

Meeting	International Testing Agency ("ITA") – Foundation Board
Place	Conference Call
Date	27 June 2019

AGENDA

Item 1a): Opening of the meeting and welcome statement

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed the Foundation Board Members to the first gathering of 2019.

The ITA took the opportunity of the inauguration of the Olympic House and the IOC Session in Lausanne to organize this meeting to provide the Board members with an update on ITA's activities and to formally approve the financial audited accounts, some amendments to the ITA Statutes and the reappointment of two Board Members whose initial mandate of one year had come to an end.

Item 1b): Roll call

Chair of the Board:

Dr Valérie Fourneyron

Members of the Board:

Mrs Kirsty Coventry – *Member representing the Athletes*

Mr Francesco Ricci Bitti – *Member representing the International Federations (IFs)*

Prof. Peijie Chen – *Independent ITA Board Member (by telephone)*

Ex-officio non-voting Member:

Mr Sébastien Gillot – *WADA Director, European Regional Office and International Federations Relations*

ITA Management:

Mr Benjamin Cohen – *ITA Director General*

Persons invited:

Ms Jessica Hellman – *ITA office coordinator – Minutes taker*

Excused:

Prof. Dr Uğur Erdener – *Member representing the IOC*

Start of the meeting: 27 June 2019 at 09h00

End of the meeting: 27 June 2019 at 10h40

Item 2: Approval of the minutes of the previous Foundation Board meeting, 12 December 2018

The Chair submitted to the Foundation Board Members the minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2018 for approval.

DECISION: The Foundation Board Members approved the minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2018 in Lausanne.

Item 3: Reappointment of Board Members (Item 3 was discussed before Item 2)

The terms of Mrs. Coventry and Prof. Dr Erdener had come to an end (*one year term*). Both had confirmed, in writing, to the ITA Director General their wish to be reappointed for a further term of two years until 2021.

DECISION: The Board formally and unanimously approved the reappointments of Mrs. Coventry and Prof. Dr Erdener for a new term of two years as ITA Foundation Board Members.

Item 4: Mid-year report by the Chair

The Chair explained that when we look at the minutes of the previous Board meeting that took place in December 2018, we could easily measure the development of our activities and consequently that of our team of now 34 people under Benjamin Cohen's authority.

To maintain this development, the key word was building trust from our partners, current & future. The Director General and his team were taking a lot of time to create this climate of trust, be it during conferences, events or competitions. Dr Fourneyron said that she was taking part in these efforts as much as she could and she thanked the Board Members for their support in promoting the ITA at WADA events, the Board of the IOC, Athletes Fora, IFs meetings and beyond.

Her role as Chair of the Board leads to several weekly exchanges with Benjamin Cohen, regular trips to Lausanne for important meetings and moments. It is also important for her to exchange with key stakeholders such as the IOC and WADA.

Since December 2018, she has actively represented the ITA at the GAISF Council meeting, the WADA Symposium, SportAccord, the IOC Session and has also accepted the solicitations in France by Paris 2024, the Sports Ministry, the Parliament, the State Council, etc.

She underlined the quantity of the work produced by the team, the prudent management of the financial assets and her personal satisfaction to see that two of the Board Members whose initial term had come to an end, had both accepted to be reappointed with enthusiasm.

She also highlighted that the Board would be extended with two additional members, if this was approved under Agenda Item 7 (Statutory amendments), to further increase the ITA's independence.

The Chair thanked once again the Board Members for their contribution.

Mr Francesco Ricci Bitti underlined a sensitive matter which was the different relations/approaches with the National Anti-Doping Organisations (NADOs). The ITA needs to be very clear about the content of the partnerships NADO – ITA.

- Document "*ITA Figures 2018 – 2019*" was distributed during the meeting and can be found in annex 1.

Item 5: Mid-year report by the Director General

The Director General mentioned the following main items:

➤ **Human Resources**

More than 30 specialists in anti-doping have been recruited:

- The Testing unit have increased to approximately 10 staff;
- A Major Events unit has been created, 2 staff are in place today and recruitment is almost finalized for a Project Manager to join this unit;
- The legal department will increase to reinforce the management of positive cases, 2 additional staff have been recruited.;
- An Operations Development Manager has been hired.

The ITA office space has expanded, on 1st July 2019 as the ITA took over half of the 1st floor at Avenue de Rhodanie 58:

- Total office space: entire ground floor + half of the 1st floor.

➤ **Operations**

- The ITA has renewed almost all of the DFSU agreements, has signed a number of new IFs (e.g. FINA, IWF, UWW) and was in the final stages of finalizing agreements with IFs such as FIBA and FEI.
- The Director General explained that the team would now focus on consolidating the internal processes. A Quality Assurance Manager would be hired to assist in this area.
- He also mentioned that focus was kept on the pricing model to echo ITA's not-for-profit status. The ITA Finance department was working on projections to study how much time was needed for different tasks. He explained that ITA had already been able to reduce prices for administrative tasks such as out-of-competition tests, TUEs and risk assessment.
- As mentioned earlier, the NADOs were concerned about the establishment and independence of the ITA. The ITA has taken a proactive approach and has drafted a NADO – ITA cooperation agreement with a first part focusing on collaboration - in the areas of prevention, education, investigations, and intelligence– and a second part which functioned as a service agreement whereby NADOs would collect samples for the ITA.
 - Mr Francesco Ricci Bitti suggested to build different relations/agreements with the NADOs and to concentrate on the risk, control & quality management.
 - The ITA Director General took note of this remark and confirmed that focus should now be on risk & quality management to ensure that ITA limits its exposure to mistakes by service providers.
- 2020 is the last year for the reanalysis of the samples collected during the London 2012 Olympic Games due to the statute of limitation of the World Anti-Doping Code. 1800 samples are being reanalyzed by the ITA during 2019. Positive cases are being brought forward to CAS or the IOC Disciplinary Commission (athlete's choice) by the ITA.
- An update on Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games will be given at the next Board meeting towards the end of 2019.
- ITA's relationship with athletes was highlighted by the Director General and he explained that he had reached out to the Chair of the WADA Athlete

Committee to start a collaboration and associate athletes involved in anti-doping right from the start of ITA's operations. No response had been received from the Chair of the WADA Athlete Committee who considered that WADA Athlete Committee members were under no obligation to speak with the ITA.

- The Director General would put Mrs. Coventry in contact with the ITA Education Manager, Mrs. Olya Abasolo to discuss how to best approach athletes to ensure that they understand the value and benefits of the ITA.
- The Director General thanked WADA for the good relationship and support. He also explained that the ITA would like to work closely with the Intelligence and Investigations unit of WADA and be able to have staff in house at the ITA who understands this sensitive area and can follow up on information that would be submitted by the WADA Intelligence Unit.

Item 6: Financial matters

The Chair thanked Mr Francesco Ricci Bitti for his support regarding the finances of the ITA.

The ITA Finance Manager joined the Board meeting to present the financial audited accounts and highlighted the following items:

- In 2018, the ITA received a CHF 4.7mio contribution from the Olympic Movement (OM) to cover the start-up costs and first year of operations;
- The original budget planned to spend this money on operations (CHF 3.2mio) and capital expenditures (CHF 1.8mio) with a revenue of CHF 264K;
- The 2018 actuals showed differently with three times more revenue (CHF 822K). Operation costs (CHF 1.8mio) were lower as budgeted mainly due to a conservative way of spending the money as well as a shift of some expenses to the next year. Finally, the capital expenditures (CHF 418K) were significantly lower mainly due to a software development postponement to the following year. Overall, considering only the operations, the ITA lost CHF 1mio and invested CHF 418k totalling CHF 1.4mio versus CHF 4.7mio that were initially planned;
- As the 2018 OM Contribution was higher than the costs to be covered, it resulted in a profit which was allocated to provisions/reserve and came as a diminution from the 2019 OM Contribution;
- Following the 2018 audit conducted by Ernst & Young, the auditors recommended the approval of the 2018 Financial Statements.

DECISION:

- The Board decided to attribute CHF 3'475'495 to Provision for the upcoming expenses that were initially planned in the budget and to increase its Undesignated Reserve by CHF 400'000 to solidify its capital base;
- The Board approved the 2018 Financial Statements.

Item 7: Statutory amendments

The Chair presented the proposed amendments which were:

- To increase independence within the governance of the ITA by adding two independent members to the Foundation Board, in order to create a majority of independent members. The notion of "independence" is understood as meaning not

- holding an official position within the Olympic movement. The appointments shall be made at the latest by the end of 2020;
- Article 14: housekeeping modification (duplication);
 - The Director General asked for the Board's approval to give the ITA Finance Manager a signatory right for operational expenditures.
 - Article 17: recommendation from the auditors to clarify and detail the principle of the right to compensation ("per diem") of the Board Members by specifically distinguishing the right to compensation for their participation in official meetings from the key principle of unpaid attendance in the performance of their duties.

DECISIONS: The Board Members unanimously approved the proposed amendments.

Item 8: Other Matters / Miscellaneous

No other matters.

Item 9: Closing of the meeting

The Chair and the Director General thanked all the members.

The Chair suggested to hold the next Board meeting during the WADA World Conference on Doping in Sport that will take place in Katowice, Poland, from 5th to 7th November 2019.

These minutes are made in one original copy and signed in accordance with Article 9 of the ITA Statutes on _____ 2019.

Dr Valérie Fourneyron
Chair of the Board

Mr Benjamin Cohen
Director General

Jessica Hellman
Office coordinator
Minutes taker