



## **MINUTES OF THE XXII ANOC GENERAL ASSEMBLY PRAGUE, 2 & 3 November 2017**

### ***Opening addresses***

Dr. Thomas Bach, President of IOC, congratulated the President of ANOC for bringing together so many Olympic Movement stakeholders. He highlighted the contribution of the Czech NOC to the Olympic history – one of the founding members of the IOC was a Czech, and Pierre de Coubertin was always close to Czech people – and said that the choice of Prague to host the GA was very appropriate.

Jiri Kejval, President of the Czech NOC, welcomed all those present to Prague and said a few words about the Czech founding member of the IOC. He referred to previous Olympic events having taken place in his country, and to the dream they still nurture of one day hosting the Olympic Games.

Gunilla Lindberg, Secretary General of ANOC, introduced Sir John Dawanincura, from Papua New Guinea, and ANOC President Sheikh Al-Sabah and IOC President Thomas Bach presented him the ANOC Merit Award; she introduced Feras Moualla, from Syria, and the Presidents of ANOC and IOC presented him an ANOC Diploma; finally, Jiri Kejval, President of the Czech NOC was presented an ANOC Globe by ANOC President Sheikh Al-Sabah.

H.E. Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah, President of ANOC, thanked the Czech authorities for their warm welcome, and all those present for their participation. He referred to the following activities of the Olympic Movement during the preceding year: Olympic Summit, simultaneous award of Olympic Games to Paris and Los Angeles, nomination of Robin Mitchell as ANOC representative in the IOC EB to replace Patrick Hickey, election of new PanamSports and ANOCA Presidents, Asian Indoor & Martial Arts Games, and the ANOC EC meeting the previous day, where it was recommended that Julio Maglione replace Patrick Hickey as ANOC Senior Vice-President for the remaining term.

Julio Maglione reported that the President of ANOC had informed the EC of attempts to tarnish his reputation by involving him in different affairs, and that he had taken every necessary step to dispel all such attempts. The EC reiterated their full support and trust in him.

H.E. Sheikh Ahmad thanked everyone again for their presence and wished them productive meetings.

## **Item 1: Roll call**

205 NOCs were present.

### ***Tribute to deceased members of the Olympic Movement***

A minute of silence was held in honor of the deceased: Roy de Silva (Sri Lanka), Shun-ichiro Okano (Japan), Alhagie Momodou Dibba (Gambia), Neville Fenton (Antigua & Barbuda), Hein Verbruggen (Netherlands), Hector Cardona (Puerto Rico), Sir Quett Ketumile Joni Masire (Botswana), Sunil Lal Joshi (Nepal), Minos Kyriakou (Greece), Zdravko Hebel (Croatia), Les McDonald (Canada).

## **Item 2: Approval of minutes of XXI ANOC General Assembly in Doha.**

The minutes were sent to members in July and no comments were received. They were unanimously approved by the GA.

## **Item 3: Keynote address by Thomas Bach, President of IOC**

Dr. Bach thanked everyone for their support in the course of the last year. He spoke about past and present challenges, the protection of clean athletes, and the failure of the anti-doping system in Russia pointed to by the McLaren report, particularly in Sochi. Before Rio, he said, the IOC was only indirectly affected, but now it is directly affected, so it threatens the integrity of the OG and the IOC, which is why two commissions were set up to deal with the issue, and they will outline responsibilities in accordance with the Olympic Charter and the Host City Contracts. The Oswald commission on the individual responsibility of athletes disqualified two Russian athletes in Sochi and banned them for life from the Olympic Games. More decisions will follow. The Schmidt commission is addressing systematic manipulations of the anti-doping system in Russia. Decisions will soon be taken. He insisted on the fact that in the Olympic Movement everybody has the right to a fair and due process and he called on everyone to respect that. Regarding the protection of clean athletes, he mentioned the reinforcement of targeted pre-testing with a special focus on Russian athletes and athletes from countries with higher numbers of positive tests. The Olympic Summit and the Winter Sports Federations have taken additional measures to boost confidence and transparency. Another milestone he mentioned was the establishment of an Independent Testing Authority (ITA). He called on Continental Associations to join the ITA in order to make anti-doping independent of sports organizations and national interests. He referred to challenges encountered regarding good governance: corruption allegations against Carlos Nuzman relative to Rio 2016 and against Mr. Diak for collusion with Russia in France. In both cases, he said, the IOC swiftly collaborated with the authorities, in line with Agenda 2020 guidelines.

Further reforms are being introduced into the Games bidding procedure, which is the most vulnerable to wrongdoing, for example by reducing costs through lowering requirements.

He went on to say that, despite the challenges, we have every reason to be optimistic about the future: the preparations for Pyeongchang are well underway for the best Winter Olympic Games ever. He underlined the fact that Olympic Sports stand above and beyond political considerations and are often even a last recourse for political conflicts. The United Nations will soon approve an Olympic Truce resolution which will strengthen the mission and values of the Olympic Games, and the simultaneous allocation of the Olympic Games to two cities is another achievement and reason for hope: stability in an unstable world.

Dr. Bach then alluded to the social responsibility of the Olympic Games by mentioning the creation of the Refugee Olympic Team followed up by a foundation created jointly with the UNCHR to provide sports facilities near refugee camps.

He mentioned the five new sports which will be incorporated to the OG in Tokyo, which will enhance gender balance, and said that in Buenos Aires, for the YOG, gender equality will be a reality.

Gender equality in leadership, he said, has also made progress inside of coordination commissions, among others.

Dr. Bach informed the Assembly that the Olympic Channel had crossed the one billion views threshold, the majority of which were young viewers, which bodes well for the Olympic Movement. The IOC is seeking to address the younger generation directly through virtual reality and other means.

All of the above gave Dr. Bach confidence and optimism. Living in a world of distrust of the establishment – and the IOC is seen as part of the establishment – in a world of balkanized ideologies which bar the doors to dialogue, and where selfish interests prevail, Olympic values are more important than ever before. If we have the courage and determination to defend and spread these values, he said, they will prevail.

The President of the EOC voiced support for the IOC President. He provided some statistics according to which a vast majority of athletes gets only one chance to go to the OG, so doping should be strongly combatted in order to protect them, but stated that collective punishments are ethically unacceptable, and due process must be guaranteed. He added that compliance requirements should not turn into sanctions against non-compliant nations.

The Ugandan and Sri Lankan delegates reaffirmed their confidence in the structures and systems of the IOC. They condemned organizations that have published undue reports for political reasons. The Sri Lankan delegate suggested to the Independent Testing Authority that they test not only the medal winners but the next three athletes in line.

The Syrian delegate referred to the invasive media and pointed to the importance of solving problems collectively, avoiding finger pointing, in accordance with the Olympic Charter, and letting our institutions do their work.

The Greek delegate reiterated the need to protect clean athletes and urged the IOC President to guarantee due process to the institutions under investigation.

The delegate of Morocco called the IOC President to reflect on the future of the OG.

Next, Valérie Fourneyron, head of the ITA, presented the mission of her organization to the Assembly: its mission is to provide anti-doping services to IFs and major event organizers independently of the sports movement and national interests, to assist them in fulfilling their obligations under the World Anti-Doping Code, to tackle real or perceived conflicts of interest, to harmonize standard levels of testing and enhance transparency and independence in doping tests, and finally, to work with the sports movement and public authorities to improve the skills of anti-doping personnel so as to reestablish public trust among fans, athletes and media in the anti-doping system.

#### **Item 4: Update from the IOC**

##### ***Agenda 2020, by Christophe de Kepper, Director General of IOC***

Mr. De Kepper reported on the implementation of the Olympic Agenda 2020. He alluded to the three pillars of Olympic Agenda, Credibility, Sustainability and Youth as applied to the four topics of greatest interest to the NOCs: the Games, the athletes, Olympism in action, and the IOC role of unity and diversity.

Concerning the Games, bidding procedures and Games management were simplified, the focus on sustainability and legacy was strengthened, and cleared the way for gender equality and innovation. The 2024 bidding procedure was the first to integrate the full scope of the reforms. A video was shown to illustrate the changes. The Games Management 2020 Program is designed to simplify Games management, reduce costs and improve risk management so as to take some of

the burden of hosting the Games off the shoulders of the host city. These measures will be fully applicable starting with Paris in 2024. The YOG are also under review. A video was shown to give an overview of their evolution. Sustainability has become a priority for Games management. The IOC signed an MOU with the union of Olympic cities to share best practices.

Concerning services to athletes, Mr. de Kepper gave several examples. Toyota, Alibaba and Intel recently signed up as new TOP partners.

As far as Olympism is concerned, the main outcome of the emphasis on education and culture is reflected in the Olympic Channel.

Finally, Mr. De Kepper alluded to the IOC's role in the review of sponsoring, merchandizing, and marketing.

### ***Olympic Channel, by Mark Parkman, General Manager of Olympic Channel Services***

Mark Parkman gave an update on the developments of the Olympic Channel, launched at the closing ceremony of the Rio Games last year: a short video was shown to illustrate the latest activities and approach of the channel to the younger generation. Mr. Parkman said the market place was recognizing the Olympic Channel's efforts in the first year and referred to several ways in which the Olympic Channel can partner with the NOCs: digitizing NOC archives, providing video players for NOCs to access Olympic Channel content, etc.

The delegate from Sri Lanka asked whether, concerning global warming, it could be made compulsory to cut down on fireworks. The delegate from the Dominican Republic welcomed the initiatives by Christophe De Kepper for taking the Olympic Movement out of a passive, defensive mode and into an active, assertive role. He also recommended the creation of a digital newspaper to complement the Olympic Channel. He thanked the help of the IOC in the face of natural disasters on his continent.

Mr. De Kepper thanked the delegates for their comments, assuring them that any suggestions to improve their performance would always be welcome.

### **Item 5: Report by the President of ANOC, H.E. Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah**

Point covered in the course of the introduction.

### **Item 6: Reports by the Continental Associations**

#### *ANOCA*

Mr. Lassana Palenfo, ANOC Vice-President for Africa, gave a brief update of ANOCA's activities in the course of the preceding year, namely: executive council meetings, African Games, Continental Beach Games, new ANOCA headquarters, and SG seminars. A short video was shown to illustrate the various activities mentioned.

#### *PanamSports*

Mr. Julio César Maglione, ANOC Vice-President for Americas, presented Panam Sports' activity report: General Assembly in Punta del Este, where transparent general elections took place, won by Neven Ilic, who became the new President; Olympic Solidarity Forums for Spanish and English speaking countries; financial details of support given to NOCs by PanamSports using Olympic Solidarity funds; Pan-American Games; new headquarters in Miami; Pan-American Youth Games.

#### *OCA*

Mr. Zaiqing Yu, ANOC Vice-President for Asia, presented the OCA's report, highlighting the following activities: Asian Winter Games in Sapporo, Japan, Indoor Asian Games in Ashgabat,

Turkmenistan, and preparation of the Asian Games in 2018. A short video was shown to illustrate the OCA's activities in the course of 2017.

### *EOC*

Janez Kocijancic, ANOC Vice-President for Europe, presented the EOC's report referring in turn to athletes – involving them in all aspects of policy making; good governance - responsibility, transparency and accountability, in collaboration with the European Community, and improving autonomy; gender equality – seminar in Lithuania; European festivals in Hungary and Turkey; Games of Small European States; compliance with Agenda 2020; second edition of European Games in Minsk in 2019; and finance – 70% of benefits go back to NOCs.

### *ONOC*

Mr. Robin Mitchell, ANOC Vice-President for Oceania, presented the ONOC's report, highlighting the following activities: GA in Fiji, election of new EC, gender parity in EC and Oceania IOC members; SG workshop in Guam with a focus on governance; EC meeting on the island: outline of strategic plan; Oceania Sports Education Program: extension to all member NOCs; work with national governments and UNESCO; developing sports policies; participation in Asian Winter and Indoor Games: gratefulness of athletes; Commonwealth Games; and Winter Games in New Zealand.

### **Item 7: Report by the Secretary General of ANOC**

Mrs. Gunilla Lindberg congratulated the ANOC President on the record number of NOCs in attendance, as well as the IOC President, Thomas Bach, for his exemplary leadership. She alluded to the following activities: preparations for the Winter Games in Pyeongchang; Youth Olympic and Continental Games; 1<sup>st</sup> edition of ANOC World Beach Games; ANOC executive council meetings: code of ethics and compliance policies; election of Robin Mitchell to IOC executive board as NOC representative; Rio 2016 debrief and report to official IOC debrief in Tokyo; work groups suggested to IOC: 1. discussion with IOC and ASOIF relative to qualification systems, 2. accreditation procedures, 3. ticketing systems, 4. Transportation, 5. Games Management 2020 executive steering group, 6. TOCOG/NOC work group; YOG in Buenos Aires: ANOC has been involved in the qualification system; chefs de mission meeting in Buenos Aires next year; 100 days to go ceremonies in Olympia and Seoul for the Olympic Winter Games in PyeongChang 2018; ANOC commission meetings; ANOC events work group: AWBG (scheduled 10-15 October 2019) and ANOC Awards ceremony; marketing seminars with OS and IOC: branding rights and duties, management of marketing strategies; Lausanne offices: visits and meetings; new ANOC website: request to NOCs to share news for publication; cooperation with universities: RIOU, Seoul National University; International Seminar for the Integrity of Sports; continental meetings: effort to attend all of them; cooperation agreements with ATR and ITG, Czech TV and Olympic Journal; Awards ceremony, athletes chosen from lists presented by Continental Associations.

### **Item 8: Report by the Chair of the ANOC Finance and Audit Commission**

Mr. Richard Peterkin presented an overview of operations for 2017: adoption of new reporting standards (IFRS); creation of AWBG, wholly owned subsidiary of ANOC; additional disclosures of new reporting standards; operating expenses: surplus (Doha contributed a lot to the GA in Qatar); investments and foreign income; 2017 budget revisions; he ended his presentation with a request to NOCs for input on desired activities.

The delegate from Sri Lanka asked if the funds could not be invested elsewhere to obtain higher returns. Mr. Peterkin replied that the commission has to make sure that the investments are secure, but assured the audience that they are always on the lookout for safe investment opportunities.

## **Item 9: Report by the auditor, Mr. Beresford Caloia**

PWC presented the auditing report, here quoted at length, of the consolidated financial statements of ANOC and AWBG of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016, and recommended that they be approved by the General Assembly:

“The goal of my presentation today is to confirm to the executive council that it can approve ANOC 2016 financial statements and recommend their approval to the general assembly.

In particular and in line with legal obligations I confirm the following:

1. We have completed our audit and will issue a clean opinion under Swiss law and IFRS accounting standards.
2. We have a positive opinion on the existence of an internal control system for the preparation of the financial statements.
3. We have no unadjusted differences to report. We planned our work to identify misstatements equal or greater than USD 200'000 and we have found no indication of intentional misstatements, omissions or fraud.
4. We have a positive impression of the quality of the accounting which is particularly good news given that it was the first year of adoption of IFRS for SMEs as the accounting framework for the association.
5. From a purely numerical standpoint, the adoption of IFRS has had no significant impact on the total balance sheet nor on the income statement.
6. The association has adopted IFRS for SMEs which is a lighter version of full IFRS and which is properly suited to the size and activities of ANOC
7. There is no significant and relevant information for the reader of the financial statements that would have been included had full IFRS been adopted
8. At the same time IFRS for SMEs bring the transparency required by the executive council to the reader of the financial statements at the level of the notes to the financial statements, in particular pension fund costs and related parties' transactions are disclosed in detail according to the standards
9. Operating expenses include the expenses related to the running costs of the President's office in Kuwait in line with the amount approved in ANOC's yearly budget. We have asked PWC Kuwait to perform audit procedures relating both to the use of the bank account used by the Kuwait office and to the actual expenses incurred and came to the conclusion that the expenses are properly recorded in the relevant line items of the 2016 financial statements.
10. In the previous reporting period we had recommended to management to ensure that a 4 eyes principle be always adhered to. Management has taken the necessary measures to address this recommendation. In particular, all invoices and all payments are approved by at least two officers according to the relevant authorized thresholds.”

A question was asked about “other compensation” and whether ANOC intended to write off the loan to Mr. Patrick Hickey, or if the intention was to recover the loan and in what time frame.

The answer given was that “other compensation” referred to temporary employment as well as provisions for retirement, that the loan to Mr. Patrick Hickey was granted under exceptional circumstances and, if everything worked out as hoped, might be refundable, but it could not be registered as refundable for lack of proper documentation, so a provision was made, on the auditor’s advice.

The finance and audit commission report and the audit report were unanimously approved by the assembly.

#### **Item 10: Report by the Chair of the ANOC Legal Commission**

Before he presented his report, Mr. Michael Chambers mentioned he had attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Forum for Sport Integrity in Lausanne to ensure the voice of NOCs was heard concerning issues of match fixing and good governance. He also attended the first meeting of the International Partnership against Corruption in Sport. Mr. Chambers then proceeded to present the annual report of the legal commission. The ANOC EC asked the legal commission to establish a framework and terms of reference for the creation of an independent ethics commission, characterized by independence, certainty of tenure for appointees, independence of appointees themselves, certainty of funding, transparency and accountability, annual reporting to the ANOC GA, an effective whistle blower policy, and a fair avenue of appeal (to ensure due process). Appropriate amendments to the ANOC constitution will be needed to accommodate this commission and they will be presented to the GA next year.

Mr. Chambers said the EC had endorsed a recommendation of the legal commission to develop a fulsome conflict of interest policy. He added that a proposal was made to create an organism to help the NOCs know what they need to do make sure that ethical principles are found in their structures.

He ended his comments explaining that the constitutional amendments weave into fabric of the ANOC constitution the adding of Continental Associations as members of organization, they remove the reference to the recognition of NOCs by the Association, and they specify that constitutional amendments shall be sent out 90 days before a general assembly.

The report was unanimously approved, as well as the constitutional amendments.

#### **Item 11: report by the ANOC Events Working Group**

Mr. Timothy Fok, Mrs. Gunilla Lindberg and Mr. Haider Farman gave an update on the World Beach Games before the San Diego organizing committee gave their presentation. Mr. Fok alluded to the genesis of the event. He said the reception given to the AWBG by the sport and business communities has been overwhelming, and that several NOCs have already shown interest in hosting the second edition in 2021. A short video was shown.

Mr. Haider Farman referred to the work of the technical coordination commission: sports have been selected according to appeal to young audiences and in coordination with ANOC and international federations (15) to discuss technical issues like number of athletes, qualification procedures, etc. 1300 athletes will compete for six days. Equal gender representation will be prioritized.

Mrs. Gunilla Lindberg said that the AWBG should be manageable, sustainable and attractive for future host cities. She said that ANOC had been working hard with the SD OC to significantly reduce the costs, and added that the event will be first truly global beach and water sports festival, created especially for the benefit of the NOCs, IFs and athletes, with the aim of creating new youth culture trends.

She underlined the advantages for NOCs: a new prominent position in youth culture, through new sports, new stars associated with music and entertainment, followed by a host a young spectators, as well as a platform to engage with base of followers all year round, and an alignment with appealing causes like environmental conservation, technology and sustainability.

The local organizing committee will cover the NOCs' participation, thus minimizing the resources needed by them to take part in the event. The IFs are eager to promote their sports. The AWBG will provide a splendid opportunity to do so.

Mrs. Lindberg asked for the NOCs' support in promoting the event (with tailored material provided by ANOC), and to upload the event logo on their websites.

Salvador Ramirez, representative from JTA presented the logo.

The chair of the LOC, Mr. Vincent Mudd, gave a presentation on the concept and the preparations of the AWBG: tight location, "Clean water, clean games" motto to appeal to an audience that might not otherwise come just for the Games, temporary venues, to leave the beach unharmed.

He said the athletes would be accommodated in an area called the Hotel Circle, and referred to the digital streaming technologies that will be used and the kind of sponsors targeted (ones familiar with digital technologies).

#### **Item12: Report by WADA**

Sir Craig Reedie, President of WADA, presented the report of the World Anti-Doping Agency. He explained the interrelations between NOCs, NADOs, RADOs and WADA; he mentioned the need to strengthen the whistle blower program, for a strong compliance monitoring program, and for anti-doping education. He also mentioned the need to enhance anti-doping capabilities worldwide, and to manage the outcome of the McLaren investigation; he referred to the development of a reliable and sustainable anti-doping system in Russia, and said that the recent audit of RUSADA was very encouraging. He also added that implementing a code compliance program is a top priority at present, which should include penalties for non-compliance.

The delegate of Croatia denounced collective punishment as a means of fighting doping. He pleaded for an approach that protects athletes and preserves their right to compete.

The delegate from Kenya stated that anti-doping rules should be harmonized so as to be perceived as fair all around the world.

The Sri Lankan delegate referred to the perception in the world that not only doping offenders but certain countries are being targeted.

Sir Reedie responded by saying that harmonization of doping sanctions is underway and is one of their priorities. He denied that any targeting is carried out on anything other than antidoping bases. He said that NADOs should be independent, and if they are not, that is problematic.

#### **Item 13: CAS**

Mr. John Coates, President of CAS, briefly commented on the written report that had been circulated among the delegates, in particular the permanent anti-doping division of ICAS.

Questions were asked by the Norwegian NOC about whether hearings in CAS could be public. The Ugandan representative asked whether CAS would be willing to support regional arbitration entities in Africa. Mr. John Coates replied that open hearings were on the agenda but that the parties involved in procedures can request confidentiality. As for regional arbitration entities, he said they are encouraged – and gave several examples – but that CAS is also aware of the lack of them in Africa.

The report was unanimously approved.

#### **Item 14: Report by HRH Prince Faisal Bin Al Hussein, Chair of the IOC Prevention of Harassment and Abuse Working Group**

H.E. Prince Faisal referred to failures, in sports and in society at large, to quell sexual harassment and abuse (Me too campaign, etc.), and emphasized the need to make more efforts in the field. He gave an overview of the legal framework within the sports world in connection with the subject. He

then referenced the IOC toolkit designed to help NOCs and federations to implement policies and procedures against sexual harassment and abuse. He invited all those present to make use of the toolkit and to join hands in the struggle.

#### **Item 15: Winter Olympic Games in Pyeongchang, report by the President of the OCOG, Lee Hee-Beom**

Mr. Lee, President of the POCOG, presented the progress report of his organization. He informed about the Cultural Olympiad, the newly built railroad between Incheon and Pyeongchang, the security measures put in place to protect athletes, the festivals, seminars and NOC visits carried out in the course of the preceding year, the construction of direct highways from Seoul and Incheon to Pyeongchang, the food services, the venues, the ticketing programs, etc. He said key information would be forthcoming in the following weeks. A short video of the Olympic Torch Relay was shown.

#### **Item 16: Report by the OCOG of the XXXII Olympiad in Tokyo in 2020**

Mr. Takeda, Vice-President of the JOCOG, thanked the Czech NOC for their hospitality and referenced different milestones in the preparation of the Games. The representatives from the OCOG then proceeded to present the progress report: the 1000 days to go countdown celebration event on October 28, the shortlisting of three designs in the mascot selection, the recycling of precious metals from mobile phones to manufacture medals, the incorporation of the Olympic Games theme song to the festival in Shibuya, and the NOC visits. A short video was shown. The following speaker asserted the sports program had been approved, that more female athletes would participate, and that, in short, the event would be the first to embody the Olympic Agenda 2020, which will make it a model Olympic Games. He then gave an overview of the venues under construction, pointing out that timber used for the construction would be reused by donor authorities after the Games. He informed about the sports which would compete outside of Tokyo and briefly mentioned the hotels where NOC delegates would be hosted.

An organization chart of the TOCOG was then presented and information was given about NOC open days and the beginning of the registration process, pre-Games training camps, the Tokyo 2020 extranet, a dedicated page for each NOC, and the NOC house. He then presented key guidelines for NOCs.

#### **Item 17: Report by the OCOG of the XXIV Winter Olympic Games in Beijing in 2022**

The representatives of the BOCOG, Mr. Zhang Jiandong and Mr. Pan Zhiwei, presented the progress report of his organization: meetings with IFs, beginning of venue construction, rise of popularity of snow and ice sports, support of Chinese government. A short video was shown. After that the following was addressed: organization chart of BOCOG, construction of transport facilities and venues, collaboration with IFs, sponsors, public engagement, sports program, sustainability, Games legacy, services to NOCs, cooperation with ANOC, Continental Associations and NOCs, and new headquarters. A short video was shown.

#### **Item 18: Report by Olympic Solidarity**

Mr. Pere Miro, Director of Olympic Solidarity, began by illustrating the last quadrennial through some figures: 18000 athletes benefited from Olympic Solidarity through the NOCs, 650 courses were offered to coaches, 420 courses to NOCs, masters programs in collaboration with 7 universities, etc. He then referred to priorities of the next quadrennial, 2017-2020: promotion of Agenda 2020, direct assistance to NOCs from OS, but especially through other NOCs, protection of clean athletes; building of networks, including high level training centers; he spoke of the organization chart of OS and referred to the programs through which OS channels its assistance, as well as to a 16% increase in the financing of them; he talked about the funds allocated to the

NOCs and the fact that, in 2017, 2800 activities were on the table; he repeatedly emphasized the role of the NOCs as the motive force of the OS programs.

Two questions were asked. The first, from South Africa, was whether African NOCs pleading poverty are in a dire financial condition because they do not know how to access the money? The President of the Ugandan NOC asserted that Olympic programs with limited funding from OS are a token of sustainability. The delegate from Sri Lanka said that the requirements by OS are an obstacle for NOCs, because of lack of staff or of professional skills. The delegate from Paraguay exhorted other NOCs to make the necessary effort to access the assistance offered by OS and not to leave everything in its hands. The delegate from Tunisia said that national initiatives are not sufficiently divulged among the NOCs through exchanges between NOCs, he therefore recommended the formation of a commission in ANOC to promote such exchanges.

Mr. Miro replied to that guidance from OS is always available. To Tunisia he replied that exchange programs already exist. To Syria he replied that sanctions are sanctions, but that OS does everything within its power to channel its assistance to the concerned NOCs. To South Africa and Sri Lanka that all necessary information is on the different platforms which he referred to.

H.E. Sheikh Ahmad pointed out that a lot of progress has been made with regard to making sure OS assistance reaches NOCs, and that NOCs can learn from each other the best ways to benefit from that assistance. He explained how discussions inside the OS commission take place and promised to include the questions raised during their next meeting.

Mr. Miro continued his presentation with an invitation video to the upcoming IOC forum in Buenos Aires.

#### **Item 19: Report by IOC/NOC Relations**

Jerome Poivey, Toshio Tsurunaga and James Macleod spoke about the next four items:

*Institutional relations and governance:* implementation of Olympic Agenda 2020, self-evaluation by NOCs – tools available on line to improve governance; reference document on engagement with national governments; revision and approval of NOC constitutions: making sure that NOC constitutions comply with the IOC charter; support for autonomy while making sure that principles of good governance are applied; election follow-up: please inform IOC about elections; logo approval: conformity with regulations.

*NOC Games services:* Games preparation forums will be expanded to sharing of information and best practices, increasing participation of NOCs in OCOGs, and improving logistical information to NOCs; update on Buenos Aires YOG: new ticketing and hospitality model, effort to ensure that ticketing and hospitality benefits remain within Olympic Family, delivery on contractual rights and obligations; full stadiums.

*Olympic festivals:* a short video presented the concept of Olympic festivals: national celebrations of Olympic Games. A new brand is now available to NOCs, subject to license agreements. A pilot project has been set up for Pyeongchang.

*Olympic refuge foundation:* a platform to engage with the UNHCR on the subject of building safe and neutral sports facilities around the world. A short video was shown to illustrate the concept.

The delegate from South Sudan mentioned the need for more OS intervention to mediate between NOCs and governments; the delegate of Mauritania mentioned autonomy issues to which the IOC is not responsive. Mr. Pere Miro gave an explanation about the modus operandi of OS in matters of autonomy.

## **Item 20: Report by Peace and Sport**

The delegates of Peace and Sport, Mrs. Lydia Nsekera, Mrs. Iris Vlacoutsicos, Mr. Salvator Bigirimana and Mr. Pascal Gentil, presented a report centered on the Friendship Games organized every year in the Great Lakes Region (involving Burundi, Rwanda and Congo) with a very small budget. A short video was shown to illustrate the 2017 edition of the Games. They invited everyone to join them in the forum which will celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Friendship Games.

## **Item 21: Report by the ANOC Youth Commission**

The representatives of the Youth Commission, Max Betteridge and Gamar Baghirli, presented a report on their work over the previous year illustrated with statistics, programs, and reach out activities.

## **Item 22: Presentation by the World Olympians Association**

The presentation by the CEO of the WOA, Mr. Mike Miller, centered on the collaborations, over the past 12 months, between NOCs and Olympian associations in areas such as the following: Olympic Day celebrations, mentoring programs, athletes' career programs, ambassadorships, and collaboration between athletes' commissions and national Olympic associations.

## **Item 23: Report by the OCOG of the Winter Youth Olympic Games in Lausanne in 2020 by Mr. Patrick Baumann and Mr. Ian Logan**

The presentation started with a short video. The representatives of the Lausanne Youth Winter Games presented a progress report centered on the following: support of local authorities and Swiss Olympic; validation by IOC of fundamental structural changes of YOG (more athletes, total gender equity, sports innovation); location of ice sports, mountain sports and hotels; local expertise to support organization; two wave system allowing athletes to spend less time at the YOG: increase of number of athletes, more flexibility for NFs, though it will imply a logistical challenge, the program will be more compact for the benefit of the athletes (to be able to attend other events, despite the shorter stay); sustainability at the heart of logistical planning; two years to go milestone next year.

## **Item 24: Presentation by the International University Sports Federation**

Oleg Matytsin, President of FISU, gave a report on the following points: signature of MOU with ANOC; ten year strategy plan in August approved greater engagement with Olympic Movement; national cooperation with individual NOCs. A short video was shown to illustrate FISU activities in Almaty in the course of the year.

## **Item 25: ANOC Commission Reports**

### *Athletes' Commission*

Barbara Kendall, President of the ANOC Athletes' Commission, gave an update on her commission's work, emphasizing, among others: elections in the commission; approval by IOC of Athletes' Commission strategy; Athletes' commission forums; athletes' commission toolkit; athletes' hub: statistics on hub usage; IOC athletes' career program; athletes' commission survey.

### *ANOC International Relations Commission Report*

Mr. Maglione, President of the ANOC International Relations Commission, gave an update on the commission's activities centered on the following points: CIGEPS activities attended by ANOC to prepare the MINEPS VI summit, during which the commission lobbied for the approval of the MOU between UNESCO and ANOC; approval of athlete participation in continental, regional and world

championship over and above political issues; Pere Miro completed the presentation by explaining the process by which this conclusion was reached. Sheikh Ahmad added that the new procedures will be integrated into the World Beach Games in San Diego.

#### *ANOC Commission of Marketing and New Sources of Financing*

Mr. Probst, President of the commission, gave an update on the activities of the commission, centering on the following points: marketing seminar program; TOP program: Ali Baba and Intel joined the program, 13 companies are now part of it, McDonalds will leave after Pyeongchang; utilization of Olympic rings with local sponsors; Olympic festivals; media company sponsoring Beach Games asking for more cooperation with ANOC.

#### *ANOC Medical Commission*

Robin Mitchell, President of the ANOC medical commission, referred to the following points in his activity report: continental activities; OCA and ANOCA; Games support to different continental associations; PanamSports guidelines for anti-doping policies for the 2019 Beach Games; educational programs of EOC; Olympic Solidarity: seminars, projects and training opportunities; ANOC Beach Games: work group on medical and antidoping support; medical commission data base: difficulties getting medical commission or liaison officer of NOCs.

#### *ANOC Modernization Follow Up Commission*

Mr. Kevan Gosper, President of the commission, gave an update centering on the following points: post athlete careers, review of NOC constitutions, progress in implementing of appropriate ANOC governance, and gender balance, especially in sports administration.

#### **Item 26: Presentation by the host of the Games of the XXXIII Olympiad in Paris in 2024, Mr. Denis Masegla**

A short video was shown. Venue construction has begun. Sustainability will be at the heart of the Games: the venues will be either existing or temporary. There is an eagerness to receive feedback from NOCs.

#### **Item 27: Introduction by the host of the Games of the XXXIV Olympiad in Los Angeles in 2028**

Scott Blackmun, Secretary General of the USOC, briefly addressed the assembly to thank them. A short video was then shown.

#### **Item 28: Report by the OCOG of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires in 2018**

The representatives of the Buenos Aires Youth Olympic Games, Mr. Gerardo Werthein, Mr. Leandro Larossa and Mrs Laura Canals Cruz touched on the following subjects: the youth Olympic village (construction will be completed by December, and it fits into an overarching urban development plan); the youth Olympic center (biggest sport facility in the country, affordable and sustainable, a short video was shown); the talent identification program (used as a national outreach tool, involving schools, municipalities and regional governments in the course of four years), and the YOG opening ceremony (including the entire population of the city, located in one of the main public esplanades of the capital). A second short video was shown.

The following goals will be sought in order to boost attendance: advancing the date of the Games ( so as to cover 2 weekends and a national holiday), the inclusion of four new sports, the fostering of gender equality among athletes, in line with the Olympic Agenda 2020, and an Olympic park approach mixing competition venues with recreational sites. A short video was shown to illustrate

the concept. Transportation routes will use existing infrastructure without interfering with local traffic.

Logistical information was provided to the NOCs: registration, arrival dates, departure dates, chefs de mission seminar, media platforms, etc.

The President of the Argentine NOC addressed the General Assembly and thanked the IOC, ANOC, the NOCs and the IFs for all their support.

A delegate asked for Mr. Maglione's statement of the previous day regarding the EC's position concerning the allegations against President Sheikh Ahmad to be included in the minutes of the General Assembly. Sheikh Ahmad reassured him by saying that the content of the meeting was not only in the minutes but also on video and audio recordings.

### **Item 29: XXIII ANOC General Assembly in Tokyo in 2018**

Mr. Takeda, President of the Japanese NOC, addressed the General Assembly on the subject of the next ANOC General Assembly in Tokyo the following year: he referred to a tour of the Olympic venues, hotels, meeting sites, the ANOC Awards, the JOC Reception, etc. A short video was shown.

### **Item 30: Resolutions of XXII ANOC General Assembly 2017 in Prague**

A total of 205 NOCs gathered in the city of Prague for the XXII ANOC General Assembly and agreed on the following resolutions:

1. ANOC congratulates the Czech Olympic Committee and its President Jiri Kejval for the excellent organization of the ANOC meeting.
2. ANOC fully endorses the appointment of Julio Maglione as ANOC's Senior Vice President.
3. ANOC ratifies the support for the ANOC President shown by the ANOC Executive Council.
4. ANOC congratulates the IOC and its President Thomas Bach for the progress that has been made with Olympic Agenda 2020.
5. ANOC reiterates its support for the conclusions reached during the Olympic Summit.
6. ANOC strongly supports PyeongChang 2018 and confirms the strong participation of NOCs in the Olympic Winter Games. ANOC reinforces the IOC in applauding the PyeongChang 2018 Organizing Committee for the progress made and expresses its confidence that PyeongChang 2018 will be a safe and secure Games.
7. Protecting clean athletes continues to be a top priority for ANOC. ANOC expresses its full confidence in the ongoing investigations by the Schmid and Oswald Commissions, and for the procedure established by the IOC Executive Board. It welcomes the intention of the IOC Executive Board to take a decision in December with regard to the participation of Russian athletes in the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018.
8. ANOC considers it unacceptable that specific sanctions are already being demanded in the public domain before these two Commissions have even completed their work and before due process, to which any individual and organization is entitled, has been followed. This includes, in particular, calls by some for a resolution by WADA for a blanket ban of all Russian Athletes for the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018, because this would be an infringement of the WADA code. ANOC also emphasized that National Anti-Doping Organizations (NADOs) are service organizations and should not be engaged in making political statements.

9. The General Assembly fully supports the progress in the setting up of the Independent Testing Authority (ITA) and calls for ANOC and the Continental Associations to join the ITA as Major Event Organizers (MEOs) to ensure the protection of clean athletes.
10. ANOC reiterates its commitment to implementing the highest standards of good governance and ratified the ANOC Legal Commission's proposed changes to the ANOC Constitution and proposal to create an ANOC Independent Ethics Commission. ANOC endorsed an outreach program that it is hoped will assist NOCs in understanding and working within the ethics landscape in sport.
11. ANOC supports the IOC toolkit for the Olympic Movement to safeguard athletes from harassment and abuse in sport as was presented by HRH Prince Faisal Al-Hussein of Jordan during the XXII ANOC General Assembly. The toolkit has been established in cooperation between the IOC, athletes, ANOC, ASOIF and AIOWF. ANOC strongly encourages all NOCs to use the toolkit to implement effective policies and procedures.
12. ANOC applauds the progress made on the ANOC World Beach Games in creating a sustainable, cost efficient concept, in partnership with San Diego 2019 and the IF family, which will benefit the Olympic Movement. ANOC approves the continued discussions on the event with the IOC and GAISF.
13. ANOC agrees to enhance cooperation between NOCs and university sport following an MoU signing with the International University Sports Federation (FISU).

The resolutions were unanimously approved by the General Assembly.

  
**Gunilla Lindberg**  
**Secretary General of ANOC**