



AIBA Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
(hybrid format – April 21st, 2021)

1. Opening remarks by AIBA President

Mr President introduced the new Secretary General and highlighted the recent achievements of AIBA. Among them are partnership with Gazprom, cooperation with Swiss Timing during the Youth World Championship (YWCH) in Kielce, finalization of the documents of the Boxing Academy in Assisi, announcement of holding the Elite World Championship 2023 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Mr Kremlev also mentioned the intention to introduce prize money for the upcoming large AIBA tournaments and to provide support to all the National Federations for which 2 million dollars have been allocated. In June 2021 Mr Kremlev will have been AIBA President for 6 months and he will make a report of what has been done. Mr Kremlev reminded the Directors of the incident involving the boxer from Jordan and promised that AIBA would start its own investigation regarding this matter. Then Mr President emphasized that boxing should become one of the chief main sports that would attract major sponsors and passed the floor to the Secretary General (SG).

Opening remarks by AIBA Secretary General

Mr Istvan Kovacs thanked Directors for their trust and expressed his willingness to support AIBA team. In his turn, Mr Kovacs introduced Mr Marko Petric, new AIBA Head of Sport.

1. Roll Call

The meeting quorum was reached – 23 Directors present, 15 via Zoom online platform with 8 physically present in the meeting room in Kielce. Members excused: Jurgen Kyas. Members absent: Mendouga Roland, Gay Uera, Alfred Bongo Mapu Jamias joined the meeting during the discussion on the mail votes summary.

3. Approval of the previous meeting minutes

The Board approved the previous meeting minutes.

4. Summary of decisions taken by mail votes

Decisions taken by mail vote: Selection of new Committee members, AIBA Observers, AIBA Financial regulations, removing host fee for AIBA YWCH, AIBA Conflict of Interest Policy, Procedural Rules, Athletes Committee Regulations, “Live-scoring” system, AIBA Representative Office in Moscow, AIBA Regulations on Congress and Elections.

Regarding opening the AIBA Representative Office in Moscow, several Directors raised questions concerning legal formalities of the matter in question. Mr Yury Zaytsev, AIBA Legal Counsel, explained that AIBA Representative Office in Moscow was to not a separate legal entity, but a part of AIBA, and it



would be limited in powers, as budget and financial plan would be approved by AIBA in Lausanne. The Head of the Representative Office would be authorised to sign documents and would act on the base of the PoA issued by the President.

Mr Alex Gonzalez took the floor and thanked Mr President for reintegrating live scoring system and protests into the AIBA competitions claiming that this would contribute to more fairness and transparency of the system. Mr Kremlev, in his turn, reiterated that protests had been returned to all boxing championships and that AIBA needed to ensure that victories were fair and well-earned.

5. Report by AIBA Legal Team

Mr Yury Zaytsev and Mr Claude Ramoni presented the AIBA Legal Team report. As far as the drafting work is concerned, almost all the Regulations aiming at implementing the Constitution adopted in December 2020 have been drafted and approved. Now everything is in place to make the constitution implemented. Templates of new Constitutions have been provided to the Confederations and they need only to organise their Congresses.

The Legal team then presents the main aspect of the Regulations governing AIBA Financial Support Program: 1. National Federations (NFs) and Confederations need to be eligible, in full compliance with their obligations and membership policy as beneficiaries of the money; need to have a responsible in each country; 2. For Confederation, they may benefit from the budget allocated to them by presenting the supporting evidence and then the payment is done. For NFs – they may apply to have one or several projects supported (budget max of 20,000 per project) and submit the request with supporting evidence. Support can be done either by a payment on the bank account of the NF or by providing value in kind (such as boxing equipment) without payment. 3. Monitor the grant and see that it is used in purpose (AIBA). The Secretary General, together with the Chief Financial Officer and dedicated staff are responsible for monitoring the programme. 4. Misuse of funds: refer the case to the AIBA Disciplinary Committee to decide if funds have been misused and which could be the sanctions – list of sanctions and in some cases suspension. 5. In some instances, the support may be stopped, or reimbursement can be requested by excluding the member from the program, not only in case of misuse of fund, but also if no report is provided, if a NF or Confederation is no longer eligible, etc. The aim is not to impose hard sanctions, but to ensure a full compliance.

Mr Joseph Ayeni took the floor and stressed that this project should be thoroughly planned and supervised. Countries who are in need should be assisted but a strict control should be implemented, as the aims of the spending should be supervised.

Answering Directors' questions, Mr Claude Ramoni stressed that this support to NFs would be a project-based one with a total budget of \$ 2 million.

The financial support program was approved by the Board.

Regarding Benkons' issue, Mr Yury Zaytsev provided additional explanations on the status of this matter.

6. National Federations membership issues

13 countries have not submitted annual report.



Mr Claude Ramoni emphasized that AIBA will have to make an enquiry for all those countries, contact Confederations, National Olympic Committees, then the Board of Directors (BoD) would be asked to start a formal procedure that could lead to a suspension. If it turns out that an NF exists only on paper then it should be created, if possible. There are some large countries such as Portugal, who failed to comply with their obligations, and it is important for all countries to be represented at the international boxing scene.

7. Financial report

Mr Rob Garea took the floor and introduced PJSC Gazprom as a new AIBA general partner. The agreement with Gazprom became a tremendous and significant step for AIBA, as it is one of the largest companies in the world. Mr Garea thanked AIBA President for his contribution in this deal to be concluded.

Audit committee to be established that will include Financial Advisor, one independent member, one BoD member (internal).

Mr Felipe Martinez put forward his candidacy to be a member of Audit Committee.

Mr Umar Kremlev emphasized that Mr Martinez' commitment and expertise was well-known and asked him to consider all the responsibility that this position assumed.

Vote for the appointment of Mr Martinez at the Audit Committee passed by the Board.

Mr Garea then presented external candidates: Mr Patrick Bosshard (specialised in international taxation) as the candidate to be Financial Advisor, Mr Didier Wicht (ex-KPMG, specialised in audit & technical accounting) as the candidate to be independent member of the Audit Committee.

The Board completed the constitution of the Audit Committee by appointing the Financial Advisor and the independent member.

8. Update on AIBA development

Recent developments, and further information are set up below including an update on AIBA education courses in New Delhi & Croatia.

Education Courses, New Delhi, India: 3-Star Coaches, 3-Star RJ & ITO Courses will be held during the 2021 Asian Elite Men and Women Championship in New Delhi, India from 21-31 May 2021. Registration for the courses was closed on 21 April 2021.

It is necessary to elaborate general rules on the subject:

- The participants will be selected by the respective Committee Chairs taking into consideration the experience of the applicants, the reputation and clean record of applicants, timeliness of the application and fair representation of both genders and of all five continents;
- Instructors for the course have been appointed by the respective Committee's Chairs;
- Course material and content being updated in collaboration with appointed instructors and committee chairs to accommodate changes in rules and Bout Review rule;
- The number of participants for each course will be • 3-Star Coaches Course - 40 • 3-Star RJ Course - 25 • ITO Course – 25.

All necessary conditions are also provided for Education Courses in Zagreb, Croatia:

- 1-Star RJ Course will be held during 2021 Balkan Championship in Zagreb, Croatia from 5-11 May 2021;

- Participants from Croatia and Balkan countries;
- Instructors for the course have been appointed by the RJ Committee Chair;
- Course material and content being updated in collaboration with appointed instructors and committee chairs to accommodate changes in rules and Bout Review rule;
- The number of participants for the course will be 15.

All the inquiries we received in the last month we sent to the Committees for further interaction.

Due to the current situation with the worldwide pandemic, it is imperative that courses are available online as well as offline. The course calendar was created in December 2019 and sent to the Committees.

The situation with worldwide pandemic is different in every continent, but we have to work out a common system and format of courses. This leaves open the question of whether all the planned courses will be held in different countries. The need to get practice during the courses is also emphasized. Among other things, universal rules and centralization in the organization must exist unanimously and be the same for all National Federations. However, it remains an open question about the creation of the Committee of Judges to carry out reforms.

The deadline for the start of the training program should be set by 1 May 2021 for all countries, including the general regulations of the training and the main stages and principles of the training.

As for the 2021 Asian tournament, there were doubts about holding the tournament in India due to the worsening of the pandemic situation in this country. AIBA remains open to discussion and ready to choose another host country if required. Decisions on the upcoming tournament should take into account the restrictions related to the pandemic of coronavirus on entry and the number of cases.

9. Discussion and decision regarding the Rio officials

Mr Yury Zaystev presents a summary of the background:

On 29 August 2016, AIBA President C.K. Wu announced the establishment of a Special Investigation Committee (SIC) to investigate allegations regarding corruption among AIBA senior staff and AIBA R&J on the occasion of the Olympic Games Rio 2016.

On 15 January 2017, SIC Report was provided to AIBA; no proof of systematic conspiracy of corruption within AIBA has been found. The Executive Committee (EC) Meeting of 21st November 2019: Clarification about Rio officials' status was discussed following the requested clarification about the status of officials who served at the Rio Olympic Games, especially with the information reported by media. The R&Js used in Rio were never actually suspended by AIBA, but the exact status of those R&Js and seven 5* R&J was not so clear. It was agreed by AIBA EC to provisionally remove these officials from office until after the Special Investigation Committee concluded their report. The AIBA resolved in November 2019 that all Rio R&Js are entitled to work for their National Federations. This means National Federations may select Rio R&Js for their continental tournaments. Any involvement at AIBA level was with further notice. No further steps have been made since November 2019.

The Board does not have jurisdiction to apply any sanctions, nor to decide on any issue relating to R&Js. Sanctions may be imposed by the Disciplinary Committee and the Ethics Committee provided that there is a clear legal basis. Pursuant to article 29.1 of the Constitution and article 3.1 of the Organizational Regulations, Ad hoc Investigation Committee (AIC) is to be established with the purpose of investigating the activity of the individuals involved into Rio Olympic Games 2016 and make recommendations. Candidates to the Ad hoc Investigation Committee are under review of the AIBA Head Office. Based on AIC Report, the newly formed Refereeing and Judging Committee shall be asked to identify whether the concerned individuals have retired or are willing to resume their activities as AIBA Competition Officials.



The R&J Committee shall also use the AIC report to review the criteria and conditions for individuals willing to become R&Js or resume their activities as R&Js. The Legal Team will provide a list of nominees for the committee to vote on.

The President Umar Kremlev offered to extend the mandate of AIC, and to investigate not only Rio Olympic Games 2016, but all AIBA activity in the past.

Proposal for vote: To establish Ad hoc Investigation Committee with the purpose of investigating the activity of the individuals involved into Rio Olympic Games 2016, as well as the individuals involved into the management at AIBA during the presidency of C.K. Wu and Gafur Rakhimov, and request AIBA Legal Team to develop and provide to the Directors for mail vote the Terms of the Reference for the Ad hoc Investigation Committee. The Candidates to the Ad hoc Investigation Committee to be provided to the Board by the AIBA Head Office. Based on the Report of the Ad hoc Investigation Committee, to refer the issue of the status of the R&J who have been active in the Rio Olympic Games 2016 to the newly formed Refereeing and Judging Committee in order to identify whether the concerned individuals have retired or are willing to resume their activities as AIBA Competition Officials, as well as to review the criteria and conditions for individuals willing to become R&Js or resume their activities as R&Js.

The decision passed by the Board.

10. Update on AIBA Communication strategy

The tone of publications remains mostly positive due to regular activities, face-to-face communication of Umar Kremlev with representatives of national federations and athletes, personal presence of the AIBA leader at the competitions. Within the reporting period, 4 large foreign working trips took place, a number of high-level meetings were held.

- Secretary General Appointment

The appointment of Secretary General represented by Mr Istvan Kovacs has positive tonality. It is about 64 materials in the world media. The news was announced by the media of 6 countries (Hungary, India, Germany, UK, Austria, Canada, USA, Venezuela). Materials in all major national media.

- 2021 AIBA Youth World Boxing Championships

More than 450 materials in the world media. The news was announced by the media of 31 countries. The most active were the media in India, USA, UK, Cuba, Brazil and Venezuela.

- Kielce

AIBA delegation led by Umar Kremlev personally opened the Youth World Boxing Championships in Poland. An open training session was held in the castle with the national youth boxing teams. Mr Umar Kremlev gave interview to the Polish media (edition Fact). 4 Ambassadors of the Championships were selected in order to cover sport news in social media with the official hashtag #KielceBoxing2021.

Among major media: ABC, Times of India, NDTV, Inside the Games. More than 30 materials in the first rank media with a large audience coverage. Publications are still being actively published. Total reach more than 2 million unique viewers.



- European Academy in Assisi

Another cause for pride was the Signing of the European Boxing Academy. The news were announced by the media of 6 countries (Italy, Venezuela, USA, UK, Spain, Poland). Among major media: La Repubblica, L’Arena, La Stampa, Contra Punto, Libero 24*7, Inside the Games.

Materials in all major national media as well as 4 TV mentions.

AIBA delegation led by Mr Umar Kremlev visited the city of Assisi. A meeting was held with the head of the city and the leader of the Italian Boxing Federation. Mr Umar Kremlev gave interview to Italian television and the training session with the Italian national boxing team took place.

- World Championships 2023 in Tashkent announcement

A press conference was held at the National Olympic Committee with the participation of AIBA President, Mr Umar Kremlev. It was announced that the World Boxing Championship in 2023 will be held for the first time in the capital of Uzbekistan.

The news was announced by the media of 19 countries. The most active were the media in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, USA, Russia, India, UK, Ukraine. Major media of Uzbekistan covered the topic: BBC Uzbekistan, Gazeta.uz, Sports.uz, sputnicnews.uz.

- Media work with National Federations

Media trainings for NFs are planned to include trainings for media management to improve/build communication work to deliver key AIBA messages, media coaching for key speakers and support in SM-accounts and websites leading.

- 6 months report press conference

End of May Big press-conference with AIBA President to report for work done during 6-month.

- Big Boxing Tournaments support

21-31st of May Asian Elite Men & Women Boxing Championships 2021.

15-25 of June EUBC European U22 Boxing Championships and others International tournaments.

- International Boxing Day

Massive support of the event planned on 22nd of July to commemorate the 75th anniversary of AIBA on the International level.

11. Additional business

Confederations Congresses: draft for Constitutions was sent, by the end of the summer, they should be finalized by each Confederation and adopted by their respective congresses.

For as long as there is no permanent Integrity Officer within AIBA, the AIBA Legal Team (i.e. Mr Yury Zaystev and lawyers affiliated with the law firms SILA and LIBRA LAW) shall serve as AIBA Integrity

Officers and will be responsible for matters of investigation and prosecution of any breach of the Regulations before the Ethics Committee and/or the Disciplinary Committee.

The decision passed by the Board.

12. Decision regarding the information disclosure after the meeting

Taken by the Board.

13. Closing remarks by the President

Mr President stressed that the BoD had thoroughly approached the discussion of the main tasks and it was clear that AIBA needed to move on and say goodbye to the burdens that made its development difficult. The main task now is to find new sponsors and to work closely with the National Federations. The Board of Directors should continue to work on the improvement of processes in order to solve all the problems in the shortest possible time. Working together is crucial to make AIBA an inspiration for all National Federations and it is the power of AIBA to prove that boxing is the greatest sport.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Istvan Kovacs", is positioned above the typed name.

Istvan Kovacs
Secretary General, AIBA