



THE WORLD BRIDGE FEDERATION

**MINUTES OF THE 6th MEETING
OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
Sanya, China
Friday, 17th October 2014 at 09:00**

In Attendance

Mr Gianarrigo Rona, President in the Chair
Mr José Damiani, President Emeritus
Mrs Sevinç Atay, Member
Mr Yves Aubry, Member
Ms Chen Zelan, Member
Mr Patrick Choy, Member
Mr Marc De Pauw, Member
Mr Ernesto d'Orsi, Member
Mr David Harris, Member
Ms Georgia Heth, Member
Mr Mazhar Jafri, Member
Mr Paul Janicki, Member
Mr Radoslaw Kielbasinski, Member
Mr Al Levy, Member
Mr Bernard Pascal, Member
Mrs Sheena Rayner, Member
Mr Merlin Vilhauer, Member
Mr John Wignall, Member

Also in Attendance

Mr Jean-Claude Beineix, Honour & Advisory Committee Member
Mr Panos Gerontopoulos, Honour & Advisory Committee Member
Mr George Retek, Honour & Advisory Committee Member
Mrs Anna Maria Torlontano, Honour & Advisory Committee Member
Mr Jeff Polisner, General Counsel
Ms Carol von Linstow, Secretary to the Executive Council

Excused

Mr Bruce Blakely, Member
Mr Nick Nickell, Member
Ms Sylvie Willard, Member

Invited

Mr Robert Hartman, ACBL CEO
Mrs Esther Sophonpanich, APBF President
Mrs Lilian Sun, Interpreter

The President called the meeting to order at 09:00. He declared that there was a quorum, and the meeting proceeded as follows.

The President thanked Mr. Robert Hartman for the very nice reception by him generously offered yesterday evening to the members of the Executive Council and their spouses.

Mr Jeffrey Polisner addressed the members and told them that, after working with the WBF for the past 18 years, it was time for him to step down. He said that he had enjoyed his time and had worked with some of the greats in bridge administration having served under Jaime Ortiz-Patiño, Ernesto d'Orsi, Bobby Wolff, José Damiani and the present President, Gianarrigo Rona. He thanked the members of the Executive, as well as Carol von Linstow, Anna Gudge, Christine Francin and Marina Madia for all the help that he had received over the years. His resignation will take effect from the end of these championships.

The President thanked Mr. Polisner for the excellent job done in all these years with dedication and professionalism and in particular for the support given to him with his precious advices and suggestions. He hopes that Mr. Polisner will continue to be part of the WBF family offering his experience to the works of the various Committees.

The Executive Council thanked Mr. Polisner with a standing ovation.

1. Appointment of High-Level Players Commission

On the proposal of the President, according to the By-Laws, the Executive Council approved the following composition of the High-Level Players Commission for the Legislature 2015/2018:

Ata Aydin (Acting Chairman)
Agustin Madala (Member)
Tim Cope (Member)
Ishmael Del'Monte (Member)
Giorgio Duboin (Member)
Wang Wen Fei (Member)
Marion Michielsen (Member)
Howard Weinstein (Member)
Fulvio Fantoni (Member)
Chip Martel (Member)
Janice Seamon-Molson (Member)
Kirubakara Moorthy (Member)
Jacqui Thompson (Member)
Sylvie Willard (Member)
Fu Zhong (Member)
Simon Fellus (Secretary)

This Committee will need to meet in order to appoint two members to the WBF Executive Council for the Legislature 2015/2018.

2. Officers, Management Committee, General Counsel, Special Appointments & WBF Committees

2.1. Officers

On the proposal of the President the Executive Council unanimously elected for the Legislature 2015/2018:

Mr. John Wignall 1st Vice President
Mr. Alvin Levy Executive Vice-President
Mr. Yves Aubry Vice-President
Mr. Patrick Choy Vice-President
Mr. Radek Kielbasinski Vice-President
Mr. Mazhar Jafri Vice-President
Mr. Marc De Pauw Treasurer
Ms. Georgia Heth Secretary.

The elected accepted and thanked the President and the Executive Council.

2.2. Management Committee

On the proposal of the President the Executive Council elected the Management Committee for the Legislature 2015/2018, composed as per following:

Gianarrigo Rona, Chairman
José Damiani, Chairman Emeritus
John Wignall, Vice Chairman
Yves Aubry, Member
Patrick Choy, Member
Marc De Pauw, Member
Ernesto d'Orsi, Member
Georgia Heth, Member
Mazhar Jafri, Member
Alvin Levy, Member
Carol von Linstow, Secretary

The elected accepted and thanked the President and the Executive Council.

2.3. General Counsel

The President, with the unanimous approval of the Executive Council, appointed Mr. David Harris as General Counsel for the Legislature.

Mr. Harris formally resigned from his position of member of the Executive Council, accepted the appointment and thanked the President and the Executive Council

The EBL will elect the new member of the Executive Council, substituting Mr. David Harris in the next meeting of the Board which will be held in Milano next November.

2.4. Special Appointments

On the proposal of the President the Executive Council unanimously approved the following Special Appointments:

Maurizio Di Sacco as Operations Director
Mark Newton as Master Point Master
Max Bavin & Matt Smith as Head Tournament Directors
Antonio Riccardi as Co-Head Tournament Director
Anna Gudge as Communication & General Liaison
Finn Mikkelesen as WADA Liaison
Geert Magerman as FISU/EUSA Liaison
Fotis Skoularikis as Webmaster

Carol von Linstow as Secretary to the Executive Council
Marina Madia as President's Assistant
Dirk De Clercq as Assistant Treasurer

2.5. WBF Committees

On the proposal of the President the Executive Council unanimously approved the composition of the WBF Committees as per the attached list, which is integral part of these minutes.

3. WBF Directory

WBF has not been printed since 2008 but the President hopes that this will be possible before the end of the year.

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It has been suggested that ACBL change their rule about elections of the Members of the WBF Council, so that their representatives are appointed in July rather than in November which would enable them to attend the Executive Council meetings, since the beginning of the Legislature and in the fall of the year in which they are elected. Georgia Heth will approach the Board about this.

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The President informed that at 19:15 the Prize Giving for the Mixed Pairs and Teams will be held at the Sheraton. There will be no speeches, just the awarding of medals. This will be followed by the Executive Council Farewell Dinner at the Ritz Carlton.

The President thanked the members for their cooperation and believed that the meetings had been very productive. He says that the new legislature will start under good auspices and he is confident that the WBF will achieve all its objectives.

Mr Jafri thanked the President on behalf of the Executive for his hospitality and for chairing these meetings.

The meeting was adjourned sine die at 10:45.