

## AIBA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

(by videoconference – March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021)

## 1. Opening remarks by AIBA President

Mr President invited everyone to feel free to be active and make their own proposals and stressed that many decisions were to be undertaken and many good news would be announced at today's Board of Directors (BoD) meeting.

#### 2. Roll Call

The meeting quorum was reached. Members excused: Osvaldo Bisbal, Oleksandr Khyzhniak, Alex Gonzalez. Members absent: Gay Uera, Mendouga Roland, Luisa Benitez, Jürgen Kyas.

### 3. Summary of decisions taken by mail votes

The number of decisions adopted via mail vote were summarised: AIBA Technical Delegate for 2021 Youth World Championship (YWCH) appointed, previous meeting of the BoD approved, procedure for the appointment of members of AIBA Permanent Committees, Event Management Protocol COVID-19 adopted, Transitional Provisions to the AIBA Technical and Competition rules, Observer Guidelines, power of signature for the opening of bank account were adopted, Presidents and Vice Presidents of Committees appointed, Compliance policy of AIBA adopted.

## 4. Appointment of AIBA Secretary General

Frederic Roger, AIBA HR Consultant, summarised the procedure of the appointment, highlighted the timeline of the recruitment. Among the 21 candidates representing all the continents 3 CVs have been selected: as one candidate withdrew his application, two excellent candidates are proposed to the vote of the Board of Directors.

The Election Committee members Mohamed Moustahsane, Umar Kremlev, Ted Tanner, Franco Falcinelli, Anas Al Otaiba and Shelly Selowati H. Soejono made several comments and recommendations.

Mr. Eyup Gozgec raised the question about the scope of authority and duties of the newly appointed SG. In answer to his question, Mrs. Valeria Trabucchi stressed that all the duties had already been prescribed on the AIBA website.

Voting procedure: Mr Istvan Kovacs was elected the new AIBA Secretary General with a large majority of votes.

## 5. Appointment of AIBA Legal Counsel

Mrs Valeria Trabucchi presented the candidacy of Yury Zaytsev who assisted AIBA in many legal issues and whose CV had been sent to the BoD members in advance.



The Board of Directors has decided to appoint Mr. Yury Zaytsev as new AIBA Legal Counsel.

## 6. Report on preparation for the 2021 YWCH Kielce

Ms Ria Ramnarine showed a copy of the LOC confirmation of the event, described the event procedure and schedule. There are already 66 National Federations registered including 265 officials and 587 athletes. Ms Ramnarine presented the appointed Technical delegate and explained the details of the COVID-19 protocol for 2021 Youth World Championships.

#### 7. Bout review rule

Mr Wayne Rose explained the principle according to which the updated Rule No 20 of AIBA Technical Regulations would be applied. Mr Rose shared his personal experience as Technical delegate at the 2019 AIBA World Championships where this bout review issue caused numerous problems and disruptions. The speaker shared with the BoD members the intention to further remove the yellow-card system that was used, in his opinion, to contradict the judges, and that was not a good image for AIBA. Moreover, the speaker stressed that there were no clear protocols describing what to be and what not to be reviewed. Mr Ray Silvas congratulated the members of the working group for the job done and stressed that this rule still needed to be properly explained on the technical meetings.

Regarding the working group that worked on updating Rule No. 20, it also included the technical delegate, Competition and R&J Committees. It was pointed out that Technical and Competition Rules would be fully reviewed along with Rule No. 20 after the YWCH and AIBA would inform the Directors about the updates.

Mr Mohamed Moustahsane raised a question about the opportunity for both opponents to review the different rounds of the bout, and Mr Wayne answered that after Poland AIBA may be able to consider such appeals.

In his turn, Mr. Eyup Gozgec suggested to introduce 30 minutes for one review instead of 15 minutes claiming that it was too short a time frame, and also asked to comment on the impartiality of the whole process that was open for various manipulations.

Mr Wayne noted that 15 minutes would be enough time to access the field and initiate the review.

The Board of Directors has voted in favour of the Bout Review rule changes, which was successfully updated accordingly.

#### 8. Update on AIBA Competition Calendar

Ms Ria highlighted the updates of AIBA Calendar, stressing the cancellation of the World Qualifier and Combat Games. What is more, the dates of the GBC were being reconsidered by RBF and would be announced at the next BoD meeting.

## 9. Update on annual reports received from AIBA National Federations

So far, AIBA has received 170 reports from NFs. It is the first time that AIBA was collecting such information, and some NFs did not provide fully accurate answers and data. Among the major points raised by NFs are requests for more education courses, equipment and funding. More than 33 reports are still missing.

Mrs Anastassiya Dlala also mentioned examples of different programs and initiatives suggested by NFs and commented on some of them.

Then Mr Claude Ramoni took the floor and outlined further steps for AIBA to interact with those NFs who did not reply. He stressed that the absence of answer by some NFs (which by the way are the same NFs, which did not pay their affiliation fee in 2020) could be a sign that such NFs are no longer existing and in good standing. AIBA needs to monitor the situation to ensure that in each country there is an NF in good standing that can fulfil its task. This should be regarded as an opportunity for them to develop boxing in their countries and not as punishment.

The Board of Directors has agreed to follow the schedule proposed by Mr Claude Ramoni.

## 10. Financial support to National Federations and Confederations

Mr Rob Garea, informed that AIBA is ready to provide support to national federations in need of financial assistance. To receive funding, every participant must:

- 1.Prepare a detailed description of the project that requires financial assistance from AIBA. The description of the project must include goals and objectives, timing of implementation, projected results, detailed estimates.
- 2.Submit the project to AIBA.
- 3. Take part in a zoom conference for project approval.

A reserve fund in the amount of 500,000 for each confederation per year will be kept in the bank account of AIBA, the confederation can use this money for specific purposes by prior agreement with AIBA. Purposes: competitions (150.000\$), development (150.000\$), "needs based" projects (100.000\$), administration (70.000\$), communications (30.000\$).

The funding will be transferred only to official organization's account (not private).

With respect to projects of National Federations, the financial assistance from AIBA for the implementation of one project cannot exceed 20 thousand US dollars.

#### 11. Presentation of biddings for AIBA future Competitions

Representatives of the National Boxing Federation of Uzbekistan make a presentation of Tashkent's candidature to host the World Boxing Championship in 2023. Information on entry into the country Tashkent International Airport has direct flights to most cities in the world, has great capacity, as well as an ICAO Category 2 and is able to receive all types of aircraft.

Direct flights connect Tashkent with the major cities Europe: Frankfurt, Paris, Istanbul, Rome, Milan, Moscow, Minsk and others. Asia: Dubai, Seoul, Beijing, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok, Tokyo, Astana, New York.

The Permanent organizing committee will be set up and will be headed by the Deputy Prime Minister of Uzbekistan. The Organizing Committee will necessarily include the heads or deputy heads of such key ministries and agencies as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Defense, Customs, Finance, Economics, Transport, etc., as well as the heads of the country's sport organizations. Boxing Federation plans to use the World Championship to showcase the potential of boxing in terms of commercial opportunities, to expand sponsorship involvement in financing a Primary source of income-

to support boxing. It is planned to sign an agreement with an international marketing agency to attract foreign sponsors to participate in financing and supporting of the World Championship.

The AIBA Board of Directors has accepted the offer by the NF of Uzbekistan which has accordingly been awarded to host the 2023 AIBA' Men World Championships.

#### 12. Update on AIBA Communication strategy

Mrs. Svetlana Ponkratova, started her update by presenting some statistics: 8 Foreign working trips, 5 Virtual Continental Forums were committed (in Kenya) personally attended by Umar Kremlev as well as 5 Initiated interviews for foreign media took place since the powering of the new president.

#### TONALITY OF MENTIONS

The tone of publications is mostly positive due regular activities, face-to-face communication of Umar Kremlev with representatives of national federations and athletes, personal presence of the AIBA leader at the competitions. Moreover, the media cite the statements of foreign leaders and athletes and focus on the training sessions held during the visits. Such an agenda invariably gains the attention of the media and forms a positive image. Our successful efforts with international media interviews of Umar Kremlev are 5 interviews with major foreign sources, such as Reuters, Metro (New York), Italian Gazzetta; interview for The New York Times expected. National Federations, athletes and politicians highly appreciate the work of Umar Kremlev as President of the Association; positive comments were met on the pages of major international media such as Xinhua, Daily Nation, Around the Rings and others.

#### **WORK TRIPS**

It is so important to work in solidarity towards the integral development of every National Federation and Confederation. In this regard, AIBA delegation visited: Kenya, Hungary, Montenegro, Serbia, Bulgaria, Poland, UAE, Germany. A number of high-level meetings were held. We introduced the tradition of holding trainings with national teams of countries, participants of the competitions. The events were covered by the largest media, including Focus Online, Welt Online, Die Welt, RTL.de, Xinhua, the Daily Nation and others. Continental forums were an important event due to the fact that international media covered all the news: 5 virtual continental forums held; AIBA Delegation personally visited Kenya to participate in the Virtual Forum.

# AIBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS OF THE 7 CREATED COMMITTEES

Coverage of different points and reforms must be highlighted by National Federations and Confederations. Our highlights: more than 100 articles on the topic published; the news was announced by the media of 20 countries; the appointment of Mary Com as chairman of the AIBA Champions and Veterans Committee gained the major interest of the media.

MOST MEDIA ACTIVE NATIONAL FEDERATIONS WORLD CUT TOP 10 MOST MEDIA ACTIVE NATIONAL FEDERATIONS: Russia 15482; India 1545; Ukraine 1395.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AIBA'S COMMUNICATION STRATEGY. WEBSITES

Currently own websites are available for all AIBA's members.



The new platform for NF's that don't have their own websites (133 country) was created in March 2021. Access details and websites' manual were already sent to 30 NFs. All the NFs will receive logins and passwords till March 26.

Activity in maintaining sites and social networks is the main point of the overall strategy.

#### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AIBA'S COMMUNICATION STRATEGY. INSTAGRAM

Following the results of the AIBA's continental forums, NFs received recommendations on how to work with Instagram accounts. We can see that many NFs have already improved their work with the content, as well as adopted the recommendations. For example, NFs indicated in their bio that they are members of AIBA. At the moment, about 90 NFs have Instagram accounts. 15 NFs created new accounts after the start of the implementation of the strategy.

## 13. Report by AIBA Legal team

The AIBA legal team makes a presentation of the status of the adoption of regulations implementing the Constitution.

With regard to the AIBA structure: Organizational Regulations and Membership Policy were approved. Regulations on Congress and Elections; Financial Regulations; Athletes Committee Regulations will soon be ready to be circulated to the Board members for their comments, before being approved by mail vote..

## Integrity, Ethics and Disciplinary

Anti-doping Regulations consistent with the WADA Code 2021 were approved.

The following regulations have been drafted and are currently under review by Ethics Committee: Code of Ethics; Conflict of Interest Policy; Procedural Rules; Disciplinary Regulations. Compliance Policy has been approved by mail vote.

#### **Sport and Competition**

T&C Rules Transitional Provisions were approved.

The following rules will have to be updated: Technical and Competition Rules; Referee and Judge Regulations; Medical Rules for ringside doctors.

#### NF's and Confederations

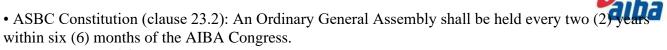
Observer Guidelines were approved.

Among the things to be done: Template of Constitution for Confederation; Template of Constitution for NF.

#### 14. Discussion on AIBA Confederations Congresses

#### **Confederations Congresses**

- AFBC Statutes (clause 19.2): An Ordinary General Assembly shall be held every four years within three (3) months of the AIBA Congress.
- AMBC Statutes (clause 19.2): An Ordinary General Assembly shall be held every two years within three (3) months of the AIBA Congress.
- EUBC Statutes (clause 19.2): An Ordinary General Assembly shall be held every two years within three (3) months of the AIBA Congress.



• OCBC Statutes (clause 17.2): An Ordinary General Assembly shall be held every four years following the AIBA Congress.

Mr Bernhard Welten, Chairman of the Ethics Commission, makes a short presentation reminding the request by the IOC that AIBA is able to "renew its leadership team". He insisted on the risk for AIBA if the IOC requests are not complied with, whilst also stressing that any election of officials must occur in compliance with the appliable regulations and democratic principles.

Mr. Yury Zaytsev, AIBA Legal Counsel insisted on the need to ensure that all recommendations by the IOC are duly followed and complied with. Our strategy should be aimed at implementing all the recommendations by the IOC, implying also giving full effect to the new regulations and the AIBA Constitution. In this regard, all federations and confederations should hold relevant congresses in order to implement the new AIBA constitution within their jurisdiction.

Each confederation must adopt its own constitution. Most of reforms must be confirmed as soon as practicable bearing in mind the 3 or 6 months deadline provided for in the Constitutions' current statutes. The IOC expects us to move forward despite such difficulties.

Legal Team is ready with full assistance in developing measures and appropriate documents.

In the next two weeks drafts of regulations will be ready and Federations and Confederations will get it for the future improvement of the document.

According to the AIBA Constitution, elections are to be held at the latest in December 2022. But in order to follow the IOC recommendation, Confederations first, and then AIBA should be ready to hold elections before that date and show the IOC that we implement their request to renew AIBA membership.

#### 15. Additional business

Mrs. Trabucchi emphasized 3 main principals of President's proposals:

- 1) To make it more spectacular, it is proposed to make the weighing procedure for athletes before the finals similar to weighing in professional boxing. Organize media presence, make weigh-in a bright boxing celebration.
- 2) To organize finals on Friday or Saturday evening only, in order to increase total of spectators and media outrage.
- 3) Increase the number of weight categories to 13, in order to involve more boxers.

The detailed proposals will be sent to the AIBA Board of Directors for consideration.

#### 16. Decision regarding the information disclosure after the meeting

The AIBA Board has decided to publish all decisions taken during the meeting.

## 17. Closing remarks by the President

The President addressed the members by encouraging them to send their suggestions to him, via AIBA office. He thanked AIBA Board of Directors members for their trust and support as well as their active participation and constructive spirit. Mr. Kremlev reassured that he would do everything in his power to make of boxing the most popular sport in the world.

The President of AIBA proposed to consider a new weight class for athletes (13 in all). And furthermore, the first steps must be initiated on AIBA Men's World Championships 2021 in Belgrade, Serbia. Such solutions must be collective and based on international solidarity and the principle of shared but



differentiated responsibilities.

First and foremost, the importance of sport must be emphasized in all large and small countries. For this purpose, creating a competitive environment is an important part of AIBA reforms.

Another mission of AIBA is to promote sporting activities and a healthy lifestyle among the young generations. The development of the boxing sport should focus on these issues and mutual interest of every Boxing Federation and Confederation and be carried out as an ongoing process.

Mr. Umar Kremlev AIBA President