

76th FIDE CONGRESS
Dresden, Germany
17-24 August 2005

COMMITTEE ON CHESS IN SCHOOLS

Chairman: A-N. Yazici (TUR)

Present: F. Campomanes (FIDE), I. Leong (SIN), M. Schinis (CYP), W. Arns (NED), F. Delboe (FRA), D. Jordan (GER), F. Dapiran (ITA), I. Glek (ACP), A. Kostyev (ISCU), Y. Razuvaev (RUS), B. Malobabic (MonRoi), G. Terringer (SWE), S. Kaya (TUR)

1. Introduction: Chairman welcomed all participants and opened the meeting. He has given the agenda. All contributions and reports, some electronic material distributed to participants.

2. Concept and Vision of committee for the next term

Chairman has mentioned that by the experience they have faced in Turkey, and also respecting requests of different countries sending mails and asking help, it is very important to underline the concept and vision of committee.

The aim of FIDE, clearly for many years, to succeed to make chess in schools overall the world. There are some federation succeed this in local cities, a few federations in the national level. All agree that the future of chess depends on chess in school. To succeed to make chess as an elective course in the education system of a country, it is very clear that national ministry of education should be persuaded.

Chairman has impressed that to ask education ministries that our aim is to make more players in schools is a very wrong strategy. Education ministries care mostly social goals of education, indeed what they do is correct. Taking this under consideration slogan must be:

‘Our aim, making chess as a course in all schools, is to provide our very young citizens an educational tool which will change their learning, problem solving skills, decision making abilities. Briefly chess course will make our citizens more intelligent.’

Any ministry may not refuse such as claim. Therefore, the vision of the committee will be this in the next term.

- To help national chess federation how they may persuade their education ministries to make chess a course in schools
- To provide necessary academic researches to national chess federations to accelerate this process,
- To organise international congress sharing experience and success, exchanging information of different federations,
- To organise international events and PR meetings for national education ministers on the highest level possible, to make them believe why chess in school is very vital for their national education system

Committee agreed on this concept anonymously, and decided to carry this proposal to FIDE management for making it practice.

3. Presentation of different contributions to committee:

a. Contribution of Turkish Chess Federation:

Chairman on behalf of Turkish Chess Federation has explained how TCF succeeded to make chess as a course in all schools for 2005-2006 education term. Chairman has shown the presentation of Turkish Chess Federation about this procedure from the 1st

January till 30 June. TCF has trained 80 best national trainers as formation teachers to certificate school teachers. By the 1st July 2005, TCF has started teaching to teachers on the national level. Till to the moment 4.000 teachers have been trained and certificated. Till 1st October aim is to increase this number to 10.000.

TCF has prepared a course book named as 'Chess Culture Course' for students and a text book for teachers how to follow this course book. Books are printed and being distributed at the moment. This year in 2005 September, TCF predicts that 500.000 students will choose chess as an elective course. Expected total revenue for a year is around 2.000.000€for federation.

Chairman has also shown a TV advertising which has been prepared to attract parents and children to choose chess as an elective course. The total duration of the material is 1 minute, full animation. After this audiovisual show, Monroi has demonstrated their TV advertising as a video material. MonRoi products may be used also for education and chess in school. A mini-disc distributed to all congress members for watching this promo material not only for product but also for chess.

All related material given as Annexes:

Annex 42A report_of_Turkish_Chess_Federation

Annex 42B The Mid-term Report of Chess in Schools Committee

Ann.42B.1. Academic_Benefits_of_Chess

Ann.42B.2. Benefits_of_Chess_in_Education

Ann.42B.3. Chess_The_World's_Greatest_Problem_Solving_Activity

Ann.42B.4. Chess_Lesson_Plans_for_Teachers

b. Contribution of Mr.Femi Solaja (Nigeria)

The report of Mr.Solaja consists ideas how to apply chess in schools step by step. The report is one page giving basic steps for short, medium and long terms for the plan. The report is read in committee and given as Ann.42C (A Long, Medium & Short Term Plan For The Introduction Of Chess In Elementary Schools).

c. Contribution of I.G.Sukin

Contribution of Mr.Sukin is very important for to take care some important details about chess in school. How to teach very young kids considering the difference of psychological needs (Annex 42D).

d. Contribution of Mr.Antunac

Vice Chairman of the committee, Mr.Antunac could not attend to meeting due to his lateness and car problems. The report has been presented by chairman. Chairman has mentioned that the report is about a local success in Italy, for chess in school. CUNEO project is another good example in short term success by making chess as a course in school. The report is given on Annex 42E.

e. Survey and Report of Mr.Karlo Schepel from Netherlands

The report is based on a statistical research and interpretation for chess. The future of chess depends on her popularity over the entire world. The report gives some statistical data with very nice interpretation on the national and international bases. Report is attached as Annex 42F.

f. Contribution of Dr.Olgun KULAC from Turkish Chess Federation

Dr.Olgun Kulac is the co-chairman of TCF and has prepared text book for teachers and course book for students for chess in school. The report is about learning in general terms and affect and methodology of chess in this process. This academic report is very useful for many countries to adopt and forward it to their education ministries.

Report is given as Annex 42G.

4. Tournaments of Chess in Schools

Chairman has informed to committee about the tournaments organised by FIDE 1st time this year for school level. The 1st one was organised in April in Halkidiki, Greece. Mr.Kostyev

President of ISCU has given some information about the tournament. For the 1st year the tournament was very successful he has mentioned. The tournament was individual one and names as 1st World School Chess Individual Championship. Then chairman has announced and informed that 1st World Chess School team Championships starts on 20 of August in Eskisehir, Turkey. The participation is okay for the 1st time tournament organised. Chairman has mentioned that the tournaments will be very popular in next future. They should be advertised and promoted as much as possible by FIDE and committee.

5. European Congress of Chess in Schools

Chairman has informed the floor for the congress going to be organised in February in Netherlands. The aim of the congress is to share experience, to organise workshops and forums to achieve the goal of making chess as a course in schools. Mr.Wim ARMS from Royal Dutch Chess Federation has given a brief report about the congress. Congress will be organised by RDCF but there are many partners giving contribution to Congress. The biggest support comes from European Chess Union by a contribution of 10.000€ The aim of RDCF is to get a support from Socrates project of EU. This is not clear yet. But even if there is not any support from EU, congress will be realised. Related material about the congress is given on annexes.

Annex.42H.ECCIS_Project_summary_may_2005

Annex.42I.ECCS_dagprogramma_congres_29_april_05

Annex.42J.ECU_state_of_affairs_report_of_RDF. All federations which are members of FIDE are invited to this congress.

6. Congress of National Education Ministers

Chairman has mentioned that the concept and vision of committee is very important. To make chess a course in many countries not only depends on the work should be done by FIDE but also persuading each minister of education in each country one by one. The second, the third or the fourth level people in education ministries are not able to give such as decision. Therefore, it may be a nice idea to make an international congress of National Education Ministers in 2007. Chairman, on behalf of Turkish Chess Federation has proposed that Turkey is ready to be host for such as high level diplomatic congress. Idea is that each minister will be given full hospitality in very luxury rooms and during these three days they will be given information about chess in schools. The aim is to collect around 80-90 ministers at least. Turkish Republic is ready to cover the expenses of such as prestigious congress. Other candidates must be called and the program and content must be fixed. The proposed dates are just before 2007 Congress and idea is to make it on the same city Antalya.

7. Chairman has made a short online presentation of Chess Academy developed by Royal Dutch Chess Federation. Mr.Arms has given brief information about chess academy. The Chess Academy is a flash based online interactive chess teaching product. The 1st partner is Turkish Chess Federation and available now in Dutch and in Turkish. The online address of academy is www.schaakacademie.nl

Ali Nihat Yazici (signed)
Chairman