

Proposal to reform the Fide Commissions and Committees

I redrafted our proposal according to the comments and recommendations of both the PB and the EB.

I am proposing also some changes and suggestions.

1- As we did not receive any input from the Chairman of the CC Committee, I did not draft anything regarding this Committee. Maybe we will have something during the meeting with the Chairmen of Commissions and Committees

2- I still believe that we do not need a Chips or Media Commission since we have many bodies all dealing with this field: Global Chess, Marketing Director, Fide Website. Moreover we have not received anything regarding the aims, and the membership of this Commission. If at all, this Commission should be transformed as a Special Project.

3- We did receive a document from the Permanent Commission for Chess Composition. This document confirms that Fide does not need a Commission on Composition Chess. See my arguments in the proposal.

4- I think we have forgotten Correspondence Chess. It is organized on a independent basis. Fide should also have some relations with this structure and that is why we need also a special project to monitor Correspondence Chess Activities and set up regular relations with the organization involved.

5- Concerning the VC, I believe a Secretary is also needed, therefore I have mentioned him in the proposal.

6- For the Ethics Commission, we are proposing to provide free board and lodging for its members as well as reimbursement of transport costs and an honorarium. I think we should leave the honorarium for later when the financial possibilities of Fide will be able to provide for that. The same should apply to the VC. It is already the case for the midterm meeting.

7- I think also that it is time to provide free board and lodging as well as reimbursement of transport costs to at least the Chairman and the Secretary of each Commission and Committee and the same should apply to the Project Managers. This is the least Fide can do for many colleagues doing a lot of work and spending time and efforts for our Organization.

8- I still maintain that a Constitutional Committee is needed in Fide and it should not be dissolved. This is the only body within Fide which monitors whether our Organization is functioning legally and in conformity with its Statutes.

Proposal to reform Fide Commissions and Committees

Prepared by

I. Leong, General Secretary

L. Mazouz, Internal Auditor

August 2008

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 Commissions and Committees to maintain are the following:

- Technical Commission
- Arbiter's Commission
- Qualification Commission
- Chess in Schools
- Chess Event Commission
- Trainer's Committee
- Development Commission
- Medical Commission
- Committee on Women's Chess
- Composition Chess Commission
- World Championships Committee
- Chess Media Commission
- Verification Commission
- Ethics Commission

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

Membership and proceedings

The following membership conditions and proceedings shall apply to all Commissions and Committees, except when otherwise stated.

2.1.1-Membership

a- Each Commission or Committee shall consist of:

- A Chairman appointed by FIDE President.
- A Secretary and at least 5, and no more than 11 Members, appointed by the Chairman of the Commission or Committee.

- b- Commissions and Committee Members 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 with at least 1 representative in Commissions and Committees.
- d- If a member retires, or is inactive, or is absent to two successive meetings, he shall 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.

2.1.2- 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 week before a meeting is to take place.
- b- Minutes of meetings are the responsibility of the Secretary.
- c- A quorum of at least 5 members is required for meetings of Commissions and Committees.
- d- Commissions and Committees shall report once a year to the GA or to the EB when the GA is not in session.
- e- Chairmen of Commissions and Committees shall report quarterly on their activities to the PB.
- f- Chairmen of Commissions and Committees 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.

2.1.3- Aims of the Commissions and Committee

I- Technical Commission

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

II- 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.

III- 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 vet 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.

IV- 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.

V- 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 vet 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.

VI- Trainer's Committee

- a- The TC shall be responsible for regulating titles for trainers.
- b- The TC shall vet title applications and examination results and recommend 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.

VII- 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.

VIII- Medical Commission

- a- The MC shall organize anti-doping control in the major FIDE Events, at the request of the Events Commission, the World Chess Championship Committee and after consultation with the PB.
- b- The MC shall prepare anti-doping regulations for the approval by the GA and shall enforce them when duly approved.
- c- The MC shall advise and inform the PB on anti-doping matters.
- d- The MC shall appoint a representative to be present at all events where anti-doping control is carried out.
- e- The MC shall make recommendations and propose amendments, as it sees fit, in its field of competence.

IX- Commission for Women's Chess

- a- The CWC shall promote and develop chess activities for women.
- b- The CWC shall prepare a program aiming, progressively, at a better representation of Women in all aspects of Chess activities.
- c- The CWC shall assist and cooperate with all Commissions with regards to Women's Chess.

X- Chess Composition Commission

In our first draft, we proposed that the duties of the CCC should be carried out as a special project under the responsibility of a project manager. During the discussions in the PB meeting of Mexico, it came out that it should be maintained. His Chairman was asked to draft a proposal regarding membership and duties of this Commission. We received recently a document from the "Permanent Commission for Chess Composition" which describes the duties and activities of this commission. When reading this document, it seems that this Commission is independent of Fide, functioning autonomously like the Organisation responsible for Correspondence Chess. In this case, of course, Fide does not need a Commission in charge of the activities of Composition Chess. What it needs is somebody within Fide to coordinate with the "Permanent Commission for Chess Composition". Our initial proposal to dissolve the Fide Commission for Chess Composition and transform it as a special project was adequate.

We overlooked also Correspondence Chess. The same should be done with this Organisation. It will be added later in our proposal a Special Project.

XI- Chess Media Commission

Current CHIPS Chairman to provide the terms of reference for the CMC.

XII- World Championship Committee

Current Chairman to provide the terms of reference for the WCC.

2.2- Special Projects

2.2.1- Appointment

- a- The FIDE President shall appoint a Project Manager for a 4-year period starting from the term of the President.
- b- If a Project Manager can no longer act through resignation or otherwise, or does not carry out his duties, he shall be replaced by the PB for the remaining period of his mandate.
- c- The FIDE President may appoint a PB Member to coordinate work with one, or more, Project Managers.

2.2.2- Proceedings

- a- The Project Manager shall report yearly, after consultation with the relevant PB Member, to the GA, EB and/or PB.
- b- The Project Manager shall prepare a budget for the approval by the PB. After consultation with the relevant PB Member, the budget proposals shall be sent to the FIDE Treasurer at least one month before a GA or an EB meeting.
- c- PB Members may be assigned one or more Special Projects for coordination work.

2.2.3- Objectives of each Project

I- Chess Art and exhibition

- a- The project Manager shall be responsible for all matters related to Chess Art and Exhibition.
- b- The Project Manager shall prepare documents and material needed in this field of competence and make recommendations to the GA, the EB or the PB, after consultation with the PB Member concerned.

II- Chess for the Disabled

- a- The Project Manager shall be responsible for all matters related to Chess for the Disabled.
- b- The Project Manager shall prepare documents and material needed in his field of competence and make recommendations to the GA, the EB or the PB, after consultation with the PB Member concerned.

III- Computer and Internet Chess

- a- The Project Manager shall be responsible for all matters related to this field of competence.
- b- The Project Manager shall prepare documents and material needed in his field of competence and make recommendations to the GA, the EB or the PB, after consultation with the PB Member concerned.

IV- International Organisations

- a- The Project Manager shall advise the PB on policies and relationship matters regarding various International Organisations.
- b- The Project Manager shall submit regular Activities Report to the FIDE General Secretary and/or FIDE Executive Director.

V- Composition Chess

- a- The Project Manager shall coordinate with the “Permanent Commission for Chess Composition” and advise the PB on policies and relationship matters regarding Composition Chess.
- b- The Project Manager shall prepare documents and material needed in his field of competence and make recommendations to the GA, the EB or the PB, after consultation with the PB Member concerned.

VI- Correspondence Chess

- a- The Project Manager shall coordinate with the “Organisation on Correspondence Chess” and advise the GA, the EB or the PB on policies and relationship regarding Correspondence Chess matters
- b- The Project Manager shall prepare documents and material needed in his field of competence and make recommendations to the GA, the EB or the PB, after consultation with the PB Member concerned.