

Proposal to reform Fide Commissions and Committees

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1- Foreword

The President of Fide, Mr Kirsan Ilyumzhinov, has assigned Mr I. Leong, General Secretary and Mr L. Mazouz, Internal Auditor, with the task to draft a proposal aiming at reforming the Commissions and Committees of Fide. A first draft has been already submitted to the Presidential Board held in Mexico in September 2007.

It was followed by another draft which took into account the comments made by the members of the PB and which was discussed by the Executive Board during its session in Antalya in November 2007.

The present proposal is based on the discussions and the recommendations of both the Presidential Board and the Executive Board.

1.1- Questions surrounding the existing Commissions and Committees

Many questions arise in connection with the need to reform FIDE Commissions and Committees. The most important are.

- What are their aims and are these defined precisely?
- How are they working?
- Is their work worth doing and does it bring results?
- Are they efficient?
- Is there overlapping of duties concerning two or more Commissions and Committees?
- Would it be possible and more productive to have the duties of 2 or more Commissions and Committees combined into just one?
- What are their weaknesses?
- Does their composition pose problems?
- Are their members competent and credible?
- Are there obstacles hindering Commissions and Committees from carrying their duties correctly?
- What are the costs involved?
- Have they enough financial means, if any, to carry out their duties?

The need to reform the Commissions and Committees derives quite simply from the answer to these questions.

In fact, when looking at the existing Commissions and Committees and the way they function, one can make the following general observations (which do not necessarily apply systematically to all of them).

1.2-The actual deficiencies:

- There are too many Commissions and Committees for the GA or the PB to supervise and it is very difficult to concentrate on their recommendations

- It is very cumbersome for the Executive Director and the Treasurer to liaise with them and follow up with their work.
- They are poorly structured or not structured at all.
- Most of the time, their duties are not precisely defined
- There is no or not enough link to FIDE Secretariat for supervision and follow up of their work.
- Many members are just formally listed in a Commission or a Committee, but they rarely participate concretely to their work.

The need to reform Commissions and Committees should conform to the following fundamental principles:

- better definition of duties
- more work efficiency
- better organised bodies

2- Proposal

2.1 The existing Commissions and Committees

2.1.1 Appointed Commissions and Committees

- Qualification Commission
- Titles and rating Committee
- Arbiter's Council
- Technical Commission
- Rules Committees
- Swiss pairing Committee
- Chess Event Commission
- World Championship Committee
- Youth and Junior Events Committee
- Organizers Committee
- Development Commission
- CACDEC
- Committee on Chess in Schools
- Committee for Disabled
- Intellectual Property rights Committee
- Committee on Women Chess
- Committee on International Organizations
- Trainer's Committee
- Special Commission
- Committee on Chess Art, Exhibition and Philately
- Commission for Chess Composition
- Computer and Internet Chess Committee
- Chess Information Committee
- GM Steering Committee
- Permanent Fund
- Technical Administrative Panel
- Medical Commission

2.1.2- Elected Commissions

- Ethics Commission
- Constitutional Commission
- Verification Commission

2.2- The Commissions to maintain are the following:

Appointed Commissions

- Technical Commission
- Arbiter's Commission
- Qualification Commission
- Chess in Schools Commission
- Chess Event Commission
- Trainer's Commission
- Development Commission
- Medical Commission
- Women's Chess Commission

Elected Commissions

- Verification Commission
- Ethics Commission
- Constitutional Commission

Special Committee

- Commission for World Championships & Olympiads

The other existing Commissions and Committees will see their tasks assigned to other Commissions or be transformed as Special projects. (the latter will be dealt with later)

3- Membership and proceedings

The following membership conditions and proceedings shall apply to all Commissions, with the exception of the elected Commissions and the World Championship Committee.

3.1-Membership

- a- Each Commission shall consist of:
 - A Chairman appointed by FIDE President.
 - A Council consisting of a Secretary and up to 3 members appointed by the Chairman of the Commission or Committee.
 - 8 members with consultative status: 4 to be appointed by the Chairman of the Commission and 1 each nominated by the Continental Presidents.
- b- Members of the Council should be appointed on the basis of experience and expertise in the area of competence of respective Commissions and Committees.
- c- All Continents should be represented in Commissions.
- d- If a member of the Council retires, or is inactive, he may be replaced for the remaining time of his assignment.
- e- The period of appointments shall be 4 years, commencing right after the session of the GA devoted to the election of FIDE Officials.

3.2- Proceedings

- a- Agenda of meetings shall be prepared by the Chairman and shall be sent, together with working documents, to all Members at least 1 month before a meeting is to take place.
- b- Minutes of meetings are the responsibility of the Secretary of the Commission.
- c- Commissions shall report once a year to the GA or to the EB on odd years.
- d- Chairmen of Commissions shall report on their activities to the PB, whenever a need arises.
- e- Chairmen of Commissions shall prepare their budget for approval by the PB. The budget proposals shall be sent to the Treasurer at least one month before the GA or the EB meetings.

4- Aims of the Commissions

4.1- Technical Commission

- a- The TC shall be responsible for the Laws of Chess, the regulations and rules of Tournaments, the Swiss Pairing rules, as well as any specific Regulation for each FIDE Competition, except when otherwise stated.
- b- The TC shall nominate the experts for the Rules & Tournament Regulations Committee.
- c- The TC shall nominate the experts for the Technical Administrative Panel (TAP) regarding the technical aspects of the Chess Olympiads.
- d- The TC shall nominate the experts for the Panel of Testers to test Chess Clocks (TCC) and Swiss Pairing Programs (TSP).
- e- The TC shall propose amendments to rules and regulations as necessary.

4.2- Arbiters Commission

- a- The AC shall be responsible for regulating the titles for Arbiters in over-the-board competitions.
- b- The AC shall vet arbiter title applications and examination results and recommend such awards to the GA, EB and/or the PB.
- c- The AC shall be responsible for the curriculum for Seminars and Examinations.
- d- The AC shall nominate experts to the Panel of Arbiters to conduct Seminars and Examinations (PASE).
- e- The AC shall make recommendations and propose amendments, as it sees fit, regarding its field of competence.

4.3- Qualification Commission

- a- The QC shall be responsible for regulating the FIDE Rating System and the FIDE titles for over-the-board competitions.
- b- The QC shall recommend title applications and registration and recommend such awards to the GA, EB and/or PB.
- c- The QC shall make recommendations and propose amendments, as it sees fit, regarding its field of competence.

4.4- Chess in Schools Commission

- a- The CSC shall assist National Federations to introduce Chess in schools.
- b- The CSC shall prepare curricula and courseware for Chess Education in schools.
- c- The CSC shall prepare training programs for schools.

d- The CSC shall make recommendations and propose amendments, as it sees fit, in its field of competence.

4.5- Chess Event's Commission

- a- The CEC shall be responsible for regulating the FIDE Calendar, and the Bidding Process for all FIDE events, except the World Championship and the Women's World Championship.
- b- The CEC shall regulate and recommend applications for the title of International Organiser and recommend such awards to the GA, the EB and/or the PB.
- d- The CEC shall make recommendations and propose amendments, as it sees fit, in its field of competence.

4.6- Trainer's Commission

- a- The TC shall be responsible for regulating titles for trainers.
- b- The TC shall recommend title applications and examination results and propose such awards to the GA, the EB and/or the PB.
- c- The TC shall prepare curricula and courseware for Seminars and Examinations.
- d- The TC shall nominate experts for the Panel of Trainers to conduct Seminars and Examinations (PTSE).
- d- The TC shall work in cooperation with FIDE-endorsed Academies.
- e- The TC shall also work in cooperation with the Development Commission and the Schools Commission in aspects related to training at all levels.
- f- The TC shall make recommendations and propose amendments, as it sees it fit, in its field of competence.

4.7- Development Commission

- a- The DC shall develop and promote Chess activities in Federations that are in need of technical, financial and chess skills assistance.
- b- The DC shall propose, draw up and maintain a list of Federations requiring technical, financial and chess skills assistance.
- c- The DC shall assist by providing Chess material and training.
- d- The DC shall prepare a long term program for the benefit of such Federations, aimed at creating and developing Chess activities.
- e- The DC shall aim at achieving the following objectives for developing Federations:
 - organisation of National Youth and Junior Championships every year
 - organisation of a FIDE-rated National Championship every year
 - participation in Chess Olympiads
 - each such Federation to have at least five active rated players, five certified and active trainers and five certified and active arbiters
- f- The DC shall ensure that such a program results in Federations graduating, step by step, out of the list of Federations in need. This graduation shall take place within a reasonable time to be decided by the GA. A graduated Federation should no more appeal for such assistance from FIDE.

4.8- Medical Commission

- a- The MC shall organize anti-doping control in the major FIDE Events, at the request of the Events Commission, the Commission for World Championships & Olympiads and after consultation with the PB.

Constitutional Committee

1- Objectives

1.1- To review any statutes changes

1.2- To ensure that statutes changes occur in conformity with the procedural rules mentioned in the statutes, A01, par. 15.4

1.3- To ensure that the legality of Fide statutes are fully respected

2- Membership

The Constitutional Committee shall consist of 5 members, with, if possible, experience in the field of constitutional law. They shall be nominated by Fide President, a Continental President, or by a Federation. They shall be elected by the GA for four years and shall not belong to the same Federation.

3- Proceedings

3.1- Upon their election by the GA, the Constitutional Committee members shall elect the Chairman and a Secretary from within themselves.

3.2- The Constitutional Committee shall meet at least once a year, during the Congress. If there is a need, for urgent reasons, an extraordinary meeting may be called by Fide President or by the Chairman of the Committee.

3.3- The Constitutional Committee shall report once a year to the GA, or whenever an urgent situation arises.

3.4- If a member of the Committee is unable to act through resignation or otherwise, or is absent from two successive meetings, he shall be replaced by the GA or the EB for the remaining period of the mandate.

World Championship and Olympiad Committee (WCOC)

1- Aims

- 1.1- The WCOC shall prepare and update regulations for the Olympiads and the World Championships, including their cycles
- 1.2- The WCOC shall prepare the bidding procedures and negotiate bids for the above Events.
- 1.3- The WCOC shall inspect venues regarding these events.
- 1.4- The WCOC shall report on the bids and make recommendations to the relevant Fide bodies (GA, Executive Board or/ and PB).
- 1.5- The WCOC shall follow up and supervise the preparations of such events.
- 1.6- The WCOC shall recommend to the President the appointment of the principals for World Championships and the Olympiads.
- 1.7- The WCOC shall liaise with the Continental Presidents regarding the appointment by the President of the foreign Arbiters who officiate at the Olympiad.

2- Membership

- 2.1- The Chairman of the Committee is appointed by Fide President
- 2.2- The Committee consist of up to 3 members appointed by the Chairman
- 2.3- The period of appointment shall be 4 years commencing right after the session of the GA devoted also to the elections of FIDE Officials.
- 2.4- If a member of the Committee retires or is inactive, he may be replaced for the remaining period of his assignment.
- 2.5- The Chairman of the Committee may appoint one of the members as Secretary.

3- Proceedings

- 3.1- The Chairman of the Committee shall report to the GA, the EB and to the PB.
- 3.2- A budget of the Committee shall be prepared for submission to the Treasurer.