



Minutes

6th WT Sustainability Committee Meeting (Conference call via Microsoft Teams)
November 21, 2024 | 19h00 (Local time in Seoul, Korea | GMT+9)

Attendees: Jamie Lee Carpenter (Chair), Nellys Rios (Vice Chair), Maria Skryabina (Member), Jerry Ling (Deputy Secretary General Planning, Finance & Administration), Paul Kim (Coordinator Planning, Finance & Administration), and Daniel Cade (Sustainability Consultant)

1. Call Meeting to Order and Welcoming Remarks

Ms. Jamie Lee Carpenter, as Chair, welcomed all members for the 6th meeting of the Sustainability Committee.

Three (3) members attended the meeting; thus, the quorum was established.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Jerry Ling asked the committee to approve the Minutes of the 5th Sustainability Committee Meeting on August 22, 2024.

The Minutes were approved by the Committee.

3. Overall Progress Report

a. 2025 Key Dates

Ms. Carpenter shared her experience with the Singapore 2024 World Taekwondo Virtual Championships. The Singaporean athletes excelled due to prior VR training and the New Zealand athletes struggled initially due to lack of access to VR equipment but adapted quickly. Challenges that newcomers were facing were adjusting to controllers, understanding VR kicking dynamics, and navigating distance perception in virtual space.

Mr. Ling acknowledged the importance of familiarizing athletes with VR systems and shared that WT is planning for future qualification events to include VR sessions.

Mr. Ling presented the major events for 2025 with a focus on World Taekwondo promoted events, Hope and Dreams Sports Festival, mega sports events (e.g. World University Games), and E-sports events.

b. WT Sustainability Report



Mr. Daniel Cade presented updates to the 2024 Sustainability Report, which included improved progress data, a completed GRI content index, interactive links for easier navigation, and progress tables presented chronologically for clarity. The final draft was pending approval.

Ms. Carpenter approved of the new user-friendly format.

c. **Mental Health**

Mr. Paul Kim explained that during the Chuncheon 2024 World Taekwondo Junior Championships over 200 participants underwent brainwave scanning and counseling sessions and the data revealed widespread high-stress levels among athletes, coaches, and officials during competition.

Mr. Cade recommended doing mental health programs in other WT events such as the Cadet Championships and Hope and Dreams Sports Festival, and combining mental health with environmental initiatives.

Ms. Nellys Rios proposed increasing visibility by placing mental health awareness materials in high-traffic areas (e.g., holding zones, hotels, and training spaces) and finding the right timing to approach athletes to not interfere with their competition.

Ms. Maria Skryabina recommended tracking the athletes before or after a competition.

Mr. Cade proposed using wellness or well-being terminology to reduce stigma and encourage broader participation.

Mr. Ling suggested conducting a longitudinal study to measure stress trends as athletes progress from cadet to senior levels.

d. **Sustainability Award**

Mr. Kim presented that a total of 26 applications were received across all three categories, and the applications have been sent to a jury of external experts, including IUCN, ASOIF, and IOC. The results will be announced on December 6, 2024, followed by letters to all participants.

Mr. Kim added that case studies from the 2023 awards are included in the annual report but a new sustainability homepage is under development to feature the case studies from both 2023 and 2024.

e. **Environmental Sustainability**

Mr. Cade revealed plans to enhance sustainability at Taekwondo events by distributing



sustainable event management guidelines to WT MNAs and incorporating sustainable activities in the operational requirements. (e.g. waste management, transport efficiency, and water usage.)

***Mr. Cade** added that reports for the UN Sports for Climate Action initiative and the IUCN Sports for Nature framework are underway, with deadlines in October and December 2024..*

4. Discussion

***Ms. Rios** advocated for the inclusion of psychologists in the GMS system, emphasizing the need for proper licensing verification.*

***Mr. Ling** shared that there are ongoing internal discussions but there are challenges in standardizing certifications across countries. He committed to collaborating with committee members to develop an appropriate policy.*

5. Other Matters

***Mr. Ling** shared that recently WT went under an organizational reshuffling which has led to changes in staff roles, and he encouraged committee members to report any communication challenges during this transition.*

6. Next Committee Meeting

The next Committee Meeting will be held on February 6, 2025, at 19:00 KST.

7. Closing of Meeting

The meeting was adjourned by the Chair.