

77th FIDE Congress
Turin, Italy
27 May – 5 June 2006
Development Commission

Chairman: Mr. Ignatius Leong

Present: GL. Wijesuriya (SRI), D. Buthali (BOT), G. Boyce (TRI), Dwi Ambarukmi (INA), A. Kostyev (ISCU), T. Tsorbatzoglou (GRE), K. Areti (BAR), E. Price (RSA), J. Walsh (ENG), J. Gomez (MEX), A. Nascimento (ANG), G. Borg (MLT), V. Petkovski (MKD), C. Nsakanya (ZAM), J. Saavedra (BOL), L. Kagambi (KEN), E. Celi (URU), I. Babu (KEN), J. Kikonyogo (UGA), P. Domingue (SEY), E. Barumba (UGA), J. Sunye (BRA), C. Cardoso (PAR), M. Shadarevian (QAT).

- 1 The Chairman welcomes the audience and presents the agenda which has the following points: the presentations of the previous Committee Meetings (Chess for Disabled, Women and Chess, CACDEC, Chess in school, Trainers Committee); the budget proposal for the next year.
- 2 The Chairman underlines the importance of continuing carefully the follow-up of all proposals presented to all Commissions or Committees and he underlines that for African Federations the best way to have proposals implemented is to write them. He points out that the Development Commission has asked more funding for helping disabled people to affiliate in FIDE, in order to participate in competitions. After he passes to the presentation of the situation of Women in the Chess World; in this sector two steps forward have been made in comparison to three years ago, which means that the quality of female players has risen and that women are participating regularly to competitions, and he hopes to see more and more women participating to all Committees and Commissions organized, beyond competitions. He expresses his deception for the low female participation at the Development Commission. For CACDEC, The Chairman points out that lots of progresses have been made but there is still a lot to do. For Chess in School, he underlines that lots of ideas have been implemented in different ways even thanks to chess educators.
- 3 The Chairman of the committee for Chess for disabled takes the floor presenting his report. The disabled players involves deaf, blind and wheelchair disabled

people. He points out that this specific category resisted in the participation in the Olympiad. He proposes 5.000 B as budget proposal for next year. He underlines the importance of promoting the participation of disabled people in chess events.

- 4 The Chairman of the Committee for Women in Chess is not present. The Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Leong, hopes that more steps forward will be accomplished. He underlines the importance of having women in the Executive Board with the right of voting. He shows his deception for the low rate of participation of women in the Commission.
- 5 The audience takes the floor; some proposal are presented in order to rise the rate of female participation in the Chess World; the Chairman suggests to have a ratio of 20% of female participation in all organs of the federation, following the IOC example. In this regard the attendants responds actively to this issue, raising the following matters: how to ensure a high level of quality; the guarantee of respect and gender equality; to have an holistic approach to this matter; the adoption of the right strategy.
- 6 The Chairman takes the floor underlining that the number of women arbiters is still very low and that tank to the competition structure 3+1, the number of women attending competitions is raising, Arabic and Asian countries included.
- 7 The Chairman of CACDEC Committee reminds the contribution of Mr. Gelfer, a retiring arbiter who announced his retirement during the CACDEC Committee. After that he presents the rapport, according to which some proposals are particularly important as the policy of providing technical equipment (as digital clocks) to CACDEC members for improving the quality of their standards. He applauds the promotion of some countries to the CACDEC list. He underlines the need to have a dynamic review of federation and of its structure. He points out that there are very few CACDEC arbiters because they don't have the possibility to be arbiters at events like Olympiad. For this reason there is an urgent need to find the right way to fund and promote the presence of CACDEC arbiters in Olympiad and in related events. He points out the need of having more trainers and seminars in CACDEC countries. The proposal that came out from the committee was to have at least one CACDEC arbiter at international chess events. He suggests to finance the CACDEC participation to international events through

the IOC solidarity Fund for emerging new stars in the Chess World. Finally he thanks the Chairman of the Development Commission for his work and for having answered to all requests promptly and effectively.

- 8 The attendants took the floor presenting their particular cases.
- 9 The chairman takes the floor and he points out the following issues: the need to be competitive also in the purchasing of digit clocks, and this means to find new market where it can be possible to have the cheapest clocks at the best price; the proposal to carry out “marriages” between two Federations in difficulties in order to gather their needs and facing them correctly; the promotion of decentralization at the continental level for facing the problems each single federation must solve; the trainers seminars must not be held only by European trainers.
- 10 Mr. Alifa takes the floor in order to underline the importance that sponsorship has in the World of Chess in order to improve the participation and the events related to CACDEC countries. He underlines that FIDE cannot solve all problems and for this reason sponsor are a fundamental source of income.
- 11 Some attendant take the floor for presenting their particular point of view.
- 12 The Chairman suggests to organize a meeting in a near future where Educators and Representatives of the Government should meet and discuss on the promotion of chess game together with continental and zone Presidents of FIDE. He promises to visit as soon as possible Africa, but he underlines again the importance of working in a close collaboration with zone and continental Presidents.
- 13 The Chairman presents the provisional budget for Development Commission that you can find in the annex to this rapport.