

MINUTES OF THE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION CORE PLANNING MEETING BERMUDA 10/02/2011

Chairman: Allan Herbert (BAR)

Secretary: Rupert Jones (PNG)

Councilors: Hal Bond (CAN), Martin Huba (SVK), Steven Kisuze (UGA)

Observers: Americas' Continental President, Jorge Vega (CRC), FIDE Treasurer, Nigel Freeman (BER), Carol Jarecki (BVI) and Polly Wright (USA).

1. Welcome

Development Commission Chairman, Allan Herbert, began by welcoming all to Bermuda. He especially thanked the Bermudan Chess Federation and FIDE Treasurer Nigel Freeman for all their preparatory work in getting the meeting staged.

At the closed of the 2010 FIDE Congress, the FIDE Treasurer and General Secretary met with Commission Chairmen to outline the Presidential Board's expectations on the functioning of commissions. In particular, all FIDE Commissions were now expected to meet at least once a year, prior to the FIDE Congress, to plan their activities and to submit progress reports prior to each Presidential Board meeting.

This was the first such planning meeting for the Development Commission and, as the three Development Commission Councilors present were all new to the Commission, the first half of the meeting would be a retrospective of what had been achieved in the previous four years and would also help bring the new members up to date on the Commission's work.

All members present were asked to introduce themselves by giving a brief personal, professional and chess bio.

2. Review of 2006-2010 Development Goals

The Chairman started by asking the question 'what is chess development'? Further what is a chess developing country?

He said that there is a view that in FIDE there are, what some refer to as, 'ghost federations' or Federations who appear in an election year with just a delegate who then casts their vote for the established leaders.

Commission Secretary, Rupert Jones, cited a discussion he had recently had with Malcolm Pein who was convinced that the recent FIDE elections were won and lost by these members.

The reality is that if such Federations did exist, especially in Khanty Mansiysk, were very few and inconsequential to the outcome of the elections.

This then lead the discussion onto how one could define a 'chess developing country' and chess development.

Continental President, Jorge Vega, shared his experience when he first assumed the Presidency of the Cuban Chess Federation and the efforts undertaken to blood a new generation of Cuban players, the results of which can be seen today. He indicated that in his experience, it was important to build a broad base of players. Admitting that, while he had no

scientific research to back his findings, other than personal observation over the years, he had concluded that to develop one player you need a base of 7 players beneath that player.

Development was a like a pyramid and by focusing on building the based of the pyramid the base will naturally push to the top a generation stronger players which can be sustained.

Development Commission Chairman reminded the meeting that the CACDEC Statues were silent as to how Federations get onto the CACDEC list and as to how they graduate it. This has led to some concern as to the effectiveness of the Commission's work since the list remained unchanged for many years.

After consultation with Continental Presidents, and discussion at preceding CACDEC Commission meetings, the CACDEC List was revised at the 2008 Dresden Congress and restructured to two levels based on the United Nation's Human Development Index and the average FIDE Rating of the Federation's top ten players.

The Chairman then went through the 2006-2010 Development Goals.

It was agreed that the one of the Commission's objectives would be to review the CACDEC Statues paying special attention the Development Commission's role and the protocol governing classification of Federations by development status.

FIDE Treasurer, Nigel Freeman, said that the one of main issues which makes the composition of the CACDEC List such a sensitive topic was that of pocket money at Olympiads. He recommended that the Commission develop a separate list for those Federations whose players will be eligible for pocket money at the Olympiad and one for those who will be eligible for Development Funding and Rebates as defined in FIDE Financial Regulations.

If the Commission could find a way to separate Olympiad pocket money from Development Funding, then we would not have to worry about who is and who is not a member of CACDEC.

In terms of Development Funding, FIDE Treasurer indicated that he hoped the Commission would move away from the practice of supplying chess equipment as a means to expend the budget. He reminded the meeting of a number of instances where new administrations in some Federations could not locate equipment donated a year earlier and a most recent situation in where a small Federation received significantly more sets and clocks than it had members.

With reference to the last four years, FIDE Treasurer commended the Americas Continent for being the only Continent to successfully execute projects that fully expended its Development budget.

Former Continental President for Africa, Dablani Buthali, was also commended for his untiring efforts in making sure that Development Funds were well spent, even though Africa had not spent more than 40% of its budget in some years.

FIDE Treasurer informed the meeting that 2011 was the year of Africa and the year of Chess in Schools. He also mentioned that the IOC did not think that FIDE spent enough on development and that the Commission should seek to have a development space on FIDE's website when it is redeveloped.

Statistics developed by FIDE Rating Office, tracking the progress by Federation of number of rated players, titles and events submitted for rating for the period 2006-2010, were then reviewed.

In the area of rated tournaments a lot of discussion was had, especially when comparing across continents. It was concluded that while an average increase of 54.72% was achieved between 2006 and 2010, the Commission should aim to raise the number of rated tournaments in Developing Federations.

Further, it was observed that there was great disparity between Developed Federations in the number of events being rated and clearly many tournaments were not submitted for rating. Comparing the top Federation, based on number of events rated, for each Continent as an example, the disparity was startling; France 731 events in 2010 versus USA's 188, India's 97 and Egypt's 20.

It was agreed that further investigation was needed on a case by case basis to identify the factors influencing Federations in not submitting events.

Also noted, that prior to the 2010 Olympiad, there were 19 Federations without a single rated player. While some of these countries did achieve rated players at the Olympiad (Cameroon, Mali, Sao Tome & Principe). We are now left with the likes of Cambodia, the Congo, Gabon, Laos, Mauretania, Sierra Leone and the Solomon Islands. The Commission agreed that a major goal for the coming period has to be to get rated players in every country.

3. Review of CACDEC List

3.1 CACDEC Eligibility and Graduation Criteria

The Chairman informed the Commission that the average rating of a Federation's top 10 players was one of the main criteria used to revise the CACDEC List in 2008.

A cut-off of 2300, FIDE Master, and less than two Grandmasters was used for eligibility to CACDEC List.

The UN's Human Development Index was then used to allocate Federations between Level 1 and 2.

The Commission felt that further analysis of the eligibility criteria was needed and that these criteria should be prepared for inclusion in the CACDEC Statutes by the Commission's meeting in Krakow.

3.1 Kirgizstan Application for inclusion of the CACDEC List

Given the decision to review CACDEC List eligibility criteria it was agreed that all decisions on CACDEC membership, including Kirgizstan's application, be tabled for approval at the next Presidential Board Meeting.

3.2 New List Recommendations

Applying the 2008 criteria, average rating less than 2300 and less than two Grandmasters, to the January 2011 FIDE Rating List the following were recommended for approval at the Presidential Board Meeting:

1. South Africa and Wales be graduated as their average rating exceeds 2300.
2. Mali, Myanmar and Palestine be reassigned to Level 1
3. Central African Republic, Cote d'Ivoire and Senegal be admitted to Level 1

4. Pakistan, Cambodia, Solomon Islands and Laos be reassigned to Level 2
5. Congo and Costa Rica be admitted to Level 2
6. Kyrgyzstan be admitted to Level 2, pending confirmation that their average rating is less than 2300.

As is the custom in the past, Continental Presidents are to be circulated for their input.

Finally the Commission agreed that as part of the recommendations for the new list and the review of the CACDEC Statutes, a comprehensive Development List comprising all Federations with multiple levels, including the CACDEC Levels 1 and 2, be presented at Development Commission Meeting in Krakow.

3.3 Other Recommendations

3.3.1 The statistics prepared by the FIDE Rating Office be formalized and refined into an annually report for publication on FIDE's Web Site. This would allow Federations to track and bench mark their progress.

3.3.2 The Rating section on the FIDE Web Site should be enhanced to present the Top Players and Top Federations lists by Continent, Zone and Development Level in addition to World level. It was felt that this would generate activity as players would be motivated to make the Top 10 of their region.

3.3.3 The time had come to look at getting rid of the CACDEC label. Access to Development Funding should be open to all Federations based on need, merit of the project and alignment to the Development Goals. This includes the identification of Federations eligible for Olympiad pocket money.

3.3.4 Positive stories highlighting the achievement of chess development be prepared for FIDE Web Site, i.e. nothing in the chess press about Zambia's excellent performance in the Olympiad.

4. New Federation Development

The FIDE members list was examined to see where there are gaps in membership.

Africa has the biggest gaps especially in West Africa.

In the Americas only the gap came from the Caribbean region, especially the islands of the Eastern Caribbean.

Steven Kisuze was tasked, in collaboration with the African Chess Union and Continental President, at looking into Tanzania and Rupert Jones into Lesotho and Swaziland. CACDEC Chairman Allan Herbert would work with the Confederation for Chess in the Americas and Continental President for America on the Caribbean islands.

5. Development Commission Budget for 2011

5.1 Current Incentives to CACDEC Federations

5.1.1 Pocket money at an Olympiad for CACDEC Level 1 Federations, which works out to be €70 per player. This however is not a FIDE incentive but derives from the bid of Olympiad Organizers and thus is dependent of the terms of the contract with the Organizer. FIDE Treasurer recommended that the Commission publish at the beginning of each odd number year the list of Federation eligible for Olympiad Pocket Money.

5.1.2 FIDE Financial Regulation 7.3 - CACDEC Federations are entitled to 50% of the entry fee revenue from official FIDE (except World Championships, World Cup and Olympiad) Continental and Zonal events they organize.

5.1.3 FIDE Financial Regulations 10.2 - Activity rebate to CACDEC Level 1 Federations for FIDE tournaments fees, title fees, rating fees and entry fees to World events up to the amount of their annual membership fee. The activity rebate from FIDE for 2010 was Euro 15,000. FIDE Treasurer recommended that the Commission publish at the beginning of each year the list of Federations eligible for the CACDEC Activity Rebate.

5.1.4 Special price on purchase price of DGT clocks (DGT2010).

5.2 FIDE CACDEC Budget

The current allocation for 2009-10 was € 225,000. It was split 40% to Africa, 25% to Americas, 25% to Asia and 10% to Chairman's discretion.

In 2010 the Americas and Africa had fully spent their budget. With Asia, their President had funded a number of development activities and there was effort underway to rebate some of these activities contingent of receiving associated receipts.

Traditionally, Africa has had difficulty in identify projects and is some years spent less than 40% of its budget. It was agreed that the Commission would seek to work with the Continental President to find ways to increase Africa's spend.

FIDE Treasurer advised that while FIDE 2011 Budget was not approved as yet he would recommend that the Commission plan for a budget, Euro 225,000, similar to 2010.

The following allocation by Continent was agreed:

- **Africa 40%** - € 90,000
- **Americas 25%** - € 56,250
- **Asia 15%** - € 33,750
- **Europe 7.5%** - € 16,875
- **Chairman 12.5%** - € 28,125

As with previous years Continental Allocations are for projects within the continent and the Chairman's allocation, in addition to covering travel costs for the Commission, will cover projects spanning multiple Continents like seminars at the Olympiad and World Youth.

It was also agreed that Federations with outstanding FIDE and IOC questionnaires will not be eligible for Development Funding until said questionnaires have been submitted.

6. Projects and Cooperation with Other Commissions

6.1 World Youth Travel Grant

The Chairman briefed the meeting on the new World Youth Travel Grant programme that was approved at the 2010 Development Commission meeting in Khanty Mansisyk.

A maximum of forty eight grants are to be offered, totaling US\$24,000 (US\$500 per nominee). The grant will be awarded to one CACDEC Federation player in each age category who finishes in the top 20 of their Continental Youth Championships.

Development Commission Secretary Rupert Jones is to follow up with Continental Presidents to have organizers of their Continental Youth Championships include the World Youth Travel Grant in the regulations for this year's championships.

6.2 Trainers Commission

Americas Continental President Jorge Vega raised his concern relating to the costs of Trainers Seminars. This included rates for tutors as well as the requirement to have two tutors.

It was noted that at Khanty Mansisyk Congress the FIDE President indicated that he wanted to put significant funds behind development of Trainers. Whether this funding would be channeled directly to the Trainers Commission or through the Development Commission was unclear.

It was agreed that a special rate should be negotiated with the Trainers Commission for seminars held in Developing Federations, that are funded by the Development Commission.

Development Commission Secretary Rupert Jones was tasked with liaising with the Trainers Commission to negotiate a special Development Rate for Trainers Seminars and coaching assignments, and to establish a Register of Trainers willing to offer their services to Development initiatives.

In terms of provision of trainers for Olympiad teams, the Chairman informed the meeting that the policy was for Development Commission to fund the trainer's airfare and stipend on the condition that the Federation appoints the trainer as Captain and include him as an official member of their team. If this is not possible, then the Federation would be responsible for paying the trainer's hotel and meals costs at the Olympiad.

6.2 Arbiters Commission

The Chairman reported that the Americas had had great success in 2010 with offering Arbiters Seminars via the internet and, now that the regulations for offering these seminars were formerly approved at Khanty Mansisyk Congress, he recommends that going forward only internet seminars be promoted and funded.

Hal Bond was tasked to act as the primary liaison with the Arbiters Commission.

7. Development Goals 2011-2014

Increasing chess activity in a measurable way was agreed as the main focus for the Development Commission over the next four years. Defining a way to measure this was discussed at length.

Martin Huba was tasked with defining the new method for tracking chess activity and assigning Federations to various activity levels.

It was agreed that this should allow for peer comparisons between Federations taking into account their country's size. A five tier index based on ratable games per capita, possibly further adjusted by the Human Development Index was suggested.

- Level 0 - non FIDE membership
- Level 1 - no FIDE rated tournaments (hence no FIDE rated players almost)
- Level 2 - less than 10 FIDE rated tournaments or an equivalent based on ratable games
- Level 3 - less than 100 FIDE rated tournaments or an equivalent based on ratable games
- Level 4 - More than 100 FIDE rated tournaments or an equivalent based on ratable games

8. Roles of Core Members of the Development Commission

8.1 Rupert Jones

Implementation of World Youth Travel Grant programme and liaison with Trainers Commission in relation to developing special Trainers rates for Development funded projects.

8.2 Martin Huba

Liaison with FIDE Rating Office to develop the Annual Chess Development Statistics Digest based on January FIDE Rating List and with FIDE Web Master to have it published in time for 1st Quarter Presidential Board Meeting each year. Redevelopment and maintenance of the Chess Developing Countries list will also be part of this brief.

8.3 Hal Bond

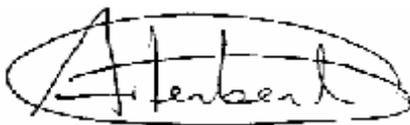
Lead Arbiter development initiatives in collaboration with the Arbiters Commission and the Rating Pool Development Programme for Federations with less than five FIDE Rated players.

8.4 Steven Kisuze

Lead activity increase initiatives by working with Federations to submit more of their tournaments for FIDE Rating. New Federation Development in Africa coordinated through Africa Chess Union and Africa Continental President.

8.5 Allan Herbert

Revision of the Development List, as per existing criteria, and preparation of a draft for the 2011-2014 Development Goals to be presented by next Presidential Board Meeting.



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Chairman
FIDE Development Commission



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CACDEC YOUTH TRAVEL GRANT

The programme arises out of CACDEC Developmental Goals 2006-2010 which I presented to the 2006 4th Quarter FIDE Presidential Board Meeting in Elista.

Its primary aim is to encourage greater participation by CACDEC Federations in the Continental Youth Events, Goal 7, by rewarding the top performers with assistance towards attending World Youth.

The selection criterion for the winning candidate in each age group is the highest placed player from a CACDEC Federation in top 20% of the final standings.

The other major conditions are that the CACDEC Youth Grant must be used in the same year it was won for the World Youth of that year and is provided for the player not the Federation, i.e. the Federation cannot substituted the player with another player from the Federation.

The proposed grant would US\$500 per player. I appreciate that it is a small start but I am hoping that should this programme prove successful we will be able to justify a larger grant.

My ultimate goal is to develop the programme into a one year CACDEC Developmental Scholarship, for want of a better term, to support the tournament expenses of the winning candidate for that year. This obviously is a much more expensive undertaking that will require more support from FIDE.

Positive results by the candidates who win will certainly give the Commission the confidence to fight for the expansion of the programme.

Obviously, for the winning Federations they can use this to generate good press for the players and can help in getting further support. It also helps the Federation's image.