

# **Minutes**

## WT General Assembly

14h00-18h00 GMT+3 | August 1, 2022 (Local time in Bulgaria)

Grand Hotel Millennium Sofia in Sofia, Bulgaria

## AGENDA

- 1. Establish Quorum: Call Meeting to Order
- 2. President Report

## 3. Approval of the Minutes

a. Approval of the Minutes of the General Assembly held via Video Conference on October 11, 2021

### 4. 2021-2022 Reports

- a. Approval of Operation Report
- b. Approval of Finance Report
  - i. Treasurer's Report on 2021 Financial Statement
  - ii. Auditor's Report on 2021 Accounts

## 5. E-Vote Result

- a. Amendment
  - i. WT Competition Rules & Interpretation

## 6. Reports

- a. MNA and CU Commitments
- b. MNA Survey
- c. GMS Report
- d. Virtual Taekwondo
- e. THF
- f. Cooperation with Kukkiwon
- 7. Other Matters
- 8. Hall of Fame 2022 Award Ceremony
- 9. Next Meeting
- 10. Closing of Meeting

Appendix 1: Minutes of the General Assembly held via Video Conference on October 11, 2021

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

- The meeting was called to order by the CHAIR of the Meeting, Dr. Chungwon Choue, World Taekwondo ("WT") President.
- 2. The **CHAIR** welcomed all participants for joining 2022 General Assembly either physically or via by zoom.
- 3. He asked **Mr. Jeongkang Seo**, Director General, to announce the quorum.
- 4. Mr. Jeongkang Seo announced that hundred (100) Member National Associations ("MNA" including 78 voting MNAs, and 22 non-voting MNAs), 50 MNAs on-site and 50 MNAs online, 25 Council Members and 1 Auditor were present, thereby a quorum was established in accordance with Article 8.6 of the WT Statutes.
- 5. He added that simultaneous translations for the General Assembly was available from English to French, Spanish, Korean and Arabic for participants using headsets and also for the zoom participants.
- 6. The CHAIR acknowledged the contributions of Mr. Slavi Binev, President of the Bulgarian Taekwondo Federation, on organizing not just the biggest ever World Taekwondo Cadet Championships but also the World Junior Championships and the various meetings including this General Assembly.
- 7. He awarded the Appreciation Plaque to **Mr. Slavi Binev.**

#### 2. President Report

- 8. The CHAIR welcomed all the MNA delegates and Council Members.
- 9. He expressed gratitude on the reunion in person after 3 years due to the prolonged pandemic.
- *10.* He also congratulated 16 presidents who were elected or re-elected to their Member National Associations, and the countries who won medals at the World Cadet Championships which were completed on the previous day.
- 11. He mentioned that Georgia won first ever medal in any WT promoted championships. He noted that Greece, Cote d'Ivoire, and Israel won their first ever medal at Cadet level. He added that Azerbaijan won first gold medal in history and India won their first silver medal. He congratulated all these countries.
- *12.* He noted that Ukraine won a lot of bronze medals, and also emphasized that WT made a right decision to protect the athletes and stood united with the Olympics and Paralympic movements.
- 13. He highlighted that the motto of WT is "peace is more precious than triumph". He hoped that the situation would improve so that WT would be able to invite all athletes and officials in one united World Taekwondo family.
- 14. He reported that the membership is now expanded to 212 member nations registering Vatican and Maldives, and Taekwondo is only one of three sports to be officially recognized by Vatican City.
- *15.* He expressed gratitude for the efforts and hard works of **Mr. Issaka Ide,** WT Vice President, who is working tirelessly to bring Eritrea and Namibia as another member.
- 16. He reported that the Council met in the Olympic House in Lausanne in the presence of the IOC

President **Thomas Bach** on May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022. He said that IOC President gave a glowing assessment of Virtual Taekwondo which World Taekwondo is encouraged to share its experience with other international federations.

- 17. He also reported that IOC President expressed strong expectation on Virtual Taekwondo in the Olympic Virtual Series, which is applied by WT. President Bach also remarked the contribution of WT to Olympic Agenda 2020+50; digital engagement, humanitarian, and social development efforts. He noted that IOC Vice President **Ser Miang Ng** was at the WT Council Meeting to congratulate the WT's achievements.
- *18.* He reported that Baku was chosen as the host city of the 2023 World Taekwondo Championships, and congratulated to President of Azerbaijan Taekwondo Federation, **Kamaladdin Heydarov.**
- *19.* He remarked that the year of 2023 would mark the 50<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary of World Taekwondo, and it is expected to be a year of festivities.
- *20.* He noted that ASOIF announced the results of its fourth governance review about one and a half months ago, and WT again achieved the A2 rank which is a great result, and thanked all who made efforts to make this happened.
- 21. He asked MNAs' continuous supports for significant progress to achieve A1 for the next assessment as it is getting harder to maintain A2 and to reach A1. He stressed that WT needs to make significant progress.
- 22. He congratulated that Natsiraishe Martisa from Zimbabwe for winning the 2021 IOC Women and Sport Award for Africa. He mentioned that Natsiraishe Martisa is a perfect example of how WT can use Taekwondo to promote peace and develop goodwill citizens. He promised to support Natsiraishe Martisa and encouraged MNAs to promote passionate people or organizations.
- 23. He addressed that WT is the pioneer IF when it comes to humanitarian and social development activities. He also noted that Taekwondo has second-the greatest number of Olympic Refugee Solidarity Scholarship holders for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.
- 24. He congratulated to all seven scholarship holders, including Wael who is the only one living in a refugee camp, and each of them has an inspiring story to tell. He noted that WT is discussing with the IOC and the Olympic Refuge Foundation to include more athletes from Taekwondo.
- 25. He continued that WT is discussing with the IOC on support for athletes in Afghanistan and Ukraine. He thanked the Taekwondo federations of Italy, Denmark, and Great Britain for supporting refugees.
- 26. He stressed that WT organised the first-ever Hope and Dreams Taekwondo Championships in Jordan in March this year where more than 200 refugees and displaced youths and children from the Azraq camp participated in, and the smile on their faces expressed how much they enjoyed themselves.
- 27. He thanked Council Member Maher Magableh, Prince Rashid and the Jordan Taekwondo Federation, and former Council member Hazem Naimat for their efforts in making the refugees' dreams come true. He aimed that next year's Hope and Dreams Taekwondo Championships is to include youths from other refugee camps, and also to have Virtual Taekwondo as one of the events.

- 28. He also congratulated the European Taekwondo Union and Great Britain for organising an inclusive European Taekwondo Championships in May this year. He believed that having Olympic and Para Taekwondo athletes to compete at the same venue and same time was very well received and should be used as a model for other continental unions to follow.
- 29. He looked forward to future Grand Prix Series having not just Olympic and Paralympic Taekwondo, but also Virtual Taekwondo. He noted that if WT does this, he believes that Taekwondo will truly be recognised as one of the most innovative and inclusive sports in the world.
- *30.* He said that this is why WT continues to modify the competition rules to make Taekwondo more exciting and dynamic, and this is why WT continues to innovate and "restart" with new events such as the Grand Prix Challenge, to unearth rising stars in Taekwondo.
- 31. He also asked all MNAs and CUs to actively promote the 50th founding anniversary of WT when organizing events, under the theme of "Peace in Mind, Taekwondo at Heart". He showed the Golden Jubilee logo and mentioned that WT will be using next year and some application designs, and will share more details once the guidelines have been set.
- 32. He mentioned that Taekwondo should also be included in all remaining multi-sport Games, starting with the Commonwealth Games and the World Beach Games next year. He said that WT will honour the best male and female athletes from each Olympic and Paralympic Games.
- 33. He concluded his report by saying that there will be inaugural class of the World Taekwondo Hall of Fame at the end of the General Assembly.

#### 3. Approval of the Minutes

- a. Approval of the Minutes of the General Assembly held via Video Conference on October 11, 2021.
- 34. The **CHAIR** mentioned that the minutes were distributed for review and WT didn't receive any comments or objections, therefore, he asked the General Assembly to motion and approve the minutes. This was seconded and approved by the General Assembly.
- 35. He declared that the minutes were approved by the General Assembly.
  - Decision: Minutes of General Assembly held via Video Conference on October 11, 2021 are approved by the General Assembly.

#### 4. 2021-2022 Reports

- a. Approval of Operation Report
- 36. The **CHAIR** invited **Mr. Jeongkang Seo**, to deliver the Operation Report for 2021 to 2022 as well as the Finance Reports.
- 37. **Mr. Jeongkang Seo** reported that election of WT on October 11 last year elected President, 17 council members and 1 auditor with 5 elected CU President becoming Vice Presidents.
- 38. He continued that new members of the Committee were also appointed, and six out of 14 committees are chaired by women, and this is way higher than average women representation of other International Federations as noted by the IOC.
- 39. He added that as part of more efficient administration, President Choue restructured the WT office, and he was promoted to Director General serving as acting Secretary General, and also

President office was expanded to Planning and Finance Department. He noted that Education function is now a standalone department, and Legal function moved under Member Relations and Development Department to better resolve disputes.

- 40. He stressed that WT maintains A2 rank in ASOIF Governance, and the detailed reports are in the annual report which was distributed in advance, and noted that WT's Development Program was resumed from 2022 with athlete scholarship, MNA participation support, MNA equipment support, Refugee solidarity program and CU financial support.
- 41. He mentioned that WT's Cares Program supported 7 countries with a total of USD 169,000 worth of support, and those countries are Afghanistan, Jordan, Turkiye, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Cambodia.
- 42. He also noted that MNA Survey was conducted in 2021. Among 211 MNAs 153 MNAs responded which marked 73% participation rate, and this year's Survey in relation with MNA Ranking will be explained later this meeting.
- 43. He said that since the last General Assembly, 4 Extraordinary Council Meetings were held on January 28, March 3, April 20, and May 12; all within this year, and the last meeting was held in hybrid format at the Olympic House in the presence of the IOC President. He noted that the key outcomes from the meetings can be found in the annual report.
- 44. He reported that WT has continued organizing Online Poomsae Championships under pandemic situation, and when it comes to offline event since October last year, WT organized 2021 World Para Taekwondo Championships in Istanbul, Turkey on December 11-12, 2021 with participation of 250 athletes from 40+1 countries.
- 45. He added that 2022 World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships were held in Goyang, Korea on April 21-24, 2022 marking the biggest ever World Poomsae event with 63 countries that was especially meaningful with participation of the Ukraine athletes and refugee athlete.
- *46.* He concluded by mentioning that on June 10-12 in Muju, Korea, the first ever World Taekwondo Grand Prix Challenge was held successfully. He asked if any questions. There was none.
- 47. The **CHAIR** asked the General Assembly to motion and approve the 2021-2022 Operation Report. This was seconded and approved by the General Assembly.
  - Decision: 2021-2022 Operation Report is approved by the General Assembly.
  - b. Approval of Finance Report
- 48. Mr. Jeongkang Seo mentioned that despite the continuation of the pandemic, WT was able to generate the revenue of USD 7,958,323 which is increase of 3.42% from 2020, and this is thanks to successful organization of the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo as well as contributions from Kukkiwon.
- 49. He continued that the expenditure was decreased by 3.09% amounting to USD7,361,765, and the net income for fiscal year of 2021 after taxation was USD 582,845. He noted that with continued efforts to save financial and operational costs, WT wishes to achieve long-term financial strength and stability.
- 50. He said that the budget of 2022 has been planned conservatively with further shrinking the operational costs while resuming the development program which is to financially support Continental Unions and Member National Associations.

- 51. He mentioned that the total budget for 2022 has been set USD 9,136,374, and the amount has been increased comparing to 2021 as WT resumes financial support for CUs and MNAs. He asks for any questions. There was none.
- *52.* The **CHAIR** asked the General Assembly to motion and approve the 2021-2022 Finance Report. This was seconded and approved by the General Assembly.

#### Decision: 2021-2022 Finance Report is approved by the General Assembly.

5.	E-Vote Result		

- a. Amendment
  - *i.* WT Competition Rules & Interpretation
- 53. The CHAIR asked Mr. Jeongkang Seo, to report the E-Vote result.
- 54. **Mr. Jeongkang Seo,** reported that the amendment proposal to the WT Competition Rules & Interpretation was passed by the E-vote held on July 5-11, 2022, and the updated rules will be updated on WT website.

#### 6. Reports

- a. MNA and CU Commitments
- 55. The CHAIR asked Mr. Jeongkang Seo, to present about the first two reports.
- 56. **Mr. Jeongkang Seo** presented that WT has been tirelessly working to be in line with IOC's Agenda 2020+5, and WT implemented many initiatives. He said that the first step WT took was that WT made newly structured statutes which was sent to Continental Unions last year to try to work together to have one standard, and it is now time to expand these efforts to the level of Member National Associations.
- 57. He added that WT will contact MNAs over the next 6 months to guide about the important items of the good governance such as more detailed commitments for MNA leadership, and will contact MNAs in early 2023 for updated financial planning and transparency requirements, more guidance and evaluation criteria and new educational materials on integrity-related subjects.
  - b. MNA Survey
- 58. Mr. Jeongkang Seo continued to report that WT benchmarked from 'ASOIF Good Governance' where WT is ranked in A2 group. He mentioned that 2020 MNA Survey has 88% responses from MNAs and 2021 MNA Survey has 73% responses from MNAs; and WT seeks more active cooperation of MNAs since 2022 MNA Survey will be actual survey that will access the level of good governance of MNA's.
- 59. He addressed that with the data from 2022 MNA Survey that has questionnaire consisted of 31 questions with 6 categories: Background, Governance, Transparency, Integrity, Democracy and Development, WT will publish MNA ranking next year. He added that the data and score will be reflected not only to the MNA ranking but also it will affect the right of the MNAs such as granting the supports from WT, hosting events. etc.
- 60. He explained the MNA Groups based on total moderated scores; the score range for A1 is 41-50, for A2 is 31-40, for B1 is 21-30, for B2 is 11-20 and F means not participated.

- 61. He mentioned that WT's goal through these initiatives is each MNA should sustain themselves and function properly.
  - c. GMS Report
- 62. The CHAIR invited Mr. Justin Tenbeth, Director of GMS, to present the GMS Report.
- 63. **Mr. Justin Tenbeth** addressed some updates of GMS that at the January 2022, GMS updated bylaws that GMS no longer have WT Membership & mandate, and only have WT License for athletes and officials.
- 64. He added that at the April, latest WT GMS Bylaw version 6 were approved following changes to come into place with next WT GMS system update: Any individual may sign up for or renew an existing WT License subscription through any MNA as long as the individual meets all of the requirements of WT as well as the requirements of the pertinent MNA if any.
- 65. He mentioned that price of WT License will increase from 30 USD/EUR to 35 USD, and credit card fees will be included in WT License price and not be charge separately. He also noted that GMS has a new & improved WT License subscription module as well as free online training courses for all National Administrators coming August/September.
- 66. He noted that GMS launched making WT GMS Directory which include details of GMS Admin and WT license requirements.
  - d. Virtual Taekwondo
- 67. The **CHAIR** asked **Mr. Jerry Ling**, Director of Planning & Finance Department, to present about the Virtual Taekwondo.
- 68. **Mr. Jerry Ling** reported the goal of Virtual Taekwondo that WT is aligned with Olympic Agenda 2020+5, particularly in terms of growth in digital engagement with the public including video gaming communities, through Virtual Taekwondo.
- 69. He mentioned that on the occasion of Manchester 2019 World Taekwondo Championships, WT delivered first demonstration of Virtual Taekwondo to the IOC President, Thomas Bach, and IOC President was very impressed by the demonstration, and encourage WT to further develop the technology.
- 70. He continued that Virtual Taekwondo requires around 63 square meters, meaning that it can be organized within existing venue and facilities. He said that IOC President also encouraged WT to apply for the Olympic Virtual Sports Festival in early 2023 in Singapore that will take, and IOC President wished WT to share the knowledge with other IFs.
- 71. He addressed the goal of WT for Virtual Taekwondo which is including official medal sport in the LA 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games, and demonstration sport in the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, official sport in the Olympic Virtual Sports Festival in Singapore 2023 and having public demonstrations and showcases in 2022.
- 72. He said that Virtual Taekwondo will be showcased in the Commonwealth Esports Championships in Birmingham on August 6-7, 2022, and WT expects a lot of interests from audiences. He added that Virtual Taekwondo will be a demonstration sport in the Global Esports Games in Istanbul, Turkey on December this year.
  - e. THF

- 73. The **CHAIR** asked **Ms. Sophie Roduit,** THF Administration Assistant & Project Manager, to address the item.
- 74. **Ms. Sophie Roduit** mentioned the mission of the THF which is to empower refugees and displaced persons through the practice of taekwondo, and since its creation in 2016, THF trained over 15'000 refugees and displaced persons, and THF is active on three continents.
- 75. She addressed that THF with the partnership of WT supports the best refugees' athletes and currently seven taekwondo refugees' athletes are receiving IOC Scholarships. She added that THF also built a Taekwondo Humanitarian Center in Azraq Camp to guarantee a safe access to sport and to give the best training conditions for the refugees who are aiming to pursue their Olympic dreams.
- 76. She continued that THF is also employing seventeen persons around the world such as coach, coordinator, and seven of them are refugees or displaced persons. She noted that it is important to employ refugees as they understand the situation of THF participants, and it eases the access to refugees' community.
- 77. She added that THF advocacy is to encourage all sports to take care of the refugees and encourage them to practice sport, and for this purpose, THF Chairman, Dr Choue, has already signed Memorandum of Understandings with 10 International Federations and 3 Cities, meaning that THF is working closely with UNHCR and the Olympic Refuge Foundation.
- 78. She mentioned that as THF is expanding its activities all around the globe and the foundation is almost independent financially, Dr. Choue has decided to organize THF based on the same model as WT by creating continental entities which will manage THF projects on their territory with the partnership of THF.
- 79. She stressed that THF created last year the first THF continental entity with THF Europe. Angelo Cito is the Chairman of this foundation, and THF Europe is currently helping the best Ukrainian athletes and they are currently training in CONI Training Sport Center in Roma.
- 80. She addressed that few months ago, THF Asia was created and THF Asia office will be in Seoul. Project collaboration in Asia will start soon, and THF Pan-America will be finally created very soon once THF Board approves the cooperation agreement between THF and THF Pan-America. She noted that this US Charity will be chaired by Juan Manuel Delgado and THF is already working on the first project which will be held in Mexico.
- 81. She said that THF with the partnership of WT and the International Olympic Committee supports the best taekwondo refugees' athletes to attend WT international competitions; for instance, this year, two refugees' athletes from THF who are based in refugee camps were able to travel, and Wael AI Farraj from Azraq Camp attended the 25th Asian Championships in South Korea, and Fujairah Open. She also added that Gasto Nsazimukiza from Republic Democratic of Congo and based in Kenya attended Goyang 2022 World Poomsae Championships and 2022 African Championships in Kigali.
- 82. She noted that THF is following IOC guidelines regarding the situation in Ukraine, and the foundation is helping Ukrainian athletes and making sure that they can attend World Taekwondo Competitions
- 83. She commented that the International Olympic Committee released the list of the IOC Scholarship holders for Paris 2024 last month, and currently there are seven refugees' athletes who are receiving IOC financial support and THF expects to have more in the coming months. She noted that the International Olympic Committee always underlines the work done by WT

and THF on refugees.

- 84. She said that WT is the second most represented International Federation in number of refugees in the IOC Refugee Team after Athletics. She added that to have more IOC Taekwondo Scholarship holders, Dr. Choue had the idea to create Hope and Dreams Taekwondo Championships for refugees which is the first edition took place in Amman, in Jordan, with two hundred refugees from all around Jordan. She noted that this competition could not happen without the support of THF Board member and WT Council Member, **Maher Magableh.**
- 85. She mentioned that THF manages projects for the best athletes but also is encouraging taekwondo for all with its grassroots projects, and THF implements projects in refugee camps but also in urban area where the density of displaced persons and refugees is high.
- 86. She noted that the project in Azraq Camp, Jordan, is the flagship project for projects held in refugee camps, and there is a strong focus to create champion and strong taekwondo players. She noted that since the start of this program, Azraq project has already created twenty-eight black belts and one IOC Scholarship holder.
- 87. She gave the best example which is the Al-Ayoub family where 4 members of the same family are attending THF program: the father, the 2 sons and the youngest daughter, Dooa who is also the youngest black belt, and graduated when she was 6 years old.
- 88. She addressed that 100 participants are taking part to THF program every week, and Azraq project is also willing to develop a grassroot project focusing on girl empowerment so that THF hopes to have the support of a Foundation to start this project very soon.
- 89. She mentioned that the project in Kiziba, Rwanda started in 2017 and thanks to this success, Mahama Camp project is launched in 2019, and there are over two hundred participants from the refugees' camps who are taking part to THF program.
- 90. She informed that the Rwanda project is focusing on inclusion, especially in Para-taekwondo, and Parfait Hakizimana, a THF coach suffering from impairment, and who is himself a refugee based in Mahama Refugee Camp is a model for the kids in Mahama Camp. Parfait, was the only para-refugee from a refugee camp to attend 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games. She added that THF has 5 para-refugees who are training within THF program.
- *91.* She remarked that in 2022, THF has launched its second project in Africa, in Eswatini, and the project aims to improve the well-being through taekwondo so that 25 participants have now joined the program.
- 92. She stressed that Eswatini Taekwondo Federation organized a competition where refugees were allowed to participate to a Taekwondo Championship; Therefore, on the long term, THF expects that the participants from the camp in Melindza will be able to continue their training in a taekwondo club, out of the camp.
- 93. She said that the project in Turkey was the first project and the project took place initially in Killis Camp which was closed by the Turkish Authorities and the project was moved to Elbeyli. Over 1'500 refugees are training every week. She noted that the Turkish Authorities will close soon this camp therefore THF is currently looking for a new way to implement a project in Turkey.
- 94. She mentioned that Paris project started in early 2022 and the Olympic Refuge Foundation finances this project in partnership with the French Sport Ministry and the French Taekwondo

Federation, and the aim of this project is to use taekwondo as an accelerator for social inclusion.

- 95. She noted that the project is targeting refugees, asylums seekers and displaced persons from Paris and IIe de France region and the program is divided into two phases; the first phase, participants are improving their physical capacities, they are starting to know each other's and their coach; the second phase, the participants can take a club membership in a taekwondo club.
- 96. She added that the project will impact 150 refugees this year and THF expects to have fifty refugees who will become member of a taekwondo club by the end of the year. She commented that the particularity of this project is that six refugees or displaced persons are hired by THF for the project implementation.
- 97. She said that the Swiss project started during COVD 19 last year, and it allows refugees and displaced persons to attend taekwondo lessons in a club, and also this project is renewing in September with adaptations.
- 98. She presented 2022-2024 objectives of THF that THF aims to expand in the coming years by reaching the following objectives: Being the first International Federation to win an Olympic medal with a refugee athlete at 2024 Paris Olympic Games, Developing new projects aiming to increase the number of participants for grassroots projects, Increasing the number of refugees athletes attending WT international competitions, Developing new partnerships with cities and international federations
- 99. She mentioned that to increase the number of refugees athletes attending WT International Competition, THF with the partnership of WT will support the best refugees' athletes. She said that the next milestone is the World Championships in Guadalajara where THF expects to have the maximum participation of Olympic taekwondo refugees' team.
- 100. She noted that in 2023, THF will continue to organize Hope and Dreams Championships, in Jordan, with the idea to invite refugees from different part of the world, and it will be the first International Taekwondo Championships gathering refugees from different countries. She wished to have the first refugee winning a medal in Paris Games.
- 101. She continued that THF will also create new projects aiming to increase the number of participants at grassroot level with the idea to reach the number of 20'000 refugees trained by 2024, and next month, THF will launch its new project in Mexico, which is aimed to use taekwondo as a tool for integration in urban area close to the American border.
- *102.* She commented that the project will start in 2 locations (Texicali and Piedras Negras) and the project will expand, and it will be implementing with the partnership of THF PanAmerica, the Sport Ministry of Mexico and at a later stage, the Olympic Refuge Foundation.
- 103. She mentioned that beginning of October, THF will work closely with THF Europe for supporting Ukrainian refugees, and the European Union is currently offering grants for sport institutions supporting Ukrainian. She noted that the European Union is offering to pay the membership fee of Ukrainian in a taekwondo club, and THF Europe and THF will share more information about how a European MNA can apply to this European funding.
- 104. She stressed that beginning of 2023, THF will launch a project in Thailand, and THF is currently working closely with UNHCR Asia and **Mr. Pimol Srivikorn**, President of Thailand Taekwondo Federation. She noted that this project will be ambitious as it will be the first time that THF launches its activities in urban area and in refugee camps in the same country.

- 105. She addressed that Beginning of next year, THF will also start a new project in Malta focusing on social inclusion on the island, and in the coming months, THF will also work in collaboration with the Olympic Refuge Foundation on a project in Eastern Africa. She explained that as soon as THF hears from the Olympic Refuge Foundation about potential fundings, THF will contact Eastern Africa MNA to work on a project proposal for the Olympic Refuge Foundation.
- *106.* She informed that THF will finally sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the city of Brussels in August, and after the signature of this MoU, a project will be implementing with the partnership of the Belgian Taekwondo Federation.
- 107. She explained that THF will launch its first educational module on October 14th. All THF coaches and THF coordinators will attend an on online session, and more THF education seminars will be organized in 2023 so that these education seminars guarantee a better project coordination and a harmonization of THF projects.
- 108. She continued that on advocacy, THF will continue to encourage sport stakeholders to create projects for refugees, and will sign MoU with the city of Brussels and the city of Los Angeles. She added that the signature of Los Angeles MoU will be the first milestones for THF legacy project linked with 2028 Los Angeles Games.
- *109.* She noted that THF is in talks with FIBA Foundation, and a MoU will reach out in the coming months.
- 110. She explained how THF can support MNA; First, THF can finance project, and if anyone wish that THF finances the project, it is needed to submit the project proposal to the THF by October 20th, and THF Board will assess the project proposal.
- 111. She continued that by creating a project with THF, the MNA can create jobs in the country. She added that THF can also provide in kind support for the projects targeting refugees and displaced persons, and for urban projects, THF has noticed that the number of members in a taekwondo clubs increase if THF project is well implementing.
- 112. She added that THF can also train coaches to the approach of sport for protection and the notion of Global Citizen, and THF has also noticed that the MNAs which are implementing THF projects and have closer contact with Sport Minister. She noted that Taekwondo is the only sport to have this approach of inclusion, well-being and Global Citizenship for refugees, which is highly appreciated by Sport Ministry.
- 113. She concluded her report by saying that depending on the financial and human resources capacity, any MNAs can be involved by registering refugee athletes to WT international competitions.
  - f. Cooperation with Kukkiwon
- 114. The CHAIR asked Mr. Jeongkang Seo to report the item.
- 115. **Mr. Jeongkang Seo** mentioned that WT signed agreement with Kukkiwon on March 10, 2022 to work together for the best interest of MNAs.
- 116. He addressed key points of agreements; the Eligibility of conducting Dan Promotion Tests and related Administration, Kukkiwon Overseas Offices, Signers on Certificates, Education and Service of Kukkiwon, In case of Conflicts between Kukkiwon and MNA, Role of Continental Unions, and Kukkiwon Global Committee.
- 117. He informed the progress that Kukkiwon is currently working on it after signing the agreement;

1<sup>st</sup> phase is initial notification to MNAs and 2<sup>nd</sup> phase is discussion and the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase is letter of intent

- 118. He stressed that MNAs are strongly recommended to discuss with Kukkiwon to get clear guidance of signing agreement for delegation of the Kukkiwon Dan Administration in the pertinent country. He added that Continental Unions are also recommended to discuss with Kukkiwon for partnership particularly to manage Kukkiwon Dan Administration in small countries that have no such capacities. He said that WT is ready to assist in case of any disputes.
- *119.* He concluded his report by noting that as **Mr. Na Young Jib,** Director of International Department of Kukkiwon, stays a few days in Sofia, Kukkiwon and MNAs could arrange a meeting anytime to further develop the strategies.
- 120. The **CHAIR** thanked Kukkiwon for collaborating with MNAs for effective Dan administration at the national level. He mentioned that the most important thing is that Kukkiwon and MNAs should become reliable partner for benefit of the whole Taekwondo population each country.
- 121. He highly encouraged MNAs to work closely with the Kukkiwon representatives as they are here in Sofia only to serve MNAs

#### 7. Other Matters

- 122. The CHAIR asked members for any comments.
- 123. Mr. Ababacar FALL, Acting President of Federation Senegalaise de Taekwondo, thanked WT President and all the MNAs for this opportunity to mention. He said that as they are preparing for the success of Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games Senegal, they need a support from WT and MNAs to host the event as they successfully completed the African Championships in Senegal last year even during the Covid Pandemic.
- 124. The **CHAIR** mentioned that as Taekwondo is the one of the important sports in Africa especially WT will work hard to support to develop the Taekwondo in Africa.

#### 8. Hall of Fame 2022 Award Ceremony

- 125. The **CHAIR** honored to open the inaugural Hall of Fame Awards Ceremony.
- 126. He mentioned that throughout WT's illustrious history, there have been many, many individuals that have helped shape Taekwondo and organization, and they lay the foundations to climb to the summit so that WT is able to climb high and look far because WT stands on the shoulders of these giants of Taekwondo.
- 127. He handed over to **Mr. Jerry Ling**, to proceed with the Awards Ceremony.
- 128. **Mr. Jerry Ling** said that it is his privilege to be the master of ceremony for the inaugural World Taekwondo Hall of Fame, and it is a global recognition of exemplary individuals who have contributed immeasurably to Taekwondo as an Olympic and Paralympic sport, and for their devotion to serving humanity.
- 129. He informed that the three award categories are the Lifetime Contributions Award, the Officials Award, and the Athletes Award, and there are six founding members, and announced the awardees.

[The awardees revealed are as follows]

#### - Lifetime Contribution Award: The late Un-yong Kim (Korea)

Founder of WT and former President. Recognised for his leadership in developing Taekwondo's role with the IOC and securing Olympic recognition for the sport.

#### - Lifetime Contribution Award: The late Juan Antonio Samaranch (Spain)

Former IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch played a significant role in gaining Taekwondo's recognition as an Olympic sport. Taekwondo's position today would not have been possible without his strong support and his term as IOC President coincided with the globalisation of Taekwondo.

#### - Official Category: Dai-soon Lee (Korea)

Recognised for his devotion to Taekwondo and his contribution as a WT vice president and to World Taekwondo Asia. He also served as a leader of the Taekwondo Promotion Foundation and developed relations with the government of Korea in the promotion of Taekwondo as a global sport.

#### - Athlete Category: Kook-hyun Jung (Korea)

Four-time World Champion honoured for winning consecutive World Championships and helping to raise standards within the sport when Taekwondo was not yet an Olympic sport. After retiring as an athlete, he continued his career as a professor of Taekwondo to train younger athletes and then became a sports administrator serving on the World Taekwondo Council.

#### - Athlete Category: Zhong Chen (China)

Recognised for being the first female athlete to have won consecutive Olympic gold medals at both Sydney 2000 and Athens 2004, she also won gold at Beijing 2007 World Taekwondo Championships having previously won bronze at the 2003 Garmisch-Partenkirchen World Taekwondo Championships.

#### - Official Category: The late Ahmed Fouly (Egypt)

The World Taekwondo Council approved Fouly's posthumous induction in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the development of Taekwondo in Africa and around the world. In addition, his position as a World Taekwondo Vice-President, Foulyhad led Taekwondo Africa which soared to prominence at Rio 2016 with African athletes walking away with a large Olympic medal haul.

#### 9. Next Meeting

130. The **CHAIR** announced that the next meeting will take place in Baku, Azerbaijan, on the occasion of the World Taekwondo Championships on May 28th, 2023.

#### 10. Closing of Meeting

- 131. The **CHAIR** thanked the delegates who joined General Assembly. He treasured the unity and friendship, and the passion to instill good governance throughout Taekwondo and organization.
- 132. He was especially proud that WT inaugurated the First Class of the World Taekwondo Hall of

Fame, and as WT celebrates WT's 50th founding anniversary next year, WT will also commemorate the Best Olympic and Paralympic athletes since Sydney 2000.

- *133.* He wished everyone a wonderful time in Sofia and all the best to athletes at the World Junior Championships.
- 134. He adjourned the General Assembly.