



## Minutes

31th WT General Assembly (via conference call)

21h00-21h30 | 6 October 2020 (local time Korea)

## AGENDA

1. Establish Quorum: Call Meeting to Order
2. President Report
3. Approval
  - Approval of the Minutes of the General Assembly held in Manchester, UK on May 14, 2019
4. WT 2019-2020 Annual Report
  - a. Operation Report
  - b. Finance Report
    - i. Statements of 2019 Financial Position
    - ii. Statements of 2019 Income
    - iii. Statements of 2020 Budget
  - c. Treasurer's Report
  - d. Auditor's Report
5. E-Vote Result
  - a. Amendment
    - i. WT Statutes
    - ii. WT Competition Rules & Interpretation
    - iii. WT Event Operation Rules
    - iv. WT Athlete Classification Rules
6. Report
  - a. Result of MNA Survey
  - b. Update on WT Online Education
  - c. Update on Para Taekwondo Education
  - d. WT Guidelines and Protocols for Safe Return to Competitions and Training during COVID-19
  - e. Committee Name Change
    - i. From Medical & Anti-Doping Committee to Medical Committee
    - ii. From Integrity & Ethics Committee to Integrity Committee
7. 2020 ASOIF Governance Report
8. Other Matters
9. Next Meeting
10. Closing of Meeting

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## **1. Establish Quorum: Call Meeting to Order**

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At 21h00, Secretary General Hoss Rafaty announces that the delegates from 137 Member National Associations (“MNA” – including 81 voting MNAs), 30 Council Members and 2 auditors are present, thereby establishing a quorum in accordance with Article 7.8 of the Statutes. He also announces that the total number of attendees marks 217. He confirms that today’s video conference will be recorded.

The meeting is called to order by the Chair of the Meeting, Dr. Chungwon Choue (WT President).

The Chair welcomes all participants for joining the first-ever virtual General Assembly in the history of World Taekwondo. The Chair opens the meeting with mourning the passing of WT Vice President Gen. Ahmed Fouly and suggests paying a tribute. A memorial video is played.

He remarks that he has received a letter on Friday from Ms. Nadia Sobhi, Secretary General of Taekwondo Africa that Mr. Issaka Ide serves as Acting President in accordance with the statutes of Taekwondo Africa, and he trusts Mr. Ide is the right person to continue the legacy of Gen. Fouly.

The Chair says that Mr. Ide is not here as he is undergoing medical treatment in Paris, and notes that Mr. Issaka Ide will serve as the Vice President of World Taekwondo until the World Taekwondo Championships next year.

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## **2. President Report**

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The Chair welcomes again the delegates from MNAs, Council Members and all other Taekwondo family members.

He remarks that Mr. Iván Dibós, an Honorary Member of the IOC since the end of last year is a long-serving Vice President of World Taekwondo and he has been extremely supportive in the Council over the past 18 years. The Chair announces that Mr. Dibós will be an Honorary Vice President of WT, and WT intends to recognize his contributions at the next General Assembly to be held on the occasion of the 2021 World Taekwondo Championships in Wuxi.

He reports that as Mr. Jiho Choi resigned from the position of the president of Taekwondo Pan Am on September 5<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Helder Navarro is the Acting President of Taekwondo Pan Am, and in accordance with the WT Statutes, he will also serve Mr. Choi’s remaining term as Vice President of WT, until the General Assembly in Wuxi in October 2021. He adds that WT respects the decision of Mr. Choi and wishes to thank Mr. Choi’s leadership and contributions over the years such as inclusion of Poomsae and Para Taekwondo in the Pan American Games.

He announces the appointment of Mrs. Sarah Stevenson Jennings as a WT Council member. He notes that she needs no introduction with her accomplishments as an outstanding champion, and she is also chair of our Taekwondo for All Committee

He then mentions that the COVID-19 pandemic remains serious in many parts of the world, and over the past 9 months, more than 33 million people worldwide have been infected. He says that the number of deaths around the world crosses the 1 million last week, and this is one of the most destructive diseases to impact humanity in recent history. He asks that everyone stay healthy and positive, especially during these challenging times.

He continues reporting that even with the Tokyo Games being postponed till next summer, WT is unsure if it can be held, but the IOC and Tokyo organising committee have reassured WT that the Games will be held despite the pandemic situation, and Last night, he had a call with the IOC

President and the presidents of the Summer Olympic International Federations. He learns that some sports have started to organise events and are also moving towards Esports. He notes that the IOC President Thomas Bach acknowledged that combat sports are the most impacted.

He also learns the difference between Taekwondo and other combat sports that WT is constantly moving ahead like Online Poomsae which is one of our main attractions during the pandemic, and WT is also organising urban and beach events next year. He adds that as the IOC President said in his speech of Taekwondo Day, Taekwondo is more than just a sport, and it is a belief in the power of sport as a force for good in the world, and the IOC President asked for solidarity and constant engagement with the IOC. The Chair adds that the IOC and the Summer IFs stand in solidarity to have a safe and simplified Games in Tokyo next year.

He mentions that all the WT events have either been postponed or cancelled due to the pandemic and WT and all stakeholders have suffered financial losses. He notes that WT has received a loan from the IOC like most other Olympic IFs. He also says that despite the challenges, the Taekwondo family should remain united and continue to support and inspire. He gives a good example that is the unfortunate blast in Beirut on August 4<sup>th</sup>, but WT supported the Taekwondo children in Beirut through a crowdfunding campaign.

He addresses that WT has organised three Council meetings, more than 80 Committee calls, and around 20 education courses for coaches, referees, educators and technical delegates, and that WT tries to expand the education program to include courses for MNA presidents and secretaries general in the coming months. He mentions that these online conference calls have enhanced the efficiency and has helped to cut travel costs. He therefore intends to continue with such efficient and sustainable way of communication even after the pandemic is over. He adds that WT also contributes to the reduction of carbon footprint that WT committed to the United Nations and the IOC when WT signed the UN Sport for Climate Action change declaration in Manchester in May 2019.

He remarks that WT organises the first Online World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships to encourage families in this coming November and athletes to stay active that is a G-2 ranked event and there will also be an Open category for families and juniors. He mentions that WT has released a Poomsae education app to generate awareness and interest among the grassroots level on Poomsae, and WT also is one of the first IFs to join the fast-expanding Global Esports Federation. He notes that he has also been invited as a Chair of the GEF International Federations Advisory Council.

He continues that Virtual Kyorugi which WT showcased to the IOC President in May 2019 is expected to be showcased at the first Global Esports Games this coming December, and early next year WT launches a Super Talent Show which is a great way for the general public to showcase not just their Taekwondo abilities, but also other talents that they have.

He announces with pride that WT achieved A2 from ASOIF Good Governance survey on June 16<sup>th</sup>. He adds that WT needs to improve on certain areas that will make WT on par with the IFs in this rank, and that WT is now working closely with the CUs and MNAs to align our governance practices which is the reason why WT conducted the MNA Survey to better understand where each MNA stands and what MNAs need. He mentions that WT plans to develop a governance-based MNA Ranking, most likely in 2022.

He proposes that every CU should create a Disputes Resolution Committee to manage MNA dispute issues with close cooperation with WT. He adds that CUs can investigate the issues and gather background information before WT steps in to make final decisions. He continues reporting that there is cause for optimism and improvement despite the ongoing pandemic, and that WT looks forward to safe and simplified Taekwondo competitions at the Tokyo Olympic Games from July 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>. He notes that WT is also excited by the debut of Para Taekwondo in the Tokyo Paralympic Games from September 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup>.

He expects one of the best World Taekwondo Championships and World Para Taekwondo Championships in Wuxi in October 2021, and the Wuxi government wants to make the Championships the biggest in WT history with the participation of more than 200 MNAs.

He mentions that WT organises a Sport and Peace Forum to commemorate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UN International Day of Peace on the occasion of the World Championships, and moreover he will honor the achievements of past champions and leaders with the inaugural World Taekwondo Hall of Fame in Wuxi. He also notes that the Council approved to include Gen. Fouly as an inductee of the inaugural Hall of Fame yesterday at the Council Meeting, upon the recommendation of the Hall of Fame Committee. He adds that all six inductees well deserve and WT is grateful to their outstanding achievements and dedication.

He remarks that WT will also honor the 12 best male and female Taekwondo athletes from the past Olympic Games, including the ones from Tokyo Olympic Games, in a special ceremony to commemorate 20 years of Olympic Taekwondo on the occasion of World Championships in Wuxi. He hopes that the world will fully recover in 2021.

Before moving on to Agenda Item No. 3 on the Approval of the Minutes of the last General Assembly, he congratulates Guatemala Taekwondo Federation and Iran Taekwondo Federation for receiving citations from the Minister of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the Republic of Korea for their contributions to Taekwondo on the occasion of Taekwondo Day.

He closes his report by sharing a video from IOC President Thomas Bach in commemoration of Taekwondo Day on September 4<sup>th</sup>.

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### **3. Approval of the Minutes**

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- Approval of the Minutes of the General Assembly held in Manchester, UK on May 14, 2019

The Chair mentions that the minutes were distributed for review and approval by e-vote. He thanks the General Assembly for approving the Minutes via e-vote and declares that the Minutes of the General Assembly held in Manchester, UK, on May 14<sup>th</sup> last year were approved.

***Decision: Minutes of the General Assembly held in Manchester, UK on May 14, 2019***

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### **4. WT 2019-2020 Annual Report**

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- a. Operation Report
- b. Finance Report
  - i. Statements of 2019 Financial Position
  - ii. Statements of 2019 Income
  - iii. Statements of 2020 Budget

The Chair asks Secretary General Hoss Rafaty to present the annual report.

Hoss Rafaty reports that all information contained in the 2019 annual report have been approved by the Council and General Assembly on 30 September 2020 via e-voting and will

be published on website soon. He informs that in 2019 WT Members Associations has reached 210 with affiliation of Faroe Islands, and that WT had 87 recognized events which were up 4.6% from 2018. In terms of the number of athletes, he reports that 46,159 athletes competed with increase by 7.9% from 2018 with 53% males and 47% females. He also addresses that there were over 100 other events, including the 2019 GA and Council Meetings, the WT Conference, Committee Meetings, signing ceremonies and others.

He continues to report that WT realized US\$9.22 million in operating revenue, an increase of US\$.23 million, and operating expenses totaled US\$10.83 million, increased by US\$.98 million from the previous year. He adds that WT had made a net loss of US\$.80 million for 2019.

In terms of progress toward the strategic plan, he reports that WT continued to introduce governance refinements based on best practices identified by the Association of Summer International Olympic Federations, and the major reforms undertaken last year include the restructuring of WT Committees in Manchester, UK, and the enactment of Safeguarding and Anti-Discrimination Policies in Moscow, Russia. He adds that WT has accelerated the move toward online education and events this year under the pandemic situation.

He lists several governance improvements in 2019 such as Committee structure streamlined and terms of reference introduced, Finance Committee formed, Finance Rules enacted, Monthly Managerial Accounting introduced, Meeting Calendar published, Record of General Assembly and Council Meeting agendas since 2011 published, Safeguarding Policy enacted, Anti-Discrimination Policy Enacted and Strategic Framework Approved.

He also remarks the heavy impact of Pandemic on 2020 Operations and Income that in 2019 WT had 87 recognized events, but in 2020, 15 recognized events took place until mid-March which means that all recognized events postponed or cancelled after mid-March. He adds that WT had over 100,000 members in GMS registration in the end of 2019, but WT has around 56,000 members in GMS registration as of August 2020. He notes the drop in 2020 estimated income that in December 2019 WT estimated \$11.4 million income, but in August 2020 WT estimates \$7.1 million income.

He concludes his report by saying that WT assumes \$7.1 million as revenues and \$9.1 million as expenses with \$2 million as a net loss. He adds that WT has gotten an advance from the IOC worth of \$3.375 and that WT is confident to get through Tokyo Olympic Games with the current finance.

c. Treasurer's Report

The Chair calls upon the Treasurer and chair of the Finance Committee, Mr. Pimol Srivikorn, to deliver his report.

Mr. Pimol Srivikorn reports that he has examined the financial statement of WT ending December 31, 2019 which were thoroughly prepared and verified by the authorized persons from the Finance Department of WT. He also remarks that in accordance with the Korean International Financial Reporting Standard, Nexia Samduk (Accounting Corporation) has audited the consolidated financial statements which comprise of the statement of financial position, the statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income, and statement of changes in equity. Therefore, he confirms that financial position of WT ending December 31, 2019 is in good standing, and the budget prepared for 2020 is appropriate and in line with the mission and development objectives of the WT for the year.

d. Auditor's Report

The Chair calls upon Mr. Ali Sagirkaya, who is one of the auditors and member of the Finance Committee, to deliver his report.

Mr. Ali Sagirkaya reports that in accordance with his responsibilities as Auditor of WT, he has audited the financial statements for 2019 and budget for 2020. Based on the documents provided to him by WT and WT Treasurer and after evaluating the Nexia Samduk's Independent Auditors' Report, he concludes that the results of WT's operations for the year then ended 2019 are in conformity with general accounting principles in adoption of Korean International Financial Reporting Standards. He recommends acceptance of WT financial statements for 2019 and budget for 2020 in WT General Assembly.

The Chair thanks to Mr. Hoss Rafaty, Mr. Pimol Srivikorn and Mr. Ali Sagirkaya.

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## 5. E-Vote Result

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- a. Amendment
  - i. WT Statutes
  - ii. WT Competition Rules & Interpretation
  - iii. WT Event Operation Rules
  - iv. WT Athlete Classification Rules

The Chair invites Mr. Jeongkang Seo, Senior Director of Member Relations & Development Department, to present the results of General Assembly E-Vote.

Mr. Seo mentions that since this is the first virtual General Assembly ever, WT has decided to conduct E-voting for rule changes instead of presentation and ratification at the meeting due to the difficulty in interaction between speaker and audience at the online meeting

He reports that the e-voting was conducted on September 23-30 for 8 days for approval of four rule changes, operation report, finance report and meeting minutes of the previous meeting, and out of a total 124 eligible votes, 94 votes were casted and all proposed items were approved.

He touches on some key points of each amendment.

He addresses that the statutes have been amended to enable to organize virtual General Assembly, and Continental Unions are requested to comply with the standardized model statutes provided by WT. He adds that the date of the Presidential election of Continental Unions has been fixed as one day before WT Presidential election for harmonization of the term of office, and national team athletes of the Associate Members cannot represent another MNA within 3 years and should prove residence certificate. He explains that this principle is already applied to all full members and now it is applied to associate members in equal manner. He adds that as part of the WT's strategy to strengthen integrity matter, the committee names have been changed and the details will be explained by Prof. Chappelet later in this meeting.

He also mentions that Competition Rules have also been amended mainly to be in line with the WT Medical Code, and Event Operation Rules have been amended to specify the Anti-Doping management fund collection and to set out the principle of the number of G2 events

per continent. He adds that Athlete Classification Rules have been changed to create a pathway for Para Taekwondo athletes to compete in all 10 IPC recognized impairment types.

The Chair thanks Mr. Seo.

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## 6. Reports

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### a. Result of MNA Survey

The Chair gives a floor to Mr. Jeongkang Seo for presentation of the results of the MNA Survey.

Mr. Seo reports that MNA Survey was conducted on June 1 to July 20 with very high response rate of 88% with 185 MNAs with great assistance of GMS team, and it was highly inspired by ASOIF Good Governance Survey to better understand the needs of the MNAs for the WT to better provide assistance and support the MNAs. He adds that the survey consisted of 40 questions with 7 categories.

He addresses that WT discovered information of MNAs especially the size and capacity of the administration, revenue, funders, etc. He mentions that supporting the MNA administration to maintain regular communication with WT and continental unions seem to be important, and one remarkable finding was that 93 MNAs have Taekwondo programs adopted in primary/secondary school and college. He adds that this demonstrates universality and practicality of Taekwondo as a sport and a martial art.

He continues reporting that Governance section was aimed to find out whether MNAs have fundamental rules in place with respecting the principle of gender balance, and it was discovered that WT needs to provide a guideline and model rules to MNAs to follow. He comments that it was also found that gender balance should be improved.

He remarks that Transparency is focused on publication of the reports and documents, and that although 60% MNAs are publishing rules on their website, it seems important for them to publish annual report, finance report and meeting-related documents. He also notes that Democracy section is about elected officials and General Assembly, and the survey proves that most of MNAs' activities are based on the democratic process and WT will be providing standardized procedure to achieve better and more systematic processes.

He addresses that Anti-Doping section result shows that most of MNAs are conducting Anti-Doping education but not always to the right target groups, so WT will provide relevant educational documents to MNAs. He adds that from Humanitarian section, WT discovered that already some MNAs are active in supporting refugees and ready to join THF to mobilize resources for this great project. He then says that GMS section provided WT with the information that there are still several MNAs finding difficult to implement GMS system with different reasons, so GMS team can find suitable remedies per MNA.

He explains that this year's MNA survey was successful in terms of response, and WT continues analyzing the results with MRD Commission to ensure the results of the survey are efficiently reflected on the WT policies. He mentions that WT MNA Survey also serves as the governance indicators which ultimately help MNAs improve the overall governance. He adds that that WT is planning to use the MNA Survey results for the MNA Ranking, and it will be published in 2022 and onwards. He concludes his report by saying that It will be a good opportunity to all MNAs to see where they stand in terms of governance, and WT asks all MNAs to pay more attention.

The Chair thanks Mr. Seo.

b. Update on WT Online Education

The Chair asks Mr. Seo again to present the update of WT Online Education. Mr. Seo reports that all sport organizations are facing with new paradigm under Covid-19 and education is not an exception. He mentions that WT education programs have been actively organized until March this year but have all been stopped due to concern about infection and travel restrictions. He adds that WT believes that the crisis can be turned into opportunities because WT was able to transform the education and certification courses to online model which is more sustainable.

He mentions that starting with Coach Certification Course on June 11, referee education programs followed on September 5, and Educator Certification Program, Technical Delegate Certification Program as well as MNA Education Program to be followed shortly. He also remarks that online education has a lot of advantages not only to WT but also the MNAs and participants as there are no logistic costs needed to attend the course. He adds that course duration is shorter and is flexible. Without traveling all the way, coaches can join any course conducted in their local language, and moreover MNAs can generate income by hosting the Level I coach certification course as the revenue from registration fee is shared among WT, CU and MNA.

He continuous reporting that the coach certificate is mandatory from January 1, 2021, meaning that coaches cannot participate in any of WT promoted and recognized events, of course all G ranking tournaments without valid coach license, and also encourages all MNAs to check the WT website for education calendar to register through GMS to join the course.

He adds that the MNAs who have already hosted Level I Coach Course are shown in the screen, and Indonesia, Kenya, Denmark, Lebanon, France, Brazil and Tunisia are scheduled to host the coach courses. He notes that MNAs are encouraged to contact WT for hosting the course or encourage coaches to participate in any of the courses to be spoken in their local language. He also encourages all MNAs to check WT website for the schedule of Level II courses and asks to contact WT at [education@worldtaekwondo.org](mailto:education@worldtaekwondo.org) for any questions.

The Chair thanks Mr. Seo.

c. Update on Para Taekwondo Education

The Chair invites Mr. Chakir Chelbat, Chair of the WT Para Taekwondo Committee to update on Para Taekwondo Education.

Mr. Chelbat mentions 10 IPC Recognized Impairment groups up to 2019 which is impaired muscle power, impaired range of movement, limb deficiency, leg length difference, short stature, stiff muscles, lack of coordination, involuntarily movement, vision impairment and intellectual impairment.

He is proud to inform that WT is the only IF covering all IPC Impairment Categories, and explains in terms of Para Taekwondo Recognized Sport Classes that P10 has 2 categories, P20 has 2 categories, P30 has 4 categories, P40 has 5 categories, K40 has 5 categories, P50 has 3 categories, P60 and K60 has itself only 1 category and P70 has 2 categories. He also mentions Para Taekwondo Class Icons which are designed user friendly, and targets of Para Taekwondo Education including athletes, club, instructor, examiner, coach, MNA admin, classifiers and referees.

He also remarks people who are involved in Para Taekwondo from grass root level to national and international level. He also mentions Para Taekwondo education during the past 15 years, and the survey that World Para Taekwondo conducted among MNAs to understand the base of athletes in

the membership. He notices important thing from the survey that there is more male para athlete who participate in the event than female para athlete, thus he notes that World Para Taekwondo should actively encourage female para athlete to participate in the event.

The Chair thanks Mr. Chelbat.

d. WT Guidelines and Protocols for Safe Return to Competitions and Training during COVID-19

The Chair invites Dr. David Jeong, Chair of the WT Medical Committee to make presentation.

Dr. Jeong mentions Covid-19 transmission, severity and mortality, and world-wide cases, and remarks that WT developed WT guidelines and protocols for safe return to competitions and training during Covid-19 for the best interest of athletes.

He notes 4 levels of vigilance phase of Covid-19 outbreak that level 1 is preventive vigilance phase, level 2 is medium vigilance phase, level 3 is high vigilance phase and level 4 is very high vigilance phase, and he emphasizes on Covid-19 prevention in daily life such as avoiding travel, wearing masks, maintaining a minimum of social distance, and staying home if any symptoms.

He adds that Medical Committee is active to get consultation from MNAs to promote safety, and hopes WT has safe competitions as well as Olympic Games next year

The Chair thanks Dr. Jeong.

e. Committee Name Change

- i. From Medical & Anti-Doping Committee to Medical Committee
- ii. From Integrity & Ethics Committee to Integrity Committee

The Chair invites Prof. Jean-Loup Chappelet, Chair of the WT Integrity Committee for the presentation. The Chair adds that Prof. Chappelet is an emeritus professor who is a leading expert in governance of IFs and events, and was a member of the WADA Education Committee and is now a member of the ASOIF governance task force.

Prof. Chapelet introduces what sport integrity is all about. He mentions that it is a new word in the sport lexicon and difficult to define, but necessary to tackle in order to regain public trust and credibility after the many scandals which occurred in sport and sport organizations over the last years. He notes that the scandals are summarized along 4 interrelated issues including doping, corruption, lack of sustainability and foul play, violence, abuse, harassment, match-fixing.

He mentions the work that WT Integrity Committee oversees and similar move by several IFs in order to fight integrity issues. He stresses on the tasks of the new Taekwondo Integrity Unit including Anti-Doping, Fair, Ethics through better WT governance and Sustainable WT in coordination with WT Sustainability Committee and President's Office.

He also remarks high priority projects which is development of an integrity webpage in the WT website, establishment and publication of a conflict of interest registry by WTIU, drafting of a due diligence policy by Juridical Committee with WTIU, and reviewed by WT Integrity Committee, WT participation in IPACS (International Partnership Against Corruption in Sport) through WTIU, development of an online educational program to promote the SAFE Taekwondo concept in cooperation with IOC, Anti-Discrimination policy, safeguarding policy and applying SAFE model in WT competitions..

The Chair thanks Prof. Chappelet.

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## **7. 2020 ASOIF Governance Report**

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The Chair invites Mr. Francesco Ricci Bitti, President of ASOIF to deliver a presentation.

Mr. Francesco Ricci Bitti addresses history, mission, vision, strategy and main activity and project of ASOIF. He explains that there are 28 ASOIF full members and 5 associate member IFs as of now, and the aim of ASOIF Governance Project is to foster a culture of good governance and help ensure IFs are fit for purpose.

He reports that ASOIF Governance Project has methodology including 5 principles and 50 indicators, and mentions that WT is in Group A2 in the third review of IF Governance. He adds that WT has improved by 32 points since 2017-18, considerably higher than average improvement of 24.5 across all IFs. Through the third review, he learned that a good range of information is available with improvements in transparency, a safeguarding policy is being implemented and there is an anti-discrimination policy, finance rules and development guidelines revamped and term limits are in place.

He also notes that WT demonstrated best practices in terms of Transparency as a good range of institutional information is available on the website including financial statements, annual reports and disciplinary decisions. He adds that development information of WT Development Program is ideally published with eligibility for each program, and WT signed with ITA for Anti-Doping partnership in October, 2018 which helps WT improve governance practices. He commends that WT Finance Committee oversees budgeting and financial control processes, and audited accounts is in accordance with IFRS standards. He concludes his report by mentioning MNA survey 2020 which is part of WT's effort to enhance MNA's governance, and especially there was high turnout of MNAs participating in the survey.

The Chair thanks Mr. Francesco Ricci Bitti, and mentions that it is always a pleasure working closely with ASOIF in order to enhance the governance of WT.

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## **8. Other Matters.**

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The Chair informs the General Assembly that the Council yesterday decided to postpone the Grand Prix Final in Cancun and Grand Slam in Wuxi for the health and safety of the athletes, due to the ongoing pandemic. He adds that there will not be any more official WT events in 2020, except for the Online World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships.

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## **9. Next Meeting**

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The Chair announces that the next General Assembly will be held on the occasion of the WT Championships in Wuxi, China, and the tentative date of the General Assembly is October 10<sup>th</sup>. He notes that WT is discussing with the Wuxi government and organisers, and will confirm the dates officially in due time.

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## **10. Closing of Meeting**

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The Chair expresses his gratitude to General Assembly for engagement and confidence. He notes that this General Assembly marks the biggest attendance of MNAs with 137. He thanks all delegates for participating in this historic virtual General Assembly. He notes that this is currently the safest and most sustainable way to meet while he misses seeing all in person,

The Chair thanks all Council members and welcomes new Vice Presidents and a Member. He is still saddened by the loss of Gen. Fouly and the absence of members due to health reasons, and cannot emphasize enough the importance of health and safety. He mentions that WT is already a well-governed international federation, but with the collective decisions now and in the coming year, he truly believes that WT can aim for the skies and be even better.

Once again, he expresses his gratitude to all members for engagement and declares that General Assembly of World Taekwondo is adjourned.