

*79th FIDE Congress
17-25 November
Congress Centre, Dresden, Germany*

**CACDEC
MINUTES
18 November 2008**

Chairman: A. Herbert (BAR)

Present: L. Ncube (ZAM), R. Wheeler (JAM), A. Hani (SYR), A. Mongiello (USV), M. Murphy (USV), C. Gessete (ETH), K. Belachew (ETH), H. Turdialiev (UZB), M. Hanif (AFG), J. Mjine (ZAM), B. Keintyatshe (BOT), A. Ambasi (KEN), I. Babu (KEN), S. Grumer (PLW), M. Levitt (RSA), E. Ellapen (RSA), O. Esau (RSA), S. Islam Miah (BAN), V. De Asa (FIJ), S. Muratkuliev (TKM), H. Reyimova (TKM), B. Hoareau (SEY), B. Hein (SEY), P. Chambule (MOZ), J. Berglund (PLW), P. Emmm Hue (KOR), R. Waithe (BAR), A. Vasse (NED), S. Wijesuriya (SRI), M. Baquero (ECU), G. Babic (PLW), F. Hasson (PLW), S. Martin (PLW), M. Da Cunda (ANG), B. Tilenbaeva (KGZ), B. Howell-Mayers (BAR), C. Eichab (NAM), O. Nakarunda (NAM), G. J. R. Pinto (ANG), D. Jarrett (FIDE), L. Ebbin (BER), U. Blanco (VEN), S. Milivojevic (SRB), F. Lokim Lin (SUR), A. Treu (SUR), M. Pahlevanzadeh (IRI), N. Barrera (ARG), K. Moses (UGA), Haroon al Rashid (BAN), N. Freeman – FIDE, R. Jones (PNG), F. Campomanes – FIDE, C. Abundo (PHI), R. Anantharam (IND)

1. CACDEC Chairman's report

The Chairman began by explaining the process by which CACDEC funds are allocated. For this financial year €175,000 was budgeted, with Africa being allocated 40%, America 25%, Asia 25% and 10% at the discretion of the Chairman.

The focus of CACDEC is changing and it is not about giving chess sets and clocks but generating greater activity in Federations and helping spread chess to countries which are not members of FIDE.

In America the only zone with countries that have never been members of FIDE is Zone 2.3, Central America & Caribbean. All of these countries are the English Speaking islands which are members of the Organization of East Caribbean States (OECS).

The Chairman visited St Lucia where the OECS Secretariat is located and met with the Head of its Sports Desk to discuss collaboration with the Secretariat to develop chess in these countries.

The Secretariat decided to include chess as one of the Sports Code in the OECS Sports Calendar if four member countries can be organized to participate in an OECS Chess Championships. Of the islands in the OECS only the British Virgin Islands are members of FIDE. Antigua is permanently excluded and measures were being taken to get them back into FIDE.

The Chairman noted that while chess is included as one of the disciplines in the Central American games, the inclusion of Chess by the OECS would help build the case for getting it on to the Central American & Caribbean Games and the Pan American Games.

The Chairman also reported on his visit to Southern African for the first time. This was a joint trip with the Schools in Chess Commission and was limited to Botswana and South Africa. In both countries appointments were arranged with representatives of the Ministry of Education and Department of Sport. There was an especially productive meeting with the Ministry of Sport in the Western Cape where the main goal was to get chess recognised as a code in the schools.

The Chairman said it was a big challenge to continue with all the development goals in the face of the challenges of the current severe economic crisis that is affecting us all world wide. However we had to continue with the challenges and to insist on the continued building of intellectual capital.

On CACDEC Federations, the Chairman recognized that some were falling short on their abilities to market and sell the sport and to do so with out apology. He cited the Turkish Chess Federation and its huge growth as an example of what is possible and noted that in the future seminars would be focused on how to approach Government and Business and to learn to better promote the game

2. Continental President for Americas Report

Continental President for the Americas, Mr Jorge Vega, reported that the budget for this financial year is completed.

Priority was given to Seminars for improving the reporting back to FIDE of tournaments on the FIDE Rating Server. Federations need to know how to write tournament reports using 'Swiss Manager'. In current year seminars have been held in Argentina, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama & Peru.

Women's chess was also targeted with support been given to the Pan American Ladies Championship.

Mr Vega also highlighted an area of concern which was the recommendation by the Ratings and Titles committee to abolish the direct awarding of the IM and FM titles in Zonal and Sub-Zonal tournaments. This would be a big blow towards development as 'titles' were a big motivation for CACDEC countries to host such events. He appealed to CACDEC members oppose this at the Qualification Commission meeting and the General Assembly.

He thanked Botswana and South Africa Federations for their hospitality on the recent visit with CACDEC and Chess in Schools Commission.

3. Continental President for Africa Report

FIDE Vice-President, Mr Lewis Ncube, delivered the report on behalf of Continental President Mr Buthali who was arriving after the day after the meeting.

The 2007 African Junior was successfully staged by the Malawi Association and was held at the Kamazu Academy. Mr Ncube indicated that for a recent member of FIDE Malawi had done an excellent job. The event was won by a 15 year old Egyptian with South Africa 2nd & 3rd. The Girls event saw South Africa take 1st & 2nd. Unfortunately the FIDE Arbiters Seminar that was to be run alongside the main event did not happen.

August saw the CACDEC Trainer's Seminars take place in Gaborone, Botswana. It was led by Malaysia's Peter Long.

Botswana expressed disappointment that the neighbours did not send participants as only 9 participants from Botswana and 1 person from Somalia attended. South Africa and Zambia cited the cost of the seminar for participants as a reason for not attending. South Africa indicated that they intended to have their own Seminar so instead of training one person they could train maybe 20.

Angola commented that they have language difficulties and would prefer a Portuguese speaking seminar.

Seychelles said it is cheaper to fly to Europe than to many parts of Africa and recommended that in the future it maybe be better to host such seminars centrally at a venue like Johannesburg.

Mozambique staged the Zone 4.3 Zonal in Maputo in July. Five 5 countries Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Mozambique & South Africa participated with SA taking 1st place.

Mr. Ncube also reported that he had made a number of successful trips which resulted in Cameroon, DR Congo, Gabon, Ghana and Sao Tome joining FIDE with Gabon and Ghana already participating in the Dresden Olympiad.

The representative from Ethiopia said that visas for African countries continue to be difficult. Also that the costs such as FIDE dues was crippling.

Mr Campomanes told the audience that we all started with nothing and that hard work is what is needed for a Federation to succeed. Mr Freeman reiterated this.

Sri Lanka requested written reports of all meetings etc.

4. Continental President for Africa Report

The report for Asia was given by Mr Abundo who reported that the 2007 CACDEC Budget for Asia had been distributed in the form of Chess Clocks.

Mr Abundo indicated that In addition to the CACDEC funds, the Asian President was very generous in using his resources to help Zones with their expenses as well as Federations who were struggling with entry fees. He had also been sponsored a number of Seminars.

Mr Abundo concluded his report by saying that all the Asian federations were very thankful to their Continental President for the assistance given.

5. CACDEC Development Goals

A document was out-lining the CACDEC Development Goals for 2006-2010 was circulated.

The Chairman identified the need to update the list of CACDEC Members as there are a number of Federations who are currently not on the list that should be there as well as some who can be graduated.

This subject however is very sensitive as there can be significant financial benefits derived from being a CACDEC Federation like the 50% allocation of entry fees when staging FIDE events as opposed to 20% for Non-CACDEC Federations.

The main challenge to updating the list is the lack of a definition in the CACDEC Statues as to what qualifies a Federation for CACDEC.

This has led to arguments where countries like Bermuda and the US Virgin Islands were deemed unworthy of being CACDEC because they were viewed as wealthy when in fact their Chess was very undeveloped.

The Chairman indicated that he would prefer to see the focus on development regardless of the economic standing of the country. CACDEC was not the FIDE Financial Assistance Commission.

The other challenge is the continuing belief that the investments in CACDEC have not had any returns and it is for this reason that the CACDEC Development Goals 2006-2010 were developed.

The Chairman called on Federations to look at the CACDEC goals and work towards achieving them.

It was disappointing that there were still some CACDEC Federations with no FIDE rated players and with the rating floor was dropping to 1200 there is really no reason why all Federations should not be able to build a pool of rated players.

Of the FIDE members in America Belize was the only one that did not have rated players. However in Africa there were quite a number. The Chairman also expressed concern that many CACDEC Federations did not rate their national championships.

Africa should as a priority look at a having a Continental Youth Festival as there were the only Continent without one.

With respect to the goal that all CACDEC Federations aim to participate in the 2008 and 2010 Chess Olympiad, excellent progress has been made. For CACDEC Level 1 Federations 31 out of 36 are participating in Dresden while all 12 Federations in Level 2 were participating and 17 out of the 20 in level 3. This is a big achievement when the costs of bringing a team to the Olympiad must represent a huge percentage of a CACDEC Federation's budget.

In concluding Mr Herbert said that the statistics for every CACDEC Federation indicating their progress with each of the goals will be compiled in January and circulated.

6. Restructuring of FIDE Commissions and Committees

The Chairman reported that proposals for restructuring FIDE's Commission and Committees will be present that the Dresden General Assembly. These will include a recommendation for the Development Commission to disband itself leaving CACDEC to stand on its own with all development responsibility falling under CACDEC.

7. Restructuring of FIDE Commissions and Committees

Mr Kostiev presented his Chess Training Programme and asked everyone to refer to points 4 and 5 of the CACDEC Development goals. The aim is to have an online programme for all chess federations with no travel and accommodation costs.

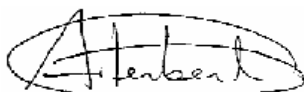
Omar from South Africa said that development needed to be sustainable. Not only is there a need to make an arbiter but he needs to given opportunities to work at events outside of his country.

Luxman from Sri Lanka said that his country were doing some hosting of events and were benefiting from keeping 50% of the entry fees.

Joy Mtine (Zambia) wanted to know the process for appointing FIDE Commission members and noted that there seemed to be a shortage of women on some of the committees.

FIDE Treasurer, Nigel Freeman, informed the meeting that he had received the CACDEC pocket money from the organizers and that it could be collected from the FIDE Office after 15.15 on the 19th November.

Susan Grumer presented the attached motion to have the rules surrounding registration of teams for the Olympiad reviewed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Allan Herbert', enclosed within a hand-drawn oval border.

Allan Herbert
Chairman, CACDEC

Motions presented to CACDEC by Susan Grumer (one of the founding members of CACDEC) at the Commission Meeting, 18 November, 2008.

The future of CACDEC countries to become established members of FIDE relies mainly on their understanding of the concern that FIDE shows toward them. The Olympiad is usually the first contact the chess players of a CACDEC federation have with FIDE.

It is very important that the Olympiads give as much consideration to the CACDEC federations as to the strong federations who send "Super GMs" to the Olympiads. There have been many teams at this Olympiad that were not able to play because of many reasons, one of the causes being the inability to obtain visas. Another was most likely financial. What I consider the main stumbling block is the lack of consideration shown by FIDE in their rules of registration. I have heard that the rules will be even more difficult in the future.

The players from CACDEC countries usually pay their own expenses. In most cases the players must also obtain leave from their jobs. Often a player who is registered to attend an Olympiad and play for their team realizes, at the last minute, that they cannot attend.

It is my firm belief that all teams and federations should be treated fairly. Perhaps there should be a small committee from CACDEC that can make sure that all CACDEC members are treated well and helped to field a complete team, even to the extent of adding replacements for absent players.

I urge that CACDEC make a formal request to the General Assembly to make special allowances for CACDEC federations.

The excitement that players and delegates bring back from an Olympiad can strongly affect the development of chess in their federations.

CACDEC should engage a journalist, perhaps from the commission, to send reports, photos and videos of the CACDEC federation teams to their local countries. They should appear on the Internet and also print media.

CACDEC DEVELOPMENTAL GOALS 2006-2010

When we say that the objective of CACDEC is to ensure that one day we have no member Federations in CACDEC, how do we define the finish line, that point at which one is no longer qualified for CACDEC?

To answer this we must consider how such Federations will look in the future compared to their reality today.

Our challenge therefore is to agree on common objective measures which clearly distinguish CACDEC from non-CACDEC, what this paper will term as developmental goals.

It is hard to believe that anyone will disagree that a Federation which has no FIDE rated or Titled players, no FIDE certified Arbiters, has never had any of its National Championships FIDE rated, no indigenous certified FIDE Instructors or Trainers, no Chess-in-Schools programme, no developmental programme for its best juniors, has never participated in an Olympiad or its Continental events in the last 10 years, that such a Federation is the extreme example of a CACDEC Federation.

Similarly, we would all agree that if in 10 years none of the above was true for the same Federation, that that Federation would have graduated from CACDEC.

By describing what a non-CACDEC Federation should be, we have in fact established objective developmental goals by which we can measure the effectiveness of our work.

And let us not lose sight of the true benefit to the chess community of such a Federation.

While the FIDE Treasurer will welcome this as one less Federation to pour CACDEC funds into, the real value is a functioning Federation which rather than being a drain on FIDE is a contributor to FIDE and its Continents. And this, through FIDE's Accounts, can be measured as objectively as we currently measure our players each day with our ratings system.

So CACDEC must be seen as an investment in FIDE's future to grow the market for Chess organizers, trainers and equipment producers and ultimately FIDE. An like any investment we must have an expectation on the return of that investment.

In my term as CACDEC Chairman for 2006-2010, I see development in a different light, one that has specific business goals that lead to a wider market for the sport and FIDE.

I therefore propose that the following become the CACDEC Developmental Goals 2006-2010 and that each CACDEC initiative, whether initiated at the Continental level or FIDE, be directly tied to one of them.

Failure to demonstrate how a particular project fulfils one of these goals in my opinion disqualifies it for consideration. This may put an end to some of the activities we have held dear in the past but is necessary if our efforts are not be an exercise in futility.

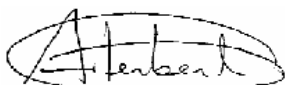
CACDEC DEVELOPMENTAL GOALS 2006-2010

1. All CACDEC Federations have at least 5 FIDE Rated Players by 2007 and newly affiliated Federations within two years of achieving FIDE Membership.

2. The National Championships of each CACDEC Federation is registered and FIDE Rated by the end of 2008 and each year there after.
3. All CACDEC Federations have at least one (1) active FIDE Arbiter or International Arbiter by the end of 2009.
4. All CACDEC Federations have at least one (1) indigenous FIDE certified Trainer by the end of 2010.
5. All CACDEC Federations have a chess-in-schools programme by the end of 2009.
6. All CACDEC Federations have a Junior Squad Development Programme to accelerate the development of its best juniors by the end of 2007.
7. All CACDEC Federations participate in their Continental Youth Championships for 2008, 2009 and 2010.
8. All CACDEC Federations participate in the 2008 and 2010 World Chess Olympiad.
9. Those CACDEC Federations with more than 10 active rated players and no FIDE Titled players as at July 1, 2006, produce at least 1 FIDE Titled player by 2010.

It is recognized that on the surface these goals may seem ambitious, but remember the goals are not an end in themselves, it is the process of trying to achieve them that is ultimately more valuable.

Each is measurable with a definite time frame and today, through our ratings and titles systems, we have the tools to measure them.

A handwritten signature in black ink, enclosed in a hand-drawn oval. The signature appears to read "Allan Herbert".

Allan Herbert
Chairman, CACDEC