



## 3rd DIFA Congress Minutes

13 December 2022 | Geno Saham Hotel, Kuala Lumpur,  
Malaysia

13 December 2022

The session started at 09:00 AM

### 1. Roll Call

The countries present are:

- Ukraine
- Iran
- Bahrain
- Kuwait
- Azerbaijan
- Thailand
- Liberia
- Malaysia
- China
- Saudi Arabia
- Russia
- Turkey
- Australia
- Korea
- Poland
- Kazakhstan

Countries attended Congress by Zoom are:

- Greece
- Cameroon
- Kenya
- Gabon
- Pakistan.

At least 21 Countries and One Regional confederation (APDSC) attended for 3<sup>rd</sup> DIFA Congress.

Thus, the tentative agenda is as follow:

- a. Welcome speeches
  - DIFA President
  - MSDEAF President
- b. Adoption of Agenda
- c. DIFA Activities Report
- d. Worlds Deaf football and Futsal Championships Report
- e. Regional Reports
- f. Reform Report

- g. Finance Report
  - h. Motions and proposals
  - i. Election of DIFA Executive Committee (2022-2026) and installation.
  - j. Various
  - k. Closing speeches
    - DIFA President
    - MSDEAF President
2. D I F A President **Iakov FRENKEL** welcomes all delegates to the DIFA Congress and thanks the Malaysian Deaf Sport Federation (MSDeaf) for hosting it.
  3. MSDeaf President **ONG SHIN RUEN** thanked the Organizing Committee for their hard work and welcomes all delegates in Malaysia and hope that the work of the 3<sup>rd</sup> DIFA Congress will take place in peace and solidarity.
  4. Approval of the Agenda:  
The majority of voters **approved**.
  5. Appointment of Scrutineers:
    - 5.1. Turki Ali (Saudi Arabia)
    - 5.1. Jaber Al kanderi (Kuwait).

## 6. DIFA Activities Reports 2018-2022

**IAKOV FRENKEL** (Russia) presented the DIFA activity report while welcoming the accession of many countries as a DIFA member and some Futsal competitions are successfully held, namely Futsal 40+ in Poland and U-21 in Malaysia. Several countries have shown their desire to host world championships such as Malaysia for the World Football Championship in 2023 and Brazil for the 40+ Futsal Championship in 2024. DIFA held more than 26 Executive Committee meetings and developed activity programs and action plans. DIFA has written a book on the history of deaf football for the Deaflympics of 1924-2017 book already available. Several training projects are in sight for the coming years. A concern remains about the signing of the MoU between DIFA and ICSD, which is slow to materialize despite the approval of the ICSD Congress to grant IDSF the world Championships.

6.1 **Brice ALLAIN** (France) reminds all members that the blocking of the signature of the MoU between the DIFA and ICSD dates back several years since Valery RUKHLEDEV at the head of the ICSD the signature of the MoU would have been postponed several times that does not consolidate the implementation of the DIFA in the world such as the representations of the DIFA to EDSO, PANAMDES and APDSC because only Africa has a representation of DIFA but is not taken into account by the CADS whose signature of the MoU between DIFA and ICSD will make it possible to lift these lacks that block the emergence of DIFA around the world.

6.2 **Octavius VORKPOR** (Liberia) Intervenes in this direction to complain about the behaviour of the CADS in Africa because it has refused to collaborate for several years with the Deaf African Football Confederation- DAFC which represents DIFA in Africa. The CADS only follows the advice and philosophy of the ICSD, which advises it against collaborating with the DAFC and other entities in Africa. The MoU Signature between DIFA and ICSD will be of paramount importance and will allow CADS to collaborate with DAFC for a better plan of football and futsal in Africa.

The majority of voters **approved DIFA Activities Reports**.

## **7. Regional Report**

**8.1 Jean Pierre Valery PEMHA -DIFA SG** (Cameroon) explains to the assistance that it is really difficult to present the Regional Reports because DIFA has so far, no legal representations in the Regions (EDSO- PANAMDES- APDSC) which seems complex and will not be able to allow us to have Reports from these Regions except Africa, which is provided but faced with a leadership war with the CADS as was said above by Liberia.

## 8. Reform Report

9.1. **Jean Pierre Valery PEMHA -DIFA SG** (Cameroon) without being long specified that the ICSD had established a reform commission responsible for making proposals for reforms and grooming of texts and it follows one of these reforms is to grant the complete organization of the world championships to the IDSF and this proposal for reform would have been adopted successively by the two last ICSD Congresses (Switzerland and Austria) so the collaboration between the IDSF and ICSD will be regulated by the MoU, at the level of the DIFA in order to implement the reforms thus adopted, it will be necessary to sign the MoU between DIFA and ICSD in the coming months.

## 9. Proposals and Motions

10.1. **Proposal 1: DIFA Executive Board** proposed the Establishment of the DIFA representative in EDSO, PANAMDE and APDSC.

10.1.1. **Jean Pierre Valery PEMHA** (Cameroon) explained that in order to allow DIFA to popularize and spread around the world and to reach all countries, DIFA representations in EDSO, PANAMDE and APDSC should be established and made operational for greater visibility of DIFA's activities in all Regions.

**Vote required 50%:**

Yes = 21, Abstain = 0, No = 0.

Result – **Passed.**

BREAK

10.2. **Proposal 2: DIFA Executive Board** proposed the payment to DIFA 200 \$ Memberships fee per year for every country member

10.2.1. **Jean Pierre Valery PEMHA** (Cameroon) explained that in order to respect the DIFA membership status of each country and benefit from the resulting benefits as well as participation in DIFA competitions and other activities and the right to vote in Congress, each country must pay its statutory contributions up to \$200 per year in the DIFA account.

10.2.2. **Yakub Umit Kihdir** (Turkey) suggested that the membership fees to be categorized: CAT 1: \$300, for developed countries, CAT 2: \$200 for developing countries and CAT 3: \$100 for underdeveloped countries.

Vote required for DIFA Executive Board Proposal :

**Vote required 50%:**

Yes = 20, Abstain = 1, No = 0.

Result – **Passed.**

10.3. **Proposal 3:** DIFA Executive Board proposed the new electoral voting method

10.3.1. **Jean Pierre Valery PEMHA** (Cameroon) explained that the election of the members of the DIFA Executive Board must be as follows: For the positions of President and Vice-Presidents, the election is one-member majority in one turn. Regarding the members at large, the President-elect will constitute the list of members at large following the candidacies and present to Congress for approval. This will allow DIFA to have trusted and close-knit members ready to work together in union, integrity, solidarity while respecting the right of reserve.

**Vote required 60%:**

Yes = 18, Abstain = 0, No = 3.

Result – **Passed.**

10.4. **Proposal 4: BAHRAIN** proposed to add a statement that DIFA won't accept any new members under the umbrella of paralympic organizations as per the international constitution.

It is very important to keep the rights of the deaf sports and to be completely separated from the paralympic sport and to protect the deaf sport from overtaking by local paralympic organizations and committees as per the international constitutions and agreements.

10.4.1. **DIFA SG** reminds Bahrain that DIFA operates under the ICSD banner so it follows the ICSD Constitution and its proposal will be the subject of an in-depth study by the DIFA Executive Committee.

- Bahrain withdrew it.

## 10. Election of DIFA Executive Committee (2022-2026)

11.1. DIFA-SG explained that according to the DIFA Constitution, the legal is responsible for dealing with the election procedure. He pointed out that DIFA Constitution 4.2 states that *"The Executive Committee could consist of persons who are an individual members OR members of the National Football Federation or Association of their country of residence admitted to memberships under this Constitution."* He pointed out that we have three (3) nominations for **the DIFA President's Position:**

1. Iakov FRENKEL (Russia)
2. Turki Ali Alshehri (Saudi Arabia)
3. Penagiotis Kordonouris (Greece)

11.1.2. Penagiotis Kordonouris and Turki Ali Alshehri have withdrawn their candidacies and proposed Iakov Frenkel to be the DIFA President.

11.1.3. The vote was conducted by ballot.

11.1.4. Iakov Frenkel has 19 votes out of 20, more than 90%, so he is the DIFA President.

11.1.5. Iakov Frenkel thanked everyone and is looking forward to working with all DIFA stakeholders in the future.

11.2. DIFA-SG pointed out that there are five (5) nominations for the Vice Presidents positions but according to DIFA Constitution that mention only three Vice presidents for Executive Board.

Five (5) nomination for the Vice Presidents positions:

- 1- Jaber Al Kanderi
- 2- Brice Allain
- 3- Turki Alshehri
- 4- Yakup Umit Kihtir
- 5- Man Soo Cho

11.2.1. Man Soo Cho (Korea) withdraws his application because he wants to focus on his responsibility to the APDSC.

11.2.2. Saeed Zaman Khaled (Kuwait) complained that his candidacy would have been submitted within the appropriate time limit but would not have been accepted but the DIFA SG replied that his candidacy was incomplete because it is a football club that would have transmitted its candidacy file without a letter of support from the National Federation which would have led to the rejection of his candidacy but being in Congress the decision of the members of Congress is important.

11.2.3 It is in this vein that Penagiotis Kordonouris asked to add his candidacy to the position of Vice President

11.2.4 The Congress approved the addition of these 2 candidates and the number of candidates for vice-presidents has increased to six (6):

- 1- Jaber Al Kanderi
- 2- Brice Allain
- 3- Turki Alshehri
- 4- Yakup Umit Kihtir
- 5- Penagiotis Kordounoris
- 6- Saeed Zaman Khaled

**11.2.5** The vote was conducted by ballot and the results gave:

- 1- Jaber Al Kanderi – **09 votes**
- 2- Brice Allain- **14 votes**
- 3- Turki Alshehri- **11 votes**
- 4- Yakup Umit Kihtir- **08 votes**
- 5- Penagiotis Kordounoris- **02 votes**
- 6- Saeed Zaman Khaled- **03 votes**

11.2.6 As a result: Brice ALLAIN (1<sup>st</sup>Vice President); Turki Alshehri (2<sup>nd</sup>Vice President) and Jaber Al Kanderi (3<sup>rd</sup>Vice President)

11.3. Vote for five (5) members at large

11.4. DIFA-SG clarifies that for this type of member the election must take place according to **proposal 3** above voted recently so the President-elect will choose five members from the candidates so the files have been validated and registered as follow:

1. Stephen WAWERU
2. Reto Thurnherr
3. Dmytro UKRAINETTS
4. Elvira LIGAY
5. Boonlert khanapornworakarn
6. ONG Shin Ruen
7. Alizera Basih

11.4.1 Five minutes were given to the President-elect to draw up a list of five members at large. At least he presented list of members at large as follow:

1. Stephen WAWERU
2. Dmytro UKRAINETTS
3. Elvira LIGAY
4. ONG Shin Ruen
5. A woman to be designed by the DIFA Executive Committee

12. **DIFA Executive Board 2022-2026** installed as follow:

**President:** Iakov FRENKEL (Russia)

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:** Brice ALLAIN (France)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:** Turki Ali Alshehri (Saudi Arabia)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President:** Jaber A A Alkanderi (Kuwait)

**Members at large**

- Stephen WAWERU (kenya)
- Dmytro UKRAINETTS (Ukraine)
- Elvira LIGAY (Uzbekistan)
- ONG Shin Ruen (Malaysia)

**Secretary General:** Jean Pierre Valery PEMHA (Cameroon)

13. The DIFA President in his closing message thanks all participants for their commitment to seeing DIFA take flight and their choice over the members of the DIFA Executive Board for the next four years. He thanks the DIFA-SG for its good work and for agreeing to chair the work of the 3rd DIFA Congress and asks all newly elected members for more commitment and ardor at work. As for the President of MSDEAF, he is very moved by the peaceful progress of the work and thanks all the participating countries.

14. Family photos

The session ended at 17:20

**Secretary General**

Deaf International Football Association

*JeanPierrpemha*

**Jean Pierre Valery PEMHA**