



31. Ms. BORELLO CASTILLO Maria Rosario

- Current Position: WT Vice President • Gender: Female
- Date of Birth: March 23, 1950 • Nationality: Guatemala
- Language: Spanish, English, Italian

A. Qualification & Experience in Taekwondo

6th Dan with extensive leadership and technical expertise:

WT Executive Council Member for the last twenty-nine years: this experience has given me a deep understanding on how our institution works.

Board of Arbitration Member: a thorough knowledge and expertise of the WT Competition Rules and Interpretation and WT Statutes have given me the opportunity to officiate in elite events such as qualifying tournaments, world championships, world cups, and Olympic Games (Sydney 2000, Athens 2004, London 2012, Rio 2016), all of them during the last twenty-five years.

I have promoted gender equality in sports, being part of projects such as the first-ever WT Gender Equity Forum and earning three IOC Women and Sport awards.

My work has been recognized with honors—like the PATU Hall of Fame award in 2022 and special recognition from the President of the Korean Republic Dr. Roh Moo-Hyun in 2003, all while helping taekwondo grow worldwide and make a real difference in people.

B. Experience in Other Areas (Other Sports, Business or Professional)

Retired

C. Education

Bachelor in Fine Arts

D. Vision for WT in next 4-years

In governance, I am committed to maintaining our federation's standards to keep WT's ASOIF's A1 ranking. Under my leadership as Counselor, the Guatemalan Taekwondo Federation is placed at the Top Five, among 46 national federations in governance audits conducted by the Ministry of Finance and national audit authorities. This year, the audit for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2024, concluded with outstanding results. The report's conclusion confirms no reportable findings were detected, demonstrating our federation's rigorous standards and commitment to transparency, accountability, and strict accounting practices in alignment with World Taekwondo's values.

My life's purpose to transform lives:

My passion, however, lies in social programs, where I have seen Taekwondo's impact on the lives of many. I want my legacy to be the palpable difference it has made for boys, girls and women, empowering them to overcome adversity. Programs like Taekwondo for Me—which supports survivors of sexual violence—and Hoodlinks, which prevents children from gang influence, have shown how discipline and self-esteem can change their future. The Maya ethnic groups Project and Tipulcan have broken barriers for marginalized communities, fostering confidence and leadership.

One of my initiatives is Villa de las Niñas and Niños project, (orphans) reaching 1,500 underserved youth. Through Taekwondo, we teach resilience and values, complementing their education and vocational training.

My effort has been recognized by the 2024 WT Sustainability Award, for the Project "Taekwondo for Me", which empowers survivors of sexual violence through Taekwondo, facilitating emotional healing, physical strength, and social skills to promote inclusion and improve their quality of life.

My work has always been driven by a deep belief in Taekwondo's power to transform lives, and I am honored to continue this path with honor, pride, and dedication alongside the WT.
