

**Asian Chess Federation  
Continental Assembly  
30 August 2016  
Al Ain, UAE**

**Minutes**

Present:

Sheikh Sultan bin Khalifah Al Nahyan (UAE)	President
Bharat Singh (IND)	Deputy President
Hisham Al-Taher (UAE)	Secretary General
Mehrdad Pahlevanzadeh (IRI)	Treasurer
Casto Abundo (TLE)	Executive Director

Federation Delegates and Official Representatives:

Gary Wastell	AUS	Nooh Ali	MDV
D.V.Sundar (proxy)	BAN	Sainbayar Tserendorj	MGL
Hassan Bin Eid Bukhammas	BRN	Maung Maung Lwin	MYA
Luxman Wijesuriya (proxy)	BRU	Enrike Vogel	NAU
Hisham Al-Taher (proxy)	CHN	Eka Lal Shreshta	NEP
Paul Spiller (proxy)	FIJ	Paul Spiller	NZI
Roger Orio	GUM	Ms. Laila Al Nagar	OMA
KK Chan	HKG	Abdus Salim	PAK
Dwi Hatmisari Ambarukmi	INA	Khaled Ezedden Hejawi	PLE
D.V. Sundar	IND	Jamie Kenmure (proxy)	PLU
Pahlevanzadeh Mehrdad	IRI	Stuart Fancy	PNG
Dhafer Al Madhloum	IRQ	Thomas Hoe	SIN
Sami Khader	JOR	Jamie Kenmure	SOL
Thomas Hoe (proxy)	JPN	Luxman Wijesuriya	SRI
Sainbayar Tserendorj (proxy)	KAZ	Hani Al Bitar	SYR
Milan Turpanov	KGZ	Khusan Turdialiev (proxy)	TAJ
Casto Abundo (proxy)	KOR	Serdar Veliyev	TKM
Yaser Al Otaibi	KSA	Casto Abundo	TLE
Adel Al Ameri	KUW	K.K.Chan (proxy)	TPE
Vilavane, John Inthava	LAO	Hisham Al-Taher	UAE
Ezzat Kraytem	LIB	Turdialiev Khusan	UZB
Muammar Julkarnain	MAS	Ms. Laila Al Nagar (proxy)	YEM

Observers:

Allan Herbert	BAR	Dharam Lama	NEP
Taha Jasim	BRN	Nigel Metge	NZL
Mohammad Rusdi Taher	INA	Grant Kerr	NZL
Ernist Dosumbetov	KGZ	Ms. Azza Al Habs	OMA
Ilyas Mamatov	KGZ	Mohammed HA Khamaysa	PLE
Chihade Abou Nemri	LIB	Shaun Press	PNG
Ramiz Abdul Muhsin	MDV	Ali Nihat Yazici	TUR
Geoffrey Borg	MLT		

## **0.1 Obituaries**

The Continental Assembly rose in a minute of silence to mourn the passing in the preceding year of friends among whom was the following from Asia:

GM Herman Suradiradja    Indonesia

## **Section A: Administrative Matters**

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

The Asian Chess Federation successfully organized all Asian tournaments in the 2015 calendar. Since the last ACF Continental Assembly meeting, member federations on behalf of the Asian Chess Federation organized the various Asian Championships. ACF President Sheikh Sultan financially supported the following championships organized by the federations of Brunei, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, India, Uzbekistan, Korea and two tournaments in Iran.

Brunei Chess Federation organized the Asian Amateur Championship 6-13 September 2015 in Bendar Sari Begawan.

Iran Chess Federation organized the Asian Seniors Championship 24 Sept.-6 Oct 2015 in Larestan, Iran. ACF Treasurer Mehrdad Pahlevanzadeh took part at the closing ceremony.

Kyrgyzstan Chess Federation organized the Asian Junior and Girls Championships 2-12 Oct 2015 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. ACF Secretary General Hisham Al-TaHER awarded medals at the closing.

National Chess Federations organized, with financial support from ACF president, Arbiters Seminars 2-4 October 2015 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 15-17 December 2015 in Dili, East Timor, 22-24 January 2016 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 15-21 February 2016 in Seoul, South Korea, 18-21 April 2016 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan and 4-7 May 2016 in Mekkah, Saudi Arabia, and a Trainers Seminar 31 May to 3 June 2016 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

In 2016, the UAE Chess Federation organized the Asian Nations Cup (Men and Women) 17 March to 8 April in Abu Dhabi, UAE. Secretary General Hisham Al-TaHER awarded trophies.

The Mongolian Chess Federation organized the Asian Youth U6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18 from 5 to 15 April 2016 in Ulaanbaatar. ACF Secretary General Hisham Al-TaHER awarded medals at the closing ceremonies.

The All India Chess Federation organized the Asian Juniors and Girls championships 2-11 May 2016 in New Delhi. ACF Deputy President Bharat Singh and Secretary General Hisham Al-TaHER awarded medals at the closing ceremonies.

The Uzbekistan Chess Federation organized the Asian Continental Championships 25 May to 5 June in Tashkent with ACF Secretary General Hisham Al-TaHER awarding trophies.

The Iran Chess Federation organized the Asian Schools Chess Championship 9-18 July 2016 in Tehran. ACF Deputy President Bharat Singh awarded medals at the closing with ACF Treasurer Mehrdad Pahlevanzadeh.

The Korean Chess Federation organized the first Eastern Asia Youth Chess Championship 4-11 August 2016 in Kangwon-do following the visit by the ACF Secretary General and Executive Director.

ACF initiated the first Asian Chess Summit, the idea of Secretary General Hisham Al-TaHER for closer cultural exchange among federations, sharing successful experiences for best practices to raise the level of Asian chess in a professional way in the spirit of our motto for unity as one chess

family. This is providing more time for Asian affairs with the Asian Chess Symposium and Asian Chess Forum. The Asian Chess Excellence Awards, another idea of ACF Secretary General, successfully celebrates its third year. The Asian Chess Summit in 2017 and 2018 will be held as well in Al Ain. The Asian Chess Development Program set up a procedure for support mechanism by written requests to be approved by the ACF Development Commission. It was also decided to distribute 5,000 chess sets and 1,000 chess clocks as donation to federations.

As proposed by the ACF Secretary General, we launched, with the financial support of the ACF President, the Asian Chess Federation Academy to ensure general development of players, trainers, arbiters, organizers and journalists, in a self-sustaining viable operation. After the pilot project in Al Ain we are establishing branches in Saudi Arabia where there is big potential and will expand to Jordan. Our vision is to have in future ACF Academies in Iran, India, Mongolia, Philippines, South Korea and all Asian member countries. ACF shall provide memberships, curriculum manuals, prestigious certificates, training seminars and medals for competitions.

When the ACF invited nominations for Olympiad Arbiters in Baku, many Asian federations nominated Arbiters, exceeding the quota for Asia. In order to accommodate them, ACF agreed with FIDE and Baku, that Asian Chess Federation shall give financial support to cover the cost of the additional Asian Arbiters in the Baku Olympiad.

Our aim is to spread chess development around Asia, and we are pleased to report that Asian calendar events are organized by different federations across many Zones.

## **2. Financial Report**

Treasurer Mehrdad Pahlevanzadeh presented the financial report (Annex 1). Mr. Pahlevanzadeh thanked the President for his donation and support. The Treasurer said that ACF should continue the system of 50% share of entry fees for the ACF in order for future administrations to have a system of revenues should Sheikh Sultan decide not to run again. Continental Assembly approved exemption of Zonals from payment of 50% of entry fees. The Continental Assembly approved the report and discharged the Treasurer from the preceding fiscal year.

## **3. Affiliations**

The Assembly welcomed with applause the Nauru Chess Federation delegate to her first Asian Continental Assembly.

## **4. Review of Asian Chess Federation Statutes**

To raise operations of ACF to international federation standards, Secretary General Hisham Al-Taher proposed a general review of ACF Statutes.

The Continental Assembly appointed a committee chaired by Secretary General Hisham Al-Taher with Jamie Kenmure of Solomon Islands and Luxman Wijesuriya of Sri Lanka to review the Statutes of the Asian Chess Federation and to propose amendments of the Statutes to the next Continental Assembly to be in line with sports governance best practice. This Committee shall be entitled to commission a specialized law firm to assist in the review and amendments.

## **5. Review of Competition Regulations**

Mr. Hisham Al-Taher proposed that players should wear national uniforms and that players not in uniform cannot play. Continental Assembly supported the proposal to be incorporated in the regulations as a dress code.

## **Section B: Tournaments and Matches**

Continental Assembly thanked National Federations who organized Asian championships and thanked participating federations as well.

It was emphasized that organizers should submit their report based on the Tournament Hosting Application Form. Continental Assembly noted that bidding federations should not have outstanding debts to ACF and cannot host ACF events. Continental Assembly noted the Funding application request forms to be printed on national federation letterhead, and that recipients of financial assistance are required to submit to ACF a report on conclusion of the sponsored activity confirming conditions in Tournament Hosting Application Form.

### **6. Asian Seniors 2016**

The event will be organized by the Myanmar Chess Federation 26 Oct to 5 Nov in Mandalay. Mr. Maung Maung Lwin invited federations to participate.

### **7. 1st Asian Nations Cup Under-14 Chess Team Championship 2016**

The Chinese Chess Association shall organize the 1<sup>st</sup> Asian Nations Cup Under-14 Chess Team Championship 5-12 November 2016 in Jiaxing, China.

Singapore proposed a 3rd and 4th team per country. Mr. Thomas Hoe withdrew the proposal of Singapore.

China proposed competition to be between 3 boys and 1 girl. In a spirited discussion, there were many against a mixed tournament for several reasons. Sri Lanka Delegate pointed out that they have special laws when sending girls to athletic competitions. Continental Assembly approved that a separate event be held for girls, subject to organizers being ready to host a separate girls event, or by another interested federation.

### **8. Asian Amateur Championships 2016**

The Kuwait Chess Federation shall organize this event 16-25 November 2016 in Kuwait City. Mr. Hisham Al-Taher said that, as discussed with Kuwait and other federation representatives, in case Kuwait will not host it, then either Jordan Chess Federation or Iran Chess Federation shall organize the event on the same dates.

### **9. Western Asia Youth Chess Championship 2016**

The UAE Chess Federation through Al Ain Chess Club shall organize the Western Asia Youth Chess Championship, 22-31 December 2016 in Al Ain, UAE.

Mr. Abundo explained that Qualification Commission regulations allow a maximum of three regional youth events for Direct Titles. The Arab Youth Championship and ASEAN Age Group Championships were Affiliated International Organizations of FIDE which were not under the umbrella of the Asian Chess Federation and did not follow its regulations.

Zone President Paul Spiller said it will be a great opportunity to develop chess in Oceania to have the Oceania Youth Chess Championship as the third Asian regional championship with Direct FIDE titles.

Allan Herbert of Barbados confirmed that the Americas have three regional youth events, namely the North American, Central American and South American youth championships which qualify winners to the Panamerican Youth championship.

Continental Assembly resolved that the three regional youth events qualified for Direct FIDE Titles be only the Eastern Asia Youth Championship ,the Western Asia Youth Chess Championship and the Oceania Youth Chess Championship. The free seed in world events goes only to the main Continental championship.

#### **10. Asian Continental (and Women's) Individual Championship 2017**

Continental Assembly approved the bid of the Chinese Chess Association for the Asian Individual Men's and Women's Championships 2017 in Chengdu.

#### **11. Asian Youth U8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18 Championships 2017**

The Chinese Chess Association bid for Asian Youth Championship 2017 in Panjin Liaoning. The Sri Lanka Chess Federation bid for the Asian Youth 20-29 June 2017 in the Western Province. The Myanmar Chess Federation bid for the Asian Youth 1-10 April 2017 in Mandalay. The Uzbekistan Chess Federation submitted its bid to host the Asian Youth from the end of May to the beginning of June 2017.

Secretary General Hisham Al-Taher said that the ACF practiced the principle of rotation of hosting to give different federations a chance to host events.

It was resolved to compare bids in the spirit of rotation and conduct inspection of conditions before awarding the bid. Bharat Singh proposed and Continental Assembly approved that the President shall decide on the bids.

#### **12. Asian Juniors and Girls Championships 2017**

Continental Assembly approved bid of Iran Chess Federation for the Asian Juniors and Girls 2017.

#### **13. Asian Schools Chess Championship 2017**

The Myanmar Chess Federation bid for the Asian Schools from 1 to 10 April 2017 in Mandalay. The Sri Lanka Chess Federation submitted a bid for the Asian Schools from 20 to 29 May 2017 in the Western Province. The Chinese Chess Association bid for the Asian Schools in Panjin Liaoning.

#### **14. Eastern Asia Youth U8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18 Chess Championship 2017**

We invite bids for the event.

#### **15. Western Asia Youth U8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18 Chess Championship 2017**

We invite bids for the event.

#### **16. Asian Amateur Chess Championship 2017**

We invite bids for the event.

#### **17. Asian Seniors Chess Championship 2017**

We invite bids for the event.

### **18. Asian Cities Team Championship 2017**

The All India Chess Federation bid for the Asian Cities 2017.

### **19. Asian Nations Cup Under-14 Team Championship 2017**

We invite bids for the event.

### **20. Asian Club Champions League 2017**

We invite bids for the event.

### **21. Asian Chess Championship for Disabled Persons**

Continental Assembly approved proposal of Mr. Milan Turpanov for Kyrgyzstan Chess Federation to organize the Asian Chess Championship for Disabled Persons. Jamie Kenmure, member of the FIDE Commission for Disabled, was tasked to assist them in formulating regulations for the event.

### **22. Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games**

The AIMAG shall be organized 15-24 September 2017 in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan. Organizers propose age limit of maximum 23 years of age.

Turkmenistan Delegate Mr. Serdar Veliyev confirmed that the invitations will be sent by the Organizing Committee to the NOCs.

Secretary General Hisham Al-Taher said that the Asian Chess Federation shall appoint the Technical Delegate, to be nominated by the President, who should speak Russian and English, for ease of communication with the host country, and have capable technical chess knowledge.

### **23. Asian Games 2018**

The Indonesian Chess Federation (PERCASI) requested assistance to include chess in the Asian Games 2018 in Indonesia.

Indonesian Chess Federation vice president Mohamed Rusdi Taher explained that they need at least five countries to support inclusion of chess in the AIMAG. Indonesian Delegate Dwi Hatmasari Ambarukmi asked for more countries to support and persuade the Indonesian Organizing Committee to include chess. She decried that chess had been replaced by bridge in the Asian Games.

Continental Assembly noted that the Olympic Council of Asia liaises only with National Olympic Committees. The federations of Lebanon, India, China, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Iran, Mongolia, Laos, Nepal, UAE, Malaysia and Maldives pledged to get letters of support from their respective NOCs. Lebanese Chess Federation president Ezzat Kraytem was tasked with following up on these pledges.

## **Section C: Other Matters**

### **24. 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Asian Chess Excellence Awards**

Continental Assembly noted the list of Awardees for the 3rd Annual Asian Chess Excellence Awards. National Federations may submit nominations for Meritorious Service Awards.

## 25. Draft Mission Statement

Continental Assembly received draft Mission Statement. Federations were invited to send comments to asianchessfederation@yahoo.com.

## 26. Commissions

Present commission appointments are Hisham Al Taher (UAE) for Events and Competitions Commission, Abigail Tian Hongwei (CHN) for Women's Commission, Casto Abundo (TLE) for Arbiters Commission, Mehrdad Pahlevanzadeh (IRI) for Online Commission and Adel Almery (KUW) for Development Commission. New appointments are Sami Khader (JOR) for the Asian Trainers Commission. Jamie Kenmure (SOL) for the Asian Commission for Disabled Players. Sainbayar Tserendorj (MGL) for the Asian Chess in Schools Commission and Shaun Press (PNG) for the Media Commission.

## 27. Legal Matters

The Continental Assembly took note of the Executive Director's report (Annex 2 ) addressing the unfounded allegations of Mr. Shaker Al Afoo accusing the Secretary General, the Executive Director and the Treasurer. The Continental Assembly also noted the reply to the charges of Mr. Shaker Al Afoo by Bahrain Mind Sports Association president Hassan Bin Eid Bukhammas (Annex3).

Bahrain Mind Sports Association president Hassan Bin Eid Bukhammas addressed the Assembly and said that they had filed corruption charges against Mr. Al Afoo.

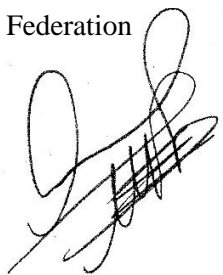
Sheikh Sultan, in a closing speech to the member federations (hereby attached in Annex4), strongly condemned the unfounded allegations and accusations of Mr. Al Afoo against the Secretary General , the administrative and technical staff of the Asian Chess Federation.

Sheikh Sultan reemphasized his full support to the development of Asian Chess and the well-being of the Chess Family in Asia.

Sheikh Sultan's condemnation of Mr. Al Afoo's allegations and his unlimited support to the Secretary General, the technical and administrative staff of the Asian Chess Federation was unanimously endorsed by all member federations at the Continental Assembly.

Attested:

Sheikh Sultan bin Khalifah Al Nahyan  
President  
Asian Chess Federation



Annexes:

1. Financial Report
2. Report of Executive Director.
3. Letter of Bahrain Mind Sports Association
4. Speech of Sheikh Sultan



# Asian Chess Federation

Asia Annex 1 (1)

## Treasurer Report

<b>Revenues</b>		<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
<b>No</b>	<b>Subject / Year</b>	<b>Revenues to date</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Revenues to date</b>	<b>Budget</b>
1	Donation from Sheikh Sultan	\$74,400	\$55,600		
2	Annual Membership Dues	\$5,100	\$5,100	\$5,100	\$5,100
	<b>Entry Fees</b>				
3	Asian Youth U-6, 8, 10, 12		\$6,000		
4	Asian Youth U-14, 16, 18		\$6,000		
5	Asian Youth U-6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18	\$12,600		\$22,625	\$15,000
6	East Asian Youth 2016			\$5,588	\$5,000
7	Asian Junior and Girls Championships		\$4,000	\$5,800	\$5,000
8	Asian Schools Championship	\$18,150	\$15,000	\$23,475	\$20,000
9	Asian Individulas Open and Women's	\$11,700	\$12,000	\$16,350	\$15,000
10	Asian Seniors Championship	--	--	--	
11	Asian Amateur Championship		\$3,000		\$3,000
12	Asain Nations Cup Team Championship		\$3,000	\$4,800	
13	Asian Cities Championship	\$3,200			
14	Asian Club Champions League		\$1,200		
15	Zone 3.1 Open and Women's Zonal	\$1,800			\$2,000
16	Zone 3.2 Open and Women's Zonal	\$3,300			\$3,000
17	Zone 3.3 Open and Women's Zonal	\$4,388			\$4,000
18	Zone 3.4 Open and Women's Zonal	\$2,063			\$2,000
19	Zone 3.5 Open and Women's Zonal	\$2,000			\$2,000
20	Zone 3.6 Open and Women's Zonal	\$8,513			\$6,000
21	Zone 3.7 Open and Women's Zonal	\$3,000			\$3,000
<b>Total Revenues</b>		<b>\$150,213</b>	<b>\$110,900</b>	<b>\$83,738</b>	<b>\$90,100</b>





# Asian Chess Federation

Asia Annex 1 (2)

## Treasurer Report

Expences		2015	2016	2016	2017
	Event	Expenses	Budget	Expenses to date	Budget
1	Asian Youth U-6, 8, 10, 12		\$10,000		
2	Asian Youth U-14, 16, 18		\$10,000		
3	Asian Youth U-6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18	\$15,000		\$15,000	\$10,000
4	Asian Junior and Girls Championships		\$5,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
5	Asian Schools Championship	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
6	Asian Individual's Open and Women's	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
7	Asian Seniors Championship		\$10,000		\$10,000
8	Asian Amateur Championship	\$10,000	\$10,000		\$10,000
9	Arbiters Seminar Parallel to Zone 3.1	\$5,000			
10	Arbiters Seminar Parallel to Zone 3.4	\$5,000			
11	FIDE Trainers Seminars		\$15,000	\$5,000	
12	FIDE Arbiters Seminars		\$15,000	\$5,000	
13	Asian Nations Cup		\$10,000		
14	Domain and Hosting of Asianchess.com		\$900		
15	Arbiter Seminar in Oman	\$5,000			
17	Financial Support for Nepal CF	\$5,000			
16	Zone 3.1 Chess Championships	\$5,000			\$5,000
18	Zone 3.2 Chess Championships	\$5,000			\$5,000
19	Zone 3.3 Chess Championships	\$5,000			\$5,000
21	Zone 3.4 Chess Championships	\$5,000			\$5,000
23	Zone 3.6 Chess Championships	\$5,000			\$5,000
24	Zone 3.7 Chess Championships	\$5,000			\$5,000
20	Arbiter Seminar in Tajikstan	\$5,600			
25	Chess Equipment Support		\$5,000		
<b>Total Expenses</b>		\$100,600	\$110,900	\$55,000	\$90,000
<b>Revenues Over Expenses</b>		\$49,613	\$0	\$28,738	\$100

### Notes to Expenses:

\* Financial support for Zonal Championship prize funds of \$5,000 per multi-fed zone



التاريخ : 7 أكتوبر 2013

الرقم : أ/1/131007/1

المحترم  
سعادة الشيخ / سلطان بن خليفة بن شخبوط آل نهيان  
رئيس الاتحاد الآسيوي للشطرنج

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته ،،،

**الموضوع : بطولة البحرين الدولية المفتوحة للشطرنج 2013**

أهديكم خالص التحية و التقدير ونشكركم على دعمكم الدائم للاتحاد البحريني للالعاب الذهنية ، و بالاشارة إلى الموضوع أعلاه نحيطكم علماً بأن الاتحاد البحريني للالعاب الذهنية سينظم بطولة البحرين الدولية الأولى وذلك خلال الفترة من 29 نوفمبر لغاية 7 ديسمبر 2013 . وبهذه المناسبة يطيب لنا التقدم لسعادتكم بطلب الموافقة على إقامة البطولة تحت مظلة الاتحاد الآسيوي للشطرنج وتخصيص كأس بإسم سعادتكم للفائز بهذه البطولة السنوية . كما نتقدم لكم بطلب الموافقة على تقديم دعم الاتحاد الآسيوي لجوائز البطولة المادية إلى جانب تزويدنا بأطقم الشطرنج و الساعات و كذلك عدد من الرقع الالكترونية للبطولة . وللعلم فإن البطولة ستكون الأولى من نوعها حيث تحدد أن يكون اقصى حد لتصنيف المشاركين أقل من 2350 وذلك تشجيعاً للاعبين ولتحفيز عدد اكبر منهم للمشاركة .

إننا على ثقة تامة بالحصول على موافقتكم الكريمة مع تمنياتنا لكم بالتوفيق و السداد ،،،

حسن بن عيد بوخماس  
رئيس الاتحاد

وتفضلوا بقبول وافر التحيات ،،،



Exhibit 1 (En)

**Bahrain Mind  
Sports Association**



**الاتحاد البحريني  
للألعاب الذهنية**

Date : Oct 7 ,2013

Serial : A/131007/1/1

To His Excellency / Sheikh Sultan Bin Khalifa Bin Shakboot Al Nahyan

The President of Asian Chess Federation

**The Bahrain International Open Chess Championship 2013**

The Bahrain Mind Sports Association sends you warm greetings and thanks you for your kind constant support.

As per the subject above, We would like to inform you that BMSA is going to organize The First Bahrain Opened International Chess tournament from Nov 29, 2013 until Dec 7, 2013 .

And on this occasion we are glad to request making this tournament under the auspices of the Asian Chess Federation and to award a Cup under your Excellency for the Winner in this annual tournament and to approve providing the prizes of the tournament besides the chess pieces , clocks & electronic chess boards .

This tournament will be the first one according to the sort which will be for the Ratings Under 2350, that is to encourage more players to participate and to attract the most number of players in this tournament.

We are absolutely trusted that our request will get your kind attention and your kind approval.

Yours Sincerely ,

  
**Hassan Bin Eid Bukhammas  
The Association President**





# Asian Chess Federation

P.O.Box 66511, Al-Ain, UAE, asianchessfederation@yahoo.com  
Tel: +971-3-7633387, Fax: 7633362 URL: www.asianchess.com

Annex 2 (1)



Al Ain, 30 August 2016

To Asian Continental Assembly

Subject: Open letter of Shaker Al Afoo

Dear Colleagues:

Mr. Al Afoo recently sent an open letter to members of the Asian Chess Federation, FIDE and its Commissions as well as other international chess instances accusing H.H Sheikh Sultan of allegedly sending funds to Bahrain Mind Sports Association for the purpose of affecting the election results, apart from other assertions against ACF officials.

In this perspective, it is important for the members of the Asian Chess Federation and to the entire chess family to note some of the important facts that Mr. Al Afoo neglected to mention in his letter.

1. Mr. Al Afoo conveniently fails to mention that on October 8<sup>th</sup> 2013 he wrote an email to ask for the financial support from Sheikh Sultan for the first Bahrain International Open. For ease of reference, we would like to share with you the email sent by Mr. Al Afoo on the 8<sup>th</sup> of October 2013:



Bahrain Open - ACF support request

Federations x



chess Bahrain <chessinbahrain@hotmail.com>

10/8/13

to Hesham, pahlevanzadeh, pahlevanzadeh, me, Taha

Dear Friends ,

Attached the letter as discussed with H.E. Shaikh Sultan .

Thanks ,

Regards ,

Shaker Alafoo



BRN Shaker Al ...

Add to circles



Show details



The attachment to the email is in Arabic addressed to H.H. Sheikh Sultan requesting financial support, (see English translation attached for your reference as Exhibit No. 1). Mr. Al Afoo used the stamp of the signature of Mr. Taha on behalf of the President.

2. Mr. Al Afoo also fails to mention that the USD \$5,000 he refers to in his letter was an amount which Sheikh Sultan donated to support a FIDE Arbiters Seminar in Bahrain which Mr. Al Afoo himself conducted, 17 to 20 November 2013 in Bahrain as announced on the FIDE web site:

### FIDE Arbiters' Seminar in Manama, BAHRAIN

Monday, 30 December 2013 11:16



From 17 to 20 November 2013 a FIDE Arbiters' Seminar was organized in Manama, BAHRAIN, by the Bahrain Mind Sports Association and under auspices of FIDE.

The Lecturer of the seminar was IA Shaker Alafoo (BRN), FIDE Lecturer and assistant Lecturer was FA Taha Hussain Ahmed (BRN).

The venue of the Seminar was the Golden Tulip Hotel in Manama.

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It is absurd to see Mr. Al Afoo asking for financial assistance from H.H. Sheikh Sultan, and now throwing accusations about irregularities/breach of ethics as a result of the support granted to the Bahrain Mind Sports Association!!!

It is important to reiterate as we have regularly informed the Continental Assembly, that the instructions of Sheikh Sultan are that funds collected from the federations should be used for the federations and any further expenses and Asian Development Projects H.H. Sheikh Sultan personally covers.

In this perspective, the Asian Chess Federation would like to remind that its Secretariat expenses were always covered by the host country of the Federation's H.Q.

It is very important to note that since 2006 till this date, Sheikh Sultan's support to the Asian Chess Community has always been consistent and without any discrimination amongst its members. H.H. Sheikh Sultan's assistance and support was dedicated and will always be dedicated to support tournaments, development projects and chess equipment . This assistance and support was always met by H.H., Sheikh Sultan's personal account for the sake of developing and promoting chess in Asia.

3. Mr. Al Afoo accuses Mr. Mehrdad Pahlevanzadeh and the undersigned of being Arbiters in "almost all" Asian Championships.

He fails to point out that **the undersigned has been Arbiter in Asian Championships mostly held in my country, the Philippines.**

The undersigned organized the following championships with the National Chess Federation of the Philippines:

Asian Continental Championship 2007, Cebu, Philippines  
Asian Continental Championship 2009, Subic Freeport, Philippines  
Asian Continental Championship 2010, Subic Freeport, Philippines  
Florencio Campomanes Memorial 2010, Manila, Philippines  
Zone 3.3 Championship 2011, Tagaytay City, Philippines  
Asian Youth Championship 2011, Subic Freeport, Philippines  
Zone 3.3 Championship 2013, Tagaytay City, Philippines  
Asian Continental Championship 2013, Manila, Philippines  
Asian Cities Team Championship 2013, Tagaytay City, Philippines  
Asian Juniors and Girls Championships 2014, Tagaytay City, Philippines

### **What Asian Championship has Mr. Al Afoo organized in Bahrain?**

There were many other Asian Arbiters involved aside from the undersigned in the Asian Games and the Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games. I was invited to the other tournaments wherein I was Chief Arbiter, namely the Asian Cities in Lebanon, Asian Nations Cup in Iran, Asian Team Championship in India, Asian Amateur in Malaysia and the Asian Schools in Sri Lanka.

In the FIDE Calendar, there were a total of 125 events in Asia from 2007 to this date. Clearly I was not Arbiter in "almost all" of ACF activities. Therefore these allegations of Mr. Al Afoo are also unjustified and unfounded.

We refute and reject all the allegations and accusations made by Mr. Al Afoo that are clearly driven by personal grievance and are not substantiated by any form whatsoever.

Truly yours,



Casto Abundo  
Executive Director



**Bahrain Mind  
Sports Association**



**الاتحاد البحريني  
للألعاب الذهنية**

**Date : Oct 7 ,2013**

**Serial : A/131007/1/1**

**To His Excellency / Sheikh Sultan Bin Khalifa Bin Shakboot Al Nahyan**

**The President of Asian Chess Federation**

**The Bahrain International Open Chess Championship 2013**

The Bahrain Mind Sports Association sends you warm greetings and thanks you for your kind constant support.

As per the subject above, we would like to inform you that BMSA is going to organize The First Bahrain Open International Chess tournament from Nov 29, 2013 until Dec. 7, 2013 .

And on this occasion we are glad to request making this tournament under the auspices of the Asian Chess Federation and to award a Cup under your Excellency for the Winner in this annual tournament and to approve providing the prizes of the tournament besides the chess pieces, clocks & electronic chess boards.

This tournament will be the first one according to the sort which will be for the Ratings Under 2350, that is to encourage more players to participate and to attract the most number of players in this tournament.

We are absolutely trusted that our request will get your kind attention and your kind approval.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Hassan Bin Eid Bukhammas'.

**Hassan Bin Eid Bukhammas  
The Association President**





# Bahrain Mind Sports Association



الاتحاد البحريني  
للألعاب الذهنية

Manama, 24 August 2016

## Statement of Bahrain Mind Sports Association

The Bahrain Mind Sports Association condemns unreservedly the letter dated 15 August 2016 from its ex-manager Mr. Shaker Al Afoo.

The Bahrain Mind Sports Association fully supported His Excellency, Sheikh Sultan bin Khalifah Al Nahyan in his 2014 Asian campaign, the support was further extended by His Royal Highness Prince Salman Bin Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, Crown Prince of Bahrain given the historical and brethren ties between the UAE and the Kingdom of Bahrain.

H.R.H. Prince Salman fully appreciated the efforts of H.H. Sheikh Sultan to promote chess throughout Asia. The Chairman of the Sport and Youth Authority of the National Olympic Committee, H.H. Sheikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, attended these meetings and he strongly welcomed the various projects initiated by Sheikh Sultan to develop chess.

The Bahrain Mind Sports Association's activities to promote Chess in the Kingdom have always been supported by HH Sheikh Sultan and he extended all possible support to develop and promote Chess in Asia.

The Bahrain Mind Sports Association is greatly shocked and dismayed by the actions of Mr. Shaker Al Afoo (Previous employee of the Association) which were very damaging to the Bahrain Mind Sports Association. As a matter of fact, the Bahrain Mind Sports Association is involved in a corruption case against Mr. Al Afoo for embezzlement, falsifying signatures and defrauding the Association, and for using the e-signature of the Deputy President and Secretary General without authorization and other corruption issues.

The Bahrain Mind Sports Association received the letter sent by Mr. Al Afoo whereby unfounded accusations have been referred therein. The Bahrain Mind Association rejects such allegations and/or accusations made by Mr. Al Afoo and deny any reality to the mentioned allegations in Mr. Al Afoo's letter driven by apparent personal grievance.

The Bahrain Mind Sports Association wishes to continue its close cooperation with the Asian Chess Federation under the leadership of Sheikh Sultan and would like to ask the members of the Continental Assembly to disregard any allegations made by Mr. Al Afoo.

Hassan Bin Eid Bukhammas  
President



HH Sheikh Sultan's Speech to the Continental Assembly

Al Ain 30<sup>th</sup> of August 2016 .

Dear Colleagues and delegates from the Asian Chess Family, distinguished guests .

Thank you for your effort and for your participation in this Continental Assembly where again we have witnessed the growth of Chess in Asia.

My Commitment to the growth and success of Chess in Asia has consistently been reinforced and will always continue, in every way and means available.

I stand before you today to discuss an unfortunate event recently escalated by one of our previous colleagues, Mr. Shaker Al Afoo, which has been made available to all of you.

Unfortunately, Mr. Al Afoo refers in his letter to facts and events that are little bit distorted from the reality of the relationships we have developed during the last decade in Asia.

This letter accuses unjustly the administrative team of the Asian Chess Federation, a team which you know, are dedicated to servicing the interests of the Asian Chess family. As a matter of fact , the team of the Asian Chess Federation clearly refuted these allegations in the reply that was made available to you.

Such wrong accusations can only be destructive and harm the prosperity of Chess in Asia.

I condemn the action taken by Mr. Al Afoo and am confident that the Assembly will support my position in condemning this action and the wrong accusations made against the Asian Chess Federation its Secretary General, its administrative and technical staff and any of its family members.

Thanking you again for your attendance and participation.

I trust there are no objections.