

**FIDE Congress  
Istanbul, Turkey  
General Assembly  
7-9 September 2012**

**MINUTES**

**0.1. Obituaries.**

We mourn the passing in the preceding year of friends of FIDE among whom we remember:

IA Mikko Markkula (FIN) –QC Chairman  
Dr. Nathan Divinsky (CAN) – Zone President  
IM, IA Boris De Greiff (COL) – Zone President  
GM Vitaly Tsheskovsky (RUS)  
GM Andrei Kharitonov (RUS)  
GM Yuri Razuvaev (RUS)  
IA Igor Botvinnik (RUS)  
IA Yakov Zinder (RUS)  
IM Vladimir Baikov (RUS)  
IM Orest Averkin (RUS)  
Mr. Carlos Ustariz (HON) – former delegate  
IM Haukur Angantýsson (ISL)  
IM Carlos Cuartas (COL)  
IM Ahmed Hamed (EGY)  
WIM Elaine Prichard (ENG)  
WIM Edith Soppe (ARG)  
IM Emil Ungureanu (ROM)  
IM Arne Vinje (NOR)  
FM Ali Apek (TUR)  
GM Yuri Vasilchuk (RUS)  
IO Olivier Breisacher (SUI)  
IM Dick van Geet (NED)  
GM Svetozar Gligoric (SRB)  
Mr. Johar Ulpiner (ISR)

Roll Call

136 Federations

3 more new proxies were received.

Mr. G. Makropoulos announced special guests. Minister of Sports of Serbia A. Maric and World Champion G. Kasparov.

FIDE Vice President Ali Nihat Yazici welcomed the FIDE General Assembly delegates.

SportAccord President H. Verbruggen addressed the delegates. He said that the name has been changed from GAISF to SportAccord. He said SportAccord is an umbrella organization of 91 international sporting federations, and they also have 16 associate members and these are organizers like Para Olympic committee, FISU, Military Games,

Commonwealth Games, World Games etc. Their mission is to unite and support the international federations and that is necessary more than before. They would like to protect our common names and aims by respecting their autonomy in ruling the sports. They provide certain services and are active in the recognition process as more and more new sports are developing. They are looking at E-sports: there is discussion going on as to if they are to be recognized. They are also providing services in terms of anti-doping and are asked by WADA and IOC to provide services. They know what sports contribute to the achievements of young persons, handicapped people and so on. As to the support they try to give to the sporting federations, FIDE is active and we have a joint venture which allows us to promote and show sports to the world. He would like to mention the concept of Multi-sports Games has been developed, which started in 2010 with Combat games, the philosophy being that we put similar sports; in case of chess, it is the Mind Sports Games. He thanked the FIDE President for his support in this project. 2011 was the first time and the second time will again be in Beijing. He said he would like to explain that the philosophy behind Mind Games is that first of all they work with similar sports, but very important that our main objective is promotion of your sports, alongside with other mind sports on the global scale. All of our games have a social side. The request of the Government of Beijing helps a lot to promote mind games in the schools. We are very grateful to all your chess players who were there, but you know they wanted to have festival of mind sports during this period. They try to attract not only top players but also local population and through extensive media campaigns to have a global promotion of the respective sports. He thanked the FIDE President and members within the FIDE family for the contribution to SportAccord and Mind Games.

## **1. Report of the President.**

President Kirsan Ilyumzhinov presented his annual report.

Ladies and gentlemen!

First of all let me express our deepest gratitude to our colleague and a hospitable host, FIDE Vice President and President of the Turkish CF Mr. Ali-Nihat Yazici for the wonderful organization and holding of the 40<sup>th</sup> Chess Olympiad and the 83<sup>rd</sup> FIDE Congress. I would like also to thank the Government of Turkey, the Turkish Ministry of Youth and Sports, Istanbul municipality, Turkish Chess Federation, the Organising Committee of the Olympiad, sponsors and volunteers – everyone, who contributed to this beautiful chess festival.

It is also my pleasure to welcome our honorable guests: Minister of Sports of the Republic of Serbia, an outstanding chess player Alisa Maric, the Minister of Sports of the Republic of Azerbaijan Mr. Azad Rahimov and SportAccord President Hein Verbruggen. We are very honoured by their presence in our Assembly.

During the period after our last Congress, the two top events took place in our chess life: November 2011 in Tirana, the Women's World Chess Championship took place. Women's World Champion Hou Yifan has convincingly defended her title in the fight against a challenger from India – Humpy Koneru. Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, ex President of the USSR visited the first official FIDE event in Albania, which gave additional weight to the event. I would like to thank the President of the Albanian Chess Federation Mr. Taci for the successful organization of the match.

This May in one of the most well-known places of the Russian capital – the Tretyakov Gallery – the World Chess Championship Match between Viswanathan Anand and

Boris Gelfand took place, for the prize fund of 2,55 mln USD. It was organized on the highest organization level and attracted huge attention both of chess experts and just chess lovers. During live Internet broadcast people had a chance to see not only all details of the match and hear professional chess commentary, but get acquainted with the history and masterpieces of one of the best museums of the world. At the closing of the match President of Russia Vladimir Putin met with the participants. I would also like to express our enormous gratitude to the Russian Chess Federation management led by Arkady Dvorkovich and to FIDE Vice President Ilya Levitov, the main match sponsor Andrei Filatov for the brilliant realization of the idea to unite sports and arts in the presentation of chess.

Please join me again in congratulating our Champions Hou Yifan and Vishy Anand – who retained their titles and proved that they are worthy title holders.

We undertake the efforts to organize our official tournaments with good taste and also, to increase the range of the services provided to national federations, with this aim we introduced the calculations of rapid chess and blitz tournaments starting with July 1<sup>st</sup> 2012. I am sure that this is an absolutely correct decision and it will promote the organization of new official rapid and blitz events, to organize its control, to attract new potential sponsors, with a wider range of chess lovers and accordingly, with the increase of chess market income.

Therefore it is absolutely logical that we organized the first World Rapid and Blitz Championship this year. The events were organized in Astana with the participation of Presidents of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. Following the opening ceremony the President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbaev has decided to construct a modern chess center in the capital. The same decision was taken after my meeting with the President of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliiev. They will construct the building in the centre of Baku at the embankment.

Beijing hosted one more interesting new event – SportAccord Mind Games, featuring top 32 players (16 men and 16 women), who play rapid, blitz and blind chess. SportAccord Mind Games is a good experience for FIDE to participate in multisport Games and can serve as some kind of a model for an Olympic tournament, should chess join the Olympic programme. Besides, it is an additional source of income for players and FIDE.

You all remember a beautiful building of the chess centre in Khanty-Mansiysk, the venue of our previous General Assembly. Last September, they hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> World Chess Cup won by Peter Svidler. I would like to note that we tried the video broadcast of the event, which now takes place in all FIDE official events. We received a proposal from ChessTV company, which is ready to invest and carry out videobroadcast of our other tournaments. This company was involved in the Moscow World Championship match, and they are currently working here at the Olympiad. They think that if we both work together, it is possible to create sponsor and advertisement market, to become a serious source of income for the chess events organizers. As for Khanty-Mansiysk, they are going to host the Women's World Championship in November and next year – World Rapid and Blitz Championships.

I would also like to note a successful organization of the FIDE Grand-Prix series, and in ten days we are opening a new series by a London tournament, followed by Tashkent, and next year the Grand Prix tournaments will take place in Lisbon, Madrid, Berlin and Paris. London will also host next year in March the Candidates matches, and the prize fund has already been transferred to the FIDE account. According to the signed contract, the organization of these tournaments is undertaken by Agon. Ankara next week will host the last leg of the FIDE Women's Grand-Prix tournaments.

During the period since our last meeting I have given the prior attention to the Chess in

Schools programme. As I told you in Krakow, we succeeded to attract the Russian state company Rosneft to cooperate with us in this project, who provided us with 1 mln USD for a global programme, and 500, 000 USD for the Russian programme “Russia’s chess hopes” under the leadership of very experienced trainers: unfortunately, late GM Yuri Razuvaev and his colleagues Mark Dvoretzky and Alexander Nikitin.

In this respect, I would like to praise very active work of our Chess in Schools Commission under the chairmanship of our Vice President Ali Nihat Yazici and Secretary Kevin O’Connell. A week ago, within the framework of this Olympiad, an international conference on chess education with the sponsorship of Rosneft, took place. I know that some of you participated in this conference and could hear a lot of interesting things, from the projects, e.g. Slovakia, Slovenia, Moldova, Italy and other countries, to listen to a scientific report of Prof. Janer Achikad “Chess a sports discipline”, and to exchange your experience and impressions. During the meeting I signed an agreement with the Minister of Education of Lebanon Dr. Hasan Diab, and the President of Lebanese Federation Mr. Nabil Bader, between their Ministry of Education and FIDE and their Federation.

We have quite a few positive examples both on state and private level.

The best examples are Armenia, where the Chess Federation led by President H.E. Sergh Sargsian managed to include chess into school curriculum and Azerbaijan, where the President of the country H.E. Ilham Aliev signed a state programme of chess development for 2009-2014. Therefore the representatives of these countries reach great results in the top youth events. According to Mr.Khodarkovsky, his Chess Academy managed to introduce chess lessons in more than 70% of US primary schools. Two days ago, the President of Kazakhstan H.E. Nursultan Nazarbaev at a meeting with young generation declared the intention of his country’s government to introduce chess into school programme.

While visiting various countries, my programme always includes, alongside with meetings with the heads of states and governments, meetings with ministers of education. Many of the delegates know this from their personal experience, as they participated in such meetings with me, and others know this from the information on the FIDE official website, published there on a regular basis. I would like to inform you that I signed the agreements on cooperation with the Ministries of Education of the following countries: Azerbaijan, Israel, Thailand, Philippines, Vietnam, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Paraguay, Laos etc. I reached agreements to sign such documents with a number of other countries. There is another aspect in this – National Federations have to learn how to realize such agreements, in order to achieve real results. Here the Commission led by Ali, is very instrumental. I would request him to visit Thailand, Laos and Indonesia, so that they could disseminate positive progress of their Commission beyond European countries, where also we know about success of the ECU President Silvio Danailov and Kasparov Chess Academy, who managed to attract positive attention from more than a half of member of the European Parliament.

We are facing a very ambitious task – to increase the number of those who play chess on a constant or not so, basis, to 1 bln people. Recently, YouGov, a British company, undertook a survey in various countries, to determine that on this planet, more than 600 mln people are involved in chess or are interested in chess to a certain degree. These are mostly well-educated people with a wide range of interests etc. You can read about survey results on a FIDE website. We come to a conclusion that we can reach our goal by attracting wide groups of younger generation, that means through the Chess in Schools programme.

Our Agenda is very big, therefore let me shortly comment on several other issues.

I have been approached on several occasions regarding the refusal to issue an

accreditation to one Russian journalist, and there even open letters in this respect. I addressed the Head of the Organising Committee with a request to carefully consider this issue and I would appreciate Ali's comments on this. On one hand, we should not interfere with the media members to carry out their work which is very necessary for us, we should not veto to a profession, but on the other hand, it is necessary to regularize the process of accrediting those who are real professional journalists, who do not disseminate speculations and information which has not been checked, and those who are aware of professional ethics. Therefore I task Mr. Georgios Makropoulos and M. Khodarkovsky to create a special commission, comprising, first of all, journalists. And, to close the topic, I request that this journalist be issued an accreditation badge.

FIDE Statutes Amendments. This issue will be reported by Messrs. Jarrett and Makropoulos, but I would like to note that the changes, in first place, are aimed at updating our Statutes, at making our activities more specific and to further democratization of electoral process.

I would like to thank the Board members, Presidents of National Federations for their help in promoting chess all over the world.

I do realize that many of you should and want to be present at the games of your national teams, therefore I suggest we start working according to the Agenda right away.

Thank you for your attention.

Gens Una Sumus. We are one family.

## **2. Financial report.**

### **2.1. Report of the Auditors.**

**Annex 1** is [Accounts for 2011](#) and [certificate from Auditors](#).

### **2.2. Treasurer Nigel Freeman to report.**

[Annex 2](#) is Notes to the accounts 2011.

[Annex 3](#) is Income and expenditure for 2012.

Mr. Freeman said that it was a difficult year with it not being an Olympiad year, only a World Cup year and our income was 900, 000 euro less. He said that in 2010, despite legal costs we broke even, but as for 2011 the legal costs were again well above budget. The Auditors insisted that almost all of the legal costs for the 5 Vice-Presidents legal case were to be put in the 2011 accounts. The money we will be getting back, will be in 2012 accounts. These two should be taken together.

Annex 3 was prepared on a cash flow basis. We have received about 1 mln more than we have spent, but a lot of our costs came during the last part of the year. We should recoup the majority of what we lost last year. If the Agon agreement is ratified, the income will become more regular.

The budget is not completed as he has to see more Commission Chairmen. Also, it rather depends on some of the things to be ratified by the General Assembly.

General Assembly agreed.

Mr. Freeman said he was asked to report on his income. The contract is that he gets paid 100,000 euros a year, without extra benefits.

[Annex 3A](#) – is 2013 budget.

Mr. Freeman said for next year he goes for a completely balanced budget. Commission budgets increased a bit. Chess in Schools has a budget, as we agreed to pay administrative costs for this Commission. As always, the balancing figure is Development, it is 60, 000 euro more than in 2012.

We restructured it with 200, 000 for the Continents. The other costs like the Development travel grant and money for Development Chairman are budgeted over and above that.

Mr. Sielicki said that the income comes from two sources, the organisers or from membership fees from all of us. He asked whether we should sell some rights on our pages and getting some money directly from the support to events.

Mr. Freeman said the agreement with CNC and some part passed to Agon, cover part of it.

Mr. Makropoulos said some part comes from CNC also.

Mr. Herbert first of all he thanked the Treasurer for his efforts to increase funding and continual support to all Commissions, and said that until recently Commission Chairmen and members used to bear their expenses for the meetings. He said that it is not projected for any substantial difference in entry fees between 2012 and 2013. As we have a fantastic offer for World Youth 2013, what is the reason?

Mr. Freeman said the budget is always conservative and he has no idea on what the amount from entry fees might be.

He said he decided it is better not to guess and to be conservative.

**General Assembly approved the budget 2013.**

### **2.3. Permanent Fund report.**

[Annex 4](#) is the report.

Mr. Freeman said the Fund was formed long time ago, and it's never touched by FIDE. Mr. Brunner runs it for us. Maybe later we can put some more money into it.

Mr. Abundo said Mr. Bricola was Administrator of the fund long time before Campomanes was elected.

General Assembly accepted the report.

### **2.4. Verification Commission report.**

[Annex 5](#) is the report from the meeting held in Athens in June 2012.

[Annex 74](#) is the Commission's report from its meeting in Istanbul.

Mr. Boxall said the Commission deals with the accuracy of FIDE transactions. We were given complete cooperation and help regarding monetary transactions. He said that in reference to ChessLane in Moscow, we are looking for little more parity in arrangements with this company.

He also said as for the bids for events, particularly Olympiads. They think it is a good case for FIDE to review commitments and engagements regarding FIDE events, particularly this event. Time passed and the event has grown. The experience of compliance with FIDE has shown that the matter needs to be looked up again. The Commission alerted the Presidential Board to reconsider its position regarding guarantees and deposits in this respect. Legal costs were a great concern for us, our recommendations regarding cutting of legal costs were taken seriously. The reviewing of FIDE Statutes is part of this process, and we are very glad of the successful outcome of this process. We hope the hurricane of legal costs has passed through and we hope the money will be used for chess activities.

**General Assembly approved the report.**

## **2.5. Discharge of the Treasurer.**

**General Assembly discharged the Treasurer from his obligations.**

## **2.6. Appointment of Auditors.**

**General Assembly approved the re-appointment of Ernst and Young as FIDE auditors.**

## **3. Affiliations and Exclusions.**

### **3.1. Affiliations.**

#### **3.1.1. National Federations.**

[Annex 6](#) is application from Togo Chess Federation.

[Annex 7](#) is application from Gambia Chess Federation.

[Annex 8](#) is application from Lesotho Chess Federation.

Zone and annual membership fees to be agreed for all new Federations. It was recommended that the three new members pay the minimum annual fee.

Mr. Freeman said Mr. Mazouz would sort out their placement in zones. He recommended them to be members.

**General Assembly accepted the three federations and congratulated them with a round of applause. These Federations are able to vote from now on.**

### **3.1.2. Affiliations.**

[Annex 9](#) is a request from Kara Heritage Institute to become an affiliate.

Mr. Makropoulos said the reason for the Executive Board not to recommend it for the approval as the body is not approved by the relevant National Federation.

Mr. Ncube said the aim of the organization is to help African Chess Union, although it is based in South Africa. Do we need to have an approval from RSA Federation or the African Chess Union?

Mrs. Ellapen said this is the first time she was seeing this.

Mr. Makropoulos proposed to refer this point to the next Congress.

**General Assembly approved the proposal of Mr. Makropoulos.**

## **4. Administrative matters.**

### **4.1. Proposed amended FIDE Statutes, Electoral Regulations and other changers to the Handbook.**

[Annex 10A](#) – proposed FIDE Statutes.

[Annex 10B](#) – proposed FIDE Electoral Regulations.

[Annex 10C](#) – proposals regarding Commissions.

[Annex 10D](#) – proposal regarding financial regulations.

[Annex 10E](#) – proposal regarding official languages.

[Annex 10F](#) – a letter from Bulgarian, English and US Chess Federations.

[Annex 10G](#) – proposed FIDE Electoral and Financial Regulations and FIDE Statutes (presented at General Assembly in Istanbul).

Mr. Makropoulos said we have been working for months. We have received many inputs from the Federations. We have worked before the Assembly and many days here in Istanbul. We have reached the understanding between all the people, sometime it is a compromise, but we feel that we can present the Statutes and Electoral Regulations to the General Assembly. It is a very good work and a very difficult work. And there are very sensitive points in agreement. We are not going to raise new disputes here, even if there are people who believe that they can get two thirds or fifty percent of the Assembly. I would like to thank for the great contribution Nigel Freeman, David Jarrett, François Styrdom, Jean-Marc Reymond, Ank Santens, Garry Kasparov, Roberto Rivello, Adrian Siegel, Morten Sand, JJ Aulin, Ruth Haring, George Mastrokoukos, and we are all here to ask the General Assembly to approve the new Statutes. He asks if there are any questions.

Mr. Danailov said he objects about Chapter 13 – CAS provisions. I think this is a legal issue but I think this is very non democratic because the deposit of 200, 000 is an incredible amount for any Federation, this means that no Federation can sue FIDE in the future. He said this has to be removed and all CAS provisions have to be thought twice before accepted, because in this case, no Federation can sue FIDE.

Mr. Yazici said I also have objection on the same point – but I am against any limit, like 200,000, on the amount set.

Mr. Makropoulos said that some points are indeed very sensitive in this Agreement. The problem is that if we start again discussions on this issue and at the end, we will not be able to pass the draft which is supported by many lawyers and delegates and after so much work which has been done here. Main idea is that to discourage Federations from suing FIDE, especially if we know that even when we win, we spend a lot of money. Of course Mr. Danailov said 200, 000 euros is too much, but we know that for the last court case they managed to find more money. This amount was the last point we agreed last night with Mr. Kasparov and I propose to approve this.

Mr. Freeman wishes to clarify that the amount is limited to maximum 200, 000 euros. In most cases it will be 20, 000 or 30, 000 euros, and it will not come to this limit. We agreed with Garry that 200, 000 is maximum amount, but in most cases it is much less. It depends on what CAS regards as reasonable fees.

Mr. Sielicki from Poland said he understands that what the Chairman has proposed is to stop discussion and that we risk opening Pandora's box, so I share this opinion. He suggests as a compromise that only Federations which have sued FIDE in the last three years are subject to this provision.

Mr. Makropoulos said the limit is 200,000 is already a compromise. So if we want to open the Pandora's box, it will be very dangerous. If we change this, we will open doors to other further changes. I am asking you really to think and you, Silvio, not to open this discussion, this was a very important point in our discussion. So if we start changing everything, we do not know who will be happy at the end.

Mr. Herbert asked for clarification. He said there is a bank guarantee, and his knowledge of bank guarantee is that it is as an insurance policy, so we have to pay in any way. It is not that you put the amount down; you negotiate the bank guarantee. I think this is an insurance policy, which ensures in the event something goes wrong, the suing party will be in a position to cover its costs. I believe it is a reasonable proposition.

Mr. Short says he is delighted that some agreement has been made on this point, but as for most of the delegates received this at the last minute, he asked to postpone the vote on this until later in the Assembly, just to give people time to read it.

Mr. Al Hitmi said that we should have a right to discuss the Statutes, and I agree with Mr. Short, we cannot allow a small group of us to discuss among them. We are General Assembly, and we do what we like, this is our rights and our Constitution, we have to have enough time to understand it. He said we need more time. He also asked for the highlights of the changes.

Mr. Makropoulos said the proposals were sent to the Federations many months in

advance and we sent new drafts, we made a few meetings, in Istanbul, several meetings. I understand that some of you were not present in the meetings, but it is not true that all of you only see this at the last moment. Of course it is not that we do not want people to speak. But we want to note that it is a very big group of people who worked, and if we go out of the agreement, after so many federations have worked on this, he is afraid they are opening the box of Pandora.

Mr. Levitov said if the agreement is reached it is great, but he asks whether it is possible to have a presentation for us, five-ten minutes, before we vote.

Mr. Faulks said he was hoping it to read somewhere that in the event that a federation suing FIDE receive its funding from an outside source, they would have to declare that. Mr. Freeman said it is in 13.5. Mr. Faulks apologised that he has not seen it.

Mr Rahma asked if FIDE lawyer could present changes for General Assembly.

Mr. Short said the comment of Mr. Faulks just proves the points that people had no time to read. I do not suggest to change anything. He proposed to vote for this tomorrow or the day after. This is a very important change and this is the first time that many of us in the room are getting to see the document. This is common sense.

Mr. Gelfer said he was partly involved, and said everybody who was involved and every FIDE delegate is confident that the intention was to improve the Statutes of FIDE. He said that 95% of the proposals are not new. There are only a couple of critical points, which very much improve the constitutional way FIDE is moving forward. He suggested Mr. Freeman comments on five-six key points.

Mr. Yazici said I was hosting the meetings, I witnessed the tremendous job of the working group. And therefore I respect all of those who participated. The both parties contributed a lot to this job. This is democracy, we cannot make everyone happy. I am in a positive shock that the both parties came to an agreement; I am happy. I second the proposal of Mr. Makropoulos to go on with vote.

Mr. Danailov said he was involved in these negotiations and the last draft was prepared last night, there are a lot of things nobody knows about. What is the problem to tell the changes. He said many people do not know.

Mr. Makropoulos said many people know and offered to refer to the changes.

Ms. Santens presented the changes from Annex 10G.

She introduced herself and said that both legal cases that were recently brought to the CAS resulted from unclarities in the rules. She confirmed Mr. Makropoulos' statement that the rules are much clearer now that there will be much less cause for debate in the future. While she personally had some difficulties in the negotiations, at the end it was much better.

CAS provision – the main idea is that if there is a dispute between FIDE and a Federation or a player, first they have to fight the dispute within the organisation, and if FIDE has reached the final decision, they can then appeal to the CAS. Normally the appeal goes first to PB, EB and then GA and only then to CAS. However, a provision was inserted so that if time delay could irreparably harm the interests of the party, then

it can go to CAS after an EB decision and it does not have to wait for the next General Assembly. It was an important point for FIDE.

Another important provision is that if you have a dispute which needs to go to Ethics Commission, then you can appeal immediately to the CAS, which is natural. The other body from which you can immediately appeal to CAS is the ELE – electoral commission. This is an entirely new body, provided for in Chapter 8 of the Statutes. The idea of ELE is that in election years, it will have two main tasks – to verify the proxies and regularise electoral disputes. The new rules provide that if there is a dispute about an election, you cannot bring it to CAS before the end of elections. She thinks that it makes a lot of sense.

On costs, the structure is as follows: if a member Federation or a player, or any party brings a suit against FIDE to CAS under Article 13, and loses, then there is a provision that the Panel of CAS shall grant FIDE its reasonable legal fees incurred in proportion to FIDE's degree of success. For example, a member Federation brings a case against FIDE, FIDE disputes jurisdiction, and in the end FIDE wins on the merits; if the Panel sees the jurisdictional fight as 40% of the dispute, and the merits fight as 60% of the dispute, then the provision says that the member federation needs to pay 60% of the reasonable legal fees and expenses of FIDE. "Reasonable" means that the member federation should not have to pay unnecessary expenses of FIDE. If FIDE exaggerates the way they try to defend the proceedings, then the Panel can take this into account and decide that the member federation need not pay the exaggerated expenses. It is the same persons, i.e. the Panel of three arbitrators which decide on the case, which will also decide on the costs.

As for the issue of 200, 000 euro, the idea is that if a member Federation brings a case against FIDE, first of all you have to disclose your funds, and second of all, if a Federation would lose, FIDE wants to be sure that there are funds to pay the costs. FIDE therefore wanted some guarantee on costs. We agreed that the money does not have to be put up upfront; it was negotiated that a bank guarantee is enough. The maximum amount of 200,000 euros was also negotiated. She further mentioned that cost provision is mutual, so if FIDE would bring a CAS case against a member federation for instance, the same rule would apply to FIDE as a claimant in a proceeding.

Ms. Santens said a major part of the discussion has been on elections, proxies and the provisions in electoral regulations. On proxies there is a new provision which now sits in the electoral regulations, but can only be amended in the General Assembly by simple majority. Proxies procedure is very clear. We have two regimes for election and non-election years. So in non-election year, page 4 of Annex 10G – all the changes that have been made, were changed from the last FIDE draft which was published on the FIDE website. Mrs. Santens went through the proposed changes. Proxy can be signed or sent by a President or Delegate, it will be accepted as a proxy. If there is a cover email, the priority has changed. Delegate is the official representative towards FIDE, so now delegate is the most important, and if FIDE receives two proxies, it will be the proxy of the delegate will be most valid. Proxies should be sent to the FIDE Secretariat in the period after four weeks until two weeks before the General Assembly (after the list of the delegates is published by FIDE).

FIDE will close the register and the ELE will get together to verify all the information which has been submitted and notify the FIDE Secretariat on the final list of who can vote with the list of proxies, and you can only assign proxy to the other country. This

will be one week before the General Assembly. The rule is that every delegate is entitled to represent only one additional Federation. So if you have two proxies, he or she has to reassign his proxies, this is to be done after the publication of the list, and until two days before General Assembly. If the delegate is listed, no proxy but for some reason no one can come, but delegate should delegate his president to vote. This will be published at latest at 17.00 the day before the General Assembly opening. Then the ELE reports at the opening and the decisions are final and so if anyone has a dispute, that dispute has to be brought to CAS after the elections.

Point B, proxies can be assigned and reassigned, and changes can be made in a more flexible manner.

ELE is a new body, composed as follows, not for 2014, but for any other elections. Five members, Chair is the Chair of the Constitutional Commission. The other four members will be elected by Continents, one per each Continent at the last annual Assembly before the election year General Assembly. For 2014, the agreement has been that there will be Extraordinary GA in Antalya, where all continents will hold an Assembly meeting, and elect their representatives to the Commission and Chairman will be elected in the General Assembly.

We need for this 2013 General Assembly, a Committee to verify proxies, so it will be Mrs. Santens and two members appointed by FIDE.

Other changes to the electoral regulations are that to run for Presidential tickets, nominations have to be received by five Federations, not necessarily the Federations of the members of the proposed ticket. The nomination decision has to be communicated to FIDE and FIDE has to rely on the communication of the President of the Federation in case of a dispute within a certain Federation. This is a provision which is just because FIDE cannot go to check rules and regulations in each country, they need a communication to rely on. I should also say once the nomination is made, it is final and if the Federation changes President, it cannot change the nomination. One nomination stands. Agreement on the number of Vice-Presidents is that newly elected President can propose a number of Vice-Presidents to General Assembly, plus two who are running in the ticket, so he will be able to appoint a certain number of Vice Presidents and General Assembly can elect the same number of Vice-Presidents, min 3 max 5. So if President asks for 4, and General Assembly approves, then they elect other 4.

To run for elected Vice-President, one has to be nominated by at least three delegates or proxies, Each Federation can nominate only one. For elected Vice-Presidents, they have to be from different countries.

Mr. Sielicki said he was privileged to attend some of the Statutes meetings. He asked about bank guarantee to CAS. Is it proven that CAS will be willing to give a priori (i.e. before the judgment) an order on the reasonable costs? Second question is about split verdict. In your example, FIDE would obtain 60% of its costs. Does it mean that FIDE will reimburse the other Federation 40%?

Mrs. Santens replied decision will be made by CAS. If there is a case against FIDE, FIDE will point this provision to the CAS and ask the CAS to decide on the amount and to order the federation to provide a bank guarantee. The decision will be taken by the arbitral tribunal or by the President of the Division of Appeals. She said CAS will be willing to do this and submissions will be done. There will be exchange of submissions

about this. The CAS can then grant anything up to 200,000 euros. Second question is a very good question. I have to admit to my shame, that I will have to think about mechanics and reply later. Costs decisions are complicated.

Mr. Rivello said that he was involved in the drafting of the document. He mentions that the first point is a condition for arbitration clause. The CAS will have to decide before a decision is made in the court case. Second point is to distinguish between claims and counter claims, so if someone submits a counter-claim, he is responsible for this counter-claim. If at the end the CAS decides to dismiss both claims, the two opposite parties are responsible for their respective expenses. He also added that players were also mentioned. He said it is not true, we do not limit individuals from appealing to CAS. These Rules only apply to member federations. A player has no necessity to submit a bank guarantee to appeal to the CAS. Individuals usually have not sufficient economic resources to put bank guarantees.

Mrs. Santens confirmed what Mr. Rivello said.

Mr. Buthali said in note 2.1, particularly the last sentence. We are talking about FIDE structures, a name is mentioned there. He appreciates the input in the drafting of the Statutes. He is against specific mention of Mrs. Santens and has serious discomfort with that.

Mr. Boxall said two points of clarification, i.e. in relation of security for costs, in Chapter 13.5, there will be reciprocity for both parties. He could not find the reciprocity.

Mrs. Santens said Reciprocity is only in the final decision on costs.

Provision in chapter 4 – article 2.1 – to nominate Vice-Presidents.

Mrs. Santens said clerical error, he is entirely correct.

Mr. Dobronoteanu said about proxies, about validity, what is formal elements are necessary. And the way of delivery.

Mrs. Santens said it must be in writing, paper and signed by delegate or president. They do not have to be notarised, Delegate can send an attachment, without signature. And the paper can also be hand-delivered. In case of forgery, the ELE can decide on this. Of course it has from an official email or fax of the President or delegate.

Mr Rahma said the proxy issues are wide and complicated. Proxy should be limited to one proxy holders, it can be disputed by FIDE members. Proxies are given to somebody with a consent to change the proxy to give to another member. So if there is more than one more proxy.

Mrs. Santens said this is a proposal to keep the rule which exists in the electoral regulations.

Mr. Makropoulos said we stick to the existing provision.

Mr. Ncube said to in regard of 2.1. He said it is irregular. He asked why Mrs. Santens

is addressing the Assembly.

Mr. Makropoulos said Ms. Santens is addressing the Assembly as a part of the group who worked for the FIDE Statutes. She is a lawyer on behalf of the member Federations, not a FIDE lawyer.

He asked the FIDE President to nominate Mrs. Ank Santens with two more people for the Electoral Committee.

Mr Rahma said the word is used reasonable in many places in the Statutes and this word is subjective to unlimited power given to him. Reasonable is a word which gives power to the person to use his authority without limits.

Mrs. Santens answers about the word “reasonable” in the CAS provision. She said that in any court, there is a debate on the merits, and in the end decides on the costs. That is how judges do it in the courts of any country and this is the way it is done in the arbitration. When the parties agree to have their dispute resolved by arbitration rather than going to court, a panel of three arbitrators will, like a judge, decide the dispute on the merits and then they will also decide on the costs. Panel will be like a judge. The word “reasonable” gives discretion to the arbitrators, like a judge in any case. It is a good discretion because it gives the decision-maker the power to limit the costs to a certain amount. It is a protection for the party that is bringing the case; it is fair to be held liable only for the costs that are reasonable.

Mr. Buthali said FIDE is an organisation with integrity and he respected Mr Makropoulos’ choice of choosing Mrs. Santens to address the Assembly. But he believed that FIDE has a legal presentation and this step speaks a volume regarding our compromise. Don’t we have any legal representation who can clearly speak up about FIDE position?

Mr. Makropoulos said there is a lack of trust between FIDE officials, FIDE members, and for many years we reached a situation that no one is out of the family, after this hard work he could not say personally that Mrs. Santens is out of the family. Of course we have the FIDE lawyer and he did it on purpose to show that Mrs. Santens is with us and Garry is with us. And we should keep the spirit and you should help us in this, and this is much important than who is our lawyer and who speaks.

Mr. Borg said the FIDE lawyer is here and he concurred with Mr. Makropoulos that we managed to reach a compromise and let us move forward. So we should go on and work for better FIDE. We should not look for tigers, and there will be always issues, and we are proposing this as a one organisation and this is a huge step forward and we have to endorse it.

Prof. Jungwirth said two years ago in Khanty-Mansiysk he recalled the events in CAS afterwards, that is a root of our problem of chess politics. FIDE leadership felt that also it appeared to be necessary to go over the Statutes and amend them and Federations were invited by the FIDE President to make their inputs about renovating FIDE. A lot of inputs came in, in technical issues, and there is improvement in Commissions as well. The question of today and FIDE is a democratic organisation and we have to follow democratic rules. Parliament cannot solve difficult problems in general sessions, there are Committees where negotiations go and go on some time, for months even for years, to find a text and a solution. We were in a similar situation, with two parties of

interest, negotiations began and it is like in Parliament, if the problem is difficult, negotiations are tough until the last minute before the decisive Assembly. He was not member of the Committee but he knows that very serious people negotiated for days and nights. Situation is of trust and confidence and we should have trust in these both parties who found common grounds. I am happy that they succeeded in finding a compromise which certainly was not easily accepted. He thanked all those people who were named here in the Assembly and time is ripe to accept the common proposal, to give us a chance to improve Statutes and to continue our Chess Congress.

**In favour:**

**Against 6**

**Abstention 1**

**General Assembly has approved the new FIDE Statutes, Electoral Regulations, Commissions and Financial Regulations by majority.**

Mr. Garry Kasparov said he appreciates the opportunity to address the Assembly and congratulated everyone of the achievement. After two years of turmoil and fights, we came to a compromise which will eliminate all grounds for grievances and complaints. As chess players, there are mistakes made which have to be analysed. We understand the importance of the rules. The fact that we all recognise the inefficiency of the rules drafted long ago and we all worked so hard to apply the rules of modern times, shows that the federations and FIDE stick to the principles and rules of the IOC. It does not mean we have no differences, and there will be many fights inside. He may not like e.g. Agon, but he thinks this is very natural, we will be fighting within one family and for reaching brighter future for chess. He appreciates FIDE emphasis on chess education and we have to penetrate the education system around the globe. Chess has no match and it is in our power to prove it in all continents. He works aggressively on this and a lot of work is being done by FIDE and it is a real path to our success. With all the fights we have in the future. We have into to look for weak spots and criticisms of the other side, we should concentrate on positive things, and not on who did what wrong in the past, but who can do something great in the future. We should have a noble common goal, and he will do his utmost to bring FIDE to a more prosperous and better future.

**The General Assembly approved an Electoral Committee consisting of Ank Santens, Geoffrey Borg and Paris Klerides.**

#### **4.2. FIDE Offices.**

**Executive Director N. Freeman was confirmed by General Assembly.**

Executive Director N. Freeman said all offices worked well. Regarding the Moscow office, he said that the Verification Commission Chairman can talk to Mr. Balgabaev. He thanked Elista office staff for their work. He introduced the Athens office staff as well.

He pointed out that he was slightly disappointed that the Russian Chess Federation was quoted that FIDE did not respond to their emails and letters. We checked and did not find any letters we did not reply to. We wrote to Mr. Levitov and did not receive any

reply. He assumed Mr. Levitov was misquoted.

Mr. Levitov said he was not misquoted and he would give the example, he said Chess in Schools is one of the examples, and there were more.

Mr. Yazici said Mr. Levitov was right and the letter was sent but then when Rosneft assigned 250,000 USD to them, there was no reply as he did not have anything to reply to.

#### **4. 3. Directors' Reports.**

##### **4.3.1. CNC Project.**

Deputy President G. Makropoulos said that from the beginning of the original contract, CNC had a right to organise events and find sponsorship, and later this part was given to Agon when we signed the contract with them. So the Agreement with CNC has changed.

Mr. D. Levitansky from CNC is here to report to the Assembly. He said that it is a great honour to speak about the internet chess project, with the goal to change the situation of market capitalisation of chess websites. There is a huge demand for chess information and entertainment. There are a lot of links and non-chess portals and traffic is dispersed. They have been exploring marketing research in this situation and found it that it is necessary to join our efforts with Federations and players. They informed the CNC committee and have certain suggestions. They will launch MyFIDE.com project and will introduce new services, to make chess and FIDE financially efficient. They suggest synergy and a high level of support and promotion, to achieve a positive cash flow.

The CNC representative thanked for the assistance of W. Iclicki and his Chess Encyclopaedia and help from Mr. Makropoulos.

Mr. Rahma said we should expedite the process for revenues.

Mr. Levitansky said there are some programming solutions. Two years is a period, not too optimistic, we will try to make it earlier.

Mr. Bond said there is a lot of free chess content, and there will be resistance to pay for it.

Mr. Levitansky said that is true that is why they are working with a marketing agency to make a line between closed and open information. To extract value, they have to work out which information should get an access, and this is a complicated process.

Mrs. Haring asked why would not you want to advertise your site instead of monetising the site.

Mr. Levitansky said they were supposed to have substantial revenues from advertising.

Mrs. Haring asked how will you compete with the existing portals?

Mr. Levitansky said they would have not only chess, they will have chess academy and targeted traffic.

Mr. Ebbin said you mentioned a prize for a tournament. Why to stop three people in the room going for the prize using latest technology.

Mr. Levitansky said at least the people play chess and show interest, the more interest they show, the more people go to the website. In my opinion, using computer is ok if it is not illegal. If it comes to ethics, it is a good question.

Mr. Makropoulos said they want to use tournaments where people can legally use computers.

Mr. Yazici said Turkish Chess Federation receives revenue from Internet services, for distance learning and some additional services, with quality they are ready to pay for them. About cheating, there are fantastic developments in IT technologies. He could start giving you many examples. We signed a contract with CNC four years ago, and he was happy to see initiative from them. We knew that according to the contract which ends in 2013, we hope to work with them and we hope that FIDE and CNC accept and we can create cash flow for FIDE. MyFIDE.com is a very nice idea to get many issues under one umbrella and to unite different sources and to get a rating which is feasible for advertisers. With a small blog you are not so interesting for an advertiser, this is promising for the future. He hoped it will not be like last four years, we want to see action as soon as possible. He hoped they will move very fast to start acting.

Mr. Makropoulos said our contract has been published, CNC has a list of rights which they can activate based on a concrete project, following the approval of FIDE. This is a new idea and we would like to see a final project. At the same time, we could present a project to them and if they reject, we could choose another partner to fulfil it.

Mrs. Marinello said this is a project, if it is successful, it will give a lot of exposure for chess family, but if not, it will give chances for those who are willing to develop some similar projects. She thanked CNC for this positive initiative. The only risky thing is to lose this opportunity.

Mr. Levitansky said FIDE has a lot of market power as FIDE is the best chess trademark. We need to take full advantage of this. FIDE has an enormous volume of information, if we make all this information open, will we benefit from that? If information is available to everyone, it has no value; it is a tricky point. He emphasised the importance of this issue and that advertising is a new source.

Mr. Makropoulos thanked CNC for the presentation.

### **4.3. Agon.**

[Annex 11](#) is an Agreement between FIDE and Agon.

[Annex 12](#) is the appeal of the Bulgarian Chess Federation in respect of the bidding procedure for the Candidates matches 2012.

The Executive Board had approved the proposal of Mr. Freeman to create a Committee of Messrs. Boxall, Herbert and Mrs. Murphy to investigate the matter and to report to the General Assembly.

Mr. Herbert informed the General Assembly on behalf of the Committee that the Committee met on the fifth of September. They had received and reviewed all relevant documentation, including the bidding procedure and found ~~out~~ the following: there were three bidders, two were Federations and one was a sponsor. The procedure was opened before 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011 in accordance with the bidding procedure document issued on September 19<sup>th</sup> 2011. ~~The~~ Two bids were received per FIDE offer form and one was a multi-event bid received in a contract from a sponsor covering multiple events, including the Candidates' matches. The Presidential Board had approved the bid from the sponsor, Agon, and this is submitted to this General Assembly for ratification. This result was announced on February 20<sup>th</sup> 2012 by publication on the FIDE website. FIDE signed an agreement with Agon which is contingent on ratification by this General Assembly. Mr. Herbert said that for clarification, the requirement that federations have the exclusive right to host World Chess events runs contrary to Article 4.8.1 of the Candidates Rules and Regulations. If the General Assembly does not ratify the contract with Agon then the bid will be null and void and the award invalidated. The General Assembly will then need to consider the other bids. Mr. Herbert confirmed, when asked by Mr. Makropoulos to clarify, that the Committee propose first we seek to ratify the contract and then deal with the other proposal.

[Annex 12A](#) is a new protest by the Bulgarian Chess Federation.

Mr. A. Paulson of Agon spoke to the General Assembly.

He said most of the people here know the agreement in the documents and it states clearly our intentions. He said we will organize FIDE events in prestigious venues and will be financing and sponsoring the events. He said that in the process they will make chess more media friendly and entertaining. He said he hoped that he can make chess as big as it was years ago. He said that the major part of their strategy is to bring back media attention. He said this is not a very major transformation. He said this is the core of their strategy. Mr. Paulson said that the contract was worked with the FIDE Interface of Messrs. Makropoulos and Freeman, together with the lawyers of FIDE for several months. He said in general the Agreement seems to embrace all the rights and certain obligations from both sides.

Mr. Levitov asked the first Grand-Prix tournament starts in few weeks, and maybe he did not find this information, but who are Agon's sponsors? Is it Mr. Paulson's money, FIDE money or some other sponsors money. Who are the sponsors of this project?

Mr. Paulson said that the first tournament was supposed to be held in Cheliabinsk, and the sponsor was supposed to be from Cheliabinsk, but unfortunately, the Russian Chess Federation did not allow them to hold this event, and we lost the money from Cheliabinsk and now I have to pay 500, 000 pounds to organize the event in London.

Mr. Levitov said the Government of Cheliabinsk did not know anything about this tournament.

Mr. Paulson said that he was told that there were two splendid options of venues: Cheliabinsk and Tashkent, and they had already organized sponsorship there, and it was my option. He thought it would be a good start. Details were that I do not know whether who was this Governor or Minister of Sports they talked to, but as I was told I would be put into jail if I go to organize in Cheliabinsk, so I decided not to do it in

Cheliabinsk and do it in London. Mr. Paulson suggested that Mr. Levitov addressed his further questions to FIDE as he had a contract with FIDE and he did not know the rest of the details.

Mr. Levitov insisted on Mr. Paulson's answering the question: who is the sponsor?

Mr. Paulson said that he paid the money from his pocket.

Mr. Bond said after CNC presentation which we just saw, if there is collision course with Agon with CNC's reactivating their rights and Agon as the chief organizer of the cycle.

Mr. Paulson said he did not see any collision.

Mr. Sieicki said there is a provision in the contract that Agon pays a deposit of 500,000 USD to the FIDE account and whether this was done.

Mr. Paulson said it would be done immediately after the contract is ratified by the General Assembly.

Mr. Sielicki said this was supposed to be done within sixty days after the signing of the contract.

Mr. Paulson said he did not know the contract would be challenged at the General Assembly.

Mr. Khodarkovsky said Agon said it will use media channels. What media channels will be used in London, Internet, major networks etc?

Mr. Paulson said the first two Grand Prix in Cheliabinsk and Tashkent were not supposed to have major plans, but there will be some transitional moment before the Candidates in March. I can tell you about some sponsors or media, in private or here. I gave already several interviews here. I have prepared plans to place before major international cable networks.

There will be a new product, about chess. A magazine format programme of 30 minutes, weekly broadcast about the globe, we will work with Youtube and many channels have already expressed their interest to working with us. There are no basic secrets, I apply constant pressure and work hard for small details, chess itself is good enough and I am not going to improve it.

Mr. Short said that Agon was formed in January 2012 and asked for the confirmation of the fact and asked about capitalization of Agon.

Mr. Paulson said that as events will be taking place all over the world, his attorney suggested that they set up a Jersey offshore company, home to many offshores and most rigorous. The reason for this is that there is not any specific headquarters where we will be operating. Company belongs to me and I am the sole owner and if I need to raise money in the future, that will be done.

Mr. Short repeated his question and asked if the General Assembly, which is higher than the Presidential Board, can look at the finances.

Mr. Paulson said that incidentally Mr. Boxall who is from Jersey met the trustees of the company and discussed with them, briefly and informally, and has an access to my lawyers. You are welcome to look at anything.

Mrs. Haring asked what is the term of the contract.

Mr. Paulson said it is written for 11 years.

She suggested that it should perhaps be a four year contract with a review provision.

Mr. Paulson said there is a review provision on an almost quarterly basis, based on obligations, and there are specific ways for FIDE to cancel the contract.

Mrs. Haring asked Mr. Paulson to describe the financial provisions.

Mr. Paulson said that if he owed money, he had to pay it. His obligation is to hold the events according to FIDE rules and to satisfy the Interface, set up under the advice of FIDE lawyers, to deal with daily operations of the FIDE championships.

Mr. Makropoulos said we had discussed this previously. He said if Agon did not organize the first event, they are out of the contract. It is obvious that if they have to pay everything, they have to invest 15-18 mln euro and the four years which you are proposing is not a period where they could generate this amount. So we thought of the longer period to allow them to break even or start making profit as the first four years they would be most probably struggling. We had this in the past that we had to run to find organizers and this is the first time when we secure the FIDE World Championship cycle events in advance. It is important for FIDE as now it has time to do other things rather than to run looking for organizers and sponsors. We know that it is very difficult to find an organizer with a huge amount of money FIDE is looking.

Mrs. Haring asked if they will work cooperatively with National Federations.

Mr. Paulson said as an example, as the President announced today, we invested in the Internet research studies, regarding players and attitudes towards chess and the kind of people that play chess, in UK, US, Germany, Russia and India. I believe we should give this for free to federations. We gave access to our databases to journalists to use the statistics. Federations will also be able to use these tools for marketing for free.

When we hold an event it is important that the country is able to use the benefits we create for them. He gave the example of Lisbon.

Mr. Khodarkovsky asked the Board, under this contract if there are any liabilities.

Mr. Freeman said it is based on what Agon is providing. We have to make sure the rules are correct, and events are correct. FIDE liabilities are mainly about this. There is no financial liability unless FIDE fails to provide people for the Grand-Prix and they come to us and say so. We have to provide people, regulations, but these are mainly the liabilities.

Mr. Makropoulos said in principle for FIDE they should cooperate with National Federations, the truth is that when we are talking to Agon, we advise them to speak to Presidents of National Federations. There are, unfortunately, people who advise Mr. Paulson not to do this and this is not FIDE who is doing this, I know who these people are and their names. But Mr Paulson will learn from experience that he has to speak to the Federations.

Mr. Yazici said he would like to advise Mr. Paulson that National Federation should be a priority. They should not create a competition with National Federation on its territory. Nothing is written, but this comes from the Statutes.

Mr. Paulson said this absolutely goes without saying. He said slowly in six months he had gotten to know Presidents of National Federations, and it takes time. It is absolutely obvious for each country.

Mr. Short said on a positive note, he would like to say Mr. Paulson has been working

with the English Chess Federation. But I see in the contract there are provisions to terminations of the contract, but there are no provisions based on performance in case FIDE is not happy with Agon

Mr. Paulson asked for an example of what FIDE cannot be happy.

Mr. Short said that there are various ways and we do not know what you might do.

Mr. Paulson said there is a good video from Youtube for a match between Short and Kasparov and this is my favourite, when you were in the night club. If it is ok for you, then it is ok for me.

Mr. Short said that had a tremendous publicity and this launched rapid chess back in 1987.

Mr. Sielicki said that what Mr Paulson has proposed that we need commercial attitude and he welcomes mature businessman involved in chess. Also, he believes that Mr. Paulson is a chess lover, and this is even better. But we give a license to a company which was formed 11 months ago, and this is a possibility of breach of a contract as the amount of 500, 000 USD due for several months. If we sign for 11 years, there is a lot of good will and a lot of trust, and we would like to have this trust. He is expecting FIDE to provide a good explanation to excuse Mr. Paulson for not giving this money in April.

Mr. Makropoulos said we signed the contract and Mr. Paulson was supposed to start working and organize the first two events. He lost the venue in Cheliabinsk and Mr. Paulson was attacked by a Federation for this contract, and the same people who are attacking him are asking Mr. Paulson for money in order to stop attacking him. Mr. Paulson said why should I spend 500, 000 USD, beside the prize fund of the Grand Prix. Mr. Makropoulos said that personally I understand this, but of course I would prefer to have the money in our accounts. I understand Mr Paulson's point. We told Mr. Paulson we will help him with certain events, and that he was facing all these problems and it was our responsibility to arrange. Mr Paulson promised that if we ratify the contract, he pays the money. If he does not pay, he will lose the contract.

Mr. Makropoulos proposed to ratify the contract between FIDE and Agon. He said this is an important contract for FIDE. He referred to his earlier explanations of the philosophy behind this contract. He asked the General Assembly to approve the decision of the Presidential Board.

**In favour - majority**

**Objections – 7.**

**Abstentions: 13**

**The contract between Agon and FIDE has been approved by the General Assembly by majority of the votes.**

Mr. Danailov asked about protest of the Bulgarian Chess Federation.

Mr. Makropoulos said that Mr. Danailov was not present when it was decided that first the Agon contract was discussed and then the protest will be discussed.

**Protest of the Bulgarian Chess Federation.**

Mr. Herbert said that the Committee recommends that the bid was correct and we commented on the obvious that if General Assembly fails to ratify the contract, we would have to reopen the bidding procedure.

Mr. Burstein said he changed his mind because of two reasons, first of all he thinks that the protest should have dealt before ratifying the contract. Second the very last moment, the way of entering the vote, the Chairman had to ask who is in favour and then who is against.

Mr. Makropoulos said he tried to go first with the appeal, and the Committee based on the decision that the General Assembly ratifies the contract or not. You are right that we start with those who are in favour. He said he was trying to see who is objecting and waking up those who are sleeping. So he said this is because of him there are seven votes against and not two as only two raised their cards as objections in the beginning.

Mr. Tsorbatzoglou said it is very nice from the morning to see Garry Kasparov, CNC and a real businessman Andrew Paulson to speak in the General Assembly. This is real transparency. We don't need to fight these people, we need these people. He thanked G. Kasparov and A. Paulson for their contributions.

Mr. Makropoulos said that the member of the ECU Board was trying to say that he is referring to the situation in the ECU where a contract in the General Assembly of ECU which no one saw and no one had any time to read. And now you are fighting against a contract which has been published for such a long time and everything is clear in this contract and sometimes people have to be ashamed about. Before people in FIDE could not even dream about such transparency in FIDE.

Mr. Burstein said I am not fighting against FIDE and I did not say any word against the contract.

Mr. Burstein said it is not stipulated in the ECU Statutes that we have to bring the contract to the ECU General Assembly. In the case of the candidates' matches, FIDE should consider reimbursement of the costs caused to the Federations which submitted their bids to the events in due time. They should be paid back their expenses.

Mr. Makropoulos said we are not paying back the expenses to the Federations who present worse bids, in other case this Federation would not be ever able to generate any money and we will go bankrupt.

Mr. Danailov asked about his new proposal (Annex 12A)

Mr. Freeman said Annex 12 and Annex 12A are exactly similar.

Mr. Danailov said that he was very sorry as he left for two minutes and the protest of the Bulgarian Chess Federation's protest had to be considered before the discussion on Agon and it is unfair what Mr. Makropoulos did as he left for two minutes.

Mr. Makropoulos asked what you want to do, if you want to vote whether FIDE made a right decision or not. He said I am not waiting for you to check whether you left the room or not. He said to Mr. Danailov not to leave the hall if there is a point on the Agenda of the General Assembly.

Mr. Danailov said absolutely.

Mr. Danailov said Mr. Makropoulos speaks all the time. He said that I am President of the Bulgarian Chess Federation and the ECU. He warned FIDE and said that the protest of the Bulgarian Chess Federation is very serious and this is violation of the rights of the Bulgarian Chess Federation. It is very serious and our Federation made a very good bid and we lost because FIDE decided to dismiss all the bids. We are warning you we will sue FIDE in CAS.

Mr. Makropoulos asked Mr. Danailov again whether he want FIDE to vote about this decision to award Candidates matches to Agon?

Mr.Danailov answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Makropoulos said based on the Committee's decision that the FIDE decision was correct and asked who is in favour that the decision of FIDE was correct by giving the Candidates' Matches to Agon to organize and we signed this contract:

**Favour: majority**

**Against – 7**

**Abstentions: 26**

**General Assembly ratified the decision of FIDE Presidential Board to award the organization of the Candidates Matches to Agon.**

## **Commissions.**

**TASK Committee.**

[Annex 67.](#)

**General Assembly accepted the report of TASK.**

**Disabled Commission.**

[Annex 77.](#)

GM T. Luther presented his report. He said in the last year we tried to find common grounds between three organisations, we talked to several commissions, we modernised the rules, and RTRC prepared new rules for them. Assistance from Arbiters and Trainers Commission for seminars. We agreed to explore the chance to bring chess into the programme of ParaOlympic Games.

Mr. Freeman said we should make this a formal Commission.

Mr. Leong said we should leave this as a Committee.

Mr. Rahma thanked for the good recommendation. We all hope that FIDE can do it. This needs budgeting and serious working Committee, to implement it. We hope FIDE will consider this and we will promote chess in all spheres.

**General Assembly accepted the report.**

## **5. Ethics Commission**

Commission Chairman R. Rivello to report. [Annex 89. Appendix.](#)

Mr. Rivello said that everybody knows that it was a busy year for our Commissions. We were engaged in three different fronts. The report of seven pages is just a

summary. Annexes will cover all our decisions, including the Feller case decision, which is 25 pages long. Some of the decisions were published and other decisions will be published with the Minutes.

1. We took some final decisions. For instance, on the French team case. Current practice is very complicated. The Ethics Commission has to match professional antagonists but now all defendants are supported by legal professionals. He reminded the Assembly that given our work, till now we have not had any appeal in front of the CAS. Even after the Feller case, the time limits to appeal expired and it is a final decision, at least for FIDE. FIDE has now to deal with the results of the previous Olympiad, medals etc. In many cases it was very complicated. He said it is important to limit our jurisdiction. Now we have new Statutes.
2. We were involved in the drafting of new Statutes, and our some ideas were accepted by FIDE. Electoral Committee was our idea and it was accepted and many things have changed. Probably few paid attention to new part of the new Statutes, where our competence has changed, to restrict and enlarged competence of National Federation. But we also enlarged our competence in some other spheres. If a Chess Federation wants to give us an appeal, in this way it is possible to give the first instance decision, and a world wide application. This is a revolutionary concept and it is not necessary for a Federation to accept this concept, but if they accept, the decisions will be applicable in all parts of the world. Please pay attention and ask the Federations to accept the appeal competence. We need a lot of new rules. We need to reform our procedural rules and I know that many sometimes are not happy about the times it takes to decide for our Commission. It is linked to the fair trial guarantee. We want defendants to have all of these applicable. This will be an important job for next years. For real reform of the FIDE Code of Ethics, we need to obtain approval from Presidential Board or General Assembly. He wished to create a Commission together with Ethics Commission to reform the FIDE Code of Ethics.
3. Final point – in some of our cases, many cases concern the problems of sanctions by National Federations, but do not concern violation of FIDE Code of Ethics, but other violations are relevant only on a national level. We had been asked by Mr. Makropoulos to provide an opinion on this point. We tried to do this in a few days, this is a complicated thing do to. We have to distinguish sanctions between sanctions of FIDE, National Federations and FIDE Ethics Commissions, its sanctions should be final. Even if National Federation does not want to give an appeal competence to Ethics Commission, it is valid only on the territory. And if he wants to play abroad, the sanction will not be applied. This becomes his national decision. If the sanction concerns the violation of FIDE Code of Ethics, it will not be that difficult with the new FIDE Statutes. We think that sanctions are valid are valid only for this particular part. The national sanction cannot affect international sanction. Can a sanctioned player become a player of another federation? But here we have some other current rules for membership in the Federation: at least for the first year after the sanction, the things are not so complicated. There is a problem of the name of the country and the flag, this is linked to the citizenship. Flag is linked to the National Federation, so then such a player can play without the flag of a national federation which suspended him. Other sanctions are about players expelled from his national federation. Please read our judgements and think of the best possible implementation.

Mr. Singh said this particular subject requires extensive discussion. He requested to refer to the Presidential Board.

Mr. Freeman said that you can ask Ethics Commission, and we do not interfere in their work.

Mr. Short asked for the Presidential Board to decide about the first case, to do with the French case. He said first of all he congratulated French Federation of doing a magnificent job to taking a firm moral stand on this position. Congratulations to the Ethics Commission on their judgement. However, there is a last outstanding business which refers to the Olympiad 2010. England played against France in this Olympiad. We should have won the match. In other sports when you have a drugs cheat, you immediately strip them of their medals, so he asked when the Presidential Board is going to annul the results of Mr. Feller and if we are going to see the new table of Khanty-Mansiysk 2010.

Mr. Gelfer said this is an interesting idea to change the results. Our Commission thought that first of all Mr. Feller won a gold medal on his board, we think that he should give back his medal and the prize money for the 1<sup>st</sup> place on his board. However, regarding the question, and we think it is impossible to go to the results starting from 1<sup>st</sup> round and then we have to change the pairings, it is impossible, results must stay, but personal performance will change.

Mr. Short said it is not enough, matches were won by cheating, and those results stand in the record book and ratings are affected. It is not sufficient to take away a medal, I understand the point about the pairings. But I am proposing that the results of Mr. Feller are annulled and his scored zeroed in each of his matches and the matches are recalculated and standings. France obtained high standings because of cheating. He asked the Board to take a firm decision, because if you do not, you are abiding by cheating, you are not imposing a sufficient ruling.

Mr. Borg said the issue is complicated. The question is whether we could reward the opposing nation. It is a bit more difficult that just saying Feller gets zero, and his opponent gets a point or stays as he was. Different standings and then what about pairings? He said we can nullify Feller's result, but the serious thing is whether to give opposing team the advantage.

Mr. Sielicki said he understands it is extremely difficult, and he shared the opinion of Short, and he agrees with Borg. He said some Federations wrote to FIDE to re-establish the results.

Mr. Gelfer said it will be done.

Mr. Yazici said logically it is impossible to change the pairings. I do not know what other international federations apply in the team competitions. But we have to think about medals, at least this is a lesson for us, to create some rules or procedure for the future, there is not enough procedure to deal with the situation; it is a legal issue. He asked to check and see what others do and implement FIDE Code of Ethics.

Mr. Battesti said he wants to thank Assembly for the assistance. It was terrible for us

and chess family. He said that new technology is like drug for sick. We agree with decisions of the Assembly. He said the French team case, it is Feller-Hauchard case, as other players in the French team are first victims.

Mr. Dobronoteanu said the case is very complicated. Of course it is hard to find out complete decision covering all the aspects as we in our Commission we did not take into account in how many games he cheated.

Mr. Leong in team competitions in 2004 there was almost a similar situation but it was a situation when a player did not agree to go to anti-doping. We agreed to take away his points. He suggested creating a Commission of ARB, QC and RTRC to consider and bring a proposal.

Mr. Reuben said there is one simple thing to do. His rating (English player), should be given to 10 points. It does not affect the standings, just affects and it can be done about all the games which Feller played. He said Leong's idea is very good.

Mr. Makropoulos said Mr. Gelfer explained our position. We know that if we know the games where he cheated, but to change pairings it is impossible. So he did not think that the points and ratings should change, this is a job of Qualification Commission. He said Mr. Dobronoteanu said we do not know in how many games he cheated. In doping it is clear he cheated during the whole tournament. Can we decide that he cheated in all games? These games have to be checked also by QC, and the Committee proposed by Mr. Leong, should check the games. So if we decide that he cheated in all games, it is different from banning them. He agreed with Mr. Dobronoteanu.

Mr. Short said it has been proven that he was cheating there, and by analogy with other sports, you annul his results. Leong said there is a clear precedent, the results have been altered. France obtained a draw against England by cheating. We should not let people get away with injustice. There is a precedent that this Committee should examine the matter and come back.

**General Assembly approved to create a Committee to examine and report to the General Assembly.**

Mr. Singh said ratings can be hidden. If a Federation takes action, we do not accept this, as we pay for their ratings, it should be instantly done.

Mr. Faulks said at the QC we had so many cases as this has to go to Ethics, and he was delighted to see that they discussed this. And then next, do we take the report as new law or we wait for the Commission if there is an agreement in the Assembly to put more flesh on them. Or there should be cooperation between us on this issue.

Mr. Rivello said we just tried to give advisory opinion on the interpretation of current rules, underlining some shortcomings. We even suggested some solutions, by interpretations of current rules. We underline some relevant problems, and competent organs should draft regulations to deal with all possible problems. We are just discussing general problems. We have many cases in which there are current problems.

Mr. Sundar said we should approve. He also said there are two parts in this report.

Mr. Jones said in the case of some Federations we need some mediation service, if we do not do this, we ignore the needs of some players then.

Mr. Yazici proposed to have a clear template, for complaints, assigned by President, with a certain name, signature. He thanked Ethics Commission for this difficult job, and no one is happy with the decisions they make. This is a basic issue of having a form of providing a complaint to the Commission.

Mr. Karimi said the point of Mr. Singh and said that there was an example of a cheating player and we banned him for two years, and according to the Commission's decision he can go and cheat in other countries.

Mr. Rivello said there is a difference between a sanction of the FIDE Code of Ethics and violation of a national rule. Cheating is a violation of the FIDE Code of Ethics and Federation could submit the complaint in front of the Ethics Commission. This is exactly what happened with the Feller-Hauchard case.

If a National Federation submits an appeal to the Ethics Commission, then it can have immediate application, but a player can also submit an appeal to us also. This is a system, which existed before and today has improved. But even if a national federation does not submit a complaint, in the case of Mr. Feller and Mr. Hauchard, it is not the case. Different is a case when a Federation suspends a player for the violation of internal rules, even not related to chess. Every Federation has its own rules. So in these cases, if a complaint is submitted to us, it is not our competence as it is limited to the FIDE Code of Ethics. In this case, Federation has different rules, and it is possible that such a player can play in different other countries. So we have to find possible solutions. Here we just give interpretation to current rules and it is linked to registration of a player and a possibility to play abroad. Great problem is current rules for registration by a different Federation, sometimes they are asked for citizenship or residence.

Mr. Sundar said we have to respect National Federations and if a National Federation takes a decision, they need support of FIDE. FIDE should support them in their decisions. Accordingly try to understand the decisions of the Federations.

Mr. Karimi said if the Ethics Code is violated, whether the Commission seeks the support of a Federation, or you start an independent investigation.

Mr. Rivello said before it was a completely parallel system. We can use a decision of National Federation as a fact, but not as a valid decision. We had in the past cases where at the end we confirmed the decision of a competent national organ. Even there is a problem of investigation. Now we added new tools and instruments. We want to appoint something similar to a prosecutor. It will be possible if a Federation wants to accept an appeal competence. He wanted to underline in any case we will have no competence concerning violation of the FIDE Code of Ethics. The first point is this.

If National Federation gives us this competence, but it does not concern the FIDE Code of Ethics, it is not our competence. We have to respect the Federations.

Mr. Makropoulos said their recommendations will be discussed in the Presidential Board.

## **General Assembly approves the report of the Ethics Commission.**

### **6. Technical Commission.**

[Annex 13](#) is Agenda for the Commission meeting.

[Annex 14](#) is Appendix 1.

Dr. De Ridder presented his report. [Annex 80.](#)

Mr. Makropoulos said in point 4B if players talk between them, they can be punished, but what if they go out of the hall. Also, about the delay of 30 minutes in transmission, who will be making a final proposal for FIDE? He asked about the clocks also, he thought this clock has already been approved by the Committee.

Dr. De Ridder said it is a recommendation. He said they would be in discussions with the RTRC. He said regarding clocks, it was not according to the procedure and this clock is not acceptable for FIDE competitions.

Mr. Freeman said that this clock had only been approved for schools.

## **General Assembly approved the report with the comments of Mr. Makropoulos.**

### **TAP proposal.**

[Annex 85. Appendix.](#)

Mr. Stubenvoll presented the proposal.

Mr. Gelfer said that in page 1, article 26, there are some explanations about colour allocations. He asked to change the word “preference”.

Mr. Stubenvoll agreed.

Mr. Yazici asked FIDE to make the online team composition submission a standard procedure.

Mr. Stubenvoll said the software the Turkish Chess Federation prepared for this Olympiad is running very well, and there are no mistakes. He congratulated the Turkish Chess Federation for this and this should be a standard for future Olympiads.

## **General Assembly approved the proposal of TAP.**

### **6.1. Rules and Tournament Regulations Committee.**

[Annex 15](#) is Agenda for the Committee meeting.

[Annex 16](#) is final draft of the Laws of Chess.

Mr. Freeman proposed that Presidential Board should decide on the changes in Laws of Chess.

**General Assembly approved the proposal of Mr. Freeman.**

[Annex 82](#) is Commission's report.

Mr. Gijssen said about article 6.2 on page 10. He said there was a meeting in Lausanne and then Mr. Reuben had a good meeting with the USCF delegation. He thanked the USCF for the hospitality and exchange.

Mr. Gelfer asked about 960 random chess.

Mr. Gijssen agreed completely with Mr. Gelfer.

Mr. Makropoulos said FIDE decided several years ago, that it is better to watch how this develops and this chess to be within FIDE somewhere. He agreed that we should not discuss in QC about their regulations, but there should be another body to deal with this kind of chess.

Mr. Borg said they are called chess variants. In Chess in Schools a lot of variants are taught for children. I do not see any harm in endorsing this kind. He seconds the suggestion of Mr. Makropoulos.

Mr. Makropoulos proposed to have it within FIDE.

**General Assembly approved to have Random chess within FIDE.**

Mr. Battesti said in Article 9 he proposed to cancel all B and to change E. He said now we are clear, chess is a sport, and I think I am fundamentalist that people in centuries did not play with mutual agreement. It is a bad thing for the children. So this rule should be eliminated. He proposed to amend to forbid the draw by mutual agreement.

Mr. Short said he is not in agreement on this particular issue. The problem is that there are many positions and there is nothing to be gained by continuing, as this is anaesthetic. There were many moves to try and make chess more aggressive, with more decisive results. Bilbao scoring system has certain drawbacks in itself.

Mr. Gelfer said that the proposal of Mr. Short is interesting but it is not about real problem and we are talking about avoiding draws after 12-15 moves.

Mr. Battesti said that he has his personal position. We have to make the rules which are equal for everyone, and Mr. Short thinks only for his category of players.

Ms. S. Polgar said this is a very old argument. She said Mr. Portisch had this idea for some time and she thought this was too extreme. But chess enthusiasts and organisers do not want to see games which last 15 moves. She said that she is in favour of Leo's suggestion and she said the Sofia rules introduced by Mr. Danailov, we should move in this direction. Stalemate is a part of the game and repetitions are part of the game. There is a legitimately a beautiful combination to save the game. She would encourage the Sofia rules.

Mr. Lputian said this is a very serious question as this is about chess players. He said that he would like to have players who play until the end, as an organiser. But there are situations with repetitions. He said that for the people who do not want to play and fight and FIDE should have a list of those people.

Mr. Leong said there is no right or wrong in this discussion. He said many years ago he proposed this but his proposals were thrown out. FIDE has taken a lot of steps forward and this is a new century, we want to move forward and we want our children to understand that when they play chess, they fight. This is the education which we want. We should our children to understand that they should not offer draws if there are still possibilities. He proposed to make a recommendation to study the proposal.

Mr. Danailov said most of you know that we started in 2005 to fight against rules in Sofia MTel Masters tournament. He said he is a big enemy of draws as they damage the image of the game. He fully supported Mr. Battesti to remove this provision from Laws of Chess. He said he understands the position of Mr. Short. He said that some positions are really artificial. He said the limit of 30 moves is terrible. He said the proposal of Ms. Polgar is also different. He said the problem of what Mr. Short was easily solved in Sofia, by having a technical adviser there.

Mr. Gelfer agreed with Ms. Polgar. He objected to the proposal of Mr. Lputian to have black list. We can make rules without having such lists.

Mr. Wilkinson said that it is a matter of principle. He thought players should not be allowed to make a draw proposal. We want to be recognised as a sport, and the key in sports is competition. A draw can be exciting, but we should not allow the players to propose a draw. Chess is a gladiator sport that is why it survived so many years. Lack of competitive spirit. We should not be afraid to forbid the draws and the public loves fighting chess. He suggested that FIDE must be bold and brave.

Mr. Herbert said unfortunately my colleague from Jamaica beat me to the punch in his contribution. He fully supported the ban of draws. He reminded of fair play and sportsmanship.

Mr. Pahlevanzadeh said he suggested this in 2008 and even went further that players should resign. He said this is too radical, as we give a lot of advantage to those who make short draws. We should not give them tie-break points.

Mr. Yazici fully supported the President of the Jamaican Chess Federation.

Mr. Ncube said we should go in a direction of having 3 points for a win and 1 for a draw.

Mr. Faulks said this is being discussed under this Commission. The organisers should be able to include this into the regulations.

Mr. Wijesuriya said the 30 moves rule in practical terms, it exists.

Mr. Reuben said that he spent an enormous amount of time on rules, this year. We do not want to bother players with Laws of Chess. He asked the General Assembly

whether people prefer games to be concocted and look like a real struggle or be an honest draw.

Mrs. Polgar said we have to differentiate between Rules of Chess vs. Professional FIDE competitions, and here it is our duty to set up official rules. We could make rules for FIDE competitions, with Sofia rules and maybe technical adviser. Natural idea of the game is to fight, and it is a wrong idea to give the students that it is ok to chicken out.

Mr. Vega said first of all we have been discussing how to avoid draws. We have to be very careful to apply the rule, which would be absolutely good for nothing. I am afraid that if two high level players agree for a draw, they will make this draw.

Mr. Dobronoteanu said he sees difficulties in applying this rule. He estimates 10-20% of the games can be prearranged. He said it could be difficult to find practical solutions. One solution would be to combine with tie-break system.

Messrs. Reuben, Dobronoteanu and Vega said that there will be still pre-arranged games. Mr. Rivello said in other sports sportsmen can be put in jail for pre-arranged games. So if we change the rules and this will be a cheating, in case the draws are forbidden. He said that he agrees with Mrs. Polgar that it is important for children to understand the spirit of the games. He proposed an intermediate proposal, to increase the number of the moves before a draw, e.g.40 moves.

Mr. Press said this is the task of the RTRC committee to examine the proposals. He said that the proposals are coming from the people who did not submit the proposals in advance. He said that no decision should be made.

Mr. Makropoulos said we are not going to decide on this, but FIDE will collect all proposals and give to TASK, we will invite the Federations and players to express their opinion.

Mr. Short said a similar proposal to get people to play was made in 1883 and did not work. The problem with Bilbao system is very system, in Curacao 1962 Mr. Fischer accused communists of cheating by arranging draws. In the same event, if they made two wins or two draws, they would gain an advantage over Fischer. The scoring system is so flawed and non sound. As for banning draws altogether, as it is passed, it does not change the essence of chess, so it could be passed. If you start forbidding repetitions, it alters chess. Mr. Wilkinson mentioned the game Fischer-Tal which ended in perpetual check.

[Annex 18](#) is Appendix 1 to the Agenda.

Mr. Battesti proposed a political decision. He said I am proposing an amendment for a vote.

Mr. Makropoulos said he should go to the Commission and propose there as this is the right forum. We are not pushing any decision, before the Commission has all the suggestions and proposals. He said that this is a very serious problem therefore we are not avoiding making a decision. He said these are serious questions. The Commission should study the proposals and this is what we propose, not to be in a hurry.

Mr. Freeman said that there is a FIDE Agenda and things are to be on the Agenda three months in advance. So Mr. Battesti's proposal was not on the Agenda and then of course it can be discussed here, but producing it here is not right. He asked Mr. Battesti to follow the procedure, he cannot insist that we do anything here, as the proposal was not tabled in time.

Mr. Makropoulos said we left a lot of time for discussions. He proposed to collect all the proposals from Federations, and by the next Executive Board we can have a comprehensive proposal, with all elements and proposals. As FIDE thinks this is a serious problem.

Mr. Gijssen said all organisers have possibilities how to deal with draws, as they want.

Mr. Makropoulos said the comment of Mr. Reuben is very important.

Mr. Makropoulos asked Mr. Gijssen about rapid and blitz chess. Is it proposed that the regulations can be changed in every round depending on the number of arbiters?

Mr. Gijssen said e.g. in knockout tournament, from round 5 to 8, there is no arbiter for each game. We can include into the regulations, 1 arbiter can supervise more than 3 games, we can also include that if there are more than 3 games, then we need 1 arbiter for each games.

Mr. Makropoulos said he cannot understand this point. He requested this Commission to reconsider this provision.

Mr. Gijssen agreed.

Mr. Freeman said that at the moment mobile phones are banned in the FIDE events, and in new regulations it is up to the arbiter to decide. He disagreed and said we can't leave this up to the arbiter. The rule should be strict. I think the mobile phones should be banned from the playing venue and hall completely.

Mr. Makropoulos said he seconded Mr. Freeman's proposal. This is up to the Commission to reconsider.

**General Assembly approved the report and the proposal and comments of Mr. Makropoulos and Freeman.**

## **6.2. Swiss Pairings Programmes Committee.**

[Annex 17](#) is Agenda for the Committee meeting.

[Annex 18](#) is Appendix 1 to the Agenda.

[Annex 71.](#)

**General Assembly approved the recommendation of the Executive Board to approve the report.**

## **7. Qualification Commission.**

[Annex 19](#) is Minutes of the QC Councillors' meeting held in Warsaw, 11-12 April 2012.

[Annex 20](#) is the list of over-the-board-play titles to be approved by the General Assembly.

### [Annex 88.](#)

Mr. Leong said on point 6, that people are asking to reconsider this point. Mr. Leong said that it is a standing point, we can include "in exceptional cases you can get approval from the QC Chairman".

Mr. Pahlevanzadeh said different countries have different rules. In many countries, they decide in different times. We should not open the way to ask QC Chairman.

Mr. Leong repeated the opinion.

Mr. Makropoulos said time controls for title tournaments. You are opening a door for any time control, and we go back.

Mr. Faulks replied that in Dresden it was an experiment which failed and there is no end to the trouble with time controls. So nobody seems to be happy, therefore QC recommended going back to old standards.

Mr. Makropoulos said it means every four years we change our decisions on time controls.

Mr. Guadalupe said player or organiser can have only one time control for one specific game. In the US we have big Swiss tournaments, and many of the organisers do not provide the clocks. Some players do not have digital clocks. Electronic clocks with increment – 90 out of 100. So this rule I mention cannot be used. QC approved and recommended that we have two minimum time controls and one without. Common practice is that we allow 10 boards what

Mr. Ayza, from the Spanish Federation, said they did not agree with points 6,7 & 8.

Mr. Leong said that in point 7 where tournaments are reported late, we had many in past, now it is reduced, we should have stricter control and efficiency in tournament reportings. QC has not imposed any fines or penalties, but if we want to discourage late reports, we will have to start imposing penalties.

Mr. Khodarkovsky said one week is too short especially for large tournaments. For small tournaments it is possible. He proposed two weeks.

Mr. Leong said FIDE is very democratic, and the USCF should send a unified proposal from their Federation. The USCF rating officer is in the QC and he was saying three days are enough.

Mr. Pahlevanzadeh said two weeks is good time.

Mr. Kaloumenos said before Mr. Markkula was handling some problems, and he proposed that QC monitors and prepares the report for the following Presidential Board.

**General Assembly approved the proposal of Mr. Kaloumenos.**

Mr. Makropoulos said we did not come to the conclusion on time controls.

**General Assembly accepts the report in general, and tasked the Commission to present the report to the next Presidential Board.**

## **8. Arbiters' Commission.**

[Annex 21](#) Agenda for the Commission meeting.

[Annex 22](#) is Minutes of the Councillors' meeting held in Athens, June 30 2012.

[Annex 23](#) is the list of Arbiters' titles to be approved by the General Assembly.

[Annex 24](#) is letter from the Royal Dutch Chess Federation in respect of the licence fees.

[Annex 25](#) is proposals in respect of the classification of the Arbiters.

Long service meritorious awards were presented by the Commission:

Zvi-Bar Shira from Israel.  
He gave a short speech of appreciation.

Phil Haley from Canada.

Lembit Vaheäär from Estonia.

GM Yuri Averbakh from Russia

## [Annex 75.](#)

Mr. Nikolopoulos announced corrections. He said we will introduce a new form, Chief Arbiter's report which will be added to tournament reports send to Elista, together with IT3 form, where the details of arbiters work and knowledge will be added, some details of appeals or incidents which happen in the tournament, or the players who quit the tournament before the last round.

He said he will add the proposal of the Polish Chess Federation regarding upgrade of arbiters to the Commission's report.

He made an addition to the Report regarding the proposal of the Polish Chess federation for the classification of the Arbiters, adding the upgrading requirements from C' to B' Category, that was missing from the Minutes of the Arbiters' Commission Meeting Minutes.

He presented the proposal for the Arbiters' Stipends for all FIDE rated events.

Mr. Makropoulos said that the paper of the arbiters' proposal of stipends is a

recommendation for the WCO Commission as this is the part of the regulations which are prepared by my Commission.

Mr. Nikolopoulos said that the Commission just gathered together all the stipends that are referred to the regulations of all FIDE events and did not change the numbers and did not add anything new.

Mr. Makropoulos said that this is not for the General Assembly to decide.

Mr. Nikolopoulos said that the Commission knows that in many cases the Arbiters get no stipend in the tournaments they work and by introducing the proposal for the Stipends in all chess events the Commission wanted to give something for the arbiters to negotiate with the Organizers.

Mrs. Barnes said we disagree on the guidelines on the tax, and many arbiters and many Federations cannot pay arbiters' stipends on the tournaments.

Mr. Nikolopoulos said the proposal was discussed to in Krakow and Executive Board recommended to make a survey and present a proposal to Istanbul. 10% deduction from the Arbiters' stipends will go for regarding FIDE tournaments and continental championships. This amount is not a tax and will not be deducted from organisers, but from Arbiters, as this is from the stipends of the arbiters. 100 euro is also from the stipends of the arbiters.

Mr. Press said that the Minutes are not clear, on this point. He asked for the formal vote on the acceptance of this report.

Mr. Mazouz asked if these are guidelines or the requirements. Mr. Nikolopoulos answered that are guidelines for FIDE tournaments and recommendations for private tournaments, as the Organizers may negotiate with the Arbiters regarding these stipends.

Mr. Gelfer said he thanked the Arbiters' Commission for their work as they do enormous work and the quantity of seminars is really good, and the contribution of Chairman to other Commissions, and to the World Championship and Olympiad Commission, is to be praised. He said the language for the seminars should be discussed with Messrs. Makropoulos and Nikolopoulos.

Mr. Metzging said that we do not approve the tax, but the Organisers have to follow the regulations of FIDE. He agreed with the proposal of the Dutch Chess Federation Annex 24.

Mr. Makropoulos said we created the Committee in Krakow and hence this proposal. He said that the main idea was similar to that of the Trainers, with the licenses and this is a similar proposal, Trainers have enough money to support seminars, the same idea should be with Arbiters, to support the Arbiters with new information, seminars, and other sources, and from there they started the discussion regarding the income of the arbiters. He said some arbiters push FIDE to increase their fees and their Federations on a national level, but when they are asked to pay something to make the system better, they refuse. They should contribute, and this is a matter of principle. They are making income as they have titles and they use their titles.

Mr. Nikolopoulos said that after Krakow, the Commission did what exactly was instructed in Krakow Congress. He said about the contribution, that what was proposed is only Arbiters' contribution in order for them to have some better income level. He said that the Commission knows that it is not possible to have stipends for all tournaments all over the world, and the contribution of 100 euros refers to the 1450 tournaments all over the world, which they give norms. Other tournaments are not charged.

Mr. Vega said he appreciated the work done by Arbiters' Commission and help they give to all of us. However, he would like that there are lots of seminars for arbiters and CCA pays for them. Secondly, he backed Mr. Mazouz about the situation in different continents.

Mrs. Barnes said that in the official FIDE events she would agree this could be done. But 100 euro is a big amount in many countries.

Mr. Makropoulos said that in case FIDE pays the fees, that the 100 euro should be added.

Mrs. Barnes agreed.

Mr. Makropoulos proposed to reject the report.

Mr. Rabell Mendez said that we do not agree with payments.

Mr. Pahlevanzadeh proposed the Chief Arbiters' form to include the information on the stipends.

Mr. Nikolopoulos mentioned that during the Arbiters' Meeting was a voting and the proposal for the stipends was unanimously accepted by the present members of the Arbiters' Commission but the majority of the Arbiters who were present was against.

Mr. Makropoulos said that the arbiters cannot decide how much money they should be paid for their work. So we cancel all the proposals and go back to the old level of stipends. If you do not want to support your own Commission, which is trying to increase the stipends for the colleagues, then the proposal is better to be rejected.

Mr. Bond said in Krakow he opposed the proposal. He said we are not ungrateful for the increase of the stipends. As for the FIDE events, the Commission did not increase anything and took this from the Regulations. We do not wish to appear ungrateful, we are making this contribution, and everywhere in the world.

Mr. Hamers asked about licence fee. [Annex 24](#). The Commission discussed it though it was not in the Agenda.

Mr. Nikolopoulos said the Executive Board approved this in Krakow and the Commission discussed it again and does not agree with Mr. Hamers.

Mr. Makropoulos said that we can not discuss the same things in every Congress.

Mr. Hamers said he wrote a letter to the General Assembly to turn down the decision of the Executive Board. He said the meaning of his proposal is that in Krakow the Arbiters' Commission discussed licenses, and it was not in full discussed in the Executive Board. And we mostly object, is that people who are arbiters, who have titles at this moment, and they can act as arbiters, and now they have to buy licenses and paying a license to do the same work what they are doing now. We received written support of some Federations on this letter.

Mr. Makropoulos said the decision is made in Krakow and he proposed not to re-open the discussion on the subject which we already discussed. We should not create a precedent to do this in the future.

Prof. Jungwirth said is this about future licenses?

Mr. Hamers said the letter is about also future.

Mrs. Marinello seconded the proposal of Mr. Makropoulos.

General Assembly voted for the proposal of Mr. Makropoulos:

**In favour: 51**

**Against: 33**

General Assembly voted in favour of the proposal of Mr. Makropoulos not to reopen the discussion of the licenses.

Mr. Hamers requested the discussion on the issue of arbiters' licenses. Mr. Makropoulos asked him to talk to Mr. Freeman on this issue. Mr. Hamers agreed.

The next day, after their discussion, Mr. Freeman confirmed a legal view that the decision of General Assembly actually deals fully with the issue raised by the Dutch Chess Federation.

Mr. Hamers said he asked for other legal experts and they had a different opinion. We stopped the discussion and I respect this as the majority wanted this and the Federation put a proposal and it is normal that this is in the Agenda, and you cannot prevent voting on this. This is not democratic. But it is not according to the normal regulations of the meeting. He insisted on a vote on this.

Mr. Makropoulos said that the Assembly is a democracy and if you do not like the democracy and the results, you can go to hundred lawyers and you will get a hundred opinions. We are not opening a new discussion

**General Assembly approved the majority of the report of the Arbiters' Commission and rejected Commission's proposal regarding stipends.**

## **9. Trainers' Commission.**

[Annex 26](#) is Commission report and Minutes of the meeting of June 7 2012.

[Annex 27](#) is the titles to be approved by the General Assembly.

[Annex 28](#) is rules for Trainers Awards 2011.

[Annex 29](#) is the list of Trainers' Awards 2011.

[Annex 70.](#)

Mr. Mikhalchishin presented the following awards:

Mikhail Botvinnik award to A. Petrosian (ARM) for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time.

Furman Symeon (Women Trainer) to Y. Dokhoian (RUS)

Euwe Max (Junior Trainer ) to E. Grivas (GRE)

Boleslavsky Isaac (Author) to GM Jakob Aagaard (DEN)

Petrossian Tigran (Special Achievements) to GM L. Psakhis (ISR).

**General Assembly accepts the report.**

**9.1. Trainers' Seminar in Caldas Novas.**

[Annex 30](#) is exchange of correspondence in respect of this seminar.

[Annex 30A.](#)

**10. CACDEC Development Commission.**

[Annex 31](#) is Minutes of the Commission meeting held in Athens in March 2012.

[Annex 83.](#)

**General Assembly accepts the report.**

**11. Chess in Schools Commission.**

[Annex 32](#) is Commission Chairman A-N.Yazici's report.

[Annex 78.](#)

The Ethiopian and Malawi Federations signed the agreement on chess in schools with FIDE.

Mr. Yazici thanked the FIDE President for his trust and the Executive Secretary K. O'Connell for his tremendous job. He said after he retires from the Turkish Chess Federation he will give his full time to this job. He thanked Rosneft for the sponsorship, he hopes that we can increase this sponsorship in 2013.

There was the 1<sup>st</sup> FIDE Chess in Schools Conference in Istanbul, and next year we will increase the participation.

We thank all the initiatives, especially the ECU initiative in the Europarlament.

Mr. Elhaj thanked Mr. Yazici and his Commission, and he said there are today new contracts with African countries, and asked whether there is special budget for supporting Federations.

Mr. Yazici said there are two models of work in our Commission, one for big countries, and other is for developing countries.

Mr. Makropoulos said in Krakow we decided regarding Academy, and free lessons in Internet for kids, who will make the final decision on the project.

Mr. Yazici said we sent a proposal to FIDE on the 1<sup>st</sup> of August and we are waiting for the reply. He agreed that the final decision should be taken by Presidential Board.

### **General Assembly accepts the report.**

#### **12. Women's Chess Commission.**

[Annex 33](#) is proposals from the Commission.

Caissa Award goes to the current Women's World Champion Hou Yifan of China.

[Annex 69.](#) Ms. Polgar said she wanted to thank the Lobortas Jewellery House for wonderful trophies and also thanked the Trainers' and Arbiters' Commissions for the excellent collaboration.

Executive Board recommends the increase of each Commission by two female members not as councillors.

Mr. Leong said that it is in non-elected Commissions.

### **General Assembly approves the recommendation of the Executive Board.**

### **General Assembly accepted the report of the Commission.**

#### **13. Constitutional Commission**

[Annex 34](#) is Minutes of the Commission meeting in Lausanne, June 2012.

[Annex 90.](#)

#### **14. Special projects.**

As per recommendation of the FIDE Presidential Board meeting held in Elista 5-6 April 2012, in acknowledging the importance and potential in "Social projects", a Commission be formed under the chair of FIDE Vice President Beatriz Marinello.

[Annex 35](#) is report of Ms. B. Marinello on Social Chess.

[Annex 72.](#)

Mr. Freeman said it was recommended that this is quite an important thing and we will create two Commissions and we will discuss soon to give them their proper names.

One is with Mrs. Marinello, who will deal with social chess, women's chess.

The other one is with GM Lima, on prison's chess, drugs and chess and chess for peace.

**General Assembly approves the recommendation of the Executive Board.**

Mr. Lima thanked the Assembly for the confidence and said they will work hard.

Mrs. Marinello said this project is big and has great potential. We started working on this and assured that we will grow the number of the players in the world.

**15. Medical Commission.**

[Annex 36](#) is Agenda for the Commission meeting.

[Annex 81.](#)

**General Assembly approved the report.**

**16. Events Commission.**

[Annex 37](#) is Agenda for the Commission meeting.

[Annex 38](#) is Minutes of the Commission meeting held in Zaozhuang, China, May 2012.

[Annex 39](#) is the proposal of the Philippines Chess Federation regarding registration, transfer and rules of eligibility for participation in FIDE events.

[Annex 40](#) is proposal of Mr. I. Leong on FIDE Chess Oscar Awards.

[Annex 41](#) is FIDE Calendar planner update.

[Annex 42](#) is FIDE Calendar 2012-2013.

[Annex 43](#) is FIDE Calendar 2014-2016.

[Annex 44](#) is a proposal of Mr. S. Reuben regarding guidelines for events for inexperienced players.

[Annex 45](#) is proposal of the Turkish Chess Federation regarding players suspended in their respective countries.

[Annex 68](#) and [Annex 79. Appendix to Annex 79.](#)

Mr. Kutin said there is a proposal of establishing a fair play award named after GM S. Gligoric.

## **General Assembly accepted the proposal of Mr. Kutin.**

Mr. Yazici proposed to establish a working group to work on a procedures etc and to announce this to Federations. He proposed Mr. Kutin as Chairman of this working group.

Mr. Borg said that it is time to regularise annual awards in various categories, in an organised manner.

Mr. Leong said this is in Annex 40, to harmonise the awards, we are looking towards commencing this in 2014 Olympiad.

## **General Assembly approves and tasks the Presidential Board to decide on the members of this Committee.**

### **16.1. Amendment in the Olympiad Regulations D4 5.3.**

To remove present article and replace with the following wording: “The Administrator shall provide all teams with two double rooms and two single rooms”.

[Annex 79.](#) Mr. Makropoulos said that in some continents due to various weather conditions it is not possible to hold the Olympiad in November.

Mr. Leong said in Annex 41 you see September as a period.

Mr. Rivello said we gave an opinion on this point (Annex 45) and some particular cases. But of course we did not analyse the request of the Turkish Chess Federation, our task and our competence are different.

Mr. Makropoulos proposed to accept the proposal of Mr. Rivello.

## **General Assembly approved the advice of Ethics Commission on the proposal of the Turkish Chess Federation ([Annex 45](#)).**

Mr. Yazici asked if this becomes part of the FIDE Code of Ethics.

Mr. Reuben asked about the decision on Annex 44.

Mr. Kutin said that Mr. Reuben takes this personally. We received this in a very last moment. It was not addressed not only to our Commission, but to RTRC and SPP and we decided we have no time and it is not our fault we received this.

Mr. Leong said the Commission unanimously rejected the proposal.

Mr. Reuben said that at the meeting the Annex was with them as they had not previously looked at the Agenda. He was not the only one, and in the original Agenda this Annex is mentioned on page 5, in plenty of notice.

Mr. Makropoulos proposed to refer this proposal – Annex 44 – to the Presidential Board.

**General Assembly approved the proposal of Mr. Makropoulos.**

**General Assembly accepts the report of the Commission.**

**Split of age groups.**

Executive Board recommends reconsidering the split of age categories in the World Youth Championships, as it was decided in Krakow.

Mr. Makropoulos said that in Greece we can manage big events, but we feel that other countries might face a problem with all the participation. Sometimes federations send two-three trainers with a whole group, now if we split, Federations will need to send more trainers and it will be more expensive for Federations.

Mr. O'Connell said if we vote through, we bring it in force after the Puerto Rico event, as they started the event, and then we go for a split, if that is what if we vote for.

Mr. Makropoulos said there is no decision about Puerto Rico, no bidding procedure has been opened yet.

Mr. Pahlevanzadeh said Asian Youth will be divided into two parts in 2013.

Mr. Yazici said that in Executive Board, originally the decision was 2012 and 2014 were European years. In Krakow the UAE made an outstanding proposal for 2013, which was originally African year, we moved Africa to 2014. 2015 should be the final of the cycle with Europe. And 2016 should start with Europe again, as new cycle.

Mr. Khodarkovsky said last year in Krakow we discussed this and it makes perfect sense to make two events. However, back then if there is a bid from the country which can organise an entire event, the bid should be allowed as well.

Mr. Makropoulos said that then everyone will come forward with such bids.

Mr. Kutin said World Youth Championship is getting bigger. 2700 players registered for this year in Maribor.

Mr. Sundar said that we should vote on each event in each country. Even three events will be difficult. For Khodarkovsky he said then only countries who can host 3, 000 will bid, but other smaller countries should be given a chance to organise FIDE events. Splitting is best for players, parents and accompanying persons. We need to split the event.

Mr. Borg said we should consider the extension; there is another question of U-20 event, as it suffers the lack of the organisers. Another point to consider is that within IOC we market World Youth Championships as our flagship together with the Chess Olympiad.

Mr. Pisk asked if we split, can the organiser ask for both events.

Mr. Makropoulos said this was exactly the point. If we agree, then it will be like we

never split. Federations prefer a trip to one country. If we split, we split, which will mean two different Federations. There will be more organisers in every continent and more Federations would be satisfied.

Mr. Muradian said we can say that if a country should know that if they come with both bids, but we should say you may not get both of them, as a compromise. We could include this into a bidding procedure.

Mr. Makropoulos said he did not understand the point and let's say Turkey comes and asks for both. Slovenia asks for one, and Greece asks for one. Federations will vote for Turkey, of course because they would like to have one trip only. If we want to split, we should not allow bidding for both events.

Mr. Sundar said if a country wants to bid for both events, they cannot organise them in the same time, but they should be allowed to bid for both events, but different time and year.

Mr. Celi said we should evaluate this giving two bids issue, because the other countries should also use this opportunity. He agreed with Mr. Sundar so that everybody can have same conditions to participate in these bidding procedures.

Mr. Herbert said he wants to make sure he understood correctly the previous speaker.

Mr. Makropoulos said it goes without saying, they can bid for both, but they can organise only one.

Mr. Bond said he could not understand the logics of this. We have to split it up just to give others chances. Why is such an unfair advantage.

Mr. Makropoulos said the events are huge and the Organisers cannot provide conditions they should provide and there are not many countries which can propose such offers. But then other countries have big disadvantage.

Mr. Pahlevanzadeh said the proposal of Mr. Sundar, he proposed the events to follow one another.

Mr. Gelfer said we are missing the intention of the proposal which is to split the event and not to have 2500 kids, as it is difficult to organise. He said it would also give more Federations a chance to organise the events. Problem of the time, time is limited as we should organise it during kids vacations. He said the proposal was reasonable, he proposed to accept this.

Mr. Leong said that in the Calendar planner we have the problem of dates, and if we set new dates, it is more difficult.

Mr. Bond requested a vote.

In favour of splitting the event - overwhelming majority.  
Against – 3

**General Assembly ratified the decision of the Executive Board to split the age**

**categories to start from 2016 (the year European Federations should bid).**

**[Annex 39.](#) was not approved as it was not discussed.**

**[Annex 86.](#)**

Mr. Gelfer said the proposal is a combined proposal with more specifications for Olympiad bids etc. The third one is just reducing the time of the negotiation with the Organisers. The 4<sup>th</sup> recommendation is from WCOC about Championships. We have regulations for the cycle, and in the past we said Continents are free to make amendments and changes, but we realised that sometimes their regulations are in contradiction with the WCOC

Mr. Makropoulos said to take out the last line “for the relevant cycle”/

Mr. Borg said the wording should be not “all teams” but “each team”.

**General Assembly approved.**

**General Assembly accepts the proposal for changing the wording.**

**General Assembly approved the nominations of Qualification Commission Chairman Mr. Leong and Events Commission Chairman B. Kutin**

**Journalists’ Commission.**

Mr. Makropoulos said that there are bloggers who claim they are journalists, if they open a website. We want all the people who want to act as chess journalists, to be registered within FIDE, they will have a right to be accredited in all FIDE events, they should decide the basic principles that should be followed. FIDE will try with the Organisers to arrange their facilities, hotel discounts etc.

FIDE President mentioned Mr. Makropoulos and M. Khodarkovsky who have worked as professional journalists and Ms. A. Karlovich, as for the second woman, Mr. Makropoulos proposed Ms. Marinello, and we will try to do the job of registering media members.

**General Assembly approved the proposal of Mr. Makropoulos.**

## **17. Commission on World Championship and Olympiads**

- 1. World Cup 2013**
- 2. World Championship Match – May 2012 – [Annex 46](#) is Chief Arbiter’s report and [Annex 47](#) is Appeals Committee Chairman report**
- 3. World Championship Match 2013**
- 4. Women’s World Championship 2012**
- 5. Candidates matches 2013**
- 6. Women’s World Championship match 2013**
- 7. World Team Championship 2013.**
- 8. World Team Championship 2015**

- 9. Women's Team Championship 2013**
- 10. Grand- Prix series 2012-2013**
- 11. Women's Grand Prix series 2011-2012**
- 12. World Rapid and Blitz Championship 2012 ([Annex 48](#) is Chief Arbiter's and Appeals Committee Chairman reports)**
- 13. World Rapid and Blitz Championship 2013**
- 14. Women's World Rapid and Blitz Championship 2012-2013**
- 15. Olympiad 2014 – Tromso, Norway**
- 16. Olympiad 2016 – bids**
- 17. World Cup 2015 (bid from Azerbaijan)**

Contract for World Cup 2013 to be signed on September 9<sup>th</sup> in Istanbul.

India had an option but it expired.

Mr. Gelfer said that Agon is doing the World Chess Championship match 2013.

Mrs. Anand sent an email with a possibility to organise the match in India. Mr. Makropoulos said we should establish the contact.

#### **Women's World Championship 2012.**

Mr. Gelfer said it is in November, we will go there with Mr. Balgabaev. No problems.

#### **Candidates' Matches 2013.**

**Women's World Championship match 2013.** We should open bidding procedure.

#### **World Team Championship 2013.**

Mr. Borg said Kazakhstan wants to host the Women's Team Championships. This is to be negotiated with Mr. Yazici.

#### **World Team Championship 2015.**

Bidding procedure is not open. We have a bid from Armenia ([Annex 66](#)). By the next Presidential Board we will have some interest.

Mr. Makropoulos said we can decide to award the event to Armenia.

Mr. Sadvakasov said they are ready to organise the event in 2015.

**General Assembly approved to open the bidding procedure after the Olympiad.**

#### **Grand-Prix series.**

Mr. Borg said this is an event organised by Agon. All venues are specified, and the dates.

Players have been allocated, we will see the first event in London in a couple of weeks time.

Mr. Ayza, delegate of Spain, said we do not agree to a Madrid event as the Spanish Chess Federation has no knowledge about this event.

Mr. Borg said we spoke to Mr. Ochoa and Agon were misguided in this matter. Mr. Paulson will speak to Mr. Ochoa.

**Grand-Prix Women.** Ankara is hosting the last leg. Ms. Hou has won, and the second place is very important. Muzychuk and Koneru can be also challengers.

Mr. Yazici said we have proposed many times that this series Grand-Prix final should finish with invitations to all Organisers of all previous legs and FIDE President should be present on the 29<sup>th</sup> September 2012 at the closing ceremony.

Women's Grand-Prix 2013. Mr. Borg said that we will give preference to those who are already expressed the interest.

Mr. Makropoulos said Executive Board decided to establish a Committee to finalise the dates for World Rapid and Blitz Championships.

ACP organises the event next year as well. Mr. Makropoulos said we need to discuss this with ACP first.

## **FIDE Meetings, Tournaments and Matches**

### **18. Presidential Board and FIDE Congresses.**

#### **18.1. 2012 Presidential Board meetings.**

Presidential Board venues were discussed.

#### **18.2. 84<sup>th</sup> FIDE Congress 2013.**

The event shall be organised in Antakya, Turkey, 27 August – 7 September 2013 concurred with the World Junior Championships.

There will also be an Extraordinary General Assembly and Continental Assemblies.

#### **18.3. 85<sup>th</sup> FIDE Congress 2014 and 41<sup>st</sup> Chess Olympiad 2014.**

The event shall be held in Tromso, Norway, 1-14 August 2014.

#### **18.4. 86<sup>th</sup> FIDE Congress 2015.**

Krakow has an option.

Turkey expressed interest, in case they win the World Youth Championships 2015 bid.

#### **18.5. 42<sup>nd</sup> Chess Olympiad 2016 and 87<sup>th</sup> FIDE Congress 2016.**

FIDE has received the following bids:

[Annex 49](#) is bid from the Estonian Chess Federation to organise the event in Tallinn, October-November 2016.

[Annex 50](#) is bid from the Bulgarian Chess Federation to organise the event in Albena, September-October 2016.

[Annex 51](#) is bid from the Azerbaijan Chess Federation to organise the event in Baku, 3-18 September 2016, and the World Cup 2015.

[Annex 84](#) is the withdrawal of the bid by the Estonian Chess Federation.

### **Presentation by the Azerbaijan Chess Federation.**

The Executive Board after discussion taking into consideration that the bid was for the Olympiad and the World Cup, is the only bid which can be discussed, recommended that only the bid of Baku which includes the bid for World Cup 2015, should be discussed.

Mr. Danailov said he knows the recommendation and the bidding procedure, but said the Assembly should be by a voting procedure in any case.

Mr. Makropoulos said the Executive Board recommended only dealing with only one bid which includes the bid for the World Cup.

Mr. Short objected and said he should hear both bids.

Mr. Yazici said we create rules and we have to follow the rules. According to the regulations, if there is a World Cup offered with the Olympiad, this is a valid bid. Legally we cannot ignore this. This confirmation will also confirm the decision of the Executive Board.

Mr. Gelfer said that this is not the first time, as two years ago we had the same procedure when we had two bids, Bulgaria and Norway, where both bids had World Cup bid included. We have to follow the bidding procedure. There is no reason to violate this procedure.

Mr. Danailov said we do not have a presentation as we asked FIDE how to prepare a presentation and we received the reply about our bid.

Mr. Freeman said Bulgaria asked whether they should make a presentation. And I replied that only one bid is valid. If the General Assembly refuses the Baku proposal, then the issue is open to other bids.

Mr. Lputian said there are qualities which unite all people, we love nature, justice, kindness and attention. He thinks this is similar to all of us, and we should respect each other. And when we make each step we should consider others. Head of a family should do everything to have a united family. He respects all Federations, both successful and not. On many occasions he gave interviews and was saying a lot of kind words about great success in Azerbaijan and their chess players. Our Federation also works well. We want our motto to be realized in life, this is the only way to help each other and to

promote chess. He said that the Armenian Chess Federation is a strong Federation and has its own opinion. Baku's proposal is good, and it is normal that we want tournaments to be organized in all countries. We also to organize events, so if Baku wins the Olympiad bid, Armenia will withdraw its World Team Championship bid. We should think about everyone. He respects all and want Baku to organize a lot of tournaments, but Armenian Chess Federation requests that until the bilateral situation is so sensitive, the FIDE tournaments should not be organized in these two countries. He wished good luck to all chess players and Federation and good luck to FIDE and we all of us help and not interfere with each other.

Mr. Makropoulos said we have a bidding procedure which was clearly announced that FIDE will award the Olympiad to the country which is ready to organize the Olympiad and the World Cup. And after this, it is a legal matter and if there is a basis, this is the one, to sue FIDE. If we do not award the event to Azerbaijan, they have a strong legal basis. Executive Board also heard the protest from Armenia. He proposed that the General Assembly should accept or not the recommendation of Executive Board. After this we should discuss the protest of Armenia. He asked General Assembly to approve the recommendation of the Executive Board that we will discuss only the bid of Azerbaijan.

Mr. Yazici said the Azerbaijan Chess Federation should make their presentation first.

Mr. Makropoulos disagreed and said that any presentations should be made after the General Assembly decision.

Prof. Zakarian disagreed with the procedure and asked if they can ask a question. He said that if you want to organize the event in Baku where the Armenians cannot participate. My question is about the security and where they will leave and play.

Mr. Makropoulos said that my proposal in the Executive Board was not to accept but to decide that we have to consider only the bid of Azerbaijan. Then they can make the presentation, and Armenians can make their protest.

**General Assembly decided to ratify the recommendation of the Executive Board, with several Federations against this decision.**

Mr. A. Rahimov, Minister of Sports and Youth of Azerbaijan, took the floor. He introduced his country and city. He mentioned top level sports events in Baku where sportsmen of Armenian origin participated. Baku twice was bidding for 2016 and for 2020, and in our bidding book we participated in the events of the IOC, and they never required anything about governmental guarantees regarding such issues.

The Baku bid has unconditional support of the President of the country, Government and all official institutions. They said they will do everything required to organize the events on a very high level.

Mr. JJ Aulson asked if there is a budget and what is the size.

Mr. Rahimov replied that after the meeting of the President of Azerbaijan and FIDE President, it was confirmed that there will be full governmental support.

Mr. Borg said there is a full bid attached in the Agenda.

Mr. Buthali asked about visas for Azerbaijan. He said there are not many Embassies of Azerbaijan.

Mr. Rahimov said in May we had thousands guests. Visas are obtained at the airport, the procedure was very fast. Internet ticket was a visa for all the Eurovision guests.

Mr. Press noticed the accommodation and travel subsidies. He asked countries who will receive this allocation.

Mr. Makropoulos said it is too early to reply to this question. He said this will be in the contract which we will sign how we will cooperate on this amount.

Mr. Gelfer said the example is from 2014 Olympiad should be taken. The procedure there was that the Organisers asked CACDEC Chairman to provide some criteria for the allocation.

Mr. Hamers asked many teams upgrade the accommodation. He asked about approximate costs of their accommodation.

Mr. Rahimov said we were informed that we agreed the Government will cover if the prices will be higher than in previous Olympiads. In 2015 we will host first European Games and in 2017 we will host 4<sup>th</sup> Muslim Games. We started building some kind of an Olympic village.

Mr. Boxall thanked for the presentation. He said guarantees were mentioned. He asked if Azerbaijan is aware of the stages of payments to FIDE by deposit and relevant financial regulations.

Mr. Rahimov said if this is a procedure, we will follow the procedure. For Eurovision the budget was 10 mln USD, and the Government gave this amount.

Mr. Iclicki asked for how many people from each delegation the hospitality was free. In Turkey they hosted 14 people.

Mr. Borg said the bid says same conditions as in Turkey.

Mr. Short asked how far are the hotels from the playing venue.

Mr. Rahimov said Mr. Short should know all distances from personal experience. Walking distance, depending how fast you walk.

Mr. Bond said the total budget is 13 mln euro and 10 mln guarantee, so he assumed the question is for the last 3 mln euro. He asked if the budget is covered now.

Mr. Makropoulos said he misunderstood. There is the government guarantee.

Mr. Rahimov said we will do our utmost to provide top hospitality within reasonable level but covering all the demands. He said they confirm the budget, but without details.

Mr. Makropoulos asked if they are guaranteeing visas for Armenians.

Mr. Rahimov said it will be all the visas at the airport, there is no preliminary procedure.

Mr. Makropoulos said we know that it is clear that if Armenians when enter the country, nobody will send them back.

Mr. Rahimov said there will be a written guarantee and there will be no problem.

Prof. Zakarian said there will be no other questions, as Armenian chess players will never go to Baku. He said that he respects the Minister, but he cannot understand why we discuss this. The players cannot play chess as they will be afraid for their lives. Understand as you wish. This is for sure that they will not go.

Mr. Lputian in twenty years no Armenian or Azerbaijan chess players visit the countries of each other. So it means that if you decide, you knew that Armenia will not participate. He thought that there is no sympathy for our pain. He loves chess and respect Azerbaijan chess world, but he thinks the guarantee is just words, and life proves otherwise. Our chess players will not go there as they are afraid. And if you decide in favour of Baku, it means that you do not care that Olympic Champions and World Team Champions will not go to the Olympiad 2016. In these twenty years life has shown.

Mr. Rahimov said in 2008 European Youth Championships in Yerevan our 5 players participated. In 2016 the conflict might be finalized before. God helps us.

Mr. Sundar said that if Pakistan players come to India and we go to Pakistan, what is the problem? You should make all efforts to send your players. Four years are ahead, let us be very optimistic. It is possible that the players tell you.

Mr. Elhaj asked if they can take security measures for Armenian players, in writing, with special procedures and guarantee that no harm is made.

Mr. Rahimov said of course if we are saying about governmental guarantees, hotels, tournament hall, working conditions. He was not so sure that we need such guarantees, as the guarantees steps we organize for any other event. For our neighbouring country, we can make more and he saw this in London when the army was also participating in security, we will not invite army for that. In the wrestling championship, the vice president of the Armenian NOC went to a shop, by a car, by himself, and we have a lot of examples. These are steps to the peace in the region.

Mr. Makropoulos said this is a job of FIDE, to speak about security measures and it is clear that in all our events, we had special meetings and every time the organizers accept our requests. We do not know the security measures in 100%, but our points are noted and they are prepared.

Prof. Jungwirth said once more in this General Assembly we have to deal with the chess politics, between two great chess nations, when he sees GM Radjabov playing, he remembers his first title, as European Champion U-10, which he won in Austria 1998.

In other hand, there are enormous steps from both of these countries. Politics is influencing and interfering. FIDE's interest is not only to get the Olympiad, but to assure World Cup and FIDE Congress. He asked that a lot of European and World Championships were awarded to Azerbaijan in other sports. Was this open to every nation and were they awarded by international sports organizations like FIDE. Did the Armenian athletes participate in such events, or did they stay away?

Mr. Makropoulos said the Minister of Sports gave examples, World Wrestling Championship 2007, all together 51 athletes. Boxing Championship, there were Armenians from Armenia and Russia participated.

Mr. Ilyumzhinov said in 1995 when he was elected as FIDE President, some delegates proposed me not to organize the Olympiad in Yerevan 1996 and he was again re-elected there and now we should discuss and the proposal from Baku regarding their bid. Last month when we received this bid, he decided to visit Armenia and Azerbaijan also. He spoke to the Presidents of both countries. We visited Jermuk with Mr. Sargsian for the Women's Grand-Prix tournament, and we also discussed the Chess Olympiad in Baku and he proposed to Mr. Sargsian to organize a match Armenia-Azerbaijan in Internet and mobile. Then in two weeks he spoke to the President of Azerbaijan I. Aliev, are graduates of the same University, and Mr. Aliev also supports chess. In 2009 he signed the state programme for the chess development. He is also grateful to the President of Armenia where they also introduced chess in all schools. Both Presidents are friends of mine. He agrees with Prof. Jungwirth that we are not a political organization, let's support all chess players. He saw children in Baku, and they are eager to see this chess festival. He also understands Armenians. And Mr.. Rahimov gave the examples of Armenian's visits to the sports events in Baku. Maybe by 2016 there will be no war or conflicts, and chess should be a weapon for peace. He would like to say that we should play chess and not about war.

### **General Assembly approved the bid of Baku for the organization of the World Chess Olympiad and Congress 2016.**

Mr. Makropoulos thanked Mr. Rahimov for his presence and explanations. Mr. Rahimov reciprocated and thanked the delegates and once again confirmed to the Armenian delegation that all guarantees will be kept and we will do our best to provide and he will ask Garry Kasparov as my classmate to be a bridge between us.

The FIDE President was asked to nominate a working group to create a contract and to start the preparation of the Olympiad. He proposed to include Prof. Zakarian in the Organising Committee. We can also include G. Kasparov into the working group.

#### **19. World Junior and Girls U-20 Championship**

##### **19.1. World Junior and Girls U-20 Championship 2013.**

The event shall be organised in Antakya, Turkey.

##### **19.2. World Junior and Girls U-20 Championship 2014.**

[Annex 52](#) is bid from All India Chess Federation to organise the event in Chennai/Mumbai/New Delhi, during the dates decided by FIDE.

### **19.3. World Junior and Girls U-20 Championship 2015.**

Kazakhstan wants an option. Bidding has not been open.

### **20. World Youth Championships U-8, U-10, U-12, U-14, U-16 and U-18.**

#### **20.1. World Youth Championships 2012.**

The event shall be held in Maribor, Slovenia, 7-19 November 2012.

Mr. Kutin said there are 2700 people have registered.

#### **20.2. World Youth Championships 2013.**

The event shall be held in Al Ain, UAE, 13-25 August 2013.

Mr. Makropoulos said the inspection has been made. Free hospitality for everybody. He said that they are ready to host 6.000 or 7.000 people, it is a little scary. We will be helping them with the organisation.

#### **20.3. World Youth Championships 2014.**

The event shall be held in Durban, South Africa, 18-30 September 2014.

Mr. Makropoulos said the event will be great.

#### **20.4. World Youth Championships 2015.**

FIDE has received the following bids:

[Annex 53](#) is bid from Turkish Chess Federation to organise the event in Antalya, 1-12 November 2015.

[Annex 54](#) is bid from Bulgarian Chess Federation to organise the event in Albena, October 2015.

[Annex 55](#) is bid from Greek Chess Federation to organise the event in Porto Carras, Halkidiki, from 24 October to 5 November 2015.

[Annex 56](#) is a comparison table of the bids.

Mr. Gelfer proposed to inspect the events which were not inspected and said the event is very important for FIDE. He proposed to have a Committee to inspect and report at the next FIDE Congress.

Mr. Sundar objected and said that this is not a European event, why are

Mr. Kutin said in Maribor there would be 2700 people, not players.

Mr. Borg recommended that the Events are under Events Commission and recommended to review the regulations for this event.

Mr. Leong said Organisers Manual comprises all these aspects. And Krakow already approved that there will be inspection.

**General Assembly approved that the issue is referred to the next Executive Board, the Committee should be elected to inspect the events.**

Mr. Gelfer proposed Mr. Kutin and Mr. Borg.

Mr. Danailov proposed Mr. Surender and Mr. Sielicki.

Mr. Yazici asked to propose also a candidacy.

Mr. Makropoulos said let's take Mr. Borg and Mr. Surender.

Mr. Makropoulos does not propose anyone from Greece, why should Ali propose someone.

Mr. Yazici said if Silvio proposes someone, as a bidder, then why he cannot propose anyone. He said he trusted Mr. Surender and Mr. Borg.

Mr. Makropoulos said the Committee will have to do their job and not decide. They have to make sure that there are facilities to host a large amount of people.

**General Assembly approved the Committee of Messrs. Borg and Surender.**

## **20.5. World Youth Championships 2016.**

### **[Annex 73.](#)**

Mr. Freeman said we received a bid from Puerto Rico and just received a letter from the Ministry from Mongolia. He said this is an event for European Federations to bid, so these two countries cannot bid.

Mr. Gelfer reminded that this will be the first event with two age groups.

## **21. World Seniors Championship**

### **21.1. World Seniors Championship 2012.**

Greek Chess Federation to organise the event in Kammena Vourla, 3-14 November 2012.

### **21.2. World Senior Championship 2013.**

Croatian Chess Federation to organise the event in Opatija, 11-24 November 2013.

### **21.3. World Senior Championship 2014.**

Greek Chess Federation to organise the event in Kalambaka, 25 October – 6 November 2014.

**21.4. World Senior Championship 2015.**

**Bids from early March until June 30<sup>th</sup> 2013.**

**22. World Amateur Championship**

**22.1. World Amateur Championship 2013.**

Romanian Chess Federation to organise the event in Iasi, 21-30 April 2013.

**22.2. World Amateur Championship 2014.**

Singapore Chess Federation to organise the event in Singapore, 26 April – 4 May 2014.

**22.3. World Amateur Championship 2015.**

**Bids from early March until June 30<sup>th</sup> 2013.**

**23. World Youth U-16 Chess Olympiad**

**23.1. World Youth U-16 Chess Olympiad 2012.**

The event shall be held in Istanbul, Turkey, 28 August – 6 September 2012.

**23.2. World Youth U-16 Chess Olympiad 2013.**

Chinese Chess Association to organise the event in Chongqing, China, 21-31 July 2013.

**23.3. World Youth U-16 Chess Olympiad 2014.**

The dates are 6-16 October 2014.

Kazakhstan asks to bid for the event in 2014.

**General Assembly awarded the event to Kazakhstan.**

**23.4. World Youth U-16 Chess Olympiad 2015.**

**Bids from early March until June 30<sup>th</sup> 2013.**

**24. World Schools Individual Championship**

**24.1. World Schools Individual Championship 2013.**

The event will be held in Halkidiki, Greece, 6-15 May 2013.

**24.2. World Schools Individual Championship 2014.**

The event will be held in Peru, 21-30 April 2014.

**24.3. World Schools Individual Championship 2015.**

Singapore, 26 April to 4 May 2015.

**25. World University Games 2013.**

The event shall be held in Kazan, Russia, 6-17 July 2013.

Mr. Borg said FISU is organising the event. He said the process of the participation of FIDE has to go through National Federations. He said for Universiade, we should request from the Chess Federations to send their participants.

**Reports of Continental Presidents.**

**26. Report of Continental President for Europe.**

Continental President for Europe Silvio Danailov presented.

Mr. Sielicki said that it is an enormous achievement to have chess approved in the European Parliament.

[Annex 87.](#)

**General Assembly accepted the report of Mr. Danailov.**

**27. Report of Continental President for Americas.**

Continental President for the Americas Jorge Vega to report.

[Annex 65.](#)

He said that America thanked FIDE President for the support to the Caribbean Cup, Latin American team and Central American Championship.

**General Assembly accepted the report of Mr. Vega.**

**27.1. Argentina Chess Federation case.**

[Annex 57](#) is report of the FIDE Observer M. Petrucci.

[Annex 58](#) is letter from the Argentinean Chess Federation.

Mr. Petrucci presented his report. He said that he was an observer and the report is annexed. He wanted to underline some issues and complaints, demands and requests to the Argentinean Federation were put forward as well. He said that chess federations within Argentina, journalists and chess community have participated in the preparation of this report, and have made a lot to settle this conflict, but after everything we did, we did not receive any response. We hope for a solution by FIDE and the delegates may examine the situation, and the damage done to the Federation.

Mr. Barrera commented on the situation. He said that Argentina wanted to say is that

they have to adapt the approach of the FIDE President and we see right now that also Mr. Kasparov gave his approval and he wishes to cooperate and coordinate and Argentinean Federation rejects the status of the observer and objects that the report should be sent to the Ethics Commission, and the officers should see the reports. He said that the government of Argentina supports them and this is in written form. Mr. Barrera said the financial key, all the accounts are open the financial problems even if the Argentinean Chess Federation President would have problems, he would not be the President of the Federation. And the report of the Observer shows that he did not behave objectively and he opposes the activities of the Federation and he is the member of the minority and the Federation is supported by the Government. Also he is invited to all tournaments held and for this, we would request that all the payments done and six per cent of governmental budget goes to education and we want them to visit us and afterwards the National Federation would organise tournaments and school tournaments as well. We want to say that we are following closely agreements and Mr. Petrucci put the things as he sees this from his perspective as a minority group member and this is unfortunate. Mr. Barrera said Mr. Petrucci is a dangerous person, this issue has to be reviewed once again and he said this issue has to be seen in Ethics Commission, in front of Argentina. He said that right now the General Assembly is not the place that will resolve the problems. This is the standing of Argentina which I express as a delegate of Argentina, and we want to go in the spirit of the motto *Gens Una Sumus* said by Mr. Ilyumzhinov.

Mr. Makropoulos said that before giving the floor to Mr. Vega he would like to clarify that due to the crisis in Argentinean Chess Federation, FIDE did not see any other solution rather than appointing an Observer, to get information what is going on exactly. In this situation we tried to find somebody who would not be in any of the groups. He reminded the Assembly that Mr. Petrucci in the last elections, expressed his support for the ticket of Karpov, so he cannot be seen as a close friend of the FIDE current Board. So he is objective. We think that this is a report coming from someone who was working objectively that he is reporting to the General Assembly. Mr. Makropoulos said that he personally was worried very much by what he saw in the Olympiad playing hall with all the players and posters and in strike against the President of this Federation and the Federation. He said the report is very strong and the Federation is not cooperating with the Observer. FIDE does not want to interfere in the internal affairs of any Federation, but this went too far.

Mr. Vega said that first of all on behalf of the American Continent, he would like to apologise for what is going on in the playing hall, with players protesting against their own Federation, which had never happened in the past. He said he wanted to tell the delegates that is not the way in America, this situation is created and it is a special situation for Argentina. Second, he said it is clear for him that Argentinean Federation spoke and mixed several things, schools or tournaments have nothing to do with the report. I will refer to the facts. We received a lot of protests in the past, from parents, players, arbiters. At the Executive Board it was decided to appoint an Observer for Argentina as we have to see the protests, one has to go there and stay there for a couple of months, which would be a great cost for FIDE. So we had to find somebody who would be impartial and this would be the reason for Mr. Petrucci's appointment. He said that the Observer ratified all his reports that the Federation rejects his reports, but the protest of the players in the hall shows that the problems remain as in the past. Mr. Vega said he did not know what to think about it. He also tried to explain that after the appointment of the Observer, Argentina in the person of their Vice-President Mr. E.

Cerejo, sent a lot of emails to the Assistant of the FIDE President B. Balgabaev, complaints to FIDE blaming himself personally for the appointment of the Observer. He said the appointment was not done by himself or Mr. Makropoulos, but by the Executive Board. He said he is afraid that if something happens in Argentina, or a plane crashes in the air, or a ship sinks, he would be blamed. He said the situation is very serious, but the things happening in the playing hall, it ruins the chess prestige and FIDE has to be very careful about the chess prestige. He proposed that all these protests have to be sent to the Government which is said to support the Federation, and the Argentinean Olympic Committee, as it is clear that here both parties would not agree to anything and we do not want to open an endless discussion. Mr. Vega said that it is clear that the problems remain.

Mr. Barrera said that the reports have to be sent to national authorities which know who Mr. Petrucci is. He said I agree that this report is forwarded to the Government where the cheques are forfeited and we have to sue Mr. Petrucci and we will create a legal suit to take our payments by him and we want to know in Argentina and what funds he employed. He said he wants the government should know and they can also submit the reports.

FIDE President also commented on the situation. He said he would go to visit American countries, starting from Ecuador, and I will visit Argentina and meet with the players and he thinks we would find a solution for this case.

Mr. Vega agreed with the FIDE President that he would come to Argentina to meet the Federation, Mr. Petrucci and the players. However, he agreed with Mr. Barrera that all of these should be sent to the country's authorities, Ministry of Sports, National Olympic Committee and if there is something to the Ethics Commission, we should specify that the situation in the playing hall goes against the prestige of chess.

Mr. Makropoulos asked who should be taken to the Ethics Commission.

Mr. Vega said Mr. Barrera mentioned that Argentina will send all these to the Ethics Commission. Mr. Vega said we should also add the photos of the protests of the players from the playing hall.

Mr. Makropoulos said we all heard the FIDE President who would visit the country. He also proposed that and if there is nothing positive is done after this visit, then we will send all the materials to the National Olympic Committee with a request to solve the problem. However, he said we are not sure if the NOC can interfere with the affairs of the National Federation. He said it is difficult to reach a solution in this situation.

Mr Barrera said they were happy to host the FIDE President because he would be hosted by high level executives and he would see what we are doing for chess. He said that Mr. Petrucci and all chess groups will come and the FIDE President will meet all the groups. The visit of the President will contribute to all these relations.

## **28. Report of Asian Continental President.**

Continental President for Asia Sheikh Sultan bin Khalifa Al Nehyan to report.

In the absence of Sheikh Sultan, Mr. Abundo presented his report.

### [Annex 93.](#)

**General Assembly accepted the report of Asian Continent.**

#### **29. Report of African Continental President.**

Continental President for Africa Lakhdar Mazouz to report.

[Annex 59](#) is proposed Statutes for the African Continent.

### [Annex 91.](#)

Mr. Mazouz said we would like to review zonal structure in Africa. We need four zones in the continent.

He requested setting up a Committee to find solutions towards real development in Africa. He proposed Arbiters, Trainers Commissions together with Executive Director and Continental President for this.

Mr. Elhaj said nothing is in the report on the African Statutes. And also there is no fixed figure about support for Africa, we are supposed to know the number.

**General Assembly approved the zonal structure of Africa.**

Mr. Buthali said General Assembly should know the Minutes of the Continental Assembly.

Mr. Freeman said the reports are normally written in advance. Also, Treasurer's 2013 budget was distributed that morning and Mr. Mazouz was not aware of the figure.

Mr. Mazouz said no Continent presented the Minutes of their Assemblies.

**General Assembly accepted the report of Mr. Mazouz.**

**Other matters.**

#### **30. SportAccord 2012.**

Executive Director Mr. N. Freeman said the meeting was held in Quebec City. The FIDE delegation was present there, Messrs. Borg, Balgabaev, Freeman, Jarrett and Mrs. Marinello.

It is an important event, SportAccord held many meetings. FIDE had a meeting with the IOC, they are very pleased as we are WADA compliant and that we have more than 170 nations.

Mr. Bond said it was a useful opportunity for FIDE to meet with Canadian Chess Federation Board and he thanked FIDE for that.

#### **31. 2nd SportAccord Mind Games, Beijing, China, December 2012.**

CEO G. Borg said that this is an important event. Mr. Verbruggen spoke about this. Exactly the same format as last year. Mr. Borg will inspect it next months. We have top players who will participate.

## **32. Legal matters.**

### **32.1. Appeal on costs on Karpov case.**

[Annex 60](#) is proposal of the Turkish Chess Federation to ban the five FIDE Federations (French, USCF, Ukrainian, German and Swiss) till they reimburse legal expenses of FIDE in respect of the legal case 5 Federations vs. FIDE.

Mr. Freeman said we appealed to the court because the costs were very high. The Swiss court decided we have to go back to CAS. CAS based their statement on the evidence of these 5 Federations that FIDE is very rich and can reclaim the amount from its members. He said he needs these 5 Federations to explain how they want FIDE to reclaim these funds, on which basis FIDE should reclaim it from National Federations.

Mrs. Haring said she did not know some of the details, it is necessary to read carefully the decision of CAS and that we as body decided that the CAS is the body which decides on such issues. She said we have to look in the future.

Mr. Ncube said the question of Mr. Freeman was not answered.

Mr. Makropoulos said the truth is no Federation from these five has been asked about their opinion what argument to submit. W&C decided about everything. This was the game by G. Kasparov and A. Karpov, 5 Federations did not know even when they were trying to stop us from asking for reimbursement. We should realise that we cannot continue this. He said we should forget the past about the bill, but we should remember the past and not to be in the same situation.

Mr. Yazici said we should forget the bill, but not the tips. He proposed to these five Federations to donate voluntarily some money to Development.

Mr. Sundar said if it is an order from CAS. He said these Federations have to ask for an apology.

Mr. Gelfer said that it was dealt with the Statutes. He said the proposal of Ali was logical and therefore we put it in the Statutes. This is correct and right way to do it. We cannot make such resolution for the past. He suggested in the spirit in this General Assembly and speech of Garry Kasparov, to leave this out and finish with this, not to make retrospective decisions.

Mr. Lputian said that we are one family and the leadership are members of our family and we elect them. He thinks that to solve the problems in chess world, we should not go to the courts; the family should solve the problems within the family. We should have advice of honest persons. We should have a Committee of just, honourable, independent persons and such problems should be taken to such Committee, and they should receive some small money from the Federations. He thinks that we should have our own free Commission.

Mr. Makropoulos said that we discussed this.

Mr. Battesti said this is a new situation now. We heard Mr. Kasparov. He proposed to agree between the parties and to discuss. German Federation agrees on this. We should come to an agreement.

Mr. Makropoulos said if you propose that the other party financially contributes, he would agree to this.

Mr. Al Hitmi said we lost 1 mln euro. And he supported Mr. Sundar, if we want to forget about this money. He personally did not want to forget. The Federations have to apologise. This money was supposed to spend on developing nations. We cannot just simply forget this amount. We are not a charity. They had an opportunity to sue us, they failed, and these Federations have to repay. If there is no punishment, they will do this again and again. So they have to feel some part of the financial pain.

Mr. Makropoulos said there is a proposal of Mr. Battesti.

Mr. Borg said the main point is that we are all aware of the case, but we need to move forward. He supported the proposal of Mr. Yazici and we are looking at reconciliation, we are at a position of peace. These five Federations are in good financial standings.

Mr. Makropoulos said the proposal of Mr. Battesti is good, to ask Messrs. Karpov and Kasparov to contribute to this amount. He said we should support this proposal.

There is a second proposal of Mr. Yazici which can be adapted and we leave it to the Federations. Mr. Makropoulos said we can accept this as well.

Mr. Leong said that we only heard from the US to forget and move forward, and we heard Mr. Battesti. And what if Messrs. Karpov and Kasparov do not contribute. Your Federations here paid and raised the funds to pay contributions to FIDE. These five Federations are big Federations, they cannot say that they did not know, and after the case they now speak as we are one family, there must be an apology, why did not they think of that we are one family, when they took FIDE to court. My federation wants an apology.

Mr. Yazici said with my proposal in Annex 60 was a message. None of us wants a Federation out of FIDE, this is a message on how far you can go. But he did not see any reaction: that they want to apologise. He was not asking for his federation, but for FIDE, as your Federations damaged our image and our financial standings, and therefore in the Olympiad we do not have African federations. He supported the emotional speech of Mr. Leong, and thanked the French Federation who tried to find a solution to this situation. He proposed 40 years no interest financial contribution to Development by these Federations.

Mr. Yarur supported proposal of Mr. Yazici.

Mr. Sani said when this whole issue started, He has zero tolerance, and it was an infringement against FIDE. Our Federation pays our dues, and this money should be paid, as they infringed, they should pay. One who deviates should be taken back to

track. We should make sure the money is recovered and goes back to useful programmes of FIDE.

FIDE President said last week he met with President of Rosneft transnational company which is the sponsor of our Chess in Schools Commission. He started to negotiate with managers of this company last year and they sent 1 mln USD to our accounts. He was asked to negotiate with them for another 1 mln for our programme. Rosneft said that they read some articles about legal issues in FIDE and therefore they declined to provide more sponsorship for FIDE. He said that he asked again to support FIDE and our programme. He also meets with other companies seeking for more sponsorship. And the money which FIDE had to pay for legal costs, it is from our pocket, from our National Federations. He did not understand some officials and some Grandmasters who fight against us and take money from our pocket. FIDE President supported the proposal of Mr. Battesti. He agreed with GM Lputian that we should solve all our issues within the family.

Mr. Makropoulos said because of the crisis some Greeks think Germans should pay for them, in FIDE only Greeks pay for Germans.

Mr. Marinello said she agreed with Mr. Leong that there should be an apology from these Federations.

Mr. Makropoulos said that we cannot have a decision here before you go back and talk to your Boards. So we refer this to the next Assembly, to continue the discussion. Mr. Makropoulos said he disagreed personally to ask for an apology. But there is a request, so we have not closed the discussion. We will speak again at the General Assembly.

**Mr. Yazici withdrew his proposal in Annex 60.**

### **32.2. Case on 5 Vice-Presidents.**

[Annex 61](#) is the Arbitration Award in respect of the legal case English and Georgian Chess Federations vs. FIDE.

Mr. Freeman said we won the case, White and Case was slow in paying the money back, so we invoiced the English and Georgian Chess Federations to put pressure on their lawyers in this respect. We sent the invoices to the Federations and then the White and Case paid the next day.

### **32.3. Zaragoza legacy.**

Mr. Freeman advised that Mr. Zaragoza was a Spaniard who left some of his property to FIDE. So we gained 167,000 euros, costing us 15,000 euros in legal fees.

General Assembly gave a round of applause to late Mr. Zaragoza for his recognising FIDE.

## **33. IberoAmerican Chess Federation.**

[Annex 62](#) is exchange of correspondence in respect of the organisation of their Championship in Quito, Ecuador, 13-22 April 2012.

## [Annex 76.](#)

An agreement has been reached to rate the IberoAmerican Championship.

### **34. Proposals regarding the official FIDE languages.**

[Annex 63](#) is a proposal of the Iranian Chess Federation to add Farsi language to the list of the official FIDE languages.

[Annex 64](#) is a proposal of the Turkish Chess Federation to add Turkish language to the list of the official FIDE languages.

[Annex 10E](#) is a proposal regarding official languages.

**General Assembly approved the recommendation of the Executive Board to ratify new languages and to ask Mr. Freeman to investigate the whole matter.**

### **35. Any other business.**

#### **35.1. Netherlands Antilles Chess Federation situation.**

**General Assembly approved the recommendation of the Executive Board to follow the IOC decisions.**

Mr. Freeman said whatever IOC does, FIDE will follow.

Mr. M. Fayad, the Netherlands Antilles delegate said what FIDE should do with our Federation membership.

Mr. Makropoulos said we only keep very old Federations like Scotland, according to our Statutes. But for several years now we are following the decisions of the IOC. All the effort should be made in this direction.

Mr. Fayad said we are members for 40 years as Netherlands Antilles, of which Curacao was a part. All delegations were only and mainly from Curacao. No other island has sent a delegation to any FIDE event. In our opinion Curacao has been member of FIDE for 40 years.

Mr. Makropoulos said we will discuss but first let's wait and see what we can do. We cannot change the situation. All our hearts are with you and said that the Assembly will do its best, in the IOC they understand the problem and try to help.

Mr. Kutin said full membership and taking part in our events are two different things. He said that we can do something in our capacity, even this year in London.

Mr. Vega said there is a practical problem. Curacao or Netherlands Antilles plays in zone 2.3, and what will happen in this zone, regarding their participation. I am in favour of their participation.

Mr. Freeman said they can participate pending the final decision. There is no decision

that they are out of our family.

### **35.2. Commonwealth Chess Association.**

#### **[Annex 92.](#)**

#### **General Assembly approved the report.**

Mr. Yazici said next year we have another General Assembly in Turkey, and wished everyone to have a safe trip. He apologised for any mistakes if there were any. He thanked FIDE President and delegates for the trust for the grant of this event to Istanbul.

Mr. Lputian said this is his first time and he spent three days here and he is disappointed a little bit, he is a chess player, and he likes strategy, he did not hear main directions which we have to follow. He invites FIDE people to Armenia to see Chess in Schools programme. He gave his opinions on how this programme has to progress forward.

Mr. Makropoulos said he thought Mr. Lputian you wanted to thank the Turkish Chess Federations. He said next time when you come to the Assembly, next time visit the meetings of Chess in Schools, then read the Minutes and before speaking, speak with Mr. Zakarian.

FIDE President said last month when he met with the President of Armenia S. Sargsian, he invited FIDE to organise the Presidential Board meeting in Armenia and an international conference Chess in Schools. He thanked President of Turkish Chess Federation Mr. Yazici and his staff for his hospitality. He thanked everybody for their joint work.

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49. Bid from the Estonian Chess Federation to organise the event in Tallinn, October-November 2016.
50. Bid from the Bulgarian Chess Federation to organise the event in Albena, September-October 2016.
51. Bid from the Azerbaijan Chess Federation to organise the event in Baku, 3-18 September 2016, and the World Cup 2015.
52. Bid from All India Chess Federation to organise the event in Chennai/Mumbai/New Delhi, during the dates decided by FIDE.
53. Bid from Turkish Chess Federation to organise the event in Antalya, 1-12 November 2015.
54. Bid from Bulgarian Chess Federation to organise the event in Albena, October 2015.
55. Bid from Greek Chess Federation to organise the event in Porto Carras, Halkidiki, from 24 October to 5 November 2015.
56. Comparison table of the bids.
57. Report of the FIDE Observer M. Petrucci.
58. Letter from the Argentinean Chess Federation.
59. Proposed Statutes for the African Continent.
60. Proposal of the Turkish Chess Federation to ban the five FIDE Federations (French, USCF, Ukrainian, German and Swiss) till they reimburse legal expenses of FIDE in respect of the legal case 5 Federations vs. FIDE.
61. Arbitration Award in respect of the legal case English and Georgian Chess Federations vs. FIDE.
62. Exchange of correspondence in respect of the organisation of their Championship in Quito, Ecuador, 13-22 April 2012.
63. Proposal of the Iranian Chess Federation to add Farsi language to the list of the official FIDE languages.
64. Proposal of the Turkish Chess Federation to add Turkish language to the list of the official FIDE languages.
65. Report of American Continental President.
66. Bid from Armenian Chess Federation to organise the World Team Championship and Women's World Team Championship 2015 in Jermuk, Armenia.
67. Minutes of TASK Committee meeting.
68. Proposal for Svetozar Gligoric's award .
69. Minutes of Commission for Women's Chess meeting.
70. Minutes of Trainers' Commission.
71. Report of SPP Commission meeting.
72. Report of Social Projects meeting.
73. Bid from Puerto Rico to organise 2016 World Youth Chess Championship

- U8,10,12,14,16,18 Open and Girls in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico.
74. Minutes of Verification Commission meeting.
  75. Minutes of Arbiters' Commisson meeting.
  76. Minutes of Iberoamerican Chess Federation (FIBDA) meeting.
  77. Report of the Advisor for the Special Project "Chess for the Disabled".
  78. Report of CIS Commission meeting.
  79. Report of Events Commission meeting. Appendix.
  80. Minutes of Technical Commission meeting.
  81. Minutes of Medical Commission meeting.
  82. Minutes of RTR Commission meeting.
  83. Minutes of Development Commission meeting.
  84. Estonian CF bid withdrawal.
  85. Proposal of TAP. Appendix.
  86. WOC prposals.
  87. ECU President report.
  88. Minutes of QC Commission meeting.
  89. Ethics Commission report. Appendix.
  90. Report of Constitutional Commission meeting.
  91. Report of Continental President of Africa.
  92. Commonwealth Chess Association.
  93. Report of Continental President of Asia.