



Minutes

88th World Taekwondo Extraordinary Council Meeting

May 9, 2025 | 10:00-18:00 (Local time in Fujairah, UAE)

Emirates Ballroom, Al Bahar Hotel | Fujairah, UAE

AGENDA

- 1. Establish Quorum, Conflicts Check, Call Meeting to Order**
- 2. President Report**
 - SG Report
- 3. Approval**
 - a. Minutes
 - A. Approval of the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting on September 30, 2024 in Chuncheon, Republic of Korea
 - b. Rules Changes
 - A. Amendment to WT Election Bylaws
 - B. Amendment to WT Disciplinary Actions and Appeals Code
 - C. Amendment to Virtual Taekwondo Rules and Regulations
 - D. Enactment to Regulations on the Virtual Taekwondo Match Operator
 - c. Membership Matters
 - A. Mexico
 - B. Costa Rica
- 4. Report**
 - a. Integrity
 - b. Final Report - Ad-hoc Competition Reform Committee
- 5. Progress Report**
 - a. Wuxi 2025 World Taekwondo Championships
- 6. Selection of the Host Cities**
 - a. 2025 World Taekwondo Women's Open Championships
 - b. 2025 World Taekwondo Under 21 Championships
 - c. 2026 World Taekwondo Grand Prix 1 & 2027 Grand Prix 1
 - d. 2026 World Taekwondo Women's Open Championships
 - e. 2027 World Taekwondo Grand Prix Final & Gala
 - f. 2026 World Taekwondo Grand Prix 2
 - g. 2027 World Taekwondo Grand Prix Challenge 3
 - h. 2026 World Taekwondo Grand Prix 3
 - i. 2027 World Taekwondo Grand Prix 2
 - j. 2027 World Taekwondo Grand Prix 3
 - k. 2026 World Taekwondo Grand Prix Final & Gala
 - l. 2026 World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships
 - m. 2026 World Taekwondo Junior Championships



n. 2027 World Taekwondo Cadet Championships

7. Other Matters

8. Next Council Meeting

9. Closing of Meeting

Appendix: Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting on September 30, 2024

1. Establish Quorum, Conflicts Check, Call Meeting to Order

1. The meeting was called to order by the **CHAIR** of the meeting. The **CHAIR** asked **Mr. Jeongkang Seo**, Secretary General, to announce the quorum.
2. **Mr. Jeongkang Seo** announced the attendance of twenty-five (25) Council members including the President, Secretary General and the Auditor on site and eight (8) participated online. With this attendance, the meeting fulfills the requirement for a quorum, as stipulated in Article 6.10 of the WT Statutes.

4 members absent without prior notice:

Ms. Aicha Garad Ali

Mr. Yangwoo Park

Ms. Nadin Dawani

Ms. Jamie Lee Carpenter

3. He also announced that no Council members have reported an undisclosed conflict of interest related to the agenda, and none were found.

2. President Report

4. The **CHAIR** expressed his sincere respects to His Holiness Pope Francis, highlighting World Taekwondo's meetings with him in 2016 and 2017 and acknowledging his support for the organization's humanitarian mission. The President noted that, as a result of this relationship, World Taekwondo became one of only two sports entities established in the Vatican in 2021.
5. He also honored the Grandmaster PARK Young-ghil, former Chair of the World Taekwondo Poomsae Committee, recognizing his significant contributions to the development and success of Poomsae. The Council was asked to rise to have moment of silence to pay tribute to them.
6. He expressed appreciation for those who traveled to Fujairah to support the World Taekwondo Cadet Championships, noting the participation of 810 athletes and 467 officials from 90 MNAs, AIN athletes, and the refugee team. And he remarked on the pleasant return to Fujairah, recalling the Council's previous official gathering in November 2018 during the Grand Prix Final, noting the symbolic good luck of the rain at the Gala Dinner.
7. The **CHAIR** noted that since the last meeting in Chuncheon, some members had gathered again at the World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships in Hong Kong. He highlighted the promising potential of freestyle Poomsae observed in Hong Kong and emphasized the strong appeal of the World Taekwondo Grand Slam and World Cup Team Championships in Wuxi for possible inclusion of mixed-team medal event in the 2032 Olympic Games.
8. The Chair extended a warm welcome to two newly appointed Council members: Ms. Felicite Rwemarikwa, an IOC Member and Board Member of the Olympic Refugee Foundation from Rwanda, and Mr. Shaddad Alamri from Saudi Arabia. He highlighted that their appointments were made in recognition of the valuable expertise they bring to World Taekwondo and invited both members to deliver brief remarks.

9. He expressed sincere gratitude to Ms. Rwemarika for her generous hospitality during his recent visit to Rwanda. He shared his appreciation for the opportunity to visit the Mahama refugee camp alongside her and conveyed his deep admiration for her inspiring work supporting refugees and displaced persons.
10. The **CHAIR** extended congratulations to several individuals following recent elections. Mr. Sakis Pragalos was congratulated on his re-election as President of the European Taekwondo Union, recognizing his continued leadership. Congratulations were also extended to Mr. Angelo Cito, Ms. Anna Vassallo, and Mr. Metin Sahin on their elections as ETU Vice Presidents, and to Mr. Anatoly Terekhov for his appointment as an ETU Vice President. Additionally, the Chair congratulated Mr. Issaka Ide on his re-election as President of the African Taekwondo Union.
11. He congratulated Treasurer Mr. Pimol Srivikorn on his election as President of the National Olympic Committee of Thailand, the first civilian to hold the position. He also congratulated Mr. Mohamed Mostafa Ali El-Said, President of the Egyptian Taekwondo Federation and Mr. Azizul Annuar Adenan, President of Taekwondo Malaysia on their elections as First Vice Presidents of their respective National Olympic Committees, highlighting that the increasing presence of MNA officials in NOCs reflects the growing status of Taekwondo.
12. The **CHAIR** congratulated Ms. Dunya Ali Abutaleb of Saudi Arabia on receiving the IOC's Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Award for Asia, highlighting her historic Olympic qualification as an inspiration for women and girls globally. He also emphasized the importance of promoting greater female participation through Taekwondo.
13. He stressed that Refugee athlete Ms. Zakia Khudadadi was recognized by the IPC with the International Women's Day Award for winning bronze at Paris 2024, becoming the first refugee medalist and an inspiration to displaced people worldwide and congratulated Ms. Viviana Marton was awarded the Summer Piotr Nurowski Prize at the 54th European Olympic Committee General Assembly for exemplifying Olympic values and excellence in sport, with expectations for continued success ahead.
14. The **CHAIR** attended the 3rd Hope and Dreams Sports Festival in Jordan and acknowledged the presence of Council members H.H Sheikha Jameela, Mr. Driss Hilali, Prof. Jinbang Yang, Mr. Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, and Mr. Shaddad Alamri. Special appreciation was extended to Mr. Maher Magableh for his dedicated efforts in founding the first Taekwondo Championships for refugees in 2022, which led to the establishment of the Sports Festival. Now in its third edition, the festival includes five additional Olympic sports (Baseball, Badminton Basketball, Handball, and Weightlifting) and continues to impact youth in the Azraq and Za'atari camps.
15. He requested playing the highlight video of 3rd Hope and Dreams Sports Festival in Amman and visit to the Mahama camp in Rwanda.

** Video played*
16. The **CHAIR** mentioned that THF will celebrate its 10th anniversary in 2026, expecting participation from at least 10 sports, including Judo, Wrestling, Table Tennis, and possibly Volleyball, and encouraged Council support for refugee youth.
17. He noted FISU President Leonz Eder's attendance at the Hope and Dreams Sports Festival and discussing about supporting refugees through online education for countries like Jordan



and Rwanda.

18. He also noted Taekwondo's strong presence at the university level, with mixed team added at the 2025 FISU Games and Para Taekwondo joining in 2027, increasing medal events to 38, which is the third most after Athletics and Swimming.
19. The **CHAIR** highlighted the IOC's key role in the future of World Taekwondo. He will visit the LA28 Organizing Committee after the Grand Prix Challenge Series in mid of June to discuss Taekwondo's presentation at the Games. He also noted IOC President Thomas Bach's strong support and mentioned his upcoming meeting with President Bach in Lausanne and attendance at the June 23 handover ceremony.
20. The **CHAIR** shared that the THF Board unanimously decided to award the Taekwondo Humanitarian Trophy to IOC President Thomas Bach, and he has been invited to the World Championships in Wuxi for the presentation of the award. He also noted the election of Mrs. Kirsty Coventry of Zimbabwe as the new IOC President and expressed his intention to build a strong relationship with her and her team, starting with a meeting scheduled for early June.
21. He concluded his report and handed over to **Mr. Jeongkang Seo**, Secretary General to report.
22. **Mr. Jeongkang Seo** reported the Finance and Development Report ahead of the full presentation scheduled for October 22 in Wuxi. WT's total assets as of the 2024 audit were USD 21.8 million. Current assets fully cover liabilities, reflecting strong financial health. The projected revenue for 2025 is USD 16.6 million, with a balanced budget.
23. For development, WT allocated nearly USD 2 million to support its stakeholders, including support for CUs (USD 726,000), MNAs (USD 270,000), THF (USD 200,000), and Taekwondo Cares (USD 105,000). Over USD 600,000 was raised from external partners, including the IOC Solidarity Program, and is expected to grow.
24. **Mr. Jeongkang Seo** also reported that an electronic vote was conducted among Council Members from March 12 to 18 regarding proposed amendments to the WT Statutes, Finance Rules, World Taekwondo World Team Ranking Bylaw, World Taekwondo Standing Procedures for Grand Prix, World Taekwondo Standing Procedures for Grand Slam Champions Series, World Para Taekwondo Ranking Bylaw, Disciplinary Actions and Appeals Code, and Regulations on the Administration of International Poomsae Referees. All amendments were approved. He further noted that a subsequent General Assembly e-vote on the amendment of the WT Statutes was held from March 20 to April 2, and the proposal was unanimously approved without objection. He concluded by thanking Council Members for their active participation in decision-making process.

3. Approval

- A. *Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting on September 30, 2024 in Chuncheon, Korea.*
25. **The CHAIR** requested the Council to approve the minutes, noting that the minutes had been distributed for review and no requests for amendments were made.
26. The motion was seconded by the **Council**, indicating the official approval of the minutes.



- **Decision: Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting on September 30, 2024 in Chuncheon, Korea are approved by the Council.**

B. Rule Changes

a. Amendment to WT Election Bylaws

27. The **CHAIR** asked **Mr. Corbin Min**, Deputy Secretary General of Membership & Integrity Department, to present the WT Election Bylaws.
28. **Mr. Corbin Min** provided an overview of the updated 2025 WT Election Bylaws. The changes aim to strengthen transparency and integrity throughout the campaign process.
29. Expanded Definition of Candidates: Individuals are now considered candidates from the moment they express intent or begin campaigning, not just upon formal declaration. The campaign period officially begins on May 19, when rules are published on the WT website.
30. Federation Neutrality: Continental and national federations must remain neutral and are prohibited from publicly endorsing any candidate. Private individuals may express support within limits.
31. Campaign Spending Rules: Travel or activities tied to official duties are not counted as campaign expenditures, but campaign-related costs must follow new disclosure requirements. Signature and declaration requirements have been clarified, including the obligation to report any past sanctions or criminal records.
32. Review and Enforcement: A subcommittee (WT Juridical & Integrity Committee) will review problems with the applications and alleged violations. Minor technical errors can be corrected, but major issues or rule violations may lead to disqualification. Sanctions range from private warnings to removal and referral for further sanctions.
33. Mandatory Education: All candidates must complete two courses—one PMC (Prevention of Manipulation of Competitions) course that WT launched last year in cooperation with the IOC and one confirming understanding of campaign rules and bylaws—prior to the application deadline. Access is provided via the GMS platform.
34. Transparency Measures: FAQs, Procedure and related documents will be published on the WT website to ensure equal access to information.
35. He concluded his presentation.
36. There were no questions or objections to the proposals and the **CHAIR** requested the Council to approve the proposed amendment to WT Election Bylaws. It was seconded and approved by the Council.

- **Decision: Amendment to WT Election Bylaws is approved by the Council**

b. Amendment to WT Disciplinary Actions and Appeals Code

37. **Mr. Corbin Min** stated that the organization has been expanding its scope especially in safeguarding and reporting systems. With the launch of an online platform and additional reporting channels, the number of reports has significantly increased. As a result, the

administrative workload has grown, and procedural adjustments are needed to manage the volume more effectively.

38. New amendments are to clarify that WT disciplinary proceedings are not designed as or intended to be international arbitration standards compliant, but rather part of the organization's internal governance structure. For instance, WT does not enforce or interpret national laws, the UN Charter, or the IOC Charter, and remains legally neutral.
39. To reduce the financial burden on members, WT provides free preliminary consultations and support wherever possible. For large or complex cases, optional procedures such as hearings or on-site investigations may be introduced when necessary. In such cases, costs and processes will be clearly communicated in advance, and decisions will be made collectively by relevant committees or bodies within the organization.
40. There were no questions or objections to the proposals and the **CHAIR** requested the Council to approve the proposed amendment to Amendment to WT Disciplinary Actions and Appeals Code. It approved by the Council.

- **Decision: Amendment to WT Disciplinary Actions and Appeals Code is approved by the Council**

c. Amendment to Virtual Taekwondo Rules and Regulations

The **CHAIR** asked **Mr. Jay Lee**, Deputy Secretary General of Marketing & Broadcasting Department to present the *Virtual Taekwondo Rules and Regulations*.

41. **Mr. Jay Lee** reported the major changes on the Virtual Taekwondo Rules and Regulations as following; Order to in line with Kyorugi and Poomsae, the age category term has been standardized such as "U-14", "U-35", and "Over 35". For Uniforms, WT may mandate Virtual Taekwondo Specific Uniforms with certain functions, Each official's role has been redefined specifically for referee and strengthen role of match operator. The inaugural match operator certification course will be held in Rome, Italy from May 31 to June 2 so WT plans to have two additional courses in this year, 2nd one at Taekwondowon, Korea from July 9 to 11 and 3rd one at Mexico in August. Experience from 1st WT VTKD championships in last year, WT felt that we need to put technical interruption clause in the rule. If disconnection occurs within 20s into round, then restart and after 20s referee may declare winner based on health bar and WT have removed three gam-jeom disqualification rule and instead we added category for disqualification as followings equipment tampering, VR manipulation, spectator altercations, and property damage & bribery.
42. There was no further objection and the **CHAIR** requested the Council to approve the proposed amendment to Amendment to Virtual Taekwondo Rules and Regulations. It approved by the Council.

- **Decision: Amendment to Virtual Taekwondo Rules and Regulations is approved by the Council**

d. Enactment to Regulations on the Virtual Taekwondo Match Operator

43. **Mr. Jay Lee** emphasized that doing just distribution of VTKD system is not making globalization of VTKD. To achieve globalization of VTKD, WT need to produce many VTKD match operators



in worldwide who know how to use the system and able to organize events. He proposed the development of a dedicated regulation to govern VTKD match operators. This regulation would be similar in scope and function to the rules for International Referees (IR) and Technical Delegates (TD).

44. There was no further objection and the **CHAIR** requested the Council to approve the proposed amendment to Enactment to Regulations on the Virtual Taekwondo Match Operator. It approved by the Council.

- ***Decision: Enactment to Regulations on the Virtual Taekwondo Match Operator is approved by the Council***

C. *Membership Matters*

45. The **CHAIR** asked **Mr. Corbin Min**, Deputy Secretary General of Membership & Integrity Department, to reporting Mexico and Costa Rica status.
46. **Mr. Corbin Min** noted that while MNA governance issues have arisen several times in the past, they were generally resolved through mutual dialogue and cooperation, referencing the case of Portugal as an example. However, the current cases have proven significantly more difficult to resolve through mutual agreement.
47. For both cases to be considered today, upon receiving multiple reports from different sources, WT initiated a due diligence review and systemic investigation process. These uncovered several critical issues impeding the sport's development. From WT's perspective, even when asked for information needed to understand the issues, the MNAs have tended to respond in with adversarial and/or polite but non-cooperative tactics.
48. Due to the severity and urgency of the situation and the lack of progress in finding a cooperative way forward, WT found it necessary to take emergency measures under the President's powers as outlined in the relevant statutes article 7.2.1.5.

a. *Mexico*

49. **Mr. Corbin** reported that WT received reports from multiple sources including PATU as well as local stakeholders that in March 2024, the term of Mexican Taekwondo Federation's board expired but, nonetheless, the MNA conducted two elections in July and August. It was reported that, in addition to the expired mandate, these elections did not follow the required legal and procedural validation. In particular, it was reported that these elections were formally challenged by the Mexican National Sports Authority (CONADE), which oversees federation elections in the country. In particular, PATU deemed the elections to be non-compliant with WT standards and were under dispute at the national level. Under the WT Statutes effective at the time of the elections, Continental Unions (CUs) were tasked with monitoring MNA elections and ensuring that they were held in compliance with the MNA. Thus, WT gave these reports considerable weight.
50. WT appointed an investigator to assess the situation, Mr. Prince Nwafuru, an attorney from Nigeria who is also a member of the Juridical Committee, to issue a report on the situation. The investigator received submissions from both PATU and FMTKD and conducted follow-up Q&A with both sides to understand the situation. The report ultimately concluded that the elections could not be recognized. This left no legitimate or WT-recognized

leadership within Mexican Taekwondo Federation. The report was presented to the WT MRD Commission, and after this, the MNA was given the opportunity to challenge the report based on any material errors. The MNA submitted a reply which was submitted to the WT Juridical Committee, but no cause to overturn the reports finding was found. It was recommended to give the MNA the opportunity to voluntarily undertake new elections under oversight of a multi-stakeholder interim board, but with full measures ready under the Statutes ready should they be needed.

51. Because of the above, WT invoked emergency powers under the President's authority and an Interim Board was called using Statutes article 8.6 as a guideline. However, the MNA has not been suspended and this board is not intended to replace the federation but to work collaboratively with the MNA to oversee the process of organizing new elections under WT-approved statutes and electoral procedures together with the Mexico NOC and Sports Ministry to help restore trust across all levels of Mexico's membership.

b. Costa Rica

52. **Mr. Corbin Min** reported that allegation of multiple forms of misconduct within the Costa Rica Federation surfaced through various media outlets and social media platforms as well as through private reports. These concerns prompted WT to launch an investigation.
53. The investigation uncovered multiple instances that suggested potential violations of integrity standards. Similar concerns had previously been observed and reported to the IOC, which reached out to WT as they centered round our MNA. When it was found that one former coach had been incarcerated for Safeguarding violations and another had fled the country apparently in order to avoid arrest. This development led the organization to initiate a more comprehensive inquiry.
54. Beginning in January, a full investigation team was established, comprising 2 investigators from PanAm and Europe, along with 2 members of the WT juridical committee. Thus far, the team had examined approximately 30 separate formal complaints.
55. The outcome of this process was a preliminary report indicating credible evidence of wrongdoing. When efforts were made to engage with the MNA (interactions largely included responses from legal representatives, which made the candor of the responses difficult to assess). Also, there have been allegations of pressure put on potential witnesses, and concerns that practices like team selections were being used selectively against suspected witnesses.
56. Following concerns raised that the MNA leadership may be using its position to influence witnesses, to help the investigation continue effectively, the WT formed an interim body. This body is intended to facilitate the continuation of the inquiry.
57. These actions were taken in accordance with Articles 6 and 7 of the WT's Statutes and mirrored the protocol adopted in the case of Mexico.
58. He concluded his presentation, and the **CHAIR** opened the floor for any questions or comments.

59. **Mr. Mohamed Shaaban** questioned regarding the definition and interpretation of "material error" within the context of the presentation for Mexico.
60. **Mr. Corbin Min** explained that the investigation report had examined the report and FMTKD's reply and found insufficient justification provided by FMTKD to overturn the findings of the report. The report had been shared with the Mexico Taekwondo Federation for review and an opportunity to find material error. The Federation's response, along with the report, was then submitted to the Juridical Committee, which did not agree with FMTKD's arguments.
61. There was no further questions, and the **CHAIR** requested the Council to approve the recommendations of the MRD Commission. It approved by the Council.
- ***Decision: The Recommendations of the MRD Commission regarding Costa Rica and Mexico were approved by the Council.***

4. Report

a. Integrity

62. The **CHAIR** gave the floor to **Mr. Corbin Min** to present the reports on Integrity for 2025 Election Procedure.
63. **Mr. Corbin Min** provided an overview of 2025 Election Procedure. The official start date is on May 19, when election-related documents including the related bylaws and candidate applications will be published, with the candidate registration deadline is on July 25 and the announcement of candidate i by August 24. Positions open for election include one (1) President, three (3) Vice Presidents (directly elected; a forth, the female Council Member with the most votes, will also be elevated to Vice President), fourteen (14) Council Members, and one (1) Auditor.
64. Gender and regional balance rules will apply as per the Statutes. Council Member representation must include one male and one female from each Continental Union. The remaining seats will be allocated based on overall vote count. Age eligibility was reiterated. Council Member candidates must be under 70 years old on the election date. However, individuals who were incumbent as WT officials as of the 2021 election are eligible if they are under 80 years old on the day of election.
65. Candidates must be nominated by MNA, which must be Level I. The application process will be conducted through a designated online form. Candidates are to submit all necessary documents, a vision statement, and an optional promotional video, which will be published on the official election website.
66. A new integrity pledge has been introduced, requiring candidates to commit to fair campaigning, compliance with the rules, and disclosure of any sanctions or convictions. Financial reporting is also required, including a preliminary budget (October 16) and a final post-election expense report (21 days after election). All related materials, including FAQs will be provided on WT website.



67. The **CHAIR** thanked **Mr. Corbin Min** for presentation.

b. Final Report – Ad-hoc Competition Reform Committee

68. The **CHAIR** invited **Mr. Jay Warwick**, Chair of the Ad-hoc Competition Reform Committee to present the final report of the Ad-hoc Competition Reform Committee.

69. **Mr. Jay Warwick** explained that the Ad-hoc Competition Reform Committee has identified the sport's complexity which makes it difficult for general spectators to intuitively understand as a key issue. To address this, the committee has introduced a reform initiative aimed at making the rules more concise and clear, thereby enhancing spectator engagement and positioning Taekwondo as a more media- and fan-friendly sport.

70. The committee, composed of Taekwondo experts, conducted extensive consultations and collected over 260 survey responses from the wider WT community. Based on these insights and further deliberations, the committee proposed the following seven core improvement areas: Simplify Competition Rules, Refine Valid Points System, Refine Gam-jeom Penalties, Implement Countdown Clock for Passive Play, Improve Protector and Scoring System, Enhance Instant Video Replay and Modernize Scoreboard Display.

71. He emphasized that this reform reflects a strategic effort to modernize Taekwondo while preserving its core identity as both a martial art and an Olympic sport and the Ad-hoc Competition Reform Committee aims for these reforms to retain the essence of Taekwondo while improving its competitiveness as a modern sport.

72. **Mr. Jay Warwick** outlined the transition to the next phase of the competition reform process. He requested the Council's approval to proceed with a testing phase from June to mid-September 2025. With the launch of this phase, the Ad-Hoc Competition Reform Committee will be formally dissolved, and responsibility will be transferred to the WT Technical Commission.

73. The Technical Commission will oversee: Testing and evaluating the proposed rule changes, collecting relevant feedback and Analyzing results for further refinement. Following the testing period, the Technical Commission will draft a final version of the revised rules and present them to the WT Council for approval and ratification. He emphasized that the seven reform initiatives remain proposals and will undergo live testing during this summer's events. The process remains dynamic, with close collaboration between the Technical Commission and the Referee Committee to ensure practical implementation and stakeholder feedback integration.

74. The **CHAIR** thanked **Mr. Jay Warwick** for the thorough report and opened the floor for any questions or comments.

75. **Mr. Jean-Marie Ayer** questioned whether differences in the initialization and operation process of PSS systems could cause issues.

76. **Mr. Mohamed Shaaban** stated that the PSS Committee and technical experts are aware of the operational differences. He explained that efforts are underway to standardize the systems and ensure consistency across all platforms, with the goal of establishing unified technical regulations within this year.

5. Progress Report



a. Wuxi 2025 World Taekwondo Championships

77. The **CHAIR** asked **Ms. Diana Ding**, Vice Chair of World Taekwondo Wuxi Center to present the progress report for Wuxi 2025 World Taekwondo Championships.
78. **Ms. Diana Ding** explained that the event aims to bring together over 2,000 elite athletes from more than 200 member associations, positioning Taekwondo as a globally recognized and innovative sport. The championship is scheduled to take place from October 24 to 30, 2025, with major official meetings including the WT Council Meeting on October 22 and the General Assembly on October 23.
79. She outlined that the preparation process is divided into four key stages, with current efforts focused on visa processing, promotional activities, sponsorship development, and venue readiness. The main competition venue will be the Wuxi Taihu International Expo Center, a modern and fully equipped facility. Accommodation and transportation support will be provided to participating countries, with an online visa application.

6. Selection of the Host Cities

a. 2025 World Taekwondo Women's Open Championships

80. **Mr. Jeongkang Seo** noted that there is only one candidate city which is the city of *Malabo, Equatorial Guinea*. He invited Mr. Mamadou Camara NDIAYE **Mr. Rafael Enema Enga Obono**, President of the *Equatorial Guinea* Taekwondo Federation to make the presentation.
81. **Mr. Rafael Enema Enga Obono** delivered a presentation regarding the event for which bids had been submitted.
82. The **CHAIR** thanked **Mr. Rafael Enema Enga Obono** for the presentation and since there is only one candidate city, the **CHAIR** asked the Council members to confirm Malabo as the host city of the 2025.
83. The **Council members** seconded the motion.

- Decision: The host city of the 2025 World Taekwondo Women's Open Championships is awarded to Malabo, Equatorial Guinea.

b. 2025 World Taekwondo Under 21 Championships

84. **Mr. Jeongkang Seo** noted that there is only one candidate city which is the city of *Nairobi, Kenya*. He invited **Mr. Suleiman Kanyanya SUMBA**, President of Kenya Taekwondo Federation to make the presentation.
85. **Mr. Suleiman Kanyanya SUMBA** delivered a presentation regarding the event for which bids had been submitted.
86. The **CHAIR** thanked **Mr. Suleiman Kanyanya SUMBA** for the presentation and since there is only one candidate city, the **CHAIR** asked the Council members to confirm Nairobi as the host city of the 2025.



87. The **Council members** seconded the motion

- Decision: The host city of the 2025 World Taekwondo Under 21 Championships is awarded to Nairobi, Kenya.

c. 2026 World Taekwondo Grand Prix 1 & 2027 Grand Prix 1

88. **Mr. Jeongkang Seo** noted that there is only one candidate city which is the city of *Rome, Italy*. He invited **Mr. Matteo Cito**, Head of International Relations of FITA to make the presentation.

89. **Mr. Matteo Cito** delivered a presentation regarding the events for which bids had been submitted.

90. The **CHAIR** thanked **Mr. Matteo Cito** for the presentation and since there is only one candidate city, the **CHAIR** asked the Council members to confirm Rome as the host city of the 2026 World Taekwondo Prix 1 & 2027 Grand Prix 1.

91. The **Council members** seconded the motion.

- Decision: The host city of the 2026 World Taekwondo Prix 1 & 2027 Grand Prix 1 is awarded to Rome, Italy.

d. 2026 World Taekwondo Women's Open Championships

92. **Mr. Jeongkang Seo** noted that there is only one candidate city which is the city of *Taiyuan, People's Republic of China*. He invited **Mr. Liang Yin**, Head Manager of the *External Affairs Department, Chinese Taekwondo Association* to make the presentation.

93. **Mr. Liang Yin** delivered a presentation regarding the event for which bids had been submitted.

94. The **CHAIR** thanked **Mr. Liang Yin** for the presentation and since there is only one candidate city, the **CHAIR** asked the Council members to confirm Taiyuan as the host city of the 2026 World Taekwondo Women's Open Championships.

95. The **Council members** seconded the motion.

- Decision: The host city of the 2026 World Taekwondo Women's Open Championships is awarded to Taiyuan, People's Republic of China.

e. 2027 World Taekwondo Grand Prix Final & Gala

96. **Mr. Jeongkang Seo** noted that there is only one candidate city which is the city of *Tai'an, People's Republic of China*. He invited **Mr. Liang Yin**, Head Manager of the *External Affairs Department, Chinese Taekwondo Association* to make the presentation.

97. **Mr. Liang Yin** delivered a presentation regarding the event for which bids had been submitted.

98. The **CHAIR** thanked **Mr. Liang Yin** for the presentation and since there is only one candidate city, the **CHAIR** asked the Council members to confirm Taian as the host city of the 2027 World Taekwondo Grand Prix Final & Gala.

99. The **Council members** seconded the motion.



- Decision: The host city of the 2027 World Taekwondo Grand Prix Final & Gala is awarded to Tai'an, People's Republic of China.

f. 2026 World Taekwondo Grand Prix 2 & 2027 World Taekwondo Grand Prix Challenge 3

100. **Mr. Jeongkang Seo** noted that there is only one candidate city which is the city of *Muju, Republic of Korea*. He invited **Mr. Jeongil CHOE**, Deputy Mayor of Muju County to make the presentation.
101. **Mr. Jeongil CHOE** delivered a presentation regarding the events for which bids had been submitted.
102. The **CHAIR** thanked **Mr. Jeongil CHOE** for the presentation and since there is only one candidate city, the **CHAIR** asked the Council members to confirm Muju as the host city of the 2026 World Taekwondo Grand Prix 2 & 2027 World Taekwondo Grand Prix Challenge 3.
103. The **Council members** seconded the motion.

- Decision: The host city of the 2026 World Taekwondo Grand Prix 2 & 2027 World Taekwondo Grand Prix Challenge 3 are awarded to Muju, Republic of Korea.

g. 2026 World Taekwondo Grand Prix 3 & 2027 World Taekwondo Grand Prix 2

104. **Mr. Jeongkang Seo** noted that there is only one candidate city which is the city of *Paris, France*. He invited **Mr. Serge Sembona, WT International Referee from France** to make the presentation.
105. **Mr. Serge Sembona** delivered a presentation regarding the events for which bids had been submitted.
106. The **CHAIR** thanked **Mr. Serge Sembona** for the presentation and since there is only one candidate city, the **CHAIR** asked the Council members to confirm Paris as the host city of the 2026 World Taekwondo Grand Prix 3 & 2027 World Taekwondo Grand Prix 2.
107. The **Council members** seconded the motion.

- Decision: The host city of the 2026 World Taekwondo Grand Prix 3 & 2027 World Taekwondo Grand Prix 2 are awarded to Paris, France.

h. 2027 World Taekwondo Grand Prix 3

108. **Mr. Jeongkang Seo** noted that there is only one candidate city which is the city of *Manchester, Great Britain*. He invited **Mr. Ian Leafe**, CEO of British Taekwondo, **Mr. Matt Marshall**, Head of Event of British Taekwondo and **Mr. Yarv Abbas**, Deputy CEO of Manchester Active to make the presentation.
109. They delivered a presentation regarding the event for which bids had been submitted.
110. The **CHAIR** thanked them for the presentation and since there is only one candidate city, the **CHAIR** asked the Council members to confirm Manchester as the host city of the 2027 World Taekwondo Grand Prix 3.



111. The **Council members** seconded the motion.

- Decision: The host city of the 2027 World Taekwondo Grand Prix 3 is awarded to Manchester, Great Britain.

k. 2026 World Taekwondo Grand Prix Final & Gala

112. **Mr. Jeongkang Seo** noted that there is only one candidate city which is the city of *Astana, Kazakhstan*. He invited **Mr. Rassul Abdullayev**, Vice-President for Development of Kazakhstan Taekwondo WT Federation to make the presentation.

113. **Mr. Rassul Abdullayev** delivered a presentation regarding the event for which bids had been submitted.

114. The **CHAIR** thanked them for the presentation and since there is only one candidate city, the **CHAIR** asked the Council members to confirm Astana as the host city of the 2026 World Taekwondo Grand Prix Final & Gala.

115. The **Council members** seconded the motion.

- Decision: The host city of the 2026 World Taekwondo Grand Prix Final & Gala is awarded to Astana, Kazakhstan.

l. 2026 World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships

116. **Mr. Jeongkang Seo** mentioned that there are two cities bidding for the 2026 World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships: *Chuncheon, (Republic of Korea), Hochiminh (Vietnam)*, and only one city will be selected.

117. For the presentation for the 2026 World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships, he invited **Mr. Sangmin LEE**, Deputy Chairperson of Chuncheon Leisure · Taekwondo Organizing Committee and **Mr. Truong Ngoc De**, President of Vietnam Taekwondo Federation separately to make the presentation.

118. They delivered a presentation regarding the event for which bids had been submitted.

119. The **CHAIR** thanked them for the presentation.

m. 2026 World Taekwondo Junior Championships

120. **Mr. Jeongkang Seo** mentioned that there are two cities bidding for the 2026 World Taekwondo Junior Championships: *Chongqing (People's Republic of China), Tashkent (Uzbekistan)*, and only one city will be selected.

121. For the presentation for the 2026 World Taekwondo Junior Championships, he invited **Mr. Liang YIN**, Head Manager of External Affairs Department, Chinese Taekwondo Association and **Mr. Doniyor Safarov**, delegate from Uzbekistan separately to make the presentation.

122. They delivered a presentation regarding the event for which bids had been submitted.

123. The **CHAIR** thanked them for the presentation.

n. 2027 World Taekwondo Cadet Championships



124. **Mr. Jeongkang Seo** mentioned that there are two cities bidding for the 2027 World Taekwondo Cadet Championships: *Athens, (Greece), Maharashtra (India)*, and only one city will be selected.
125. For the presentation for the 2027 World Taekwondo Cadet Championships, he invited **Ms. Effie Zikouli**, delegate from Greece and **Mr. Namdev Shirgaonkar**, President of India Taekwondo separately to make the presentation.
126. They delivered a presentation regarding the event for which bids had been submitted.
127. The **CHAIR** thanked them for the presentation.
128. Since this meeting is conducted in a hybrid format, the voting process was conducted through online voting via the Zoom platform for online participants. For attendees present on-site, WT has distributed a ballot paper for them who only have a voting right. All votes are completely confidential and anonymous.
129. The voting was conducted.
130. The voting result for the **2026 World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships** (*Total eligible votes: 24 / Total casted votes: 24*)
- Chuncheon, Republic of Korea: 17 votes**
- Hochiminh, Vietnam: 5 votes*
- Abstentions: 2 votes*
131. The voting result for the **2026 World Taekwondo Junior Championships** (*Total eligible votes: 27 / Total casted votes: 26*)
- Chongqing, People's Republic of China: 6 votes
- Tashkent, Uzbekistan: 20 votes**
- Abstentions: 0
132. The voting result for the **2027 World Taekwondo Cadet Championships** (*Total eligible votes: 27 / Total casted votes: 27*)
- Athens, Greece: 21 votes**
- Maharashtra, India: 6 votes
- Abstentions: 0
133. The **CHAIR** expressed gratitude and congratulations to the selected host cities and anticipated the best events to come in each of the cities. He announced the event name and its host city as follows; **2026 World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships (Chuncheon, Republic of Korea) 2026 World Taekwondo Junior Championships (Tashkent, Uzbekistan) 2027 World Taekwondo Cadet Championships (Athens, Greece)**

7. Other Matters



134. The **CHAIR** announced that WT Vice President **Mr. Kyu Seok Lee** will retire from his position as President of the Asian Taekwondo Union at the ATU General Assembly to be held in Kuching, Malaysia on July 24, 2025. Accordingly, this Council Meeting marks his final meeting as Vice President of World Taekwondo.
135. In recognition of his lifelong dedication and service to the Taekwondo movement, the **CHAIR** declared the appointment of Mr. Lee as WT Honorary Vice President in accordance with Article 6.17 of the Statutes. The Council expressed their appreciation with a round of applause for Mr. Lee's contributions over the years.

8. Next Council Meeting

136. The **CHAIR** noted that the next Council Meeting will be held in Wuxi, People's Republic of China on October 22 on the occasion of the World Taekwondo Championships.

9. Closing of Meeting

137. The **CHAIR** adjourned the Council Meeting by expressing his gratitude to the Council for the productive meeting.