

Asian and Oceania Table Tennis Committee (AOTTC)

General Assembly of the Asian & Oceania Regional held on 15th November, 2007 in Seoul Room of Olympic Parktel Hotel at 20:30

Mr. Silas Chiang, the Regional Representative of the Asian & Oceania Regional was in the chair and the Assembly was attended by official representatives from 11 national Paralympic Committees in the region. They were Australia, China, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong China, Iran, Japan, Jordan, Korea, Kuwait, Malaysia and Thailand.

Also attended the General Assembly were observers from the ITTF Para Table Tennis Committee Chairman, Mr. Oeivind Eriksen, Vice-Chairman, Mr. Nico Vespeelt and Medical Officer Dr. Aart Kruimer, and ITTF Board of Director Mr. Graeme Ireland and Miss Cindy Leung, the Adviser of the AOTTC together with the competition Manager of the Championships Mr. John Lee.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Mr. Chiang started the meeting at 20:37 by welcoming all to the General Assembly and he informed the meeting that the notice and Agenda of the General Assembly was circulated on 13th November. As no amendments were made the Agenda was adopted unanimously.

2. Introduction of Stage Party and the AOTTC members

The officers in the official head table, including all the ITTF Para Table Tennis Committee members were introduced. Members of the AOTTC who were present were also introduced and they were Mr. Jang Choon-Bae, Vice Chairman; Mr. Yuan Feng, Technical Officers; Mr. Chan Kin Foo, the Development Officer and Miss Cindy Leung, the Adviser. Mr. Arthur Wilks who was not present was adopted as a member representing Oceania in the Committee.

3. Minutes of the General Assembly held on 18th June 2005 in Kuala Lumpur of Malaysia

The minutes were circulated and as no amendments were made the minutes were adopted.

4. Report of the Regional Representative / AOTTC Chairman

Mr. Chiang referred members to the written report circulated to them at the meeting and in brief, he mentioned the following :-

- 4.1 The organizational changes in International Paralympic Committee (IPC) and the change due to merge to the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF), his term of office would be extended to 2009. A new structure would be expected and the chairman of the ITTF Para Table Tennis Committee would explain such changes later in the meeting.
- 4.2 Meetings of AOTTC (or the previous FESPIC / Asian & South Pacific Table Tennis Committee). A General Assembly was planned during the 2006 KL FESPIC Games, and it was cancelled due to members being accommodated in different hotels and the terrible traffic condition at that time.
- 4.3 Reports to IPTTC/ITTF Para Table Tennis Committee on the activities in the Asian region and the regional Championships held in 2007 in Seoul. The purposal and work of the AOTTC was also mentioned.
- 4.4 Expertise in the Asian and Oceania Region
It was noted that for the Technical Delegate (TD), we had 1 Senior TD, 1 TD and 7 Trainee TDs; for classifiers, we had 2 Senior, 4 Regional, 9 National and 32 Trainee classifiers; for umpires, we had 231 Silver ITTF/IPTTC and 6 Bronze umpires.
- 4.5 Future structure of AOTTC would depend very much on the structure of the ITTC Para Table Tennis Committee as from 2009. The task of the AOTTC for the time being would be to assist development of table tennis in National Paralympic Committees, organization of regional championships as well as workshops, seminars in order to train up more expertise in the region.

5. Report on the Merge of IPTTC to ITTF and the new structure

Mr. Eriksen was invited to give a brief account on the merge. The start of merging was at the 2002 World Championships in Taipei when members approved to commence the exercise. After some 5 years of hard work, both IPC and ITTF approved the transfer of governance and with effect from 1st July 2007, IPTTC became the Para Table Tennis Committee of ITTF. However, the official contract for the transfer of governance had not been signed.

6. Report on the Selection of Players to 2008 Beijing Paralympic

Mr. Nico Verspeelt, the Selection Officer gave a detail account on the allocations to table tennis (264) and the criteria for gender, for severe Disabled, for regional as well as the time line for the various stages of the selection process.

Ms Sima of Iran asked if consideration be made for developing nations or for sub-regions as in the case of ITTF for the Olympic. The question was noted as the selection system had already been approved for 2008 Beijing Paralympic, as nothing could be changed.

7. Future Responsibility of the AOTTC

This was mentioned by the Chairman in his Report under Item 4.5.

8. Regional Championships in 2009 and 2011

The meeting was informed that Bangkok of Thailand and Amman of Jordan had submitted in writing their bid for the 2009 Asian and Oceania Championships. Dr. Tanin Santiwattanatarm of Thailand and Dr. Hussein Abu Al-ruz of Jordan were asked to give a brief presentation. After some views expressed by members a vote was taken. Amman got 6 votes while Bangkok 2. Amman was declared to be the host city for the 2009 Regional Championships. The Chairman asked that, as Middle East nations were officially included as part of Asia in November last year, it would be good that a city in the Middle East be the host for the next Championships. He thanked Thailand for their interest.

For the 2011 Regional Championships, the Chairman told the meeting that Japan had already indicated their interest and he wished Thailand would also bid for being the host.

9. ITTF Para Tour 2009

Mr. Eriksen informed the meeting that the Tour series of competitions at factor 40, each would take 4 days for competitions over weekends. The Tour might commence in 2010 and 2009 would be for a test event. He also showed members the initial proposed dates and appealed to them to bid for hosting such competitions, and moreover, to try to copy with the proposed dates. Finally he asked members to bid earlier, allowing at least 6-7 months planning before the start of the following calendar events.

10. Other Competitions and Seminars/Workshops in 2008 and 2009

The meeting was informed that Singapore had recently set up a regional classification centre and regular seminars/workshops for a variety of sports would be organized. For competitions that members of the Asian and Oceania would like to host, it would be important that advanced notice and thorough planning be made, in particular to members in the region as to first seek their support.

11. Brief Report on the 2010 (10th) Asian Para Games

The Chairman told members that the 10th Asian Para Games would be organized in Guangzhou, the same city for the Asian Games in 2010. Some clarifications on the Contract signed between the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) and the Asian Paralympic Committee (APC) were being made in that, there was a clause in the Contract stating that the Organizing Committee of the Asian Games could not organize any other games. Guangzhou wanted to do the same as Beijing, one Organizing Committee for both the Asian Games and the Asian Para Games. Members would be kept informed of the progress from time to time.

12. Coaching Committee of ITTF Para Coaching Committee

The Chairman informed members that due to language problems, we had not had any experienced coach joining the ITTF Para Coaching Committee. He appealed to members to nominate if there were appropriate coaches in the region who wanted to share their experience with those from the other regions.

(After Meeting notes : Mr. Chan Kin Foo of Malaysia had shown interest to join the Coaching Committee.)

13. Any Other Business

As there were no other business other than some reminders by the Championships Organizing Committee, the meeting concluded at 22:30 with a video showing the preparation of the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games.

Prepared by Mr. Silas Chiang

On 19th November, 2007

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