

**90<sup>th</sup> FIDE Congress**  
**FIDE Extraordinary General Assembly**  
**Abu Dhabi, UAE**  
**28<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

**MINUTES**

FIDE Extraordinary General Assembly (hereafter EGA) held its meeting in Abu Dhabi during the 90<sup>th</sup> FIDE Congress, on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The following points were included in the Agenda:

1. FIDE President address
2. Roll-call
3. Issues concerning Membership
  - 3.1 Admission of new Federations
  - 3.2 Admission of new affiliated members
4. New FIDE Charter
5. Financial matters
  - 5.1 New Financial Regulations
  - 5.2 Appointment of the External Auditor for the annual audit of FIDE accounts for 2019
6. Extraordinary Elections for the vacant positions of the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission
7. 91<sup>st</sup> FIDE Congress 2020

The FIDE President, Mr. Dvorkovich, welcomed the Congress participants and started the EGA.

Sheikh Sultan bin Khalifa Al Nehyan addressed the Congress participants and welcomed them to Abu Dhabi.

Mr. Dvorkovich thanked Sheikh Sultan bin Khalifa Al Nehyan for his words and reported about the results of the management team since Batumi 2019.

**1. FIDE President address**

Mr. Dvorkovich thanked everyone for the team work, expressing his optimism for the future about the possibility to learn from the negative lessons. He affirmed the management team has been focused on efficiency and on the expected results rather than on politics. What was promised in Batumi has already been fulfilled. The management team is operational and works full-time. Regarding the FIDE finances, the FIDE budget was doubled during the last year and most of the increase has been allocated to the development fund, thus being able to support many National Federations to develop chess projects all around the world. We did our best to be transparent and open in what we are doing, including the communications with the Federations and the chess players. The work on the Charter, which started a few months ago,

was a very good signal of this. The proposed version of the new Charter was published and sent to all Federations, which then sent their own recommendations.

Also the way we work with the social media has been changed and FIDE social presence has deeply increased, thus becoming one of the most active sport federations around the world in term of openness and transparency.

Mr. Dvorkovich reported about the collaboration with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and other international bodies. These collaborations already brought their fruit. The first of these is that the United Nations has announced that the 20<sup>th</sup> July will be the World Chess Day, which is a great honour for us and a great opportunity to promote chess and bring people around the world together.

Another important issue is related to anti-doping procedures. The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) sanctioned Russia for doping practices and there was the risk that our Chess Olympiad could be under threat. However, following the discussions we had with WADA, it was agreed that most of the FIDE tournaments are not under threat. This was the result of our good collaboration with WADA. We all believe that chess players should not be put under attack and the competitions should go forward under the Olympic spirit.

Step by step we are becoming part of the Olympic family, and everyone will be able to see the results of this in the near future.

The FIDE corporate governance was deeply improved. We had the full audit of FIDE financial situation over the last few years and now we know in detail everything about FIDE finances, thus proving again our unprecedented transparency and openness.

The PB has worked in a completely different way, taking the best from the previous PBs and improving our day-to-day operations. The current PB has been able to speed up the decision-making process through daily interactions between its members.

Mr. Dvorkovich illustrated the new projects for the future, firstly focusing on the World Championship Cycle. A new system of qualifications for the Candidates Tournaments was introduced, including the new tournament Grand Swiss, that allows more players to compete and have a chance to become a candidate in the World Championship Cycle. Another important point was the knock-out format of the Grand Prix Series, which increased the visibility and competitiveness of this stage of qualification.

A more inclusive World Cup format has been developed, increasing the number of participants both in the open and women's tournaments, thus allowing more countries to participate to the World Cup, which will start already this year in September in Minsk.

Mr. Dvorkovich said we also had the pilot project for the Fisher Random Championship, which last year was a mixed experience. We tried to show that we want to use new formats. The first stage of this championship was completely open to everyone in the world, even to amateur players. Now we are learning from the experience of this pilot project. It is important that we should start rating the Fisher Random Championship.

Mr. Dvorkovich also announced that for the first time in history FIDE has the full-fledged tournament for players with disability as part of the Chess Olympiad. We will have 30 teams participating to the Olympiad in Khanty-Mansiysk this year. This means that more than 100 players with disabilities will attend the Chess Olympiad.

Mr. Dvorkovich reminded that the management team promised to give maximal support to the National Federations and fulfilled this promise by supporting 77 Federations with a total amount of 1 million euros. Mr. Dvorkovich expressed his wish to continue supporting the Federations in the organization of more seminars for trainers, coaches, arbiters and organizers, subsequently increasing the capacity of the National Federations to organize more tournaments. Beside the National Federations, also zonal projects received support, thus uniting the Federations and reaching a greater effect for our activities. Mr. Dvorkovich pointed out another important aspect: some companies, including Rosatom, OCP and Coca Cola, are supporting directly regional projects.

Another aspect concerns the partnership with continental and regional bodies. Our special aim was to partner with the European, American, African and Asian Chess Federations to support continental projects. The overall amount of support was around 637 thousand euros. 69 projects submitted by continental associations were supported.

We were able to involve chess in the Continental Games, one of the most important examples was the African Continental Games in August 2019, where chess was part of the official program. The chess players who won the tournament have been provided with the official medals of the African Continental Games. Mr. Dvorkovich expressed his confidence that FIDE will be able to involve chess also in the Asian Continental Games this year and to be part of the European Games in the future.

Special support was provided to regional associations about the following issues: providing wild cards, supporting tournaments...

The cutting of fees was also proposed. The aim of the management team is to implement this year an overall reduction of fees amounting to 250 thousand euros or 20% of the fees paid in 2018. The following proposals have been put on the table: eliminating the fees for veterans and category 5 countries at this EGA (with effect already in 2019, which means that those fees will not be collected starting from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019) and reducing the fees for kids and category 3 and 4 countries by the GA of Khanty-Mansiysk.

Mr. Dvorkovich is confident that there have been improvements in gender equality. The World Championship Cycle was reformed in such a way, that it could be the same as open tournaments. This goal has not been achieved yet, but FIDE is on the right track. We are also working on establishing the Women's Grand Swiss Tournaments by this year. Moreover, the prize money for women has been substantially increased. According to the recommendations from the Women's Chess Commission, a quota for the participation of women in management positions has been introduced, which means that there will be more space for women in the management positions and in the tournament.

After that, Mr. Dvorkovich focused on another issue: marketing and sponsorship practices. A new professional marketing team has just started to work in FIDE, and we have already witnessed successful stories: Coca Cola (for the European projects), Total (one of the main sponsors of the Women's Grand Prix Series), the OCP group (for the African development projects), Rosatom (for a few regional development projects in Europe and Asia), the SILA group (that provided legal services), Algorand (for the World Championship Cycle) and a few other companies that supported the Women's Grand Prix tournaments. Much time has been spent on fund raising.

One of the main items of today EGA Agenda was the changes to the FIDE Charter, which involved much work and study in order to make FIDE official documents more modern and

consistent with the latest IOC practices. The draft of the new Charter has been presented to the IOC in order to receive their opinions and comments. We tried to develop a more democratic system which will allow the National Federations to play a more important role in FIDE activities. The draft of the Charter was sent to all National Federations a few months ago and all the comments received from the Federations were incorporated into the version of the Charter presented now at the EGA. The main ideas include regulating the hierarchy of documents, professional and transparent management, clear rights and responsibilities of Member Federations, fixing the commercial rights of FIDE, new system of disputes resolution.

The share of international sponsorship is another point Mr. Dvorkovich decided to focus on. His immediate task will be to make sure that this share will be balanced, having truly diversified sponsorship. He added that FIDE needs to improve its communication practices. FIDE already counts on multiple channels of communication, but it is still not enough. One of the initiatives which will start today is the publication of the electronic FIDE Newsletter.

Mr. Dvorkovich highlighted the following medium-term strategic initiatives: kicking-off educational chess projects around the world (also through the creation of online platforms and the collaboration with governments), improving anti-cheating policies as preventive and not punitive measures, building of digital platforms and partnerships, raising new generations of chess professionals and improving career opportunities, expanding the chess community by organizing more visible and inclusive corporate and university championships and online tournaments.

Finally, Mr. Dvorkovich reminded that FIDE moved to its new office in Lausanne and has now quarters allocated in Switzerland. He invited all Commissions to hold their meetings in Lausanne in the future.

The President's report was approved.

## **2. Roll-call**

Mr. Iclicki made the roll-call.

122 delegates resulted present and a quorum for the EGA was thus established.

The quorum for the election of the new members of the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission was also established. Out of 122 Federations, only 112 had the right to vote for this election. The reason for this difference is that for the electoral voting it is necessary to follow the delegates' list that was published in January, while for the rest we can allow all the delegates to vote, even those who were not included in the list of January.

## **3. Issues concerning the Membership**

### **3.1 Admission of new Federations**

The Congress participants are called to vote to approve the admission of new countries: St. Lucia Chess Federation, Guinea Equatorial Chess Federation, Cayman Islands Chess Federation, St Kitts and Nevis Chess Federation, Grenada Chess Federation, Chad Chess Federation and Bulgarian Chess Federation\*, which has provisional membership.

At the request of Mr. Short, Mr. Ncube explained that all the documents regarding the request of the Chad Chess Federation to be accepted as a member of FIDE have been received.

The admission of the following new Federations as FIDE full members was unanimously approved: St. Lucia Chess Federation, Guinea Equatorial Chess Federation, Cayman Islands Chess Federation, St Kitts and Nevis Chess Federation, Grenada Chess Federation, Chad Chess Federation and Bulgarian Chess Federation\*.

Mr. Dvorkovich invited the Cayman Islands Chess Federation's representatives and St Kitts and Nevis Chess Federation, to make a short presentation of his federation. The main points of the presentations were: history of the federation, its main goals and values, engagement of sponsors and the government authorities.

\*Please find the correct name of the Bulgarian Federation on the following link: <https://fide.com/directory/member-federations>

### **3.2 Admission of new affiliated members**

The EGA is called to approve the admission of the Portuguese-speaking Federations Association and the South Asian Chess Council (SACC) as Affiliated Members of FIDE.

The admission of the following associations as new affiliated members was unanimously approved: Portuguese-speaking Federations Association and South Asian Chess Council.

Mr. Dvorkovich reported about the possibility of testing the pilot system for the electronic voting, which will be used in the future for FIDE GA. Mr. Abundo was asked to explain how this voting system will work. It will be introduced during the next GA.

Mr. Dvorkovich suggested proceeding with the items in the agenda. During the election of the new members of the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission, both the traditional and the electronic voting system will be used, in order to test it and compare the results.

Mr. Msukwa was invited to answer some questions which have been raised about the right to vote and the difference between the right to vote for all issues and the right to vote for the election of the members of the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission.

After a short debate concerning the right of Cote d'Ivoire Chess Federation to vote at the EGA meeting and according to the clarification of the Constitutional Commission, the EGA approved that Mr. Essis has the right to present and to speak at the Congress, but without voting rights.

## **4. New FIDE Charter**

Annex 2.1. is the draft of FIDE Charter, which was sent to all the Federations and was approved unanimously by the PB.

Mr. Dvorkovich illustrated the key points of the reform of the FIDE Charter, which were considered necessary to make FIDE a more modern, efficient and transparent democratic organization which would work in fully accordance with the IOC principles. The new structure of FIDE was clearly illustrated, focusing on the responsibilities and rights of each body of

FIDE: GA, Council, President, Elected Commissions, Management Board. A clarification of the hierarchy of legal acts adopted by FIDE was also established. The role of the independent elected commissions was improved, and the role of the Zonal Presidents was updated.

Mr. Dvorkovich clarified the hierarchy of the FIDE bodies: the GA is the highest body of FIDE and can take any decision. There is a clear list of decisions that only the GA can take, including the approval of the Charter itself and of the most important regulations, including financial and electoral regulations. The GA is also the only body which can decide on the full membership of new Federations, on elections and other issues described in the Charter.

The Council is elected by the GA and adopts all other regulations not listed in the Charter and takes decisions on all strategic matters of FIDE functioning, including financial matters and tournaments. The President reports to the Council and annually to the GA and manages day-to-day activity of FIDE and represents FIDE in all its external relations.

The elected commissions are independent, take decisions about ethics, constitutional matters, elections and verification issues. The other bodies cannot intervene in the decisions of the elected commissions. They should work in a professional way, their members should have sufficient experience to resolve those matters.

The Management Board is not an independent body. It supports the President in day-to-day activities and reports directly to the FIDE Council. It is an operational body that follows the instructions of the GA and the Council.

To ensure transparency, a vote of no confidence was introduced in the regulations. The GA can decide on no confidence regarding both the President and the Council.

In the existing version of the Statute, less than a half of the PB members were elected independently of the President. To ensure democracy, in the proposed Charter, more than 50% of the voting Council members are elected by the GA without the direct influence of the President. The Treasurer and the Secretary are also elected by secret ballots.

The GA has more powers as compared to the current Statute. It deals with all major issues, including the election, the budget and the vote of no confidence. It can overrule any decision of the President and the Council.

The abolition of proxies was established not only for the elections, but for any other matters. The Presidents and the delegates can represent only one Member Federation and should be really affiliated to their country (having citizenship or residence or working experience in the elected bodies of their Member Federation).

It was decided that the Council should consist of 15 members, working on a full-time basis. It has both executive and legislative functions, which means that all matters which are not regulated by the GA can be resolved by the Council. It defines strategic plans and policies, approves the draft of the FIDE budget, ratifies the decisions taken by the President and supervises the activities of non-elected commissions. The World Champions are invited to each Council meeting, but they do not have voting rights.

It was also decided that the President cannot serve as President for more than two terms, including the current term. The President represents FIDE officially and have the following main functions: to sign contracts, to assume obligations for FIDE, to maintain good relationships between FIDE and the National Federations.

The Management Board is a new body. Actually, it already exists, but without any formally approved functions. The new Charter clearly established its functions. It is an executive, operational and administrative body with full-time working staff with the aim of making FIDE a more efficient organization. The MB is appointed by the Council.

The independence of the Elected Commissions' members represented another important aspect of the proposed new Charter. It was decided that they should not be elected at the same time as the FIDE President to preserve the political independence of their election. Starting from the next election, qualification requirements for the Elected Commissions' members will be introduced.

The functions of the Ethics Commission were expanded. This body becomes now the "Ethics and Disciplinary Commission", with seven instead of five members. The reason for this is that FIDE needs professional people who will also analyse and investigate specific matters, rather than just gather occasionally to take decisions.

A fixed hierarchy of documents was established to clarify the system of FIDE rules and regulations. There will be no other rules or regulations in FIDE. FIDE Handbook will be refreshed to have a clear set of documents regulating the activity of FIDE. It is reminded that all documents must be published on FIDE website in order to become operational.

Mr. Rivello, who could not attend the Congress due to the coronavirus epidemic in Italy, participated to the Congress through a Skype call in order to answer any eventual questions about the Charter draft. Mr. Rivello reported about the work of the Task Force charged with the drafting of the new Charter.

Mr. Spiller asked if according to clause 9.4 of the proposed new Charter the new Member Federations must be a country recognized by the UN and the IOC. He suggested replacing the word "and" with "or", because there are countries which are members of the IOC but unrecognized by the UN. An example is the Coco Islands, which represents a Federation which the Oceania Zone would like to bring to FIDE. However, if this clause is adopted it would make it impossible for them to become members, because they cannot become members of the UN. The Oceanic Olympic Committee, which is recognised by the IOC, organize the Pacific Games and allow countries such as the Coco Islands to participate.

Mr. Dvorkovich reported to Mr. Rivello the suggestions received about changing the prevision of the draft that the new members should be both UN and IOC members. It was suggested to write that new members should be "either member of the UN or of the IOC".

Mr. Rivello answered that until today we had not so strict rules about this issue and had accepted Federations which were members either of the UN or of the IOC. However, he reminded that now one of the ideas of FIDE is to become a member of the IOC. In order to reach this goal, it is mandatory that FIDE has the same rules imposed by the IOC. In the past the IOC was less strict but today it requests that its members adopt its same rules. In the current Statute of the IOC it is established that all new members should be recognized by the UN.

Mr. Makropoulos said that it is important that new Federation Members should be member of the IOC, since FIDE is under the umbrella of the IOC. Moreover, the membership with the IOC can solve many political issues. He believed that this clause in the Charter should be

written in two alternative ways: “*members of the IOC and of the UN*” or “*members of the IOC*”. The wording “*or*” would involve problems for FIDE.

Mr. Herbert said that there are countries within the Caribbean region which would be affected by this clause, since they are IOC members, but have not been recognized by the UN. The wording of the original Statute was “*and/or*” and for him it was quite clear.

Mr. Tracey said that the IOC already requires that its new members have the UN membership. For him it would make more sense to leave the requirement connected to the IOC membership and to remove the one related to the UN membership.

Mr. Dvorkovich asked if there are comments on other issues.

Mr. Herbert said that there have been some changes in the proposed Charter since when it has been first published with the EGA agenda. One of the points that have been changed is clause 17.6.

Ms. Marshall-Harris argued that the requirements contained in clause 17.6 are not suitable for countries with very small territories which are mainly comprised of an expatriate population. Clause 17.6 established that Presidents and delegates of the Federations need to have been members of that Federation for two years. For countries such as Bermuda that would be difficult. Moreover, this clause has been changed and the requirements are now a citizenship of at least two years and one year of experience as an office holder of the Federation. For a territory like the Bermuda obtaining the citizenship is really a difficult issue, no matter how long you live there.

Mr. Dvorkovich asked about the residency in such territories and explained that the term “residency” in the Charter indicates the presence of a person in a country, proved by certain elements (living in a country, paying the bills). It is not about formal residency permit. He added that the term “office holder” refers to a member appointed or elected by the Federation. He explained that this measure was intended to ensure that the representatives of the Federations have real relations with the countries they represent, proved either by their residency or by their work in the Federation for at least one year.

Mr. Makropoulos said that imposing such limits would have as consequence the fact that the Federations will need to pay lawyers in the future to establish if a person has really had the residency for two years and meets the requirements established by clause 17.6.

Mr. Dvorkovich explained that the requirements in clause 17.6 are either two years of residency or one year as office holder within a Federation.

Mr. Makropoulos suggested that the requirement related to the position as office holder should be reduced from one year to three months.

Mr. Bond focused on clause 20.2b related to the regulations concerning titles and ratings, which was approved by the Council. He affirmed he believed this issue should belong to the GA and not to the Council.

Mr. Dvorkovich answered that it belongs to the Council according to the current Statute.



Mr. Makropoulos said that it is important that the Council should take fast decisions and all decisions concerning the World Championship Cycle belongs to the Council, while ratings and titles to the GA. He agreed that these issues should belong to the Council, which means that the decisions in this context will be taken faster.

Mr. Dvorkovich reminded that the GA has the power to overrule the Council if needed.

Mr. Faulks said that he agrees with Mr. Bond that for many years the GA has zealously maintained the control of the titles and rating system and the laws of chess. The first of them belongs to the Council according to the new Charter. He truly believed that the GA would regret losing this authority.

Mr. Dvorkovich suggested having the Council entitled to approve the rules related to the title and rating system, while the GA will still have the power to approve everything the Council proposes.

Mr. Herbert said he could not understand the reason for the creation of a Zonal Council.

Mr. Dvorkovich answered that the purpose of a Zonal Council is related to the development program and budget (analysing the activity done in the past and proposing plans for the future). The Zonal Presidents are the ideal people who could work on this, since they have a direct relationship with the territories and their activity and could collect opinions from the Federations. The second purpose of this new organ would be the sharing of good practices from Zone to Zone, since there are very active and successful Zones and other which are quite passive. The Zonal Council could be used to share the successful practices and would be a help to the GA, the Council and the MB in the day-to-day operations.

Mr. Mwaka agreed with the principles of the new Charter, which will allow FIDE to be more visible, inclusive and coherent with the IOC's guidelines. However, since the approval of the Charter will affect the existing Statute, he asked which positions in the Commissions will become vacant and when they will be filled. He also asked if the Executive Board will become a part of the Management Board.

Mr. Dvorkovich answered that the elected bodies of FIDE will stay until the end of their term. In this way there will be no direct effect on the existing elected bodies after the approval of the Charter. The only different concerns the PB members, namely the World Champions, who will lose their voting right. The Executive Board will be renamed as Zonal Council, but the members will be the same. The mandate of all current elected Commissions will be extended to two more years. As for as non-elected Commissions are concerned, they will not be affected by the approval of the new Charter.

Mr. Priest reported that the USA Federation sent to FIDE many comments about the draft Charter they received in the past months and was pleased to see that the recommended changes have been accepted and applied to the Charter. He reported about the work of the Verification Commission on the draft Charter.

Mr. Hamers expressed the support of the Dutch Chess Federation to the new Charter. He considered a good result that the GA will meet every year and that proxies will be not allowed anymore. However, there are delegates that could not come to this assembly and there is a

reimbursement for level 3, 4 and 5 countries. He believed that in the future the delegates should be treated in the same way.

Mr. Dvorkovich answered that the Financial Regulations are one of the points on the EGA agenda, but that particular issue will be discussed in the next months, so that the GA in Khanty-Mansiysk will be able to take a decision about it.

Mr. Dvorkovich summarized the main proposals made by the delegates during the discussion about the new Charter and assured that the Council will carefully analyse them. If necessary, the GA in Khanty-Mansiysk will discuss further changes to the Charter. He then reported that the new Charter was approved unanimously by the PB and invited the EGA to vote.

The EGA proceeded with the voting through the open vote system. The new Charter was approved and comes into force on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. The vote results were: 112 votes in favour, 1 abstention and 1 voted against.

The EGA took a short break and began again at 3 p.m.

## **5. Financial matters**

### **5.1 New Financial Regulations**

Mr. Dvorkovich explained that FIDE is in the process of preparing the new Financial Regulations, taking into account the proposals of the different Commissions. This work requires still more time. One of the main points of these new Financial Regulations relates to the establishing of new development level criteria. However, these new criteria are not ready yet. In order to move forward, Mr. Dvorkovich suggested focusing on just two steps: to abolish fees for Seniors tournament, both individual and as team, and to abolish all FIDE fees (apart from membership fees) for level 5 development countries. These amendments, if approved by the EGA, will be effective starting already from the second half of 2019. Other proposals for the new Financial Regulations will be submitted for the approval of the GA in Khanty-Mansiysk.

Mr. Dvorkovich said that what will be adopted in the GA in Khanty-Mansiysk will be effective already from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020.

The amendments to the Financial Regulations (abolition of fees for participation in seniors' events and those for Level 5 development countries, excluding membership fees) were unanimously approved and are effective already for the second half of 2019.

It was decided that the Council will prepare a final version of the Financial Regulations by the next General Assembly to be held in Khanty-Mansiysk (Russia) and start working on a new version of the FIDE Handbook.

### **5.2 Appointment of the External Auditor for the annual audit of FIDE accounts for 2019**

Mr. Dvorkovich reported about the next point on the EGA agenda: the appointment of the External Auditor for the annual audit of the FIDE accounts for 2019. For this purpose, it is proposed to keep FIDE's current auditor, E&Y, which did the audit for 2018.

Mr. Priest said that the Verification Commission had recently had a meeting in Lausanne with E&Y, which led to a much better level of service from the external auditor. The Verification Commission highly appreciated the opportunity to speak directly with the auditor and the work was thus fulfilled much more quickly. In conclusion, from their meeting in Lausanne the Verification Commission was satisfied with the E&Y team.

Mr. Dvorkovich said that the audit for 2018 was the first full scale audit, since in the past they were doing a limited audit. He also expressed his satisfaction with the way the new E&Y team worked. He suggested approving E&Y as auditor for the 2019 audit and discussing about possible changes for the future.

The appointment of E&Y as the External Auditor for the annual audit of the FIDE accounts for 2019 was unanimously approved.

## **6. Extraordinary Elections for the vacant positions of the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission**

Mr. Dvorkovich presented three candidates proposed as scrutineers: Sonja Johnson, Sahapol Nakvanich and Paris Klerides. There were no objections to the candidates and the list of scrutineers was unanimously approved.

Mr. Dvorkovich voiced the recommendation of the Presidential Board to hold elections in 1 ballot using the simple majority system. The EGA approved this recommendation.

The 14 candidates for the three vacant positions in the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission were presented and the EGA proceeded with the voting, thus obtaining the following results: Essoh J.M.C. Essis (22 votes), Arun Muthusamy (2 votes), Ralph Alt (13 votes), Yoram Sabary (2 votes), Yumiko Hiebert (38 votes), Milan Turpanov (30 votes), Arthur Schuering (15 votes), Casto Abundo (13 votes), Jose Claudio Vinas Racionero (22 votes), John Sigeman (51 votes), Abby Edah Ndjelle (13 votes), Khaled Arfa (41 votes), David Hater (51 votes) and Yuliya Levitan (15 votes).

Mr. Casto Abundo withdrew his candidacy.

The following appointees for the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission were elected: Khaled Arfa, David Hater and Johan Sigeman.

## **7. 91<sup>st</sup> FIDE Congress 2020**

Mr. Dvorkovich made a few final announcements. The next FIDE Congress and GA will take place in July and August in Khanty-Masiysk, Russia. Together with FIDE Congress, also the Commissions' meetings and workshops will be organized. Concurrently with the Congress, the Tournament for Players with Disability will be held as a part of the Chess Olympiads in Khanty-Masiysk. Mr. Dvorkovich invited everyone to participate to the opening ceremony of the Chess Olympiads in Khanty-Masiysk and to travel to Moscow after the end of the Olympiads for Disabled Players.

Mr. Dvorkovich also announced that FIDE has almost finalized its negotiation with the organizers of Dubai Expo 2020 regarding the World Championship Match, which will most

probably take place in the United Arab Emirates. The most likely starting date for the tournament will be the 20<sup>th</sup> December.

The EGA ended at 5.11 p.m.

Approved by

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Arkady Dvorkovich', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Arkady Dvorkovich

FIDE President