



**UWW ORDINARY CONGRESS
BELGRADE (SRB)**

**Hyatt Regency
31 octobre 2021 - 9h00**

MINUTES

Attending:

Bureau Members with voting rights in attendance:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. Nenad Lalovic | President |
| 2. Stan Dziedzic | Vice-President |
| 3. Theodoros Hamakos | Vice-President |
| 4. Mikhail Mamiashvili | Vice-President |
| 5. Akhroldjan Ruziev | Vice-President |
| 6. Nataliya Yariguina | Vice-President |
| 7. Namig Aliyev | Bureau Member |
| 8. Zamel Sayyaf Al Shahrani | Bureau Member |
| 9. Karl-Martin Dittmann | Bureau Member & UWW-Europe Council President |
| 10. Pedro Gama Filho | Bureau Member |
| 11. Fouad Meskout | Bureau Member & UWW-Africa Council President |
| 12. Marina Pellicone | Bureau Member |
| 13. Pedro Silva | Bureau Member |
| 14. Daulet Turlykhanov | Bureau Member & UWW-Asia Council President |
| 15. Rodica Yaksi | Bureau Member |

Excused:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| i. Peter Bacsa | Bureau Member |
| ii. Xia Zhang | Bureau Member |
| iii. Michel Dusson | Secretary General |

Presidents of Continental Councils:

Francisco LEE LOPEZ	President of UWW-Americas
Antonio AQUINO	President of UWW-Oceania

Chairman of the Athletes Commission:

Arsen Julfalakyan	Chairman of the Athletes' Commission
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National Federations in attendance:

Africa (Total 18):

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Algeria | 7. Democratic Rep. of Congo | 13. Nigeria |
| 2. Angola | 8. Egypt | 14. Senegal |
| 3. Botswana | 9. Guinea-Bissau | 15. Sierra Leone |
| 4. Burundi | 10. Kenya | 16. Tunisia |
| 5. Cabo Verde | 11. Morocco | 17. Togo |
| 6. Central Africa Republic | 12. Mauritania | 18. Uganda |

Americas (Total 14):

- | | | |
|--------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. Argentina | 6. Colombia | 11. Puerto Rico |
| 2. Bahamas | 7. Costa Rica | 12. Suriname |
| 3. Barbados | 8. Guatemala | 13. Uruguay |
| 4. Canada | 9. Mexico | 14. United States |
| 5. Chili | 10. Panama | |

Asia (Total 19):

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Bahrain | 8. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia | 14. Qatar |
| 2. India | 9. Kuwait | 15. Syria |
| 3. Iraq | 10. Lebanon | 16. Tadjikistan |
| 4. Jordan | 11. Mongolia | 17. Taipei |
| 5. Kazakhstan | 12. Nepal | 18. United Arab Emirates |
| 6. Kyrgyzstan | 13. Palestine | 19. Uzbekistan |
| 7. Korea | | |

Europe (Total 37):

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Albania | 7. Bulgaria | 13. Great Britain |
| 2. Armenia | 8. Croatia | 14. Georgia |
| 3. Austria | 9. Czech Republic | 15. Germany |
| 4. Azerbaijan | 10. Estonia | 16. Greece |
| 5. Belgium | 11. Finland | 17. Hungary |
| 6. Belarus | 12. France | 18. Italy |



19.	Israel	26.	Norway	33.	Serbia
20.	Kosovo	27.	Poland	34.	Spain
21.	Lithuania	28.	Portugal	35.	Switzerland
22.	Moldova	29.	Romania	36.	Turkey
23.	Macedonia	30.	Russia	37.	Ukraine
24.	Malta	31.	San Marino		
25.	Netherlands	32.	Slovenia		

Oceania (Total 1):

1. Guam

TOTAL: 104

Excused:

- New Zealand
- Mauritius
- Vietnam

Note: The Congress was recorded (audio and video).



Agenda

1. Welcome words & opening of the Congress
2. Adoption of the *Congress Procedure Rules*
3. Appointment of the Congress working bodies:
 - Writer of the minutes
 - Proof-readers of the minutes (French-English)
 - Appointment of the elections commission and its chairman
4. Approval of the minutes of the UWW Ordinary Congress in Budapest on 19 October 2018
5. Report by the controllers of powers
6. President's report on the UWW activities during the period between the Congresses of Budapest and Belgrade
7. Financial report by the statutory auditors OFISA - Adoption of the 2018-2019-2020 reports
8. Appointment of the licensed auditor for the next cycle of four years
9. Projected budget 2022
10. Report on Refereeing
11. Report by the UWW Associated Styles Committee
12. Strategy for Wrestling & UWW for 2021-2024
13. Amendments proposal to the UWW Constitution
14. Reminder for all Athletes/Coaches/Referees to be covered by an insurance in their country for accidents/illnesses occurring in their country
15. Free Licence & Registration in Athena of Schoolboys-girls
16. Questions by the National Federations
17. New applications for affiliation
18. Election of the UWW President
19. Elections of the Bureau Members
20. Miscellaneous & Closing of the Congress



1. Welcome words

Mr Lalovic welcomed all delegates and Bureau Members for this postponed ordinary Congress. Before opening it, he gave the floor to the following speakers, who addressed the Congress with welcome words:

Mr Bozidar MALJKOVIC, President of the Olympic Committee of Serbia
Mr Zeljko TRAJKOVIC, President of the Wrestling Federation of Serbia
Mr Vanja UDOVICIC, Minister of Youth & Sport, Serbia

Mr. Lalovic thanked all speakers for their words and their hospitality.

2. Adoption of the *Congress Procedure Regulations*

Mr Roy informed the delegates that, the Congress Procedure Regulations were amended by the Executive Committee in 2019 to allow livestreaming of the Congress for members who cannot attend. For the sake of clarity, it was mentioned that the livestream of the Congress was made only to follow the discussion, and that the voting was possible only for the attending Federations on site.

The *Congress Procedure Regulations* were adopted without any remark.

3. Appointment of the Congress working bodies

The Congress approved the working bodies as follows:

Writer of the Congress minutes:	Mr Roy, General Affairs Director
Proof-readers of the minutes:	For French: Mr. Silva, Bureau Member For English: M. Dziedzic, Vice-President
Election Commission:	Mrs Yaksi, as chairperson - Bureau Member Mr. Silva, as member - Bureau Member Mr. Modoux, as operator

4. Approval of the minutes of the UWW Ordinary Congress in Budapest on 19 October 2018

The minutes of the Budapest Congress were approved without any remark.

5. Reports by the controllers of powers

The controllers of powers have identified the National Federations attending the Congress under representation:

Africa	18
America	14
Asia	19
Europe	37
Oceania	1
Bureau Members	15
TOTAL:	104



6. President's report on the UWW activities during the period between the Congresses of Budapest and Belgrade

The President referred first the Congress to the two-year reports of each UWW department made during the conference held in the same venue in December 2021. These were made available to all NFs on the website and the President said he did not want to repeat everything but rather to highlight some important topics. These are briefly described here.

He first mentioned the successful Olympic Games in Tokyo despite the pandemic, as well as the road to Tokyo including the qualifying events. He thanked all the people who contributed to this success.

He also talked about the improvement of the technology, including the use of blockchain for the draws, the addition of cameras for the review of challenges or the public announcement of challenge decisions.

He went on about the quality of the events these last year, which are the fruit of many reforms started from 2013.

The President also mentioned the development programs, the governance reforms, marketing, sponsoring and television. He noted the good results in terms of social media activity.

Mr Lalovic also thanked the Continental Councils for their work and support in the successes of the Federation. So did he for the UWW Commissions and their members.

He finally highlighted the work of the Associated Styles Office, and the raising success of Beach Wrestling.

No comment was made.

The report of activities was approved.

7. Financial report by the statutory auditors OFISA - Adoption of the 2018-2019-2020 reports

The President commented the financial reports that were made available on the UWW website to the National Federations several months before the Congress.

Given the Reports of the Statutory Auditor, respectively of 7 June 2019, 29 May 2020 and 25 June 2021, and as no comment was made, the financial reports for 2018, 2019 and 2020 were adopted by the Congress.

8. Appointment of the licensed auditor for the next cycle of four years

As provided by article 16 of the UWW Constitution, an external independent and licensed auditor must be appointed for a term of four years.

As the term of OFISA ended, it was proposed to renew the term of OFISA for the next period of four years.

This appointment was approved by the Congress.



9. Projected budget 2022

The President commented on the budget 2021 and 2022.

The budget 2021 forecasts an income of 21,85 million for an expenditure of 11,44 million, and therefore an operational profit of 10,41 million, which must cover the losses of the non-Olympic year, as per the usual strategy.

Due to the postponement of the Olympics, the related income and expenses were reported from the budget 2020 to 2021, with two major differences:

- The budget “Reinvoiced Expenses” in 2020 included CHF 720’000.- for the resale of the Olympics’ competition tickets to our affiliated members. But without spectator, this budgeted income was eliminated in 2021.
- The budget “Expenses OG” was strongly reduced from 2020 to 2021, because no Wrestling House, and less hotel rooms.

Unlike a normal Olympic year, in 2021 UWW had the Olympics AND a Senior World which explains the difference in the budget “International competition incomes” between 2020 and 2021.

The budget 2022 comes back to a more normal situation, with an budgeted income of 6.87 million for an expenditure of 10,28 million, therefore an operational loss of 3,41 million.

The delegate from Kenya asked why the budget 2021 was to be approved while the accounting period 2021 was already coming to an end.

It was answered that due to the postponement of the congress from 2020 to 2021, the Congress had not been able to be informed about the 2021 budget that was adopted by the Bureau. Delay in the yearly presentation in advance of the budgets had been taken in the past congresses and with this correction the next Congress will be able to be informed about the budgets of the years ahead. It was mentioned that the presentation of the budget to the Congress was made for the sake of information, completeness, and transparency regarding the accounts since the role of the Congress was only to adopt the financial reports pursuant to the Constitution. The budgets are adopted by the Bureau.

No further comment was made.

10. Report on Refereeing

Mr. Lalovic gave the floor to the Head of the Refereeing Commission, Mr Antonio Silvestri.

Mr. Silvestri reported on the activities of the commission during the pandemic such as the webinars in various languages. He also mentioned the webinars for Coach ahead of the Tokyo Olympic Games.

He said that the rules had also been well corrected in collaboration with the Technical Commission to shift the responsibility to the athletes for the 3rd passivity. The result on the events is really visible.

He also praised the work of the referees during the very successful Games in Tokyo, thanks to the work of all Commission as well as all the reforms initiated by the President of UWW these last years.

For the future, Mr Silvestri stressed the importance of education and practice. In his opinion, more investment in education had to be made. Also, more collaboration between the coach and the referees in the education.

With regards to competitions, he also said that the public explanation of the challenge decision was welcome, and some improvements could still be made.



He talked about the preparation of a program for Women referees in the lead up to Paris 2024.

He also mentioned programs to improve the work of the Mat Chairman, some mentoring program for young referees, focus on mental strength for referees, and communication within the commission. Mr Lalovic thanked Mr Silvestri for his report and for his vision on the future of refereeing.

No comment was made. The report was approved.

11. Report by the UWW Associated Styles Committee

Mrs Panahizadeh took the floor to present the activities of the Associates Styles. She presented how the different styles were classified:

- Modern styles (GP & GP Gi, PK & PK Athlima, Classic Women Wrestling)
- Traditional styles (Belt - African - Pahlavani, Kushti)

She went on by presenting the ASO Committee, Presided by Ms Yaksi, with one representative of each style, and its tasks and duties. She showed a slide with all major events from 2018 until 2021. She also showed the situation with the number of countries associated per continent in each style.

Mrs Panahizadeh finally present the calendar of 2022 events with those championships open for candidacies.

Mr Lalovic thanked Mrs Panahizadeh for the presentation. He added that it had been decided to keep all these styles under the UWW umbrella since they represent our origins. It is an additional effort for UWW and the national federations, but UWW has to continue developing and promoting these styles.

No comment was made. The report was approved.

12. Strategy for Wrestling & UWW for 2022-2026

The Strategy for 2022-2026 was presented. It consists of additional efforts put on 5 key areas which have been identified following the surveys distributed to all NFs and Board members: Youth Engagement, Women's Wrestling, Associated Styles, Image of Wrestling and Digital Transformation.

A brochure was also distributed to all delegates.

The President thanked the staff for their presentation.

He concluded by informing the Congress about another important project which will serve as a sponsor in the future: sports betting. He said that it is important that UWW integrates sports betting in its business model, but we need to learn and understand this field. This will benefit financially to National Federations and athletes. As a chairman of the IOC's Unit for Prevention of Manipulation of Sport, the President changed his mind about betting. The model will be legal and recognized by IOC's IBIS network.

He added that betting exists, even in Wrestling, therefore we need to capture this market. He also said that bookmakers were interested in our sport, and that they look for sport where there is no manipulation and match-fixing, which is not favourable to their business.

To keep our sport up to date, UWW need urgently to enter this market. Also, the money that will be received from this project will be used as it should be, with responsibility.

The floor was opened for questions.



The delegate from The Netherlands thanked UWW for the presentation and the President for the great improvement of the sport these last years, which look very much more dynamic and modern than other sports.

Then, Mr Lalovic passed the floor to Mr Marton Tomin to talk about safety for athletes. Mr Tomin presented his research project called “Save Olympic Wrestlers” about the quality of the mats and their mechanical properties to prevent injuries.

Mr Lalovic thanked him for his presentation.

13. Amendments proposal to the UWW Constitution

The President read the introductory document to the amendments’ proposal that was sent to the delegates and posted on the website one month before the congress.

It was also added that the Bureau decided on the eve of the congress to make a small change to the proposal, i.e. to article 12.2 (*Eligibility and election*) where the new proposed wording would be: “ - *be in line with the languages recognized by the federation*”.

The floor was then opened for questions.

As no question was asked, it was decided to vote in block by a raise of hands.

Result: all amendments to the UWW Constitution were approved, including the change to article 12.2 mentioned above.

14. Reminder for all Athletes/Coaches/Referees to be covered by an insurance in their country for accidents/illnesses occurring in their country

Mr Lalovic reminded to the Congress the purpose of the license, which is mainly to insure their holders for competitions taking place abroad.

In addition, he suggested to all national federation that do not have such a licence system, to adopt a similar system on the national level. This can also help UWW to have a more precise overview of the number of licences in the different countries.

15. Free Licence & Registration in Athena of Schoolboys-girls

The President proposed that the athletes in U15 category also be insured by the UWW insurance by taking a licence in Athena. Such licence would be free of charge.

With this, UWW can also follow the athletes throughout their whole career.

16. Questions by the National Federations

No questions were raised by any National Federation ahead of the Congress.

Mr Lalovic asked the floor whether any delegate had some questions or needed clarifications.

Nobody asked for the floor.



17. New affiliations

Without any objection or remark (the UWW Constitution's requirements having been fulfilled), the Congress **approved** the definitive affiliation of the two following federations:

- Cabo Verde (Africa)
- Kuwait (Asia)

Mr Roy informed that these being now fully and regular members of UWW, they were entitled to vote. He asked that two tablets be distributed to their respective delegates.

With these two new voters, the total number of tablets was 104.

18. Election of the UWW President

Before proceeding to the election, Mr Roy gave the floor to the member of the Election Commission, Mr Pedro Silva to address the Congress with the motivation of the Bureau for proposing Mr Lalovic for re-election as President of United World Wrestling for the next term.

After reading the motivation, and as Mr Lalovic being the sole candidate, Mr Silva proposed to the Congress to elect him by acclamation.

The Congress **approved and re-elected** Mr Lalovic as President for next term until 2026.

Mr Lalovic thanked the delegates and the Bureau members for their confidence and for giving the honour to serve this organization for the next five years. He mentioned that due to the Congress postponement, this term, as well as the ones who will be elected today, will be shorter.

19. Election of the Bureau Members

Before proceeding to the election, Mr. Silva explained the process for this election. A video about how to use the tablets was also shown.

Mr Roy informed the Congress that Mr Daniel Igali (NGR) had withdrawn his candidacy.

Mr Silva read the names of the candidates. Then the floor was given to the candidates who wished so to take the floor to present themselves and their motivations.

The results of the 1st round were:



UNITED WORLD WRESTLING

Session 2021 BELGRADE (SRB)

31.10.2021 / 13:13:42

Results: Elections of the Bureau Members Vote for : 6 Minimum: 1

Box given / Boitiers distribués : 104
Participants : 103
Valid Ballots / Votes valables : 103
Majority / Majorité : 52

MESKOUT, Fouad (MAR)	81	Elected
MAMIASHVILI, Mikhail (RUS)	80	Elected
RYAN, Don (CAN)	71	Elected
GAMA FILHO, Pedro (BRA)	65	Elected
RUZIEV, Akhroldjan (UZB)	65	Elected
CANEVA, Lucio (ITA)	51	
MACHAIDZE, Edisher (GEO)	38	
DI BUSSOLO PEL. M. Ms (ITA)	27	
KORPELA, Marko (FIN)	16	
KHARENKO, Dina (Ms) (UKR)	12	

As five obtained the absolute majority in the first round, a second round was organized to fulfil the sixth seat.

The results of the 1st round were displayed on the screen and were the following:



UNITED WORLD WRESTLING

Session 2021 BELGRADE (SRB)

31.10.2021 / 13:23:31

Results: Elections of the Bureau Members Vote for : 1

Box given / Boitiers distribués :	104
Participants :	101
Valid Ballots / Votes valables :	81
Majority / Majorité :	41

CANEVA, Lucio (ITA)	58	Elected
MACHAIDZE, Edisher (GEO)	20	
DI BUSSOLO PEL. M. Ms (ITA)	14	
KHARENKO, Dina (Ms) (UKR)	5	
KORPELA, Marko (FIN)	4	

Mr Lalovic congratulated all the elected members of the Bureau and reminded that they would be put to work immediately considering the strategy and plan exposed earlier.

20. Miscellaneous & closing of the Congress

A presentation on Belgrade 2022 was shown and information were provided about the championship.

Mr Lalovic thanked all the delegates and Bureau members for their participation and closed the Congress.

Nenad Lalovic
President

Corsier-sur-Vevey, 25th November 2021