



## BADMINTON CONFEDERATION AFRICA

### MINUTES



Minutes of the Badminton Confederation Africa's **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** held on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> of May 2019 at 0900 hours** at the Wanda Vista Hotel in Nanning, China.

#### **Delegates in Attendance:**

SN	Country	Delegate 1		Delegate 2	
1	Algeria	Messaoud Zobiri	MZ	Moncef Zemmouchi	ZM
2	Benin	Aubin Assogba	AA	-	
3	Botswana	Hamilton Mpinyane	HM	-	
4	Burkina Faso	Pamoussa Zongo	PZ	-	
5	Burundi	Ndondo Francois	NF	-	
6	Cameroon	Odette Assembe	OA	-	
7	Central African Rep	Guy Beninga	GB	-	
8	Congo DRC	Lomboto Medard	LM	Bukasa Marcel	BM
9	Egypt	Hesham Eltohamy	HE	-	
10	Equatorial Guinea	Zibhino Rodriguez	ZR	-	
11	Ethiopia	Gebreeyesus Ayele	GA	-	
12	Guinea	Balde Boubacar	BB	-	
13	Ivory Coast	Honore Zolobe	HZ	David Virgile	DV
14	Kenya	Jeff Shigoli	JS	-	
15	Lesotho	Moneoang Leshota	ML	-	
16	Madagascar	Jean Aime Ravalison	JAR	-	
17	Mauritania	Ahmed Salem Babou	ASB	-	
18	Mauritius	Jonathan Ling	LJ	-	
19	Mozambique	Ibrahimo Mussagy	IM	-	
20	Namibia	Jurgen Leicher	JL	-	
21	Niger	Hassane Issoufou	HI	-	
22	Nigeria	Francis Orbih	FO		
23	Seychelles	Michel Bau ( <b>President</b> )	MB	-	
24	Sierra Leone	Michael S Mustapha	MM		
25	Somalia	Hussein Ali Mohamed	HAM	-	
26	South Africa	Glen Brothers	GB	-	
27	Togo	Takassi Tiko	TK	-	
28	Tunisia	Suissi Najeh	SN	Rita El Mofraji	RM
29	Zambia	Kay Chirwa	KC	Kingstin Mulenga	KM
30	Zimbabwe	Nyamuzinga Luke	NL	Chipso Zumburani	CZ

## Council in Attendance

1	Godfrey Mathumo	GM
2	Larry Keys	LK
3	Simon Mugabi	SM
4	Yeboah Evans	YE

## Staff in Attendance

1	<b>BCA Secretary General</b>	Sahir Edoo (Notes Taker)	SG
2	<b>BCA Development Manager</b>	Dajee Annirao	DM

## Observers

1	<b>Congo</b>	Thomas Bakala	TB		
2	<b>Uganda</b>	Muziransa Shaban	MS	Buwenbo Jamil	BJ
3	<b>Morocco</b>	Omar Bellali	OB		
3	<b>BWF</b>	Ian Wright	IW		

## Guest

1	<b>Gretha Prinsloo</b>
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## 1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

### 1.1 President's Remarks

- 1.1.1. The President welcomed all the representatives of African Member Associations (MAs), Council and other stakeholders who were present. He thanked all for their commitment to the African Badminton community.
- 1.1.2. The President further advised and requested delegates to be precise, short and direct in their intervention.
- 1.1.3. He then asked the SG to do the roll call.
- 1.1.4. SG first welcomed everyone and provided some housekeeping information; he then continued with the roll call.

### 1.2 Roll call

- 1.2.1 He confirmed that there was a quorum with 28 Member Associations (MAs), in good standing, that were present in the room - representing a total vote of 91.
- 1.2.2 He further advised that for any motion requiring amendments to the Constitution, a minimum of two thirds majority, of the total votes present in the room, would be required.
- 1.2.3 SG highlighted that, at 0900 hours, there were 31 MAs present in the room but 3 of them had not fulfilled the requirements of the BCA Constitution.
- 1.2.4 Ghana, Uganda and Congo were amongst those that had not paid the BCA Subscriptions and he referred to clause 17.5 of the BCA Constitution. Congo had neither paid the BCA subscriptions nor had they submitted the BCA AGM Delegate Form.
- 1.2.5 KC asked when did BCA receive the money for the subscriptions of Uganda, Ghana and Congo.
- 1.2.6 SG referred to the BCA constitution clause 17.5 which reads *"Delegates of MA's whose Annual Subscriptions for the current year have not been paid at latest 24 hours before the starting time of the AGM shall not be allowed to vote at the meeting"*.

- 1.2.7 He advised the meeting that BCA had received the subscriptions for Uganda and Ghana at 9:18am on the same day of the AGM and this was not in line with the Constitution. Congo did not pay the Subscription yet.
- 1.2.8 JL shared that last year, the meeting had a debate regarding the same issue of payment of subscriptions. He remembered the SG saying that BCA would consider the date of payment of the Subscription fee and not the date when Subscription is received by BCA.
- 1.2.9 SG replied that the Constitution clearly states that the subscriptions are to be paid latest 24 hours before the starting of the AGM and he went on to clarify that the date of payment rule only applies to subscriptions via bank transfers.
- 1.2.10 JL then asked if the payments made by Uganda and Ghana that morning were received as cash or were paid via transfer.
- 1.2.11 MB responded and said that the instruction for payment from the 2 MAs to the SG had been sent that morning which according to the Constitution was after the deadline.
- 1.2.12 MB further clarified that if these instructions were given 24 hours before or if the MA had done a bank transfer 24 hours before the AGM then the Subscription would have been considered as paid.
- 1.2.13 YE referred to the BCA Constitution clause 15.4 which quoted *“Beside the BWF subscriptions, each Member Association shall pay annual BCA subscriptions, as may be proposed by Council and decided by the General Meeting”*.
- 1.2.14 YE suggested to the President that they should let the meeting decide on the matter.
- 1.2.15 MB advised that: if Ghana could prove that their payment was done 24 hours before the AGM then what YE had suggested could be considered. But if, this is not the case, then the meeting would not bend the rules.
- 1.2.16 YE said the meeting was to be given a chance to decide, since it was their meeting and as such, they had the power to amend or agree with the rule.
- 1.2.17 OA mentioned that, in the previous year, Burundi was not allowed to vote in the meeting and, for this current case, to be fair to everyone, we cannot allow Ghana and Uganda to vote.
- 1.2.18 MB said that BCA cannot bend rules each time a MA had a situation in an AGM to suit specific individuals, but the rules and the provisions of the Constitution would apply to everyone.

- 1.2.19 FO suggested that the meeting shouldn't waste time on rules that are clearly stated in the Constitution.

### **1.3 Appointment of Scrutineers**

- 1.3.1 SG proposed to the meeting to approve the appointment of Mr. Dajee Annirao (BCA Development Manager) and Mr. Ian Wright from BWF as scrutineers. The meeting unanimously approved.

## **2. MINUTES**

### **2.1 Matters Arising and Approval of Minutes of last AGM held on Thursday 17 May 2018**

- 2.1.1 JL suggested to add correction of minutes on the agenda.
- 2.1.2 The President proposed to the meeting to go page by page on the minutes for corrections and matters arising at the same time. The meeting agreed.
- 2.1.3 JL stated that the numbering had to be accurate, and the roll call as well; there were 32 countries and not 29. He stated that Mrs. Sharon Springer's name was omitted in there as an observer.
- 2.1.4 SG clarified that at the start of the meeting there were 29 MAs and the rest signed the register later. He also confirmed that the page numbers were indeed there.
- 2.1.5 LM mentioned that he was present during last year's AGM and it was not Congo that was present but his country DR Congo.
- 2.1.6 SG clarified and stated that it was indeed Congo that was present and they were represented by Mrs. Dagmawit.
- 2.1.7 Referring to page 3, bullet point number 6, JL stated that a correction should be made and he suggested that the SG should go back and check the audio recording of the meeting. He went on to say that the part where it said he had received the motions and the seconding on the same date, was never said in the meeting.
- 2.1.8 MB said that they would not go back and debate on the issue of motions because what was recorded in the minutes had been discussed already.
- 2.1.9 SG referred to the minutes page 3 bullets 2 & 3 where he stated clearly that the letters were received on the same day.

- 2.1.10 MB confirmed that the minutes were well recorded and no changes will be done.
- 2.1.11 JL wanted to confirm bullet point 1 on page 4, where it stated that the former SG did not do any handover and whether that were correct.
- 2.1.12 MB confirmed.
- 2.1.13 On page 7, regarding the votes, JL wanted to know how did the the total number of votes reached 109 as it was less at the start of the meeting.
- 2.1.14 KC replied that they were making corrections on each page and they shouldn't go back and waste time.
- 2.1.15 MB added that at the start of the meeting, those present in the room was included in the roll call. However, others joined later on and that's why the total number of votes changed.
- 2.1.16 On page 9, JL mentioned that the letters should have been YE and not EY.
- 2.1.17 On the same page, the last bullet point, JL asked if the statement was correct - the minutes stated that after the payment was done, whether CZ only got to know about it the next month.
- 2.1.18 MB replied that if JL wanted corrections to be made, then he would have to specify the corrections rather than going back and wasting time.
- 2.1.19 JL asked who had approved the financials because they had not been approved. According to his recollection, the meeting only approved the budget.
- 2.1.20 MB asked JL when did he realized that the financials had not been approved during the meeting.
- 2.1.21 JL answered that he realized during the same meeting but it was too late for him to say so.
- 2.1.22 MB said that if no MA contested the approval of the financials then the AGM was in agreement of the approval of the financials, JL being the only one against the approval and the rest of the meeting was in agreement wouldn't mean that the financials would not have been approved.
- 2.1.23 GS suggested that if the statements in the minutes were self-explained then there needed no point to go back and waste time because all the delegates who seconded were written.
- 2.1.24 JL maintained that the budget was approved but not the financials from his knowledge
- 2.1.25 MB clarified that the AGM approved and agreed the financials in last year's AGM despite Jls intervention.

- 2.1.26 MM advised that, according to the minutes, it was not stated that the investigation committee setup was to investigate Mr. Raj's case and that they were asked to check the records and report to the AGM; he then wanted these 2 items to be clarified.
- 2.1.27 MB asked MM to clarify as to the specific case he was referring to, because the Investigative Commission did not have a mandate to investigate the Raj case, the case was handed over to BWF who had done the investigations.
- 2.1.28 MM replied that he should have been specific about the \$30,000 that was missing in Raj's case, but in terms of reference they were asked to investigate something that was not mandated by the AGM.
- 2.1.29 KC clarified to the meeting that minutes were past tense and not present tense.
- 2.1.30 JL advised that there was a huge misunderstanding in the minutes under the topic 'matters arising' and needed to be discussed because from his understanding the meeting had to do corrections of the minutes first then matters arising.
- 2.1.31 MB reminded JL that the meeting had agreed that they would do corrections and matters arising at the same time and this was agreed by all.
- 2.1.32 GB agreed with JL and also thought that the meeting was doing corrections only.
- 2.1.33 FO also suggested to give JL one opportunity to present his point.
- 2.1.34 GB pleaded that the correction of minutes should be quick and effective and we should not re start the discussions from last year's meeting.
- 2.1.35 MB suggested the meeting to move on and proceed and to avoid going back on raising other issues since they had exhausted them with the minutes, he asked for the meeting to second the suggestion and adopt the minutes.
- 2.1.36 Botswana, Kenya, Cameroon, and Zimbabwe seconded for the approval of the minutes.
- 2.1.37 MB called on for those who were in favor of adopting the minutes.
- 2.1.38 The voting process took place by raising of voting cards
- 2.1.39 SG announced the results of the voting which were 78 in favor and 3 against and 17 were abstentions. He confirmed the minutes were therefore approved.

### **3. COUNCIL REPORT**

#### **3.1 President's Brief**

3.1.1 MB went on to report on 2018.

3.1.2 It gives me great pleasure to offer you a comprehensive account of BCA's multifarious projects, activities and events for 2018. Despite the governance challenges of the past few years, BCA has successfully completed another year with the support and sustenance of the African Badminton family. 2018 has been the start of a new BCA with Council addressing some very basic issues of developing badminton in Africa including assistance given to all stakeholders and introduction of proper structures and policies at governance and administrative levels.

3.1.3 The main highlight of the year is without doubt the first Olympic Medal won by an African during the Youth Olympic Games 2018 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Mr. Mohamed Mostafa Kamel, the talented young Egyptian defied all logic and with his perseverance and commitment earned a well-deserved and historic medal for his country. BCA also continued to support the events development in Africa with the success of the All African Championships 2018 in Algeria; which was live streamed for the first time ever. The organization of the first All African Para-Badminton Championships in Uganda was also a milestone for the African Continent.

3.1.4 Athletes are at the heart of our organization; Council made a historic decision in 2018 to have the first ever elected BCA Athletes Commission as from 2019. The best African players were also given the necessary support through the 'Road to Tokyo' programme in their quest of qualifying for the next Olympic Games. Grassroot development was again fundamental for growth of the sport with programmes like Shuttle Time which has now reached 31 countries in Africa. BCA also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the African University Federation (FASU) in 2018 and subsequently the first ever African University Badminton Championships will be held in 2019. The Confederation is also in discussion for further partnerships from 2019 onwards.

3.1.5 From the BWF Human Resource funding, the office capacity will be strengthen in 2019 with recruitment of additional staff. BWF has stopped the special funding for expenses related to the BCA subsidiary office in South Africa. Due to a number of reasons, Council



decided to close the subsidiary South African office and to operate in Mauritius where the confederation was already operating prior to 2017.

- 3.1.6 My dear colleagues, we cannot change our past but we can work together to change our future and addressing this will require African men and women to work collectively so as to provide new solutions for a better BCA.
- 3.1.7 It is only by working together with humility, simplicity and constructive energy, that we can hope to overcome the challenges of the next few years and propel African Badminton to a world class level.
- 3.1.8 I would like to finish with a word of gratitude to all the BCA member associations who have contributed to the growth of BCA in 2018. I am also grateful to my colleagues from the Council who have philanthropically abetted the success of BCA in the past years. Finally, I would like to thank the BWF for their continuous support throughout the years.
- 3.1.9 MB then invited the Chairperson of the Events Committee to present his report.

## **3.2 Events Committee Report**

- 3.2.1 SM greeted the meeting and asked everyone to open page 11 of the annual report which detailed all the events organized in 2018.
- 3.2.2 He explained that 2018 was a fruitful year and BCA had 4 major Championships.
  - 1. Africa Youth Games held in Algeria.
  - 2. Africa Schools held in Ghana.
  - 3. Para badminton Championships held in Uganda in April.
  - 4. All Africa Championships held in Algeria.
- 3.2.3 SM asked the meeting to give a round of applause to Uganda for hosting the 1<sup>st</sup> Para Badminton Championships in Africa and he pleaded for those with disability not to be ignored but to be treated as normal people and encouraged to partake in sports.
- 3.2.4 SM stated that there were 13 International tournaments held in 2018 and thanked Nigeria for having the only International Challenge in Africa.
- 3.2.5 MM asked why BCA supported only Francophone based activities.
- 3.2.6 SM replied that it up to all MAs to organize International tournaments and not BCAs responsibility to do so.

- 3.2.7 SG said that MM's question was for the development committee and not the events committee. He stated that the question will be covered during the development committee report.
- 3.2.8 SM specified that MAs were to look for sponsorship for International tournaments in their own countries.
- 3.2.9 ZR questioned about the BCA sponsors and mentioned that we need to have a proper marketing strategy.
- 3.2.10 MB replied and said that due to the situation in Africa, many sponsors are reluctant to invest in African sports.
- 3.2.11 NF suggested that BCA has to increase participation of its MAs for the different African tournaments.
- 3.2.12 SG replied that if they looked at the past events, the number of participating countries was increasing, and the events committee has also been allocating grants for participating countries.
- 3.2.13 He went on to say that BCA was trying to host tournaments in different regions, for example, Algeria hosted the Africa Championships in 2018 and in 2019 it will be in Nigeria. This is to encourage participation of countries in their respective regions. For the past three years, many new countries also participated for the first time ever in a BCA Championship.
- 3.2.14 Regarding sponsorships, FO stated that it is important that BCA works on its image and financial management. This is build confidence for the potential sponsors.
- 3.2.15 OA questioned about the Para badminton strategy in Africa and hosting of Para badminton internationals in Africa.
- 3.2.16 SM said that the same criteria they had for International Tournaments was the same criteria used for Para badminton.
- 3.2.17 ZM suggested that the Marketing Committee was to be given to people with knowledge of sponsorship and professionals because Africa has a great marketing potential.
- 3.2.18 The meeting went on a break at 11.15.

### **3.3 Marketing Committee Report**

3.3.1 At 11.35, the meeting resumed.

3.3.2 HZ started his report by thanking the Council and BCA President. He went on to report on the marketing activities for 2018.

3.3.3 BCA continued to develop its marketing strategy in 2018 with the following activities:

1. The media workshop activity was organised in a few African Countries – Benin, Cameroon and Egypt.
2. For the first time ever, the African Championships in 2018 was live streamed. However, internet connection is a major problem in Africa.
3. General branding of BCA activities: banners, t-shirts, etc.
4. The BWF is finalizing the new web site.
5. New email addresses – BCA branded.

3.3.4 HZ also mentioned that the committee made a lot of efforts to ameliorate the quality of offerings, especially the events.

3.3.5 ZR asked that the Chair of Marketing had mentioned that BWF was involved in the setting up of the BCA Website, if then BWF was responsible of taking care of the information on the website.

3.3.6 SG clarified that BWF had designed the website, but BCA was managing it.

3.3.7 He then advised that the website was now accessible online, and anyone was welcome to have a look: [www.badmintonafrika.com](http://www.badmintonafrika.com).

3.3.8 GB suggested that BCA as a federation should change from Gmail account and personalize its own email accounts.

3.3.9 SG confirmed that BCA is currently working on the new email addresses.

### **3.4 Development Committee Report**

3.4.1 LK referred to his committee's detailed report which was well documented in the paperwork provided.

- 3.4.2 LK spoke about the issue of equipment which was solved as many MAs were in dire need of it.
- 3.4.3 LK advised that having events was a marketing tool as well and this would eventually bring more players to the sport.
- 3.4.4 He clarified that events/activities receiving grants from BWF and BCA can only be used for that purpose. For example, if a grant is specifically for Shuttle Time, then it can only be used for Shuttle Time and not for other activities.
- 3.4.5 HE suggested that there was need for more workshops and courses to be organised in order to improve the level of players and coaches – both for badminton and Para badminton.
- 3.4.6 He added that it was important to have the right equipment as well.
- 3.4.7 SG shared that BCA's first Para badminton workshop was organised in 2016 and the workshop has been organized on a yearly basis since then. The objective of the annual workshops was to train Para badminton coaches, players and officials.
- 3.4.8 SG informed the meeting that BWF had donated 10 wheelchairs with the help of AGITOS.
- 3.4.9 He also mentioned that BCA would like to have more Para badminton tournaments and events and he would invite MAs to show interest for same.
- 3.4.10 On behalf of the Sierra Leone Badminton Association, MM thanked the President and everyone who supported in the providing equipment for Sierra Leone. In fact, they received equipment after 10 years.
- 3.4.11 He then asked:
- 3.4.11.1 What Justification did BCA have of taking its resources to support francophone activities only and not Anglophone?
- 3.4.11.2 Why are coaching courses organized only in some countries and not in the developing countries?
- 3.4.12 SG explained BCA is working the Francophone Badminton Association and they organise activities in Africa. BCA only support technically.
- 3.4.13 SG clarified that BCA got equipment not because a specific country requested but because reports were sent for Shuttle Time.
- 3.4.14 MM wanted clarification on the francophone activities, especially regarding BCA's financial assistance.

- 3.4.15 SG replied that the budgeted amount was to send a technical person to assist in implementing the program and not actual money.
- 3.4.16 MS asked whether there is a policy set up for MAs to receive equipment.
- 3.4.17 He also suggested that BCA properly communicate on development activities.
- 3.4.18 AA inquired about the development of Technical Officials and he also mentioned about the issues his umpires are facing to travel.
- 3.4.19 ASB shared that their biggest disadvantage as Mauritania was the number of coaches, and he requested BCA to update them on any training camps because he felt it was easy to form players but it's hard to form them without coaches.
- 3.4.20 SG clarified that whatever BCA does came from a strategic point of view and BCA has a 4-year strategic plan including KPI for all objectives. It was not a matter of choosing people randomly to deliver courses, but the activities organized in Africa are decided based on the long term strategic plan and the yearly plans.
- 3.4.21 SG went on to say that BCA needed support from MAs as well. SG gave an example that BCA sends memos regularly, but MAs do not reply. There is also a WhatsApp group and Facebook platforms for MAs to channel any requests to be made to BCA.
- 3.4.22 SG further said that BCA hosted a Shuttle Time Coordinators meeting where coordinators from different countries participated. This meeting was done as a follow up on issues of communication that hindered the implementation of Shuttle Time. This meeting is done every 2 years, 1 for English and 1 for French.
- 3.4.23 Also, for players, this year BCA will be sending its top players to the Badminton Europe Center of Excellence in Denmark.
- 3.4.24 All these activities are done to push not only the top-level players but also to aid grassroots development players.
- 3.4.25 SG shared that for technical officials, BCA has been training national level umpires whenever International tournaments are held in Africa.
- 3.4.26 SG clarified that the TO grant that BCA receives from BWF is for the best umpires who will be going for BWF assessments only. BCA does not get specific funding for development of national level referees, but BCA has been trying help MAs from its own resources.
- 3.4.27 The meeting break for lunch at 13.30 and at 14.15 the President called the meeting back to order.

3.4.28 The President then invited the Chair of Administration and Staff to take the floor for his report.

### **3.5 Administration and Remuneration Committee Report**

- 3.5.1 KC explained that the funding that BCA was receiving from BWF was stopped hence we had to pay for our own office.
- 3.5.2 BCA settled for Mauritius because of issues surrounding cost of living in South Africa. As the SG and DM are residents there, it was cost effective for BCA to officially move operations to Mauritius.
- 3.5.3 JL said he wanted clarity on why the MAs were not told when the office was closed because no MA got an official email on the decision of closing the office neither were they involved in the decision making.
- 3.5.4 GA asked why they wanted to recruit a Development officer from the north and south regions only. He also inquired about the different BCA Committees.
- 3.5.5 KM replied that Council appoints members of the council to head each individual committee depending on their knowledge; for example, if one has knowledge of finance then he may be appointed by council as head of the Finance Committee. This is in line with the BCA Constitution.
- 3.5.6 He further explained that under the recruitment of Development Officers (DO), they opted for North because there were more French speaking countries, and by that they had to recruit one DO who will cater for the French speaking countries.
- 3.5.7 They chose the English speaking DO to come from the South because they wanted someone who was familiar with the English language.
- 3.5.8 KM explained that the office in South Africa was funded by BWF, and BWF had pledged that they were going to fund the rentals up to a certain time. In 2018, BWF stopped the funding and BCA had no other choice than to move the office from South Africa as the rentals were too much. They opted for Mauritius due to various reasons including the nationality of current staff, security and general cost of living.
- 3.5.9 The President clarified that the South African office was a satellite one and officially the headquarters has always been in Mauritius.

- 3.5.10 BWF had given BCA up to a specific time to finalize their Headquarters and thereafter they would withdraw their funding.
- 3.5.11 JL said he was getting a bit confused because the SG had written that the BCA headquarters was in Pretoria, South Africa and as the AGM they accepted that, but they could not put things down like that and confuse people.
- 3.5.12 He went on to say that there was no office and asked where the BCA employees were working from.
- 3.5.13 KM advised that BCA had not seized to exist whether the address was in Mauritius or Pretoria, and he could not see what the problem was, because mail had been written to BCA and received.
- 3.5.14 He explained that most of the accounts were still in SA.
- 3.5.15 GB said everyone was confused because all the paperwork that people had stated South Africa, and he personally thought it was not right because BWF is giving BCA money and it's our responsibility to look after it. So, his question was, had the office moved to Mauritius or was still in South Africa.
- 3.5.16 FO disagreed with KM and he stated that BCA had to accept that there were challenges in running of the office. He commented further that there was nothing that showed that the BCA headquarters was in Mauritius.
- 3.5.17 HM supported the chairman and added that the Chair had explained that BCA was looking for an office which could be identified by everyone and he also said we should stick with the logo which says office is in South Africa until the new office is established in Mauritius.
- 3.5.18 MS suggested that the meeting should agree that BCA had headquarters in South Africa as they are arranging to get an office in Mauritius and then pass the issue and move on.
- 3.5.19 JS expressed that he thought the office issue was sorted, and he failed to know why people kept going back on this issue because KC had made clarification that BWF had stopped funding for the subsidiary office in South Africa. He did not understand why the meeting was still arguing on this issue.
- 3.5.20 The President clarified that in Mauritius BCA had no physical building, but it had been operating from the former SGs office until 2017. In South Africa, there was a physical office which was officially a Satellite office where the staff were working from.

- 3.5.21 He went on to explained that BWF wanted BCA to make a quick decision on where they could have their office. Council then decided to close the South African office as BWF had seized all funding.
- 3.5.22 He further explained that having the office in Mauritius was the right move because rentals in South Africa were expensive. A new location was already found in Mauritius and the SA office was closed in March 2019.
- 3.5.23 He added that BCA then decided to get the government approval first, especially regarding the conditions of having BCA in Mauritius.
- 3.5.24 However, the registration that was done before did not allow BCA officials and employees from outside Mauritius to work in the country.
- 3.5.25 The President highlighted that the SG and himself had gone and approached some authorities in Mauritius and were advised that, in order for BCA to operate in Mauritius, they would have to register the organisation as a company. After meeting the Mauritius Olympic Committee and the Minister of Sports, the Mauritian Government promised support to register the organization as a non-profit organisation.
- 3.5.26 There was some brief discussion and the meeting agreed to the President's explanation.

#### **Women in Badminton Award**

- 3.5.27 The Chair of the meeting decided to bring forward the Africa Women in Badminton Award 2018 which was due to be presented in A.O.B.
- 3.5.28 SG advised the meeting that Mrs. Gretha Prinsloo who is the first ever BWF Certificated Referee from Africa had been selected to receive the award.
- 3.5.29 SG gave a brief history of Mrs. Prinsloo's involvement in badminton over the years and welcomed the Chairperson of the BCA Women Badminton Commission to officially present the awardee.
- 3.5.30 ML stated that this was the first award that was introduced for WIB in Africa to encourage participation of women in the sport of badminton. She added that, Mrs. Prinsloo was chosen as she is the most accomplished African (man or woman) in her field.
- 3.5.31 Mrs. Gretha accepted her award and thanked BCA.
- 3.5.32 The President invited the Chairperson of the Finance Committee to present his report.



### 3.6 Finance Committee Report

- 3.6.1 YE referred to page 36 of the Annual report and advised that he was responsible for the management of the financial resources of BCA.
- 3.6.2 He referred to page 7 under financial statements, which were the audited accounts and the summary of the year under review.
- 3.6.3 He informed the meeting that BCA had received grants from BWF which amounted to USD\$620,000 as well as subscriptions from MAs.
- 3.6.4 YE said that most of the expenses were under development and events.
- 3.6.5 He advised that there was cash in hand which amounted to USD42,062 in our Bank account as at 31 December 2018.
- 3.6.6 He went on to refer the meeting to the attached budget for 2018, and there was a total of USD50,000 which was budgeted for Para badminton.
- 3.6.7 Under Marketing he said there was USD 48,000.
- 3.6.8 He referred to the report and told the meeting to have a look at all the figures of the budget over expenditure to understand how the money had been utilized.
- 3.6.9 JL said the financials had been audited but there were too many mistakes and he referred to page 10, and explained that usually when financials are audited, the figures normally balance.
- 3.6.10 He also referred to Page 14 and there was USD 42061.00 and stated that the audit was irrelevant because there was USD\$1 difference and there was something wrong.
- 3.6.11 JL referred to page 8 and proposed that under the topic other development expenses, was an amount of USD26639.00, this amount should have been specified and explained properly in the financials.
- 3.6.12 He challenged the meeting to look at the telephone accounts with an amount of *USD8163* and he expressed that it was a huge amount for the year, he also asked why there was provision for Shuttle Time.
- 3.6.13 JL went on to say there was no control and a lot of things were not specified and mentioned that BCA was sitting for 6 years with the same auditor, auditing the financials for these past years.

- 3.6.14 He said that there was national rules that stated that an auditor should sign off financials for a maximum of 5 years and the meeting had to do something regarding this issue and he requested the council to look for other auditors who change every year.
- 3.6.15 MM asked if this audit was discussed with the council and he suggested that if BCA wanted to develop the sport then there was need to cut costs and they couldn't spend half of the funds on Administrative costs but rather put more in the development side.
- 3.6.16 He referred the meeting to page 5 of the audited financial report under the topic Emphasis of Matter – going concern and asked for an explanation regarding the whole statement.
- 3.6.17 KM wanted clarification on why BCA had spent more than their income.
- 3.6.18 He also inquired about the criteria used for the choice of umpires and distribution of resources.
- 3.6.19 YE replied to JL that it was a round-off calculation that had happened, and he said they would be more cautious in the rounding-off the figures in the future.
- 3.6.20 Regarding the development expenses he said that, for the future, they would expand the line item so that it would be clearer next time.
- 3.6.21 Regarding the provision, he explained that it was based on what they submitted, and the provision was what BCA needed to have.
- 3.6.22 YE advised that a new auditor will be appointed for 2019.
- 3.6.23 CZ specified that, should the meeting want a report in all the areas to the cent, she was able to provide that, but there were no errors in that report.
- 3.6.24 CZ advised that in 2018 they approached BWF for funding to support the Extraordinary General Meeting and had explained to them the purpose of that meeting. She further explained that the requested amount had been put under provisions because BCA and BWF had closed the year before reaching an agreement on the matter, but they were still hopeful that it was going to be funded fully hence provided for it.
- 3.6.25 She notified the meeting that staff salaries were also included in the provision, since the contracts were not finalized in 2018, the salaries were put in there as provision.
- 3.6.26 CZ clarified that the telephone amount included all telephones and internet and was for the whole year.

- 3.6.27 Regarding the administration expenses in the budget, she went on to clarify that they were not for council meetings only but also salaries for three staff members in the Office as well as for the two staff members who were set to join BCA in 2019.
- 3.6.28 FO asked if the budget was discussed with the council before presenting it to the AGM.
- 3.6.29 The President confirmed that yes, the budget was discussed in the council meeting that was held the previous day.
- 3.6.30 CZ added that the budget was initiated by the office after detailed consultation with the BWF.
- 3.6.31 For the provision of the deficit, she explained that there were certain arrears where BCA could cut costs and some of them were air tickets, she further explained that there was also provision for cancelation of events such that the expected teams to participate at an event could be more or less or the event could be cancelled.
- 3.6.32 The President added that the reason why BCA had the same auditor for 4 years was because the accounts were never properly audited prior to 2014, and accounts were forged by the former treasurer and former SG who were the only ones signing the accounts.
- 3.6.33 He also clarified that the moving of the office to Mauritius meant that the account in South Africa could be closed and a new one in Mauritius would be opened and obviously there would be new auditors as well.
- 3.6.34 He then advised the meeting that BWF wanted to have their own auditor for all the five CCs, that is, one that will be auditing their accounts and those of all CCs for transparency purposes. This would be announced very soon by BWF.
- 3.6.35 GB recommended BCA to get a good financial program in place, where everything is captured online for \$30 a month, and every member can login and see what was happening because looking at the financials it was a bit confusing. He advised that he had been advised that BCA does not have a financial system at all.
- 3.6.36 CZ clarified that BCA had a pastel program in place to be more transparent, and that BCA had started sending individual accounts to MAs and everyone had received them and were invited to confirm the balances.
- 3.6.37 She went on to say that if a country was hosting an event, an email was sent to them with details of what was being paid to them.

- 3.6.38 She also replied to JL and mentioned that it was not necessary for the meeting to go through individual accounts for each MA because there were 42 members; this was inappropriate for this meeting.
- 3.6.39 MM proposed that council should go back and have a meeting to further discuss on the budget.
- 3.6.40 The President stated that it was no need for that as there was nothing wrong in the document.

### **3.7 Adoption of 2018 Financial Accounts**

- 3.7.1 The President suggested the meeting to vote on the adoption of the 2018 audited accounts.
- 3.7.2 Proposed by Ghana, seconded by Congo DRC, Benin and Central Africa.
- 3.7.3 The 2018 financial accounts was unanimously adopted.

### **3.8 Approval of the 2019 Budget**

- 3.8.1 KC said the budget was proposed to the AGM and what was left was for the AGM to approve and second it.
- 3.8.2 Kenya proposed and seconded by Benin and Botswana.
- 3.8.3 The 2019 budget was unanimously approved.

## **4. FINANCIAL INVESTIGATIVE COMMISSION REPORT**

### **4.1 Background and Reasons for Investigation**

- 4.1.1 JL advised that the meeting had received the report, and there was a small correction at the back of the document, there were 4 points missing.
- 4.1.2 He went on to say that at the AGM, there were issues regarding money that went missing, USD\$30 000 which went missing in Raj Gaya's bag and USD\$30 300.00 fraudulently transferred from the BCA account.

- 4.1.3 JL said BWF was doing an investigation on the former SG Mr. Raj Gaya, but Michael Mustapha, Zibhino Rodriguez and himself had been appointed to also investigate this matter.

## **4.2 Scope of Investigation**

- 4.2.1 JL stated that they (the investigation commission) had to first get the Terms of Reference. He also added that the AGM decided that Council was not allowed to be involved at all with the investigation. The commission closely worked with the SG.

## **4.3 Terms**

- 4.3.1 They received the Terms of Reference which they all signed on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October, and they were given 6 months to get the information together.

## **4.4 Objectives**

- 4.4.1 JL said they requested information from the secretariat, and they were not very satisfied as in certain cases they were told that the information requested were not within their mandate.
- 4.4.2 So, they had to concentrate on other things and work with information that they received.

## **4.5 The Investigation Processes**

- 4.5.1 JL advised that MM had gone to South Africa between 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> March and they interviewed CZ, the SG, Miss. Lyvonia Sauramba and the auditors. However, MM was unable to meet the Ombudsman as the latter made it clear that they had already investigated the matter and they were not going reopen the case.
- 4.5.2 He said that the Bank account was in USD and was opened in June 2014 by the former SG.
- 4.5.3 There was an indemnity form that had to be filled in, but in this case, somehow, payment requests were done by email sent to the bank. There were various requests sent and these were sent from CZ's email account.

- 4.5.4 On the 31st of July a payment request was received by the bank from CZ email address and it was processed on the 3rd of August 2015.
- 4.5.5 The amount was USD\$30300.00 and it was transferred to an account in Malaysia.
- 4.5.6 The Indemnity form was filled in by all 3 signatories on 25<sup>th</sup> July, namely: the (former) President, (former) Vice-President and Treasurer. They were therefore fully aware of the risks.
- 4.5.7 After the incident, no report was made to the police and members were not informed as well. No forensic investigation was also done on CZ computer.
- 4.5.8 JL then said that the bank's forensic department confirmed that the instruction email was sent from the same computer that she normally use and they also confirmed that they never received CZ computer to check if there was any Malware installed.
- 4.5.9 He further advised that they asked Chipso if she had installed this program on her computer but she did not understand what malware was. She then went back to the company where she purchased the computer and it was confirmed there was no malware installed. So, the bank made it clear that she did not secure her computer at all times.
- 4.5.10 On the 26<sup>th</sup> of October 2015, she realized an unusual activity happening, she later requested the bank to pay the money back but it was already too late.
- 4.5.11 JL said on the 25<sup>th</sup> of March 2019 (4 years), she went to the police to investigate the matter.
- 4.5.12 He referred to the report point 3, and asked why there was USD\$50000 cash withdrawn in December 2015 without the approval of the council and she then travelled with it in Pretoria – a dangerous city.
- 4.5.13 On the 26<sup>th</sup> of July 2015, the Treasurer, then President and Vice-President signed an indemnity form with the bank to open a rand account.
- 4.5.14 On 16<sup>th</sup> of October, CZ reported the fraud to the bank for the first time.
- 4.5.15 On the 20<sup>th</sup> of July 2016 there was a letter received from the bank which stated the full responsibilities lies with by the BCA and not by FNB. The letter also included a statement which the commission found to be very interesting: "An investigation with the assistance of the FNB risk management revealed that the client's desktop was remotely accessed and instructions was given via the terminal to FNB forex but it appeared that the client has been a victim of fraud due to accessed gain remotely through malware".

- 4.5.16 In April 2017, Mr. Senchi, former BCA President, sent an email to Chipu asking several questions.
- 4.5.17 In May 2018, the BCA AGM decided to appoint a commission to investigate the case.
- 4.5.18 He went on to enumerate the recommendations of the commission.
- 4.5.19 BCA to initiate the civil action to recover the money in South Africa.
- 4.5.20 He went on to announce that for the money that was stolen in Raj Gaya's suitcase to be written off.
- 4.5.21 Proper firewall or antivirus should be installed on all BCA laptops and computers to avoid hacking loss of information and requests for transactions should not be sent on emails but the proper procedure should be followed.
- 4.5.22 Signatories should be given access to monitor the account constantly.
- 4.5.23 Mr. Larry Keys did not reply to the commission requests and he will have to provide all information in his possession.
- 4.5.24 BCA to have official emails addresses on a secure platforms.
- 4.5.25 BCA should have a maximum amount of cash to be withdrawn which should be agreed on by the council.
- 4.5.26 He went on to say that the commission sent several requests to get 5 years of bank statements but the SG denied, advising that it was not part of their mandate so they could not check various things like the \$50 000 they discovered.
- 4.5.27 The commission was not allowed to contact Mr. Raj Gaya and this affected the investigation massively.
- 4.5.28 JL said they did not agree on their terms of reference and that the commission was only allowed to investigate the missing money, they were not allowed to contact Raj Gaya.
- 4.5.29 MM mentioned that there was 3 scenarios regarding the fraud: either someone within the bank was involved, someone with BCA or an outsider.
- 4.5.30 *MM* raised a question that during the time this money went missing, Mr Larry was in office as President. What steps did he take the very moment he found out the money was missing and why did not give information on what really happened?
- 4.5.31 He went on to state that the reason why they put together this commission was the fact that they wanted closure to what had happened to prevent cases like these to happen again in the future.

- 4.5.32 MM said the investigation committee asked for the bank statements and were denied and told that these were not permissible documents but why were the documents denied as these would have helped in the investigation.
- 4.5.33 The President mentioned that the BCA commission should read the BWF report before running to conclusion since BWF had also done an investigation based on their request.
- 4.5.34 MM said they were given mandate in May 2018 but they started the investigations in October and they only had 6 months to do the job with limited information. This is why they sent a request and asked BWF to support BCA to investigate the matter on the Malaysian side.
- 4.5.35 He said they did not have enough time to merge the two reports, the one from BCA and the one from BWF since they had only received the report the previous day.
- 4.5.36 MM went on to read the BWF report on the incident (enclosed).
- 4.5.37 The President clarified that they had given a mandate for the BCA investigative team to investigate the missing money and at the same time, there was another investigation undertaken by BCA.
- 4.5.38 The mandate given to the commission was mainly to find out what really happened to the missing money as it was not really clear.
- 4.5.39 He went on to say the same night when the commission was given the mandate, they received a message from one of the members of the commission asking for documents from the SG even before getting the Term of Reference of the Commission.
- 4.5.40 Through collaboration with some external people, MAs and others, BCA drafted the Terms of Reference, which took some time as there was some arguments. Eventually the investigation commission members fought with the SG and the messages sent to the latter by the commission were harsh and unprofessional.
- 4.5.41 The President continued and said that this is why he asked the SG not to reply and to wait for his instructions. This was the reason of the delay for the Term of Reference until it was agreed.
- 4.5.42 The President then suggested to the commission to appoint a chairperson who would communicate with the BCA office.
- 4.5.43 MB said he asked the commission to sign a confidentiality letter since they would be given sensitive information and for them not to disclose any information. The



commission members eventually refused and made several requests which included an allowance of \$5,000 each.

- 4.5.44 The commission eventually agreed and they were given a communication allowance of \$300 each. It was also agreed that if ever they had to travel to South Africa for the investigation, it will be considered.
- 4.5.45 The President confirmed that they had provided all the information related to the missing money.
- 4.5.46 MM was given the floor and clarified that no one was found guilty but there was negligence from the people who were in charge. He questioned why the issue was not reported to the police when CZ realized that a fraud occurred. What did the office bearers do?
- 4.5.47 He added that the request of USD\$5,000 each was for them to travel to South Africa and Malaysia.
- 4.5.48 MM continued and added that when he travelled to South Africa, the SG and Chipu were there and they all went to see the fraud expert at the bank. When they asked the latter when did the bank received the indemnity form, he mentioned that it was before the transfer date but in fact Chipu was still in Addis Ababa on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July.
- 4.5.49 He advised that Chipu came back to South Africa a day after the fraudulent transfer. The fraud investigator was unable to explain when the bank eventually received the indemnity form and whether it was together with the rand account application or not.
- 4.5.50 MM even changed his return date to meet the fraud investigator again, as per his demand. But the latter eventually canceled the meeting.
- 4.5.51 Additionally, he questioned why the bank did not call for confirmation on that particular transfer although a confirmation was always asked by the bank for other small transfers.
- 4.5.52 He went on to point out that it was now the time to decide on the way forward. That is, whether it would be viable for BCA to lose more money in pursuing this case or to write off the amount. However, if this is done, then it is essential to put in policies in place and have a proper financial management so that frauds like these do not happen again.
- 4.5.53 MM said he even asked CZ what system BCA put in place since this fraud occurred and he was given documents with the financial systems and processes that are now in place.
- 4.5.54 He confirmed they had not found anyone guilty.

- 4.5.55 MB clarified that the BWF report had said that they did not find anything 'fishy' internally.
- 4.5.56 He said that it was proven that the indemnity form was sent after the fraud transfer. It was therefore proof that the bank was at fault.
- 4.5.57 MM suggested that they have preventative measures so that in future there will not be issues like these.
- 4.5.58 A letter will be sent to the Ombudsman as recommended by the BWF.
- 4.5.59 OA thanked the Commission and suggested that their report should also include the part where the bank failed to contact CZ for confirmation before processing the payment request.
- 4.5.60 NF stated that BCA need to have better financial management and internal audit.
- 4.5.61 ZR stated that as President, Mr. Larry Keys was to be blamed.
- 4.5.62 ML said that what we are doing hopefully will put an end to this issue. With the recommendation received today, the BCA Finance Committee should not come up with new policies.
- 4.5.63 She went on to say that she was also a victim of fraud from the same bank while residing in South Africa and suggested that BCA should not use this bank for a bigger account.
- 4.5.64 JL said that 2 months after the incident, CZ bought a new computer and the old one was scrap. He also mentioned that he found it strange.
- 4.5.65 He suggested that this investigation could not stop there because they had limited information and they could not get what they wanted.
- 4.5.66 FO commented that the suggestion to conduct the investigation was for the good of BCA.
- 4.5.67 He added by saying that the house should take a decision for the best interests of BCA.
- 4.5.68 GB started off by apologizing to CZ for saying the office had no proper financial system in place as he had been made aware that there is one.
- 4.5.69 He advised that he was new, but his eyes had been opened and there seemed to be some huge politics in the BCA house.
- 4.5.70 GB said that Badminton as a sport could go forward and all they wanted to know was that the money was in safe hands.
- 4.5.71 MS said it was hard to make conclusive recommendations because they had an incomplete report, so not everything had been investigated.

- 4.5.72 He went on to suggest that they had to conclude this matter. As a lawyer, he thought the bank had some questions to answer as they did not seek confirmation before making this payment.
- 4.5.73 He went on to say that there is no way CZ would be exonerated until this matter is completed.
- 4.5.74 ZM thanked the Commission and the President.
- 4.5.75 He went on to say that the meeting is not here to judge anyone.
- 4.5.76 It will not be feasible to go against the bank and we do not want BCA to lose more money on this case.
- 4.5.77 The best solution is to put a good Financial Management system in place.
- 4.5.78 HM conferred with ML and he suggested BCA to close the account with them and look for another secure bank.
- 4.5.79 MB referred to the second paragraph in the external report. He said they would not go to the bank but to the ombudsman.
- 4.5.80 He went on to say that they would put a good mechanism in place where the Finance Committee would do an internal audit.
- 4.5.81 MM said that it was the then president who was supposed to instruct CZ to take action or surrender her laptop. He concluded by saying they would not bend rules to protect people and Mr. Keys was at fault.
- 4.5.82 CZ replied that no one in that room wanted the conclusion of that matter more than her.
- 4.5.83 She said she welcomed recommendations from both reports because she did not want this matter discussed again in four more AGMs to come.
- 4.5.84 She added that the time she became the BCA treasurer no documentation was handed to her by the previous treasurer and she had to put up a financial structure in place.
- 4.5.85 She had fights with the former SG because she was getting uncomfortable with how transactions were being done.
- 4.5.86 Since she stepped into office every transaction has been on record and has paperwork and well documented.
- 4.5.87 CZ informed the meeting that BWF had done a forensic audit in the BCA books when they were investigating Raj Gaya's case, and BCA was able to provide all documentation.
- 4.5.88 Due to these new policies that were in place, the former SG was forced to submit forged document to cover for his crimes.

- 4.5.89 She informed that since 2014, BCA had its accounts audited and presented in the AGM. Since then, a finance and remuneration policy was put in place.
- 4.5.90 Recently BCA employed a Finance officer who now initiates the payment and then they are sent to CZ for confirmation and clarification and then to the President and Deputy President for signatures. This SG is copied in the whole process.
- 4.5.91 She said that payments would go through 5 people before being submitted to the bank.
- 4.5.92 She made a proposal to adopt the recommendations of both reports which were also in line with the financial structures that are already in place.
- 4.5.93 She also suggested for BCA to go back to the ombudsman and take it up with a lawyer if they don't get any feedback or success.
- 4.5.94 MB asked for the recommendations of both reports to be read and for the meeting to the adoption of the recommendations. Proposed by FO and seconded by OA.
- 4.5.95 The meeting unanimously agreed.
- 4.5.96 JL said based on the motion that was agreed last year, all persons involved in a criminal investigation should stand down, he proposed that this should be applied in this case.
- 4.5.97 The President replied that it was not right to force the meeting to agree with his personal opinions.
- 4.5.98 He pleaded with JL not to make things personal but to seek solutions and improve Badminton on the continent. He should also have respect for the meeting since BCA was a family.
- 4.5.99 He told JL to solve BCA problems in house and not unnecessarily write to BWF before speaking to the BCA council.
- 4.5.100 JL replied the president that he did not like the accusations.
- 4.5.101 MB advised the meeting to move on.

## **5. PROPOSALS BY COUNCIL**

### **5.1 To Amend Clause 9.8 of the BCA Constitution as follows:**

- 5.1.1 KC announced that there were proposals made by the BCA council and he referred to Page 2 of the BCA Agenda. He read:

➤ <b>Constitution - Current Wording</b>	<b>Constitution – Proposed Wording</b>
<p><b>9.8.</b> The Council may co-opt not more than five other members without voting rights, including BWF Council members from African countries, who are not elected members of the BCA Council.</p>	<p><b>9.8.</b> The Council may co-opt not more than five other members without voting rights, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ BWF Council members from African countries, who are not elected members of the BCA Council.</li> <li>✓ The Chair of the BCA Athletes Commission.</li> <li>✓ The Chair of the BCA Women in Badminton Commission.</li> <li>✓ Any other people with skills or expertise in specific areas as may be decided by Council.</li> </ul>

5.1.2 KC said he was advised that any amendment of the constitution needed a two thirds majority vote, and he proposed for the amendment of the constitution in regard to this proposal.

5.1.3 The proposal was unanimously approved by the meeting.

## 5.2 To amend Clause 17 of the BCA Constitution as follows:

5.2.1 KC read the second amendment of clause 17 of the BCA Constitution.

<b>Constitution - Current Wording</b>	<b>Constitution – Proposed Wording</b>
<p>7.1. Each Member Association has the right to appoint not more than two delegates to represent it at the General Meeting. Both delegates shall have the right to speak, but neither shall be permitted to second a proposal or motion made by the other.</p>	<p>17.1. Each Member Association has the right to appoint not more than two delegates to represent it at the General Meeting. Both delegates shall have the right to speak, but neither shall be permitted to second a proposal or motion made by the other.</p> <p>17.2. A delegate can either be the President, the Secretary General or any other elected member of the Member Association's board he is nominated to represent; or a staff member of the association who has been employed for no less than 12 months. No proxy voting shall be allowed.</p>

<p>17.2. Whenever a Member Association is represented by two delegates in the General Meeting, only one delegate shall cast all the votes to which the said Member Association is entitled.</p> <p>17.3. It is the responsibility of Member Associations to make sure their delegate nomination form is correctly filled and is received by the Secretary General at latest 24 hours before the starting time of the General Meeting.</p> <p>17.4. Member Associations are entitled to one vote per unit of subscriptions paid for the current year (known as vote A), in any case not more than three votes are allowed per Member Association based on subscriptions. Then Member Associations will have one or two additional votes (B to E) for each of the following based on precedent year data: Organize International, one additional vote.</p> <p>One team in Africa championship, two additional votes.</p> <p>One team in Africa U15/U19 championship, two additional votes.</p> <p>One team in BCA schools championships, two additional votes.</p> <p>17.4.1. At the beginning of the year, the Secretary General shall publish the number of votes each Member Association will have in the current year.</p> <p>17.5. Delegates of Member Associations whose annual subscriptions for the current year have not been paid at latest 24 hours before the starting time of the General Meeting shall not be allowed to vote at the meeting.</p> <p>17.6. No person shall act as the delegate of more than one Member Association.</p> <p>17.7. Delegates from non-paid Member Associations, Associate Member Associations and other stakeholders or guests have the right to attend and speak at General Meeting but have no voting rights.</p>	<p>17.3. Whenever a Member Association is represented by two delegates in the General Meeting, only one delegate shall cast all the votes to which the said Member Association is entitled.</p> <p>17.4. It is the responsibility of Member Associations to make sure their delegate nomination form is correctly filled and is received by the Secretary General at latest 24 hours before the starting time of the General Meeting.</p> <p>17.5. Member Associations will be entitled to one (1) vote for each of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· All BWF and BCA subscriptions paid for the current year and no outstanding subscriptions from previous years.</li> <li>· Organize a BWF sanctioned 'International Series' or a higher-level tournament, as per BWF regulations, in the precedent year.</li> <li>· Participate in the Team and Individual Events of the last All Africa Senior Championships.</li> <li>· Participate in the Team and Individual Events of the last All Africa Under 15 or Under 19 Championships.</li> <li>· Participate in the Team and Individual Events of the last All Africa School Championships.</li> <li>· Participate with at least 4 players in the last All Africa Para-Badminton Championships.</li> </ul> <p>In no case shall a Member Association have more than 6 votes.</p> <p>17.5.1. At the beginning of the year, the Secretary General shall publish the number of votes each Member Association will have in the current year.</p> <p>17.6. Delegates of Member Associations whose annual subscriptions for the current year have not been paid at latest 24 hours before the starting time of the General Meeting shall not be allowed to vote at the meeting.</p> <p>17.7. No person shall act as the delegate of more than one Member Association.</p> <p>17.8. Delegates from non-paid Member Associations, Associate Member Associations and other stakeholders or guests have the right to attend and speak at General Meeting but have no voting rights.</p>
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- 5.2.2 For Rule 17.2, OA wanted an explanation on the wording. ZM also suggested that the wording should be corrected.
- 5.2.3 KC said there would be no proxy voting allowed on that clause apart from the people mentioned in it. That is, either the president or the SG or the members of an association who had been elected in that association.
- 5.2.4 YE mentioned that in the 2018 AGM, the meeting agreed that there would be no proxy voting.
- 5.2.5 KC read the amendment for Clause 17.2 with the proposed grammatical amendments:  
*"A delegate can either be the President, the Secretary General or any other elected member of the Member Association's board he is nominated to represent; or a staff member of the association who has been employed for no less than 12 months."*
- 5.2.6 The amendment for Clause 17.2 was unanimously approved.
- 5.2.7 KC read the proposed amendment for Clause 17.5 on the voting strength.
- 5.2.8 FO suggested that BCA had to encourage the younger countries by keeping the same system of voting.
- 5.2.9 JS disagreed with FO and specified that the target has to be realistic and 10 votes would be very difficult for smaller MAs to attain.
- 5.2.10 ZM disagreed and was not in favour for the proposed amendments as this would discourage MAs to organise more activities.
- 5.2.11 HE also disagreed with the proposal.
- 5.2.12 The President clarified the history of the voting structure within BCA. He mentioned that the system was done on a political basis so that a group of people always had the control of the organisation.
- 5.2.13 OA suggested that all countries should pay the BCA subscription.
- 5.2.14 MM suggested to remove Para badminton as a criteria as a few countries are currently participating.
- 5.2.15 YE agreed with MM.
- 5.2.16 ML said MAs will never be equal but redistribution is important. Fairness is an important aspect as big countries always had the control of the organization.

- 5.2.17 The members voted and KC announced the votes: 27 were in favor of the amendment, 51 were against the amendment. The proposal did not carry.

### **5.3 To Receive and Endorse the BWF External Ethics Panel's Decision, of 21 November 2018, on the Case of Mr. Raj Gaya**

- 5.3.1 The President explained that they had received the BWF report on the Raj Gaya case and asked the AGM to endorse the report and its findings.
- 5.3.2 The meeting unanimously approved the BWF report on the Raj Gaya case.

### **5.4 To Write Off any Funds Payable to Mr. Raj Gaya and the Mauritius Badminton Association as at 31 May 2017**

- 5.4.1 KC introduced the motion and read the rational as per the order paper.
- 5.4.2 LJ argued that all the events had been done and financed through Badminton Mauritius Association, and there were players who had participated in all these events.
- 5.4.3 He went on to say that it would be unfair if these accounts were written off if the claims were not real - but the fact is the events were held.
- 5.4.4 He also said that they should not associate Raj Gaya with the Mauritius Badminton Association.
- 5.4.5 FO stated that whatever Raj Gaya had done cannot be associated with the Mauritius Badminton.
- 5.4.6 CZ clarified that if a grant was allocated for a specific event, MAs were required to sign claim forms and submit invoices or receipts or else they grant due to them would not be paid.
- 5.4.7 She said during the same period, they have asked for information from Mauritius Badminton and was not provided, for example invoices shuttlecocks purchased.
- 5.4.8 CZ clarified that they will not be writing off the whole balance for Mauritius Badminton.
- 5.4.9 She went on to say that Mr. Raj Gaya said he had been funding the events (of the MBA) in his submissions and during that time he was the Vice President of the MBA.



- 5.4.10 She said that from June 2017, BCA has been sending funds directly to Mauritius Badminton, the only period that was problematic was prior to May 2017. .
- 5.4.11 Mauritius was asked to provide information regarding grants and they had failed to provide, so if they were able to come up with this information, BCA could reconsider this position.
- 5.4.12 CZ clarified to the meeting that the requirements were standard and were to be followed by everyone, which was paperwork/proof, then payment.
- 5.4.13 FO then said that BCA could not pay twice and agreed with Chipo that the MBA must submit the proof before BCA make any payment.
- 5.4.14 The President said there are two issues in one motion. For Mauritius, everybody agreed that Mauritius should submit the proof and then BCA will pay. If no proof is sent then we cannot pay all the funds. Secondly, as per our books, BCA still owed Mr Raj – although the latter has been found guilty of embezzlement.
- 5.4.15 MS explained that Mr. Raj served BCA as a member of Mauritius at all times and therefore if BCA has to refund Raj, it should be through his federation.
- 5.4.16 SG corrected MS and mentioned that from 2012 to 2017, Mr. Raj Gaya became an employee of BCA, therefore, this meant that he had a direct relationship with the organization.
- 5.4.17 The President clarified that they could not change the motion as per constitution unless the house agreed and voted that this was an important case and to separate these 2 cases.
- 5.4.18 He said they would need two thirds majority vote.
- 5.4.19 The President announced that majority had voted for the separation of the 2 motions, Raj Gaya case and the Mauritius case.
- 5.4.20 For the Mauritius payment, the meeting agreed that Mauritius must submit all proofs and paperwork for them to get the grant payment. If no proof is sent by the next AGM, no payment will be made.
- 5.4.21 The President clarified that according to our account BCA owed Mr. Raj money and the proposal is for the meeting to write off this amount so that it no longer appear in our accounts.

- 5.4.22 He continued and suggested the meeting to vote for the money to be written off.
- 5.4.23 FO wanted clarification on why they wanted to write off funds that were owed to Raj by BCA.
- 5.4.24 The President replied and referred to the rationale in the order book and the BWF investigation on Mr. Gaya.
- 5.4.25 ZM suggested that regarding his Salary payment that was owed, BCA need to be careful.
- 5.4.26 The President clarified that this case might go on several years and this amount would stay in our books. This was the reason for the amount to be written off in our books.
- 5.4.27 ZM said he wanted to protect BCA and he suggested they hold the money and not pay him in case he comes back in future to claim it.
- 5.4.28 MS suggested that if BCA had evidence that there were fraudulent transactions then they needed to prosecute Raj and not just sit back.
- 5.4.29 The meeting agreed to seek legal Counsel on the salary issue and instructed Council to follow up on the matter.

## **6. PROPOSALS BY MAS**

### **6.1 Proposals of the Cameroon Badminton Association – Eligibility of Candidates for the post of President and Deputy President of the Federation**

- 6.1.1 OA explained the rationale of the proposal from Cameroon.
- 6.1.2 ZR seconded the motion.
- 6.1.3 FO did not agree with the motion and stated that BCA shouldn't limit people that can contribute and lead BCA – even though these persons are not President of their associations.
- 6.1.4 ZR agreed with the motion and mentioned that we need to look forward as an organization.
- 6.1.5 NF also agreed and mentioned that experience is an important element.
- 6.1.6 AA also voiced out in favour of the motion.

6.1.7 NI disagreed with the proposal and mentioned that everyone should be given a fair chance to contribute.

6.1.8 The President asked for the meeting to vote.

6.1.9 The voting process took place and got 10 votes in favour.

6.1.10 MB stopped the voting and announced the proposal did not carry.

## 7. BCA SUBSCRIPTIONS

7.1.1 SG referred to the agenda on the new proposed BCA Subscriptions:

Sn	Country	2019 (\$)	2020 (\$)
1	Algeria	400	400
2	Benin	0	200
3	Botswana	400	200
4	Cameroon	200	200
5	Congo	200	0
6	Egypt	400	400
7	Ethiopia	200	200
8	Ghana	200	400
9	Ivory coast	200	200
10	Kenya	200	200
11	Mauritius	400	400
12	Morocco	400	200
13	Nigeria	400	400
14	Seychelles Island	200	200
15	South Africa	600	600
16	Uganda	200	200
17	Zambia	200	200
18	Zimbabwe	200	200
19	Reunion Island	200	200

7.1.2 YE wanted clarification on why some countries paid subscriptions and others didn't. He felt that all MAs should pay the basic amount of \$200.

7.1.3 MZ asked what criteria was being used in calculating how much an MA is supposed to pay.

- 7.1.4 JS asked the meeting not to be hypocritical because everyone had received statements.
- 7.1.5 FO said all countries should be an amount even if its \$50.
- 7.1.6 MB withdrew the proposal and informed the meeting that Council will review the comments received and come back with another proposal for the next AGM.

## **8. BCA ELECTION -ONE (1) COUNCIL MEMBER**

- 8.1.1 SG announced that there was a vacant position for one council member, he referred to the relevant annexure in the order book.
- 8.1.2 He named the 3 candidates:
  - 8.1.2.1 Mr. Guy Beninga from Central Africa
  - 8.1.2.2 Mr. Francis Orbih from Nigeria
  - 8.1.2.3 Mr. Jean Aime Ravalison from Madagascar
- 8.1.3 He confirmed that there are 30 countries represented in the room with a total vote of 101.
- 8.1.4 SG read the results as follows:
  - 8.1.4.1 Mr. Orbih 51 votes
  - 8.1.4.2 Mr. Beninga 48 votes
  - 8.1.4.3 Mr. Jean Aime Ravalison 2 votes
- 8.1.5 Mr. Francis Orbih was therefore officially elected as the Council Member.
- 8.1.6 The President congratulated FO and welcomed him in the Council team.
- 8.1.7 FO addressed the meeting and thanked all members for electing him. He stated that with the current Council, he felt that he could worked with them together as a team for the welfare of Badminton in Africa.
- 8.1.8 He also shared that all MAs should join hand together, whether represented on Council or not.

## 9. AOB

- 9.1.1 ZM talked about the appointment of Council Members in the different Committees. He suggested that people outside of Council should be able to form part in these Committees.
- 9.1.2 FO said that, after the African Championships 2019 in Nigeria, he observed that one Mauritian player gave some negative comments on Social Media
- 9.1.3 He suggested that MAs and BCA should be more firm and take the appropriate measures against players who posts negative comments on social media.
- 9.1.4 BB thanks BCA and expressed his joy as it is the first time he is assisting an AGM of the BCA. He also thanked and congratulated the BCA Council for the work being done in Africa.
- 9.1.5 CZ mentioned that as many people usually struggle to get visas to come to BWF/BCA AGM, it was important to mention same during the BWF AGM so that, in the future, BWF would assist.
- 9.1.6 The President also explained that it was everyone's wish to have the BCA AGM in Africa. However, BCA does not have any funds for that. Our AGMs are usually held with the BWF AGM due to the travel grant that BWF allocate.
- 9.1.7 The President also raised the issues of withdrawal penalties that many Africa MAs are yet to pay. He added that it was important to have a good administrative procedure in place so that these fines are avoided in the first place.
- 9.1.8 Responding to the request from ZM, the President stated that for the BCA Committees, only elected members of Council can be included. However for the different working Commissions, it is possible to include external people.
- 9.1.9 SG announced that BCA was awarding a token of appreciation to Mr. Mostafa Mohamed Kamel, the first African player to win a medal in an Olympics. He won a bronze medal in the Youth Olympics Games in 2018.
- 9.1.10 HE accepted the award on behalf of the player.

9.1.11 OB, who just joined the meeting, confirmed that Morocco will host the African Games in 2019 and that Badminton will be among the sports.

9.1.12 MB thanked everyone for attending the AGM. He apologized for being strict sometimes but said it was important to keep control of the meeting. He also said that it is normal to have different views but we need to react as professional and 'agree to disagree'. He wish all well and a nice journey back home.

9.1.13 At 21.30, the President declared the meeting closed.

## 1. President

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Secretary General

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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