



**19<sup>th</sup> WT MRD Commission Meeting (via conference call)**  
**October 31, 2023 | 10h00-11h00 (KST)**

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**SUMMARY**

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Attendees: Ms. Hadwah Moawad (Vice Chair), Mr. Maher Magableh (Member), Sister Linda Sim (Member), Mr. Usman Dildar (Member), Ms. Seungmin Lee (Senior Director, MRD), Mr. Corbin Min (Legal Counsel), Mr. Justin Tenbeth (Director, GMS), Mr. Wooram Kim (Assistant Manager, MRD), Mr. Woongki Kim (Assistant Manager, MRD), and Ms. Claudia Cardenas (Coordinator, MRD)

**1. Welcoming Remarks**

- *Ms. Hadwah Moawad, Vice Chair on behalf of Chair, Ms. Maria Borello welcomed all members for the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of MRD Commission meeting in the terms of 2023-2025.*
- *Four (4) members attended the meeting; thus, the quorum was established.*

**2. Introduction**

- *Ms. Seungmin Lee introduced all members and touched terms of references.*

**3. Discussion**

**a. Special Development Plan of 2024**

- *Mr. Woongki Kim mentioned that WT plans to support small islands in Oceania cooperating with the IOC for the Brisbane 2032 Olympic Games. He also noted that more opportunities would be given to youth athletes from small islands in Oceania to grow up through the experience of participating in the IF Training Camp.*
- *He presented that the IOC is supporting the National Sport System Development for NOCs through the experience of hosting an IF Training Camp, and WT plans to assist and encourage MNAs to communicate with their NOC in order to use the allocated IOC funds for Taekwondo.*
- *He mentioned that WT plans to have a site visit of the Training Camp hosting Country and would provide a training program and sports equipment if necessary, and the project might be extended after some point to Africa as well as the Pan-Am region after discussion with IOC.*
- *He highlighted last special project which is the New MNA Support that MNAs affiliated with WT within 10 years or recommended MNAs from MRD Commission would get supports such as dispatching a Taekwondo coach and providing training equipment and/or programme.*

**b. GMS matters**

➤ **Update: Nationality/residency requirement change**

- *Mr. Corbin Min updated the Commission about their recommendation to limit athlete GAL applications to MNAs of nationality or residence. He mentioned that this rule passed in May 2023 during the Council Meeting in Baku. He added that it will be effective from June 2024, with a grace period until September 1. He said that currently, 40,000 of 60,000 licenses holders have been reviewed. More than 1,000 will need to submit additional information to be compliant, but only a few expected to face compliance difficulties. He added that letters to "non-compliant" license holders will be sent by the end of the year.*
- *Ms. Hadwah Moawad stated that athletes should be ensured that they will not be blocked by the MNA when applying for a license.*



- **Mr. Usman Dildar** emphasized the considerable task of reviewing 60,000 applications while stressing the importance of ensuring that athletes worldwide can obtain licenses as it is their right.
- **Mr. Justin Tenbeth** explained that in 2024, individual license registration will be opened to all MNAs, allowing individuals to register/renew WT Licenses, with the approval still controlled by the MNA. He added that this change will enhance GMS's ability to track registrations and renewals accurately, as timestamps for registration and approval will be available on the platform. GMS can then address any potential issues promptly.
- **License fee charges: the case of SRB**
  - **Mr. Corbin Min** informed the commission about a European club owner's complaint regarding an MNA charging a Euro 400 fee for Kukkiwon DANs not issued through the MNA, which is being applied retroactively to individuals who have already received a license. He mentioned that upon review of the Integrity Committee, several inquiries were raised such as the MNA's justification for this charge, the fee when taking a course through the MNA, the benefits provided to DAN GAL holders, and the liabilities the MNA assumes for DAN GAL holders.
  - **Mr. Justin Tenbeth** mentioned that, in order to better understand the different rules among the MNAs, the creation of a WT GMS directory where MNAs are requested to inform about any national requirements for obtaining a WT License. He reported that currently 92 MNAs have such requirements, mostly including National Membership of the MNA, while the remaining 121 do not have any national requirements. Mr. Justin also explained that some MNAs, like USA Taekwondo, have additional requirements such as taking a course about safeguarding (Safe Sport).
  - **Mr. Usman Dildar** suggested having a single channel of requirement coming from WT, as the world governing body of the sport, to avoid complicating the membership process.
  - **Mr. Maher Magableh** agreed with this approach, emphasizing that allowing each National Federation to set its own requirements for licenses would complicate processes and lead to confusion.
  - **Mr. Corbin Min** proposed the formation of a working group to thoroughly address these issues, discussing them individually and ultimately developing a framework and recommendations.
  - **Ms. Hadwah Moawad** also proposed having a standardized criterion from World Taekwondo that could be applied to all National Federations as a potential solution. She also recommended implementing safeguarding measures such as a safeguarding course available on the WT website, which athletes could complete to obtain certification.
  - **Mr. Corbin Min** commented that Ms. Hadwah's recommendation could be further discussed related to the next item of the agenda.
- **Implementation of Safeguarding and PMC certification for all license holders**
  - **Mr. Corbin Min** announced that a Prevention of Manipulation of Competitions (PMC) and Safeguarding Certification for WT license holders will be introduced, with content provided by the IOC units in charge. He added that the mandatory certification will be effective from January 2024, with a grace period until September 2024.
  - He further explained that the IOC PMC and Safeguarding courses usually include 20-30 minutes of content, combining videos and text. Following this, a multiple-choice questionnaire must be correctly filled out to gain certification. He stated that this content will be customized for WT and the courses will be accessible via the GMS platform.



- *In addition, he mentioned that WT has put in place a Safeguarding initiative, sending 13 participants to the IOC Safeguarding Officer in Sports Program. He also mentioned that starting in January 2024, a Safeguarding Officer will be mandatory for all G4 and higher events.*

**c. MNA – Technical Officials relations**

- *Due to time limitations this item on the agenda will be addressed at the next Commission Meeting.*

**d. MNA Basic Requirements**

- *Mr. Corbin Min briefly introduced the current requirements for MNAs, which include fulfilling WT statutory requirements, such as paying fees and attending events. WT also has a checklist of specific items for MNA to have in their own statutes to be in alignment with WT rules. However, there is no requirement for MNA statutes to be confirmed by WT.*
- *He explained that the plan is to introduce a document with basic requirements for all MNAs. The aim is to have an updated checklist ready by the end of November. This checklist will be shared with the Commission for feedback by mid-December, and an updated version will be presented for confirmation in mid-January.*
- *He asked that the commission put forward ideas for the checklist, but with the understanding that the final checklist needs to be concise and applicable to all MNAs, as these are intended to be the minimum requirements for all MNAs.*

**e. Sustainability**

➤ **Mental Health Survey**

- *Ms. Claudia Cardenas provided an update on the WT Sustainability Strategy launched in 2022. She mentioned that one of the activities included in the strategy was the development of a mental health survey for elite athletes. She clarified that athletes eligible to participate need to be active in taekwondo, aged 21 or older, and have participated in at least one G-grade event in the last two years.*
- *She informed that the conceptualization of the survey took place on August 31, led by the Sustainability Committee. The Medical Committee reviewed the survey and provided feedback on October 4. On October 10, on the occasion of the World Mental Health Day, the survey was officially launched on the website and distributed to the emails of MNAs and Council Members.*
- *She reported that, as of the meeting date, 127 responses had been received, with a gender breakdown of 42% female and 57% male. Responses were also categorized based on Continental Unions, with 10 from Africa, 48 from Asia, 10 from Europe, 10 from Oceania, and 49 from Pan America. She added that the primary target was to obtain 100 responses per continent, hence, she requested support from the Commission to achieve this goal.*
- *Ms. Hadwah Moawad inquired about the specific aspects of mental health being addressed in the survey.*
- *Ms. Claudia Cardenas clarified that the survey focused on sport-related psychological distress, anxiety, depression, and eating disorders. She mentioned that there is also a section for background information, covering age, gender, continental union, taekwondo discipline, and an informed consent acceptance requirement before participants could take the survey.*

➤ **Sustainability Awards**



- *Ms. Claudia Cardenas* discussed the progress of the WT Sustainability Awards mentioning that applications were called for on September 11, with the initial deadline set for October 13, later extended to October 20. On October 27, all applications were collected and sent to external jury members that were provided with scoring sheets for evaluation. She added that a meeting with the jury to select the winners is scheduled for November 17, with the award ceremony to be held at the WT Gala in December 2023.
- She reported that there was a total of 21 applications, distributed as follows: 11 in the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Community focus area, 3 in Environmental Sustainability, and 7 in Health and Well-being. She briefly reported the number of applications received per Continental Union, with 6 from Africa, 6 from Asia, 1 from Europe, 1 from Oceania, and 7 from Pan America.

➤ **Milestones for 2023-2024**

- *Ms. Claudia Cardenas* mentioned that the WT Sustainability Strategy consists of three focus areas with a total of 72 activities, of which around 40 are planned for 2023 and 2024. She stated that some of these activities will require support and involvement from committees and commissions. She briefly provided some examples where collaboration with the Taekwondo for All committee, Development Committee, and Para Taekwondo Committee could be needed. She emphasized the need for involvement in these activities in the future.

**4. Other Matters**

- *Mr. Usman Dildar* noted that more meaningful tasks should be achieved by MRD Commission in cooperation with Member Relations & Development Department.

**5. Next Commission Meeting**

- *Ms. Seungmin Lee* announced that the date and time for the next meeting will be announced in due time.

**6. Closing of Meeting**

- *Ms. Hadwah Moawad* thanked the members of the Commission and WT Administration for their contributions to the meeting. The meeting was adjourned.