

Meeting	International Testing Agency ("ITA") – Foundation Board
Place	ITA Headquarters, Lausanne, Switzerland
Date	11 June 2024

AGENDA

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

The Chair opened the 14th Foundation Board meeting and the first of 2024, held at the ITA headquarters in Lausanne. She welcomed all the members, including the permanent observer from WADA, and she thanked the participants for their attendance and support to the ITA.

Item 1b): Roll call

Chair of the Board:

Dr Valérie Fourneyron – Independent ITA Board Member

Members of the Board:

Mrs Chantal Brunner – Independent ITA Board Member

Prof Peijie Chen – Independent ITA Board Member

Prof Dr Uğur Erdener – Board Member representing the IOC

Dr Roger Jackson – Independent ITA Board Member

Mr Francesco Ricci Bitti – ITA Board Member representing the International Federations

Mrs Emma Terho – ITA Board Member representing the Athletes

Ex-officio non-voting Observer:

Mr Sébastien Gillot – WADA Director, European Regional Office and Sport Movement Relations

ITA Management:

Mr Benjamin Cohen – ITA Director General

Persons invited:

Mr Damien Rhumorbarbe – Data Analytics Manager, Science & Medical (joined for Item 7 of the Agenda)

Mr Matteo Vallini – Head of International Federations & Major Events (joined for Item 7 of the Agenda)

Mr Michael Ask – International Relations Senior Manager (joined for Item 8 of the Agenda)

Mr Rafael Saya – Finance Senior Manager (joined for Item 9 of the Agenda)

Start of the meeting: 11 June 2024 at 09:30

End of the meeting: 11 June 2024 at 13:00

Item 2: Approval of the minutes of the previous Foundation Board meeting, 30 November 2023

The minutes of the previous ITA Foundation Board meeting held on 30 November 2023 were submitted to all Foundation Board Members prior to the meeting for review and comments. No comments were provided prior to or during the meeting.

DECISION: The Foundation Board Members unanimously and formally approved the minutes of the meeting held on 30 November 2023.

Item 3: Re-appointment of Board members

As per the ITA Statutes, the mandate of the two following Foundation Board Members was coming to an end in June 2024:

1. Mrs Chantal Brunner, Independent ITA Board Member,
2. Dr Roger Jackson, Independent ITA Board Member.

In accordance with Article 7 of the ITA Statutes and the Reappointment Policy for the ITA Foundation Board, the Director General had officially notified the two members to provide the ITA with written confirmation that they wished to be reappointed for a new term of office. The two written confirmations had been duly received by ITA's Executive Office. The Chair thanked the Members for their continued support and interest in pursuing their key role to oversee ITA's development and promote the organization.

DECISION: The Foundation Board unanimously and formally approved the reappointment of Mrs Chantal Brunner, and Dr Roger Jackson for a new term of office of two years.

Item 4: Report by the Chair of the Board

The Chair started her report by informing the members that an agreement had been found with the IOC regarding the next 4-year Olympiad's (2025-28) Olympic Movement financial contribution with an amount of 10mio USD. This new agreement was among the ITA objectives and initiatives as part of the Strategic Plan (Financial sustainability) and reflects the confidence that the Olympic movement places in the ITA, the expertise acquired, and the work delivered since its inception in 2018. She took the opportunity to congratulate Mr Rafael Saya, who upon decision by the ITA Director General, will be promoted on the 1st of July as Head of Finance & Administration taking on additional responsibilities within the organization.

In addition, the Chair highlighted the positive financial performance of the organization in 2023. The audited financial accounts showed an operating loss of around 1mio Swiss francs, which is a very significant improvement compared to the approved budget and an expected loss of 5.5 million Swiss francs at the beginning of the year.

The Chair also mentioned the key activities that took place since the last ITA Foundation Board meeting:

- ✓ Kick-off project with the Federations which are part of the umbrella associations of ARISF and AIMS. The aim is to build a collective partnership that will help better pool resources which are very limited in these federations. However, as they are all signatories to the Code, they remain bound by the same obligations as any other federation.
- ✓ Renewal of all existing partnerships.

- ✓ New contracts with international federations and major event organizers, such as basketball and motorcycling, indicate the organization's growth and expansion, as well as the ability to attract and collaborate with prestigious partners in the sport industry.
- ✓ Ongoing collaboration and positive exchanges with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA). This collaboration ensures ITA's adherence to anti-doping regulations and demonstrates its commitment to fair and clean sport.
- ✓ The recent "affair of the Chinese swimmers" was also addressed, and the ITA confirmed its commitment to maintaining the confidence of athletes through the delivery of a robust and independent anti-doping program for World Aquatics.
- ✓ Participation to various events and meetings, such as the Sport Accord Convention, the WADA Symposium, and delivery of a speech at the Swiss Embassy in France on the economic and geopolitical issues of sport.
- ✓ The launch of the ITA Health & Clinical Expert Advisory Group chaired by Prof. Margo Mountjoy and the importance of protecting and managing the health of athletes.
- ✓ Continuous discussions with Hungarian authorities regarding the registration of an ITA branch office in Budapest.

The Chair has expressed the organization's concerns about:

- ✓ The IPC (International Paralympic Committee)'s continued reluctance to engage in meaningful discussions with the ITA thereby depriving paralympic athletes of benefiting from the same innovations and quality as Olympic athletes. The duplication of efforts with two parallel programs at the Olympic and Paralympic Games goes against all optimisation efforts to reduce the costs for the Host to deliver Olympic and Paralympic Games.
- ✓ The loss of recognition of the International Boxing Federation (IBA) by the IOC and ASOIF. The ITA has been delivering IBA's program since 2018 and shall review this new set of circumstances. More generally, this triggers the need to review whether or to what extent the ITA shall provide support to a sport organisation that has lost recognition or is no longer in good standing in the sport or Olympic community. The ITA had as a result initiated a legal consultation and the Board agreed that a policy shall be drafted to address such scenarios.

The Chair was pleased to pass on the floor to the Director General for his activity report.

Item 5: Report by the Director General

The Director General thanked the Chair and the Foundation Board Members for being present at the meeting and for their support to the administration.

He reminded the Members that his written report was part of the working documents and took the opportunity to provide an overview of the main organization's activities, financial results, and partnerships since the last board meeting in November 2023:

- ✓ ITA closed 2023 with solid financial results, reporting an operating loss of CHF 1.2 million after initially forecasting an operating loss of CHF 5.5 million.
- ✓ The ITA had reached an agreement of principle for a renewed 4-year financial contribution from the Olympic Movement, which will be submitted to the IOC Executive Board for validation. This contribution may need to be complemented over the next four years with part or all of the financial reserves the ITA had set aside since its inception in order to breakeven at the end of each year.

- ✓ The ITA successfully delivered the anti-doping program for the 2024 Winter Youth Olympic Games in South Korea.
- ✓ The ITA successfully underwent an ISO Certification audit on Quality Management (9001), with no non-conformities to address.
- ✓ The ITA was currently focused on the preparations for the Paris Olympics, including intense testing, intelligence, and other anti-doping activities.
- ✓ The ITA was also dealing with additional work due to media reports about Chinese swimmers testing positive in 2021 and other sensitive matters such as the IOC Refugee team and the situation of the International Boxing Federation.
- ✓ ITA's core operations had remained largely unaffected despite the additional workload. The team was able to deliver all its anti-doping programs in line with the World Anti-Doping Code and individual contracts with its over 60 partners.
- ✓ The ITA oversees on a daily basis over 80% of the sports on the program of the Summer Olympic Games in Paris and had focused on ramping up testing activities for these sports during the first half of 2024.
- ✓ The ITA had secured new partnerships and expanded existing ones since the last Foundation Board meeting, including partnerships with FIBA, IFBB, ISSF, IJHF, IMMAF, UTMB, FIM, IFI, WDFD, and others.
- ✓ Several new staff members had been hired in Lausanne and Budapest, and 1 staff member employed in Switzerland had been transferred to Spain.
- ✓ Issues affecting the premises at the Lausanne office had been largely resolved, and discussions will take place regarding financial compensation for damages.
- ✓ The current temporary Budapest office was being moved to a bigger location and refurbishment works were on schedule to start operations in June.
- ✓ The ITA's ongoing projects with the International Olympic Committee included:
 - Gangwon 2024 Winter Youth Olympic Games – delivered
 - Rio de Janeiro 2016 Reanalysis Program – ongoing
 - Paris 2024 AD Program – ongoing
 - Paris 2024 Pre-Games Program – ongoing
 - Paris 2024 Long term storage program – Contract and budget under discussion
 - Paris 2024 Olympic Boxing Taskforce – ongoing
 - Paris 2024 Needle Policy Management – ongoing
 - Paris 2024 Olympic Refugee team management – ongoing
 - Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympic Games and LA 2028 Olympic Games – budgetary discussions ongoing
 - 2026 Dakar Youth Olympic Games – Contract and budget under discussion
- ✓ The ITA was discussing the scope and budget for other major events, including the 2025 Winter Asian Games (Harbin, China), 2025 World Games (Chengdu, China), 2025 Islamic Games (Riyadh, Saudi Arabia), 2027 European Games (Istanbul, Turkey), and 2027 Asian Games (Nagoya, Japan).
- ✓ The ITA had strengthened agreements and partnerships with National and Regional Anti-Doping Organisations and had implemented the ITA NADO/RADO relations Strategy.
- ✓ The Director General also mentioned that the ITA had received applications for its ethics panel and will be conducting interviews to select members for approval by the board during the next Foundation Board Meeting.

The Director General also provided an overview on the matter of the Chinese swimmers and action items related to it:

- ✓ Follow up on collaborative efforts with WADA, World Aquatics, USADA and CHINADA by emphasizing transparency and cooperation.
- ✓ Conduct increased testing on Chinese swimmers ahead of the Paris Olympics to reinforce the trust, in particular among the international swimming athlete community, in the independence, and credibility of anti-doping efforts.
- ✓ Participate in the establishment of a stronger scientific framework to differentiate between contamination and intentional doping cases.
- ✓ Strengthen collaboration and transparency among stakeholders in anti-doping efforts.
- ✓ Cooperate to addressing concerns about leaks of private athlete data and ensure athlete privacy protection and integrity.
- ✓ Maintain independence and impartiality in investigations to address potential political interference.

DECISION: The Foundation Board Members unanimously and formally approved the ITA Chair's and ITA Director General's reports.

Item 6: ITA Strategic Plan 2023-2026

The Director General provided an update on the ITA Strategic Plan 2023-2026 and progress towards achieving the six main strategic initiatives, as well as the status of ongoing projects. He highlighted the importance of balancing operating expenses with the creation of new strategic initiatives and mitigating external and reputational risk for the ITA.

- ✓ The Strategic Plan is complemented by a reporting mechanism used by the team to track progress towards goals and inform the Board accordingly.
- ✓ There are challenges and considerations in launching projects involving the athlete's community.
- ✓ Eleven projects have been completed so far, including the development of a new internal communication platform "PULSE," a Procurement Policy, and an ITA Code of Ethics.
- ✓ Another full-day workshop will be conducted in autumn to review and address concerns and re-align as need be any strategic initiative outlined in the plan.

The Board members congratulated the Director General and confirmed that they were pleased with the progress on the Strategic Plan.

Item 7: Paris 2024 – Pre-Games and Games Time

The Chair gave the floor to Mr Damien Rhumorbarbe, Data Analytics Manager, Science & Medical and Mr Matteo Vallini, Head of International Federations & Major Events who provided a summary of the activities related to the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. The presentation included:

1. Pre-Games:

- ✓ Comprehensive instructions and guidelines for testing athletes during the Pre-Games period were issued to all anti-doping organisations.

- ✓ Practical testing recommendations to enhance testing regimes and athletes monitoring.
- ✓ Challenges with the data management due to the large number of athletes that need to be monitored.
- ✓ Sport risk distribution to enable the ITA to prioritize testing efforts and allocate resources accordingly by focusing on sports with higher risk profiles.
- ✓ Follow-up actions after the initial recommendations to ensure implementation and address any issues that may arise.
- ✓ A need for effective communication and collaboration with ADOs to address their concerns and provide necessary support.
- ✓ Establishment of recommendations for next events.

2. Games Time:

- ✓ Budget limitations were impacting operations and requiring adjustments in testing strategies.
- ✓ Ongoing discussions regarding the Condition of Participation (COP) and access via the Games Management System (GMS).
- ✓ Ongoing discussions were also taking place with Paris 2024 regarding the transportation of samples, where the ITA expects to receive a clear, standardized procedure for maintaining sample integrity.
- ✓ Implementation of anti-doping measures, such as testing under the International Federations' authority.
- ✓ Coordination with the IOC on testing protocols and athlete monitoring.
- ✓ Risk mitigation strategies for tablets management, including security measures and backup plans.
- ✓ The ITA will administer its own survey for athletes at the Olympic Games, with a mix of closed and open-ended questions, and the survey will be promoted through the Doping Control Stations.
- ✓ In preparation for the upcoming games, the ITA was focusing on staff organization and readiness assessments.
- ✓ The ITA continued its efforts to optimize processes and enhance efficiency in anti-doping operations.

Item 8: ITA Strategy for Cooperation with National and Regional Anti-Doping Organizations

The report was delivered by Mr Michael Ask, the ITA International Relations Senior Manager who presented the ITA Strategy for cooperation with National and Regional anti-doping organizations that was a part of the ITA's Strategic Plan. The ITA NADO Relations Strategy had been approved during the last Foundation Board meeting. The presentation highlighted the importance of a close cooperation between ITA and NADOs and outlined areas of collaboration including:

- ✓ Importance of Cooperation:
 - Close cooperation with NADOs is crucial as per the World Anti-Doping Code (WADC) and the International Standard for Testing and Investigations (ISTI).

- Cooperation allows ITA to operate more efficiently and cost-effectively by leveraging local knowledge and synergies between NADOs and ITA.
 - Both ITA and NADOs share a "non-for-profit" status, emphasizing their common goal of promoting clean sport rather than financial gain.
 - Foster stakeholders' cooperation is one of ITA's strategic objectives, and assisting NADOs in their development is of mutual interest.
- ✓ Areas of Cooperation:
- Education Programs: ITA and NADOs collaborate on delivering education and training programs related to anti-doping.
 - Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs): ITA and NADOs work together on the management and approval of TUEs.
 - Registered Testing Pools (RTPs) and Whereabouts Information: ITA and NADOs cooperate on the management of RTPs and collecting whereabouts information.
 - Athlete Biological Passport (ABP): ITA and NADOs collaborate on the implementation and management of the ABP program.
 - Intelligence and Investigations (I&I): ITA and NADOs work together on intelligence gathering and investigations related to anti-doping violations.
 - Risk Assessment, Result Management, Anti-Doping Policies, and Innovation & Technology are also taken into consideration.
- ✓ Further Cooperation Actions:
- Development of an assessment model to prioritize NADOs based on their importance and relevance to ITA's operations.
 - Establishment of a protocol for the exchange of data with NADOs, ensuring the "need to know" principle and data security.
 - Process definition for situations where a NADO is not chosen as the Sample Collection Authority (SCA).
 - Development of a service offering plan to provide support and assistance to NADOs in need, in consultation with WADA.
 - Creation of discussion platforms, joint webinars, and inclusion of NADO representatives in ITA programs and expert groups.
 - Implementation of a staff exchange program between ITA and NADOs.

Item 9: Financial matters

Key financial activities were presented by Mr Rafael Saya, the ITA Finance Senior Manager. Mr Saya presented the 2023 audited accounts for approval by the Members of the Board and the 2024 actuals.

- ✓ Comprehensive report, executive summary:

The executive summary of the external audit of the 2023 accounts found no audit differences or cases of fraud. The control system was deemed adequate and in line with the size of the organization and the associated risks. The external auditors recommended the approval of the financial statements.

- ✓ Summary of 2023 actuals to previous year

In 2023, the revenues of the organization grew significantly from CHF 9.1 million to CHF 12.4 million. This growth can be attributed to attracting new partners, reinforcing existing partnerships and delivering additional services to existing partners. The operating result improved from a negative CHF 2.6 million in 2022 to a negative CHF 1 million in 2023. The cost increased slightly by CHF 1.7 million, mainly due to hiring more people in Lausanne

and Budapest to support the activities. As the net income for 2023 amounts to CHF 2.8 million, a provision of the same amount is submitted for approval by the board. The free cash flow is still negative but decreasing compared to the previous year. The organization received a CHF 4 million Olympic Movement contribution and only used CHF 1.1 million to fund its operations, which increased the cash position from CHF 12 million to CHF 15 million and the reserve to nearly CHF 13 million.

✓ 2024 Rolling Forecast

The 2024 rolling forecast shows that the organization will be expecting higher revenues compared to the previous year as well as compared to the initial 2024 Budget. The forecasted revenues are planned to be around CHF 14.2 million compared to the initial budgeted revenues of CHF 12.5 million. This increase is due to new partners joining and additional services being delivered. There is also a shift in timing of revenue from 2023 to 2024 for major events.

In terms of costs, the latest forecast indicates a relatively flat trend. There are some savings, particularly in personal costs, due to some departures, but these are temporary as the positions will be filled again.

The operating result is forecasted to improve significantly from an initial budgeted loss of CHF 4.6 million to a projected loss of CHF 2.6 million in line with the increased revenues and cost reductions.

The forecasted cash flow shows a slight improvement, with a projected cash outflow of CHF 4.3 million compared to the initial budgeted negative CHF 4.8 million. However, the organization only expects to receive CHF 3 million from the Olympic Movement contribution, which is less than what is needed to cover the cash outflow. This may require using some of the reserve funds to cover the shortfall.

✓ Contribution from the Olympic Movement

In 2024, the ITA received a contribution of USD 3 million from the Olympic Movement, which is equivalent to approximately CHF 2.7 million. This contribution represents around 9% of the total revenue for the year. It is worth noting that ITA's reliance on the contribution from the Olympic Movement has been decreasing over time, indicating that the organization is becoming less and less dependent on this source of funding.

DECISION: The Board Members unanimously approved the 2023 audited accounts and the increase of the provision for future costs.

Item 10: Other matters / Miscellaneous

Ms Emma Terho provided an update on the Athletes community, including:

- ✓ Discussion about Russian and Belarusian athletes and their testing as neutral athletes had been a very important topic but was expected to resume as the numbers of athletes are low and thanks to actions taken by ITA and other IFs to test these athletes adequately.
- ✓ The Chinese swimmers' case had been thoroughly discussed but good support had been offered by WADA, the ITA, and others to have a platform to address concerns and receive explanations.
- ✓ There had been discussions about the finalization of the Beijing figure skating team medals and the possibility of medal reallocation, which has caused some debate and discussions.

- ✓ The implementation of a Pre-Games testing program for the IPC had been a topic of discussion and raised in various forums as a program such as the one in place by the ITA for the Olympics was not reflected at IPC level.
- ✓ An anti-doping section will be included in the IOC 365 Mobile app that will be launched for the Paris Games, providing athletes with information on anti-doping and Pre-Games testing.
- ✓ Additionally, there will be AI safeguarding to block harassing comments on social media and report serious threats to the authorities.

Mr Sébastien Gillot provided an update on WADA's activities:

- ✓ The WADA staff is frustrated by baseless allegations that tarnish their reputation and the reputation of clean sport.
- ✓ Collaboration with the ITA remained a priority at the moment, particularly in areas such as the Pre-Games efforts and the delivery of the anti-doping program for the Paris 2024 Games.
- ✓ Ensuring the quality of the anti-doping program at the Olympic Games is crucial, and a WADA independent observer team will be present to make recommendations for improvements.
- ✓ Athlete engagement was a focus, with activities planned during both the Olympic and Paralympic Games to raise awareness and involve athletes in anti-doping efforts.
- ✓ Compliance with anti-doping regulations was a key ongoing process, with assessments being conducted for various anti-doping organizations and a need to work on compliance issues, especially for national anti-doping organizations from developing countries.

Item 11: Closing of the meeting

The Chair sincerely thanked all the Foundation Board Members and the WADA Observer for their presence and continued support. She wished everyone a nice summer, and fantastic experience during the Olympic Games in her country.

The date and location of the next end of year Foundation Board meeting would be communicated in due course.

These minutes are made in one original copy and signed in accordance with Article 9 of the ITA Statutes on 11 June 2024.



Dr Valérie Fourneyron
Chair of the Board



Mr Benjamin Cohen
Director General



Ms Monika Lacna
Executive Office Coordinator, Minutes taker