



## 2022 IBA EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS

September 25th, 2022, 11:00 - Yerevan, Armenia  
(Hybrid format)

### MINUTES

#### 1. Opening speech by IBA President

Mr Umar Kremlev greeted Congress delegates and thanked them for their contribution to boxing development and promotion. He expressed his gratitude to the Armenian authorities and Boxing Federation of Armenia for hosting the Congress and hospitality extended to all the participants.

IBA President emphasized rapid development of the organization due to the united efforts of the boxing family during the past 21 months of dedicated and extensive work. These efforts allowed to transform International Boxing Association from a bankrupt entity into an organization that follows best practices and works for the interests of athletes and National Federations.

Mr Kremlev wished the Congress a fruitful meeting and thanked them for their support.

#### 2. Welcome speech by Hosting Authorities

Mr George Yerolimpos welcomed IBA Board of Directors members, greeted delegates from IBA National Federations and introduced hosting authorities present at the Congress.

Mr Ohanes Ovsepian, President of Boxing Federation of Armenia, welcomed Congress delegates to a hospitable Yerevan and wished them a successful meeting.

Mr Arayik Harutyunyan, Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia, indicated that it was an honor for Armenia to become an international center for boxing by hosting EUBC Men's European Boxing Championships and IBA Extraordinary Congress. He greeted Congress participants, wished them productive work and expressed readiness to continue collaborating with IBA for future events. Mr Harutyunyan also highlighted the importance of sport in promoting peace and, thus, the significance of having more sports events to ensure lasting peace.

#### 3. Introduction of other participants

IBA President took the floor to announce to the Congress that, following the decision of the IBA Board of Directors as of September 23, 2022, Mr George Yerolimpos was appointed as IBA Secretary General and congratulated him on his appointment.

IBA Secretary General then proceeded with presenting additional attendees of the Congress: Mr Jacques Blondin, member of the IBA Interim Nomination Unit, Mr Yury Zaytsev, IBA Legal Counsel, and LUMI team managing the secure voting platform used for the Congress.

Mr Yerolimpos also greeted the Congress scrutineers to oversee the running of the Congress and voting: Professor Richard McLaren, Mr Bernhard Welten, Chair of the IBA Ethics Committee, and Ms Dianna Beglaryan, Public Notary.

Before proceeding with the roll call, IBA Secretary General reminded online participants that they should connect via Zoom with their cameras on for the whole duration of the Congress as per the request of the Interim Nomination Unit. Otherwise, the voting credentials will be removed from those delegates who are not complying with the requirement.



Mr Yerolimpos, in addition, reminded the Congress that, according to art. 7.1 of the IBA Regulations on Congress and Elections, non-voting delegates appointed by National Federations shall not be entitled to vote or speak at the Congress.

#### **4. Roll call**

The initial roll call conducted by LUMI confirmed presence of 97 voting delegates in person and 30 voting delegates online.

LUMI then proceeded with guiding the delegates through the voting process for both online and in-person participants and ran a test vote.

After the power outage, the roll call was run again by LUMI to confirm presence of 99 voting delegates in person and 52 voting delegates online.

Mr Jeremie Besson, Board Member of Dutch Boxing Federation, requested clarification on the difference in the delegates' number before and after the technical stop and was asked to send a written request to IBA to receive the official report upon conclusion of the Congress.

#### **5. Approval of previous Congress minutes, Istanbul**

The minutes of the IBA Extraordinary Congress that took place in Istanbul, Turkey on May 13 – 14, 2022 were approved by 115 National Federations (89.84%).

#### **6. Vote by National Federations: Do you want to vote for another presidential election or not?**

IBA Secretary General made a brief overview of the CAS decision as of June 14, 2022 that resulted in cancellation of the Interim Nomination Unit decision to declare Mr Van der Vorst and three other candidates to the Board of Directors ineligible. Due to the fact that no claim was submitted before the CAS to challenge the results of the elections conducted at the IBA Extraordinary Congress in Istanbul, these results became valid and legally binding. IBA Board of Directors was also legally elected at the IBA Extraordinary Congress in Istanbul and their elections remain valid. Following the decision of the IBA Board as of June 26, 2022, another Extraordinary Congress was called in order to allow the National Federations to decide whether the new presidential elections are needed, provided that the candidates for the position remain the same – Mr Kremlev and Mr Van der Vorst.

Before proceeding with voting, National Federations were invited to share their views with the Congress. Some IBA members were of the opinion that IBA should re-run the presidential elections, following the CAS decision and in order to respond to the concerns of the international community with regard to the governance within IBA, thus ensuring the Olympic future for boxing.

In contrast, many IBA members, were thankful to the IBA Board for entrusting National Federations, key IBA stakeholders, with the decision on the necessity of new elections, hence respecting the CAS decision, on the one hand, and adhering to the democratic principles, on the other. Since December 2020 and under the current leadership, boxing has seen unprecedented progress in all areas, while boxers and National Federations have become the main priority.

IBA Secretary General conducted the Congress debates, over 30 delegates who expressed their wish to speak were given the floor.



Majority of the delegates urged to vote against holding new elections, conscious that Mr Kremlev was elected at the Extraordinary Congress in Istanbul by acclamation and this result shall remain valid. They also condemned any type of external intervention into the IBA activities and expressed their readiness to assist IBA President and IBA with delivering all the reforms to make sure the concerns of the IOC are eliminated. There were also the delegates who supported new presidential elections.

LUMI team conducted the vote: **106 National Federations (74.65%) voted against running another presidential election**, therefore, Secretary General proceeded with closing the Congress.

## 7. Closing speech by IBA President

Mr Umar Kremlev thanked National Federations for their trust and reiterated his determination to continue working for their interests, building a better future for the younger generation of boxers, protecting the organization's independence and fighting to keep boxing in the Olympic program. IBA will also keep channeling all the necessary efforts and resources into creating the very best conditions for the boxers and staging its own events at a high level, with World Championships being the highlight of the competition calendar, thus providing multiple opportunities to the athletes to compete internationally.

Mr Kremlev also addressed issues of the past related to corruption and bad governance and created by previous leadership, including former AIBA President and long-serving IOC member Mr C K Wu, as evidenced by the report of Prof. McLaren. IBA President claimed that future work of IBA shall be focused on preserving the integrity at each level, especially finance and governance integrity, while support to National Federations, athletes and coaches will always remain IBA's priority.

George Yerolimpos  
IBA Secretary General

