



**75th FIDE Congress**  
**20 October – 31 October 2004**  
**Calvia, Mallorca, Spain**

**General Assembly Minutes**

**28 October 2004**

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**Present:**

**Presidential Board:**

Florencio Campomanes (PHI)  
Georgios Makropoulos (GRE)  
Ummer Koya (IND)  
Noureddine Tabbane (TUN)  
David Jarrett (ENG)  
Zurab Azmaiparashvili (GEO)  
Steven Doyle (USA)  
Ignatius Leong (SIN)  
Morten Sand (NOR)  
Andrei Selivanov (RUS)  
Kurt Jungwirth (AUT)  
Vanik Zakarian (ARM)  
Boris Kutin (SLO)  
Khalifa Mohammed Al-Hitmi (QAT)  
Jorge Vega (MEX)  
Nizar Ali Elhaj (LBA)

**Zonal Presidents:**

Goran Antunac (CRO)  
Ingvar Carlsson (SWE)  
Kamen Toshkov (BUL)  
Andrzej Filipowicz (POL)  
Gaguik Oganessian (ARM)  
Aris Osolins (LAT)  
Viktor Petrov (UKR)  
Robert Tanner (USA)  
Nathan Divinsky (CAN)  
Cesar Cardozo (PAR)  
S. L. Harsh (IND)  
Dang Tan Thang (VIE)  
Husan Turdialiev (UZB)  
Halim Bounehas (ALG)

**Executive Board:**

Casto Abundo (PHI)  
Genden Altanoch (MGL)  
Nicolas Barrera (ARG)  
Uvencio Blanco (VEN)

**Executive Board (cont.):**

Dabilani Buthali (BOT)  
Israel Gelfer (ISR)  
William Kelleher (USA)  
Abd Hamid Majid (MAS)  
Peter Rajscanyi (HUN)  
Agostino Scalfi (ITA)  
Lakhdar Mazouz (GER)

**Delegates :**

Mohammad Ismail Jamshedi (AFG)  
Shkelqim Lazaj (ALB)  
Joan Bricson (AND)  
Manuel Mateus (ANG)  
Octavio Croes (ARU)  
Phil Viner (AUS)  
Faik Gasanov (AZE)  
MD Shahidul Islam Miah (BAN)  
Allan Herbert (BAR)  
Vladimir Ginzburg (BLR)  
Dirk De Ridder (BEL)  
Nigel Freeman (BER)  
Drina Arias De Hinojosa (BOL)  
Husein Kulenovic (BIH)  
Carol Jarecki (IVB)  
Sander de Montero (CAM)  
Michel Christian (CHI)  
Tian Hong Wei (CHN)  
Oswaldo Ceballos Burbano (COL)  
Bernal Gonzalez (CRC)  
Milan Notizberg (CRO)  
Marios Schinis (CYP)  
Erik Soberg (DEN)  
Gerry Walsh (ENG)  
Carmen Kaas (EST)  
Kebadu Muluken Belachew (ETH)  
Dr. Virgilio de Asa (FIJ)  
Mikko Markkula (FIN)  
Jean Bertrand (FRA)

**Delegates (cont.) :**

Marina Milorava (GEO)  
 Alfred Schlya (GER)  
 Oscar Rolando Figueroa Urizar (GUA)  
 Carlos Ustariz (HON)  
 Einar Einarsson (ISL)  
 D. Ambarukmi (INA)  
 Mehrdad Pahlevanzadeh (IRI)  
 Dhafer Abdulameer Madhloom (IRQ)  
 Kevin J. O'Connell (IRL)  
 Almog Burstein (ISR)  
 Juiseppe de Capua (ITA)  
 Jan Wilkinson (JAM)  
 Philip Singe Mbawala (KEN)  
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 Ammar El Houry (LIB)  
 Kurt Studer (LIE)  
 Ady Christoffel (LUX)  
 Jose Silverinha (MAC)  
 Kezzie K.T. Msukwa (MAW)  
 Geoffrey D. Borg (MLT)  
 Hurrynarain Bhowany (MRI)  
 Feodor Skripchenko (MDA)  
 Gui Hazarabegian (MNC)  
 Mohamed Lanetti (MAR)  
 D. Ambarukmi (MYA)  
 Sita Ram Agrahari (NEP)  
 Wim Arns (NED)  
 Ludwig A. Abad (AHO)  
 Torstein Bae (NOR)  
 Altaf Ahmed Chaudhry (PAK)  
 Carlos van der Hans (PAN)  
 Stuart Fancy (PNG)  
 Tomasz Delega (POL)  
 Edgar Murray (PUR)  
 Fabian Ignatescu (ROM)  
 Tony Ayer (SMR)  
 Paule Domingue (SEY)  
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 Lyndon Bouah (RSA)  
 Derrick Vernon Perrera (SRI)  
 Philipp Haenggi (SUI)  
 Thanit Thamsukati (THA)  
 Yogendranath Ramsingh (TRI)  
 Ferial Al Baji (TUN)  
 Ali Nihat Yazici (TUR)  
 Enoch Barumba (UGA)  
 Enrique Celi Frugoni (URU)  
 Abdullah Saleem (ISV)  
 Suan Evans-Quek (WLS)

**Delegates (cont.) :**

Manuel Mateus (ANG)  
 Mahmoud Said (PLE)

**Observers :**

Tadeusz Bieluczyk (IPCA)  
 Galina Melnik (IPCA)  
 Elvira Djaltchinova-Malets (IPCA)  
 Ko Fei Liu (Chinese Taipei)  
 Pieter Pakhla (EST)  
 Goran Terninger (SWE)  
 Narciso Rabell-Mendez (PUR)  
 Evelin Fuentes de Rabel (PUR)  
 Franca Dapiran (ITA)  
 Vool-Giap Tan (MAS)  
 Werner Stubenvoll (AUT)  
 Panagiotis Nikolopoulos (GRE)  
 Alexander Kostiev (RUS)  
 Geurt Gijssen (NED)  
 Michelle Piguet (SUI)  
 Igor Vereschagin (RUS)  
 Lothar Schmid (GER)  
 Christian Krause (GER)  
 Zoltan Ambrus (HUN)  
 Robert Zsifkovits (AUT)  
 Ibrahim Mr. Salome (MEX)  
 Christos Pilalis (GRE)  
 Albert Vasse (NED)  
 Louise Nitsche (GER)  
 Horst Metzging (GER)  
 Jurgen Gieseke (GER)  
 Michael S. Langer (GER)  
 Amir Gilyazov (RUS)  
 Viktor Zaretsky (RUS)  
 S. Dalkian (TUR)  
 Ashot Vardapetian (ARM)  
 Andra Cimina (LAT)  
 Lindsay Bellhouse (BAR)  
 Jose Danilo Ferreras  
 Javier Ochoa de Echaguen (ESP)  
 Arthur Schuering (NED)  
 Donald Cantero Colman (GCI)  
 Alexander Roshal (RUS)  
 Evgeny Eletsky (RUS)  
 Willy Iclicki (MNC)

## 29 October 2004

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 Enrique Celi Frugoni (URU)  
 Abdullah Saleem (ISV)  
 Suan Evans-Quek (WLS)  
 Manuel Mateus (ANG)  
 Mahmoud Said (PLE)

**Observers :**

Horst Metzing (GER)  
 Alfonso Palma (CHI)  
 S. Milivojevic (SCG)  
 R. Rivello (ITA)  
 Marcelo Hermida (ARG)  
 Frederic Friedel (GER)  
 Nadja Woisih (GER)  
 Ingolf Rossberg (GER)  
 Hubert Petermann (GER)  
 Willy Iclicki (MNC)  
 Faik Gasanov (AZE)  
 Ron Sammut (MLT)  
 Elizabetha Polihroniade (ROM)  
 Lothar Schmid (GER)

**Observers (cont.):**

Josef Mercadal Beneja (ESP)  
 Peter Pakhla (EST)  
 John Kikonyogo (UGA)  
 Urmas Paut (EST)  
 Vool Giap Tan (MAS)  
 Panagiotis Nikolopoulos (GRE)  
 Prajuab Nimityongskul (THA)  
 Goran Terninger (SWE)  
 Sigvard Olssen (SWE)  
 Javier Ochoa de Echaguen (ESP)  
 Ramon Padulles Argerich (ESP)  
 Milan Notizberg (CRO)  
 Melnik Galina (IPCA)  
 Narciso Rabell-Mendez (PUR)  
 Arthur Schuering (NED)  
 Alexander Kostyev (RUS)  
 Sakis Kouvatso (GRE)  
 Igor Vereschagin (RUS)  
 Dagobert Kohlinger (GER)  
 Avto Satoner (FIN)  
 Lindsay Bellhouse (BAR)  
 Mary McDermott (GCI)  
 Ashot Vardapetian (ARM)  
 Eamonn Pitts (IRL)  
 Zoltan Ambrus (HUN)  
 Werner Stubenvoll (AUT)  
 Egon Ditt (GER)  
 Evgeny Eletsy (RUS)  
 Geurt Gijssen (NED)  
 Michael S. Langer (GER)  
 Amir Gilyazov (RUS)  
 Christos Pilalis (GRE)  
 Jonas Sidabras (LTU)  
 Sitaram Aghsahazi (NEP)  
 Albert Baumberger (LIE)

## **0.1 Establishing the legality of the General Assembly.**

Messrs. Israel Gelfer, Nigel Freeman and Dr. Dirk de Ridder were tasked to check the legality of the meeting, including the proxies.

## **0.2. Obituaries.**

General Assembly delegates mourned the passing in the preceding year of friends of FIDE among whom we remember:

- Mr. Alfred Kinzel (GER) – FIDE Honorary Member
- Mr. Martin Serfontein (RSA)
- Mr. Jean-Claude Loubatiere (FRA)
- IA Jirayr Cakir (TUR)
- GM Stoyan Puc (SLO)
- FM Rudolf Osterman (SLO)
- IA Vojin Perovic (SLO)
- Sergey Koshlakov (IPCA)
- IA Svetislav Andjelkovic (SCG)
- IA Branko Lazarevic (SCG)
- IA Miodrag Marjanovic (SCG)
- IA Milan Peljin (SCG)
- IA Lucijan Stegic (SCG)
- IA Giorgi Familiant (GEO)
- IM Y. Bleiman (ISR)
- FM E. Carmel (ISR)
- GM K. Aseev (RUS)
- NM G. Chepukaitis (RUS)
- IM Michael J. Valvo (USA)

## **0.3 Report of the committee for legality of the meeting and closing of the register of proxies (A.01. - 4.16)**

The Committee reported on the legality of the meeting and informed the General Assembly that 95 delegates and proxies are present in the meeting.

## **0.4 Exclusions.**

Cases of Federations temporarily excluded for non-fulfilment of their financial obligations toward FIDE, shall be submitted to the General Assembly for decision on their definite exclusion.

**The General Assembly approved the recommendation of the Executive Board to exclude the Chess Federation of Korea.**

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

Executive Director of the Chess Olympiad Organising Committee Mr. A. Rami welcomed the delegates. In his speech he said that even though he is not a chess player himself, he is

completely convinced that chess has an important role to play in society. He also said that events such as the Chess Olympiad promote tourism. Chess is also playing an important part in influencing social development. He wished all delegates fruitful deliberations and a nice stay in Calvia.

Deputy President G. Makropoulos thanked Mr. Rami and informed the delegates that the FIDE President had to stay one more day in Moscow due to important matters of state. Delegates noted the report of President Kirsan N. Ilyumzhinov in Annex 0.

Mr. Makropoulos drew the attention to the Minutes and recommendations of the Executive Board. He then went on to comment regarding rumours recently spread that FIDE is ready to collapse and that FIDE is a non-democratic institution. In his opinion these rumours are far from reality. He said that all major FIDE events are organised and the financial position is under control and quite good as FIDE has 1.2 million SFr. in the bank accounts. He also said that the FIDE meetings are open and transparent for the delegates and members of the Federations and he referred to his report at the Executive Board meeting (Annex 01).

## **2. Financial Report**

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

General Assembly noted the Report of the FIDE External Auditors, Messrs Ernst & Young on the financial statement of FIDE for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2003 in Annex 1.

Treasurer D. Jarrett drew the attention to the Executive Board recommendation to approve Messrs Ernst and Young in Athens as the new External Auditors.

### **GA approved the report of the External Auditors.**

### **2.2 Report of Treasurer David Jarrett.**

Mr Jarrett informed the delegates of the current financial position of FIDE and referred to his report and the various annexes.

The financial regulations had been updated and some amendments had been made to conform to current practice and to improve the clarity of the regulations. In addition there were changes to the regulations regarding the signatories on the accounts, World Youth events regarding the number of free entries by the host Federation and the players with personal rights from Continental events and calculation of registration fees for team events.

The Treasurer proposed to allocate an additional SFr 50,000 to CACDEC following the successful organisation of the Women's World Championship.

A meeting between the Treasurer and Continental representatives had produced proposals regarding Federations in arrears (Annex 2a).

The Executive Board had recommended these proposals with an amendment to the registration fee for teams, which had been accepted by the Treasurer.

The General Assembly accepted these proposals.

The Treasurer proposed changes in the FIDE membership fee structure.

Mr. Markkula proposed to keep the membership fees and remove the system whereby the first hundred players are free, and introduce a system where SFr 5 is paid for each player and also to raise the ceiling to at least 10,000 SFr.

Mr. Yazici seconded the motion.

Mr. Azmaparashvili said that the proposal does not help to develop chess, because to develop chess means you need to be more and more active.

Mr. Elhaj said that we should keep first hundred players free.

Mr. Borg said that the rating revenue is 50,000 SFr and that the rating system is FIDE's best service, but wrongly priced. It is very important to keep the rating fees, but we are losing money on our service. He agreed with Mr. Markkula to start a practice where we start making money with our service. Also, there are a lot of rated events, and the people who are getting benefits from these, have to pay. Maybe we can find some solution by analysing the list of poor countries, and the critical mass. We should be looking at a rating list of over one million players, as FIDE has an objective to grow.

Mr. Jarrett welcomed some help, but said that the amount stated is not correct. He said that large federations get 50% discount on their rating fees if they submit more than 75% of their rating reports in electronic format. We are not losing 25,000 SFr on the rating fees.

Mr. Shahidul Islaem Miah of Bangladesh said that it can be acceptable to pay 800 as a minimum fee, as this would help FIDE financially.

Mr. Altanoch said we have to look at the income statement for 2003. There are about 750,000 SFR fees earned by FIDE and about 150,000 SFr is membership fees. Retaining the level of membership fees does not influence so much the total level of FIDE income.

Mr. Perera welcomed the proposals. He agreed that the FIDE rating ceiling is a bit low. He supported Mr. Azmaiparashvili's comment and said that FIDE should conduct some investigations into the problems and then propose necessary changes.

Mr. O'Connell of Ireland said that he proposed the rating fee structure in Malta in 1980 and the 100 free rated players has been of importance. He agreed with Mr. Azmaiparashvili that if we abolish this completely, FIDE would face serious problems. However, if we could reduce the number of 100 to 60 free rated players then we could cover two thirds of Mr. Jarrett's shortfall. He asked Mr. Markkula to amend the motion.

Mr. Doyle supported the proposal of Mr. O'Connell and said that there should be roughly 2% annual correction.

Mr. Azmaiparashvili said that this should be the obligation of the players as they receive the rating and consequently should pay for this service. Unfortunately, not all the Federations have an infrastructure for this.

Mr. Kutin said that this important matter had to be discussed by the relevant Committees and Commissions in order to make proper decisions.

Mr. Makropoulos proposed that Mr. Jarrett would meet with him and Mr. Markkula in order to study all the proposals before the next Executive Board meeting.

### **2.2.1 Revision of the membership fees.**

Mr Jarrett said that the Executive Board recommendation regarding membership fees was to implement the changes over a period of four to six years.

Mr. Borg of Malta asked that given the proposed changes to CACDEC countries, the proposals would be instigated in two years' time. Also, Level 3 countries will have to pay an increase in fees. Not everybody is looking at the new rates from a beneficial point of view as the proposal of Mr. Jarrett is based on criteria, which have been set out by the Treasurer.

Mr. Jarrett pointed out that the proposal does not offer a perfect system for calculation, but it seems to be the most fair proposal we can produce. The new proposed system will be implemented during a period of 4 to 6 years to avoid a massive increase from one year to another.

Mr. Borg expressed his reservations and gave an example of the Malta situation.

Mr. Herbert said that he emailed to their Olympic Association asking for the amount the sport associations are charging national federations. The response he received showed very small fees and he expressed grave disagreement with the increase of the minimum in the case of FIDE. He said that 83 Federations would be badly affected, representing 2/3 of all membership. Although he applauded FIDE for keeping its budget, he said that this increase is extremely unjust for the small Federations.

Mr. Perera of Sri Lanka supported Mr. Herbert, and he said that Sri Lanka would be in a very difficult position given the proposed increase of the membership fee. He disagreed with the proposal of the Treasurer.

The Bangladesh delegate supported Malta and Sri Lanka.

Ms. Wilkinson of Jamaica said that that the road to hell is paved with good intentions. He said that he was tasked to require a reduction of membership fees, and he said that the proposal is very distressing news. Now, he does not know how to return back with such news if the new structure is decided. He said that it is extremely difficult to put up with such financial constraints.

Mr. Makropoulos said that the CACDEC Federations of level 1 and 2 are not included into this list, so Jamaica should not worry. He said that the recommendation of the Executive Board covers all the positions and if Mr. Herbert wants, they can meet with Mr. Jarrett together with representatives from the smaller Federations. In the meeting of the Executive Board it was noted that there are very active Federations, which for many years paid only very small fees to FIDE, while other not so strong Federations paid a lot. The proposal of Treasurer is to bring justice, which is the most important aspect of the new proposal.

Mr. Herbert said that an important issue is to revise the CACDEC list. He said that by 2006 Jamaica may not be protected by CACDEC membership. He said that the bell tolls for all of us. He disagreed with the raising of the minimum fee. He said that if we compare the minimums of various Sports Federations, our minimum is too high and not correct and should even be reduced.

Mr. Makropoulos said that the burden of the membership fee will differ from country to country. For other Sport Federations it is not wrong to raise the minimum. If until 2006 Jamaica develops to an extent that it leaves the CACDEC level, then their position will be reconsidered.

Mr. Doyle said that 19% of the FIDE Federations pay 50% of the FIDE budget. He said that during a period of 10 years, your salaries have increased in the same way as your life level has increased. Everybody has to pay their fair share. He understood the situations in small Federations, but everybody gets compensation in real life. He said that an amount of USD 100 cannot be considered a big amount of money.

Mr. Buthali of Botswana said that they do understand the points raised by Mr. Doyle, but in most African countries 100 USD is still quite a lot of money, which they already stated in the meeting of the Executive Board. He said that there are more than ten African countries that at present are excluded from FIDE, and they are certainly not able to raise their subscriptions in order to pay the minimum. He agreed that the minimum is too high.

Mr. Abag of Netherlands Antilles said that the proposed increase is too much to pay for his federation. He said that if this amount is to be paid, they will have to go out of FIDE. He supported Mr. Herbert. He said that there are about 100 members in their Federation and an increase would create a lot of problems.

Mr. Yazici of Turkey said that he understands the small CACDEC Federations and the proposed increase is not easy even for strong Federations.

Mr. Markkula of Finland said that he has been in FIDE for many years and in the past FIDE used to have services like circular letters, *FIDE Forums* on a regular basis. He would rather see the increase of the other costs the Federations pay and proposed to raise the ceiling a little bit higher.

Mr. Jarrett said that this issue was brought in General Assembly three or four years ago, and it was decided not to go forward with this idea.

Mr. Kelleher of USA said that we all agree that the revision of FIDE structure is overdue and everyone has to pay his fair share, but on the other hand we cannot ignore the fact that for small Federations this could be an intolerable burden. He motioned to reduce the increase from 1,000 to 800 SFr. He said that this would be positive for the budget, as we know the large Federations will be paying the majority of the fees anyway.

Mr. Saleem of US Virgin Islands seconded the motion but further in the meeting he withdrew his support for this proposal.

Mr. Divinsky of Canada seconded the motion of Mr. Kelleher.

Two motions were proposed on the floor, one being the original one from the Treasurer with amendment of Mr. Kelleher to have the minimum at 800 SFr, and the second one from Mr. Herbert to keep the minimum at SFr 600.

Mr. Sand suggested that the first motion to be voted should be the motion of Mr. Jarrett plus an amendment of Mr. Kelleher. If there is a majority in favour, there will be no need for a vote on the second motion. If there is no majority, then the vote on the second motion will be held.

Mr. Arns said that there are a lot of people who want to have the first proposal with the minimum of SFr 1,000 recommended by the Presidential Board. Such people will vote against both 800 and 600 SFr. He suggested that the first motion that has to be voted is the one recommended by Executive Board with a minimum of 1,000 SFr.

Mr. Campomanes said that it is proper to vote for the first motion as this is the original proposal of the Treasurer, which is now amended to 800 SFr.

Mr. Yazici said that in order to understand exactly, it is necessary to read both motions.

Mr. Sand said that there is a list of recommendations from the Executive Board distributed to all delegates, and there is a motion stated in this document under 2.2.1. This is the original proposal by the Treasurer, which was approved by the Executive Board. It is now this original motion to increase the membership fees according to the plan over a period of four to six years without any changes in the membership fees for CACDEC level 1 and 2 countries during the first two years. Now Mr. Kelleher's motion has changed the minimum fee to 800 SFr. The proposal of Mr. Herbert is identical, but the minimum is 600 SFr.

Mr. Makropoulos said that the countries of level 1 and 2 of CACDEC, in the two year period will not be immediately subject to increase, and thereafter the issue will be examined again.

Based on the clarification of the two proposals, a vote was held by roll call where the delegates declared their support to either 600 SFr or 800 SFr for the minimum membership fee. There were 97 delegates and proxies in the hall during the roll call.

**The General Assembly voted in favour of the amendment of Mr. Herbert to keep the minimum membership fee at Sfr 600.**

**The result of the vote: 61 in favour of Sfr 600 and 26 in favour of Sfr 800 with 10 abstentions.**

### **2.2.2 The Recommendation of the Executive Board – the Triumvirate.**

Mr. Sand pointed out to the delegates that the recommendation of the Executive Board was distributed on a separate sheet of paper.

Mr. Azmaiparashvili said that there is a letter from the Russian speaking delegates that the organisers from Spain promised in Bled that there is simultaneous Russian-English translation and they are asking the Chairman of the Organising Committee why this has not been provided.

Mr. Arns of Netherlands said that we all know about the troubles in the past with the former Executive Director E. Omuku. Last year at the Congress it was decided that Mr. Omuku should resign. The Presidential Board then found a solution by appointing a Triumvirate, Mr. Sand, Mr. Jarrett and Mr. Gelfer, to do the necessary work for FIDE. This is a good solution because they know very well how to do the job. However, the Dutch Federation has a problem that they are paid stipends when at the same time two of the three are Presidential Board members and one is an Executive Board member. In the Verification Commission meeting he spoke about these two gentlemen, Messrs. Sand and Jarrett, and he maintained his position that such officers cannot get paid for the work they are doing for FIDE which totals 150,000 SFr per year. He said that the job is well done but he opined that they have to step down from the Presidential Board and Executive Board during the period they receive stipends. He also suggested that the current situation should be limited to January 2005. The Presidential Board should immediately start the search for a new Executive Director, and the costs should be lower than the expenses of the three gentlemen together with their hotel and travel. He proposed that the General Assembly and the Presidential Board deal with this until 1 January 2005. He said that the present solution is not good and if the triumvirate continues, these three gentlemen have to leave their positions in the PB and EB.

Mr. Herbert of Barbados said that he never realised what a fine job our previous Executive Director did, since it takes three persons to replace him. He supported the motion of Mr. Arns and said he does believe that in the spirit of transparency of FIDE, even though these three people that form the Triumvirate are wonderful individuals doing a brilliant job, good governance says that this is not a good solution in the long-term perspective and the selection of a permanent Executive Director is a must.

Mr. Makropoulos said that there are some delegates who did not understand the recommendation of the Executive Board. As a result of this he feared that the good work now being done by these three gentlemen might come to an end. He said that these three persons are doing several times more work than Mr. Omuku was doing. He said that the problem was that when Mr. Omuku left there was no obvious candidate for the position as Executive Director. At the same time a lot of work had to be done and the professional work of these three persons is necessary. We are spending less for this solution than the amount Mr. Omuku was costing FIDE. Now with this solution we are saving money and we are more productive. The Executive Board recommended this as a temporary solution and stated that the work produced is very good. The people who say that they do not like stipends for the Presidential Board members, are being negative, as they propose very few alternatives. He went on to state that there are many worldwide Sports Federations where members of the Presidential and Executive Board as well as Chairmen and Committee members are receiving stipends. A real professional organisation finds a way to remunerate their active members for their contributions. He said that if we want to move FIDE to a more professional level, this is the right way. We all agree that the Triumvirate is a temporary solution and he called on the delegates to support the recommendation of the Executive Board. If the General Assembly rejects this recommendation, then we will face serious problems in our work in FIDE. He said that we do not have such a person, who can do everything that these three people are doing currently. I do not see any other possible Director who can combine their functions together.

Mr. Kelleher proposed that in view of the importance, we should have a roll call on the following motion of the Executive Board:

**The Executive Board of FIDE acknowledges that the appointment of the Triumvirate, which has replaced the Executive Director, is a necessary response to an extraordinary situation, and is of limited duration. Its term will expire at the General Assembly 2006. At the 2006 General Assembly, the President will appoint a single Executive Director.**

Mr. Saleem asked whether these persons would keep their seats in the Presidential and Executive Board. Mr. Makropoulos said that they would, as this is a temporary solution.

**General Assembly ratified the recommendation of the Executive Board to acknowledge that the appointment of the Triumvirate who have replaced the Executive Director is a necessary response to an extraordinary situation, and is of limited duration. Its term will expire at the General Assembly 2006. At the 2006 General Assembly, the President elect will appoint a single Executive Director.**

**The result of the vote: in favour 53, against 6, abstentions - 36.**

### **2.2.3 Budget.**

Annex 2B was presented by the Treasurer. He said that the reports of the Chairmen of the Committees must be received before the final budget can be presented, and therefore he proposed that the budget be further discussed and finalised at the next Presidential Board meeting.

Mr. Gelfer said that the information from the Treasurer covers the discussion regarding the guarantee for the CACDEC funds. The CACDEC report will be amended accordingly for the final Minutes.

General Assembly approved the Budget presented by FIDE Treasurer and his proposal to authorize the Presidential Board to finalize the budget at the first quarter Presidential Board Meeting 2005.

### **2.3. Permanent Fund Report.**

General Assembly noted the Report on the FIDE Permanent fund, by Permanent Fund's Administrator L. Brunner (Annex 3).

### **2.4. Report of Verification Commission.**

General Assembly noted the Verification Commission report, Annex 4, the report of the Verification Commission to the Presidential Board meeting in Tripoli, 11-12 July 2004, Annex 5, and the letter from the FIDE President to the Verification Commission, Annex 4A and 5A, as well as the report of the Verification Commission meeting in Calvia in Annex 73.

General Assembly ratified the recommendation of the Executive Board to approve the report of the Verification Commission.

The General Assembly decided not to fill the vacancy in the Verification Commission.

## **2.6. Discharge of the Treasurer.**

General Assembly approved the Treasurer's report and discharged the Treasurer from his responsibilities under the Statutes.

## **Section A: Administrative Matters.**

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

#### **3.1.1. Affiliations.**

General Assembly noted the recommendation of the Executive Board.

Vice President I. Leong informed the delegates that there had been a meeting between the Chinese Chess Association and the Chess Federation of Chinese Taipei and informed the General Assembly that there are no problems with the application of the Chess Federation of Chinese Taipei.

Prof. Liu of Chinese Taipei introduced himself and said he is very happy to become a member of FIDE and expressed a hope to receive a lot of help.

General Assembly ratified the recommendation of the Executive Board to approve the applications of Laos and Chinese Taipei as new FIDE members. Both federations received a round of applause.

#### **3.1.2 Change of Federations.**

General Assembly ratified the recommendation to temporarily exclude the Korea Chess Federation.

General Assembly ratified the recommendation to note the change of the officials of the Afghanistan and Paraguay Chess Federations.

Mr. Jarrett said that the original Federation had been temporarily excluded and the General Assembly has to decide whether we accept the new Federation who has to take over their debts.

Mr. Leong said that the application of the Korea Chess Association is in the Agenda and they have paid the outstanding dues of the Korea Chess Federation.

General Assembly approved acceptance of the Korea Chess Association as a FIDE member.

### **3.3. Closing of the Lausanne office.**

Treasurer D. Jarrett briefed the delegates.

### **3.4. Athens office.**

Vice President M. Sand informed the delegates that after the closing of the Lausanne office,

the FIDE Secretariat moved to Athens early 2004, with three employees in this office, Ms. Polina Tsedenova, Ms. Elli Sperdokli and IM George Mastrokoukos. The office is functioning very well and we are pleased with the efforts the staff are putting in.

Messrs. Jarrett, Gelfer and Sand are alternating their visits to the office and another advantage is also to have Deputy President G. Makropoulos in the office on an almost daily basis.

### **3.5 Elista office.**

General Assembly noted the information of the Executive Board member I. Gelfer (Annex 85). He said that the Elista office is dealing with many subjects. There are eight staff members and Mr. Abundo as Rating Administrator. The Office is currently being evaluated.

### **3.6 The General Secretary.**

Mr. Makropoulos informed the delegates that there is a decision of the Executive Board to ask the FIDE President to accept the resignation of Mr. Tabbane and close the matter.

General Assembly ratified the decision of the Executive Board to ask the FIDE President to accept the resignation of General Secretary Mr. Tabbane.

## **Section B: Constitutional Matters.**

### **4.1 Proposal of General Secretary**

Annex 13 is the proposal of General Secretary N. Tabbane to return to one-year cycle meetings for the FIDE General Assembly.

**The General Assembly approved the recommendation of the Executive Board and resolved not to open a debate on this issue.**

### **4.2. FIDE Handbook.**

Vice Presidents M. Sand said that there is a serious need for an update of the FIDE Handbook, the first update since 1998. It was decided that Messrs. Leong, Hamid and Sand should do this work. This process started early this year. He informed the delegates of the meetings and discussions in this respect.

Mr. Sand said that the copies of the FIDE Handbook latest draft unanimously recommended by the Presidential Board meeting in Calvia, 28 October 2004, are available for the delegates (Annex 55).

Mr. Sand said that in the section of the Verification Commission and the Eligibility Regulation there are still a few points to be looked at, mainly some minor corrections in wording. He proposed that the recommendation of the Presidential Board is accepted with the amendment that the Constitutional Committee is authorised to finalise the draft after the General Assembly, for final approval by the Presidential Board first quarter meeting 2005. He repeated that no major changes are to be expected in this process.

Mr. Arns enquired about point 1.2 in page 27 that Euro is mentioned as the monetary unit, which is not mentioned in the further pages. Mr. Jarrett replied that the decision to propose Euro was taken only the last afternoon, and if accepted all necessary changes shall be done accordingly.

Mr. Doyle proposed a motion for FIDE to organise an extraordinary General Assembly next year in order to finalise the 2005 Handbook and to prepare for smooth elections in 2006. He said that the rest would be presented at the next General Assembly. Germany agreed to host.

Mr. Sand said that he couldn't see the need for an extraordinary General Assembly, as we already have electoral regulations and we only need to update these regulations in order to secure a free and normal elections procedure. These provisions are already proposed in the 2005 Handbook. We can leave for the Presidential Board and Constitutional Committee to deal with all outstanding minor changes and wording. He said that Mr. Doyle did not raise the issue of an Extraordinary General Assembly during the meeting of the Presidential Board and he was part of the unanimous vote. Therefore his motivation for the motion may be of a more political nature.

Mr. Doyle said that he was accused of doing something for political reasons and this is not fair and he will not stand it. He said that a person should not be accused of some malicious reasons and he demanded a public apology from Mr. Sand.

Mr. Sand refused to apologise.

Mr. Makropoulos said that maybe there would be some comments on the same issue.

Mr. Gelfer said that the proposal of Mr. Doyle is illogical. He said that we need to accept the Handbook at this General Assembly as otherwise it will expand the process of changing and amending the Handbook with two more years. There is no need for extraordinary General Assembly.

Mr. Mazouz said that concerning Verification Commission, we had a meeting and made two proposals. He said that these proposals according to the proposal of Mr. Sand, now have to go to the Constitutional Committee and then to the Presidential Board. The Verification Commission does not agree with this.

Mr. Makropoulos said that these proposals were accepted.

Mr. Doyle said he is trying to be honest and he gets to be shut down.

Mr. Sand said that the most practical way is to allow the Constitutional Committee to look at the proposals, there are just minor changes left. He said that after the recommendation of the Constitutional Committee, the Presidential Board will decide as it is planned to publish the Handbook in February 2005.

Mr. Mazouz said that when things are already decided in the Committee, the proposals were forgotten.

Mr. Makropoulos requested to read the Verification Commission proposals to be accepted by the delegates. Mr. Mazouz agreed.

Mr. Sand said that on page 34 of the FIDE Handbook final draft, Point 1. Objectives. Mr. Mazouz suggested adding the following sentence "*He also submits interim reports to the Presidential Board*". Point 3. Other matters. There is a need to split the budget between the Auditor and the Verification Commission, Mr. Mazouz suggested a new text in this point.

Mr. Herbert said that he had not had time to go through this very important document, but there are two things, one is on page 7, point 2.11. *Federations may not vote if they are temporarily or permanently excluded*. He said that this is a serious insertion into the Statutes. It is not clear whether it refers to the new members or temporarily excluded members. Another part of the deep concern is on page 37, item 4.2. Participation. He said that the Barbados team members can be missing and asked what will happen if a member just disappears, why should my Federation be suspended from all FIDE events for a period of three years. He said he understands the reason for this particular insertion, but thinks this is an unenforceable regulation.

Mr. Sand said that the point is sometimes the Federations announce that they will come with teams and delegates, and then they do not come or members disappear after the arrival. It was felt there is a need to stop this practice as some people are using this for the purpose of buying and selling visas to individuals.

Mr. Makropoulos said that this should be inserted; as there had been two incidents last year, one in Turkey and one in Greece. If we can prove that the Federations are involved in this, those involved have to be punished.

Mr. Sand said that such cases have to be investigated thoroughly before any action can be taken.

Mr. Herbert said that sadly our colleagues from Cuba are not here, but Cuba has suffered that their players travel to the events and they disappear. He asked if Cuba is going to be sanctioned for this.

Mr. Makropoulos said in Cuba there might be a legitimate reason such as seeking political asylum, and if this is the case it is totally different. We try to protect our events from commercialising and selling visas.

Mr. Buthali disagreed with the suggestion of Mr. Sand as there are some fundamental changes. First of all he agreed with the concern of Mr. Herbert regarding 2.11. He said that some of the requirements listed are not necessary at all. Secondly, he said the matter about the appointment of Executive Director, on page 8, the Director shall be nominated by the FIDE President and appointed by the Presidential Board. He said that the issue of the Executive Director should be decided at the General Assembly.

Mr. Sand referred to the recommendation by the Presidential Board. He said that the Presidential Board is in favour of this provision.

Mr. Gelfer said that he understands the concern of Mr. Herbert, but in our history there is no intention to ban Federations, it is trying to protect us from such incidents as happened in Halkidiki.

Dr. D. De Ridder said that in order to finalise the discussion, we should start from page 1. If we jump from page to page, it is very confusing. He agreed with Mr. Herbert regarding his comments.

Mr. Abundo asked regarding page 7, point 2, if the delegate present in 2006, who was not present in the last two Assemblies, may vote and said perhaps the wording is not precise.

Mr. Doyle said that he is supporting the draft and its review. However, the work has not been finished and in order to make sure that all the work is done and in place, until 2006, when we will theoretically change our officials, or even if they stay, we have to have next year with a full General Assembly. There we can complete the rest of the Handbook. He said that he is not politically motivated, he has not taken any stipend, he will not run in 2006 and he will not appreciate such references.

Mr. Makropoulos proposed to deal with the first part and then with Mr. Doyle's proposal.

Mr. Saleem said that he has a problem with the word "nominate" on page 8 in the paragraph regarding the Executive Director.

Mr. Sand said that there are several opinions on the issue of correct English. The wording used is fairly traditional. He said that if we see the need for major language corrections, the Constitutional Committee could implement these changes.

Mr. Rajscanyi said that on page 8, in the Executive Director under point 3, it is not a question of language, but the legal issue, who is exercising the employment rights. We have to establish within FIDE who exercises these rights, who is the signatory etc. Then we should check whether this is possible according to the Swiss or Greek law.

Mr. Sand said that in this particular issue, it would be the Presidential Board.

Mr. Rajscanyi further commented on the point where the FIDE President is authorized to take urgent decisions. (Page 17, point 7.1). He asked why it needed three fourths majority, as this majority is not mentioned anywhere else in the Statutes.

Mr. Doyle said in the case of the emergency, it requires three quarters of the votes, normally called a super majority.

Mr. Rajscanyi does not see any issue mentioned to require three fourths.

Mr. Sand agreed that there is no such provision, but the Board feels such emergency cases need this majority.

Mr. Rajscanyi noted that on page 3, point 1.27, there is a mention of *Central Committee*. The Executive Board should replace this. He also said on page 15, point 6.4 under the paragraphs regarding Continental Assembly meeting, there is a mention of Executive Committee. Mr. Sand said this word provision was strictly for the Continents.

Mr. Altanoch referred to page 2 of the financial regulations, paragraph 1.2 about monetary system. He asked if anything was wrong with today's system of Swiss Francs and why it was needed to change this to Euro. Second question was about the registration fee on page

30, paragraph 13.1. “*Registration fee will be charged annually to the National Federations in whose territories registered international competitions are held.*” He said that FIDE recently charged for national championships and asked for a clarification.

Mr. Jarrett said that regarding euro he had already commented the need. The office is in Athens, within the European Union zone and it is appropriate to change to euro. FIDE has to choose one currency and move with this. In point 13.1 nothing has changed, the regulations remain the same. Mr. Jarrett also said that national championships are always charged for rating.

Mr. Kelleher said that page 12, point 14 concerning proxies, he was under the impression that this provision will be updated and does not see any changes.

Mr. Sand said that no suggestion in this respect has been made other than the one regarding voting rights proposed by Mr. Doyle.

Mr. Petrov said there is contradiction between page 17 about the point of the election of the officials and page 8, where the Presidential Board appoints the Executive Director.

Mr. Sand said that the Presidential Board could appoint the Executive Director and that this is a normal and legal way of doing this.

As a point of order Mr. Herbert pointed out that at the moment there are more empty chairs than delegates in the General Assembly. He supported Mr. Doyle’s proposal and he recommended the document be finalized and submitted for approval by an extraordinary General Assembly next year.

Mr. Kelleher seconded the recommendation.

Mr. Makropoulos said that some people are trying to change the electoral regulations by this proposal. In case of an extraordinary General Assembly, and without reference to Mr. Doyle, the truth is that some people have their own agenda. He said that the Presidential Board agreed to push some important changes for the Handbook. He supported the recommendation of Mr. Sand to approve the recommendation of the Presidential Board. He said we should avoid political games.

Mr. Altanoch said that the FIDE Statutes are normally passed with two thirds of the delegates.

There was a vote upon the following:

The Presidential Board recommended the General Assembly to approve the final draft of the FIDE Handbook and authorise the Constitutional Committee to make the necessary corrections for final approval by the Presidential Board.

The results of the vote: in favour 24, against 16, abstentions 5.

**The recommendation by the Presidential Board did not pass since changes of the FIDE Statutes needs a two thirds majority.**

Mr. Doyle said that the issue requires two thirds of the audience, and it did not pass.

Mr. Doyle thanked Mr. Makropoulos for his words that he did not have personal motivations. He suggested accepting today's draft and also next year we will meet in the extraordinary General Assembly to discuss this draft accepted today.

Mr. Makropoulos said it is necessary to clarify what is the remaining work. Are the electoral regulations accepted? If this is ok, then the extraordinary General Assembly can discuss the rest of the issues. Mr. Doyle said that in this case next year two thirds would be necessary.

Mr. Gelfer repeated that the proposal of FIDE Handbook was proposed by Mr. Doyle to be discussed next year, without the electoral regulations, as proposed by Mr. Makropoulos.

Mr. Doyle said that two thirds of any Assembly could always address what they wish.

Mr. O'Connell said that it is not possible in today's General Assembly to commit the next General Assembly Agenda.

Mr. Makropoulos agreed with Mr. O'Connell.

Mr. Sand said the proposal was not passed and that we have to conduct our affairs according to the current Statutes and Regulations.

Mr. Doyle suggested having a roll call for the issue of convening 2005 General Assembly.

Mr. Sand said that we would then need to call for another session of the General Assembly here in Calvia, if we want to conduct this properly.

Mr. Makropoulos said that he earlier proposed a compromise by excluding an issue of the electoral regulations, and that Mr. Doyle succeeded in splitting the General Assembly. Therefore, the matter is now closed.

### **Section C: Ethics Commission.**

Commission Chairman W. Kelleher presented his report.

He said that a small meeting was held. One brief point was the case of the Philippine players against the Secretary of the Philippines Chess Federation. It was felt that it is an internal situation. He said that the FIDE Statutes are contradictory by saying both that FIDE does not interfere into internal situation and at the same time, that FIDE regulations can be applied even in respect of the internal cases.

He proposed to amend the first article of the FIDE Statutes.

Mr. Khalifa objected and said that it is an internal problem, if such a problem cannot be solved, then they go to the Zone President, then Continental and then as far as FIDE Presidential Board, but not to bring such cases for the General Assembly.

Mr. Kutin drew the attention of the delegates to Annex 25 on the Ethics Commission decision about ECU and Continental President for Europe. He said that his case has nothing

to do with the Ethics Commission. In addition he has a letter from the FIDE President fully supporting the decision and the full support from the European Assembly.

Mr. Campomanes said that in a case where a National Federation has a problem with the Continental President, then it is FIDE matter.

Mr. Kelleher said that this is correct; there is a problem between Mexican Chess Federation and the Continental President. The Ethics Commission will look into this matter and report on the investigations. Regarding Mr. Kutin's point, everybody knows that he is a hard-working organiser and a fine personality, however, it was felt that the ECU and its President acted in violation of the Ethics Code, and in the Ethics Commission opinion, two players were deprived of playing in the World Championship.

Mr. Kutin asked whether this is a correct understanding and if so it means that the FIDE President and the ECU Assembly were wrong.

Mr. Makropoulos said that there is a problem between ECU General Assembly and the Ethics Commission.

Mr. Campomanes said that the protest of the letter from Philippines is within the confines of the FIDE Statutes. Mr. Kelleher said that FIDE wants to be neutral regarding internal issues within the Federations.

Mr. Gelfer said that the clarification is urgently needed as we face now a case, which is absurd as the European President made an administrative decision, and he agreed with Mr. Kutin that this is not an issue for the Ethics Commission.

Mr. Kelleher said that if one violates rules, then the issue is within the jurisdiction of the Ethics Commission.

Mr. Sand did not fully agree with Mr. Gelfer, and pointed out that we have to investigate each case separately. The ECU President and Board did everything in good faith, but still they violated the regulations. Therefore the Ethics Commission must look into the matter if asked by anyone. However, the Commission could have resolved the case without penalising the ECU President because there was no evidence proving bad faith. If they, however, had concluded that the decision in question of the ECU President and Board was not taken in good faith, they are entitled to criticize.

Mr. Makropoulos said that to his understanding, the Ethics Commission is not requesting the General Assembly to provide these two players to play in the next World Championship.

Mr. Kelleher said that this is exactly the recommendation.

Mr. Makropoulos said that then this is in violation with the World Championship Committee and the ECU Regulations. Mr. Kelleher disagreed. Mr. Makropoulos said that these players did not participate in the World Championships, because they did not play in the tiebreaks. The Ethics Commission is now trying to create precedence for the future. Mr. Makropoulos disagreed with such recommendations.

Mr. Gelfer proposed that the Ethics Commission could not make recommendations

regarding participation in the World Chess Championships.

Mr. Sand seconded the motion of Mr. Gelfer.

Mr. Kelleher, Mr. Freeman and Mr. Divinsky objected.

**General Assembly approved the report of the Ethics Commission with the amendment proposed by Mr. Gelfer, that the Ethics Commission cannot make recommendations regarding participation in the World Chess Championship.**

## **Section D: Technical Commission**

### **5. Report of the Technical Commission Chairman**

Chairman W. Stubenvoll presented his report (Annex 71).

There had been an additional meeting concerning future endorsement of the chess clocks and the letter from DGT. The meeting concluded that the electronic chess clock “Silver, version 1.3” still contains some errors and therefore cannot be endorsed by FIDE at this moment.

**The General Assembly approved the report of the Technical Commission. It was decided not to give FIDE approval to additional electronic chess clocks until proper procedures and requirements have been established for such approval. The Technical Commission will submit their proposal to the Presidential Board.**

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

Rules and Tournaments Committee Chairman Geurt Gijssen presented his report (Annex 65). He said that the Executive Board discussed the regulations and quoted from the Minutes (page 25) that Mr. Makropoulos became convinced by his explanations. He pointed out that delegates who originally were opposed to some of the proposals, now agree to all of these proposals.

**General Assembly approved the report of the Rules and Tournament Regulations Committee.**

### **7. Swiss Pairings Committee.**

Swiss Pairings Committee Chairman Christian Krause presented his report (Annex 77).

Mr. Reuben said that he is not happy with the complete change in the Olympiad pairings. He personally could not attend the Swiss Pairings Committee meeting. Mr. Krause said that the proposal, to which Mr. Reuben disagreed, is the proposal of Mr. Leong regarding the tiebreak.

Mr. Makropoulos said that if the Chairman so decides, then no additional discussion is necessary.

Mr. Stubenvoll commented that during the Technical Commission Mr. Krause explained this proposal and the Technical Commission approved it.

**General Assembly approved the Swiss Pairings Committee report.**

#### **Section E : Qualification Commission.**

8. Qualification Commission Chairman Mikko Markkula presented his report (Annex 70).

Mr. Markkula thanked the Elista office, FIDE Secretariat and Chairmen Dr. De Ridder and Mr. Nikolopoulos, who all did excellent work and made his task much easier.

**General Assembly approved the report of the Qualification Commission.**

9. **Titles and Ratings Committee.**

Committee Chairman Dirk De Ridder presented his report (Annex 59).

**General Assembly approved the report of the Titles and Ratings Committee.**

10. **Arbiters' Council.**

Arbiters' Council Chairman Panagiotis Nikolopoulos presented his report (Annex 68).

Mr. Jarrett inquired about the proposal for the FIDE Arbiter title and International Arbiter, and asked whether it means two different title fees. Mr. Nikolopoulos confirmed.

**General Assembly approved the report of the Arbiters' Council.**

#### **Section F: World Chess Championship Committee.**

Deputy President Georgios Makropoulos presented his report (Annex 76).

He said that there is a need for the Committee to be very flexible in their regulations and in their discussions with the players. He requested the delegates to authorise the Presidential Board with the necessary powers to act whenever needed.

Mr. Gelfer drew the attention of the delegates to the provisions of the Committee's report, in order to finalise the match 2005 as well as the final unification match. There is a need to finalise the regulations for these important FIDE tournaments. In 2002 a proposal for a new cycle for the knockout tournament was presented, which is now called the World Cup, followed by the Last Chance Super tournament. He said that this tournament is most likely to be held at the end of 2005. The regulations include the proposals annexed in the Agenda for the General Assembly, except for the proposal of Mr. Vega regarding FIDE President's nominees. A compromise was found in respect of the USCF proposal regarding the substitution from the zonal tournaments. The proposal of Mr. Leong about the restructuring of the cycle was considered to be too complicated and Mr. Leong agreed that it would be considered next year. The first part of the proposal of Mr. Burstein (annex 36), has been accepted. The second part that a visa shall be given in the third country was rejected, as it is considered as interference into the internal affairs.

Mr. Burstein drew the attention to Annex 36 of the Agenda. He said that the position of the Israeli Chess Federation is clear and he also emphasised that the proposal is related to all kinds of World Championships and is therefore not a matter for the World Championship Committee to decide. He said that the host Federation should act in good faith by inviting and hosting all Federations, it should guarantee visas in a third country, it is common as most of the countries have their consulates in many countries, to ensure the visa. Many air companies demand that the passenger must have valid visas already when they board the plane.

Mr. Makropoulos said that the proposal of issuing visas in a third country is unacceptable.

Prof. Jungwirth said that it is necessary to give the Presidential Board an authorisation in such situations as mentioned in the World Championship Committee report.

Mr. Makropoulos requested to approve the report of the World Championship Committee and at the same time, authorise the Presidential Board to make all necessary changes in the FIDE Regulations concerning the current (unification project) and next World Championship cycles. Also he requested to approve that in case FIDE finds an Organiser for the match between Kasimdzhanov and Kasparov, where one of the players refuses to participate, the other player will be announced World Champion.

**General Assembly approved the proposal of the World Championship Committee.**

The Israeli delegate Mr. Burstein voted in favour of the proposal regarding visa and asked for this to be noted in the minutes from the meeting.

**Proposal on time control.**

Mr. Gelfer drew the attention of the General Assembly to the proposal regarding the time control (Annex 19).

To standardise the time control for all major tournaments, he proposed a time control of: 90 minutes for 40 moves plus 15 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per a move, starting from move 1.

Mr. Arns objected on behalf of the Bermuda Federation, to vote against this proposal, without any explanation.

Mr. Kutin said that he does not accept the proposal. He asked the General Assembly to close the case with this Championship and not to continue, as this is an exceptional case.

Mr. Makropoulos said that the regulations are completely clear about the time control. We cannot now change the whole system and Mr. Kutin was also reminded that this time control is already accepted by the ECU for their Championships.

**General Assembly approved the proposal of Mr. Gelfer regarding time control.**

## **Section G: Chess Events Commission.**

11. Commission Chairman Steve Doyle informed the General Assembly that Mr. Koya and Mr. Reuben did a very good job. He praised both Chairmen and referred the delegates to the respective reports.

**The General Assembly approved the report of the Chess Events Commission.**

12. **Organizers Committee.**

Committee Chairman Stewart Reuben presented his report (Annex 64).

Mr. Jarrett noted that there are budget implications in this report and made a general remark that some of the Committee's proposals will be rejected.

Mr. Reuben said he needs to know the exact number of the books to be produced. Last time FIDE bought 500 copies in advance and distributed them to the National Federations in 2001 and additionally Mr. Reuben offered his copyright for translation into foreign languages.

Mr. Jarrett said that the amount in question is approximately 10,000 to 12,000 SFr.

Mr. Makropoulos said that is a strange procedure when the Committee Chairman is directly asking FIDE to buy his books.

Mr. Abundo noted that the Chairman of the Organisers' Committee was reluctant to come forward with this proposal, but the Committee took this decision.

Mr. Doyle moved to refer this specific issue to the Presidential Board for further review.

**General Assembly approved the motion of Mr. Doyle to refer the issue of Organisers' Handbook to the Presidential Board for further review.**

**General Assembly approved the report of the Organisers Committee.**

13. **Youth and Junior Events Committee.**

Committee Chairman P.T. Ummer Koya presented his report (Annex 62).

Mr. Koya mentioned that a new age category would be introduced in the World Youth Championships, for children under 8. He said that the Committee expressed its wish that thousands of tournaments are taking place worldwide, and it is necessary to bring under the FIDE umbrella also the school championships.

He expressed his gratitude for all who are dealing with the Junior, Sub Junior and Youth events.

Mr. Jarrett said that there had been a meeting with the ISCU President A. Kostyev and proper regulations will be produced in several weeks and presented for the Presidential Board for review.

**General Assembly approved the report of the Youth and Junior Events Committee.**

**Section G: Development Commission**

14. Commission Chairman Ignatius Leong presented his report (Annex 74).

**General Assembly approved the report of the Development Commission.**

15. **CACDEC.**

CACDEC Co-Chairmen Israel Gelfer and Allan Herbert presented their report (Annex 66).

Mr. Gelfer said that a lot of chess materials were distributed to the CACDEC Federations. There is a private donation to the African Federations from their Continental President. There has been a seminar held by Mr. P. Nikolopoulos, Chairman of the Arbiters' Council. Mr. Herbert has reviewed the current list of CACDEC levels. There is a problem with the Texas University, but FIDE hope that it will be solved.

There is a proposal to review the list for CACDEC, which was last time reviewed in Curitiba in 1993. This proposal should be examined and finalised in 2006. There have been two main motions, unanimously accepted by the CACDEC Committee and the Treasurer is notified of this.

Mr. Herbert said that it is a very straightforward motion. He explained that there had been a lot of discussions regarding the tragic circumstances in the last two years, which resulted in no money being allocated to the CACDEC budget. Now it was strongly felt that CACDEC really needs strong support and that FIDE gives first priority to CACDEC, to have a stable situation within the Committee.

CACDEC recommended that the Treasurer reserved 50,000 SFr until the end of 2004 for the use of CACDEC. Second recommendation was made following the feedback of the CACDEC countries on the methodology of the distribution of the CACDEC funds: 10% be reserved as a central amount to be used for the projects that span Continents. 40% Africa, 25% for Asia and 25% for the Americas. Continental Presidents were tasked with the developing projects in terms of executing these programs.

Mr. Jarrett said that the budget in 2003 was made on the basis that funds would be available from the income from the World Chess Championship. He also said that we now are in a position where we can make some extra amount of money available for CACDEC. For next year, the budget will be based again on the income from the World Chess Championship.

Mr. Al Hitmi said there had been a long meeting for CACDEC and everybody feels that we cannot wait for the World Chess Championship income. It makes it impossible to make a programme for CACDEC when everything is dependent on whether there will be the World Championship or not. He asked how the Continental Presidents can make programs if the funds are not available in advance. If this is the situation, then the Continental Presidents should not be responsible.

Mr. Elhaj commented that it was agreed to have a minimum of 100,000 USD for the first priority and in case there is World Championship, CACDEC will have 10% more.

Mr. Campomanes said that originally CACDEC fund was 20% from the World Championship funds, during his tenure. Some years later, it was incorporated into the general fund, but the priority was lost, to make today CACDEC to be dependent on the World Championship. He agreed with both Continental Presidents' comments.

Mr. Makropoulos said that the Treasurer confirmed that there is a reserve for 2004 from the World Championship income. In case there are no funds, where can the CACDEC money come from? He said that the budget is based on the organisation of the Championship. If we face a situation like last year, then there is no money available.

Mr. Herbert of Barbados said that the intention of the meeting was to avoid the silly situation that happens so often that at the end of the fiscal year when the funds available are spent on whatever you can spend this money. He asked the Treasurer if between now and the end of the year, we will not find the projects, what will happen to this money. Commission Chairmen have to have time to sit down and analyse well-conceived and sensible projects.

Mr. Freeman of Bermuda said that if we get the funds from the World Championship every two years, the most sensible way to handle the situation is then to spread the available funds over two years. At least this will result in a regular flow to the CACDEC countries. Also whilst everybody wants money on 1 January, FIDE does not necessarily get its income on that date. He therefore proposed that the Treasurer should keep a reserve for this Committee.

Mr. Jarrett responded that the budget should have been submitted for approval last year to the Executive Board 2003. It was not and instead was sent to the Kotor Presidential Board 2004. Most of the funds were released after the receipt of the World Championship income, and now in addition we have the income from the Women's World Championship. He said that the money would be available very quickly next year. You have to look at the money at a two-year basis. The budget draft will be presented to the delegates before the end of the General Assembly.

Mr. Perera said that the funds should be available for CACDEC to avoid unpleasant situation as in the past. He gave an example of his Federation.

Mr. Altanoch said that CACDEC budget in 2004 in comparison with 2003 has been cut three times. And the good half of the FIDE family is CACDEC members, level 1 and 2, who lack financial resources. This means if the budget for CACDEC is cut down the Committee cannot work. He proposed to increase the CACDEC budget for 2005 twice, to reach 160,000 SFr. He said that during the Chess Olympiad in Spain, the Organisers imposed 100 euro for the registration fee. He complained that the Organisers did not organise even the transportation for a part of the Mongolian delegation. He said that Organisers should not be allowed any registration fees in future Olympiads.

Mr. Sand informed the delegates that the Executive Board already recommended this for the approval by the General Assembly.

Mr. Al Hitmi said that the key request was to have a minimum of SFr 100,000 for CACDEC. If there is no guarantee for the minimum, there will be no programs, and if there are no programs we cannot develop chess.

Mr. Makropoulos said that the Treasurer upon receipt of all reports from Committees with budget implications, would prepare the budget. He proposed to transfer the discussion of the budget issues for tomorrow's session.

Mr. Elhaj said that if the income for the World Chess Championship should come from the sponsors, not FIDE.

Mr. Leong said that the issue of a registration fee has been raised several times. He said that there is a need for the discussion regarding the situation with the Olympiad and the Congress. He said that the Arbiters complained that they were deducted from their stipends for board and lodging.

Mr. Makropoulos proposed to discuss this issue under the Tournament and Matches section.

**General Assembly approved the report of CACDEC.**

## **16. Committee on Chess in Schools.**

Vice Chairman G. Antunac presented the report of the Committee (Annex 69).

He informed the delegates that Mr. Palladino resigned from his position, and reminded the delegates that he created this Committee and chaired it for 20 years. He proposed to nominate Mr. Palladino as Honorary Chairman of Chess in Schools Committee.

Mr. Koya proposed to award the title of Honorary Member of FIDE to Mr. N. Palladino. This received unanimous approval. Mr. Sand informed that Mr. Palladino is already an Honorary member of FIDE since 1995.

General Assembly unanimously approved by acclamation the title of the Honorary Committee Chairman for Mr. Nicola Palladino of Italy and expressed its appreciation for his contribution to the Committee on Chess in School and in FIDE for so many years.

General Assembly ratified the application from the Kasparov Chess Academy (Annex 40) following the decision of the FIDE Presidential Board in Kotor, 28-29 February 2004.

General Assembly authorised the FIDE President to appoint the Chairman for the Chess in Schools Committee.

**General Assembly approved the report of the Committee on Chess in Schools.**

## **17. Committee on Women's Chess.**

Treasurer D. Jarrett presented the Committee's report (Annex 63).

Mr. Bae of Norway requested from which year changes in the number of boards at the Olympiad for women shall be implemented.

Mr. Leong confirmed that it should be done from 2008.

Mr. Petrov of Ukraine asked about the decision of the Halkidiki Congress where future organizers of chess Olympiads may charge the teams extra money for the hotels. He said that in Halkidiki it was decided that this decision has to be approved by this General Assembly.

Mr. Sand disagreed with Mr. Petrov and said that the Halkidiki Congress decision was final.

Mr. Makropoulos said that the question of Mr. Petrov has nothing to do with the Committee of Women's Chess report.

Mr. Eletsy said that the decision was to cut one board from the men's section. Mr. Eletsy said that no decision has been taken on this issue in Halkidiki.

Mr. Makropoulos said that this has been referred to Point 33 of the Agenda.

**General Assembly authorised the FIDE President to appoint a Co-Chairman of the Committee.**

**General Assembly approved the report of the Committee on Women's Chess.**

**18. Committee on Chess for the Disabled.**

Chairman of the Committee on Chess for the Disabled, Mr. G. Walsh presented his report (Annex 61).

**General Assembly approved the report of the Committee on Chess for the Disabled.**

**19. Committee on International Organizations.**

No report has been received.

**20. Trainers' Committee.**

Mr. Leong presented the report for this Committee (Annex 60) as well as his proposal in Annex 58.

Mr. Jarrett said that there are budget implications in this report.

**General Assembly approved the Trainers' Committee report.**

**Section H: Special Commission.**

**21.** Special Commission Chairman Khalifa Al Hitmi said that the respective Committees presented their reports in writing.

**22. Chess Information, Publication and Statistics.**

Committee Chairman Alexander Roshal presented his report (Annex 79).

**General Assembly approved the report of the Committee of CHIPS.**

**23. Chess Art, Philately and Exhibition Committee.**

Committee Chairman Lothar Shmid presented his report (Annex 67).

**General Assembly approved the report of the Committee.**

**24. Computer and Internet Chess Committee.**

**General Assembly approved the report of the Committee. (Annex 89)**

**25. International Committee of Silent Chess (ICSC).**

**General Assembly noted the report of the IPCA President.**

**26. International Correspondence Chess Federation (ICCF).**

**General Assembly noted the report from the ICCF President. (Annex 88)**

**Section I: FIDE Medical Commission.**

**26. Chairperson Dr. Jana Bellin presented her report (Annex 72).**

She said that their meeting dealt with the Anti-doping regulations following the feedback from WADA on some minor points and new Anti-doping regulations are in Annex 72A. She also said that in respect of the therapeutic use exemptions forms, which is relatively new, it was felt that the National Federations and players are to be informed about such forms. This is done in a memorandum as part of the Medical Commission report. Another memorandum is for the organisers of the major FIDE events, where the anti-doping control is previewed, to inform the Medical Commission well in advance.

She said that the Olympiad anti-doping control is very manageable and complies with the WADA code.

**General Assembly approved the report of the Medical Commission.**

**Section J: FIDE Meetings, Tournaments and Matches.**

At the session of 29 October 2004 Mr. Selivanov drew the attention of the delegates to the fact that the Spanish Organisers ignored the petition of yesterday with the request by the Russian Speaking Federations to provide simultaneous interpretation. He said that until the solution is found, the Russian speaking federations would consider non-participation in the General Assembly.

Mr. Leong supported Mr. Selivanov.

Mr. Ochoa mentioned that the Organisers informed FIDE about the fact that only Spanish-English translation will be made available during the General Assembly well in advance.

Mr. Petrov said that here the issue is just to keep the promises.

Mr. Gelfer opined that it is not a proper place and venue to discuss this as it is a matter of a serious discussion with the Organisers, which might have very serious consequences.

Mr. Selivanov said that in Bled there had been a clear promise from the Organisers in respect of the simultaneous interpretation in Russian.

Mr. Leong agreed with Mr. Selivanov.

Mr. Kutin said that in the last Congress there had been translation into four languages and supported Mr. Selivanov.

Mr. Al Hitmi said that this is not only a fault of the Organisers, but FIDE as well, as maybe the requirements were not made very clear.

Mr. Doyle moved that FIDE should ensure that from the next Congress, the translation into Russian, Spanish and French should be provided by the event Organisers.

Mr. Makropoulos said that we have also two other official languages and said that should the Organisers provide the translation into all languages, the costs will be really high.

Mr. Campomanes said that from a historic perspective, the list of the official languages has been extended, but the languages were accepted on condition that they provide the translator and the Organisers provide the technical basis.

Mr. Selivanov said that the Assembly should not discuss the FIDE Handbook, as the regulations are not followed. He said that being a member of the Russian parliament for ten years, he does realise that it is necessary to follow each letter of the law, before approving it.

Prof. Jungwirth said that there should be one working language, English, for the work of the Committees and Commissions and the General Assembly should provide all the languages translation.

Mr. Leong supported the opinion of Mr. Selivanov about the discussion on the FIDE Handbook. He said that if we go by the precedents that we go by the exceptions, then why should we have the Handbook at all.

Mr. Makropoulos said that he had arrived to Calvia five days before the start of the Olympiad and immediately requested to have a meeting with Mr. Rami, which was denied until 17 October. He said that being aware of many problems with the Olympiad and the Congress, he requested the Chief Arbiter to work parallel with his team and ensure that everything is ok. He told Mr. Rami that without Mr. Leong and his team he is not sure the Olympiad would start. Regarding the Congress, FIDE was not provided with anything, which was requested before, no venue, no equipment and no staff.

The daily meetings with the Organising Committee started on the 17<sup>th</sup> October and from there on it was felt that some problems were solved. He said that the information about the registration fee and the transportation is in accordance with the invitation letter to the Federations. He said it was made clear to Mr. Rami that FIDE is against double charging for

the congress participation. He proposed to stop the discussion and come forward with a joint FIDE declaration for the Organisers, which will contain all the written complaints and requests from the Federations. He called on the Federations to submit promptly all their written complaints. Mr. Makropoulos also said that Mr. Ochoa, as a FIDE delegate, has no power in the Organising Committee, which is a big problem.

Mr. Rivello of Italy informed the delegates that in Turin 2006 there would be translation into four languages.

Mr. Leong said that as Chief Arbiter, he had been facing a lot of problems since arrival. He managed to meet with the Organising Committee only on 18 October. He said that Mr. Ochoa is just a shadow and does not represent any power as the National Chess Federation, however, the National Chess Federation when contracting an organiser for the Olympiad, should not be fully absolved of the responsibility. As Development Commission Chairman, he felt very bad, as even there was no water free of charge at mealtimes. He said that he tried to give a message to the organisers, but the Spanish press attacked him afterwards and even the official Olympiad bulletin cited the FIDE Representative as not sharing the point of view of Mr. Leong. He expressed his dissatisfaction that no one from FIDE stood up for the players and arbiters, who also go through a lot of problems and that the foreign arbiters are being treated badly. He reminded the delegates that many could not attend and the visa invitations were not provided before you had paid the registration fee of 100 euro and those who said they would pay on the arrival, were kept in the airport for more than three hours, to clear their financial responsibilities for the Organisers.

Mr. Makropoulos proposed that Mr. Doyle and Mr. Sand would collect all these protests to prepare the unified statement. Mr. Rami is in the general Assembly to give his explanations.

Mr. Hernandez from Mexico expressed its gratefulness to Spain. We face some problems, but no more than usual. About water, the Federations have to support their players. We know that it is not easy to organise such events. Mexico is planning to organise such event in six years. The quality of transportation is excellent and the hotels are good. The attacks are not fair and Mexico is supporting Spain and asked for applause from all delegates and all mass media representatives. Mexico will never support any attack in such an important meeting. This attack is not justified and the players are not being treated as Mr. Leong said.

Mr. Herbert of Barbados made the following resolution as we should not waste our energy as we are interested to hear about future Olympiads. He recommended that the agreement should be circulated to the Federations, and if the Organisers had fulfilled their obligations, then the Organisers should be compensated for various wrongdoings from FIDE. However, if the Organisers are in contradiction with the contractual obligations, the strongest action should be taken by FIDE.

Mr. Sand said that there are still serious issues on the Agenda, and that this debate should not continue. He supported the proposal to have a Committee go through all the complaints and to issue an official FIDE statement.

Mr. Kelleher seconded the motion of Mr. Herbert and also requested to stop attacks on the Spanish delegate from the FIDE Presidential Board.

Mr. Makropoulos disagreed as Mr. Leong spoke in his capacity as Chief Arbiter, not as

FIDE Vice President. He strongly requested Mr. Kelleher to stop empty accusations against FIDE Presidential Board as the delegates started the discussion. Otherwise we will listen to all delegates and their complaints.

Mr. Elhaj said that we should collect the protests, but there are problems that have to be solved before the end of the Olympiad. The Organisers refuse to provide transportation after 31 October, and some of the small Federations have to pay some fees for transportation.

Mr. Sand repeated his proposal to create a Committee. This is the only way we can proceed. We are not trying to suppress any complaints, we just want to collect them and make an official statement on behalf of FIDE.

Mr. Freeman seconded the proposal of Mr. Sand.

The representative of the Olympiad organizer, Mr. Rami, said that the statement and actions of Mr. Leong showed his double standards. He said that the problems with Mr. Leong had started from day one, as he was interfering in the matters, which were not within his jurisdiction. Yesterday Mr. Leong unilaterally disconnected all the cables of the electronic boards of the players from Spain. He refused to restore the boards. Yesterday we presented our claims to the FIDE highest authorities. This is one of the reasons because he initiated the action, as he is also FIDE Vice President. Mr. Rami said that this is not the way or the forum to present these problems. He supported the opinions of Mr. Herbert that this question is passed to the Committee.

He then went on to give information about the principles and guidelines that are followed by the Organisers. In April a letter was sent with three or four pages containing the conditions from the Organisers to all Federations. We made a big effort to access Federations and chess fans. We made a parallel festival for chess amateurs. Our hotel conditions are the best conditions you can find in our country in this season. The players enjoyed good conditions. This was our main goal; we made a big effort because we had some initial problems, which delayed the preparation for the Olympiad. For sure, we understand all the difficulties and we are in contact with respective organs of FIDE. So the invitation letter contained clear conditions. Maybe our error was to send this letter too long in advance, because it seems that some delegations maybe forgot the conditions and some of the delegations did not register before September and October. So we received protests from delegations assuming that everybody will have free transport on the arrival and departure date, 14, 21 and 31, and 15 October, only on these dates. As for the accommodation expenses, it was clear from the invitations that all the delegations were invited from 14 to 31 October for free in a single room, for the captains, and for a double room for the players in 3-star hotels. We also managed to get very good prices in other 3 and 4-star hotels. As for the water problem, this is normal in this island and the Mediterranean coast. The quality of water in the eastern part of Spain is not good for health, and as a result you cannot drink the tap water. Indeed, there are usual conditions of beverages where water is always bottled. This is normal in Spain, and the contract was made and all delegates were told that the full board is free, without beverages. Bottled water was free in the tournament halls, and there should be no complaint about water in the Casino and Congress. As for the arbiters, they were invited with the fees, set in 1970s, and we assumed that the conditions they had, is the fulfilment of the agreement. He concluded his support to have a Committee to check whether the Organisers fulfilled the promises, and he gave the opinion that the result would show that the Organisers even exceeded their obligations.

Mr. Makropoulos proposed that Messrs. Sand and Doyle would check whether the promises were fulfilled. About the Olympiad transportation, FIDE did not enter into any agreement. FIDE had an agreement only about the Congress. The truth is that the Federations had all the information about the transportation in advance. However there seems to be a need for changes in our Olympiad regulations, as we are not happy with the transportation and other things. FIDE made several complaints about the Congress preparation as well, as we were not satisfied with many things.

Mr. Makropoulos said that we have our delegations, our players, and arbiters. We cannot take actions against Olympiad. He asked all of the delegates to do their best and bring the Olympiad and the Congress to a successful the end.

Mr. Herbert said that he has resolution on the floor, and that there is a fundamental difference between the two proposals. If my proposal is accepted and it is proved that the Spanish organisers fulfilled their obligations, they will receive our apologies. If they did not, and it is FIDE who has allowed the situation to exist, he suggested that the disadvantaged Federations are to reimbursed by FIDE and the person in charge should be punished.

Mr. Makropoulos reiterated that the agreement with FIDE was mainly about the Congress and the officials. But now we are debating complaints regarding concrete fees (transportation, fee, water). From the first day of the Olympiad, we have heard about the problems, but this has nothing to do with the agreement between FIDE and the Organisers. He said that the proposal of Mr. Herbert will not lead us to the result that the Spanish have to reimburse a certain amount. FIDE knows what it has asked, but if there is a little budget, it is obvious that there will be problems.

Mr. Azmaiparashvili proposed to include Mr. Leong into this Committee.

Mr. Makropoulos said that he is personally asking Mr. Azmaiparashvili to withdraw his proposal.

Mr. Barrera said that the executives have to stick to the Agenda and asked for the order in the General Assembly.

**General Assembly approved the proposal to create a Committee comprising of Messrs. Doyle and Sand to examine all the complaints and reports of the 36<sup>th</sup> Olympiad and 75<sup>th</sup> FIDE Congress, and come forward with the official declaration of FIDE.**

## **29. Presidential Board.**

FIDE invites bids for the Presidential Board meetings for 2005.

Continental President for Asia informed that the Qatar Chess Association would like to host one of the Presidential Board meetings, concurrent with the International Olympic Committee meetings in Doha. This would provide an excellent opportunity to meet the representatives of other big International Sport Federations, in the period of May-June 2005.

Mr. Leong said that the IOC would be meeting in July in Singapore, to decide on the hosting of Olympics 2012.

**30. Executive Board Meeting 2005 / 76<sup>th</sup> FIDE Congress.**

Mr. Metzging informed that the Executive Board should be held in Dresden.

The Lord Mayor of Dresden personally welcomed the delegates of the General Assembly in August 2005. He said that it is an honour for him to invite all of them to Dresden, and it will be a great honour for the 500,000 people of Dresden. He said that Dresden is a bidder for the 2008 Chess Olympiad and invited everybody to the Casino in the evening of the 28 October 2004 for a reception by the City of Dresden.

**31. 77<sup>th</sup> FIDE Congress 2006 and 37<sup>th</sup> Olympiad 2006.**

The delegates noted Annex 43 in respect of the financial guarantees with the Turino Organisers.

Mr. Kutin said that they are late with the organisation and he spoke with the Chairman of the Organising Committee. Turin has more or less all facilities and the Olympic village is ready, press-centre and conference halls are ready and there is no need to be in a hurry. Mr. Kutin expressed his confidence that the Olympiad will be organised every well.

Mr. Scalfi said that the Deputy Chairman of the Organising Committee would like to have a presentation of Turin Olympiad on 29 October 2004.

Mr. Rivello introduced himself and congratulated the Spanish Organising Committee, despite the problems. He said that the Italian Olympic Committee, city of Turin, province of Turin and province of Piedmont all support the preparation of the 2006 Chess Olympiad.

**31.1. Participation in the Olympiads.**

The delegates noted the proposal of Mr. Israel Gelfer in respect of the Affiliated Organisations' participation in the Chess Olympiads (Annex 44).

Mr. Gelfer said that there had been false impressions about this proposal which is meant to protect FIDE Regulations. FIDE, as IOC, is established for the sake of the Federations and not for other organisations. Some ten to twelve years ago we made one exception, where three other affiliated organisations were put to participate in Istanbul Olympiad 2000. Mr. Gelfer said that there had been some oral comments by the IOC that this is in violation of IOC procedure. And this is not for the benefit of FIDE. He said that there had been a discussion with Mr. G. Walsh together with Mr. Jarrett and he was offered to receive financial support, which is even more than the Committee was asking for, in order to organise a special Olympiad only for these affiliated Organisations.

Mr. Reuben said that he respected Mr. Gelfer's position, but that chess has one huge advantage over other sports, that the disabled players could play on absolutely equal terms with non-disabled players. He said that we should not go back from letting disabled players participate in the Chess Olympiads. It is necessary to emphasise that chess can be played by disabled and not disabled together.

Prof. Jungwirth supported the comment of Mr. Reuben and said that all disabled persons

cannot play football or hockey and for them it is very important to show what they can achieve in playing with normal persons. He proposed to negotiate with the IOC our extraordinary situation and said that the IOC has to understand that chess cannot be put in the same basket with other sports.

Mr. Arns said that the proposal of Mr. Gelfer has his great respect, but he also said that there is no need to change these regulations as it might take 10 or 15 years to become an Olympic sport and this issue could be taken later.

Mr. Al Hitmi said that the proposal of Mr. Gelfer is well sensed. First of all if FIDE wants to become an IOC member, but this can be difficult if we do not comply with the IOC Statutes and regulations. He said that the special team of the disabled players is a violation of the IOC rules, since the Chess Olympiad should be allowing only Federations to participate. Of course we would be proud to have a disabled player in our Federation's team, if he qualifies to the team through a normal procedure.

Mr. Selivanov said that the Russian Chess Federation does not support the proposal of Mr. Gelfer. He concurred with Messrs. Reuben and Jungwirth. He said that the disabled players should preserve their right to play in the Chess Olympiad and the discussion should be closed.

Mr. Kutin said that FIDE is not in a hurry, and we should not be seen just accepting everything coming from the IOC and this will be a shame if they are thrown out of the participation in our main event.

Mr. Campomanes said that during his tenure he was proud to accept IPCA and then IBCA into the Olympiad participation. He said that this has helped their movement, increased the membership and the quality of their play. He gave an example of this Olympiad, when one of the IPCA players beat a strong Grandmaster. He said that it would be advisable for us to take action, but as far as he could see this morning, there is no specific condition mentioned to us that the IOC would sanction us. He joined Mr. Kutin and asked for this matter to be studied further.

Mr. Makropoulos said that the matter is very delicate. These players have our sympathy and he understands delegates that they do not want to be seen to vote against the people who make a great effort in their lives. He said that it is also true that in order to maintain and improve our position in the IOC, FIDE has to follow our initial steps as adopting our anti-doping rules, it is obvious that all our regulations have to move to this direction. He said that only national teams could participate in our event if we want to be in the IOC Olympic Games. Now we have three organisations affiliated, and maybe tomorrow we will accept others. We are in a wrong direction now. He expressed sympathy for the situation, but said that in one moment it will be necessary to take measures. He said that we should have a decision until when we keep this situation.

Mr. Tabbane noted that Chairman of the Committee of Disabled is not attending the General Assembly meeting.

Mr. Herbert said that this he hears for the first time and there are extremely good arguments, both by Mr. Gelfer and Mr. Reuben. He said that there are some other situations in other sports, which do not coincide with the IOC rules, and gave examples (soccer, cricket).

Mr. Saleem of US Virgin Islands proposed that this has to be studied more. He said that the disabled are not looking for help, they are looking for a hand. He became handicapped last year and he said that this issue needs more study. He volunteered to be in the Committee.

Mr. Makropoulos said that the use of the word discrimination is completely wrong and is driving our discussion in a wrong direction. The FIDE Rules are clear; we just say that the disabled can participate in our events, but as members of the federation teams.

**General Assembly resolved to study the proposal of Mr. Gelfer regarding the Olympiad participation for a further discussion at the next year Executive Board meeting.**

**32. 78<sup>th</sup> FIDE Congress 2007.**

FIDE invites bids for this event.

Mr. Yazici of Turkey said that he is very glad to propose to hold this FIDE meeting in Antalya, Turkey, during the dates for the World Youth Championships, in November 2007. Exact dates to be advised by the FIDE Presidential Board.

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

**33. 79<sup>th</sup> FIDE Congress 2006 and 38<sup>th</sup> Chess Olympiad 2008.**

Delegates examined the bids for the 2008 FIDE Congress and Chess Olympiad in order of receipt.

German Chess Federation (Annex 45)

Estonian Chess Federation, Tallinn (Annex 46)

Annex 47 is report of Mr. Gelfer on the Dresden inspection.

Annex 48 is report of Mr. Sand on the Tallinn inspection.

Mr. Sand said that there would be a short presentation by both bidders. He informed that the Estonian Minister of Culture would have to leave shortly and the Dresden delegation agreed to have the Estonian presentation first.

Minister of Culture of Estonia Mr. Urmas Paet welcomed the delegates and assured all of them that the Government of Estonia will render all possible support to the Estonian Chess Federation to organise the Chess Olympiad 2008. Chess plays a very important role in the cultural and sporting history. The name of Paul Keres is a very important name and there are not many countries where a chess player is on an official banknote, but in Estonia there is his portrait. If we get the Chess Olympiad, we have the support also of the city of Tallinn and all our society. As this big and important international event plays a very important role. He read a letter of confirmation from the Estonian Government, which presents its compliments to the FIDE General Assembly and also unanimously expresses its support for the bid of the Estonian Chess Federation. The Government considers this organisation as a single honour and it is aware of the responsibilities it might face. They expressed their confidence that the Estonian Chess Federation is able to organise it successfully. The Prime

Minister of Estonia signed the letter. He then invited all delegates to Tallinn.

President of the Estonian Chess Federation Ms. Carmen Kass said that this is one of the most exciting moments of her life. She said that she is in front of the respectful audience to represent the interests of her Chess Federation. Estonia is a very small country and it is very special to have a chance to host such an important event. They have no doubt that the Dresden organisers would do a great job, and she compared this competition as David against Goliath battle, and this makes her task very difficult, even impossible. She said that after the collapse of the Soviet Union, Estonia is growing and developing and they have a very young government and officials. Estonia has one of the fastest growing economies in the world. She said that about six million tourists come to Estonia every year; new technologies are growing very fast. Chess really enjoys respect in Estonia. They can easily say that Mr. Keres is a national hero in Estonia, who was a superb personality. Unfortunately, Mr. Keres did not win many title events, and was therefore nicknamed an “eternal second”. She said that many people already told her that Dresden had already won. She disagreed that the vote cannot be won before it takes place. She once again repeated that Estonia will organise a superb event, and that free shuttle planes will be available from Frankfurt to Tallinn, registration and pocket money will be taken care by the Estonian government. Ms. Kaas invited all of the delegates to Estonia. She said let not Estonia share the nickname of Mr. Keres.

Mr. Perera said that a lot of promises have been broken during the Olympiads. He proposed that all the promises should be submitted in writing to FIDE, in case Tallinn wins.

Mr. Jamshedy from Afghanistan said that as the Organisers of all countries care about the success, but the practice is different sometimes. He said that because of the visa problems many could not come to Calvia. He asked the Minister of Estonia for a guarantee for all chess players receiving visas.

The Minister said that by Estonian law a member of the government has a right to send invitations to the people approved by the Ministry and after such invitations are issued very quickly and free of charges.

Mr. Makropoulos pointed out that there are not Estonian Embassies in all countries.

Minister said that in case there is a person from a country without Estonian Embassy, the visas are issued on the border.

Mr. Makropoulos said that according to our regulations, the Organisers can offer more than it is written in the Olympiad regulations and asked for how many people free hospitality will be provided.

Ms. Kass said the teams will have free accommodation and board and the captains and delegates have free accommodation and full board.

Mr. Reuben asked in what way you might make the Olympiad unique for Estonia. Ms. Kass said that Estonia is unique already.

Then the floor was given to the representatives of Dresden.

Mr. Metzging said that the bid is coming from Dresden and the German Chess Federation and introduced the Dresden delegation: Lord Mayor of Dresden Mr. Ingolf Rossberg and the Prince of Saxony His Highness Alexander von Sachsen as the representative of the State Government. German Chess Federation learnt a lot of things in the last two hours and we do understand your concerns about the future Olympiads. We are in a position to guarantee that if we win, we will follow all regulations of FIDE, there will be no registration fee, there will be enough translations for the Congress, there will be invitation and special conditions for small countries and we will use the Chess Olympiad in 2008 to promote chess in Dresden, in Germany, in Europe and also worldwide. We will do our best to show how chess can be organised. You will have a good opportunity to visit the games even as spectators. We can organise a real top event. They thanked the Estonian delegation for a very fair competition.

Prince of Saxony Alexander von Sachsen thanked the delegates, FIDE and Mallorca for the opportunity as well as Estonian Chess Federation. He disagreed with Ms. Kass that Dresden is a Goliath as after 1989 they had to work hard to rebuild everything and thanks to solidarity of Eastern and Western Germany, they managed to rebuild Dresden. He said that they are proud of their history and are looking into the future. He let the delegates know that the Prime Minister of Saxony and his Government support the bid of the German Chess Federation.

Mr. O'Connell asked what about the hospitality for the Federations and their delegates. Mr. Metzging said that the small Federations and CACDEC Federations would be taken care of following the CACDEC level review. For the teams they will follow the current regulations as the Organisers are in charge of all teams, if FIDE changes the regulations, then it will apply for 2008, the Organisers will not charge all the Federations, it will be up to them to find a solution. They will not be asked to pay 25 USD, as the Organisers will organise it according to the current regulations.

Mr. Buthali of Botswana requested about the visa procedure.

In such cases the Saxony state government will ask the Federal Government in Berlin to request issuing visas as quickly as possible. They assured us that there would be no problem with visas for the Olympiad participants. Afghanistan is denied visas by European countries and US. Germany guaranteed visas for Afghanistan players and delegates and Germany has no such regulations as the USA.

Mr. Wilkinson of Jamaica said that visas are extremely expensive for small Federations. Costs are extremely high because of the medical insurance prior for the visa application. He requested Dresden and FIDE to consider such costs for the Olympiad participants. He requested Dresden to cover visa costs for the small Federations.

Mr. Metzging said that getting a visa is sometimes not easy, from experience. The organisers guarantee that each player who will be invited and needs a social security, will have health insurance, free of charge, paid by the Organising Committee but the Federations will need to supply details of the players.. Prince von Sachsen said that I am a Mexican citizen and I never had any problem inviting my friends to visit Germany.

Nepal delegate asked for the confirmation about the government support, drinking water and transportation. The Dresden delegation said that in case a delegation has to come earlier or leave later, then the Organisers would help.

For the voting procedure three scrutineers were appointed: Mr. Buthali, Mr. Freeman and Mr. Herbert.

A roll call was done and the voting took place with secret ballots. The following results as announced by Mr. Freeman:

**From 100 votes cast, 2 were rejected as invalid**

The result of the vote: Dresden: 69, Tallinn: 29 invalid: 2

Mr. Metzger of the German Chess Federation thanked all of those present for the overwhelming vote Dresden had received and guaranteed that you can trust the German Chess Federation who will keep their promises.

Mayor of Dresden promised enthusiastic and warm welcome for the participants.

Prince von Sachsen thanked everyone and wished to see all of those present in Dresden in 2008.

**The 79<sup>th</sup> FIDE Congress and 38<sup>th</sup> Chess Olympiad 2008 were awarded to the German Chess federation and the city of Dresden.**

**34. World Championship Final Match 2005 Kasimdzhanov - Kasparov.**

Annex 49 is the Regulations for the event.

Mr. Makropoulos informed the delegates of the actions and efforts taken by the FIDE President to organise the match in Dubai in January 2005.

Mr. Makropoulos said that today FIDE is not ready to take a decision, as Mr. Kasparov is insisting on the announcing the venue. Mr. Balgabaev informed that the financial guarantees would be announced tomorrow.

Mr. Makropoulos informed the delegates of the letter from GM G. Kasparov to give a deadline for the Dubai Organisers. In case they fail, there is a proposal from the Turkish Chess Federation, which is asking for 10 days to finalise the issue. However, the Turkish side does not want to start moving, until the Dubai issue is closed. Mr. Kasparov is proposing to form a Committee and finalise the relations with the Turkish party.

Mr. Yazici said that he is aware of the letter and said the Turkish Government is very interested to organise this match, as this gives them benefits. The World Champion GM R. Kasimdzhanov speaks the Turkish language and he is a Muslim World Champion. He said that they are not trying to take the match from Dubai. He requested the option from the General Assembly and moved that the General Assembly should take a final decision about the venue, otherwise we lose our chance and it will become very late. He said that the General Assembly decision should not be changed after 30 November 2004.

Mr. Makropoulos said that it is not easy to take a decision according to the proposal of Mr. Yazici. He said that GM G. Kasparov expresses worries that FIDE is in the process of losing

its control over the World Championship title. He proposed to request the FIDE President, who is arriving this night, to give a final day for the Dubai Organisers and if they fail this deadline, then we move to Turkey immediately. Otherwise there is a danger to make a mistake.

Mr. Borg of Malta said that there is a problem, if the FIDE President does not come, everybody will leave the Congress without any decision. He supported the motion of Mr. Yazici.

Mr. Makropoulos said that Mr. Borg is calling for a hasty decision. He said that only the FIDE President knows now how many days Dubai needs to give us a final date, as he travelled there several times, he met with the leader. He repeated his proposal.

Mr. Yazici said that if there is a vote for the proposal of the World Chess Championship, then there is no hope for the Turkish Chess Federation to have a vote for his proposal. He said that if Dubai is serious, they need three or four days to finalise this. Mr. Yazici said that the FIDE President should be in a position to obtain the letter from Dubai. He also repeated that he would be happy in case Dubai can organise the match. He repeated his proposal.

Mr. Makropoulos said he cannot be 100% sure that the Turkish Federation can succeed and we risk the Championship if the proposal of Mr. Yazici is accepted. He proposed a vote on his motion.

Mr. Azmaiparashvili said that he is not sure whether the FIDE President is coming or not. He requested Mr. Makropoulos to speak to the FIDE President before the delegates vote and inform the delegates what the President says.

Mr. Makropoulos said that he had tried to reach the FIDE President without success.

Mr. Kutin said that there is not a problem if we speak of five days or two weeks, but if it is one month, it is a problem.

Dr. Rajscanyi supported Mr. Makropoulos' proposal.

**General Assembly approved the proposal of Mr. Makropoulos to request the FIDE President to give the final date for the Dubai Organisers to finalize their financial obligations for the Match. If the Dubai Organisers fail to meet such deadline FIDE will enter negotiation with the Chess Federation of Turkey to organize the Match.**

**35. World Chess Championship knockout format 2005.**

The format for the World Chess Cup 2005 has previously been decided in Bled 2002.

**36. Women's World Chess Championship 2005.**

No report was presented.

**37. World Juniors and Girls Championships 2005.**

General Assembly noted that the Turkish Chess Federation would organise this event in

summer, probably in Istanbul.

**38. World Juniors and Girls Championships 2006.**

The Armenian Chess Federation to organise the event.

**39. World Youth Championships U-10, U-12, U-14, U-16 and U-18 2005.**

General Assembly noted that the Belfort Chess Association in cooperation with the French Chess Federation is to organise these events in Belfort, France, 18 July – 1 August 2005.

Mr. Antunac drew the attention of the delegates to the fact that the dates were proposed 2 months ago, overlap with the European Team Championships and it might deprive some young players from participation. He proposed that the French Organisers should be requested to move their dates three days.

Mr. Levacic of France said he will try to contact the Organising Committee, but knowing Mr. Touze, it will be quite a difficult job. He said that Mr. Touze provided his dates for the publication on the FIDE official website several months ago.

Mr. Makropoulos said that the help of the French Chess Federation would be appreciated, as the dates for the European Team Championship were announced two years ago.

**40. World Youth Championships 2006.**

Mr. Koya said that there is also a proposal to organise the Presidential Board of FIDE during the dates of the Championship.

All India Chess Federation to organise this event in August-September 2006.

**41. World Youth Championships 2007.**

Mr. Yazici said that the official bid was sent to FIDE last year. The Turkish Chess Federation will organise this event in Antalya in November 2007.

**42. World Seniors Championships 2005.**

General Assembly noted that there is no information coming from one of the countries that earlier expressed their interest (France, Russia and Turkey).

Mr. Scalfi of the Italian Chess Federation said that in one month they will inform whether they can organise the World Senior Championships 2005.

**World Seniors Championship 2006.**

The organisation of this event was awarded to Italy (Annex 86).

**43. World Amateur Championship 2005.**

The delegates noted that there is no information about the event from the Slovak Chess

Federation. Mr. Gelfer informed the delegates that the Slovak Chess Federation would organise this event.

**44. World Amateur Championship 2006.**

The delegates noted that no bids have been received in the FIDE Secretariat in respect of this event

It was noted that the South Africa would be interested in the organisation of this event, in case their bid for the 2005 event falls through.

**45. World Team Championship 2005.**

Mr. Koya informed that the All India Chess Federation would organise the 2005 World Team Championship in Goa. Further details to be submitted in one month.

**45. 2005 World Youth U-16 Chess Olympiad.**

All India Chess Federation will organise this event while the 2006 event shall be organised by the Turkish Chess Federation.

**46. World Cities Championship.**

Mr. Leong informed the delegates that there is a bid by the Vietnam Chess Federation to be held in Ho Chi Min city, Vietnam. Details to be released next month.

**47. World University Chess Championship 2004.**

The General Assembly noted that the event took place in Turkey, 6-11 September 2004.

Mr. Yazici said that it was a very successful organisation and the FISU was approached to request to increase the tournament and there had been title norms.

48. Mr. Reuben informed that they had not submitted any application for the World Senior Team Championship and World Intermediate Chess Championship but will do so shortly.

**General Assembly resolved that the bids must be submitted to the next Presidential Board.**

**Section K: Reports of Continental Presidents.**

**49. Report of European Continental President.**

Continental President for Europe Boris Kutin to report (Annex 78).

**General Assembly approved the report of the Continental President.**

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

Continental President for the Americas Jorge Vega presented his report (Annex 80).

Annex 51 is the proposal of Mr. Vega in respect of ORDECA Games.

Mr. Vega said that the written report of the Continental President was approved with 1 abstention, and the financial report was unanimously approved. The calendar is finalised. Then Mr. Ortiz of Puerto Rico was elected as Zone President for Zone 2.3.

Mexico presented a request for a direct communication with FIDE as they have a problem with the Continental President. It was also submitted to the Ethics Commission. He asked FIDE's support in developing the work in Mexico.

Mr. Makropoulos said that Mr. Vega has no problem if the Mexico Chess Federation has a direct contact with the FIDE Secretariat.

**General Assembly approved the report of the Continental President.**

**51. Report of Asian Continental President.**

Continental President for Asia Khalifa Al-Hitmi presented his report.

**General Assembly approved the report of the Continental President.**

**52. Report of African Continental President.**

Annex 52 is the correspondence in respect of the situation with the Togolaise Chess Federation.

**General Assembly approved the report of the Continental President.**

**Section L: Other Matters**

**53. Legal suit GM V. Milov vs. FIDE.**

Vice President M. Sand informed the delegates that both parties submitted the documents to the court in Lausanne and the hearing will most probably take place on 8 or 9 December. Their lawyer Mr. Jean-Marc Reymond represents FIDE.

Mr. Sand said that Mr. Milov is seeking for financial compensation following his non-appearance at the Tripoli 2004 World Chess Championship totaling to somewhere between 50,000 or 100,000 USD.

**General Assembly approved the report of the Vice-President Mr. Sand.**

**54. Presentation of "Mobile Chess" Company.**

No report was presented.

**55. 2008 World Youth Championships.**

Puerto Rico asked for an option for 2008 World Youth Championships.

Mr. Leong informed that the event was awarded to Vietnam at the 2003 FIDE Congress.

Mr. Mendez said that Puerto Rico wants a second option for 2008.

**A second option to hold this event was given to Puerto Rico.**

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