



8th WT Member Relations & Development Commission Meeting (via conference call)  
September 28, 2020 | 15h00-16h00 (local time Korea)

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## Summary

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**Attendees:** Jean-Marie Ayer (Chair), Sarah Stevenson (Vice Chair), Russell Ahn (Member), Usman Dildar (Member), Jeongkang Seo (Senior Director, MRD), Taeun Kim (Manager, MRD), Haeri Jeon (Manager, MRD), Sockho Lee (Assistant Manager, MRD) and Wooram Kim (Coordinator, MRD)

### 1. Establish Quorum

*o Four (4) members attend the meeting, thus the quorum is established.*

### 2. Approval of the Minutes

*o The Chair asks for approval of the minutes of the previous Commission meeting held on September 8, 2020 which was sent to all members for their review. The minutes are approved by the Commission.*

### 3. Report

#### a. Result of MNA Survey and Analysis

*o Jeongkang Seo addresses that 2020 MNA survey was conducted to find more information of MNAs and to provide MNAs with governance indicators. He asks the Commission to review the analysis of the MNA Survey and give feedbacks by October 4<sup>th</sup> to be presented to the General Assembly to be held on October 6.*

### 4. Discussion

#### a. MNA-NOC related Issues

- i. Gambia (NOC not responding form MNA leadership matter)
- ii. French Polynesia (NOC not responding for MNA leadership change)

*o Jeongkang Seo addresses that WT's fundamental partners under the Olympic movement is National Olympic Committee (NOC) especially in verifying the new leadership of the MNAs.*

*He also refers to the article in the WT Statutes 16.8 that MNAs are expected to submit a NOC letter of good standing following every election. He continues addressing the issue that there are NOCs who are not actively responding to the request for verification which keeps the WT process delayed.*

*Jeongkang Seo gives an example of Gambia the NOC is still not confirming the change of the President who was removed by the executive board. He adds that due to this delay of verification, a large number of Taekwondo practitioners has moved into other martial arts unfortunately.*

*Jeongkang Seo gives another example of French Polynesia that the pertinent NOC has refused to recognize any of national governing body of Taekwondo. He concludes that relevant measures from WT*

*is needed to ensure the governance of the MNAs are continued despite the delay or refusal of the pertinent NOC on the confirmation on good standing.*

*o Russell Ahn suggests putting strict timeline for NOCs to confirm and giving penalties after deadline. He adds that WT could find more information through officials or coaches in the country.*

*o Usman Dildar mentions that having some liaisons from WT in order to communicate with MNAs for any issues could be an option.*

*o Jeongkang Seo remarks that Continental Union could be an alternative option to confirm good standing of MNA if the pertinent NOC does not respond to WT's request for confirmation on good standing within certain period of time. Member of the Commission agrees to this solution.*

*Then he asks Commissions for proper timeline to be allocated to the NOC.*

*o Members suggest 30 days to 60 days should be a maximum.*

**b. Membership Tier**

- i. Argentina case (how to deal with the MNAs that cannot afford paying membership fee) although they are categorized either in Tier I or II.
- ii. Nigeria case
- iii. MNA's with financial difficulties to pay annual membership will be exempted or pay a 50% reduced fee if they apply 50/50 gender equality across their board and managerial positions in their respected MNA

*o Jeongkang Seo addresses that there are MNAs asking for reduction or waive of the membership fee such as Nigeria and Argentina, and asks for remedies.*

*o Usman Dildar suggests that WT should provide support under certain condition such as achieving gender balance requirements as part of governance effort.*

*o Russell Ahn suggests that requesting MNAs for proof documents like financial statement issued by their government or other verified organizations to make sure the status of MNAs could be considerable to prevent misuse.*

*o Jeongkang Seo remarks that the financial statement can be requested and reported to the Commission in the next meeting for consideration.*

**c. MNA Level**

- i. How to increase number of Level I MNA (voting representative)

*o Jeongkang Seo raises the issue of relatively small number of Level I MNAs as they are the MNAs who have voting rights. He suggests that the decent IF should have at least 70% of MNAs with exercising voting rights.*

*o Russell Ahn suggests to extend two more years in order to give more times and opportunity for MNAs. He adds that total four-year period to be an efficient way to increase number of Level I MNA and also give special exemption for them due to the current situation of Covid-19.*

*o Usman Dildar mentions that sending two athletes to WT promoted championships are sufficient since still many MNAs are not affordable to send more than two athletes.*

*o Jean Marie Ayer mentions that there are 2 conditions to fulfill to participate to the General Assembly. He suggests to evaluate if a more flexible application of the criteria, for example not taking*

*into account the payment of the fee, could have a positive effect on the number of countries authorized to participate.*

*o Jeongkang Seo notes that General Assembly is the most important meeting where MNAs could elect officials and get the important information as well. He notes that sending a delegate at a General Assembly is a responsibility for MNAs.*

*He summarizes two options that WT might extend two more years for participation period of athletes, and another way could be extending more years for membership fee to give more times to MNAs. He suggests discussing again at the next meeting with more options.*

## **5. Other Matters**

*o Jeongkang Seo updates two items discussed from the last MRD Commission meeting that rule changes for Associate membership is already included in the e-vote in upcoming General Assembly meaning that once it is approved from the e-vote it will be enforced. He also notes that when there is dispute, it will come to MRD Commission from now rather than directly going to Juridical Committee.*

*o Usman Dildar suggests reduction of the registration fee for some countries for Para Coach education program. Jeongkang Seo responds that this should be discussed at the Education Committee based on the requests.*

## **6. Next Commission Meeting**

*The next Commission meeting will be held in October 15 at 15:00.*

## **7. Closing of Meeting**

*Chair thanks the members and WT administration for active participation in the meeting and excellent management of the works.*