



Minutes

WT Extraordinary Council Meeting (Holiday Inn Bangkok, Bangkok, Thailand)

14h00-17h00 GMT+7 | February 1, 2023 (local time in Bangkok)

AGENDA

- 1. Establish Quorum: Call Meeting to Order**
- 2. President Report**
- 3. Approval of the Minutes**
 - a. *Approval of the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting on August 1, 2022 in Sofia, Bulgaria*
- 4. E-Vote Results on Rule Amendment**
- 5. Report**
 - a. World Taekwondo 50th Founding Anniversary
 - b. Best athletes of the Olympic and Paralympic Games
 - c. New Olympic Qualification System for LA 2028 Cycle
 - d. New Headquarters
 - e. Kukkiwon agreement progress
 - f. GMS Finance Report
 - g. Integrity Audit
- 6. Selection of the Host Cities**
 - a. 2024 World Taekwondo Junior Championships
 - b. 2024 World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships
- 7. Approval**
 - a. Inauguration of World Cup Taekwondo Team Championships in Korea
 - b. World Taekwondo events – Beach, Diamond Game, Demonstration
- 8. Other Matters**
- 9. Next Council Meeting**
- 10. Closing of Meeting**

Appendix 1: Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting on August 1, 2022 in Sofia, Bulgaria

1. Establish Quorum: Call Meeting to Order

1. The meeting was called to order by the **CHAIR** of the Meeting, **Dr. Chungwon Choue**, WT President. The **CHAIR** asked **Mr. Jeongkang Seo**, Secretary General, to announce the quorum.
2. **Mr. Jeongkang Seo** announced that 13 Council Members were present on-site and 18 Council Members and the Auditor were present online, thereby establishing a quorum in accordance with Article 6.10 of the WT Statutes.
3. The **CHAIR** noted that the following member was absent with prior notice.
 - Mr. Yangwoo Park (Vice President)
4. The **CHAIR** noted that the following members were absent without prior notice.
 - Ms. Samira Asghari (Council Member)
 - Mr. Stephen Thomas Lambdin (Council Member)
5. Before the report, the **CHAIR** asked the Council to pay their respects to **Mr. Phillip Walter Coles** and **Mr. Eui-min Ko** who had sadly passed away.
6. He highlighted that **Mr. Coles** was an IOC Member, WT Vice President, and the founding President of the Oceania Taekwondo Union. **Mr. Coles**, along with **Mr. Ivan Dibos** and the late WT Vice President **Dr. Nat Indrapana**, were instrumental in keeping Taekwondo's status as an Olympic sport. He accentuated that **Mr. Ko** was a German-based grandmaster who was the Technical Delegate at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games and was Chair of WT's Technical Committee.
7. He asked the Council to join him in observing a moment of silence.

2. President Report

8. The **CHAIR** started by wishing the Council a fruitful 2023 and a wonderful 50th Founding Anniversary of World Taekwondo.
9. He asked the Council to join him in expressing gratitude to **Mr. Pimol Srivikorn**, WT Treasurer, for his generous hospitality in hosting the meeting in Bangkok.
10. He invited the Council to welcome two new Council members who are the co-chairs of the Athletes Committee and whose terms will be until Baku General Assembly in May 2023. They are **Ms. Nikita Glasnovic** and **Mr. Stephen Lambdin**, who have won multiple medals in Taekwondo events.
11. **Ms. Glasnovic** addressed the Council saying that she is very happy to attend the meeting and that she looks forward for the upcoming years.
12. The **CHAIR** highlighted the celebration of WT's 50th Founding Anniversary as a great achievement. He stated that WT has prospered and grown to 212 Member National Associations plus one Refugee Team. He mentioned that thanks to the continuous efforts of Mr. Issaka Ide, this year at least one more MNA from Africa is expected to join WT and make it the fourth largest IF.
13. He marked that the journey to this point has not been easy. In the past, Taekwondo was constantly considered as one of the sports to be kicked out of the Olympic Games Program.

He said that today, Taekwondo is not only safe in the Games; it is recognized for its fairness and transparency in competitions, good distribution of medals, and for its leadership in humanitarian activities.

14. He said that the IOC has accepted 10 taekwondo athletes for the Olympic Solidarity Scholarship for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, including two from the Azraq refugee camp. He pointed out that after Athletics, WT is the second largest IF.
15. He expressed his gratitude to the Council mentioning that WT's success is owed to their effort and the effort of WT's stakeholders. All the positive changes have been made with the Council's trust, confidence, full engagement and participation. He thanked them for what they have done and will be doing in the years to come.
16. He emphasized WT's goal to achieve the highest level of governance ranking in the ASOIF review. Starting at the lowest level, WT has climbed up to A2 and the goal now is to reach A1 level. Full support and cooperation of all stakeholders, including the Council, Continental Unions, and Member National Associations is needed to achieve this outcome.
17. He stated that one of the recommended improvements is the appointment process of Council and Committee members. Starting from the next appointment cycle which is 2 years from May 2023 until 2025, positions will be opened on the WT to receive submissions to undergo a review and a nomination process before the final appointments are set. He asked the CUs and MNAs to align with WT as several other things will be implemented this year.
18. He listed several points to cover in the agenda including the results of the e-votes, the reports, the Golden Jubilee celebrations, the best athletes of the past Olympic and Paralympic Games, and the LA 28 qualification system.
19. He was pleased to inform the Council that on January 26th this year the International Paralympic Committee confirmed that Taekwondo has been included in the LA 2028 Paralympic Games. He addressed this as a tremendous achievement mentioning that it will be Taekwondo's third consecutive time as a Paralympic sport. He expressed his wish that Para Taekwondo grows as a global sport for all in the years to come.
20. He mentioned that the host cities of the 2024 WT Junior and Poomsae championships are going to be selected at the meeting as well as the Grand Prix Final. Also, the World Cup Team Championships and a series of WT events in Korea need to be approved.
21. Finally, he declared that **Secretary General Seo**, would speak about the new WT headquarters.
22. Before the minutes' approval, the **CHAIR** asked the Secretary General to give a brief report on the budget of 2023.
23. **Mr. Seo** presented the budget of 2023 showing that WT income relies on grants and donations, Olympic Games revenue, department projects and GMS. On the other hand, the expenses' categories are mainly project operations and development, office operations, competitions and special projects. He mentioned that WT is trying to minimize office operations and particularly for 2023, as it is the WT 50th Founding Anniversary, around US\$200,000 have been allocated for special projects such as the establishment of a Taekwondo statue at the Olympic Museum.
24. He announced that after the completion of the annual audit by the first week of March, the official expenses of 2022 and the 2023 budget will be officially reported at Baku.
25. The **CHAIR** concluded that despite having many events and activities this year, he assured the

Council that WT is doing its best to balance the budget without using any reserves.

3. Approval

- a. *Approval of the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting on August 1, 2022 in Sofia, Bulgaria*
26. The **CHAIR** asked the Council to approve the minutes, noting that there were no requests for amendment when the minutes were distributed in advance. This was seconded and approved by the Council.
27. The **CHAIR** declared that the minutes were approved by the Council.
 - **Decision: Minutes of Council Meeting held on August 1, 2022 were approved by the Council.**

4. E-Vote Results on Rule Amendment

28. The **CHAIR** called upon the **Secretary General** to present the e-vote results.
29. **Mr. Seo** presented a summarized table of the final voting results noting an overwhelming favor on the rule amendments. He passed the floor to **Mr. Jay Lee**, Senior Director of Sport and Event Management Department, to present the summary of the Commission's rules changes.
30. **Mr. Lee** started presenting about WT Competition Rules & Interpretation. In Article 5, he explained about the addition of minimum weight in each category for cadet. He stated that the rule will be applied in 2023 Cadet Championships in Bosnia. In Article 14, regarding prohibited acts and penalties, he briefly cited the literals that were removed and added. Concerning Article 23 about sanctions, he mentioned the change in Extraordinary Sanctions Committee with sanction given to party and the elimination of suspension of athlete, coach, or/and team officials.
31. About WT Ranking Bylaw, he explained about the ranking points and the timeline for allocating them when a medalist from Youth Olympic Games (YOG), WT Junior Championships (WTJC), and Continental Junior Championships (CJC) turns 17 years old. Regarding Article 5 about validation of the points, he explained that the 2022 World Championships will be considered as a 2021 event; therefore, the ranking points deduction will be applied accordingly.
32. Regarding the Grand Prix Standing Procedures he explained that the host country will take No. 9 seed in case the host country has no athletes seeded between No. 1 and No. 8. If the host does not use the quota, No. 9 seed will be assigned to the host regardless of number of athletes.
33. Concerning the Grand Slam Champions Series Standing Procedures, he clarified that this year two Grand Slam are going to be held but only one qualification tournament. Therefore, the quarter finalist of that tournament will advance to the Grand Slam Final.
34. In relation to the WT Event Operation Rules, he mentioned that they will be aligned with the WT Finance Rules. He briefly covered the per diem changes from Technical Delegate, International Referees, and Competition Supervisory Board Members which now are \$200, \$150, and \$150 respectively.

5. Report

- a. *World Taekwondo 50th Founding Anniversary*
35. The **CHAIR** requested **Mr. Jerry Ling**, Senior Director of Planning and Finance, to deliver the

reports and updates.

36. **Mr. Ling** stated that special events are going to be held to commemorate the Golden Jubilee. A Special Gala will be held at Baku on May 27, 2023. On May 28, the Council Meeting will be held in the morning followed by the General Assembly (GA) in the afternoon. At the Special Gala the best athletes of the past six Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games will be honored. Also, the 16 founding MNAs that attended the first GA will be honored. Historical information and photos are being compiled for the creation of a pictorial book, and a Golden Jubilee Magazine is being created as well. *(Post-meeting note: It should be clarified that there are 17 founding MNAs, instead of 16 as presented at the meeting.)*
37. He communicated about the Hope and Dreams Sports Festival that aims to establish a Sports Peace Corp with the IFs that have signed MOUs with WT and THF. The 2nd Refugee Taekwondo Championship will be held on February 27th and a sports activation day will be held on March 1st (subject to change). He also mentioned about the unveiling of the taekwondo statue at the Olympic Museum that is tentatively scheduled for November during the IF Forum.
38. He presented the 2023 integrated calendar. He started showing the host cities and dates for the IR selection and training camps for Paris 2024 Olympic Games. Later, he mentioned that Virtual Taekwondo is almost fully confirmed for the Olympic Esports Week in Singapore on June 22-25. Also, test events for Paris 2024 will be held on August 13 and 14.
39. He highlighted taekwondo's popularity worldwide mentioning its inclusion in the Multi-Sport Games in each continent and also in the International School Sports Federation (ISF) Championships, FISU Games, and World Combat Games. He presented the dates and locations of the mentioned competitions.
40. He briefly listed the WT-promoted championships starting from the WT Championships at Baku, followed by the WT Cadet Championships, the Grand Prix Series, and the Grand Prix Challenge confirmed in Muju and to be confirmed in Dakar and Dominican Republic. Additionally, the Grand Slam Champions Series 2022 edition that was postponed is scheduled for April 2-3; and the 2023 edition, for December. All the championship's dates and cities were presented.
41. Lastly, he manifested that recognized championships and many other national events organized by the MNAs were not included in the presentation; however, he encouraged the Council to promote WT 50th Anniversary and its logo as much as possible at their own events.
42. The **CHAIR** concluded that many activities are being prepared to celebrate WT's Founding Anniversary. Also, new foundations and policies are being laid for a more successful and well-governed WT heading to its centenary. He remarked that the decisions that the Council make today will lead towards a golden future.

b. Best athletes of the Olympic and Paralympic Games

43. The **CHAIR** stated that as part of the Founding Anniversary celebrations, and following the inauguration of the Hall of Fame, WT will recognize one male and one female athlete from each Olympic Games and Paralympic Games. For the selection of the 12 Olympians and 2 Paralympians, an ad-hoc Nominations Committee has been created.
44. The **CHAIR** requested **Mr. Jay Lee**, to deliver a report on the nominations process and list.
45. **Mr. Lee** mentioned that the **CHAIR** has appointed Mr. Metin Sahin, Mr. Maher Magableh, Mr. Richard Jay Warwick, Ms. Margaret Elizabeth Binga and Mr. Kook Hyun Jung for the ad-hoc

Nominations Committee to select the best athletes. The nominees are the Olympic Games' gold medalist since Sidney 2000 to Tokyo 2020 and the Paralympic Games' gold medalist in Tokyo 2020.

c. New Olympic Qualification System for LA 2028 Cycle

46. The **CHAIR** asked **Mr. Jay Lee**, to present a report on the new Olympic qualification system for the 2028 Games in Los Angeles.
47. **Mr. Lee** informed that according to the IOC Guidelines, the Olympic cycle has to be reduced from four years to two years. This implies that every two years the Olympic & World ranking points shall be reset to zero (0). For qualification to LA 2028, only events held two years prior shall count.
48. He presented a proposal of a reset period scheduled from June 1, 2024 to May 31, 2026. He mentioned that no direct qualification events of LA 2028 shall be held within this period.
49. He briefly explained the proposal for 2024 to 2026 events categorizing them as “indirect events for LA 2028 (ranking events and tickets to GPs and GS)”, “non related events for LA 2028”, and “ranking events only”. He also explained the proposal for the events from June 1, 2026 to May 31, 2028 categorizing them as “direct events for LA 2028” and “non related events for LA 2028”. He also presented the dates for the LA 2028 Olympic Games which are from July 14 to 30, 2028.
50. Lastly, he mentioned that the details of the quota distribution plan for GPs and GSs need to be studied further.
51. The **CHAIR** remarked that LA will be the 8th consecutive time for Taekwondo as an Olympic sport. He took the opportunity to thank **Ms. Aicha Garad Ali** for her work as a member of the Olympic Programme Commission.

d. New Headquarters

52. The **CHAIR** gave the floor to the Secretary General to provide an update to the Council regarding the new headquarters.
53. **Mr. Seo** explained that Goyang City committed to hosting the WT headquarters when they presented to the Council, but changed its position after the election of the new mayor. After that, Chuncheon and Gimpo, two cities in South Korea, expressed their interests in hosting the WT headquarters and submitted Letters of Intent (LOI) in December 2022. Furthermore, the capital Seoul unofficially showed interest but they have not submitted a LOI.
54. He announced that WT will release a bid application form to the cities that submitted a LOI and a final decision will be made in May 2023. WT plans to build its own headquarters in the winning city equipped with proper facilities including four floors of offices, museum, conference rooms, demo team performance hall, etc. More updates will be given once the process is done.
55. The **CHAIR** expressed his hope to finally secure a headquarters for WT that befits its global status as an Olympic and Paralympic IF.

e. Kukkiwon agreement progress

56. The **CHAIR** requested **Mr. Seo** to continue his presentation, this time regarding the Kukkiwon agreement process which was initiated last year.

57. **Mr. Seo** said that every Council Meeting the progress of the cooperation with Kukkiwon is being updated as the main objective is to make sure that Kukkiwon works with the MNAs to delegate them to manage Kukkiwon Dan and screening test.
58. He presented a table showing that currently 65 MNAs are in discussion with Kukkiwon of which 35 have moved onto the second stage by submitting Letters of Intent. Five countries that include Great Britain, Iran, Kuwait, Chinese Taipei, and Jordan have already moved onto the third stage by signing a MOU.
59. **Mr. Jinbang Yang** intervened suggesting that WT, as a representative of the MNAs' interests, should establish its own rules about Kukkiwon-related matters. He added that the relations between Kukkiwon, the MNAs, and WT is very critical and important.
60. **Mr. Pimol Srivikorn** intervened as well indicating that after a previous meeting held with Kukkiwon there has not been an action or a follow-up regarding the points discussed at the meeting. He expressed that WT's involvement, as pointed out by **Mr. Yang**, may be of help in assisting and making things happen.
61. **Mr. Chun-jae Park** addressed to the Council expressing his gratitude on behalf of Kukkiwon as its representing Board Member. He committed to communicate the previously expressed concerns at the next Kukkiwon Board Meeting expected to be held next week. He explained that the entire population of Kukkiwon black belt holders is around 11 million of which 9.6 million is from Korea, which means that the Kukkiwon Taekwondo Program is not yet globalized. He mentioned that Kukkiwon is willing to listen and cooperate as it is of their interest to establish a globalized criteria to work and move forward.
62. **Mr. Hassan Iskandar** seconded the opinion of **Mr. Jinbang Yang** by explaining that MNAs and Kukkiwon need to work closely together for the further development of taekwondo to occur. He recommended WT to secure the establishment of the best relations between Kukkiwon and MNAs for the desired globalization to happen as suggested by other colleagues.

f. GMS Finance Report

63. The **CHAIR** stated that even though WT publishes the Global Membership System (GMS) audited accounts every year, there are still people who try to create rumors that harm the organization and discredit its good governance.
64. The **CHAIR** requested **Mr. Jerry Ling** to present the report about the GMS since its inception.
65. **Mr. Ling** mentioned that before 2009 the process of registration at WT events was not easy. Since GMS inception in 2009, the registration process has been smooth and WT started generating income, which naturally also incur expenses. He reported that until the end of December 2022, the total income was US\$7.2 million and deducting the expenses, the total net profit was US\$1.9 million.
66. He emphasized that records of all transactions are kept, monthly statements of income and expenses are available, all the accounts are audited by the CPA, and published annually in the finance reports. He also remarked that since 2021, GMS operation was shifted from Dallas to Seoul headquarters.
67. The **CHAIR** explained that he has chosen to remain silent as certain people continue to spread false statements and rumors about GMS because that people are in the process of investigations by U.S. prosecutors and he does not want WT to impact the investigations.

68. He mentioned that it is clear, not only from this report but also from WT audited accounts published annually, that GMS is run smoothly and transparently. He remarked that as an indicator of the good governance aimed on a daily basis

g. Integrity Audit

69. The **CHAIR** requested **Mr. Corbin Min**, Legal Counsel, to present the last report about the integrity audit.
70. **Mr. Min** recalled the Council Orientation Session in November 2021, where the Council's responsibility and role to provide oversight and generate ideas was discussed. This was in the context of WT's ongoing initiative to improve its governance and ensure that the full trust and support of its stakeholders are maintained. At the time of the 2021 Orientation, the Restatement of WT's Statutes had just been passed. With the recent e-vote the restructuring of WT's integrity rules was completed as well. He said that now WT is moving into a comprehensive evaluation of the rules, procedures and practices of both WT and CUs. An Integrity Audit will be the tool using to manage that evaluation. The purpose of this presentation is to briefly introduced to concept of the Integrity Audit give an idea of what to expect over the next 9 months.
71. He explained that in essence the Integrity Audit will be a detailed assessment of WT and CUs governance structure including regulations, policies, processes and practices. One of the goals is to define what integrity means for WT and to maximize it within the framework of an Olympic IF.
72. He explained that the goal of the Audit is to demonstrate WT's commitment for best practices, educate members about those best practices, and ensure the development of a culture of integrity throughout WT's ecosystem. A key objective of the audit will be to identify areas for improvement and recommend an action plan. An additional objective of this process is to identify recommendations that support WT's objective of reaching A1 ranking in the ASOIF governance survey.
73. He explained that an Integrity Audit Team will be formed composed by the Integrity, Juridical, and Finance Committees as well as other key stakeholders. The target is to create an Audit Plan and Framework by April 2023, complete data collection July, and have a report with recommendations ready by October.
74. Lastly, he presented an outline of the audit report which listed several areas of focus. He mentioned that over the next several months he will contact the Council members to share information about the audit and get advice. He said that all the information, perspectives, and recommendations will be greatly appreciated.
75. The **CHAIR** highlighted WT's goal to reach A1 in the ASOIF governance review. Then, he asked **Mr. Jay Lee**, as requested by him, to intervene and describe the changes for the Paris 2024 Qualification System.
76. **Mr. Lee** mentioned that the IOC detailed the host country quota places. He explained that the host country may qualify a maximum number of eight quota places (4 men, 4 women) through the WT Olympic Ranking or WT Grand Slam Champions Series. The host country is guaranteed up to a total of four quota places (2 men, 2 women); however, if the host country obtains quota places through the WT Olympic Ranking or WT Grand Slam Champions Series, the number of host country quota places will be recalculated by deducting any confirmed quota places as detailed in the Paris 2024 Qualification System.
77. Regarding the timeline, he mentioned that the confirmation of the host country quota is set to

September 30, 2023 mainly to avoid it from overlapping with the Universality (wild card). Also, the Paris 2024 Sport Entries deadline is on July 8, 2024.

78. He concluded that the Council's approval is needed for the two changes mentioned before, first, the details for the host country quota places; and second, September 30, 2023 as the date for the host country to confirm the weight categories.

6. Selection of the Host Cities

a. 2024 World Taekwondo Junior Championships

79. **Secretary General Jeongkang Seo** invited the delegates from Bosnia and Herzegovina, who joined online to present their bid proposal and asked three (3) Council Members from the Republic of Korea to leave the room, so as to avoid any possible conflict of interest due to a bid from Korea.
80. The delegate from Bosnia and Herzegovina started explaining about the country's demographics and airport connections. Then, he mentioned that Sarajevo is a good candidate for hosting big events, such as a World Championships, since the city hosted the Olympic Games in 1984. Also, the European Youth Olympic Festival was hosted in 2019 where 1500 athletes from 46 countries were welcomed. Regarding taekwondo events, they organized the 2020 European Championships for cadets and seniors, the 2021 European Championships for Juniors, the E1 and G1 2021 Bosnia and Herzegovina Open, and they will host the World Cadet Championships in August, 2023. He highlighted that the 2020 European Championships was organized during the covid-19 pandemic with the attendance of 335 athletes from 35 countries implementing for the first time a bubble system. The 2021 European Championships for Juniors, and the E1 and G1 Open were also held in a bubble system with 1500 guests and 1000 athletes and no positive covid-19 cases. Next, he summarized information about the Taekwondo Association of Bosnia and Herzegovina and their best results at international competitions. Lastly, he presented the available facilities for hosting the event including hotels, venue, competition area, training area, weighting zone, and restaurants.
81. **Mr. Seo** asked the Council if they had any question. There were three questions, the first was about the visa process facilitation; the second was about the size of the venue and available courts, and the third one about flight connections for African countries. The delegate from Bosnia and Herzegovina stated that at their previous events they had attendants from all over the world with no issues with visa granting. Also, he mentioned that they have a team working only on visa-related matters and that they will do everything in their power to facilitate the process. Regarding venue size, he mentioned that up to ten courts can be set for the event. Finally, about flight connections from Africa, he said that he cannot assure direct connections available.
82. **Mr. Seo** thanked and asked the delegates from Bosnia and Herzegovina be excused. He invited the delegate from Hong Kong, The People's Republic of China to present the bid in person.
83. The delegate from Hong Kong, The People's Republic of China started highlighting that they has just lifted all the covid-19 restrictions. Then, he stressed that they had experiences in hosting major events such as the WT Championships in 1997, the Asian Taekwondo Championships in 2000, and the East Asian Games in 2009. After a short video was played, he described the venues in size and capacity. He presented a blueprint for the facilities available including halls, arenas, and training zones. Transportation times and logistics were also briefly described. Accommodation available for officials and teams was presented including available rooms and price range. Information about an anti-doping agency and an

insurance company was also displayed. In addition, he presented a legacy plan including courses for coaches, referees, and athletes for the further development of the sport. Finally, he mentioned that the budget for the event is estimated to be US\$2.2 million of which US\$1.3 will be sponsored by the government and US\$0.9 by the Hong Kong Taekwondo Association.

84. **Mr. Seo** addressed the Council for any questions. There were two questions. The first about visa facilitation mainly for African countries, and the second about whether the budget covers one or two events. The delegate from Hong Kong, The People's Republic of China claimed that the government will support and immigration will not have a problem with the visa. Regarding the budget, he mentioned it is for one event only. Lastly, he stated that the presentation covers also the bid for the 2024 WT Poomsae Championships as the same information applies.
85. **Mr. Seo** thanked and asked the delegate from Hong Kong, The People's Republic of China to leave the room. He then invited the delegates from the Republic of Korea who were on-site for their bid presentation. The 3 Council Members from the Republic of Korea were also invited back to the meeting room.
86. After playing a video, the delegate from Korea remarked that Chuncheon is a well-known city of taekwondo. For 20 years Korea Open has been hosted in the city and last year the Asian Taekwondo Championships were organized and held successfully. He stated that the Korea Taekwondo Association (KTA) and the city of Chuncheon will work hard to make the best and biggest WT Junior Championships. He commented that they are eager, ready and equipped for the project. He also mentioned that there will be no problems with the visa.
87. **Mr. Seo** addressed the Council for any questions. There was a question about transportation time from the hotels to the venue. The delegate from Korea said that for technical staff it would be around 20 minutes and for athletes, depending on the hotel, it would be from 10 to 30 minutes. He remarked that enough shuttle busses will be available. Lastly, he highlighted Chuncheon city's availability and willingness to hold the event at any date set by WT.
88. **Mr. Seo** thanked and asked the delegates from Republic of Korea to leave the room. Then, he proceeds with the voting first for attendees on site and then for attendees online.
89. He mentioned that among the members, five (5) are not eligible to vote who are from Republic of Korea: the **CHAIR, Mr. Kyu Seok Lee, Mr. Jeongkang Seo, Mr. Jinbang Yang and Mr. Kook Hyun Jung**.
90. The **CHAIR** delegated the Treasurer, **Mr. Pimol Srivikorn** to manage the voting and counting on behalf of the Auditor, **Mr. Ali Sagirkaya** who attended online.
91. After voting (on-site and online), the **CHAIR** invited delegates and Council Members from Republic of Korea again.
92. He announced the result: Bosnia and Herzegovina received a total of 7 votes; Hong Kong, The People's Republic of China received 2 votes; and Chuncheon received 18 votes.
 - **Decision: Chuncheon, Korea was selected as the host city of 2024 World Taekwondo Junior Championships by the Council.**
- b. *2024 World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships*
93. The **CHAIR** addressed the Council asking, since Hong Kong, The People's Republic of China was the only candidate city, to award the 2024 World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships to

Hong Kong, The People's Republic of China. It was seconded and unanimously approved.

- **Decision: Hong Kong, The People's Republic of China was selected as the host city of 2024 World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships by the Council.**

7. Approval

a. Inauguration of World Cup Taekwondo Team Championships in Korea

94. The **CHAIR** mentioned that the first item for approval is the inauguration of the World Cup Taekwondo Team Championships in Korea. He remarked that with mixed team events included in the Youth Olympic Games in Dakar, the global standards and support of Taekwondo team events should be raised.
95. The **CHAIR** gave the floor to **Mr. Jinbang Yang** to give more information.
96. **Mr. Yang** explained that KTA is proposing a different format for team championships aiming to make taekwondo a more attractive and exciting sport. He mentioned that a report will be given to the Council at Baku after KTA and WT Technical Commission have a full discussion about the technical details of the new competition format that is being proposed.
97. The **CHAIR** asked the Council to motion and approve the inauguration of the World Cup Taekwondo Team Championships in Korea. This was seconded and approved by the Council.

- **Decision: The inauguration of the World Cup Taekwondo Team Championships in Korea was approved by the Council.**

b. World Taekwondo events – Beach, Diamond Game, Demonstration

98. The **CHAIR** informed the Council that the Korean city of Chuncheon has submitted a bid to organize three WT-promoted events jointly as part of a Cultural Festival from August 18th to 24th this year. The three events are the Beach Championships, Octagon Diamond Game and Demonstration Team Championships.
99. He cited that Chuncheon is one of the cities bidding to host the WT headquarters, so their bid to organize these three events is part of their commitments. He marked that the host city will cover all expenses with regard to organizing the events.
100. The **CHAIR** asked the Council to motion and approve the joint organization of the 2023 World Taekwondo Beach Championships, Octagon Diamond Game, and Demonstration Team Championships as a Cultural Festival, and to approve Chuncheon as the host city. This was seconded and approved by the Council.
101. **Decision: The joint organization of the 2023 World Taekwondo Beach Championships, Octagon Diamond Game, and Demonstration Team Championships with Chuncheon as the host city was approved by the Council.**

8. Other Matters

102. The **CHAIR** informed the Council that the IOC has been discussing with the IFs about the access to competitions for individual athletes with Russian and Belarusian passports. He requested **Mr. Jeongkang Seo** to provide more details.
103. **Mr. Seo** summarized the recent development of the sanction case against athletes and officials from Russia and Belarus. He mentioned that following the Russian invasion of Ukraine, on February 28, 2022 the IOC recommended to ban Russian and Belarusian athletes from

participation in sporting events. Following those recommendations, WT called for an urgent Extraordinary Council meeting on March 3, 2022 and decided to ban athletes and officials from Russia and Belarus from participation in WT events. He expressed that for the past 11 months, the global taekwondo family has been united to fully support the training and participation of Ukrainian athletes that lost their homes due to the war.

104. He continued mentioning that the United Nations General Assembly on their meeting on December 1, 2022, adopted a resolution called "Sport as an enabler of sustainable development" which supported the political neutrality of the Olympic Movement. In addition, UN Human Rights Council expressed concerns about the ban on Russian and Belarusian athletes based on their nationality. Under these circumstances, the IOC called for an Olympic Summit on December 9, 2022. Then, the IOC held consultation calls with IFs on January 17, 2023, followed by consultation calls with NOCs on January 19, 2023 to discuss the issue. Finally, on January 25th, the IOC issued a statement under the name of "Statement on solidarity with Ukraine, sanctions against Russia and Belarus, and the status of athletes from these countries." In that statement, the IOC committed to exploring the return of Russian and Belarusian athletes to competitions as neutral athletes under strict conditions. After that, the NOC of Ukraine send an open letter to the IOC expressing their concern about the IOC intentions and the IOC responded as well.
105. After those events, he said that WT had a conference call with the IOC to discuss the next step for taekwondo. The meeting was held with the IOC Sport Director, Mr. Kit McConnell, on January 31. In the meeting, WT assured its full support to the IOC stands; however, WT expressed its clear opposition to the proposal of the Olympic Council of Asia for the possible participation of Russia in the Asian Qualification for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. Until the end of March, the IOC will collect further feedback from the IFs and the IOC Executive Board will make a final decision at their meeting on March 28 and 29.
106. He concluded that the participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes in WT competitions including the Baku WT Championships will be decided after the IOC EB meeting. However, he remarked that the WT position goes in the same direction as the IOC.
107. He presented a short WT statement declaring it is in line with the IOC and ASOIF statements as follows:

Following the statements from the IOC with regard to the status of athletes from Russia and Belarus, the World Taekwondo Council convened today and expressed its full support for the IOC's position to respect the rights of all athletes without any discrimination, which is in line with the mission of World Taekwondo.

World Taekwondo will continue to discuss with the IOC the potential reintegration of athletes to international Taekwondo competitions, including qualification pathways to the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, and the conditions under which such return to competition may be conducted.

World Taekwondo believes that sport can and should be used to reconcile and heal, rather than to separate.

108. **Mr. Hassan Iskandar** intervened fully supporting WT statement arguing that it is a very fair move and expressing his hope for Russian and Belarusian athletes to compete as neutral athletes in the near future.
109. The **CHAIR** asked the Council to motion and second the proposed World Taekwondo statement. This was seconded and approved by the Council.

- **Decision: World Taekwondo statement was approved by the Council.**

110. **Mr. Inseon Kim** mentioned that a threatening email was sent, however, this information is not accurate. In fact, physical mail was sent to his business address in Lewisville, Texas, with a return address of the WT office in Lausanne, Switzerland.

9. Next Council Meeting

111. The **CHAIR** declared that, barring any unforeseen circumstances, the next Council Meeting will be held in Baku on the occasion of the World Taekwondo Championships. The Council meeting will be held in the morning of May 28th followed by the General Assembly in the afternoon.
112. He added that a special gala to commemorate the 50th Founding Anniversary of World Taekwondo will be organized on May 27th, and he expressed his hope to see everyone in Baku.

10. Closing of Meeting

113. The **CHAIR** thanked the Council for a fruitful and productive start of the WT Golden Jubilee year. He asked the CUs and MNAs to promote WT 50th Founding Anniversary as widely as possible.
114. He encouraged to work harder and closer together as WT aims to be the most well-governed, united, harmonized, and respected IF in the Olympic and Paralympic movements.
115. He adjourned the Council Meeting.