has presidential elections going on now and that is why the President has to go to the embassy and perform his duty which is to vote for the President so he will arrive in 5-10 minutes from now and he asks us to resume our sessions. Yes, parliamentary, that's correct, yes. He will be back in 5-10 minutes. Thank you.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Sorry, yes

**Pascal Tesch (LUX):** Ok, another procedural question. If we vote for an amendment, if there is an amendment proposal we do not then vote for the initial proposal, right?

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** This is what I explained from the beginning. According to Swiss law, when you have a proposal which is not amended you vote on the proposal which is not amended. If you have an original proposal and then this proposal has been amended by the competent bodies you vote on the modified proposal.

**Pascal Tesch (LUX):** I understood, I understood that. I just wanted to make sure I understood it right. So, if there is only an opinion we still vote on the initial proposal.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Sorry?

**Pascal Tesch (LUX):** If there is only an opinion, be it –

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Yes, that is that if there is no revised text, we vote on the original proposal.

**Pascal Tesch (LUX):** Ok. Even if the Executive Committee says no -



**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Yes. We always, always vote on a text, never on an opinion.

**Pascal Tesch (LUX):** I would then suggest that this would be revised because by just doing a little, a minor amendment that doesn't please, the Executive Committee can void any proposal. Because if the amendment does not please the assembly they will vote against it, while the initial proposal might have pleased. It is just a suggestion.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Yes, but I have to explain this is not a rule which has been invented by the FIE. We have to follow the Swiss law whether the Congress is in Philadelphia or in Switzerland. So we have to abide by the Swiss law regarding the functioning of the proposals. So may I suggest that if a revised text is proposed and refused and if you wish to vote on the original text, then you just say it. But this was not the case so far.

**Pascal Tesch (LUX):** It is just about the way the FIE is going to handle this. If the FIE doesn't do any amendments furthermore then we do not have the problem.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Yes.

We now move to the proposals from the SEMI Commission.

**Proposal 1:** The Rules Commission was in favour, the SEMI Commission was in favour and the Executive Committee was in favour. So if you agree we move to the vote. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 2:** The Rules Commission was in favour, the SEMI Commission was in favour but has proposed a revised text and the Executive Committee was in favour of the revised text of the SEMI Commission. I have to mention that if this proposal is voted it can only be for the next season because it implies a modification on the jacket. So it will be for the next season if it is voted. If you agree we move to the vote. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 3:** The Rules Commission was not in favour of the inclusion of standards established by only one manufacturer thus the SEMI Commission has modified its proposal and the Executive Committee has been in favour of the modified text proposed by the SEMI Commission. Again, if the modification is accepted it will be implemented in 2012 and 2013 because it also implies modifications to the equipment. We move to the vote. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 4:** The Rules Commission had the same opinion as for the last proposal, thus the SEMI Commission has revised its proposal and the Executive Committee has been in favour of the revised text from the SEMI Commission. If you agree we pass to the vote. Again the application will be for the next season because there is also a modification in the equipment. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 5:** The Rules Commission was in favour of the proposal, the SEMI Commission also and the opinion of the Executive Committee was also in favour of the proposal. Again, because it comes to a modification of the equipment, the date of application will be 2012-2013. We pass to the vote. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been accepted.

We now move to the proposals from the French Federation which relates to article **o.43.4** of the Rules.

**Maxim PARAMONOV (UKR):** I would like to attract your attention on the fact, dear friends, that these are technical issues. I would like to ask Mr. Pietruzka to give you an explanation on the subject that we're talking about. Please don't treat him as a member of the Executive Committee but as the technical point person. Yes, Frédéric.

**Frédéric Pietruzzska (FRA):** Thank you. Just some explanations. The way we calculate the junior championships by team gives more importance to the individual but the difference between the 33<sup>rd</sup> place and the 63<sup>rd</sup> place, since it gives 30 points of difference, is not the same as the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> place and we know that for the rankings the fencers between the 33<sup>rd</sup> and 63<sup>rd</sup> place have the same number of points and we thought that the system that was used to calculate with regards to the system existing today could be more fair and our proposal is to ensure that there is greater importance given to the better ranked players. I know there is a certain reluctance from the Rules Commission. But I think we can go around that by keeping the nation that has the best ranked player will be placed in front of the other. Si it is a bit technical in terms of the calculations but I think that this can put a more fair system in place than the one currently existing. Thank you.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Thank you Frédéric. Now we move to the vote. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been refused.

We move to the proposals from Great Britain. The proposals from Great Britain.

**Proposal 1.** The Rules Commission was in favour, the SEMI Commission was in favour and the Executive Commission was in favour. As there was also here a modification of the equipment if the proposal is voted it shall be implemented in 2012-2013. If you agree we pass to the vote. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 2.** The Rules Commission was in favour, the SEMI Commission was in favour and the Executive Commission was in favour. Again as it is a modification to the equipment the application will be 2012-2013. We pass to the vote, if you agree. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 3.** The Rules Commission has the same opinion as for the past proposal. The SEMI Commission agrees with its motivation but slightly modified the text and the Executive Committee was in favour of the revised text of the SEMI Commission. Again if this proposal passes, the application shall be 2012-2013. If you agree, we pass to the vote. Can you come to the microphone please? Otherwise we cannot hear you.

**Steve Higginson (GBR):** Steve Higginson, Great Britain. There's just one little point. We're quite happy with the wording that was agreed for the SEMI proposal except that there's the addition of something in the addition to the diagram that wasn't in the SEMI but is in ours. The last line of our actual proposal.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Yes, yes. We are only dealing with the revised text, the rest being the same. That is we do not cancel the rest of the proposal. We are just saying that the SEMI has revised the first part of the proposal. But the rest has been kept.

The vote is closed. The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 4.** The Rules Commission was in favour, the SEMI Commission was in favour and the Executive Committee was in favour and the date of application will be 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012. So we move to the vote, if you agree. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been accepted.

**Maxim Paramonov (UKR):** Dear colleagues, let's welcome Mr. Mayor and the President of the FIE who are coming to join our meeting.

*Applause*

**Sunil Sabharwal (USA):** Ladies and gentleman, this morning you have seen the letter of President Obama. Now we have the pleasure to meet in person another important political and civic leader of the United States, the mayor of Philadelphia, Mr. Michael Nutter. Mr. Nutter has just been re-elected for his next term, so let's give him a round of applause and welcome him.

*Applause*

**Michael Nutter:** Thank you and good afternoon. Thank you so much for being here and sorry to interrupt your proceedings, I know you have many important measures to take up but Sunil thank you so so very much and can we please give Sunil Subharwal a big big round of applause. Thank you so much. And to our President, Mr. Usmanov, whom I met outside. President Usmanov, thank you for your warm and gracious greeting as I came in to the hotel here today. Please, one more time, please recognise our dear President. Thank you, thank you so much. Kalle Weeks, President of USA Fencing, and Larry Probst, US Olympic Committee Chairman, thank you so so very much as well. I want to give you a traditional Philadelphia greeting and that is to welcome you to the city of brotherly love and sisterly affection. The 5<sup>th</sup> largest city in the United States of America. Welcome to our great city. Thank you so so very much. It is an honour to be the host city of such a prestigious group and to welcome FIE delegates from around the world to Philadelphia. It is specially a great honour to be the first US city in FIE's 98 year history to host the conference and that should be considered a point for Philadelphia, touché.

*Laughs*

We're also proud of being the only US city hosting an international sports Federation's conference during the year 2011. This weekend is the result of a tremendous between and among a number of organizations including of course FIE, the US Olympic Committee, USA Fencing and Philadelphia Sports Congress and the City of Philadelphia. Larry Needle heads up the Philadelphia Sports Congress and he's in the back, you might want to know him. Please give Larry a big, big round of applause.

*Applause*

Thank you so so very much. So no matter what your weapon of choice may be, sabre, foil, épée, everyone can enjoy all of the wonderful attractions our city has to offer here and especially at this particular time of the year. Naturally restaurants and museums and an incredible facility right here, nightlife, shopping, and we encourage you to see all that Philadelphia has to offer. I know that there are many things that you have to do with regards to the Congress here. My office is in City Hall, right down the street, huge building, the largest city hall in North America, with Billy Penn on the top. If you need to be excused I would be glad to see you at my office and I'll give you a note of excuse so that you can be out of the conference for a few minutes. In any event, Travel +Leisure Magazine recently rated Philadelphia as the Number 1 city for culture in the United States of America and I encourage you, in your off ours, to come and enjoy all that the city has to offer. Please enjoy and all that I can lastly say to you is: en garde! Thank you so so very much, bye bye.

*Applause*

**Sunil Sabharwal (USA):** Mr. Mayor, Mr. President, there's a small gift exchange on the side.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** On behalf of every participating delegation of the Congress I want to thank our friend, mayor of Philadelphia. Thank you very much for creating such beautiful conditions for our event. I want to tell the Mayor that fencing feels like at home here. Thank you very much for your support in organizing such a beautiful hotel and every other excursion which our delegates have had. I think that we will keep in our memory, in our heart, this place as being the mother of American cities. Thank you very much Philadelphia.

*Applause*

We would like to give a gift to the Mayor, as memory from us. And I think I will also receive something for fencing.

*Laughs*

**Michael Nutter:** First of all let me say thank you for the watch. Maybe that will help keep me on better time as mayor. You know that Philadelphia is a great great competitive city as well.

Travel + Leisure Magazine also rated Philadelphia a couple of weeks ago as the most sports-crazed city in the United States of America, and with that in mind, if you go up to the Art Museum, it is not just from the movies but it is a small token, this is a replica of the Rocky Statue, you can either run the steps of just go take a photo with the statue but I wanted to present to our Chairman this statue as a token of appreciation from Philadelphia. Thank you.

*Applause*

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** I want to recognise the status of Philadelphia as best sport city in America because there is only one place, I think, where a great soviet hockey team lost, and it is here. CSKA lost to Philadelphia Flyers, unfortunately.

*Laughs*

**Michael Nutter:** Thank you sir, thank you.

*Applause. Michael Nutter leaves the room.*

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Could we have the result of the last vote on the – yes. The proposal has been accepted.

Next proposal, which is **proposal 5**. The Rules Commission was not in favour of the proposal, the SEMI Commission was not in favour of the proposal, and the Executive Committee was not in favour of the proposal. So again, if you are in favour of the proposal you vote “yes”, if you are against the proposal you vote “no”. So we move to the vote. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been refused.

**Proposal 6.** The Rules Commission was in favour, The SEMI Commission was in favour and the Executive Committee was in favour so if you agree we move to the vote. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 7** is a very long proposal but actually the Rules Commission has revised completely the proposal in a very simplified and easy way and instead of having these long texts it proposed some modifications which are much easier than the proposal itself and the Executive Committee was in favour of the completely revised proposal from the Rules Commission. If you agree we move to the vote and we are voting on the revised proposal from the Rules Commission which is much simpler and less long than the original one. So the vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been accepted.

So we now move to the proposal of the German Federation which has already been dealt with the proposal from the Executive Committee so it is already treated.

And we move to the proposals from the Iranian Federation.

**Proposal 1.** Yes, yes, sorry. Oh, sorry, sorry, sorry, you're right. Yes?

*Someone speaks in the room, without microphone. Inaudible.*

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** No, no, we did not vote on the blue card. We voted only on the revised proposal from the Rules Commission. The blue card was not voted. Thank you.

Proposals from the Iranian Federation. Proposal 1. The Refereeing Commission was not in favour of the proposal, the Rules Commission was not in favour of the proposal and the Executive Committee was not in favour of the proposal. If you agree we move to the vote. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been refused.

**Proposal 2** has already been dealt with with the same proposal from the Rules Commission so we move to **proposal 3**. Actually there are not two proposals inside because the first proposal deals only with the English version of the Rules and it has already been corrected so we deal with the rest of the proposal and the Refereeing Commission was in favour of the proposal, The Rules Commission was in favour and the Executive Committee was in favour

so we move to the vote and the vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 4.** The Refereeing Commission was not in favour, the opinion of the Rules Commission was divided but finally not in favour and the Executive Committee was not in favour so if you agree we pass to the vote. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been refused.

We move to the proposals from the Italian Federation. **Proposal 1.** The Rules Commission was not in favour of the proposal, the SEMI Commission was not in favour of the proposal and the Executive Committee was not in favour of the proposal. We move to the vote and the vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been refused.

We move to the proposals from Poland and Luxembourg. **Proposal 1.** The Rules Commission thinks that the proposal should also be valid for all competitions but the proposal actually is only for the World Championships and the Olympic Games. The SEMI Commission agrees with the proposal and the Executive Committee is in favour of the proposal. If you agree we pass to the vote. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been accepted.

But I think that maybe the SEMI Commission could propose measurement, yes, the SEMI Commission will be in charge of indicating a standard, yes, yes. You mean the 2012 Olympic Games? Yes. Because it is - we are dealing only with the World Championships and Olympic Games but actually it is too late for the Junior World Championships so it will be applicable for the Olympic Games. If it is possible. Yes we'll say next Olympic Games. Yes

**Jacek Bierkowski (POL):** I would like to explain this question. Last week in London we had the Test Event for the Olympic Games and LOCOG, the London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games, invited the French company Sofranel, which was in charge of checking the blades. And it was absolutely necessary because 13% of the blades, pardon 14.1%, were wrong it is absolutely necessary to immediately start to check these blades. For our fencers safety it is absolutely necessary that we start to checking them immediately. It is easy, only 20 seconds per blade. It is two hours per day, it is finished.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Jacek, what is missing in the proposal is measurement. It is tested by courant de Foucault but the question was the standards of measurement.

**Jacek Bierkowski (POL):** It is a system of the electromagnetic checking of the structure of the metal -

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Thank you but what we need is a text from the SEMI Commission explaining how the test is done and what are the standards. And the date of application is the London Olympic Games?

**Jacek Bierkowski (POL):** Yes, it must be London. Yes, absolutely London. Yes because London started with 36 fencers, it is 2 hours per day, maximum 3 days checking.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Thank you very much.

**Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA):** Maybe my question was not clear. I am not against the concept of making this kind of control, but any technical point must have a point, yes or no. When we say the weight is 750 grams, 740 is not regular, 751 is regular. Take Courant de Foucault without indicating the level under which it is safe or over which it is not safe is not sufficient and in the Rules it should be indicated these as we indicate waves, curves and everything else.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** This is why we asked the SEMI Commission to provide a text indicating clearly the ratio under which level it is refused.

**Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA):** But the full text should indicate also "The SEMI Commission will establish the level of this".

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Yes

**Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA):** And there is another point was in our Commission and I, in my opinion, is regarded. If it is a question of safety, we cannot just limit this to Olympic Games or World Championships. If it is safety, it must be even in all competitions. If it is not a question of safety, well, we don't need it. But we cannot have different levels of safety according to World Cup competitions or World Championships. This is not fair in my opinion.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** The question is also that for now we are introducing it for the World Championships and the Olympic Games because we gather many fencers but also because we do not want to increase for the moment the expense of each organiser. We are starting with the World Championships and the Olympic Games and then we will see later on if it is possible, at a low cost, to introduce the rule for the rest of competitions. Because the equipment is necessary and the renting of the equipment must be discussed. The renting of the equipment is not much for a World Championships, on the whole expenses of a World Championships, but for a competition it is something else. So the vote was only on the World Championships and the Olympic Games, for the moment.

**Pascal Tesch (LUX):** May I give you an explanation, signore Cafiero, I am not a metallurgist, you have to ask people who is more specialised than that, but in this test, either you pass or you fail. You see on the test if it is good or not. So maybe you as a lawyer you see it from a different point of view, me as a technician I see if it is wrong, or right. But you're right, from the wording it should be a bit more clear. But this is one thing and for the rest first of all Nathalie just said that we have to start. We start at the Olympic Games, we start in the World Championships, where we can afford it. Later we have to introduce it all over. So I agree on that, but we have to start where we can afford to start.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** So **proposal 2**. So, the Rules Commission suggests that the SEMI Commission could intervene to check any apparatus and the Commission is proposing a new text but the SEMI Commission actually approved the proposal with the modification of certain words and the Executive Committee was in favour of the revised text from the SEMI Commission. If you agree we pass to the vote. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 3.** The SEMI Commission was in favour of the proposal but the text should be included in m.57 and the final text was revised. The Executive Committee was in favour of the final text revised by the SEMI Commission. We pass to the vote. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 4.** The SEMI Commission was in favour but included the text in **m.57.10** with the revised text and the Executive Committee was in favour of the revised text from the SEMI Commission. So we pass to the vote. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 5.** There is an original proposal which has been revised by the SEMI Commission and the Executive Committee was in favour of the revised text proposed by the SEMI Commission with the addition of a paragraph regarding the withdrawal or suspension of homologation. If you agree, we vote on the revised proposal from the SEMI Commission with the addition of the text from the Executive Committee. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been accepted.

We move to the proposals from the US Federation which are on page 77 of your document because we have passed a lot of pages. So **proposal 1**. The Refereeing Commission was in favour, the Rules Commission was not in favour. The SEMI Commission is in favour of the proposal and the Executive Committee is in favour of the proposal. If you agree we pass to the vote. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 2.** The Refereeing Commission is in favour, the SEMI Commission is in favour, the Rules Commission was not in favour and the Executive Committee is in favour. We pass to the vote, and the vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 3.** The Refereeing Commission is in favour, the rules Commission is not in favour and the SEMI Commission is in favour and the Executive Committee is in favour. We pass to the vote. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been accepted.

**Proposal 4.** The Rules Commission is in favour but wishes to modify the word “Lexan”, the SEMI Commission is in favour of the proposal and the Executive Committee is in favour also with the inclusion of the remark by the Rules Commission. Again since it concerns a modification of the equipment the application will be for the season 2012-2013. If you agree we pass to the vote. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal has been accepted.

So I'm pleased to inform you that we're finished with the proposals submitted to the Congress. It is a very good thing and I think we all deserve a coffee break of 15 minutes. Thank you.

*Applause*

*[15 minutes break]*

## 11. Urgent decisions

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**Nathalie Rodriguez:** So we move to the next item on the agenda which are the urgent decisions.

You know that one month ago the Executive Committee has decided for two urgent decisions so we will vote on both of them. One was related to article **o.80** and if you have no comment on this we can pass to the vote. Urgent decision on **o.80**. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The urgent decision is approved on **o.80**.

After you received the urgent decision **on t.15.2**, the Rules and Medical Commission agreed that when the fencer takes a lesson with a coach, the fencer should only wear a mask and a glove. So in the text you have we replaced the current phrase by "tout athlète qui prend la leçon doit obligatoirement porter un masque et un gant". We now pass to the vote. The vote is open. The vote is closed. The proposal is approved.



## 12. Ethics

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**Nathalie Rodriguez:** We move to item 12 of the agenda which is Ethics. The Executive Committee had given its agreement to the Legal Commission to have a few words on this.

**Marco Antonio Rioja Pérez (ESP):** Mr. President, dear friends, allow me to address you in Spanish because what I wish to express shall be much clearer and I hope that the interpretation is accurate.

Since its first meeting the current Legal Commission has thought about the benefit of giving the FIE its own Code of Ethics. Indications had even been given in that sense by a COMEX member and a draft was drawn up. However later comments suggested that such a Code was not necessary and the project was aborted.

Adopting a specific code of ethics for the FIE was not deemed strictly necessary as **the FIE was already expressly bound (according to art. 1.2.8 of its Statutes) by the IOC Code of Ethics.**

What we, the Legal Commission, did consider was the **need to inform all FIE members about the content and reach of these norms** because we have noticed that not everyone is aware of them.

Therefore the purpose of this presentation is to inform the Congress about the implications of submitting the FIE and its members (FIE managers and administration, National Federations and their representatives, sportsmen, referees, ...) to the IOC Code of Ethics and its Ethics Commission as well as the concrete channels of application of ethical norms.

Closely related to the principles of ethics of the Olympic Movement are the recommendations of the IOC on the correct management of any sports organisation, the so-called **Basic Principles of Good Governance** which have to be adopted as a required minimum standard of action by any member of the Olympic Movement – and thus also by the International Federations.

### 1. Vision, mission and strategy:

The vision, the goals of the organisation as well as the strategy adopted to fulfil them have to be clearly defined and communicated.

The mission should include the development and promotion of sport and of the values of sport ensuring, at all times, a fair sporting contest, the solidarity and protection of the members and particularly the athletes.

### 2. Structures, regulations and democratic process

The organisation should be based on the concept of membership with entities established in accordance with applicable laws.

All regulations of the organisation should be clear, understandable and transparent. They should include the tasks and responsibilities of the governing bodies. The size of the governing bodies should be adequate and consistent with the size of the organisation as to ensure a high level of competence of its members as well as the representation of minorities.

The adoption of agreements and the electoral process must guarantee democratic principles ensuring that all members shall have the right to express their opinion on the issues on the agenda through appropriate channels. There should be a balance of power between the bodies responsible for the management, supervision and control of the organization.

To adopt any agreement, the members shall have the right to an independent vote and no-one with a personal or business interest should be involved, in order to avoid conflicts of interest.

**3. Highest level of competence, integrity and ethical standards** amongst the members of the Executive bodies: transparency and financial control.

Ethical norms and principles inspired by the IOC Code of Ethics should be developed, adopted and implemented.

**4. Accountability, transparency and control** of the Executive body to the General Assembly (or the Congress); the administration or the managers to the Executive body; and all employees to management.

Accounts shall comply with applicable laws of auditing and an adequate system of internal control shall be established.

### **5. Solidarity and development**

As a principle, financial resources which are proceeds of sport should be allocated in a fair and efficient manner to the development of sport.

The opportunity to organise large sports events should be open and the criteria for choosing venues for events should be fair and transparent. Furthermore the expansion of sports facilities in developing countries should be promoted.

### **6. Athletes' involvement, participation and care**

The right of athletes to participate in sports competitions at an appropriate level should be protected, refraining from any discrimination.

The voice of the athletes should be heard in sporting organisations

Zero tolerance in the fight against doping should be encouraged at all levels.

One should not forget that the values of justice and fair play are central elements of the competition and of the spirit of sport.

Educational programmes, developing in particular "Sport and Study" programmes, should be encouraged

### **7. Harmonious relations with governments while preserving the autonomy of sporting organisations**

Going back to the **IOC Code of Ethics**. We first have to determine its **scope of application**. In this effect the IOC Ethics Commission established that it is applicable to sportsmen (individual competitors as well as teams), officials, managers as well as members of any delegation, referees and members of the jury, and more widely to any accredited individual, host city candidates and International Federations which accept it voluntarily.

The **goal** of the Code of Ethics is to preserve the ethical values and fundamental principles that inspire the Olympic Charter. These actions must in any case always guide the actions of the members of the Olympic Group. Thus, the latter shall commit to respect the following rules:

- A. DIGNITY
- B. INTEGRITY
- C. GOOD GOVERNANCE AND RESOURCES
- D. CANDIDACIES

E. CONFIDENTIALITY

F. RELATIONS WITH STATES

G. IMPLEMENTATION

**Adapting the Code of Ethics of the IOC to the FIE and replacing Olympic Group by Fencing Family, the said rules would read:**

**A. DIGNITY**

Safeguarding the dignity of the individual is a fundamental requirement of Olympism, which implies that:

1. There shall be no discrimination between the participants on the basis of race, gender, ethnic origin, religion, philosophical or political opinion, marital status or other grounds.
2. All forms of harassment of participants, be it physical or mental, are prohibited.
3. All doping practices are prohibited.
4. The athletes' conditions of safety, well-being and medical care shall be guaranteed.

Also the principle of dignity prohibits all forms of betting or infraction to the principle of fair play which can influence the results of competitions.

**B. INTEGRITY**

The Fencing Family shall not, directly or indirectly, solicit, accept or offer any form of remuneration, commission or service connected with organising international competitions

No gifts of nominal value which do not pertain to local customs shall be given or received (as a sign of friendship and respect). In addition the hospitality shown to the members of the Fencing Family should not exceed normal standards.

Any conflict of interest shall be avoided among organisations of the Fencing Family.

The Olympic Group, or in our case the Fencing Family, shall use due care and diligence in fulfilling their mission. They must not act in a manner likely to tarnish the reputation of the Olympic Movement. Moreover they must not be involved with firms or persons whose activity or reputation is inconsistent with the principles of Olympism and of sports ethics.

And, an essential matter in order to preserve the principle of Integrity, they shall not give or accept instructions to vote or intervene in a given manner within the organs of the organisation.

**C. GOOD GOVERNANCE AND USE OF RESOURCES**

This ethical rule is based on the principles of good governance of the Olympic and Sporting Movement (which we referred to before), specially to the norms of transparency, responsibility and accountability.

The organisation's resources shall only be used for sports purposes and the accreditation of this adequate use must be verifiable in the accounting. Thus incomes and expenditures must be correctly written down and the accounts verified by independent auditors.

However, in order to recognize the significant contribution of broadcasters, partners and sponsors, the latter's contribution must be consistent with the rules of sport, the principles of the Olympic Charter and the Code of Ethics. They must not interfere in the running of sports institutions.

## **D. CANDIDATURES**

The candidates to the organisation of major competitions shall refrain from obtaining financial or political support inconsistent with the manual of the IOC for candidate cities and shall respect the norms of conduct established by the IOC.

## **E. CONFIDENTIALITY**

The Fencing Family shall not disclose information entrusted to them in confidence. Disclosure of information shall not be for personal gain or benefit, nor be undertaken maliciously to damage the reputation of any person or organisation.

## **F. RELATIONS WITH STATES**

The parties shall work to maintain harmonious relations with state authorities, in accordance with the principle of universality and political neutrality of the Olympic Movement, but shall always respect the autonomy of the sports organisations.

## **G. IMPLEMENTATION**

The Fencing Family shall see to it that the principles and rules of the Olympic Charter and of the Code of Ethics are applied.

All breaches shall be reported to the Ethics Commission.

Sam will now explain how these ethical norms can be accepted and as we have seen are directly applicable from the international Federation to certain specific concrete aspects of their activities.

**Sam Cheris (USA, MH):** Thank you. I am Sam Cheris, Vice-President of the Legal Commission.

Mr. President, members of the Executive Committee, Madam CEO, delegates of the member Federations, ladies and gentleman.

Marco has presented to this Congress the basics of the IOC Code of Ethics and the Basic Rules of Good Governance and the fact that the FIE has adopted these instead of having its own separate code. I will now present the applicability of these ethical rules and principles to a few of the more important areas of international fencing – the election of our president, refereeing at World Cups, World Championships and the Olympic Games and proxies for voting at the Congress.

I would like to thank Yann Bernard, the legal commission member from Canada for providing me with a memorandum outlining the relationship between the practices that have allegedly been engaged by candidates during prior electoral processes and the IOC Code of Ethics.

### **Election of the President**

In the Section of the IOC Code of Ethics referring to Integrity there were principles that Marco talked about with regard to remuneration, giving of gifts and giving of instructions about how to vote. Those are equally applicable to elections. And it is noted that every member has an obligation to report to the President of the IOC any breaches of that Code so that such alleged breach may be referred to the IOC Ethics Commission. The IOC also has a specific section on the election of the President of the IOC that would be equally applicable to our election.

Each candidate has the right to promote his/her candidature, subject to respecting the provisions of the present directions.

The promotion of a candidature shall be conducted with dignity and moderation.

The conduct of the candidates shall comply with the provisions of the IOC Code of Ethics, that has been presented.

If a candidate intends to give any information on his/her plans as a future IOC President, he/she shall present it in the form of a document marked "confidential".

Candidates shall limit the number of trips that they are called upon to make with a view to promoting their candidature in order to avoid excessive expenditure, a factor of inequality amongst the candidates.

No meetings or gatherings may be held in the framework of promoting a candidate.

Candidates may in no case and under no pretext give presents or offer donations, gifts, or grant advantages of whatever nature.

No candidate may enter into any promise or undertaking to be performed, whatever the timing of such performance, for the direct or indirect benefit of a member, a group of members, an organization or a region.

All visits on whatever pretext must be avoided.

As the voting is secret, members are prohibited, individually or collectively, from announcing in any form whatsoever their intention to vote for any candidate.

Candidates may not accept mandatory instructions from any public or private, natural or legal person.

Candidates may not enter into any form of undertaking with any natural or legal person that affects the freedom of decision or action.

No direct or indirect assistance, be it financial, material or in kind, may be given to candidates.

No support or service in relation to a candidature may be requested from an agent of the administration, from a department or other section.

Concealed propaganda in the form of technical meetings is prohibited.

Any interested party may bring any breach to the attention of the Ethics Commission.

As noted in the sections quoted from the IOC election procedures, no candidate shall provide direct or indirect compensation or promise any future remuneration to any person or Federation in exchange for votes. Our question here is whether the FIE, in the same manner that the IOC uses its Ethics Commission, should we utilize the Legal Commission or other independent body to monitor the election process to assure that the standards that I've outlined are maintained?

## **Refereeing**

The current organization concerning Refereeing begins with the Statutes. Section 6.5.3 gives the Refereeing Commission the following mandate.

It shall present a report to the Congress on all the proposals.

The duties are to develop the training program of international referees in the various countries; to ensure good refereeing at all competitions of the FIE; to propose to the Rules Commission any necessary modifications; and to ensure that the FIE Rules are applied by the referees.

Members of the Refereeing Commission may not be used as referees in official competitions of the FIE and the regional games.

The Rules section was modified during the prior administration:

Minutes of the 2011 Congress -FIE

**o.62.** now states, that “for questions concerning **the rules**, the Refereeing Commission delegate(s) alone are competent to judge the value of a referee’s decision”.

Prior to this change the Directoire Technique was the body that would hear appeals of the decision which had been made by a referee.

The question which presents itself is whether the system of refereeing still has sufficient checks and balances to guarantee ethical behaviour.

Currently the 9 members, 10 members, of the Arbitrage Commission select all of the referees to Senior World Cup, World Championships and the Olympic Games, subject to ratification by the COMEX. These same individuals supervise these referees at these events and have full authority to review appeals of the referees’ decisions. In the referee meetings prior to events, the Arbitrage delegate can explain to them how certain types of actions should be called. During the event the delegate can discuss with the video referee errors they see, they the Arbitrage delegates, which are then communicated to the strip referee. Referees who wish to go to the World Championships or the Olympic Games have a difficult task in order to make independent decisions. If they refuse to bend to the will of a strong member of the Arbitrage Commission, what are their chances of being selected for the more prestigious events?

If this system is working properly, it is a tribute to the extremely high ethical standards of the members of the Arbitrage Commission and the referees. If it is not working and is having problems from time to time, it is not the fault of the individuals, but of a system, which has no outside authority capable of intervening in the process at any event.

## **Proxies**

The use of Proxies at an FIE Congress is governed by Statute in Section 3.3.3:

### **Proxies and mandates**

The right to vote at a Congress can be delegated to another Federation.

One of the reasons that proxies were first used at the FIE was the time and cost of travel to the FIE Congress, especially to those nations not in close geographic proximity to the site. The tradition has been questioned over the years, but only minor modifications have been made, including the elimination of the ability of Members of Honour to carry a proxy.

The positive benefits of a proxy is that it permits those unable to be physically present at a meeting of the Congress to have their voice heard through a vote by the other Federation to whom the proxy had been given. The negative aspect is that the general proxy is voted according to the wishes of the proxy holder, not the party granting the proxy.

One possible improvement could be to require proxies, which would contain specific instructions as to how to vote on each issue, which is to be presented to the Congress, since the party granting the proxy has the proposals as well as the report of the COMEX and the various commissions on which to base its decisions. With regard to elections, the party granting the proxy has the written statements of the candidates as well as the ability to communicate by email with others if it wishes to secure additional information. The negative to proxies with instructions is that there can be revelations presented at the Congress, which might affect their vote, but the proxy is set in stone.

A third possibility is that proxies be eliminated altogether. At this time, the FIE pays for one person from each Federation to come to the Congress. Additionally, even those furthest from the site of the Congress can travel there in less than 2 days. Therefore the original reason for proxies – time and cost – no longer are a valid basis for continuing the use of proxies.

The presentation that Marco and I have given you is brief. It is been the attempt of the Legal Commission to bring these important issues to the forefront in order to encourage you to

discuss them with an eye toward receiving proposals from the Member Federations if they determine that the status quo can be improved.

Thank you for your attention. We'll be happy to take any questions. I also have English copies of my presentation if anyone would like one.

Thank you.

**Maxim Paramonov (UKR):** Thank you very much, thank you very much Sam for this information as I always like to receive this kind of information from our friends from the Legal Commission. Of course we can trust that it is a highly and professionally evaluated topic. Of course we can feel free to address all our questions to the Legal Commission in the future because we have a lot of things to be improved and our friends and colleagues from the Legal Commission are absolutely ready to help us solve any kind of questions we have.

## 13. London 2012 Progress Report

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**Maxim Paramonov (UKR):** Now we can pass to the second topic we have for the moment and I would like to give the floor to Hilary Philbin who is in charge of our relationship with London 2012. Hillary, please. Thank you.

**Hilary Philbin (GBR):** Hello, I'm Hilary Philbin. I'm the manager for fencing for London 2012. You can see here the countdown clock for London 2012. That was installed last year when it was 500 days to go. I calculated that there are now 235 days to go from today to the opening ceremony and I will give you a bit of an overview about how our preparations are going at this point in time. Before I do that though I would like to show you something of the things that the Olympic visitors will see when they come next summer. London will be transformed completely into an Olympic City. Although we have got an Olympic Village and an Olympic Park in East London with all the new facilities such as the Olympic Stadium itself, the velodrome, the aquatic centre, we've also tried to make as much use as possible of all the historic and iconic sites in London, some of which will be familiar no doubt to many of you. This is the Olympic Stadium, this is the very attractive aquatic centre. This is in central London, Horse Guard Parade, it is right next to Buckingham Palace. It is a very historic site indeed, the Queen goes there a lot. We have many royal processions there and at the Games time it will be the venue for beach volleyball. This is Wimbledon, home for tennis. This is Royal Greenwich Park. In the 16<sup>th</sup> century, Henry VIII used to hunt there with most of his six wives. As you can see now, with the backdrop of Canary Wharf, it is going to be the site for equestrian and the modern pentathlon. Wembley Stadium, rebuilt. And this is O2, it is just across the water from the ExCel Center. We're building a cable-car actually to take people across the water from O2 to ExCel, which will be, hopefully, up and running by Games time. And just a few numbers – I won't go through them all – you can see it is a big operation: we'll have more than 70'000 volunteers in London, we'll have nearly 9 million tickets for sale in London and it is simply the biggest peace-time operation anywhere in the world.

So, a little bit about the ExCel venue. The ExCel venue was built about 10 years ago and will host the fencing competitions. It was pretty big to start with. Last year it was extended by 50% making it now the biggest convention centre and exhibition hall in Europe. You can see up there an aerial view ... the strip of green – I don't know if I can pick it up from here – there... is London City Airport, so very convenient for anyone coming into London City Airport. That's ExCel just there. It is right next to the station. It is also right next to the hotel for the technical officials. And as you can see there the red rectangle is marking where the fencing will take place. There's some very nice space in there. It is right inside the door, overlooking the water front. That's the piazza up the front. As you can see here, if you look at the line there, of waterfront offices, those will be for the President, the General Secretary, the CEO, the delegates and so on. So they have a very nice balcony and a very nice view from their Games time offices. And just a few more numbers: ExCel's a very big place, it is about 100'000m<sup>2</sup> in total. It will be split into 5 arenas at Games time and they're expecting around 100'000 visitors per day which we estimate will be about 1.5 million over the period of the Olympic Games. And those are the 7 sports that will be housed in the ExCel. There will be 5 separate sports arenas all with their independent facilities and seating bowl. The 7 sports fit in the arenas because taekwondo will follow up on fencing and wrestling will follow on from judo. That rather complicated-looking map is showing you the road network across London. The red roads mark show the Olympics roads where lanes will be closed especially to Olympic traffic and that will allow people to get from the Olympic Village and Olympic Park in the East across to the hotels where the FIE and many other people will be staying in the West.

Now a little bit about the athlete experience. I have two others managers working with me at ExCel. We are all three ex-competitors so we have the athletes' interests very much at heart. We are doing absolutely everything we can to ensure that we have very smooth processes for them back at home and that they've got a very comfortable environment in which to



operate. It is a standard competition hall. Red, yellow, green, blue piste, with a 300mm raised piste in the centre. It is a new style of piste, with all lights built in the sides of the piste. There will also be floor lights around the pistes. You can see down the side down here is where the competition management, the Directoire Technique, sports presentation, technology will be, all with a very good view of the competition hall. The blue area shows you the platform itself 0.8m high and this is the back of house. You can see that it is split into two. So to the right of this line is the training hall and to the left is the competition hall. We are quite fortunate in fencing because we are one of the few sports which has the training hall and the competition hall under one roof. Many other sports have to travel 30, 40, 45 minutes between their training hall and their competition hall so we're fortunate indeed. I'll just show you here, it is a bit difficult to see. When fencers arrive they come on a bus from the Village and they go into a pre warm-up here and then into warm-up in here and then into a cool room and through this door into the competition hall. A few more numbers here you can see through the pistes. There will be 5 pistes in the competition hall, 16 pistes in the two warm-up halls and 14 pistes in the training halls, so we won't be short of pistes for the fencers. Quite a lot of things are new: new hardware, new software, new software for the competition draw and the referee allocation; some spectacular floor-lights around not only the centre-piste but also around the four preliminary pistes; brand-new competition pistes and also for the first time, in the Olympics anyway, wireless for épée.

A quick look at the Village. It is an artist's impression of the village. It will be I think a very nice place to live, surrounded by its own park. It will be used for residential purposes once the Games are over. If you have a little look at the plan there, this is the village here and you can see right next to it here is the Olympic park, so they really are absolutely next door to each other. And just a few other numbers there. Well over 2000 apartments, 2 or 3 bedrooms – can you hear me ok? Yes? Maxim are you ok? Yes? – 5 500 team officials, 10 000 athletes and for the journey times, I'll be very simple, I think it is about 10km to ExCel so it will take about 12 minutes in the bus and it is also only about 7 minutes straight into London in the new train. Spectator experience, I know, is very important to the FIE, it is very important to keep our profile raised with the live audience and the television audience. You can see here the seating bowl. There will be 4 000 seats on this side and 4 000 seats on this side. This is the honour tribune and Olympic family; these are the press seats and the commentators. In blue here are the athletes' seats when they've finished fencing. And there will be a lot for spectators to see: before they even approach the competition hall there is an Olympic arts festival. They will see evidence of that in central London; there will be street entertainment; as they get closed there's a bridge, a temporary bridge put in from ExCel to the festival land on the other side of the water; once they come into the ExCel there will be a huge amount of entertainment down along the central boulevard, and once they get into the dedicated fencing lobby, again, there will be a lot of entertainment, displays, fencing information and so on. And during the competition itself, there will be a lot of show, we will have theatrical lighting, there will be live entertainment before each daily session, there will be an a-to-z film each day which will educate the audience about all the aspects of fencing so that they understand what they're about to see.

Ticketing and spectator information: 8 000 seats, 2 daily sessions, 9 days, that means overall there's the capacity for about 144 000 to sit in that ExCel sports centre. In practice, because some of the seats do go to television commentators, the Olympic family and so on, there will still be more than 100 000 tickets for sale for the general public. And I believe that's the largest audience for fencing in Olympic history.

And finally readiness: we had our Test Event last week. We tested our new technology, we tested our software, we tested our pistes and floor-lights, we tested our volunteers, we have our technical officers in place. We think we are absolutely on target; we are very comfortable with where we are now, we are on target for London 2012.

Finally I'm going to show you a piece of film. It is the "One Year to Go" piece of film. It is 3-4 minutes. And, after that if you have any questions, I suggest that I'm going to be here for the next two days, I'll be in the hotel tomorrow and Monday so please do come and talk to me if you have any queries or want to discuss anything.

Now, is that going to start?

Thank you.

*["One Year to Go" movie]*

## 14. Candidatures for the World Championships

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**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Thank you very much for this very interesting presentation and film.

**Maxim Paramonov (UKR):** Sorry Nathalie to interrupt. I would really like to use this opportunity to thank one of our friends who is doing a lot, who was deeply involved in the organization of this unbelievably organized Congress, all the meetings we had before. It is Mr. Dragomir Cioroslan. He will receive a gift from the President of the International Fencing Federation, Mr. Alisher Usmanov. I would kindly like to remind you that Mr. Cioroslan is in charge of International Relations for the US Olympic Committee.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** I would also like to thank Dragomir because he deeply helped me to achieve this goal of coming to Philadelphia at the right time and in the right place. Thank you.

**Maxim Paramonov (UKR):** Yes, our congratulations, thanks a lot for your cooperation. We hope that in the future we can count on you. Thank you very much. Now we continue our work. Let's continue to finish – let's be efficient. Nathalie?

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Item 14 of the agenda, the candidatures for the World Championships.

For the 2013 Junior and Cadet World Championships we have no candidates. So this is now an appeal to the Congress, please send us your candidatures for the 2013 Junior and Cadet World Championships.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** Why do we increase our budget, why do we increase our support to the Federations if we have no results of new fencers that have received that help. I don't understand – why don't our Federations want to host such beautiful events like the World Championships? Maybe we should stop our program.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** No.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** Why don't we have any proposals?

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Then for the 2014 Senior World Championships we have received only one candidature on time which is the candidature of Sofia, Bulgaria. Then for the 2013 Veteran World Championships, if the Masters Games are not at the same time, I mean if fencing is not at the Masters Games at that time, we have the candidature of Varna, Bulgaria. So we move to item 15. Yes?

*Someone speaks in the room, without microphone. Inaudible.*

Why? Can't you be candidate for the Junior and Cadet for 2013?

*Someone speaks in the room, without microphone. Inaudible.*

**Velichka Hristeva (BUL):** Dear Mister President, dear friends, finally I have the possibility to make the dream of my life come true, to organize the Senior World Championships. I made my presentation since 5 years and I'm happy to welcome you to Sofia, in my small but beautiful country in 2014. After the Junior and Cadet World Championships in 2004, after the European Championships in 2009 I promise you to organize one of the best World Championships of the world – welcome to Sofia in 2014.

*Applause*

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Thank you very much Velichka.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Just a second. We also have an announcement from Cuba – no, sorry, from Colombia.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** Yes. Please, please.

**Clara Ines Rodriguez (COL):** Good evening Mr. President and members of the Committee, fellow attendees of the Congress. On behalf of Colombia and my position as President I would like to kindly request from you the adjudication of site for the Junior and Cadet World Championships. Colombia is a kind country with kind people and I know that we can carry out a good event. Therefore I submit this to your consideration and at this time for 2013 we would need to have support to give a world-class event and we need the support of the Olympic Committee for national sports, we have their support at a national level and hope you consider this. Thank you.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** We need to receive an official letter from your Federation. The questionnaire for candidature also has to be filled in and sent back to us in order to officialise the candidature.

## 15. Voting to award the World Championships Veteran 2012

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**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Then we move to item 15 which is the vote for the attribution of the 2012 Veteran World Championships and we have received once again a unique candidature, which is the candidature of Krems, in Austria so if you agree we will pass to the vote for the attribution of the Veteran Championships 2012. The vote is open. The vote is closed.

*Applause*

Krems has been approved.

## 16. Chevalier Feyerick Trophy

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**Nathalie Rodriguez:** We move to item 16 which is the award of the Challenge Chevalier Feyerick and I give the floor to the President for this item.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** The Executive Committee has decided to present the French Fencing Federation with the Chevalier Feyerick trophy for their exceptional organization of the World Championships for the spectators and the media. Mr. Pietruszka?

*Applause*

**Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA):** I would like to thank the President and the members of the Executive Committee for this recognition. Please know that France will always serve you with the greatest passion. Thank you.

## 17. Miscellaneous Items

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### 17.1 The Situation of the Netherlands Antilles

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** We now move to the last item on the agenda and I would say it is not a very pleasant situation. It is the situation of the Netherlands Antilles. As you may know the Netherlands Antilles were dissolved on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October 2010 following a referendum of the population. After dissolution the islands of Bonaire, Saba and St Eustatius became special municipalities of the Netherlands' property while Curacao and St Marteen became constituent countries within the kingdom of the Netherlands. As a consequence of this dissolution the IOC decided in January and July 2011 to withdraw the recognition of the Netherlands Antilles National Olympic Committee. It also decided that no new NOC can be recognized by the IOC for any of the 5 islands which made up the Netherlands Antilles and it also decided that after the Olympic Games in London the athletes from these islands would come under the jurisdiction of the NOCs of their choice currently recognized by the IOC within the kingdom of the Netherlands, that is the NOC of the Netherlands or the NOC of Aruba. So the problem... the issue for us is that the NOC of the Netherlands Antilles does not exist anymore and that according to our Statutes actually a Federation can only exist if it is recognized by its National Olympic Committee which must itself be recognized by the IOC. So as the IOC has withdrawn its recognition to the NOC actually the proposal of the Executive Committee is unfortunately to follow the situation and the decision of the IOC and to withdraw the affiliation of the Netherlands Antilles' Federation but only after the London Olympic Games. Why, because until then the athletes of this country, if they are qualified, will fence under the banner of the IOC until the Olympic Games. I know it is not a pleasant situation but we actually have no other choice since our Statutes do not allow us to recognize a Federation whose Olympic Committee is not recognized by the IOC.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** We have no choice.

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** But the proposal of the Executive Committee is to wait until after the London Olympic Games.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** What legal status does the Olympic Committee of the Netherlands Antilles have within the IOC? Is it temporary until the Olympic Games?

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Yes, and if there are any fencers from the Netherlands Antilles who qualify for the Olympic Games they will fence under the banner of the IOC. Afterwards the fencers will have to choose between fencing for Aruba or for the Netherlands.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** Ok. Don't we need to vote for this?

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Yes?

**Raymond Jessurun (AHO):** Mister President, Delegates –

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Your name and your country please.

**Raymond Jessurun (AHO):** Raymond Jessurun, president of the Netherlands Antilles Fencing Federation. Every time you hear sad news, there's also good news. And please let me introduce that news to you so that you can consider not only until the Olympic Games of 2012 but also after that. To still assist the jurisdiction of Curacao to develop fencing. This is not only with our Federation but also with other sports Federations. Since the moment that the Netherlands Antilles was dissolved the process for more autonomy towards independence has been brought further and it has always been from all international Federations a policy that they do not interfere in the political opinion and desire, the wishes, of the people. They try to support the development of sports and to accommodate the fact that development may continue. This has happened already and the current status of the Netherlands Antilles was already that it was not an independent state but was still recognized by the IOC and all the

other international Federations promoting sport in the region and in the world. That has been done, and in the case of fencing, we are proud to say that we have done this since 1936, for 75 years. And we don't want to stop. We would like to continue. And the reality is that the last 25 years, when Aruba left the Netherlands Antilles, it was the country of Curacao that continued under the banner of the Netherlands Antilles to promote fencing in this jurisdiction and to support, not only – excuse me?

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** The Netherlands Antilles are dissolved. A very simple formula exists until end of the Olympic Games.

**Raymond Jessurun (AHO):** Ok, so Mr. President, the IOC will be addressed by all those Netherlands Antilles' Federations because of the reduction of the territory where still more than 75% of the population is living on the Island of Curacao, that all institutions have been taken over and that there is a kind of continuation of all the sports. So there are already international Federations, Mister President, that have accepted the continuation –

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** Very good.

**Raymond Jessurun (AHO):** – of the sports in that jurisdiction called Curacao. To gather time for the different Federations, to address this in their international Federation the 2012 Olympics may be sufficient, but it could also take a little longer. Time will tell. But it is very sympathetic that we get this opportunity from the international Federation and we would like to appeal to our delegates to support us in this and give us this time to work on the possibility to continue developing the sport of fencing in Curacao. The Parliament of Curacao has already taken a decision that they want to see Curacao fencers in the Olympics, in the World Championships. So that is an idea, part of the ideals with which they work and sports must also be part of it. It is bringing our dreams a little closer to the acceptance by the IOC because as long as Curacao is not an independent state, according to the country definition of the IOC's Olympic Charter, they cannot have an NOC.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** We understand this.

**Raymond Jessurun (AHO):** So what we want to do, as with all other sports, is to try to do that. And, Mr. President, all sports have seen that the Olympic Charter provides us, in bylaws 28 and 29, the possibility to ask from our international Federation to give us the possibility to remain affiliated, the reason why, to recognise a new NOC that has been explained there in that bylaw, there must be at least five sports on the Olympic program that are affiliated to an international Federation. In other words, it has never been said by the IOC that when they take away recognition, if it is forever or for a short period of time, it has never been said that international Federations should stop promoting the sport in that area. So there it is, all the Federations of Netherlands Antilles, now reduced to the territory of the country of Curacao, are now in the process, in the international Federations. It was three weeks ago that the international sailing Federation decided to maintain the sailing –

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** Your explanations are like a report. We explained the rules we follow and the Olympic Committee's position. Thank you very much for your explanation. We wish you good luck but we have the Statutes of the IOC and we abide by them. We support you as a temporary organization until the Olympic Games. Thank you very much.

**Raymond Jessurun (AHO):** Thank you.

*Applause*

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** My dear friends thank you very much. We close our agenda but I want to make some small comments about these two very sensitive issues from Egypt and now from the Netherlands Antilles. I give the order to Mr. Paramonov and Mr. Pop to prepare explanations for our Congress about the Egyptian remarks. Please, Mr. Paramonov, announce this and then I have another two words and we close our Congress.

**Maxim Paramonov (UKR):** Dear friends I will give you the information. It is well known but I would like to read it because it is unreleased. Just some small facts and figures to refresh it



in your mind. The FIE has not bought Allstar pistes for national Federations under the PDC. PDC means Confederation Development Plan. That's number 1.

2. Pistes were bought from Artos of Germany, following analyses of Allstar's, Prieur's and Artos' prices. The prices of Artos were two times lower than those of the other two companies and therefore Artos pistes were procured. Moreover Artos pistes are the most convenient, modern and easy to use.

3. The FIE has a special agreement with Allstar under which Allstar sells fencing material to the FIE with 50% discount for the first 150 000 Euros. That's why it is not appropriate for the FIE to discuss Allstar's, let's say, high prices.

4. To buy electronic scoring apparatus, price analyses were done for Allstar, Prieur and Favero. We picked the latter company for they offered the best prices. Therefore it is clear that before buying fencing material and apparatus for national Federations we have done an in-depth price analysis and studied the market. As a result we bought high quality equipment at the best market price. One more thing I'd like to add, there has been a conference call with all companies involved in our fencing family market to ask them to feel free to come to make your offer to become an official partner of the FIE and it is open. It is open until this time. We are waiting for the companies to come to us and make us an offer so that we can call us happy and find an affordable price for all of us. So it is no secret and we try to be much more sufficient and profitable in a sense for all of you. Thank you.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** And thank you very much to everybody. We close our agenda. Thank you for your good work and –

**Kimmo Pentikäinen (FIN):** President, I would like to have your attention concerning the –

*Someone speaks in the room, without microphone. Inaudible.*

Yes? Ok, sure. I would like to have your attention concerning the essential role of fencing in the Olympic movement in the future. The danger will exist that if we do not constantly do remarkable considerable efforts to develop our sport we might be, one day, excluded from the Olympic movement. We all agree that fencing cannot exist without being at the Olympic Games. It is the core essence of our sport. It is a real existing danger that fencing can be excluded from the Olympic movement although we have today more countries involved in fencing and more fencers involved in competitions. A fierce competition exists among the sports and to maintain even the present position in the Olympic movement we might have even a more increasing demand of athletics and increased awareness of the general public in the forthcoming years. But it is sure that we need more analytical work and knowledge to create a sound base for our future decisions. We need more scientific analytical investigations on the matter. Therefore I would encourage the COMEX to create a working group to prepare a white paper, a foresight report revealing what the actual challenges of fencing in the future are and how we can renew our ways and presence in sport to ensure the development of fencing as part of the Olympic movement. It should be a foresight report based on the analysis of present scientific reports available benchmarking the present position of fencing among other sports, analysis of different options for actions in the future, a recommendation paper about what it would take fencing to be a successful sport in the year 2020. This working group, let's call it "2020" would then create during the forthcoming year this foresight report, an analytical study addressing the key challenges and recommendations about what should we do to re-innovate ourselves and to maintain even a strong position in the Olympic movement in the year 2020.

**Alisher Usmanov (RUS):** Thank you. First of all

*Applause*

Just a moment, just a moment. I will speak in Russian. Ok? In what you say, the first target and goal is for the COMEX. Ok. We also have a program "2020" in Russia. It is a program of development for our country. The entire program of the COMEX is directed at making our

sport more interesting, more entertaining and more dynamic, more interesting for television which today is the core-sponsor and the main supporter of the Olympic Games after the direction towards commercialization of the Olympics. So everything you are saying is generalities. About creating the working group? It exists. It is called "COMEX". The Executive Committee is the working group to protect the interests and to promote the development of fencing. We work on these issues every day of the year. Therefore if you have specific ideas, specific proposals and particularly what resources exist for your specific proposals? For the fencing World Championships to be shown, we are paying 1 million Euros today in addition to the budget of FIE. So before making this sort of proposals I invite you, please participate in this working group. Mr. Paramonov is the head of it, it is called the Marketing Group, the group on Marketing and Strategic Development – am I right? Yes, that is what it is called. Please participate. Other words sound good in front of the Congress and that is the end of it. And the main thing is where do you find resources? As long as I am alive and well you can count on me but you cannot put all the stakes of an entire sport on one human being. Therefore let us all together, in each country, prove that fencing is worthy of support. Let us do all these things in a coordinated fashion and convert it into achievement of athletes that would in turn attract the attention of sponsors. But let's not forget about the sports, because based on the Beijing Olympics we are number 8. Well, that is not so little among 26 sports, so the rumours of our death are greatly exaggerated. Of course we need to keep developing our sport. We need to fight for it to be more show-worthy. But let us say specific things, make specific suggestions. We will accept them and go to work on them. Thank you.

*Applause*

Tomorrow morning every Confederation has its meeting. Because my flight to my next destination takes minimum 9 hours I need to leave this beautiful country tonight. I approach each Vice-President to participate in these meetings. Wang Wei, Asia, please. Pascu, Europe. Giorgio Scarso, Africa. And Mr. Paramonov, America. Ok? My friends, thank you very much for your attention, patience and support.

*Applause*

**Nathalie Rodriguez:** Some useful information. Please leave your voting devices on your tables. We will take care of them. Don't forget about the meetings of the Confederations tomorrow. Europe will be in Ballroom North, America in the Monroe Room, Africa in the Jackson Room and Asia and Oceania in the Jefferson Room. This is mentioned in your program. Tomorrow at 1 o'clock you will also have lunch at the same place as today. And last, those of you who have not had their picture taken with the FIE official photographer, please go to the foyer now to take some pictures of you. Thank you very much. And I would like to thank very much the translators who have done a great job for this Congress. Thank you very much.