



M/17/20  
Monaco, 25 March 2020

To: **MEMBER FEDERATIONS**  
Copy: Council Members  
Executive Board Members  
Honorary Members  
Area Associations  
Dentsu Athletics

Re: **Minutes of the 52nd World Athletics Congress – Doha, Qatar**

Dear all,

It is my pleasure to send you the Minutes of the 52<sup>nd</sup> World Athletics Congress, which was held in Doha, Qatar on 25-26 September 2019.

The Minutes have been drafted in accordance with the Constitution and the Rules of Congress, and in the order of the Congress Agenda.

Requests for correction should be addressed by email to [congress@worldathletics.org](mailto:congress@worldathletics.org). Any queries arising will be brought to the attention of the World Athletics Council during its next meeting following receipt of the email.

Kind regards,

Jon Ridgeon  
Chief Executive Officer

Appendix: Minutes of the 52nd Congress

---

## 52<sup>nd</sup> World Athletics Congress 25/26 September 2019 – Doha, Qatar

### Congress Opening Ceremony

On 24 September 2019, Congress Delegates, as well as other Member Federation team officials on site in Doha attended the Congress Opening Ceremony and dinner at the Qatar National Convention Centre, during which the Silver Order of Merit, Plaques of Merit and Veteran Pins were awarded (lists of recipients are outlined under Item 18).

### 1. Opening and Welcome by the President

**President Sebastian Coe** delivered the opening address and welcomed the delegates to the 52<sup>nd</sup> Congress meeting held on 25-26 September 2019, as follows:

*“Good morning,*

*A very warm welcome to each and every one of you to this 52<sup>nd</sup> Congress in the wonderful city of Doha.*

*We gather here today on behalf of our wonderful sport, with new confidence, and that’s important because of our work here over the next two days, and over those days we should reflect, not for long, but reflect all the same on the progress that we have all made together since we last met in London. That progress, that confidence, is in large part down to your individual and your collective work through our federations on behalf of athletics.*

*Three years ago when we met in Monaco to agree the reforms, we have now largely implemented, we had a shared ambition to see our sport cemented in the top four sports in the world by 2020. If you remember, on some metrics we were sitting at about eighth, on a poorer day about ninth. Well our latest research shows that we are within a percentage point of achieving that, and that again is thanks to all of you here with us in this congress hall.*

*I’m not going to pretend that this has been an easy journey; in fact, you all know that it’s been tough. Two years of reform and two years of implementing that reform. But what I’m most proud about is that we have done it together. This sport, our sport, has come together in a way that I have not seen before. We face this together, we debate it together, we make decisions together and we will grow this sport together over the next four years. If the last four years were a time for change the next four years are a time to build.*

*It now gives me great pleasure to formally open the 52<sup>nd</sup> Congress of the International Association of Athletics Federations, and I would like to welcome each and every federation delegate, chairs of the committees, the commissions and our independent bodies, our honorary members, our area associations, other observers including members of the committees and commissions, of course our teams from headquarters and our very many invited guests. I will now ask our CEO Jon Ridgeon to take the roll call and then I will take you through the procedures for today’s meeting.*

*Thank you very much.”*

## 2. Roll call and first announcement of voting strength of Member Federations (invited attendees)

Chief Executive Officer **Jon Ridgeon** explained how to use the hand-held electronic device to register Member Federations' presence for the Roll Call and noted that the same device would be used for the voting later in the meeting. A test vote was conducted, and questions or issues raised by Voting Delegates were addressed.

At 9:27am (Doha local time), with 190 Member Federations registered present at the Congress meeting the minimum required of 64 for the quorum was surpassed and the first voting strength was established.

**President Coe** noted for the record the presence of the following invited attendees:

- Rune Andersen, Chair of the Russia Taskforce
- David Howman, Chair of the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU)
- Michael Beloff QC, Chair of the Disciplinary Tribunal and Ethics Board
- Don Mackinnon, Chair of the Vetting Panel
- Margot Foster, Chair of the Election Oversight Panel
- Robert Kayihura, Jon Napier, Vidushpat Singhania and Luk Verlaenen, Members of the Election Oversight Panel
- Matthieu Pruvost and Sandrine Arcin from the Auditors, EY
- Gordon Orlikow, Convenor of the Nominations Panel and Chair of the Executive Board Appointments Panel
- Brett Clothier, Head of the AIU
- Huw Roberts, AIU Senior Legal Counsel, and
- Dentsu Athletics represented by Stephan Brubacher, Magnus Guthrie-Brown and Naoie Kubo.

**President Coe** provided the Delegates with an explanation about the order of the Congress meeting and the procedures that would be followed to ensure that:

- Member Federations who wish are provided an opportunity to speak
- the tasks set out in the Congress Agenda are accomplished in a timely manner, and
- the Congress is conducted in a way that is respectful.

The explanation also included a reminder of the Rules of Congress and key points in relation to proposing motions for discussion, the rules on who can speak, and the time limits for speaking.

## 3. Apologies and overall attendance

The Cabo Verde Member had formally sent their apologies in advance of the Congress meeting to the President.

Over the two-day Congress, 209 Member Federations were present, represented by a total of 373 Delegates. The following Member Federations were absent: Cabo Verde, Russia, Gabon, Guinea Bissau and Syria. The Russia Athletic Federation was absent due to its suspension from membership, and the "*Fédération Gabonaise d'Athlétisme*" was absent due to its non-compliance with their membership obligations (refer to Item 6).

## 4. Approval of Scrutineers for voting

**Aleck Skhosana, President of Athletics South Africa** moved the motion to adopt by a show of hands the recommended list of Scrutineers, which was seconded by **Drumeco Archer, President of the Bahamas Association of Athletic Associations**.

Upon the recommendation of the Election Oversight Panel, Congress approved by a show of hands the following persons to act as the Scrutineers for the 52<sup>nd</sup> Congress Meeting:

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| • Mrs Derartu Tulu (ETH)                     | Africa        |
| • Mr Cho Wonmin (KOR)                        | Asia          |
| • Mrs Nadya But-Husaim (BLR)                 | Europe        |
| • Mrs Esther Maynard (BAR), Chief Scrutineer | NACAC         |
| • Mr Fletcher McEwen (AUS)                   | Oceania       |
| • Mr Og Robson de Menezes Chagas (BRA)       | South America |

## 5. Approval of the Minutes of the 51<sup>st</sup> Congress Meeting held in London on 2/3 August 2017

**Bill MacMackin, President of Athletics Canada** moved the motion to adopt by a show of hands the minutes from the 51<sup>st</sup> Congress meeting, which was seconded by **Aleck Skhosana, President of Athletics South Africa**.

Congress approved by a show of hands (confirmed by the Chief Scrutineer) the minutes of the 51<sup>st</sup> IAAF Congress Meeting held in London on 2/3 August 2017, as circulated, as a true and correct record of the meeting. No votes were registered against.

## 6. Membership

### 6.a) Any resolution regarding Member Federations not meeting Member Federation obligations

**President Coe** informed Congress of Council's decision, in accordance with Article 13.5 of the Constitution, to sanction the "*Fédération Gabonaise d'Athlétisme*" for not complying with its Member obligations:

The outcome of Council's decision was that the Gabon federation was:

- not allowed to attend, speak or vote at the 2019 Congress; and
- issued with a caution regarding fulfilment of its Member obligations.

### 6.b) Council proposed resolution regarding the Russian Athletic Federation (RusAF)

The **President of the Russian Athletic Federation (RusAF) Dmitriy Shlyakhtin** accepted the opportunity, following Council's proposed resolution regarding the continued suspension of RusAF's membership of World Athletics, to address Congress and provided an update on RusAF's position.

The independent **Chair of the Russia Taskforce Rune Andersen** also addressed Congress and provided details on what remained outstanding with respect to the reinstatement conditions.

**President Coe** noted an amendment to the wording of the proposed resolution that had been circulated to members prior to the Congress. The words "from time to time" had been added due to the recent developments from WADA, as outlined in the Russia Taskforce Report.

**Galia Puhaleva, General Secretary of the Bulgarian Athletic Federation** moved the motion to vote on the amended proposal by a show of hands, which was seconded by **William Steven Kalleghe, Vice-President of Athletics Tanzania**. By a show of hands, confirmed by the Chief Scrutineer, Congress approved the amended resolution to include the words “from time to time”. No votes were registered against.

The motion to vote on the approved amended resolution was moved by **Jakob Larsen, General Director of the Danish Athletics Federation** and seconded by **Geen Clarke, President of the “Federación Costarricense de Atletismo”** without comment. There were no requests from members to speak or discuss the motion.

The Congress, in exercise of its powers under Article 13.7 of the Constitution, passed by the required Simple Majority the following resolution by open electronic vote (164 in favour, 30 against, Simple Majority 97):

- a. to continue the suspension of RusAF’s membership of the IAAF until Council decides that all of the conditions set by Council from time to time for the revocation of RusAF’s suspension and consequent reinstatement of RusAF’s membership have been met; and
- b. to delegate authority to Council to decide (in consultation with the Taskforce and the Athletics Integrity Unit) whether, after RusAF’s suspension has been revoked and its membership has been reinstated, RusAF should have to comply with any special requirements designed to provide assurance that it is continuing to meet all of its anti-doping obligations, that both the IAAF and RUSADA continue to be able to carry out their respective anti-doping activities in Russia and in relation to Russian athletes and athlete support personnel effectively and without interference, and that accordingly the participation of Russian athletes in international competitions will not jeopardise the integrity of those competitions.

Hardcopies of the Russian Athletic Federation President’s speech, as well as the Russian Taskforce Report were distributed to Congress Delegates during the Congress meeting.

## 7. Second announcement of voting strength

The **Chief Executive Officer** confirmed that following the decision by Congress to continue the suspension of RusAF’s membership, there was no change to the total voting strength.

## 8. Elections

In accordance with the Constitution and the Rules of Congress, elections were held for the President, Vice-Presidents and Individual Council Members for the 2019-2023 mandate.

The list of candidates for the elections was sent to Member Federations on 25 July 2019 (Circular M/19/19) and the detailed biographies of all candidates were sent to Member Federations by Circular M/27/19 dated 1 September 2019.

CEO **Jon Ridgeon** informed the Congress that Mr Ahmad Al Kamali of the UAE had been provisionally suspended from his position as Council Member and Candidate at the 2019 Congress following an ex parte application by the Athletics Integrity Unit to the Chair of the Disciplinary Tribunal in respect of an alleged breach of the Rules and/or the Integrity Code of Conduct reported by the Election Oversight Panel. The Chair of the Disciplinary Tribunal had notified Mr Al Kamali of his provisional suspension before the opening of the Elective Congress session. As a result, Mr Al Kamali was unable to stand as a candidate in the elections and was

## Minutes - 52nd Congress

---

removed from the list of candidates for the election of Vice-Presidents, as well as from the list of candidates for the election of Individual Council Members.

The Congress was also informed that Adille Sumariwalla (IND) had withdrawn his candidacy for the Vice-President elections and Sayar Al Anezi (KUW) had withdrawn his candidacy for the Individual Council Member elections. Member Federations received a hardcopy of the amended list of candidates prior to the start of the elections.

An elections and voting explanatory note, as well instructions on how to use the electronic voting system had been sent to Member Federations by Circular prior to the Congress meeting (M/31/19 dated 18 September 2019) and the same information was provided to Member Federations in hardcopy on site in Doha, with a rehearsal also organised in the Congress Hall for Members on 24 September 2019. Member Federations were reminded of the new system for voting as set out in the Rules of Congress and explanatory note, and that voting during the elections would be undertaken by secret ballot.

The six scrutineers and the five Election Oversight Panel members were present to ensure good order in the conduct of the election.

Prior to the start of the elections, another roll call and announcement of voting strength was undertaken. With 201 Member Federations registered present at the Congress meeting the quorum of 67 was met and the voting strength established. Based on 201 Member Federations, an Absolute Majority was confirmed as 102.

For the elections, a second voting card was distributed, and a test vote was conducted. Any questions or issues raised by Voting Delegates were addressed.

The results of each round of voting were displayed on the screens in the Congress Hall.

### 8.1 Election of President

Upon the request of **President Coe**, **Senior Vice-President Sergey Bubka** chaired the Congress during the election of the position of President. The voting strength was confirmed as 203 with an absolute majority confirmed at 103.

Sebastian Coe (GBR) was the only candidate for the position of President and was elected with 203 votes (0 votes against).

### 8.2 Election of Vice-Presidents

Prior to the election of the Vice Presidents, the total voting strength was confirmed by the Chief Scrutineer as 206.

There were nine (9) candidates in total for the four (4) Vice-President positions.

The election for the Female Vice-President (1 seat) took place first and Ximena Restrepo (CHI), as the Highest Polling Candidate was elected.

The full results were as follows:

- |                                |                 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| • <b>Ximena RESTREPO (CHI)</b> | <b>85 votes</b> |
| • Abby HOFFMAN (CAN)           | 68 votes        |
| • Sylvia BARLAG (NED)          | 53 votes        |

## Minutes - 52nd Congress

The election for the remaining three (3) Vice-President positions took place and Sergey Bubka (UKR), Geoffrey Gardner (NFI) and Nawaf bin Mohammed Al Saud (KSA) as the Highest Polling Candidates were elected. As required by the Constitution, the four elected Vice-Presidents are from different Areas.

The full results were as follows:

### Round 1

- **Sergey BUBKA (M) (UKR)** **139 votes**
- **Geoffrey GARDNER (M) (NFI)** **105 votes**
- Nawaf BIN MOHAMMED AL SAUD (M) (KSA) 71 votes
- Alberto JUANTORENA DANGER (M) (CUB) 71 votes
- Abby HOFFMAN (F) (CAN) 64 votes
- Jackson TUWEI (M) (KEN) 62 votes
- Ibrahim SHEHU-GUSAU (M) (NGR) 56 votes
- Sylvia BARLAG (F) (NED) 50 votes

### Round 2 = Tie break round

- **Nawaf BIN MOHAMMED AL SAUD (M) (KSA)** **106 votes**
- Alberto JUANTORENA DANGER (M) (CUB) 100 votes

### 8.3 Election of Individual Council Members

There were thirty-five (35) candidates in total for the thirteen (13) Individual Council Member positions. This followed the removal from the ballot of the candidates successfully elected as Vice-President (Ximena Restrepo and Nawaf bin Mohammed Al Saud).

Congress was reminded of the Constitution minimum gender requirement for 2019 and that the Council of 26 Members must be composed of at least seven members of each gender. The Individual Council Member Gender Numbers were announced based on the gender numbers already elected, and the Chief Scrutineer confirmed that Voting Delegates would need to elect a minimum of five female candidates to ensure the minimum gender requirement was met.

As the Highest Polling Candidates, Hiroshi Yokokawa (M) (JPN), Antti Pihlakoski (M) (FIN), Anna Riccardi (F) (ITA), Nan Wang (F) (CHN), Adille Sumariwalla (M) (IND), Nawal El Moutawakel (F) (MAR), Abby Hoffman (F) (CAN), Sylvia Barlag (F) (NED), Alberto Juantorena (M) (CUB), Willie Banks (M) (USA), Raul Chapado (M) (ESP), Dobromir Karamarinov (M) (BUL), and Beatrice Ayikoru (F) (UGA) were elected. The minimum gender requirement was exceeded.

The full results were as follows:

- **Hiroshi YOKOKAWA (M) (JPN)** **142 votes**
- **Antti PIHLAKOSKI (M) (FIN)** **125 votes**
- **Anna RICCARDI (F) (ITA)** **123 votes**
- **Nan WANG (F) (CHN)** **122 votes**
- **Adille SUMARIWALLA (M) (IND)** **121 votes**
- **Nawal EL MOUTAWAKEL (F) (MAR)** **120 votes**
- **Abby HOFFMAN (F) (CAN)** **117 votes**
- **Sylvia BARLAG (F) (NED)** **107 votes**
- **Alberto JUANTORENA (M) (CUB)** **102 votes**
- **Willie BANKS (M) (USA)** **101 votes**
- **Raul CHAPADO (M) (ESP)** **98 votes**
- **Dobromir KARAMARINOV (M) (BUL)** **96 votes**

---

• <b>Beatrice AYIKORU (F) (UGA)</b>	<b>91 votes</b>
• Annette PURVIS (F) (NZL)	88 votes
• Muhammad Akram SAHI (M) (PAK)	88 votes
• Bernard AMSALEM (M) (FRA)	84 votes
• Jackson TUWEI (M) (KEN)	78 votes
• Claudia PEREZ OLMOS (F) (MEX)	69 votes
• Evelyn FARRELL (F) (ARU)	67 votes
• Aleck Thandisenzo SKHOSANA (M) (RSA)	62 votes
• Edith SKIPPINGS (F) (TKS)	58 votes
• Sarifa FAGILDE (F) (MOZ)	57 votes
• Elias MPONDELA (M) (ZAM)	50 votes
• Warren BLAKE (M) (JAM)	48 votes
• Donna RAYNOR (F) (BER)	47 votes
• Juergen KESSING (M) (GER)	45 votes
• Khaled AMARA (M) (TUN)	43 votes
• Alain JEAN-PIERRE (M) (HAI)	42 votes
• Bader Naser MOHAMED (M) (BRN)	41 votes
• Dieudonne KWIZERA (M) (BDI)	39 votes
• Andrey ABDUVALIEV (M) (UZB)	37 votes
• Siti TAWANG (F) (BRU)	34 votes
• Walentina FEDJUSCHINA (F) (AUT)	33 votes
• Ronald RUSSELL (M) (ISV)	32 votes
• Askhat SEISEMBEKOV (M) (KAZ)	32 votes

**President Coe** expressed his heartfelt thanks for the trust and show of support for the new Vice-Presidents, new Council Members and for himself, and assured the Congress that they will represent the needs of the Members and work together to drive forward the growth and development of the sport over the next four years.

## 9. Council Report

On behalf of the Council, **President Coe** introduced the Council Report which had been circulated to Member Federations as part of the Congress documentation on 25 July 2019 (Circular M/19/19) and distributed as a hardcopy on site in Doha. The report comprised the President's report on behalf of Council, the Financial report, the reports from the Auditors, and the reports from the Committees and Commissions, and covered the two-year period since the last Congress meeting.

### 9.1 Report from the President on activities

**President Coe** provided an overview of the organisation's and the Council's work and activities since the London 2017 Congress. He thanked his Council colleagues for their contributions and commitment and expressed his gratitude to the internal teams at headquarters, who had played a vital role in the delivery of the decisions taken by Council.

**The President's** overview focused on a few highlights across the four pillars set out in 2015, namely, to embrace change, to decentralise and empower, to maximise commercial growth and to embed integrity and trust in everything on the field of play and within the organisation.

Change had been rapidly embraced to reform the governance structures. Changes to the 2017 Constitution were now embedded in the structures and processes and enabled a more transparent organisation, and the final



reforms relating to the 2019 Constitution were being implemented. As a result, and with this platform in place, the President emphasised that the focus should now be on changes to events and formats.

Over the last two years, the world rankings have been launched, which is in pilot phase over the course of 2019, a clear roadmap for the Diamond League in 2020 has been set out, greater clarity has been brought to the global calendar with fixed windows for national championships, and the first steps to securing a stronger continental circuit had been taken. These actions mean that heading into the next four years there is a far clearer competition structure in place that is well understood and crucially can be delivered.

In addition, in the last two years, field events have been showcased in spectacular city centre settings, which bring fans closer to athletes, and community events like Run 24:1 in 2018 and 2019 have been piloted, which takes Athletics into local communities and gives everyone an opportunity to be involved. Getting the world to move will be a focus for the sport over the next four years and the President expressed the view that by working together at national, area and global levels the sport can make a real difference to the health and wellbeing of neighbourhoods.

In terms of the second pillar, since 2017, a lot of time has been spent in delivering a more decentralised sport and empowering Member Federations and athletes. The overarching philosophy is that people on the ground are always better at making decisions than those far away. The organisation does not have infinite resources so continued efforts to spend wisely and prioritise needs is necessary. Targeting funds according to need and using them effectively to implement well thought out development programmes, which deliver over the long term must be a priority. This will be the approach for the coming years and the approach taken for the next iteration of the Athletics Olympic Dividend, which has in large part worked well. The management of funds and monitoring of progress must be done, but decisions should be made where possible on the ground. The priority is to establish clear roles and responsibilities at the Area and Member Federation levels, as well as at headquarters around reporting, monitoring and evaluating to deliver a process that is transparent and works, particularly for the Member Federations as the critical end users.

Thanks to the work of the Gender Leadership Taskforce and the Areas there has been a focus on empowering women in the sport. The elections were evidence of this work. Ultimately this work can only be effective if, at all levels, females with the required expertise and skill sets are given opportunities and nominated for roles in advisory and decision-making bodies.

With regard to the third pillar and commercial growth, both the relationship and contract with Dentsu have been re-engineered and two new partnerships, with Asics and the Qatar National Bank (QNB), secured. In addition, the process of re-signing a number of long-term contracts with existing World Athletics Series sponsors and broadcast partners, with the explicit aim of engaging and reaching more fans around the world, was near finalisation. The two-year piece of work around the third logo on athletes' kits has been concluded and will be in place for the Doha 2019 World Athletics Championships. Building on this, and future work will consist of reviewing the prize money structure and identifying how athletes can earn more in the sport.

The President announced a landmark partnership, a ten-year title sponsorship of the Diamond League starting in 2020, with the Chinese conglomerate the Wanda Group. The agreement represents the biggest single commercial partnership in the history of athletics, and in addition to the Diamond League title sponsorship, includes, the future organisation of an annual Diamond League meeting in China, the creation of a new annual World Athletics event in China to be organised by the Wanda Sports Group, the right for Wanda to co-host the World Athletics Awards event, and the Diamond League media rights for five years from 2025, and the media rights for a second series of one-day meetings for ten years.

The last pillar, ensuring integrity and trust in everything we do, was where the most impact had been made. In 2015, force majeure had driven the need to ensure integrity and trust throughout the organisation but through the governance review work and the set up of the Athletics Integrity Unit, the Doping Review Board, the Russia

Taskforce, the Nationality Review Panel for transfers of allegiance, and the other independent bodies, and increased level of trust has been built up around the world. The ambition is to continue to lead in this area with ground-breaking initiatives such as the announcement of the joint approach and funding in the fight against doping in road running.

The President concluded by reflecting that the last four years have been at times difficult, by the day challenging and for lengthy periods attritional, but throughout the Council has been determined to build a future on only the firmest of foundations, foundations that will enable progress through Member Federations cemented on good governance, clear roles and responsibilities and integrity. As a result, the belief was that the Congress can look forward with confidence to the challenges of growing the sport, maximising existing and new revenue streams, building even stronger partnerships at governmental level and crucially, elevating the status and financial health of athletes on a secure footing. Had a different approach been taken, the sport would not be able to move forward with its reputation enhanced, and as a sport that has been prepared to take tough decisions and implement them when others have waited for Athletics to take the lead. For these reasons, the President put on record his thanks to the Council, including on behalf of the Congress.

If the last four years have been a time for change, the next four years will be a time to build, to build on the solid foundations of the reforms, building stronger partnerships, both public and private, building greater expertise and skills at local level, building a better product that remains relevant in the minds and the actions of young people, to build better support structures for Member Federations and build a greater profile of the sport through a higher profile of our athletes who actively promote the sport through their performances and their personalities.

The President thanked the Congress and expressed how he looked forward to working with all over the next four years, on the next leg of World Athletics' journey.

### **9.2 Financial Report on annual financial statements for preceding two financial years**

The Treasurer, **José María Odriozola** presented the Financial Report to the Congress that consisted of a summary of the 2018 audited accounts and of the 2019 approved budget. Detail was also provided of the 2019 reforecast budget and the baseline view and proposed approach to bridge the gap in income and expenditure to ensure a sustainable financial model.

**President of Athletics Papua New Guinea, Tony Green** enquired about the deficits in 2018 and 2019 and when a turnaround was expected. **José María Odriozola** noted that there had been a number of unforeseen exceptional expenditures since the 2017 Congress, and that this, combined with the subsidies programmes to support Member Federations and Area Associations being maintained at a higher level than in the past, had resulted in the level of deficits as there had been no corresponding increase in revenue. It was explained that the action plan that will be put in place during 2020 will include cost saving measures to help improve the organisation's financial health. The actions will be reviewed and approved by the Council before implementation.

### **9.3 Reports from the Auditors**

#### **9.3.1 Financial Audit Report**

**Matthieu Pruvost, Senior Manager of Assurance and Advisory Business Service** at EY presented the financial audit report of the Consolidated Financial Statements, for the period from 1 January until 31 December 2018. These statements were prepared by EY, the appointed independent auditors, and approved and recommended to Congress by the Council, in accordance with the Constitution.

### 9.3.2 Non-financial Audit Report

**Matthieu Pruvost, Senior Manager of Assurance and Advisory Business Service** at EY presented the first part of the non-financial audit report. The audit was conducted by EY, with the scope being to test World Athletics' against its governance and ethical compliance obligations and responsibilities, as well as its integrity compliance obligations as set out in the Constitution, Rules and Regulations for the period from 1 January until 31 December 2018. The audit was approved and recommended to Congress by the Council, as required by the Constitution.

**Paolo Barone, Lead Auditor** at QSA, by way of a pre-recorded video presentation, provided the Congress with a summary of the second part of the non-financial audit report. The audit was conducted by QSA, specialist anti-doping auditors, with the objective to assess the compliance of the Athletics Integrity Unit in the application of World Athletics' anti-doping programme, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations for the period from 1 January until 31 December 2018. The audit was approved and recommended to Congress by the Council, as required by the Constitution.

## 9.4 Reports from Committees (Mandate 2015-2019)

### 9.4.1 Technical Committee

**Jorge Salcedo, Chairperson of the Technical Committee**, gave an outline of the committee's work, which primarily focused on the continued review of the Technical Rules and the proposed amendments approved by Council, the certification system for facilities and equipment, new technologies and measures for athlete safety, and the Technical Officials education programme and its implementation.

### 9.4.2 Women's Committee

**Esther Fittko, Chairperson of the Women's Committee**, presented an overview of the work of the committee noting that since the 2017 Congress there had been a significance increase in awareness and strategies to improve gender equity in athletics at all levels, including in the sport, its leadership and overall governance structures had been developed and put in place. The next phase should consist of building on the strong foundations to further evolve the global gender leadership educational programme that had been developed in collaboration with the Gender Leadership Taskforce.

### 9.4.3 Cross Country Committee

**Carlos Cardoso, Chairperson of the Cross Country Committee**, summarised the status of the committee's strategic objectives, notably the success of the World Cross Country Championships, Aarhus 2019 where some of the innovation initiated by the Committee, such as the Mixed relay event, had taken place. In addition, the committee's support for the inclusion of Cross Country within the Olympic Games programme and the further development of the relationship with Mountain and Trail Running was highlighted.

### 9.4.4 Race Walking Committee

**Maurizio Damilano, Chairperson of the Race Walking Committee**, outlined the work of the committee since the 2017 Congress. The key focus was emphasised as being on promoting the future of race walking. The comprehensive review and subsequent recommendations regarding the future race walking events and competition programmes were explained, including the ongoing development of the electronic system (insole) to establish loss of contact infractions in Race Walking competitions, and the agreement that future distances would be either: 10km and 30km or 20km and 35km (noting the move to a 10km distance would be dependent on the use of the insole technology).

**César Moreno Bravo, Delegate from the "Federación Mexicana de Asociaciones de Atletismo (FMAA)"** placed on record the FMAA's opinion that the 50km race walk event should be maintained. His view was that there was capacity within the pool of race walking athletes to compete in the 50km event and those athletes

who had trained and were already competing in this endurance event may not be able to transition to a shorter-distance event.

Following the agreed changes to the Constitution and the move towards a commission format, this was the last mandate of the committees. **President Coe** therefore thanked each Committee Chairperson for their report, and all the Committee Members for their commitment, contribution and aggregate hundreds of years of work and experience that they had brought to the sport.

### 9.5 Reports from the Commissions (Mandate 2015-2019)

#### 9.5.1 Athletes' Commission

**Iñaki Gómez, Chairperson of the Athletes' Commission**, presented an overview of the commission's work and activities over the two-year period, which included developing and delivering against its strategic plan, playing an active role in ensuring the sport's athlete presence at events such as the WADA Symposium and IOC International Athletes' Forum, and contributing to projects including the SPIKES publication and athlete session in Doha. It was reported that the commission also provided input across the committees, commissions, working groups and at Council.

An explanation was given of the rationale behind the Athletes' Commission's proposal to amend Article 41.2 (Membership of Council) of the Constitution, which was supported by Council. The proposed amendment (N° 7), included under Item 19 of the Congress Agenda, sought to exclude the two Athletes' Commission representatives on the Council from the one Member Federation rule with the rationale being to broaden the scope of eligible candidates to ensure that the Athletes' Commission was represented by those most suitable and not limited by nationality, particularly given the role of the Athletes' Commission members on the Council is specific to advocating for all the athletes.

#### 9.5.2 Audit & Finance Commission

**Lord Paul Deighton, Chairperson of the Audit & Finance Commission**, provided a summary of the commission's report by way of a pre-recorded video presentation. An overview was presented of the commission's role and responsibilities and key areas of focus, which included reviewing the annual financial reporting and monitoring of internal controls; monitoring financial stability, transparency and accountability; oversight of the external auditors (financial and non-financial); oversight of the commercial programme and major transactions; and the development of a sustainable and balanced budget.

An explanation was also provided regarding the recommendations to Congress on the financial and non-financial audits (under Items 9.3.1 and 9.3.2 respectively) and the appointment of the auditors (under Item 17), as these recommendations from Council to Congress were based on the work and recommendations of the Audit & Finance Commission.

#### 9.5.3 Coaches' Commission

**Victor Lopez, Chairperson of the Coaches' Commission**, outlined the commission's objectives and work over the past two years, which included undertaking a study on coaches during the World Championships London 2017 to enable updating of the coaches' database, conducting biomechanical research also during the World Championships London 2017 to help provide coaches with information for their science based coaching, and inputting into technical and competition related proposals and decisions. Ongoing work includes developing and professionalising the role of coaches and developing the global coach academy concept.

#### 9.5.4 Competition Commission

**Abby Hoffman, Chairperson of the Competition Commission**, presented an overview of the mandate of the commission and the work undertaken since 2017, which included developing a coordinated global calendar framework; establishing a World Ranking system that identifies and ranks athletes in real time and can be used as

a qualification mechanism; reviewing and providing the Council with innovative proposals for the competition programmes at WAS Competitions and at the Olympic Games; and reviewing the approach for targeting hosts of specific editions of marquee WAS events.

### 9.5.5 Development Commission

**Hamad Kalkaba Malboun, Chairperson of the Development Commission**, provided the Congress with a summary of the work the commission had done and contributions made to key development workstreams including the roll out of the concept of decentralisation, namely the day-to-day management by the Area Associations of the Development and Training Centres which have been restructured into Area Development Centres; and to development projects including, in collaboration with the Coaches' Commission, the review of concept and content of the Coaches' Academy, the Kids' Athletics review, the format of the biomechanics research projects conducted at the World Championships, London 2017 and at the World Indoor Championships, Birmingham 2018, and development of the e-learning platform which will administer the Coach Education Certification System courses.

### 9.5.6 Health & Science Commission

**Dr Harold Adams, Chairperson of the Health & Science Commission**, summarised the work of the commission and its athlete centred philosophy. Projects delivered through the commission included reviewing and updating the Consensus Statement on Nutrition for Athletes; inputting into the 'Beat the Heat' practical guidelines to address competing in high temperatures, as well as the Position Statement on safeguarding athletics by protecting athletes from harassment and abuse; proposing the Pre-Participation Medical Examination for athletes; and identifying partnership opportunities with road races to share expertise to ensure the highest quality medical support.

### 9.5.7 International Relations Commission

On behalf of HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco, Chair of the **International Relations Commission, Deputy Chair Nawal El Moutawakel** presented a summary of the work of the commission, which included identifying and contributing to the development of the following projects and partnerships: United Nations Environment Programme partnership; the Air quality project; the United Nations High Commission for Refugees; the World Health Organisation; Kids' Athletics and Run 24:1.

### 9.5.8 Legal Commission

**Maria Clarke, Chairperson of the Legal Commission**, explained that the work of the Commission had consisted primarily of review of new or proposed amendments to the Rules and Regulations, with an oversight on the Book of Rules project, as well as contributing to the review of policies, such as the Position Statement on Safeguarding Athletics by Protecting Athletes from Harassment and Abuse, and providing legal advice on the proposals to amend the Constitution that had been submitted to the Congress.

### 9.5.9 Masters' Commission

**Pierre Weiss, Chairperson of the Masters' Commission**, described the current levels of participation in masters' athletics, the structure of World Masters' Athletics (WMA), its competition programme, current challenges, and the current status of the relationship between World Athletics and WMA. Opportunities were highlighted for increased collaboration with WMA in areas such as anti-doping and competitions, specifically in terms of exploring the potential to integrate WMA with World Athletics championships and heighten the commercial value of WMA events.

### 9.5.10 Road Running Commission

**Carlo Capalbo, Chairperson of the Road Running Commission**, outlined the mandate and work of the commission over the past two years, which centred on making World Athletics more relevant to the millions of recreational runners worldwide and supporting the global elite road running community whilst ensuring the sport is kept clean and fair. A key area of focus had been on strengthening the Label Road Races programme by

introducing elements including the Platinum Label quality certification; the Ranking system; improved medical management and an out-of-competition Registered Testing Pool specifically for road race athletes.

### 9.5.11 Values Commission

**Bernard Amsalem, Chairperson of the Values Commission**, presented an overview of the commission's work, which primarily consisted of developing a roadmap with core values and expected behaviours to help guide key stakeholders in the sport away from malign influences. It was explained that in the future these principles will be enshrined in educational materials covering integrity and ethical compliance.

**President Coe** thanked the Commissions for their collective commitment and efforts to continuously provide advice and their support in driving and delivering important projects throughout their four-year mandate. He also emphasised that the organisation would seek to utilise and continue to capture the significant experience and expertise evident across all the commissions through the new formats.

**Aleck Skhosana, President of Athletics South Africa** moved the motion to approve the Council Report by a show of hands, which was seconded by **Márton Gyulai, Delegate from the Hungarian Athletics Association**.

**By a show of hands, confirmed by the Chief Scrutineer, Congress approved the Council Report, including the audit reports and the financial statements for the preceding two financial years ending 31 December 2018.** No votes were registered against.

## 10. Reports from Area Associations

Each Area Association made a video presentation highlighting the main activities that had taken place in the Area since the 2017 Congress. Each video was followed by a brief summary presented by the respective Area Association President on the key points of their written report circulated to the Members prior to the Congress Meeting on 25 July 2019 (Circular M/19/19), as well as provided in the Congress Documents on site in Doha.

### 10.1 Africa

**Hamad Kalkaba Malboun, President of the Confederation of African Athletics (CAA)** outlined the achievements of athletes from Africa at the Area and World levels, the restructuring of the Area Development Centres on the continent and plans for the future, including hosting of a World Athletics Championships in Africa, and the cooperation and partnerships with international agencies, such as CONFEJES and other Area Associations. A summary was also provided of the key decisions taken by the CAA Council, which included creating and implementing a new governance model that would incorporate integrity and ethics principles.

### 10.2 Asia

**Dahlan Al Hamad, President of the Asian Athletics Association (AAA)** presented a summary of the Association's activities over the last two years which included six Council meetings and two Congresses, one of which was an election congress. Details were provided of the benefits of the decision to decentralise development to the Areas as it had given Asia the opportunity to reflect on its specific needs of its different regions, and also the MOU signed with the Confederation of African Athletics and the continued work with Oceania by the way of the Asian Pacific team that had competed at the Continental Cup. Information was also provided of the move of the AAA's headquarters from Singapore to Thailand.

### 10.3 Europe

**Svein Arne Hansen, President of European Athletics** described the progression of the activities and competitions that had been held over the past two years, highlighting the spirit of innovation supported in Europe. Detail was provided of the first-ever multi-sport European Championships, with the athletics in Berlin attracting 65,000 spectators on a single night. The event had helped to identify new ways of working with

EBU and created synergies with other sports. Other competition innovations included the launch of Dynamic New Athletics at the European Games in Minsk and the Europe versus USA match also launched in Minsk in 2019. A reminder was provided about the annual European Athletics Convention and offer for representatives from other Areas to attend and participate in the programme of workshops.

### **10.4 North America, Central America and the Caribbean**

**Victor Lopez, President of the North America, Central America and Caribbean Athletics Association (NACAC)** provided Congress with a summary of the accomplishments led by the Area during the past two years. Governance had been a key area of focus, with the new council committed to undertaking a full review of the NACAC constitution to align with the World Athletics' governance and integrity reforms, and to support the alignment of the constitutions of Member Federations. Detail was provided on the NACAC finances including the approach to ensure support to Federations and delivery of competitions throughout the Area and the support secured through the Puerto Rican government for the NACAC headquarters. The development activities delivered in the Area through the decentralisation approach, the live streaming of competitions and the performances of the athletes were highlighted.

### **10.5 Oceania**

**Geoff Gardner, President of the Oceania Athletics Association (OAA)** outlined that the key areas of focus, remained on the continuation of the development programmes and ensuring the provision of competition opportunities across the region as pathways for athletes to excel. A focus through the OAA Strategic Plan is maintained on the needs and aspirations of the Area's Member Federations and on the advancement of the OAA website and social media platforms to reach a larger audience. It was also noted that 2019 marked 50 years since the formation of the OAA. 2019 had also seen the biggest ever edition of its senior championships, with over 700 athletes, the approval of important changes to its Constitution to align with the reforms made at global level, and new agreements with Asia and Europe for improved collaboration and opportunities to benefit from transfer of knowledge.

In closing, Mr Gardner paid tribute to Arthur Eustace of New Zealand who passed away in April 2018. Mr Eustace was a long-serving member of the World Athletics Council and Honorary Life Personal Member of World Athletics.

### **10.6 South America**

**Hélio Gesta de Melo, President elect of the Confederation of South America Athletics (CONSUDATLE)** presented on behalf of the President Roberto Gesta de Melo, an overview of the activities at the Area level since the 2017 Congress, including in 2018 which was the year of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of CONSUDATLE. The centenary anniversary had been commemorated by visiting each of the Member Federations in the Area, establishing the South American Athletics Museum in Manaus, Brazil, hosting a ceremony on the occasion of the World Athletics Council Meeting (July 2018) and offering donations of athletics memorabilia to the World Athletics Heritage collection and each of the Area's Member Federations.

It was outlined that in February 2019, the new Executive Council was unanimously elected to lead CONSUDATLE during the period 2019-2023, and that a strategic planning session for all Member Federations had been undertaken to identify priorities for the Area.

To observations made by **Lino Ramiro Varela Marmolejo, President of the "Federación Colombiana de Atletismo"** concerning decisions taken by the Executive and regarding the governance structure of the Area, **Mr Gesta de Melo** reminded that Mr Ramiro Varela, as Federation President, was part of the decision-making process in question and that further discussion would be taken offline if needed.

### 11. Report from the Vetting Panel

**Don Mackinnon, Vetting Panel Chair**, presented the report to the Congress, which had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting as part of the Congress Documents. The Report included a summary of the Panel's meetings, activities and results since the last Congress.

The vetting process was explained as a way to ensure that the right people are involved with the sport, with the scope of work of the Panel being to ensure a person's background is thoroughly checked before appointment, and to provide a clear, consistent, proportionate process to determine eligibility. This approach helps to promote the high standards of conduct and integrity to protect athletics. The Panel outlined their recommendations which included encouraging anyone who is applying for a role on a body of World Athletics to work collaboratively with the Panel and fully disclose all interests and in the future, for the Areas to also introduce vetting aligned with World Athletics.

### 12. Report from the Athletics Integrity Unit

**David Howman, Chair of the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) Board**, presented the report to the Congress, which had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting as part of the Congress Documents and distributed on site in Doha.

The Report focused on the work of the AIU since its establishment in 2017 and singled out several more recent strategic initiatives, including building the AIU's intelligent and investigative capacity and increasing transparency – a new policy has been introduced whereby all athletes that are given a provisional suspension are named, which allows fellow competitors, and the public, to understand why sometimes athletes are no longer competing. Another strategic initiative was highlighted as the active collaboration and participation from national federations and the adoption of Article 15 of the Anti-doping Rules, which ensures that national federations participate appropriately in the fight against doping. Finally, the initiative taken by the AIU and World Athletics in terms of the funding of a WADA-approved blood-testing laboratory in Kenya and the ongoing educational initiatives with current and future athletes were outlined.

**Seifullah Shaheen, President of the Egyptian Athletic Federation** and **Ngaro Ngakoutou Hisseine, President of the "Fédération Tchadienne d'Athlétisme"** requested an explanation around the process by which Mr Ahmad Al Kamali was deemed to be ineligible to be a candidate for the elections and the appeals process.

**David Howman** explained that the removal of Mr Al Kamali had been dealt with under the World Athletics Candidacy Rules. The AIU Board received a complaint from the Election Oversight Panel (EOP) and carried out an investigation that led to the submission of a report to the Disciplinary Tribunal for decision. The Tribunal took the decision to provisionally suspend the individual based on the information it had received, and that decision led to the ineligibility of a candidate. Every person affected by any decision of the Disciplinary Tribunal has a right of appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) and can exercise that right.

**Alfred Emmanuel, Treasurer of the Saint Lucia Athletics Association** requested clarification around the Council Member who was found not eligible by the Vetting Panel in 2018 and the specific case against Mr Al Kamali.

**President Coe** clarified that the Council Member who was found not eligible in 2018 was a previous determination of ineligibility from the Vetting Panel and an adjudication made by the AIU, that was won on appeal at CAS. The case of Mr Al Kamali had also been dealt with within the confines of an independent process initiated by a complaint received by the AIU from the EOP. **David Howman** added that following the provisional suspension of the candidate a hearing would be undertaken and because Mr Al Kamali's case was ongoing, it would be inappropriate to speak further on the matter.



To a query from **Seifullah Shaheen, President of the Egyptian Athletic Federation**, **Mr Howman** replied that when the process of any disciplinary matter, whether doping or non-doping, has been completed, the full decisions are made available on the AIU website.

**Aleck Skhosana, President of Athletics South Africa** requested clarification on the relationship within the organisation's governance structure of the Athletics Integrity Unit and the Vetting Panel, and their respective powers and primacy to deal with such matters, as opposed to the powers of Congress. **David Howman** replied that the Vetting Panel, as well as the AIU operate under the powers afforded to them in the Constitution, which have been approved by the Congress. Both bodies, as well as the Disciplinary Tribunal, must undertake their respective roles and responsibilities in accordance with the Constitution and the applicable Rules.

### 13. Report from the Disciplinary Tribunal (and Ethics Board)

**Michael Beloff QC, Chair of the Disciplinary Tribunal and the Ethics Board**, presented the report to Congress, that outlined the work of the two independent bodies. The report had been circulated to the Members prior to the Congress meeting and included as part of the Congress Documents distributed in Doha. The main highlights of the report were summarised including an explanation of the effectiveness of the new structures and benefits of the increased transparency and increased diversity of representation.

As Mr Beloff had decided not to run for another term as the Chair of the Disciplinary Tribunal, **President Coe** took the opportunity to thank him for his contribution during his tenure on the Ethics Board and the Disciplinary Tribunal.

### 14. Approval of the independent Members of the Athletics Integrity Unit Board

**Sonja Spindelhofer, President of the Austrian Athletics Federation** moved the motion to adopt the recommendation by a show of hands, which was seconded by **Johan Storakers, President of the Swedish Athletic Association**.

Upon the recommendation of the inaugural Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel, in accordance with Article 27.1(i) of the Constitution, **by a show of hands, confirmed by the Chief Scrutineer, Congress approved the reappointment of David Howman (NZL) (Chair), Andrew Pipe (CAN) and Marc Peltier (FRA) as the independent members to the Athletics Integrity Unit Board for a term of four (4) years commencing at the first Council meeting after the 2019 Congress meeting (i.e., 1 October 2019) and ending at the first Council meeting after the 2023 Congress meeting.** No votes were registered against.

### 15. Approval of the Members of the Vetting Panel

**Jakob Larsen, General Director of the Danish Athletics Federation** moved the motion to adopt the recommendation by a show of hands, which was seconded by **Zakhele Dlamini, President of Athletics Eswatini**.

Upon the recommendation of the Council, in accordance with Article 27.1(h) of the Constitution, **by a show of hands confirmed by the Chief Scrutineer, Congress approved the reappointment of Don Mackinnon (NZL) (Chair), Esi Schimming-Chase (NAM) and Professor Mark Pieth (SUI) as the members of the Vetting Panel for a term of four (4) years commencing at the conclusion of the 2019 Congress meeting (i.e., 26**

September 2019) and ending at the first Council meeting after the 2023 Congress meeting. No votes were registered against.

### 16. Approval of the Members of the Disciplinary Tribunal

**Cameron Taylor, Chairperson of Athletics New Zealand** moved the motion to adopt the recommendation by a show of hands, which was seconded by **Aleck Skhosana, President of Athletics South Africa**.

Upon the recommendation of the Council, in accordance with Article 27.1(g) of the Constitution, **by a show of hands confirmed by the Chief Scrutineer, Congress approved the appointment of the following Members of the Disciplinary Tribunal for a term of four (4) years commencing at the conclusion of the 2019 Congress meeting (i.e., 26 September 2019) and ending at the first Council meeting after the 2023 Congress meeting:**

- Charles Hollander, QC, Chair (GBR)
- Professor Roland Adjovi (BEN)
- Judge Nyoh Mathias Dinga (CMR)
- Judge Ahamed Ebrahim (ZIM)
- Monty Hacker (RSA)
- Judge Kate O'Regan (RSA)
- Professor Moni Wekesa (KEN)
- Akira Kawamura (JPN)
- Peter Koh (SGP)
- Thi My Dung Nguyen (VIE)
- Annabel Pennefather (SGP)
- Juan Pablo Arriagada Aljaro (CHI)
- Eduardo Amorim (BRA)
- Pedro Fida (BRA)
- Daniel Cravo Souza (BRA)
- Barbara Agostinis (ITA)
- Julien Berenger (FRA)
- Anna Bordiugova (UKR)
- Paul Ciucur (ROM)
- Nick De Marcos, QC (GBR)
- Lucas Ferrer (ESP)
- Dominique Gavage (BEL)
- Patrick Grandjean (SUI)
- Dr Tanja Haug (GER)
- Judge Conny Jorneklint (SWE)
- Hannu Klakas (FIN)
- Dennis Koolaard (NED)
- Despina Mavromati (GRE)
- Joelle Monlouis (FRA)
- William Norris, QC (GBR)
- Raj Parker (GBR)
- Christopher Quinlan, QC (GBR)
- Anna Smirnova (RUS)
- Professor Jack Anderson (IRL)
- Alan Galbraith, QC (NZL)
- David Grace, QC (AUS)
- Ian Hunt (NZL)
- Annabelle Williams, AM (AUS)
- Sir David A R Williams, KNZM QC (NZL)
- Steve Bainbridge (USA)
- Jeffrey Benz (USA)
- Honorable Robert Décary, QC (CAN)
- Honorable Yves Fortier, QC (CAN)
- Francisco A. Larios (NCA)
- Dr Thomas Murray (USA)
- Daniel Ratushny (CAN)
- Janie Soublière (CAN)

No votes were registered against.

### 17. Appointment of the Auditors

Upon the recommendation of Council (in the absence of the fully constituted Executive Board), in accordance with Article 27.1(m), Congress took the following decisions regarding the appointment of the Auditors.

**Anatolie Balan, President of the "Federatia de Atletism din Republica Moldova"** moved the motion to adopt the recommendation by a show of hands, which was seconded by **Fuseini Bawah, General Secretary of the**





With 198 Member Federations present, the Chief Executive Officer announced the total voting strength as 198: Simple Majority 99, Absolute Majority 100, and Special Majority 132.

The results of each round of voting were displayed on the screens in the Congress Hall.

Proposal No.	Article
No. 1	1.1 Name

**Evelyn Farrell, President of the “Arubaanse Atletiek Bond”** moved the motion, to change the name of the International Association of Athletics Federations to World Athletics, which was seconded by **Max Siegel, Chief Executive Officer of USA Track & Field**.

**Drumeco Archer, President of the Bahamas Association of Athletic Associations**, requested an explanation behind the new name World Athletics when IAAF had already been established as an international brand. **Council Member Adille Sumariwalla**, explained that World Athletics was easy to understand as a contemporary, simple and concise way to identify the organisation and its activities – it clearly linked the sport to the organisation and vice versa.

**Lalit Kumar Bhanot, Delegate from the Athletics Federation of India**, expressed support for the name World Athletics.

**Jean Gomis, General Secretary of the “Fédération Sénégalaise d’Athlétisme”** expressed concern that though World Athletics worked well in English it did not in French and other languages.

**Aleck Skhosana, President of Athletics South Africa** supported the change of name to World Athletics but enquired about the consequences of the new name in terms of branding and marketing to remain relevant in the world and if it was possible use both IAAF/ World Athletics during a transition period.

**Aubrey Hutson, President of the Athletics Association of Guyana** commented that the legal name of the organisation should remain the International Association of Athletics Federations and World Athletics used as a brand.

**Woldeyesus Elisa, President of the Eritrean National Athletics Federation** believed that a more detailed explanation about the reasons for the name change, and for the other proposed amendments, was necessary before being asked to decide.

**Bold Luvsanvandan President of the Mongolian Athletic Federation** expressed the federation’s full support for the name change. It was a historic decision for the Congress to take and he congratulated the President and the Council for the move.

**Márton Gyulai, Delegate from the Hungarian Athletics Federation** expressed full support to change the name of the organisation, as it was part of the overall strategy of the Council to further develop and promote the sport. The new name embodied a new era that would assist in engaging conversations with new potential sponsors and ultimately have a role in generating much needed revenue.

**Hisseine Ngaro, President of the “Fédération Tchadienne d’Athlétisme”** commented that the organisation’s legal status was an association and in his view it was not possible to dissociate the notion of it as a world federation from its relationship with its Members. **Francis Frédéric Sidibe, President of the “Fédération**

**Burkinabe d'Athlétisme** agreed with the comments by Chad, expressing concern with regard to removing "federation" from the name.

**Drumeco Archer, President of the Bahamas Association of Athletic Associations**, commended that in the Bahamas, as in other countries, the term athletics was generic for all sports. The country identified more with the term "track & field" and IAAF was established as directly associated with track & field. The change in name could be confusing in many parts of the world and there would be work to educate and create the association between track & field and World Athletics.

**Wilfredys Leon Garcia, President of the "Federación Venezolana de Atletismo"**, commented that change is important as society evolves within the environment of new communication and marketing strategies, and if the proposal to change the name to World Athletics has been brought to Congress, important research initiated by the Council has been conducted that should be supported.

**Keith Joseph, President of Team Athletics Saint Vincent & The Grenadines**, noted that the organisation's name had already changed in the past and the new proposed name was consistent with contemporary trends in sport as each sport is currently striving to make itself more relevant, particularly to the next generations. Acting responsibly, as the highest decision-making body, Congress should accept the proposal, the considerable amount of work and marketing analysis that has been done by the Council and not fail to act in a manner that secured the future.

**Vice-President Alberto Juantorena Danger** commented that when the change of name had been discussed at the Council one of the reasons that compelled him to support was the straightforwardness of World Athletics as opposed to the International Association of Athletics Federations. Change is not easy, but he urged all Delegates to support the proposal.

**Ronald Russell, President of the Virgin Islands Track & Field Federation**, expressed concern that the change in name was drastic and there would be difficulty in linking the federation's past achievements to the new name.

**Lino Ramiro Varela Marmolejo, President of the "Federación Colombiana de Atletismo"** expressed support for the name change. The new name was in line with the important reforms and plans that have been driven by the President and the Council, and it would assist in overcoming the challenges faced by the sport in terms of increasing fans and securing sponsorships.

**Marcos Melazzi, President of the "Confederación Atletica del Uruguay"** expressed support for the proposal and enquired about the strategy to communicate the change to ensure synergy with the Member Federations.

**Edith Skippings, President of the Turks & Caicos Islands Amateur Athletic Association**, commented that what was being rolled out at Congress was nothing new in the sense that Member Federations had already been advised at numerous times of the proposed name change prior to their arrival in Doha. The new name and logo had been shared in advance to prepare Members leading up to the Congress and she assured her colleagues that her federation supported the proposal.

**Zakhele Dlamini President of Athletics Eswatini** expressed support for the change of name, particularly based on Article 4.1(a) of the Constitution, which is to "*promote, develop and be the governing body for the sport of Athletics worldwide*". Also, World Athletics will express the name of the organisation, as opposed to the use of the acronym for International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF).

**President Coe** explained that from a brand perspective, after extensive consultation and market research, the Council had already taken the decision to change the brand name of the organisation to World Athletics. The legal advice from the Monegasque lawyers was to change the name and register it with the Monaco authorities

and the proposal before Congress was to ensure the organisation was fully compliant with Monaco laws. A legal need had been clearly identified to change the name under Monaco law to fully protect the brand as well.

The work that had been done around the development of the brand had been detailed. There had been extensive consultation with all stakeholder groups, including many federations, as well as the general public. One piece of research concluded that even without it existing, “World Athletics” had a higher recognition rate, by some distance, than “IAAF”.

For clarity, the rollout of the new brand and name would begin post Congress, with the transitional period until November 2019, when all the physical branding would begin to then take place. Alongside the re-brand, there will also be a new World Athletics website and new broadcast graphics. In addition support would be provided to Member Federations for roll out of the new brand.

World Athletics as a brand is seen as clear. It fits the growing nature of the sport, and will help to engage young people. For all the identified reasons, President Coe encouraged the Congress to support the legal change of name.

**The proposal by Council to change the name of the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) to World Athletics and to change all references to the IAAF to World Athletics in the Constitution, Rules and Regulations was approved by Congress: 184 votes in favour, 14 against (Special Majority 132).**

Proposal No.	Article
No. 3	4.1 Purpose

**Johan Storakers, President of the Swedish Athletic Association** spoke on behalf of the proposed amendment, as well as to the intention to amend the proposal (notified to Member Federations by Circular M/13/19 dated 13 September 2019), that had been submitted by Sweden, with the support of the Members from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, the Netherlands and Norway.

Mr Storakers explained that the intention of the amendment was to strengthen the fundamental cornerstone of the organisation’s purpose under the Constitution to preserve the right of every individual to participate in athletics as a sport, without unlawful discrimination of any kind, undertaken in the spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play. This purpose gives credibility to sport in society and the belief is that the credibility could be strengthened by also committing to respect internationally recognised human rights, and to strive to promote the protection of these rights. It was noted that a similar proposal was made to Congress in 2017, and whilst it was understood World Athletics has progressed work in this area and fully supported the intent of the proposal a further focus was considered important, including learning from other sports.

However, after dialogue with World Athletics, and an understanding of the implications of the proposal, they had decided to withdraw it on the basis that further work would be undertaken to determine the best way to incorporate the intent of the proposal in the organisation’s policies.

Proposal No. 3 was withdrawn by the Swedish Athletic Association with the support of the Denmark, Finland, Iceland, the Netherlands and Norway federations, with the assurance from President Coe that the Council would establish a Working Group to:

1. Assess World Athletics’ operations and rules in terms of human rights;
2. Develop a human rights framework for World Athletics; and
3. Report back to Congress in 2021.

Proposal No.	Article
No. 5	36.6(iv) Elections
No. 6	36.6(v) Elections

**Ronald Russell, President of the Virgin Islands Track & Field Federation**, explained that the purpose of the proposals was worthy of debate but now after having experienced the conduct of the elections, they were satisfied that the outcome of the elections was achieved in a fair and representative manner. As a result, **Ronald Russell, President of the Virgin Islands Track & Field Federation**, moved the motion to withdraw the proposals that were seconded by **Charles George, President of the Grenada Athletic Association**.

Proposals No. 5 and 6, were withdrawn, with the understanding that the new Governance Commission will be asked to consider the concepts proposed regarding the election of the Council and Executive Board.

Proposal No.	Article
No. 7	41.2 Membership of Council

**President Coe** explained that the proposal to exclude the Athletes' Commission Members on the Council from the one Member Federation representation rule had been made by the Council, upon the recommendation of the Athletes' Commission and if approved would apply to the current Council. If not approved by Congress then members of the Athletes' Commission who are from the same Member Federations as the Council Members who were elected at the 2019 Congress would not be eligible to be elected as either the Commission Chairperson, or the second Commission member on the Council (to be elected by the Athletes' Commission at its next meeting in November 2019).

As the specific wording of the proposal had not been included in the proposed amendments document, but instead only set out in the Athletes' Commission Report (as communicated by Circular M/25/19 to Members on 23 August 2019), Congress was requested to address the technicality and approve by a show of hands to table for discussion and vote on Proposal N°7 regarding the Athletes' Commission members on Council. **Bill MacMackin, President of Athletics Canada** moved the procedural motion to table Proposal N°7, which was seconded by **Domenic Otucet, President of the Uganda Athletics Federation** and by a show of hands, confirmed by the Chief Scrutineer, the Congress approved to consider the proposed amendment to Article 41.2 of the Constitution. No votes were registered against.

**Council Member and European Athletics President Svein Arne Hansen** moved the motion, to exempt Athletes' Commission members from the no more than one Council Member in any capacity from any one Member federation country rule, that was seconded by **Rex Issachar, President of Athletics Vanuatu**.

**Charles George, President of the Grenada Athletic Association, Alain Jean Pierre, President of the "Fédération Haïtienne d'Athlétisme Amateur", Ibrahim Shehu Gusau, President of the Athletic Federation of Nigeria, Aleck Skhosana, President of Athletics South Africa, Godwin Dorsette, President of the Dominica Amateur Athletics Association, and Honorary Life Personal Member Amadeo Francis** expressed that they were not in favour of the proposal. All reiterated that whilst the Athletes' Commission played an important role within the structure of the organisation, the Council's membership should be made up of no more than one person from a Member Federation, adhering to the philosophy of one country, one vote that is enshrined in the Constitution. The view was that there is significant talent to tap into amongst the athletes across all the Areas to ensure the athletes were well represented at Council without amending a core principle of the Constitution.



**Márton Gyulai, Delegate from the Hungarian Athletics Federation** was in favour of allowing the exception on the composition of the Council to ensure that the best candidates possible to be elected to represent the Athletes' Commission on the Council. The Athletes' Commission members on the Council represented the athletes above all.

**Iñaki Gomez, Chairperson of the Athletes' Commission** began his intervention by declaring his conflict of interest given that a Canadian had been elected to the Council the day prior. However, the proposal had been considered and delivered to the Council by the Athletes' Commission and, as the Chairperson of the Commission, it was his duty to speak on the Commission's behalf. The Athletes' Commission members on the Council are elected by the members of the commission with the appointments approved by the Council. The Chairperson of the commission and one other commission member on the Council are entrusted to represent all athletes regardless of their geographical allegiance and this responsibility is taken very seriously. Being at the heart of the decision-making for the sport is not a platform to benefit the personal or national interests of an individual and it requires persons who are able to take on a great deal of responsibility in relation to the athletes. Reducing the number of eligible athletes to put themselves forward for these roles, due to their respective Member Federations being already on the Council, could deprive the election process of candidates who have the capacity and understanding of the commitment and time it takes to make meaningful contributions to the sport with the utmost consideration of the athlete voice and perspective.

**Treasurer José María Odriozola** explained that the Council Members had been elected by Member Federations, but the Chairperson and the other Athletes' Commission member on Council would be elected by the Commission to represent the athletes. The reality is that with 24 Council Members and 18 members of the Athletes' Commission there may be a situation where few or none will be eligible to be candidates for these positions. This amendment was necessary to ensure athletes can freely choose their representatives.

**Alfred Emmanuel, Treasurer of the Saint Lucia Athletics Association** and **Ronald Russell, President of the Virgin Islands Track & Field Federation**, agreed with the importance of the commission, but also with the comments against the proposal, and added that the conditions for eligibility to be an Athletes' Commission member should be broaden to be more inclusive and allow athletes from smaller Member Federations the opportunity to submit their candidacies and promote diversity within the commission. The rule of law that the Congress has upheld should be applied and the Athletes' Commission should adhere to the eligibility criteria to be on the Council without exception.

**Senior Vice-President Sergey Bubka**, commented on the essential role of the Athletes' Commission within the structure of the organisation. As the Chairperson and the other person on the Council from the Athletes' Commission are elected by the commission, athletes trust that they will be represented by the best possible candidates and it is important to foster that trust and to consider and support this proposal because it comes from the athletes, who are an integral part of the success of the sport.

As the mover of the proposal, **Council Member Svein Arne Hansen**, encouraged Congress to approve the proposed amendment. Athletes should be afforded the possibility to be represented at the Council level though an open process that is not geographically restricted. It was a progressive move in line with the future. **Rex Issachar, President of Athletics Vanuatu**, who had second the motion, did not wish to speak.

**Proposal N° 7 by Council to exclude the Athletes' Commission Members on the Council from the one Member Federation representation rule was not approved by the Congress: 117 votes in favour, 79 against (Special Majority 131).**

Proposal No.	Article
No. 8	41.3 Membership of Council

Ronald Russell, President of the Virgin Islands Track & Field Federation, moved the motion to withdraw the proposal that was seconded by Charles George, President of the Grenada Athletic Association.

Proposal N° 8 was withdrawn, with the understanding that the new Governance Commission will be asked to consider the concepts proposed regarding the election of the Council and Executive Board.

Vice-President Hamad Kalkaba Malboun said that beyond the proposal submitted by the Virgin Islands about limiting Area representation on the Council by quotas, the notions of balanced representation and a fair election process enshrined in most modern government structures that their elective bodies represent their constituents, should also be taken into account. The Governance Commission should therefore also review the process by which Area representation on the Council is determined to include for example consideration of their individual attributes, their contributions to the sport, the athlete talent they foster and the number of Member Federations in the Area.

Proposal No.	Article
No. 14	57.4 Membership of the Executive Board

Ronald Russell, President of the Virgin Islands Track & Field Federation, moved the motion that was seconded by César Moreno Bravo, Delegate from the *"Federación Mexicana de Asociaciones de Atletismo"*. The motion was to limit the number of Executive Board members from any one Area to 3 members.

César Moreno Bravo, Delegate from the *"Federación Mexicana de Asociaciones de Atletismo"* explained his view that the challenges the sport and World Athletics are facing are diverse in nature and therefore, the composition of the Executive Board should be as diverse as possible to encompass as many different and bright approaches and perspectives as possible to solve an issue.

Ibrahim Shehu Gusau, President of the Athletic Federation of Nigeria, commented that the issues around adequate Area representation at the Executive Board level have been dealt with in a fair manner in the current Constitution and that Nigeria supported the withdraw of proposal.

Ronald Russell, President of the Virgin Islands Track & Field Federation, indicated his intent to withdraw the proposal. President Coe explained that the proposal had been moved for discussion and therefore, it could not be withdrawn but would need to go to a vote for decision.

Proposal N° 14 by the Virgin Islands Track & Field Federation, supported by the Grenada Athletic Association to enshrine a maximum number of members on the Executive Board from a single Area to three (3) was not approved by the Congress: 96 votes in favour, 96 against (Special Majority 128).

Proposal No.	Article
No. 16	73.2(a) Integrity Unit Board

Council Member Abby Hoffman moved the motion, which was seconded by Lancelott Barnes, President of the Cayman Islands Athletic Association.

**Abby Hoffman** commented that the proposed change in the composition of the AIU Board was to ensure the appropriate skills were encompassed across the Board membership and not specific to individual persons and, also to expand the composition of the Board from three (3) to five (5) members to take on its increasing workload and provide the opportunity to further diversify its current composition.

**Proposal N° 16 by the Council was approved by the Congress: 182 votes in favour, 6 against (Special Majority 126).**

Proposal No.	Article
No. 2	3.1 Headquarters, Offices and Applicable Law
No. 4	31.1(a) Agenda for Ordinary Congress Meeting
No. 9	44.1 Term of Office
No. 10	46.2(b) Suspension and Removal of Council Member
No. 11	47.2(n) & (o) Duties and Powers of Council Members
No. 12	47.2(o) Duties and Powers of Council Members
No. 13	47.2(y) Duties and Powers of Council Members
No. 15	65.1, 65.2, 65.3 & new Article 65.5 Eligibility
No. 17	74.2(a) Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel
No. 18	75.1 Integrity Code of Conduct
No. 19	76.2(b) Disciplinary Tribunal
No. 20	79.3 Annual Council Report
No. 21	79.4 Annual Council Report
No. 22	79.4(d) Annual Council Report
No. 23	79.5 Annual Council Report
No. 24	83.2 Dissolution
No. 25	84.1-84.4 Disputes and Appeals
No. 26	85.1-85.3 Notifications ( <i>new</i> )
No. 27	85 Definitions ( <i>renumber as 86</i> )

**Godwin Dorsette, President of the Dominica Amateur Athletics Association** moved the motion that was seconded by **Aleck Skhosana, President of Athletics South Africa**.

The editorial/ clarifying changes proposed by Council (Proposals N°2, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27) were approved by the Congress in one block vote: 185 in favour, 2 against, Special Majority 125.

*Note: All approved amendments to the Constitution came into force on 1 November 2019.*

### 20. Other Notified Business for Discussion

#### 20.a) Athletics South Africa – United Nations call for International Sport Federations to protect the human rights of Athletes

**Aleck Skhosana, President of Athletics South Africa** expressed the view that World Athletics had the duty to take on an exemplary role with regards to the protection of human rights and align its policies with those established by the United Nations to eradicate all forms of discrimination in the sport.

As a result of the commitment to establish a Working Group and undertake the actions as described under Item 19 (Proposal 3), Athletics South Africa expressed its support for the concepts outlined by the Swedish Athletic Association and of the proposed way forward. **Mr Skhosana** therefore agreed that no further discussion was necessary at Congress on the United Nations call for International Sports Federations to protect the human rights of Athletes paper as previously notified. It was confirmed that both the Swedish and South African federations would be offered the opportunity to have representation on the working group once established.

### 21. Report by the Doha 2019 Organising Committee

On behalf of the Local Organising Committee, **Dahlan Al Hamad, Vice President & Director General of the World Athletics Championships DOHA 2019**, presented the progress report, which concluded with a video.

He emphasised that from an operations perspective the DOHA 2019 teams were ready and eager to welcome the teams, and fully committed to continue to work hard towards the success of the World Athletics Championships.

**Jackson Kiprono Tuwei, President of Athletics Kenya** and **Domenic Otucet, President of the Uganda Athletics Federation** enquired about the safety measures for athletes competing in the Marathon races under hot and humid conditions.

**Dahlan Al Hamad** thanked his colleagues from Kenya and Uganda for their concern and assured them that the safety of the athletes was of paramount importance. Technology to provide minute-by-minute temperature and humidity readings at the Corniche will be installed and the medical teams were monitoring the situation closely.

### 22. Date and Venue of Next Congress Meeting

The 53<sup>rd</sup> World Athletics Congress and Convention will be held on 4 and 5 August 2021, with the Congress Opening Ceremony on 3 August 2021, in conjunction with the World Athletics Championships in Eugene, Oregon, USA.

### 23. Closing of Congress Meeting

**President Coe** thanked the Council for its dedication and support, and the internal teams, the volunteers and the interpreters for their essential contribution to the effective delivery of the Congress.

He expressed his gratitude to the Delegates present and looked forward to seeing them throughout the week. On behalf of the Council, he wished success to all the Teams competing in the Doha 2019 World Athletics Championships.

---

President **Sebastian Coe** officially declared the 52<sup>nd</sup> Congress meeting closed.

### World Athletics Convention

The Congress was followed by the Convention, which, due to the overrun of the Congress, consisted of a shorten programme. Former elite athletes **Gail Devers** and **Tamsyn Lewis** spoke to Delegates about their lives and conversions after their professional sporting careers had ended and took questions from the floor.