

MINUTES

II Ordinary General Assembly

Venaco, 7 October 2011

Date and time: Friday 7 October 2011 at 3.30 pm

Place: Hotel E-Caselle, Venaco, Corsica, France

Member countries present:

Austria (Thomas Lercher), Czech Republic (Kamil Kleník), England (Abrahim West, Jarek Dylag), France (Abdelkrim Abour), Slovakia (Gabriel Viňanský), Switzerland (Jean-Philippe Berger), Ukraine (Denys Vilienkin, Ivan Rachenko)

Member countries represented:

Denmark (represented by Slovakia)

EFTA delegates:

General Secretary Zuzana Viňanská (GS)

President Kamil Kleník

Treasurer Abdelkrim Abour

Other participants:

French-English interpreter

Slovak-English interpreter

1. Opening of the Congress by EFTA President

The Congress was opened by the President who welcomed the participants and thanked the organisers for the organisation of the European Championship and the Congress.

2. Determination of the number of votes

The number of the votes was determined: seven (7) countries were present, one (1) represented by a proxy. The required quorum was observed. The simple majority necessary to adopt the proposals was determined to be five (5). To pass the statutory amendments two-thirds of votes were required, that means six (6).

The chairing of the meeting was taken over by EFTA General Secretary Zuzana Viňanská.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Item 9 of the draft agenda *Election of members of Executive Board (if adopted corresponding statutory amendments)* was deleted. Since the first mandate of executive positions within EFTA is two years (2010-2012) to align it with the Olympic cycle, next year there will be elections and also changes to the number of members of the Executive Board. According to the new Statutes, their number will be conditioned by the number of countries in EFTA.

<u>Vote</u>: Unanimously adopted

4. Approval of the Minutes of General Assembly held on 17 October 2010 in Geneva

<u>Vote</u>: Unanimously adopted

5. Confirmation of the decisions adopted by the members in between the sessions of the General Assembly (from 18 October 2010 to 7 October 2011):

1. EFTA re-registration and opening of the account in the Czech Republic

2. Admission of new members – Ukraine and Austria

3. Election of Denys Vilienkin as a member of Executive Board

As regards the election of Zuzana Viňanská as EFTA General Secretary, there was no need to approve it by the Congress as it had been voted by the Executive Board.

<u>Vote</u>: Unanimously adopted

6. Presentation and approval of Report of EFTA Executive Board and General Secretary

EFTA GS presented a report on the main events in the life of EFTA in the past 12 months. She highlighted the successful organisation of *1st Women's and Juniors Championships* in Vitoria, Basque Country, Spain and the promotion carried out by the Basque association and Spanish company Óbice Comunicación. Equally the promotion work and efforts made by the French organisers of *1st Men's Championship* taking place on 7 and 8 October in Corte, Corsica were considered as highly satisfactory.

EFTA President informed the participants about the state of play of EFTA reregistration and opening of the new account in the Czech Republic. Since statutory amendments were on the agenda of the Congress, it was recommendable to complete the registration act after their adoption at the Congress.

He also informed participants about the series of tournaments *Futnet Czech Open* that took place under EFTA's auspices between February and May in the Czech Republic and Slovakia with the participation of teams from several countries (CZE, SVK, FRA, SWI, POL, HUN). With some changes based on the experience gained this year, similar competition may be organised in the future.

He provided some details about the negotiations with Gala, Czech ball manufacturer. EFTA (and UNIF) members would get a better price and EFTA would get some commission on the sale of the balls. Gala would also provide 1000 EUR as an annual sponsorship fee. However, the progress in the negotiations is slow as Gala has not yet submitted a proposal on the volumes and corresponding prices.

He informed the participants about *2nd International Women's and Youth Camp* that was organised under EFTA's auspices in early August in the town of Chabarovice, Czech Republic, by the Czech Futnet Association and the club TJ Slovan Chabarovice with around 70 participants from six countries (CZE, SVK, FRA, HUN, USA, UA). It was a successful event that will continue in the future.

EFTA GS informed about the positive feedback to EFTA website and communication policy by members as well as non-members and pointed out the difference in communication and promotion by EFTA and FIFTA. EFTA website (in various languages) and Facebook are updated on a regular basis.

Other information is available in the electronic version of the Report.

Vote: Unanimously adopted

7. Presentation and approval of Annual Accounts

EFTA Treasurer Abdelkrim Abour presented EFTA annual accounts. From the funds that EFTA has in the account, certain amounts have to be deducted to pay its debts and return the participation deposit for the European Championship.

Exact figures are available in the Annual Accounts document drafted by Mr Abour and provided to the members before the Congress.

In an exchange of opinions between Mr Abour and Mr Berger the latter noted that the priority for EFTA should be to pay off its debts as soon as possible, other participants were in agreement.

<u>Vote</u>: Unanimously adopted

8. Vote on proposals

8.1 Proposals of EFTA Executive Board and General Secretary

a) Amendments of Statutes

EFTA GS explained briefly the most important aspects and reasons of statutory modifications, among them:

The name of our sport will be written in small letters – futnet – or, in case of titles and names as Futnet.

The number of EFTA Executive Board members will be determined by the number of EFTA countries. EFTA General Secretary is also a member of Executive Board.

There is a new category of membership – Associate Members.

New conditions are introduced regarding the request to hold an Extraordinary General Assembly – if requested by a simple majority of members, it should be convened within two (2) months (instead of 10% countries and 30 days).

The members are required to pay the membership fee for the year in question before 28 February.

The age in juniors competitions has been raised to 21 years.

<u>Vote</u>: Unanimously adopted observing the 2/3 majority

b) Amendments of Ethical Charter

EFTA GS explained that the main change in the Ethical Charter was the deletion of the condition 3 which banned the membership of the countries that were members of another international futnet association (i.e. other than EFTA and UNIF). Under current circumstances such condition was no longer desirable as EFTA and UNIF should try to reach out to as many new and old futnet countries as possible.

<u>Vote</u>: Unanimously adopted

c) List of Fees

EFTA GS explained the proposed fees, among them the new EFTA membership fee of 250 EUR (full members) and the corresponding participation fees and deposits for EFTA competitions for members and non-members. A referee fee to be paid if the country taking part in the competition does not have a referee was also introduced. Exact figures and conditions are available in the List of Fees as provided to the members before the Congress.

Vote: Unanimously adopted

8.2 Proposals of Members

There were no proposals from members.

9. Appointment of auditors

Switzerland was appointed to perform the auditing tasks for year 2012.

10. Future EFTA events

As mentioned during the presentation of item 6, an idea is being considered to hold a Futnet Open competition which would consist of a series of tournaments on the level of clubs. More details would be provided soon by EFTA and the Czech Association.

There are also plans to organise another international futnet camp for women and juniors and, in case of interest, also for adults.

EFTA / UNIF referees' and coaches' courses may be organised on demand. EFTA GS said that soon after the Congress she would check with all members and possible members their interest in such courses. For example, in Northern Ireland, a candidate country, course for referees and possibly coaches, too, is already planned for early February 2012.

11. Time and place of next Congress

It was proposed that the next Congress should be held on the occasion of UNIF Ordinary Congress and World Championship in the Czech Republic, most probably in early December.

<u>Vote</u>: Unanimously adopted

12. Any other business

Gabriel Viňanský welcomed the fact that the documents for the Congress had been sent in advance.

English representatives said that there were possibilities to organise outdoor tournaments in England next summer. They would need EFTA / UNIF to introduce an official licensing system for referees and coaches.

Denys Vilienkin also said that it would be important for Ukraine to get an international coaching license to be able to introduce futnet to schools. He also said that it would be good if in the future the Congress was not held during the competition. EFTA GS was in agreement and noted that it was an exception due to logistical reasons and in the future the Congress would always be scheduled outside the competition hours.

Thomas Lercher suggested organising championships also for veteran players (aged over 40 or 45). The idea met with a positive response from EFTA representatives who said that it all depended on the funds available.

Various participants agreed that it was necessary to provide textual and audiovisual materials in English and, if possible, also other languages, to new countries to help players, coaches and referees in their training and preparation.

It was also agreed that an EFTA / UNIF events calendar should be drafted as soon as possible.

EFTA GS and President thanked the delegates for their participation in the Congress, their active involvement in futnet and wished them a nice stay in Corsica and the best of lucks in the European Championship.

7 October 2011, Venaco, France

Minutes prepared by:

Zuzana Viňanská

General Secretary

Minutes approved by:

Kamil Kleník

President

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