

93rd Congress

ROMA, ITALY
21ST NOVEMBER, 2014





2014 FIE World Congress of Fencing - Rome

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ATTENDANCE

The meeting opened at 10:00 am and was presided over by Mr. Alisher USMANOV, President of the F.I.E.

Took a seat at the tribune:

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

Honorary President

Mr. René Roch (MH, FRA)

Members of the Executive Committee:

Mr. Donald Anthony (USA)
 Mrs. Erika Aze (LAT)
 Mr. Tamer Mohamed El Araby (EGY)
 Mr. Max W. F. Geuter (MH, GER)
 Mrs. Velichka Hristeva (BUL)
 Mr. Guk-Hyeon Kim (KOR)
 Mr. Novak Perovic (RSA)
 Mr. Stanislav Pozdnyakov (RUS)
 Mrs. Ferial NadiraSalhi (ALG)
 Mr. Ota Yuki (JPN) (President of the Athletes Commission)

Presidents of the Confederations:

Mr. Frantisek Janda (CZE)	President of the European Confederation
Mr. Mbagnick Ndiaye (SEN)	President of the African Confederation
Mr. David Munguia Payes (ESA)	President of the Pan-American Confederation
Mrs. Helen Smith (MH, AUS)	President of the Oceanian Confederation
Mr. Celso L. Dayrit (MH, PHI)	President of the Asian Confederation

Members of Honour:

Mrs. Erika Dienstl (MH, GER)
 Mr. Marcello Baiocco (MH, ITA)
 Mr. Samuel David Cheris (MH, USA)
 Mr. Stephen Higginson (MH, GBR)
 Mr. Peter Jacobs (MH, GBR)
 Mr. Jenö Kamuti (MH, HUN), Vice-President of Honour
 Mr. Emmanuel Katsiadakis (MH, GRE)
 Mr. Bert van de Flier (MH, NED)

Guests:

Mr. Mario Pescante, IOC Member
 Mr. Graziano Del Rio, Deputy Secretary of State of Sport of Italy
 Mr. Michael Peters, Euronews CEO



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FEDERATIONS PRESENT OR REPRESENTED

AFGHANISTAN	Represented by Bangladesh
ALGERIA	RaoufSalim BERNAOUI
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA	Chat E. P. GREENE Alisha Shamair FRANCIS
ARGENTINA	Omar Alejandro VERGARA V́ctor Sergio GROUPIERRE Ćesar Julio ABATTI
ARMENIA	Armen GRIGORYAN
ARUBA	Austin Edison THOMAS Hans Anthonie HOOGLAND
AUSTRALIA	Andrew IUS
AUSTRIA	Ursula HINTERSEER
AZERBAIDJAN	Represented by Russia
BAHAMAS	Lewis ANTHONY
BAHRAIN	Ebrahim AL KHALIFA
BANGLADESH	Qamrul ISLAM
BARBADOS	Joseph O.R RODRIGUEZ Robert KISS
BELARUS	Guennady KHOLIAVSKY
BELGIUM	Alexandre WALNIER
BELIZE	Meighan OWEN
BENIN	Jacques OKOUMASSOUN T. Asśeréon Franklin DASSOUNAO
BERMUDA	Travis STEVENS
BRAZIL	Gerli DOS SANTOS Ricardo PACHECO MACHADO
BULGARIA	Velichka HRISTEVA
CAMBODIA	Ang SOK Thany RY
CAMEROON	Marcel AMOUGOU Suzanne KOCH
CANADA	Brad GOLDIE
CHILE	David A. JIMENEZ
CHINA	Xiangyang YUAN Tong ZHAO
COLOMBIA	Beugré Paul KOUAKOU Vladimir IWANOFF
COSTA RICA	Mariana VILA CARVAJAL Luis Alberto CRUZ MELENDEZ
CROATIA	Zeljiko KVESIC Reno MAROLT
CYPRUS	Yiannis HADJIARAPIS
CZECH REPUBLIC	Oldrich KUBISTA
DENMARK	Jan Sylvest JENSEN
DOMINICA	Woodrow LAWRENCE
ECUADOR	Pedro TORRES MANZANO Maria Rocio MORALES SANCHEZ
EGYPT	Tamer Ahmed Hazem ZEIN EL ABDIN
EL SALVADOR	David MunguiaPayes
ESTONIA	Margus HANSON
FINLAND	Kalle LAINE
FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA	Aleksandar ANASTASOV

FRANCE	Isabelle LAMOUR Catherine DEFOLIGNY
GEORGIA	Archil GOGELIA Yury OSIPOV
GERMANY	Jung BURGKHARD, Lord Mayor of Leipzig Dieter LAMMER Karin STRAUCH Claus JANKA Gordon RAPP Wilfried WOLFGARTEN Lutz SCHIRRMACHER
GHANA	Mohamed MAHADI Safwan WALI
GREAT BRITAIN	Hilary PHILBIN Georgina USHER Clare HALSTED Janet HUGGINS
GREECE	Emmanuel KATSIADAKIS
GUATEMALA	Otto BALDERRAMOS
GUINEA	Soriba SYLLA
GUYANA	Kalam Azad JUMAN-YASSIN
HONDURAS	Marco Antonio IZAGUIRRE
HONG KONG	Wing Sun YEUNG
HUNGARY	Jenö KAMUTI
ICELAND	GudjonIngi GESTSSON Nikolay Ivanov MATEEV
INDONESIA	Suparmanto AGUS Sodik ENDANG
IRAN	Bagherzadeh FAZLOLLAH Abbasali FARYABI
IRAQ	Zeyad SALEEM Jwair ADEL
IRELAND	Tom RAFTER
ISRAEL	Vladimir SHKLAR Maya SHKLAR
ITALY	Paolo AZZI Giuseppe CAFIERO Andrea CIPRESSA Antonio FIORE Gianandrea NICOLAI Giandomenico VARALLO
IVORY COAST	Beugré Paul KOUAKOU Souleymane SAKHO
JAMAICA	James MCBEAN
JAPAN	Masashi HOSHINO Yuko KATO Atsushi HARINISHI
JORDAN	Jordan NAIM Wasfi OBEIDAT
KAZAKHSTAN	Represented by Uzbekistan
KIRGHISTAN	Osmonzhan KAZYMOV
KOREA	Sungyune LEE Wan Kun OH Jae Sung SHIM
KUWAIT	Rashed ALSHAMALI Abdullah ALWAALAN
LATVIA	Klinta AZE
LEBANON	El Choueiri ZIAD
LITHUANIA	Polujanskas VYTAUTAS
LUXEMBOURG	Pascal TESCH Carlo CRAVAT
LYBIA	Adel Salem ZITOUNI

MACAO	Lin Chek SOI Weng Leong FAN
MADAGASCAR	Harinelina Alex RANDRIAMANARIVO
MALAYSIA	Farik AHMAD Abu Hassan RUSNI
MEXICO	Jorge CASTRO REA
MOLDOVA	Olga COJOCARI Mihail PAGHIEV
MONACO	Represented by France
MONGOLIA	Tsevsamba DAVAATSEREN Bat-erdene KHOSBAYAR
MOROCCO	Youssef FATHI Samira EL KOUNI
MALI	Zorome WAHABOU
MALTA	Juan FORMOSA Alexander MICALLEF
MAURITIUS	Fakun NUNDKISHOR Veena Devi GUNPUT
MAURITANIA	El Moustaph ABDALLAHI NAGI
NEPAL	Sunil Kumar SHRESTHA
NETHERLANDS	Etienne VAN CANN Wiebe MOKKEN
NEW ZEALAND	Victoria LAMB
NICARAGUA	William GENET BARBERENA
NIGER	Oumarou SOUNGAIZE OUSMANE
NORWAY	Junjie CAO
PANAMA	Anibal ILLUECA HERRANDO Pastor GARCIA GONZALEZ Ezequiel Ramon RODRIGUEZ-REY
PARAGUAY	Pedro CORNET RODAS Gisela CORNET FLORES
PERU	Carlos LEVI COOK
PHILIPPINES	Leah GONZALEZ
POLAND	Tadeusz TOMASZEWSKI Jacek SLUPSKI
PORTUGAL	Frederico VALARINHO Clauso NEVES
PUERTO RICO	Gregorio LIMA
QATAR	Saleh AL-HEMAIDI Ziad FERIANI
ROMANIA	Mihai COVALIU Ancaloana Ileana IONESCU
SOUTH AFRICA	Novak PEROVIC
RUSSIA	Alexander MIKHAILOV Yaroslav MALTSEV Ilgar MAMEDOV Elena GRISHINA Semen RIKHTMAN Vladislav PAVLOVICH Mark RAKITA
RWANDA	Diogene MWIZERWA Eugene MUSONI
SAUDI ARABIA	Sami ALBAKR
SENEGAL	Cecile FAYE Oumar MAIGA
SERBIA	Damir BARALIC
SINGAPORE	Francis KWONG
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	Represented by Czech Republic
SLOVENIA	Nika PUSENJAK
SPAIN	Marco A. RIOJA PEREZ Antonio Garcia HERNANDEZ

SRI LANKA	Dian GOMES Kasuni SILVA
SWITZERLAND	Olivier CARRARD Janine LAMON
SWEDEN	Lars LILJEGREN Ana VALERO-COLLANTES Per PALMSTROM Pierre THULLBERG
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC	Ahmad ALREFAAI
TAIPEI	Monica HO
TAJKISTAN	Turai ABDURAHMON Khisrav NASIMOV
THAILAND	Somded TONGPIAM Jakravudh SOMAPEE
TUNISIA	Noureddine ROBBANA Ali BELHAJ
TURKEY	Bilgin MUMINHAN Duvan AHMET
TURKMENISTAN	Meret MEREDOV Begench DURDIYEV
UKRAINE	Olena SHEVCHUK
UNITED STATES	Stacey JOHNSON Carl BORACK Ianka DAKOVA Daniel DE CHAINE
URUGUAY	Rodolfo LOPEZ
UZBEKISTAN	Sabirjan RUZIEV Saidahmed KAMALOV Nodira ALIMOVA
VENEZUELA	Mariana GONZALEZ
VIETNAM	Le Quang PHUNG Khanh TRAN THI
YEMEN	Represented by Algeria
MEDITERRANEAN CONF.	Lioniero DEL MASCHIO

CONGRESS AGENDA

1. Validation of attendance and proxies
2. Address by the President of the FIE and address by the President of FIS
3. Ratification of the new federations
4. Approval of the report of the 2013 Congress in Paris (FRA)
5. 2013-2014 report of the Executive Committee
6. Financial report for 2013/2014, report of the auditors, approval of the accounts, discharge to the Executive Committee and to the auditors
7. 2014 and 2015 budgets
8. Designation of the auditors
9. Award of the World Championships
 - J/C 2015
 - J/C 2016
 - Teams 2016
 - Veteran2015
 - Senior 2017
10. Candidatures for the World Championships
 - Senior 2018
 - Veteran 2016, 2017
11. Proposals submitted to the Congress, reports of the Commissions and Councils
12. Urgent decisions
13. Miscellaneous
 - Dates of the 2015 senior WCH
 - Fencing Whites

1. Addresses to the Congress

Nathalie Rodriguez: Ladies and gentleman, we are starting the congress, please take your seats.

By the way I would like to inform you that the FIE fencing exhibition is taking place at the entrance of the meeting room and I invite you to take a look because there are some very old and very curious new acquisitions in the exhibition. It will be open all day and you will have time to visit it during the coffee break. Thank you.

The president of the FIE, AlisherUsmanov.

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): First of all, I think we need to greet each other "Buongiorno, welcome to Rome".

Dear Delegates, dear guests, dear friends. I welcome you in the 93rd Congress of our Federation and on behalf of the Executive Committee, I declare the Congress open. First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to the government of the Italian Republic, to the Mayor of Rome, to the Italian Fencing Federation and personally to our Vice president and my friend Giorgio Scarso for their hospitality and assistance. I welcome and appreciate our friend from the International Olympic Committee, Signor Mario Pescante, who is among us today.

This year, we have done a lot of work to develop our sport, improve our competitions and calendar. With the aim to promote fencing particularly in the mass media we increased our exposure on Eurosport and started to work with Euronews. We have developed our relations with the International Olympic Committee, and you will hear the welcoming address of Thomas Bach, the IOC President, whom I met two days ago. And of course, I would like to draw your attention to the historical resolution of the UN General Assembly recognising the autonomy of sport and highlighting the special role of sport in today's world as well as the importance of the IOC. I urge you not only to review this resolution, but to implement its principles in your daily work. Yet, we cannot rest on our laurels.

We have less than two years to go to the next Olympic Games, which will represent a major historical challenge for our sport. The competitions in Rio must be organized even better than in London, be more attractive and exciting. The IOC urges every Olympic sport to become dynamic, creative, popular and understandable and this is our goal for the next two years. Only if we achieve these goals, will I be in a position to request additional Olympic medals from the Olympic Committee and have a reasonable chance to achieve. And I would like our Congress to be conducted in a truly business manner.

Today at the Congress, we must discuss many important issues, focus on the future of fencing and the future of our Federations. And first of all decide how you, our Federations should work in the global sports situation, how you should win new sponsorship in the future and not be under the influence of one sponsor. I wish all the best to everybody and I think we can begin our working session today. Thank you for your attention.

Applause.

Nathalie Rodriguez: I would like now to introduce Doctor Graziano Delrio, who is Deputy Secretary to the President of the Government and Minister of Sports.

Applause.

Graziano Delrio (ITA): Good morning, welcome to everybody in our beautiful city, I will continue my speech in Italian so that you can appreciate the sound of my language.

Thank you then for the invitation, I am really honored to be here and I convey the Italian Government greetings to President Usmanov. I am really honored to work and collaborate with president Scarso and Pescante, especially with Scarso who is giving a great impulse and a great prestige to Italian fencing. It is a great pleasure for us to say that for a few days Rome will be the world capital of Olympic and Paralympic fencing. There are more than 150 countries here today which demonstrates the extraordinary interest of the world sporting culture to this sport. Thank you to the organizers, thank you for the dialogue your federations undertake everyday with the youth and the school. Thank you because I am convinced that you are raising champions in life too. This is important and worth pinpointing since using sports as an educational tool contributes to strengthening social cohesion. Sport has not only an economical value but first and foremost an educational and social value. This international vision is reflected by the interest shown by the private entities which helped organizing this congress. A fundamental element in making sport sustainable is the wide recognition of the social role of sport at all levels. Therefore, cooperation with companies is vital to the development of sports culture. Fencing certainly does not have a business-like economical value but more of a business of values and this is why we appreciate it even more. We are confident that you are very much capable of facing the upcoming challenges - the social and economical ones - during this congress. Have a fruitful meeting, congratulations, I hope you will love Rome in every single aspect, not only because I think it is the most beautiful city in the world, and sorry for saying this in front of all of you but I hope you will discover in Rome

lots of aspects of the Italian culture, whether it is its exquisite food or its warm hospitality. Have a pleasant stay in Rome and greeting from the Italian government. Thank you

Nathalie Rodriguez: President Alisher Usmanov will give Doctor Delrio a gift.

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): This is our gift.

Graziano Delrio (ITA): Thank you very much.

Applause

Nathalie Rodriguez: We received from President Thomas Bach a message to the FIE Congress which I will read to you.

Mario Pescante (ITA): Mr. Secretary of state Graziano Delrio, Mr. President and friend Usmanov, my dear friend Scarso and colleague of the large Olympic and Paralympic fencing family. I have had the privilege to convey the greetings of the International Olympic Committee, especially Thomas Bach, not only as the IOC president, and you know him well, but also as a member of our family. According to an Italian proverb: "You never forget your first love" and you know that Thomas heart, the heart of a champion, beats for our sport.

Now let's put aside the protocol let me carry on in Italian out of respect for the Italian Government representative Minister Delrio.

First of all, let me open a short Italian parenthesis. Honestly when I read in the program that Delrio would be present, I was sceptical because not only in Italy but in Europe also, it is a time of emergency despite the beautiful sun out today, a meteorological situation which is disastrous and which caused great damages to our country and victims. And notwithstanding negative circumstances, Delrio is the leading man, he is everywhere with two features: first of all he is definitely a marathon runner with an admirable resistance but the determination of a fencer. The only result is that the winning athlete aims right, takes off his mask, and enjoys. Italians are well known for that. On the contrary, Delrio keeps silent even during hard times and it is very important to trust our country. You see, Minister, we met several times but it is the first time that I am addressing you in such a formal manner in this international context. And you know why. I have supervised the international political committee of the IOC and in the four corners of the world, one for each Olympic ring. I recall being with the UN solidarity programs next to the peacekeeping soldiers with their uniforms and us with our sporting clothes, in order to highlight a whole range of situations -from Darfur to Haiti -with the primary goal of eradicating the numerous conflicts with your other colleagues from other countries existing between governments, politics and sports organizations. And this is why we never met. Fortunately, our Olympic committee for example, is really well organized but mostly keeps excellent relations with Italian politics which respects the CONI autonomy while we obviously respect Italian citizens. This has been true in the past and is even more so today. Thank you for being so close, Malagolo said during the executive council because your presence among us together with the arrival in a few days of the Prime Minister demonstrate that CONI (National Italian Olympic Committee) and Italian leaders are close to our best athletes. Dear friends of fencing, I am sorry for this Italian parenthesis. I know that this is not an elective assembly, if it would have been there would not have been any problems for Usmanov, who we know is very capable on and out of the platform. Anyway, it is not an elective assembly and yet you talk about your future, about your issues and you know that in a few days, in Monaco, there will be a revolution in the Olympic world.

I only supervised the working group which dealing with modifying the organization of the Olympic Games. Other groups prepared other modifications, which will be presented at the meeting in Monaco the 6th and 7th of December. It will be a revolution because sports world needs to be in tone with today world. I believe that the Olympic gigantism era is over. Time has come for the Games to serve as a tool to achieve other goals. Everything needs to be done for small countries wanting to organize Olympic Games. But first and foremost, we need to cut expenses.. The future of Olympics depends on it. In this context there are also modifications of the Olympic program. This point will be discussed here because, beyond all understanding, and from now on I am giving a personal opinion, not on behalf of Bach, there is an idea of reducing the number of the disciplines in your sport. This would be a huge mistake for many reasons : first because world fencing can be considered as a model for other disciplines, for four reasons : first, sports problems worldwide such as doping or judgement issues - and you know this very well too -never touched your sport. Instead, fencing has expanded, today 150 countries are present, even more from the international family. You modified your rules, you made fencing a lot more appealing in terms of television programs. There was a time when it was really hard to understand the scores or what was happening. You did everything to modernize this discipline, so strongly linked to antic values, and we need to remain united because these roots are part of the Olympic history. And so I have heard from colleagues about a reduction of disciplines.. All I can say is that it would be a big mistake considering the enormous progress you have accomplished. I see more and more different countries represented on the fencing podium, and fencing is no longer part only of a small part of European countries, it is nowadays expanding, just as women fencing is. There are no such regions which are less important. We should be careful this is our battle. And you have two incredible fighters, one is of course Usmanov, but I assure you that Scarso with whom I had to face those issues forever, also has in his DNA, he is a

fierce competitor, so you are in good hands. But again, there is an assembly and I can assure you that I will be on your side because fencing needs to be acknowledged. I would like to open a parenthesis: I have read, and I guess it means it is official, that besides wheelchair fencing, there will be also fencing for the blind. And this shows how amazing your sport is and how it goes beyond the barriers to reach disabled people, thus demonstrating that we care about them. I wish you all the success for this meeting, we will meet again with your leaders in Monaco and I want to say again that I will be on your side. Thank you.

Applause.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Alisher Usmanov will give Mario Pescante a gift from the FIE.

Applause.

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): Madame Rodriguez.

Nathalie Rodriguez: In addition to what Mr. Pescante said, Thomas Bach, President of the IOC, sent a message to all the participants in the Congress.

"Dear President and friend Alisher Usmanov, dear friends and colleagues of the International Fencing Federation. One year ago, I had the pleasure of joining you at the Centennial Gala of the International Fencing Federation in Paris and I still have fond memories from the personal encounters with many of you. Of course, it would have been a great pleasure to join you again this time in Rome. There is no doubt that Italy is always an excellent choice for hosting such a meeting, as some of the greatest fencing champions are from here. The thirteen Olympic medals won by Edoardo Mangiarotti are still one of the greatest achievements in those many years. The cooperation between the FIE and the IOC is a strong and positive one. Not only because fencing has been a part of my life but because your President is supporting fencing athletes from all over the world and leading your federation in a great way. Around 130 national federations from all five continents are represented at your Congress today. A number of major decisions are expected during your meeting. You will elect all cities for several future competitions and vote on the admission of new member federations. I would like to wish you every success in all these decisions.

Dear friends, if you want to remain successful, you need to drive a change in today's fast changing world. This is why we have presented this week a list of 40 recommendations within the Olympics agenda 2020. The IOC will be voting on this agenda in only two weeks from now. You, the Fencing Family, have been as well contributing to this global, open and transparent discussion. Therefore, I would like to thank you for your different contributions.

We need to prepare the Olympic movement for the future, in a time when we are successful. Since the beginning of the year, we secured more than 14 televisions and sponsorship contracts with a total value of 10 billion US dollars. We put back 90% of this money to the athletes through your NOCs and through the FIE. This is our investment in a successful future, in your successful future. To remain successful, you need to be flexible in this fast changing world. One of the recommendations within the Olympic agenda 2020 is the creation of the Olympic TV channel. This may help fencing to gain much more visibility in the future, more than ever before. But all of this, only works if you are also ready to shape the future of your sport at the state-of-the-art level. You also have to take important decisions today. With this endeavour, I wish you all the very best. I am already looking forward to the great pleasure of meeting you at one or another occasion in the near future. Allow me to wish you now a fruitful meeting. Thank you very much. Thomas Bach."

Applause.

2. Validation of attendance and proxies

Nathalie Rodriguez: We are now moving to the roll call. When you hear your country, please raise your hand. Afghanistan. Ah. We will see the proxies after. Algeria. Antigua and Barbuda. Are you here? Ok. Argentina. Armenia. Aruba. Australia. Austria. Bahamas. Bangladesh. Barbados. Belgium. Benin. Bermudes. Belize. Belarus. Botswana. Is there any representative of Botswana? No representatives in the row, ok. Brazil. Bahrain. Bulgaria. Burkina Faso. Is there anyone from Burkina Faso? Any representative? No one, ok. No one from Burkina Faso. Cambodia. Canada. Chile. China. Ivory Coast. Cameroon. Congo Democratic Republic, absent, not present. Not present. Colombia. Costa Rica, is there anyone from Costa Rica? No one? Croatia. Cyprus. Czech Republic. Denmark. Dominica. Ecuador. Egypt. El Salvador. Spain. Estonia. Finland. France. Great Britain. Georgia. Equatorial Guinea. Absent. Germany. Greece. Ghana. Guatemala. Where are you Guatemala? Please show yourself if you are present in the row. Guinea. Guyana. Hong Kong. Honduras. Hungary. Indonesia. India. Where is India? India is absent? Iran. Ireland. Iraq. Iceland. Israel. Italy. Jamaica. Jordan. Japan. Kyrgyzstan. Korea. Saudi Arabia. Yes, thank you. Kuwait. Kuwait is not here? Ah! Thank you. Latvia. Libya. Lebanon. Lithuania. Luxembourg. Macao. Madagascar. Morocco. Malaysia. Moldova. Mexico. Mongolia. Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Thank you. Mali. Malta. Mauritius. Mauritania. Nicaragua. Netherlands. Nepal. Nigeria. Nigeria is not here? Niger. Norway. New Zealand. Thank you. Panama. Paraguay. Peru. Philippines. Poland. Portugal. Puerto Rico. Qatar. Romania. South Africa. Russia. Rwanda. Samoa. Samoa is not here? Absent. Senegal. Singapore. Slovenia. Serbia. Sri Lanka. Switzerland. Sweden. Where is Sweden? Thank you. Syrian Arab Republic. Syria is not here? Thank you. Thailand. Tajikistan. Turkmenistan. Turkmenistan? Chinese Taipei. Tunisia. Turkey. Ukraine. Uruguay. United States. Uzbekistan. Venezuela. Venezuela? Ah! Vietnam. Did I call all countries?

We are now moving to the proxies.

Afghanistan has given a proxy to Bangladesh. Does Bangladesh accept? Fine, thank you. Azerbaijan has given a proxy to Russia. Does Russia accept? Thank you. Kazakhstan has given a proxy to Uzbekistan. Does Uzbekistan accept? Yes? Monaco has given a proxy to France. Does France accept? Slovak Republic has given a proxy to Czech Republic. Do you accept? Yes. Yemen has given a proxy to Algeria. Does Algeria accept? Yes.

Antigua and Barbuda are arriving.

We have 123 countries present or represented. We had planned actually 130 countries but some of them could not get their visas mainly because of the Ebola virus problem.

Now the floor is to Giorgio Scarso, President of the Italian Federation and Vice-president of the FIE.

Giorgio Scarso (ITA): Mr. President Alisher Usmanov, dear friends of the executive committee, dear members of honour of the International Federation, dear friends and representatives of federations in attendance. It is an honour for me to convey the greetings of the Italian fencing, which contributed once again to the movement of international fencing by organizing this congress. There are more than 130 countries represented today, unfortunately, some of them could not be here for the aforementioned visa issue. Fencing is going through a nice time. Today, there are no more big or small federations but only fencing, a sport widely acknowledged as the symbol of an ideal, of fairness and fair-play. We need to represent this message we are conveying and which is recognized worldwide. It is a great privilege for the fencing community to develop this discipline, since we are aware that the fundamental values of fencing are at the root of the fundamental values of sport. Therefore, we are committed to continue this "mission", i.e. to keep spreading fencing without losing its intrinsic values. This is our added value, our major sponsor, our business card wherever we go in the world. I therefore urge you, as a fencing representative, to keep working in order to improve fencing, for it to reach the deserved medals we expect and to grow, while never losing its fundamental values such as its culture and its origins. I would like to apologize to the fencing world for keeping a low profile. As said above, Europe is going through a period of review, which means we need to do things correctly, without ostentation, we cannot show off what we cannot afford.. I want to draw congress members' attention to the fact that this congress has been organized thanks to our sponsors. All that we will do the next two days is possible thanks to Conad, the Rome Foundation, and other small sponsors who wished to contribute to the improvement of fencing. I think this is an important message. Sponsorship enables us to organize congresses and not only major sporting events. This is why I wish that fencing keeps playing a promotional role for our territory and our companies. Indeed, this dialogue also contributes to the development of fencing. As the Vice President of the Italian National Olympic Committee, I convey the greetings of Malagolo President who will attend the official dinner tomorrow night. He apologizes for not being present today but he is busy meeting with the European Olympic Committee in Baku. Thanks again for trusting Italy for the organization of this congress. I would like to thank the executive committee and President Usmanov. Have a fruitful meeting.

Nathalie Rodriguez: President Usmanov will give a medal to Giorgio Scarso.

Applause.

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): I think that everybody knows how much Giorgio has been contributing to our sport for such a long period of time. Today I am very happy to announce you that I wish to award him the FIE gold medal.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Just to remind you the voting procedure. You all have received on your table an explanation about the voting boxes you have received. When the vote will be declared open, you can vote « yes », « no », or « abstention ». In order to validate your answer, you just have to press the key « valid ». Following the changes made at the last Congress, I just remind you that the Congress decides at the simple majority of the votes of the Federations present and represented.

According to the number of Federation presented and represented today, the Congress can decide with 62 votes. The same rule applies for the modifications of the rules. As for the statutes, we need the two third of the Federations present and represented. So, for the proposal to pass we need 82 votes. Please vote.

3. Ratification of new federations

Nathalie Rodriguez: And now we move to the next item on the agenda, which is the ratification of new Federations. The Executive Committee has granted provisional affiliation to the Federation of Uganda. We ask the Congress to approve the final affiliation of Uganda.

Applause

We will vote! We will vote!

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): Vote please.

Nathalie Rodriguez: The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The final affiliation of Uganda is approved.

Applause

4. Approval of the report of the 2013 Congress in Paris (FRA)

Nathalie Rodriguez: We now move to item 4, which is the approval of the minutes of the 2013 Congress in Paris. We have not received any comment on this report so I propose we proceed to the vote.

And the vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The report is approved.

5. 2013/2014 Report of the Executive Committee

Nathalie Rodriguez: Now we move to item 5, which is the annual report 2013-2014 of the Executive Committee and the floor is to Frédéric Pietruszka.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Good morning Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to all of you. You have all received, in a new, more attractive and visual format, the moral report written by Nathalie. We have not received any comment about it, unless there is a last minute comment, we are going to approve it.

Nathalie Rodriguez: The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The annual report is approved.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Thank you to all, I am now going to ask you to stand up to observe a minute of silence in memory of those who left us this year, the ones who will appear on the screen and also all of your friends from your federations who could have been there today with us but who unfortunately left us.

[Commemoration movie]

Nathalie Rodriguez: Unfortunately, we sent you an urgent letter only two days ago, to tell you that Dame Mary Glen-Haig, who was an FIE Member of Honour, passed away this week.

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): And Mary Glen Haig, an IOC member. One of the longest-serving IOC members.

6. 2013/2014 Financial report, report of the auditors, approval of the accounts, discharge to the Executive Committee and to the auditors

Nathalie Rodriguez: We now move to item 6, which is the 2013-2014 financial report. The report of the auditors, the approval of the accounts and then the approval to the Executive Committee and auditors, and the floor is to Jacek Bierkowski.

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

I submit to your approval the profit and the loss account and the balance sheet for the financial year, starting 1st of July 2013, ending 30th June 2014 and also the proposed budget for the new financial year from 1st of July 2014 to 31st December 2014 and second, 1st January 2015 to 31st December 2015. I believe that these documents will help you to understand the balance sheet, the profit and the loss account for the said period.

The expenditures amounting to 11,690,167 Swiss francs were covered by the donation of the President, the income planned in the budget and the extra money coming from the excess of income from the previous year. We introduced new programs, such as bonuses for the referees and officials. Referees and referring delegates received bonuses for each competition in which they officiated and additionally for the World Championships. Officials of the Cadet, Junior and Senior World Championships, also received a special bonus from the FIE. We spent around 1 million Swiss francs helping with the equipment. 104 federations from all five continents received material aid from the FIE. 24 African countries, 26 American countries, 25 Asian countries, 26 European countries and 3 Oceanian countries. We invested in the competitions, including World Championships and Combat Games. We also increased the number of meeting days for all Commissions and Councils to allow for an increased efficiency. Our accounts were approved by our auditor Ernst & Young Company with a positive result.

Do you have any question regarding the financial report?

No thank you.

Nathalie Rodriguez: In that case we will move to the vote on item 6.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed. The accounts are approved.

7. 2014 and 2015 budgets

Nathalie Rodriguez: We now move to item 7, which is the 2014-2015 budgets. You remember that we proposed to move from a financial year to a calendar year, so we have now a 6-month budget for 2014 and a 12-month budget for 2015. And the floor is to Jacek Bierkowski.

Jacek Bierkowski (POL): The proposed budget for the new financial year. First, as Nathalie said, for the second half 2014 and then the budget for the entire calendar year from 1st January 2015 up to 31st December 2015. Why? National Federations usually work with the calendar year. Second, banks provide annual information based on the calendar year. Third, auditors request information, calculation etc. in calendar years. We indicated the need to have a budget starting in January until December over a calendar year for simplification sake.

We have the opinion of the Office of the Tax Corporation of the Canton of Vaud in Lausanne, which states that they are awaiting for the change of the accounting period. I would like you to approve this budget.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We will now move to the vote on item 7.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The budgets are approved.

8. Designation of the auditors

Nathalie Rodriguez: Item 8, which is the nomination of the auditors. The floor is to Jacek Bierkowski.

Jacek Bierkowski (POL): I suggest the appointment of Ernst & Young as FIE auditors for the next accounting period. Company Ernst & Young.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We move to the vote for item 8 and the vote is open.

The vote is closed.

Ernst & Young are nominated for the next year.

Jacek Bierkowski (POL): Thank you.

9. Award of World Championships

Nathalie Rodriguez: Now item 9, which is about awarding World Championships. And the floor is to Frédéric Pietruszka.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Last year we submitted quite a number of candidatures. Tashkent bids for the Junior and Cadet World Championships. The bid has not been approved yet, since it is the only candidature I please ask you to support it, even more so because, and I would not want to disclose a secret, it is the city of our President's childhood. We would like to honor him by going to his country, Uzbekistan, and I would like to thank the Uzbek Federation for this candidature.

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): That is the city of my childhood and it would be a great pleasure to me to have the Championships there.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We open the vote for Tashkent.

The vote is closed.

Tashkent will organize the 2015 Junior and Cadet World Championships.

Applause

I understand that Tashkent has a presentation to show.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): But does anyone from the Uzbek Federation want to say a few words?

Now let's move to the candidatures for the 2016 Cadets /Juniors World Championships.

We actually have some words from the Uzbek Federation.

Nodira Alimova (UZB): First of all, good morning dear Fencing Family, dear respectful FIE President Mr. Alisher Usmanov, dear National Federations and dear Congress participants. The Fencing Federation of Uzbekistan would like to take this opportunity to express its gratitude for being awarded for the first time in history the organization in Central Asia, Tashkent, Uzbekistan of the 2015 Junior and Cadet World Championships. Excuse me, can I have the presentation on the screen?

Tashkent is the capital of Central Asia, of the Republic of Uzbekistan. It is a very friendly city, the most populated and largest city Central Asia. Tashkent is the political, economic, cultural and scientific hub of the country. A wide range of hotels are available to accommodate the official delegations and the participants of our upcoming 2015 Junior and Cadet World Championships. .

Thank you. Here we go.

[Presentation]

This is the official logo of the upcoming World Championships. A wide range of hotels are available as I said before, ranging from 3 to 5 stars and for the official delegations and VIP guests we offer hotels like the International Red and Blue Uzbekistan and others. And for the participants, the fencers, we offer some other kind of hotels like Grand Palace, Tashkent Palace and few others. You can see here pictures of the hotel. This is the official photo of our delegation.

The Championships will be held at the Universal Sports Palace, called Sahovat, a great place for great events. This will be the first time in the history of Tashkent, as it was for other sports events such as the Judo Grand Prix, the Taekwondo World Cup, the Gymnastics Asian Championships, the Wrestling Asian Cup and so on. So now we shall do our best to stage an outstanding fencing event, World Championships that we will hopefully enjoy all together. Thank you very much for your attention. Merci beaucoup.

Applause

Should you require any further information, you can contact me by email or visit the official website. As you can see on the screen, the official website will run on December. You can find all the relevant information on the hard copy presentation we will distribute it to you after the Congress. Thank you again.

Applause

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Thank you very much. Before switching to 2016, the President would like to say a few words.

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): Everybody knows today the capacity of Federations in several countries. Of course Uzbekistan is not used to organize major events, but I want to inform you that these World Championships have the major support from the National Olympic Committee of Uzbekistan and I have a guarantee from the President of the National Olympic Committee. His name is also Mr. Usmanov, and he will support these Championships to the extent possible in Uzbekistan. Welcome to Tashkent.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We will now have a coffee break of 15 minutes.

The Congress will start, please take your seats. Just to announce you that Costa Rica arrived. There are now 124 countries present or represented and the majority for general votes for the Congress and the rules is now to 63 and the majority for the statutes is 83.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): We go back to the 2016 Cadet and Junior Championships. We just have one candidate: Bourges, France. We want to call the representative of this town for presentation.

Rodolphe Dubois (FRA): Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen and members of the Executive Committee, dear friends of the Fencing International Federation, I am very honoured that you gave me this great opportunity to share with you the candidature of my city, Bourges. This project is a very important fencing project. Now during my presentation, I would like to tell you the basics of this city. Why did we choose Bourges? It is a central town with a great cuisine, a lovely place and an important city with Orléans and Tours nearby. And we wanted to give our personal contribution to the efforts which have been accomplished by the International Fencing Federation. I would like to thank President Isabelle Lamour. We simply wanted to be very much involved in spreading all around the world our major activities. I would like to start with a few points.

[Points presented on the white board]

The first reason debated in the Federation, is that we realized that for 20 years, France did not receive or did not organize such an event. The last time it did was in 1995 in Paris. In 2010, we were fortunate to host a special event, and also last year in Paris. We started to think about bidding when we decided to involve our youth in order to put an end to this situation. We have some experiences in international events that we are very proud of such as the 2003 and 2009 European Championships in Bourges and also the Women's Sabre Senior World Championships. This idea was to put in place a municipal project with some common grounds in accordance with the values we want to show "men working hands in hands". We have common goals and we shall need to work hard to achieve these targets with interesting and challenging results. Since we will have some responsibilities in organising this event, no doubt about that, the Bourges League really wants to be given the opportunity to stage special Junior and Cadet Championships. We intend to work jointly in order to organize a very good competition to be acknowledged as one of the most special events in the fencing world. You will be more than welcome to come and discover the beauties of this city but also the beauty of this event. There will be a kind of César which will make it possible for every athlete to fence in friendship, because we need sports in order to retrieve friendship.

In addition, coming back to Bourges, Bourges is just the capital of Berry. By train from Paris you arrive close to the heart of France in one hour and a half. We are just in the middle of everything. You will have the chance to see that, as I said already, we have an important historical heritage. For example, Bourges became the city of fireworks after their invention by our Chinese friends. In France, some fireworks have been especially created for this city. We suggest the International Fencing Federation to approve the 6th and 7th of April. We need to make sure all hotels will be available because a huge music festival takes place in Bourges at this period of the year. As our colleague from Tashkent, we also have some very good hotels of different standings for all our guests. Different levels of standards or comfort, from 3 to 5 stars hotels, and also restaurants and excellent French cuisine. Whatever their budgets the National Federations will be given the chance to take all the athletes they need in order to meet the financial expectations. We have some special venues available and that is why we wanted to be a candidate.

We have original facilities with special very interesting installations and also special circuits at Junior Sabre. We hosted the Senior Sabre Championships last year, so this is very important to us. Now you see some pictures, we have some gyms, some catering facilities and gyms just to work out as well. And finals will take place inside a new beautiful brand new hall, the Velodrome, particularly inside the Velodrome ring.

Bourges also has a national basketball team well-ranked at the European level. The municipality also suggests as an alternative and depending on the validation criteria of the International Fencing Federation, to have junior teams on this place which is conducive to the reception of several delegations and sponsors. This place is currently under transformation and renovation and it will be the very first international event held in the restored "Palais des Sports" so this is going to be very important for fencing as well.

Within the Organizing Committee, the idea is to have something that is motivating all the clubs. We would be very pleased if the President of the regional administration and the President of the French Fencing Federation would act as Honorary Presidents of the Organizing Committee. I will be the deputy Chairman and my predecessor will be the Chairman of the Executive Committee since he has been the organizer of the 2003 and 2004 European Championships which means he has, an extended expertise in organizing competitions in general in Europe.

We have just created a logo. I want to disclose it, this logo is made of three sabres surrounding the hexagon. The hexagon represents the French sabre with different colour shades. This is possible. The logo is not ready yet but the first idea is this one, having just these three sabres all around this hexagon. To promote fencing, we decided to use some general methodology, a new method, and so we will create 10-12 episodes in order to make entire region dream about fencing. Now I am showing you this. May I have the first video clip? I would like just to screen this video clip, which is going to last 50 seconds. I will give you 50 seconds to watch this video clip now.

We want to invite all of you at the opening ceremony. As for marketing, apart from the teaser, we will also create a website and also some possible contents for Twitter and Facebook so this can appeal youth and also use social networks. The public authorities will fully support us for these marketing operations. And money is also very important. With regard to finances, as the chairman just said when we voted the budget, we need to make sure that this event can be supported economically. This means it is not easy, we do not have so much money but we have big support from the public authorities and this is going to be very important. This is going to be the very first time that these World Championships are organized in our region, so we have the chance to have their support. The budget is very well balanced but it may have some amendments or modifications according to the commitment of some private partners. There are also some additional undertakings and commitments and so the budget is going to be just finalized. But the idea is just to account for every investment, for every Euro spent in order to keep very good memory of this event also from a financial viewpoint. I stop here, thank you very much for the nice attention and I would like to meet you all in Bourges in 2016 to celebrate these Junior and Cadet World Championships. Thank you very much. You will hopefully come in numbers in Bourges.

Applause.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Thank you Rodolphe, now we shall vote for the allocation of the 2016 Junior and Cadet World Championships. Nathalie you have the floor.

Nathalie Rodriguez: The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The 2016 Junior and Cadet World Championships are awarded to Bourges.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): My congratulations to Bourges and see you after Tashkent in Bourges. And now we must allocate the 2016 Team World Championships because there are two different weapons not on the Olympic programme. Last year, I told you about the possible bid of Brazil which the Brazilian Olympic Committee and the Rio Olympics Organizing Committee could agree. This was the case and now we can organize the Senior Men's Sabre and Women's Foil Team World Championships in Rio de Janeiro. This could be a kind of test event for the forthcoming Rio Olympics. Now I wish to give the floor to President Dos Santos. My dear friend, would you like to say a few words?

Gerli Dos Santos (BRA): Good morning to all, sorry for my English, I am going to speak in Spanish. In 2016, we will organize the Grand Prix in Rio de Janeiro. The Grand Prix sabre for men and women followed by the Grand Prix in Rio, with the support of the Brazilian Olympic Committee, we have also applied our candidacy for team competitions that had not been planned for 2016. I refer to the men sabre and women foil competitions. I now confirm to the Congress that we can organize both events and I invite all the Federations to take part thereto in Rio in 2016. Thank you.

Applause

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Thank you President. Let us vote.

Nathalie Rodriguez: The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The 2016 Team World Championships are awarded to Rio.

Applause

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Thanks to the Brazilian Federation that will host the Olympics but also these two other competitions mentioned just now.

Let us move to the Veterans for which there was a call for candidacy for 2015/2016. We received two candidatures for 2015, namely, Plovdiv, Bulgaria, and Limoges, France. I please ask those two Federations to say something, the President of the Bulgarian Federation followed by his French colleague.

Nathalie Rodriguez: When you speak at the microphone, please announce your name and country. Thank you.

Catherine Defoligny (FRA): Ladies and Gentlemen, President, members of the Executive Committees, Delegates. First and foremost on behalf of the French Fencing Federation I want to thank you on behalf of Isabelle for having voted in favour of Bourges as to the organization of the Juniors and Cadets World Championships. Now I would

like to explain why Limoges has submitted its candidacy. Limoges has submitted it for 2015/2016 while Bourges has submitted its candidacy for 2016 and that is the reason why we have decided to put forward our candidacy for 2015 last year in Paris. There was no other proposal, and that is why last May Limoges with the support of the French Federation submitted the candidacy of Bourges for 2016. We must say that Limoges has already organized several different international competitions and particularly World Championships.

Talking about Limoges, I wish to say that this candidacy meets the desire of supporting the Veterans competitions in our country. In our opinion, the number of Veteran athletes is extremely important. We have more than 10% of participants including 8'500 Veterans, it is extremely important for us to support their activity. It is a very dynamic process and we must also support the activity of the Veterans Council. We can of course rely on the full support of our President, and fencing achieved major results at the international level in the Veterans category.

Why did France select Limoges? Because we know Limoges has already submitted its candidacy in the past and has important organizational skills. It is a city that has a good geographical position with easy access by train, airplane, and car and with good hotel infrastructures to host and accommodate all the international delegations. It also offers a wide range of services at different prices and this is important for Veterans because sometimes they must pay their expenditures directly. I also wish to focus on other aspects: this city is particularly interesting also for its cuisine and culture. In particular, and this is of fundamental importance, we have sports facilities and I wish to reassure those who do not know this, but since the last World Championships in Limoges, we have built new sports installations, new structures and facilities have been erected. Some specific structures are dedicated to fencing only which is a guarantee for the organization of these Championships. There is also an Organizing Committee that will do its utmost to stage this event in the best possible way. I know that there is also another candidacy and I hope that you will choose the best but obviously I would like you to choose France.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Thank you Catherine.

Velichka Hristeva (BUL): Dear Mr. President, dear friends, I do not want to make a big presentation, I only want to say three short things about Plovdiv. The first one is about our experience: over the last decade, Plovdiv has organized twice the Junior and Cadet World Championships. In 2009 it organized the Senior European Championships. Over the last decade, Men sabre Grand Prix. From this year, we start organizing a Junior World Cup. The second thing relates to Plovdiv: Plovdiv is one of the oldest cities in the world, more than 4'000 years old. I think this is one of the reasons why people come and visit our city. And the third thing is about me. I want to say that I love you all and I hope that you will support my candidature. Thank you.

Applause

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Thank you Velichka. Let us vote.

Nathalie Rodriguez: If you want to vote for Limoges, press 1, if you want to vote for Plovdiv press 2. The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

Limoges won with 66 votes.

Applause

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): We are now going to go through the Veterans for 2016. For the 2016 Veterans Championships we already received the bid from Germany with the city of Stralsund. I hope I pronounced this name correctly. We now ask the President of the German Federation to present this candidacy.

Claus Janka (GER): Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am not the President but on behalf of my President I am proud to present our candidacy for 2016 in Stralsund that you have well pronounced. First of all, I would like to say that we are very proud of our results, what our Veterans fencers received over many years. Following this, a lot of active Veteran fencers asked why Germany is not ready to organize Veterans World Championships I can say that we are ready! We are ready and we will be proud to host the Veterans in 2016 in Stralsund. Stralsund is a very old cultural city with a long history providing everything you need, with a huge and pleasant environment. And in this paper you can see what has happened in Stralsund. We can promise that we have everything we need in terms of venues, hotel capacity and equipment. We will be in a good standard, partly in the highest standard what we can serve. We would be happy if you support our intention to make organize in Stralsund the 2016 Veterans World Championships. Thank you very much.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Thank you Claus, we can vote.

Nathalie Rodriguez: The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The 2016 Veterans World Championships are awarded to Germany, Stralsund.

Applause

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Now we shall move to 2017, without candidacies but we have received the spontaneous candidacy of Maribor, Slovenia. For 2017, for the Veterans and not Seniors. For the Veterans 2017, we have not asked for candidacies but we have received the spontaneous candidacy of Maribor, Slovenia. I wish to propose you to vote if you want the city of Maribor to be chosen as the venue for this Championship. For the Veterans Championships you should vote “yes” otherwise, if you want us to ask for candidacies, you should vote “no” with respect to this choice.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Do you have any objection to vote now for the 2017 Veterans World Championships? Do you have any objection? Can we vote now on the 2017 Veterans World Championships?

And please say your name and your country.

Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA): I think that with all our appreciation for Maribor, since other countries did not know that it was possible to present just now a candidature, it would be fair to leave it open and decide next year, because other countries could be possibly interested.

Nathalie Rodriguez: But are there any other countries which are candidates to the Veterans 2017? Because it was planned to request candidatures at this Congress.

So do you still have an objection to vote for the 2017 Veterans World Championships? Do you have an objection? No?

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): There is one here.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We can maybe give the floor to the representative of Slovenia.

Nika Pusenjak (SLO): Slovenia Fencing Federation would like to thank you for this opportunity. We would like to organize the 2017 Veterans Championships because we are now in the process of organizing the 2015 European Championships in Maribor and since our preparations are going very well and we received positive mark from EOC inspectors, we are confident that we can do these Veterans Championships. Slovenia is a really small country, we said that we are on the sunny side of the Alps and you can reach for one point to another point of Slovenia in two hours. Maribor is an ancient city, very old city, there is a University there and there are many thermal spas, good vines and a lot of different leisure activities. We think we have a lot to offer to the Veterans and we would like to stage these Championships. We would like you to support our candidacy. Thank you very much.

Applause

Nathalie Rodriguez: Do you agree actually to vote now to award the 2017 Veterans World Championships? Do you have any objection? If there is no objection, now we can move to the vote.

No, it is not the Seniors it is the Veterans.

Peter Jacobs (GBR, MH): I am not quite clear in relation to the statutes. The statutes of the FIE say that candidates must be deposited with the FIE at least 3 years before a competition and place accepted by the Congress or accepted by the FIE and placed on an agenda. The vote is two years before the competition, so it is a little technical as to whether the Veterans which takes place in October or whether the Congress in November is two years before or less than two years, but we have to be careful about not following our own statutes. Thank you.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): I can easily understand Peter but it is clearly stated in the Statutes that the candidacies must be submitted 3 years in advance. But there are no other candidacies, so we cannot accept other candidacy for next year. We can vote next year, but this will just result in delaying the work of the Organizing Committee. I do not believe that we should postpone by one year. Thank you

Nathalie Rodriguez: We are going to vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The 2017 Veterans are awarded to Slovenia, Maribor.

Applause

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): I think it is extremely important to have a long-term strategy with respect to candidacies. We often have to face this situation in which we ultimately have to find a candidate and I think that it is extremely important for the Organizing Committee to be given the opportunity to prepare for 3 years. Now I wish to ask to the President of the Federation to present the next candidacy: the candidacy of Leipzig.

[Video clip candidacy of Leipzig]

Applause

Gordon Rapp (GER): My dear President, my dear friends, Leipzig wants more than that and I warmly invite you to the city where we celebrated the FIE 90th Anniversary, and the city of the 2005 World Championships, which were full of emotions. Today, the mayor of Leipzig is standing next to me. Nine years ago, he presented the World Champions medals and today he wants to see fencers in the city of Leipzig again. Dear friends, in Leipzig not only older fencers, like Arthur and Leonie will welcome you. The famous sons of the city are waiting, like Johann Sebastian Bach and naturally Thomas Bach and Richard Wagner. Magical Championships filled with passion, and a dreamlike city with sport is waiting. More than 3,000 German fencers are waiting to wish you nothing more than Leipzig once more. I am looking forward to welcoming you in Leipzig in 2017. I am looking forward to an excited audience and champions from all continents. Leonie and others, what do you think?

Leonie Strecker (GER): My name is Leonie, I am one of Leipzig fencers and fencing has been my greatest passion for nearly nine years.

Arthur Fischer (GER): Hello, my name is Arthur Fischer. I have been fencing for seven years and my greatest success is winning the German Championship in 2013.

Gordon Rapp (GER): Burgkhard, do you like fencing?

Jung Burgkhard, Mayor of Leipzig: Yes, I like fencing because my youngest daughter is a fencer too. Ladies and Gentlemen, Mr. President Usmanov. It is a wonderful idea to make a relation between you and Sebastian Bach and Thomas Bach. And the church is called St Thomas you know. Ladies and Gentlemen, thank you for the possibility of presenting my city and inviting you to Leipzig. A wonderful city in the heart of Europe, a city of music and culture, of trade and economy, of universities and science, and it is a very vibrant and lively phenomenon with a long tradition. An intellectual mixture of open-minded people, international spirit explained by Leipzig and its Monday demonstrations, the starting point for the Fall of the Wall in Berlin 25 years ago. I think you can remember.

Applause

Leipzig has some many facets, our musical flagships include the 800 year-old boy choir of St. Thomas, Thomaner chor and the tradition of its former conductor Johann Sebastian Bach and our about 250 years old orchestra, in the tradition of our Gewandhauskapellmeister Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy, für Gewandhausorchestra. Today with the brilliant Italian conductor Richardo Chailly, one of the best orchestra leaders in the world. A 1000 years of age, Leipzig is a young, growing and creative city, with 550,000 inhabitants in a metropolis reaching 1.5 million people. This also brings out the lively character of the university, of 600 years old in the heart of the city. And of course, the very important role of the trade fair, the oldest one in the world and always a wide op German Football Association was founded in Leipzig in 1900? And since 1912, athletes from Leipzig have stood on Olympics winners podiums. They won more than 150 Olympics and Paralympics medals. So Leipzig is a perfect host for International Sports World. Best practice for example the 2002 Volleyball World Championships, the 2006 World Cup, and Football World Championships and hockey next year and I hope you remember the fencing vote Championship 2005 and the 2010 European Championship in fencing. The Leipzig audience is known for its enthusiasm for sports, its craziness for top performers and its hospitality again and again. We once more guarantee that the 2017 Fencing World Championships will be at its best. The multi-functional arena Leipzig and its glamorous venue, the hotels on top standards with an excellent value for money. The short distances and the perfect public transport systems by trams are very helpful and the top connection by air and railways and highways. And who knows, maybe we will see our two young talents on the piste may not in 2017, maybe some years later on the piste and Leipzig is worth the trip, believe me. You know I may have to say that but I believe it, if you do not come you will miss one of the top destinations in the world. But please take a look and see for yourself.

Applause

Nathalie Rodriguez: And we will now move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The 2017 Senior World Championships are awarded to Leipzig.

10. Candidatures for World Championships

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Now we move to item number 10, which is the candidatures for the 2018 Senior World Championships. Is there any candidate for the 2018 World Championships? Would you like to say a few things? Would you like to introduce yourself? Please join us on the podium. Could you please?

Xiangyang YUAN (CHN): Dear President, dear friends. My name is Xiangyang Yuan, the General Secretary of the Chinese Fencing Federation. China would like to organize the 2018 World Championships. The city and the date will be determined very soon. But I promise you, the city will be the most beautiful one in China and I am sure there will be a silk market in the city.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Thank you.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Thank you! As I told you, it is so important to have a visibility in the middle run. This is reassuring the federation because a number of countries would like to organize these World Championships and I would like to thank China for this candidacy. Thank you China

Nathalie Rodriguez: It is time to have a lunch break but you have to come back at two o'clock sharp because we will have two special announcements to make and they will be done at two o'clock so please be back in the room at two o'clock because we have also the proposals to deal with.

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): Please two o'clock, one hour for lunch. We need to finish today.

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

Nathalie Rodriguez: We start at two sharp. And now the first presentation.

[Video presentation]

Applause

We invite Mr. Peters Michael, Euronews CEO, to take the floor.

Applause

Michael Peters: Hello, thank you for inviting me here today I am really honored to be here today. You must be wondering why I am here, well I would like to report all the successful activities regarding international fencing. This is why I have asked my 8 year-old daughter to start practising this sport and she has been doing it for three years, because fencing is such a successful discipline. I am not here to talk about private and family matters but more about the partnership we have established here today. A few days ago I was at a Convention in Lausanne and when I got back we announced this partnership between Euronews and your sport. We launched a new program on Euronews called « Sports United » that will reflect all the different sports in the world. And this will be a weekly program broadcasted. So, I am not only here to talk about this new collaboration with Euronews. So, I could not say that I am here to present you or to announce you a new collaboration with Alisher. We decided to go further and we want to put fencing in the heart of Euronews sport news and this is all today's announcement is about. To begin with, let me introduce my company and explain who we are, what we are doing every day, I think the best thing is just to show you a short video about what Euronews is.

This is what we are in a few figures and few shots. Let us now speak about what we will do together. I am extremely happy to announce that we will conclude a major partnership together. It will last 3 years. We will begin next week, where we will explain it in more in details. I mean, I think the best thing is to understand the core values of this partnership, to understand first of all, you know, like in a wedding, to understand what you want and what we can offer you. And we first wondered what are you looking for? In such, what could you look for in such a partnership? We understand that the first thing that you want to look for is visibility of course, and you want to give visibility to all your fencing disciplines. Of course you want to have more and to give more impact to all your licensees to your sport, throughout the world. You want equally in our opinion to reach complementary audiences. Of course you have already fans everywhere in the world, you have people who practice your sport, but maybe the most important thing for you today is to reach complementary audiences.

We understand that you want to educate on the values of your sport which is mainly based on diversity and lot of core values about your sport. And of course, like everyone today you probably want to develop any kind of multiplatform content and to reach people through all the different platforms that exist today. All in all you have content, you have a lot of contents. You have public who is here, you know, way to get this content and how would you meet and how would you connect this content to your targeted audience is through a media. We could be this media, because of all our quantitative inputs and as you have seen, we are by far the number one news channel in Europe today. But I think that in addition to that, one thing that is important to me is that you need a media that will share your values, and we at Euronews, are this kind of partner which shares all these values that you bring every day in your sport.

So Euronews, what are we? And what can we bring to you? You want more visibility, as I said we are here to say that we are the first most watched news channel in Europe. We are first upon upmarket viewers and I think that it is important for your complementary audience, we will see that later and we are first on all the EMEA coverage. If you want to give more impact to your coverage, Euronews will bring you all its consumers because today more than 90 million people consume our brands every month through all kinds of platforms and this will give you of course the best possible impact. As I said the most important to me, I think is really for you to be able to reach complementary audience. We have a very high-level audience in Euronews and we are very upmarket and we think that this kind of audience could be extremely interested to discover more about your sport and the three disciplines you are all representing here together today. Of course multiplatform, Euronews is everywhere and has some nice records. We are one of the top 5 news channel in the world, news brands in the world on YouTube, we are available on any kind of mobile operating systems (OS), we are increasingly reaching more and more people through our website and we are present in all the new kinds of platform like Google Glass, we are having the only European brands, European media to be present on the launched of Google Glass in the US in the beginning of the year.

And of course, I spoke to you about values, I think that Euronews really brings an easy way to translate the diversity that I can just see here today with all these countries represented in this room and of course, you probably know or now you know that you have seen the video that we are reaching people through thirteen different languages and we have more than thirty nationalities on Euronews, reflecting all the point of views. It is really a core value and we think that in that sense, our values can be very close to yours.

Last but not least, Euronews has a specific mission. We have a mission of general interest. We are not purely commercial players. All our shareholders are public services, all around continental Europe and we think that all these values that we try to share everyday on our media, will be able to reach yours. What is this partnership about? This partnership will first start on November 28, i.e. next week. I think that you have a competition in Torino if I understood well. And we will begin our partnership with this competition. What will we do? During three years, first of all, we will give you an enormous visibility on all your competitions. We offer you the coverage of more than 20 fencing active weeks, all over the year, so nearly one week out of two will be dedicated to your sport and very concretely speaking, this will be through a kind of one and a half minutes fencing reports that will be included in our sport section on Euronews. And as any 24/7 news players of course, rebroadcasting is extremely important on our media and every single report will be broadcasted between 30 and 50 times so if you multiply all these reports, all in all, it will represent an enormous impact for your sport , editorially speaking.

And of course all these reports will be brought to the audiences in thirty languages. Of course in term of impact we will, this is maybe the interesting thing of this partnership that we will add clear visibility and we will broadcast nearly one thousand spots over three years of 30 seconds about your International Federation, which will represent around 300 spots per year. So at least we can say today that for the three coming years beginning of the 28th of November, you will be on Euronews at least once a day, which is an enormous visibility for your Federation. And these spots will be broadcasted in a minimum of five languages and of course we will try to do more if possible. And all of that will be brought to audience through all our platforms, of course on our main media, which is the linear offer that we offer through television but also of course through all our nonlinear offers like Website, YouTube channels, applications, etc. So I think that with all of that , we really need a lot of contents so we will work very closely with the Executive board and with the team here that will give us as many content as possible but for all these contents, for all or nonlinear platforms like the Web , we will have pages dedicated to your disciplines. We are inviting each of you to help us and to make this as relevant as you can and as we can and to have a better level of fencing pictures. So this is what this partnership would be like, we would like you to be on our channel and maybe just to finish, just to show you a very short video about what this could be on our media on Euronews.

[Video presentation]

Applause

Thank you very much I am very happy to be here with you today and hope that we will bring fencing to the heart of the attention of the global audience and I really want to thank personally Alisher, to give us this opportunity to make a fantastic deal together. So it is a long way and three years together, of friendship and partnership. Thank you so much Alisher and all of you!

Applause

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): Thank you! We also want to give you our advantage of our cooperation. Of course everybody understands that this is a big agreement which can only begin with our friendship and cooperation. And of course with Euronews, we make our next step in increasing and improving the popularity of our sport, not only in Europe but everywhere where the core audience of the channel is. Thank you very much for the cooperation and for accepting our proposal. The provisions contained in our agreement are very, very modest and friendly. Thank you!

Applause

Nathalie Rodriguez: And now Mr. Usmanov and Mr. Peters will formalize the partnership between the International Fencing Federation and Euronews.

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): This is for you and this is for me.

Applause

Nathalie Rodriguez: And now the second announcement is that tonight at 8 o'clock the FIE is organizing an additional dinner for all of you, just in front of the Congress venue.

Applause

Nathalie Rodriguez: We now move to the large item, which is the Proposals submitted to the Congress and reports of the Commissions and Councils. We will start with the modifications to the Statutes. Let me remind you that for the Statutes we need for a proposal to be approved, 2/3 of the Federations present and represented, i.e.83 votes. We will start with the Proposals of the Executive Committee.

Proposal 2 which relates to **Article 1.1 Mission**. The Legal Commission was in favour of the proposal but modified it and the Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Legal Commission. Just mentioning that the words by the FIE is not necessary. So if you agree we now move to the vote on the proposal as modified by the Legal Commission.

The vote is open.

Let me also remind you that unless mentioned otherwise, all proposals will be applicable on January 2015, unless I mention it differently.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 3 which relates to **Article 1.2**. The Legal Commission modified the proposal and the Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Legal Commission. We move now to the vote on proposal 3.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 4, Article 1.2.4. The Legal Commission was in favour. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 5. The proposal was modified by the Legal Commission and the Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Legal Commission. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 6. The Legal Commission has modified the proposal and the Executive Committee is in favour of the proposal as modified by the Legal Commission. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The President has an appointment for 30 minutes. He will come back as soon as possible.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 7, regarding the change of the fiscal year to the calendar year as mentioned this morning. The Legal Commission asked the question to the Swiss authorities and the Swiss authorities gave their agreement on principle and request of course a formal decision of the Congress. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 8, which is related to the organization fees and the entry fees. The proposal is already implemented now but it is up to the Congress to confirm. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal did not pass.

Now we are in trouble, because we actually have already sent you the invoices regarding the organization fees and also I think many organizers of tournaments have already implemented the entry fee for the Junior Competitions and Team Competitions. I think that the Executive Committee will have to make a decision on what will happen next.

Proposal 9 which relates to **Article 2.2.1 f)**. The Legal Commission modified the proposal and the Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Legal Commission. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 10. The proposal was modified by the Legal Commission and the Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Legal Commission. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal did not pass.

Proposal 12. If it passes it will be implemented during the 2016 elections. The Legal Commission has modified the proposal and the Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Legal Commission. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 13. Again, if it passes it will be implemented during the elections 2016. The Legal Commission was in favour of the proposal. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 15 related to Article 5.2.5. The Legal Commission was in favour and the Athlete Commission was in favour. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Yes, the President of the Athlete Commission is already member of the Executive Committee. It is just a change of wording. I said that all proposals come into effect immediately, except when otherwise mentioned.

Proposal 16. The Legal Commission has modified the proposal and the Executive Committee is in favour of the proposal as modified by the Legal Commission. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 17. There were a certain number of comments made by the Commissions and Councils and the Executive Committee is in favour of the proposal as modified by the Legal Commission and to the sentence modified by the Rules Commission. We move to the vote on this modified proposal.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 18. This proposal has been studied by several Commissions and the Rules Commission is in favour, provided that we determine clear conditions and precise conditions on the evaluation process in the administrative rules. And the Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Legal Commission and a new chapter to the administrative rules has already been established and submitted to the Rules and Legal Commissions which approved it and you have it in your documents. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal did not pass.

Proposal 19 is related to Article 5.5.12. The Legal Commission was in favour. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 20. The Legal Commission was in favour. The SEMI Commission wants this issue to be dealt with by the Promotion Commission and the Executive Committee is in favour of this transfer of responsibility to the Promotion Commission. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal did not pass.

Proposal 22. The Legal Commission was in favour. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal did not pass.

I hope you understood that actually the only change in the text was that we added the word « email ». So we will not be able to send our information by email. Thank you.

I wonder whether you understand how it works. Additions are in blue. Deletions are in red. The current text is in black. Just to tell you that for that proposal, the only word in blue was « email ». Ok. Sorry? You need a microphone, I am sorry.

Robert Kiss (BAR): Maybe we can reconsider item 22 because of the confusion which you have clarified?

Nathalie Rodriguez: Do you agree to reconsider the vote on Proposal 22?

Congress attendees: Yes.

Nathalie Rodriguez: No objection?

Congress attendees: No.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Ok. And please note that we followed the same procedure: the text which is new is in blue, the text which is black is the current one, and the text which is in red is deleted.

Omar Alejandro Vergara (ARG): We have to remake the calculation because in my view there is a significant change. We have to set up the majority needed to carry the proposal and we have to vote again on this proposal accordingly. It was dismissed because the majority has significantly changed.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We can see that many left the room. And this is why now of course the quorum is not the same as it was this morning.

Samuel David Cheris (MH, USA): Ok, The statutes read that it is of the quorum that starts the day. We had a proposal two years ago, put out by the Legal Commission saying that it should be of the vote that was cast and the Congress rejected that. So we are in a position where we must use the quorum that was established at the beginning of the day that have the vote. I wish you could do otherwise but that is what the statute was that the Congress passed, and it did not pass the Legal Commission proposal two years ago, to change to those who are present. It is said that people come all this way and then leave after lunch and provide us with a much smaller group of people. All those of you who are here, please make sure you vote in some manner. When you are voting « for », « against » or « abstaining », please vote and do not just ignore the vote. Thank you.

Nathalie Rodriguez: The quorum remains unchanged against this morning. Do you agree to revote on Proposal 22?

Congress attendees: Yes

Nathalie Rodriguez: Ok. We will come back to **Proposal 22.**

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Applause

Nathalie Rodriguez: We know that 110 Federations are present.

Proposal 23. This is about the responsibility of the Secretary General and this article defines all the functions of the Secretary General. The Legal Commission was in favour of the proposal. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): There is a question Nathalie.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Yes?

Congress attendees: Light.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Light? Do you want more light?

A Congress attendee: Can we have more light? We cannot see.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Can we have more light in the room, please?

The vote is closed.

No, this is not what I said. More light not less light.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 24. The Legal, Athletes, Refereeing and Medical Commissions were in favour. The Promotion Commission was not in favour and the Rules Commission was in favour but with a change of wording and the SEMI Commission was not in favour. The Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission. We vote on the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal did not pass.

For **Proposal 27, 28, 29, 30 and 31**, I am asking to the Legal Commission, Mr. Cheris, if you agree to proceed to a vote en bloc as it is the same proposal, applied to different Commissions. Mr. Cheris? Proposals 27 to 31 are identical but implemented to the different Commissions. And I would like to know if you have any objections on our voting en bloc on these proposals, since either we say yes to all Commissions or no to all Commissions. It is about the report of Commissions. We then ask you to vote on them en bloc.

Samuel David Cheris (MH, USA): Each of the proposals is the same proposal for a different Commission and it says they will produce a report, which the Executive Committee will submit to the Congress. So either vote for all of them or vote for none of them, but they are the same proposal.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We can vote en bloc.

Samuel David Cheris (MH, USA): One vote for all of the Commissions.

Nathalie Rodriguez: So 27 to 31. Move to the vote. If you agree to the proposal you vote « yes », you do not agree you vote « no » or you « abstain ».

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposals passed.

Proposal 32 which is about Councils. The Legal Commission, the Coaches Council, the Women and Fencing Councils and Veterans Councils were in favour. We move then to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 33. The Legal Commission, the Coaches Council, the Women and Fencing Councils and the Veterans Councils were in favour. We now move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 34. The Legal Commission, the Coaches Council, the Women and Fencing Councils and the Veterans

Council were in favour. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 35. The Legal Commission was in favour. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 36. The Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Legal Commission. A new chapter of the administrative rules regarding the awarding of the World Championship has been approved by the Legal and Rules Commissions. We move to the vote.

Catherine Defoligny (FRA): I have a question on proposal number 36, considering that the proposal 18 was rejected.

Nathalie Rodriguez: I know that the proposal was rejected but I wanted to wait until the end of the proposals of the Executive Committee to ask you if you would like to reconsider the proposals on which you voted « no » .

No, but you reconsidered voting on 22? I think it is a normal question. If you do not want to reconsider to vote on the other proposal, then this one has to be withdrawn.

Peter Jacobs (MH, GBR): Put it aside for the moment.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Sorry? Ok, fine.

This is put aside for the moment and we move to **Proposal 38.** The opinion of the Legal Commission was in favour, the Promotion Commission was in favour and the Rules and Coaches were in favour. We move to the vote.

Can we open the vote?

The vote will be open in a few seconds.

Proposal 38 was just about adding the word « Senior » to World Championships.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 40. The Legal Commission and the Veterans Council were in favour. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We have finished with the Proposals of the Executive Committee but as I said, I am not asking you to change your opinion. I am just asking you to confirm your opinion because I think that there was some confusion at the very beginning of these proposals. You are not obliged to change your opinion, I just want you to confirm your opinion on these proposals. So could we come back please to Proposal number 8? This proposal is about introducing an organizing fee to be paid by National Federations organizing a Team Competition, a Junior Team Competition. This is the first one. And the second one is about slightly increasing the entry fee for Junior Competitions and the other one is about introducing a Junior Team fee for participating Federations. So if you agree, I will open the vote again on this proposal. Yes, Mr. Cafiero.

Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA): If I am not mistaken, I think that this item should be considered together with proposal number 5 of the Italian Federation, at the end of this group of items, where there is, if I am not mistaken, a table of fees that would be inconsistent with this decision. That should be considered together.

Nathalie Rodriguez: No, no, they cannot be considered together. If the Congress wishes to vote on this proposal and accept it, it will accept it. Should it dismiss it we will move to the Italian proposal and the Congress will vote on that proposal because the amounts are not the same.

Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA): Yes, that is the point!

Nathalie Rodriguez: This is why we are going to vote on that one. Then if it is dismissed we shall vote on the Italian proposal which comes after..

Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA): Ok.

Nathalie Rodriguez: This is the usual procedure.

Can we reopen the vote on that proposal? You are not obliged to change, I just want you to confirm because of the confusion at the beginning of the afternoon about the quorum. No objection on this? Ok, we open the vote on Proposal 8.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

Then it is really confirmed. The proposal did not pass.

As for **Proposal 10**, I will ask you also to confirm your vote or to change your vote as you wish, but please vote again about proposal 10.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The “no” is confirmed.

The next one is **Proposal 18**. I think it also comes together with **Proposal 36**.

The vote is open on proposal 18.

The vote is closed.

The proposal did not pass. Therefore, Proposal 36 was dismissed..

We now get to **Proposal 20**, let me explain it. According to the Statutes, the Executive Committee is in charge of approving the designs and colours of national clothes. We have proposed the SEMI Commission to be in charge of this but the SEMI Commission would prefer the Promotion Commission to be in charge. The Legal Commission is in favour, the Executive Committee is in favour of assigning the task of approving the logos to the Promotion Commission. There is nothing special in that proposal. My question is, do you agree that the Promotion Commission be in charge of approving the logos of fencing clothes?

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal did not pass.

I am sorry for the SEMI Commission, because the Commission did not want to be in charge any longer but as the Congress refused, you will still be in charge.

Then **Proposal 24** and this is the last one to be confirmed.

We now open the vote on Proposal 24.

The vote is closed.

And the proposal did not pass.

All the votes are confirmed.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We now move to the **Proposals from the Women and Fencing Council**.

This proposal was approved by the Legal Commission, the Athletes Commission, the Medical Commission, the Promotion Commission, the Rules Commission, the SEMI Commission and the Executive Committee. I propose we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal did not pass.

Proposal from Sam Cheris and Peter Jacobs. Proposal 1. The Legal Commission was in favour and the Executive Committee was in favour. We move to the vote.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Yes?

Excuse me but we have to stop the vote because there is a question. Yes. Sorry?

Samuel David Cheris (MH, USA): Can I explain the proposal?

Nathalie Rodriguez: Yes, please.

Samuel David Cheris (MH, USA): Thank you. The proposal that Peter Jacobs and I put forward is a mechanism of how Members of Honour will be selected, what their eligibility will be and the procedure of how many people will be selected and what the Honour Commission will be made up of and when they will vote. The procedure has been somewhat less than formal, and so the attempt was to set out criteria that everybody could understand and follow for the selection of New Members of Honour. Thank you.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We open the vote on that proposal.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 2. The Legal Commission was in favour of the proposal. The Athletes Commission was in favour of the proposal and the Executive Committee was in favour too. If this proposal passes, of course it will be implemented at the next elections of the Athletes Commission. We move to the vote.

Samuel David Cheris (MH, USA): Nathalie?

Nathalie Rodriguez: Yes?

Samuel David Cheris (MH, USA): To explain this proposal, proposal 2 establishes the time when the members of the Athletes Commission take office, since they are elected one year later than the other Commissions. This establishes the procedure that the members take office on the first day of the month following the meeting of the Executive Committee that selects the final six members of the Athletes Commission. There was confusion in this past cycle as to when they take office and this is the clarification. Thank you.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We move to the vote.

If you have any question on the proposal, please ask it before we open the vote because otherwise the vote is blocked.

So can we reopen the vote on that proposal?

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

The next proposal is **Proposal 3.** The aim of the proposal is to stop, to cancel, awarding this Honour. The Legal Commission was in favour and the Executive Committee was in favour.

We open the vote.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 4. Sorry? Yes.

Samuel David Cheris (USA, MH): Proposal 4 is the other half of the Athletes Commission proposal. This establishes the meeting date, for the first meeting of the Athletes Commission, in order for them to elect their President and establish their working calendar. There has been nothing in the statutes designating this, so this is the procedural method of making sure, when there are opening meeting and the election of their President will occur. Thank you.

Omar Vergara (ARG): I think that we must provide a clarification about the proposal which has just been adopted. The Vice Presidents would like to know if they can take the floor.

I am referring to the last proposal that we just adopted. I want to make a clarification because this does not show in the text. Those who have this status maintain it because I do not want people to be deprived of these honours.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We move to the vote on that proposal.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Now we have the **Proposal of Sam Cheris.** The Legal Commission was in favour of the proposal and the Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal. We move to the vote.

Yes. Please stop the vote.

Jorge Castro Rea (MEX): I must clarify the proposal from Sam Cheris. We are talking about two different parts of this proposal. The first one is about the participation in fencing camps and then the other part is the organization of fencing camps. The latter part is the one which we must pay attention to because it may affect the authority

of National Federations on events organized on their own territories, without any authorization needed by the Federation. We must be very careful on this because I believe that this may have an impact and may infringe the authority in principle of the National Federations.

Samuel David Cheri (MH, USA): The purpose of this was to separate out competitions and camps. The question is that no one, no country or Federation may hold a Competition in another country without the permission of that country. The question is: can they hold a camp? And bringing a stage in another country and invite people to come to a resort city in another country and have coaches and fencers coming for practice but not for competition. If you wish to prevent anyone from having a stage, a camp, a training in another country, then you will vote against this. If you only feel that it is for competitions, then this proposal maintains that competitions can only be held in your own country unless you get the permission of another country. Thank you.

Jorge Castro Rea (MEX): I wish to stress with specific reference to the Cheri proposal that the authority of National Federations on their own national territories must be extended not only to competition but also to any other activity related to fencing including stage or training camps. I believe that if you carry out an event without the authorization of the National Federation on its own territory, this entails, even though it is just training and not competition, this entails legal risks as well as the fact that the national laws may be infringed. For an organization, staging outside the territory infringes those laws and indeed they should comply with those laws, so we must clarify that it is an infringement of the rights of the authority of the National Federations on their own territories. Thank you.

Nathalie Rodriguez: I think the proposal is clear. Mr. Samuel Cheri has given his opinion on the proposal. Mr. Castro has given his opinion. Do you have a third opinion?

Omar Vergara (ARG): I have not a third opinion but yes another reason. I usually do not talk nonsense and I always speak out. I must say that this is a Federation of Federations. And we must obviously supervise the authority of the Federations. We must be very careful.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Ok. We will now move to the vote.

The vote is closed.

The proposal did not pass.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We now move to the **Proposals of the Italian Federation. Proposal 1.** The Legal Commission was not in favour and the Executive Committee was not in favour. We move to the vote.

Yes. We stop the vote please.

Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA): The inclusion of this sentence in the article is based on a rationale which I think needs an explanation. As of today, FIE entertains no formal relation with Paralympics Sport because this is not in the Statutes. It is a little bit weird that, whilst the Olympic Committee is encouraging connections between the Paralympics and the Olympics to be organised in the same place and at the same dates, we are ignoring the fact that Paralympic fencing is gaining in importance in our activities. To acknowledge their existence and that we are willing to cooperate does not imply any commitment but it is just opening the mind to the fact that Paralympic fencing does exist. This is the reason why we are making this proposal.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Mr. Cafiero if I may. We entertain relationships with the Handicap Fencing Federation and President Nowicki is among us today. I greet him. He was invited to our General Assembly. We have been in debate with this Federation and very soon we will ask the Congress to approve a partnership agreement with this Federation. Yet some issues are still pending with talks with the Wheelchair Federation. The Wheelchair fencing and fencing are linked.

Nathalie Rodriguez: However the Legal Commission and the Executive Committee...Yes?

Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA): Excuse me. If this is the aim of FIE, I do not understand why we should not include in the Statutes a provision providing that we are in favour of this cooperation. Then we will go ahead with agreements but in principle this should be somehow recognized, and frankly I do not understand why the Commission, the Legal Commission was not in favour. I think it would be useful to understand why.

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): I think first of all in your proposal you do not give full and comprehensive explanations. What do you mean by "integration"? Do you know? Because of this, Commissions, Comex, everybody is against this. We need first of all to understand which part of our activity can be integrated with this wheelchair fencing. You forgot, we are the first international Federation that tried to integrate wheelchair fencing and make our World Championships together with wheelchair fencing. This is the major argument for our integration. But to integrate it as compulsory irrespective of the consistency of this process is an irresponsible position and an irresponsible proposal. This is my opinion.

Nathalie Rodriguez: The opinion of the Legal Commission and of the Executive Committee is that while FIE has no objection to cooperate with that Federation it should not commit to do so. Yet, if there is such a statutory provision it will become an obligation. We consider that this should not be included in the Statutes.

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): What are the sources of this integration? Who finances this integration? For example, during the last two Championships in Russia I supported and sponsored myself the wheelchair fencing Championships together with the regular Championships. Who is ready today to finance this process? Who can guarantee that we will be able to finance our future expenditures, our current expenditures and our future ones? Imagine if we commit ourselves towards wheelchair fencing colleagues and cannot fulfil our commitments. What shall we do? How will we look like? The least we can do is put our announcement. We try and do our best to achieve such integration, but we cannot have commitments without knowing how to finance them. We are not against this integration and support. We can find in our budget some source until we have the funds on our account we can share this money with wheelchair fencing. Did everybody understand what I mean?

Giorgio Scarso (ITA): I believe there is a misunderstanding. Now we do not say that the International Federation has to integrate IWAS. We are just asking for the possibility for the International Federation to work together to harmonize a project. So we are not asking the Congress to integrate wheelchair fencing but to authorize Federations worldwide to dialogue in that way and to be able to think of another future, also encompassing some synergy from the viewpoint of the SEMI Commission and of the Referees. The President is right, we are the Federation which organized the World Championships, the first time in Turin, and I know this by heart. But what is missing, what is missing is the possibility of having a very open dialogue with IWAS. So the Italian proposal does not mean: let us incorporate or integrate them, but let us authorize this possible dialogue between the International Federation and the Wheelchair Federation. Thank you.

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): I totally agree but for this we really do not need to change our Statutes. We are absolutely free to dialogue and to cooperate. There is no need to change anything. Your proposal is about a commitment to integrate our Federation. We are not ready now.

Giorgio Scarso (ITA): President may I? I believe that for the values of fencing, and for what fencing represents in this community, nowadays and also for the ethics of this sport, the possibility of having this dialogue with the Paralympics is very important. That is very important. That does not mean that we have to take over responsibilities. I just want to say: let us start this dialogue, let us think of a different future. We must interact, talk to each other, because nothing is said in the Statutes about this right, I mean, this possibility. That is the idea, not the idea of integrating because IWAS is not now in the condition of considering teams. So now this is my main target, there is a growing awareness worldwide. So the Congress just needs to send a very clear sign of attention.

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): We arranged together our World Championships. I think what my friend Giorgio says is like declarations. Are we already having a tangible dialogue and tangible cooperation? For example, we already had some problems due to the simultaneous organization of both Championships, ours and wheelchair fencing, with the TV timetable. Yes or no Mr. Kulcsar?

Krisztian Kulcsar: Yes.

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): We had this problem in Budapest. Kazan had problems because of this, we proposed new ways of cooperating. We finished our ten days and then we had wheelchair fencing. But the most important question is who finances the activity of wheelchair fencing? FIE or not? And I want to declare, inform our Congress that I am speaking with the International Paralympic Committee. I met them twice, I proposed my sponsorship and I am of course ready to have any form of cooperation with the Wheelchair Fencing Federation. But I do not want to be bound by a commitment which we cannot fulfil. Only the financial and substantive issues are fully relevant. Giorgio, you have started this dialogue, thank you. But again, nobody is against a dialogue and a cooperation.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Mr. Nowicki is asking for the floor. The President of the Wheelchair Fencing Federation.

Jakub Nowicki: Mr. President, members of the Executive Committee, dear friends, first of all I would like to thank Mr. President for the invitation and for the long cooperation that we had in the past. That is true, the cooperation that we had in the past is a fact and I understand all your arguments. However, my impression is that Wheelchair fencing Committee does not expect anything from FIE just right now. It is not a question of obligations. I am just thinking that this sentence in your Statutes is just the sign that there is a permission to cooperate because the sentences just promotes the possibility to cooperate for developing Wheelchair fencing and as President of the International Wheelchair Fencing Committee, I do not expect anything from the FIE, just that cooperation. Thank you very much.

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): Thank you Mr. President.

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): I am absolutely not against this as a sentence, a statement. I am only against Mr. Cafiero's conception saying that we must commit ourselves towards an integration. I am absolutely not against creating any possibility for cooperation and helping to promote wheelchair fencing. I want everybody to understand me perfectly well and for this we do not need to change our Statutes. This is our activity. But in any case, we put this on the vote. Please, everybody can express his opinion.

Nathalie Rodriguez: We now move to the vote on that proposal.

Yiannis Hadjarapis (CYP): Mr. President, I am sorry but it is a misfortune here to use the words that are not the

right words, first and secondly, I do not understand, every time there is a possibility of promoting a cooperation with something, we must change the Statutes. Is it a matter of Statutes? To promote something. Promote the mask with the visor.

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): Absolutely.

Yiannis Hadjarapis (CYP): Change the Statute so we go for the mask. So I am sorry but it is your fault!

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): We spoke about that...

Yiannis Hadjarapis (CYP): I am sorry but it is your fault! No it is your fault, you should not have brought it up. Can we spend now half an hour discussing the...

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): Everything is my fault I am sorry, no problem. I fully support what you are telling now.

Yiannis Hadjarapis (CYP): And why use the word promote and not examine? Thank you very much!

Nathalie Rodriguez: Could we move to the vote on that proposal?

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): But you know we cannot conduct analysis during the Congress. During the Congress we must vote and we cannot spend a full day analysing this major issue which we need to study on the long term and I fully agree with what you are telling. We do not need any change in Statutes if we want to cooperate, support and help. What I am telling you is that we do not need this in the Statutes. Now will you forgive me or not? And I think that Mr. Scarso prepares this agreement of cooperation with the wheelchair Fencing Federation for us to submit it to our Comex. Finished.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Yes. Let us move now to the vote because we have spent 20 minutes just on this. The vote is open.

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): No, because this is very sensitive.

Nathalie Rodriguez: The vote is closed.

The proposal did not pass.

Proposal number 2. The Refereeing and Medical Commissions were in favour, the Legal Commission was not in favour, the Promotion Commission was not in favour, the Rules Commission was not in favour, the SEMI had no opinion and the Executive Committee was not in favour. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal did not pass.

Proposal number 3. Yes.

Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA): I want to say that Italy is withdrawing the Proposals number 3 and 5 for different reasons. The Proposal number 3 deals with the competence for investments. I think that the way it is expressed now, is not sufficiently clear because these kind of decisions are not only related to the competence either of the President or of the Comex but should also be involved in the budget. We see only a budget of expenses and income, and not a budget related to investment. So in a more complete vision of the matter, I think we have to reformulate this for the future, and this is the reason why we want to withdraw the Proposal number 3 now. As far as the number 5 is concerned, I see some inconsistency, for instance if we approve this I do not understand if it is a mistake in writing, or it was a proposal not exactly considered, but as it is indicated the costs for registration in Junior tournament, 75 Euros is higher than Senior, 60 Euros and also for Teams Competitions. So I think we have to revise this before presenting this to the Congress. I am sorry for this but there was probably some lack of communication between us. So I would suspend this decision if you agree.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Thank you. Proposal 3 and Proposal 5 from the Italian Federation are withdrawn. We will not vote on them.

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): I want to make a small comment about these two proposals, which have been withdrawn. We now have to work and analyse things slowly because there are very specific situations in our Federation. On the one hand, we did not find any sponsor except your President.

As I told you in my address, we need to begin thinking and performing in the business manner if we want to live in today's sport world. Keep and improve our position and standing in the Olympic Family failing which, we will never have any sponsor and no perspective to keep our place. And I urge everyone to have a clear understanding thereof. We can bring hundreds of changes every year but this will not move things. We have to develop reforms under a 3-pronged approach. First, to create a sport easier to understand for the audience. Second, we need to give back our weapons, fight, not only touch but create some fight for this touch. Not only speed of attack but defend

and even more, we need to change the clothes of our sportsmen, to give more light. Our sport needs to be more visually appealing for TV failing which, we will not be able to maintain our level. Please, we wait for every proposal on these three general orientations, with a strong analytical capacity. We have one, maximum two years, ahead of us. Thank you very much and excuse me for taking so much of your time.

Applause

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): 15 minutes coffee break.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Please take your seats. We are starting the congress again.

I see that the room is even emptier.

We now move to the Proposed modifications of Rules and we start with the postponed Proposals from the Hungarian Federation. Actually this proposal will be postponed and given to the Working Group which will meet next year, because we found an inconsistency between the current rules in French and the current rules in English. In order to sort this out, the proposal will be postponed and submitted to the Working Group which will meet in February or March in order to sort out this inconsistency between the two versions of the rules.

We will not vote on **Proposal 1** which is postponed. Does the Hungarian Federation agree?

Yes. Do you agree? To postpone? Ok, thank you.

So we do not vote on **Proposal 1**. We move to **Proposal 2**. The Working Group which dealt with this proposal expressed its views. The Rules Commission was in favour of the opinion of the Working Group. The Refereeing Commission also, the Promotion Commission also. The Coaches council was in favour and the Executive Committee was in favour of the opinion of the Working Group. We then propose to move to the vote and we vote on the opinion of the modified proposal of the Working Group.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Then we move to **Proposal 3**. Again, there was a modified proposal from the Working Group and the Rules Commission, the Refereeing Commission, the Promotion Commission, the Coaches Council and the Executive Committee were in favour of the proposal as modified by the Working Group. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 4. An opinion was rendered by the Working Group, then the Rules Commission modified the proposal based on the opinion of the Working Group. The Refereeing Commission was in favour, the Promotion Commission was not in favour, the Coaches Council was in favour and the Executive Committee is in favour of the opinion of the Working Group as modified by the Rules Commission. So we vote on the opinion of the Working Group as modified by the Rules Commission.

So if this proposal passes, it will of course be implemented during the next season.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Another proposal postponed, **Proposal 5** from the United States. The Working Group was in favour, the Rules Commission was not in favour, the Refereeing Commission was not in favour, the Promotion and Coaches were in favour and the Executive Committee is not in favour. So if you are in favour of the proposal then you vote « yes » and if you are not in favour you vote « no ».

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal did not pass.

Proposal of Samuel David Cheris, Member of Honour. While the Rules Commission is in favour it explains that the technical details and the test procedure should be revised by the SEMI Commission. The Athletes Commission was in favour, the SEMI Commission said that it needs some time in order to establish the standards and procedures. The Medical Commission has no objection and the Executive Committee is in favour and asked the SEMI Commission to provide the standards and the test procedure. If the proposal passes it will be implemented next season because we need the SEMI Commission to word out the standards and the procedures.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Now we move to the **Proposals from the Rules Commission. Proposal 1.** So the Rules Commission thinks that the word « Senior » should be added to the article and « Senior Zonal Championships ». For clarification sake, for item iii) by team this relates only to Senior World Cups and not to all World Cups. So we will add the word « Senior » after World Cup Competitions. And the Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission. We will move to the vote and we will vote on the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 2. The Refereeing Commission was in favour, the Promotion also, the Coaches Council is in favour and the Executive Committee is in favour. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 3 which is related to **Fault 2.4 in the Article t. 120.** The Refereeing Commission was in favour, the Promotion was also in favour, the Coaches were in favour and the Executive Committee was in favour. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Regarding **Proposal 4**, the Rules Commission was in favour, the Refereeing was in favour, SEMI was in favour but they mentioned that they need some additional tests based on which they will provide the final text . The Promotion is in favour, the Coaches is in favour and the Executive Committee is in favour and requests the SEMI Commission to draft the corresponding text. We move to the vote.

Yes?

Please stop the vote.

Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA): I think it should be clear that since we are not modifying any article of any rule but just giving some recommendation, the vote aims at asking the SEMI Commission to run these tests. It is not a matter of rules I mean.

Nathalie Rodriguez: No, no this is what I said. The Executive Committee was in favour and requests the SEMI Commission to draft the corresponding text.

We open the vote.

The SEMI Commission must provide the text by the end of January 2015 for it to take effect and be binding for the next season. We need to receive the final text by the SEMI Commission by the end of January 2015.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Then we move to the **Proposals from the SEMI Commission.** The Rules Commission was in favour, the Athletes Commission is in favour but wishes to make the rule effective after the Olympic Games in Rio. But the new glove is already on the market and is already used. It is just an ex post facto proposal put forward by the SEMI Commission. The Medical Commission is in favour but would like the swing of the glove to be reviewed. The Executive Committee explains that the former glove was not safe enough. This is why a new glove has been designed. But the proposal from the Medical Commission would make the glove too rigid. The Executive Committee supports the original proposal of the SEMI Commission. We are voting now on the proposal of the SEMI Commission, the original one. And please note that the gloves are already on the market and are already being used by the fencers.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

This proposal is already implemented since athletes are already using these gloves.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Now we move to the **Proposals of the Iranian Fencing Federation. Proposal 1** has been withdrawn. We will not vote on it. **Proposal 2** has also been withdrawn and we will not vote on it. We move to **Proposal 3** of the Iranian Federation since Proposals 1 and 2 have been withdrawn. The Rules Commission was in favour and the Executive Committee was in favour. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 4. The Rules Commission is in favour and the Executive Committee is also in favour and this proposal is related to former **Proposal 3**. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 5. The Rules Commission was in favour, the Executive Committee was in favour. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Yes, I wanted to mention now that **Proposal 6** was only related to the English version of the Rules and the correction has already been made. Therefore, we do not need to vote on Proposal 6.

We move to **Proposal 7.** The Rules Commission was in favour, the Refereeing Commission was in favour and the Executive Committee also. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 8. The Rules Commission was in favour of taking away « a corps à corps at foil and sabre », not in favour of taking away « a flèche attack which jostles the opponent », not in favour of adding « intentional brutality ». The Refereeing Commission was in favour except for the addition of « intentional brutality » and the Executive Committee is in favour of the proposal as proposed by the Rules Commission. We will vote on the text as submitted by the Rules Commission.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 9. The Rules Commission is in favour but reminds that **Article o.83 2 f)** must not be deleted and must be implemented. The Promotion Commission is in favour, the Coaches Council is in favour and the Executive Committee is in favour. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

And of course this proposal will be implemented next season because it implies changes in the software of competition.

Next season sorry, next season.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Now, the following **Proposals are withdrawn: 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17.** We move to **Proposal 18.** For Proposal 18, the Rules Commission was in favour, the Refereeing Commission also and the Executive Committee also. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Proposal 19 has been withdrawn. We move to **Proposal 20**. The Rules Commission agrees but says that this Article should be actually **Article o.55.6** with the modified wording and the Executive Committee was in favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission. We are the voting on the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission and we move to the vote.

The vote is open.

I have to check the date. But let me finish the vote please.

The vote is closed.

Steve, the Rules Commission will have to specify the date. Yes. I will note it here.

The proposal passed.

And the Rules Commission will have to specify the dates when these people reach 50 and 59 and the ages which are here.

We now move to the **Proposals from the Italian Federation**. The Rules Commission to **Proposal 1**, the Rules Commission was not in favour, the Refereeing Commission was not in favour, and the Veterans Councils was not in favour.

Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA): Nathalie?

Nathalie Rodriguez: Yes?

Giuseppe Cafiero (ITA): Since we had been discussing with Max Geuter and with the representative of the Veterans Councils in order to fully review this matter and we made good progress in the new wording I would like to withdraw this proposal, because pretty soon we will be in a condition to propose again the whole in a more consistent way, in agreement with the Veterans Council.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Fine. So **Proposal 1** is withdrawn and the modified Proposal will be drafted in agreement with the Veterans.

Then we move to the **Proposals from the Russian Fencing Federation**. **Proposal 1** is postponed and thus will not be voted now. And **Proposal 2**, actually the Executive Committee said that as they were different opinions between Commissions and Councils and even some Commissions did not express their views, the Executive Committee would like to set up a Working Group which will include members of the Rules Commission and the Athletes Commission as well as members of the Coaches Council in order to draw up a joint proposal for the next Congress. So if the Russian Federation agrees, this proposal will be sent to the working group which will meet in February or March in order to draw up a joint proposal. Does the Russian Federation agree?

Thank you.

This proposal will be sent to the Working Group.

Then we move to the **Proposal from the Swiss Federation**. I would say the same for the Swiss proposal. The Commissions and Councils had different opinions and the Executive Committee suggests that this proposal be sent to the Working Group which will meet in February or March. Does the Swiss Federation agree to send this proposal to the Working Group?

Thank you. The proposal will be sent to the Working Group.

Then we move to the **Proposal from the Swedish Federation**. It is a very, very long proposal. The Rules Commission is in favour with some modifications. The Refereeing Commission is in favour, the SEMI Commission is in favour, the Medical Commission has no objection, but would like to slightly modify a sentence and the Executive Committee is in favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission and the Medical Commission. The Executive Committee is also in favour of increasing the number of members of the « Directoire technique » at the Veterans World Championships, i.e. from 3 to 4. If you agree, we are voting now on the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission and the Medical Commission.

Ana Valero-Collantes (SWE): The objective of this proposal is to clarify the tasks and the responsibilities of the various functions with the « Directoire technique ». This was our main objective . To better qualify the functions and the tasks of the « Directoire technique ».

Nathalie Rodriguez: Thank you for your clarification. We now move to the vote so I said the proposal as modified by the Rules and Medical Commissions.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The proposal passed.

Regarding **Proposal 2** as the Commissions and Councils had various opinions, the Executive Committee also suggests that this proposal be sent to the Working Group which will meet in February and March. Does the Swedish Federation agree?

Fine, thank you.

Proposal 3. The same, as Commissions and Councils have different opinions, the Executive Committee proposes to send this proposal to the Working Group which will meet next year. Does the Swedish Federation agree?

Thank you.

And we have finished with the proposals regarding the Rules.

Applause

We have not finished the Congress. No. No the Congress is not finished.

12. Urgent decisions

Nathalie Rodriguez: We move now on the next item on the agenda, which is the Urgent decisions. You have received them by urgent letter or information letter. The last one, which was actually sent only ten days ago, is on your desk. And if you do not have any objection then we can move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

The urgent decisions are approved.

13. Miscellaneous

Nathalie Rodriguez: We now move to the item Miscellaneous. The first item is the date of the Senior World Championships in 2015. Actually, the World Championships in Moscow must take place from 13th to 19th of July. But we need the approval of the Congress, because the Statutes provide that World Championships should start on July 15th, which means two days later. Why should we have these dates? It is because the Pan-American Games are held quite at the same date as the Moscow Championships. In order to allow the fencers to participate both in the Pan American Games and in the World Championships, we had to slightly modify the dates of Moscow to 13th to 19th of July. But this is only for 2015 of course. The dates for Moscow are 13th to 19th of July 2015. We request the approval of the Congress not to start the World Championships on the 15th of July but on the 13th. We move to the vote.

The vote is open.

The vote is closed.

So it is approved.

Before we move to some presentations, I would like to make an announcement about the Hall of Fame. First, the Executive Committee has decided that all current Members of Honour will be part of the Hall of Fame. This is the first announcement. Congratulations to all the current Members of Honour.

Applause

Second, we announce the five new members of the Hall of Fame for 2015.

Mr.Pál Kovács from Hungary.

Applause

Mr. Jean-François Lamour from France.

Applause

Mr.Stanislav Pozdnyakov from Russia.

Applause

Mr. Mauro Numa from Italy.

Applause

And Mr.Yasher Mammadov from Azerbaijan.

Applause.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Here are the new members of the Hall of Fame. Congratulations.

The next item is about fencing clothes. This year I have consulted several Commissions: The Athletes Commission, the Rules Commission, the SEMI Commission, the Promotion Commission and the Medical Commission. I proposed a case study on the current fencing clothes worn by athletes to see if we can improve them and make them more comfortable, safer and better designed. . Many athletes complain that their clothes are not really the most attractive ones we could find on the market, especially women.

Then, I have requested the Medical and SEMI Commissions to nominate members who will be in charge of the project. There will be also one member of the Promotion Commission and two members of the Athletes Commission. We have consulted the Executive Committee which supports the project. We have appointed the University of Lausanne, which is working actually with the IOC and many International Federations. The University has worldwide known experts currently testing how comfortable our current clothes are. He will deliver his conclusions at the end of the year.

Then the next step for this University is to put in place a workshop with FIE experts, the manufacturers of course and also experts from laboratories. The aim of this workshop is first to determine if changes can be done and which direction we could take. Actually there are 3 possible directions, i.e. nanotechnology, multi-layer fabric and also the specific Kevlar fabric and also other technologies. The Working Group will be in charge of determining this orientation and also set up a budget. The Athletes very clearly stated that they want to have at least the same security, more comfort, an improved design of course and also affordable prices. Therefore, the workshop and the Working Group will work based on these criteria. And I think that during the year 2015 we will be able to provide you with more information.

Nathalie Rodriguez: Fine. If this is it, then we have finished with the Congress.

Applause

Something very important! There was a slight modification in the schedule of buses tomorrow: all the buses will leave at 9:00 and not at 9:30, 9:00! If you are late, you will stay in the hotel and go to the swimming pool.

And then tomorrow morning, we will make the picture of the Congress. Please wear your best clothes tomorrow morning for the picture of the Congress, with the Mayor of Rome. And the last thing I would like to tell you is when you leave the room please leave your voting boxes on the table. And do not forget dinner at 8 o'clock just in front. Thank you very much!

Applause

Now you will see the presentation on the new website, which is a very interesting presentation and the website is totally new.

Alisher Usmanov (RUS): My friends, thank you to Nathalie. Today she worked efficiently with Frédéric.

Applause

I think we need to tell everybody that we really appreciate your support to our efforts, which have only one target, i.e. improve our sport, our fencing to raise it a new level which we have discussed today many times. What we really need to do. And I think everybody must offer a small contribution for this achievement. Thank you very much to everybody, and good luck for next year!

Applause

Robert Kiss (BAR): If I may from the floor as a delegate and to my fellow delegates, I think that Nathalie Rodriguez deserves a bigger round of applause from all of us. She has done a phenomenal job going through rims of paper today. Thank you Nathalie!

Nathalie Rodriguez: Thank you all of you!

Applause

Frédéric Pietruszka (FRA): President Giorgio Scarso and I need to go to a Press Conference. We wish you a pleasant stay and a good presentation for the website.

Marina Shturbabina (IT manager): Dear friends, dear delegates, I am very glad to share with you this moment when the FIE is launching the new website. The new website will fully replace both existing websites. There will be a small transitional period, i.e. one month until December 20th where « fie.ch » will still be working. But as of December 20 « fie.org » will be the sole website of the International Fencing Federation. So, you are the first people who see the new FIE website. We have been working for more than 6 months with my colleagues from the FIE office and with great help of Mrs Nathalie Rodriguez who knows perfectly what the website of FIE should be. Here it is now. We paid a lot of attention to the promotional aspect. Our new website will contain a lots of photos, videos and promotional materials. And on the same time, it will be informative and useful for fencers, for coaches and for National Federations. I will just make a short presentation and our website is now working you will be able to see everything yourselves. This is the homepage. I am not sure that the projector is working well but I hope it does. Ok, we will have here for the first time the photos of our top fencers.

Could you please turn off the light? Better? Ok.

So all our top fencers will appear in a big picture and biographies so the Internet users, the media and everyone who visits our website will know the fencers in face, and not behind a mask. From very new options, I can tell you that we will have a completely new calendar. There you can find the links to what is interesting for fencers, like live results and live scoring and websites. I will show you just one example.

From this moment on, every competition will have its own page. There you can find all interesting information. This allows Federations also to put some information that they consider necessary, for example, some information about local sponsors or some other important things. It will be done in cooperation with the FIE and on request of Federations. Also, we have a special Grand Prix page where we will have information about our new GP series. As for results, from this moment the full results of Competitions will be displayed on the FIE website. Before, there was no detailed information but everyone was asking for it. All pulls and all faces of table will be also available. As for the rankings, we also tried to promote our fencers and the best three fencers in Senior and Junior rankings will be always here.

We added a development section which will contain the FIE main programs, just to show that the FIE is the Federation which wants to develop. And the media section will contain all the necessary information for the media and it will be updated on a ongoing base. This was a short preview of the new website. Of course, we still have many things to do and I would be glad to receive your propositions, suggestions and feedback. Thank you very much.

Applause

Also one more remark: as we have a totally new administration system for National Federations, I can, for those who are interested, explain after the end of the Congress, just to make a quick explanation about how it would work. Thank you.

ANNEXES