



UWW ORDINARY CONGRESS BELGRADE (SRB)

Hyatt Regency
9 September 2022 - 9h00

MINUTES

In attendance

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 S. Al Shahrani | Bureau Member |
| 9. | Péter Bacsa | Bureau Member |
| 10. | Karl-Martin Dittmann | Bureau Member & UWW-Europe Council President |
| 11. | Pedro Dos Santos Silva | Bureau Member |
| 12. | Pedro Gama Filho | Bureau Member |
| 13. | Fouad Meskout | Bureau Member & UWW-Africa Council President |
| 14. | Don Ryan | Bureau Member |
| 15. | Daulet Turlykhanov | Bureau Member & UWW-Asia Council President |
| 16. | Rodica Yaksi | Bureau Member |

Excused:

- | | | |
|-----|---------------|---------------|
| i. | Xia Zhang | Bureau Member |
| ii. | Michel Dusson | Bureau Member |

Secretary General

- iii. Carlos Roy

Presidents of Continental Councils:

- iv. Francisco LEE LOPEZ President of UWW-Americas

Chairman of the Athletes' Commission:

- v. Arsen Julfalakyan Chairman of the Athletes' Commission



National Federations (106) with voting rights in attendance:

Africa (Total 27):

1. Algeria
2. Angola
3. Benin
4. Botswana
5. Burundi
6. Central Africa Republic
7. Cabo Verde
8. Ivory Coast
9. Cameroon
10. Democratic Rep. of Congo
11. Egypt
12. Guinea-Bissau
13. Ghana
14. Guinea
15. Kenya
16. Madagascar
17. Morocco
18. Mauritania
19. Nigeria
20. Niger
21. Senegal
22. South Africa
23. Sierra Leone
24. Sudan
25. Togo
26. Tunisia
27. Uganda

Americas (Total 19):

1. Argentina
2. Barbados
3. Brazil
4. Canada
5. Chili
6. Colombia
7. Costa Rica

8. Cuba
9. Dominican Republic
10. El Salvador
11. Guatemala
12. Mexico
13. Panama
14. Paraguay
15. Peru
16. Puerto Rico
17. Uruguay
18. United States
19. Venezuela

Asia (Total 25):

1. Cambodia
2. China
3. Hong-Kong
4. Indonesia
5. India
6. I.R. Iran
7. Iraq
8. Japan
9. Jordan
10. Kazakhstan
11. Kyrgyzstan
12. Korea
13. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
14. Laos
15. Mongolia
16. Nepal
17. Philippines
18. Palestine
19. Qatar
20. Singapore
21. Thailand
22. Turkmenistan
23. Taipei
24. Uzbekistan
25. Vietnam

Europe (Total 35):

1. Albania
2. Armenia
3. Austria
4. Azerbaijan
5. Bulgaria
6. Croatia
7. Czech Republic
8. Denmark
9. Estonia
10. Finland
11. France
12. Great Britain
13. Georgia
14. Germany
15. Greece
16. Hungary
17. Israel
18. Italy
19. Kosovo
20. Lithuania
21. Moldova
22. Netherlands
23. Norway
24. Poland
25. Portugal
26. Romania
27. Russia
28. San Marino
29. Slovenia
30. Serbia
31. Spain
32. Switzerland
33. Sweden
34. Turkey
35. Ukraine

Oceania (Total 0):

TOTAL: 122 (106 NFs + 16 Bureau Members)

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



Agenda

1. Welcome words and opening of the Congress
2. Adoption of the *Congress Procedure Rules*
3. Appointment of the Congress working bodies
4. Approval of the minutes of the UWW Ordinary Congress in Belgrade on 31 October 2021
5. Report by the controllers of powers
6. President's report on the UWW activities during the period between the two Congresses in Belgrade
7. Financial report by the statutory auditors OFISA - Adoption of the 2021 financial reports
8. Projected budget 2023-2024
9. Report on Refereeing
10. Update on Strategy for Wrestling & UWW for 2022-2026
11. Report by the UWW Associated Styles Committee
12. Questions by the National Federations
13. Applications for affiliation to UWW
14. Elections of the Bureau Members
15. Miscellaneous & Closing of the Congress



1. Welcome words and opening of the Congress

The UWW President, Mr Lalovic welcomed all delegates and gave the floor to Mr Bozidar Maljkovic, President of the Olympic Committee of Serbia for the first address and welcome words to the Congress delegates.

The floor was then given to Mr Zeljko Trajkovic, President of the Wrestling Federation of Serbia, who also welcomed the delegates and all the athletes in Belgrade for the Congress and the Senior World Championship.

Mr Mustafa Berraf, IOC Member and ANOCA President, also addressed some words to the Congress and thanked Mr Lalovic and the organizer for inviting him. He congratulated the President and the National Federations for the tremendous development of Wrestling in all continents. On his behalf and on behalf of the African Olympic Committee, he presented a symbolic trophy to express the gratitude to Mr Lalovic.

Finally, the IOC President Mr Thomas Bach addressed the Congress by video. Mr Bach reminded the unifying power of sport to promote peace and solidarity, the Tokyo 2020 Games being the best illustration of this. He thanked the UWW family for their contribution to this success. Mr Bach mentioned the strategy towards modernization, youth engagement, gender equality and digital transformation, which contribute to the development of the organisation and of the sport, as well as the sharing of Olympic values throughout the world in peaceful competitions.

Mr Bach reminded that our mission is not political, but humanitarian. In this regard, he said that the breach of the Olympic truce was a blatant violation of this humanitarian mission, letting the Olympic Movement with no other choice than to take sanctions and protective measures. These measures were not yet to be lifted, but he reassured that the Olympic Movement would be ready when the circumstances allow. He also reminded the role of sport to unite different cultures, contrary to the divisions provoked by wars. Mr Bach called all governments to support this unifying mission and to respect the autonomy of the Olympic Movement. He also called of members of the United World Wrestling to work together for a more peaceful world through sport. He finally wished a successful congress and fruitful discussions.

Mr Lalovic declared the Congress open.

He called for a minute of silence for the colleagues who passed away this year, in memory of Mr Lucio Caneva and Mr François Carrard.

2. Adoption of the *Congress Procedure Regulations*

Mr Roy informed that, as it is usually the case at beginning of the Congress, the *Congress Procedure Rules* shall be adopted. Not any amendment was made since the last congress.

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 Carlos Roy, Secretary General

Proof-readers of the minutes: Mr Don Ryan, Bureau Member

Election Commission: Mr Pedro Silva (Chairman), Bureau Member

Mr Zamel S. Al Shahrani (Member), Bureau Member

Mr Modoux (Operator)



4. Approval of the minutes of the UWW Ordinary Congress in Belgrade 31 October 2021

The minutes of the Belgrade Congress were adopted 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	27
Americas	19
Asia	25
Europe	35
Oceania	0
Bureau Members	16
<u>TOTAL:</u>	<u>122</u>

6. President's report on the UWW activities during the period between the two Congresses in Belgrade

Mr Lalovic referred to what the IOC President said in his speech about the situation created by the war against Ukraine. He emphasized what was said about the lifting of the protective measures as soon as the conditions are in place for doing so. The athletes are promoting other noble values and they should not be punished for holding a nationality.

He repeated that the UWW family must remain united in this situation. This similar situation happened in the past, and will happen again.

He went on by saying that athletes who experienced such situation in 1980 and 1984 never had the feeling a fully accomplished victory when the best opponents were not competing.

Mr Lalovic presented the activities of the federation and his activities over the last year. These included meetings of the UWW Bureau, IOC EB meetings, IOC Session, ASOIF General Assembly and also his participation in several championships.

He mentioned the appointment of the Commissions' Members, as well as the work of the Refereeing Commission and the Technical Commission.

With regards to the different departments' activities, the President reminded that the reports had been published on the website ahead of the Congress, therefore he would not go through each of them in details.

However he wanted to remind to all federations the importance of developing Beach Wrestling in their structures, since the goal is to have this discipline in the Olympic program in 2028 (this without affecting the three other disciplines).

He also mentioned the programs for development, the digitalization of training, the marketing and IT departments' work towards digitalization (UWW App, Video Hub, etc) as well as the successes in the social media.

The President went on informing of the re-organization of the staff in the headquarters, the continuation of the part-time home office regime inherited by the pandemic times. He also mentioned the cancellation of the project to invest in new headquarters due to pandemic.

He also thanked all Presidents of the Continental Councils for their work and their active collaboration with all UWW departments.



No comment was made by the Congress.

The report of activities was adopted.

7. Financial report by the statutory auditors OFISA - Adoption of the 2021 financial report

Mr Roy reminded that the financial report was made available on the website ahead of the congress.

Mr Lalovic commented that the finance were healthy. Luckily for the IFs, the Tokyo Games took place despite the adverse conditions and thanks to the huge efforts of the Japanese organizer. The income of the Games is very important for many IFs. He noted that the UWW incomes must be managed in a way that we can survive if an edition of the Games does not take place.

On another note, linked to the governance of the Federation, Mr Lalovic said that UWW lost some points due to the low number of women on the board. He therefore told the Congress that some constitutional changes might be proposed in the future to address this issue.

Given the Reports of the Statutory Auditor of 22 June 2022, the financial report for 2021 was adopted by the Congress.

8. Projected budget 2023-2024

The President mentioned that the budget is for information and not for adoption by the Congress, according to the UWW Constitution.

In 2023, we expect an annual income similar to previous non-Olympic years, so around 7 million francs, when in 2024, with the Paris Olympics in sight, we are budgeting income a little above 20 million.

As for expenses, in 2023, they will also remain within the average of previous years, around 10.5 million. In 2024, we expect expenses of 13 million. The expenses related to the Olympic Games will be significantly higher than those generated in Tokyo in the midst of a pandemic. In particular, the Wrestling house will make its return. The President noted that this house is important to celebrate the champions, in particular those who do not have a NOC house during the Games.

In 2023, the budgeted loss should be around 3.6 million, when in 2024 the budgeted profit should be around 7.3 million.

No comments or remarks were raised.

9. Report on Refereeing

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

Mr. Silvestri reported about the activities of the commission since the last Senior World Championship in Oslo. He mentioned the renewal of the commission, which include a better balance of experienced and young members. He insisted on the importance of training the younger generation of referees, the training material and methods, as well as the inclusion of other styles such as Beach Wrestling (possibly in the LA2028 program) and Grappling.

He mentioned the new projects: women's refereeing, Mat-chairperson programs and increase of the Referees/Coaches and Referees/Doctors' dialogue.

Mr Silvestri insisted on the importance of encouraging National Federations to put all their referees (young, women's) forward for training and upskilling.



About Mat-Chairpersons, Mr Silvestri stressed the importance of developing top mat-chairpersons with sufficient knowledge and skills to be selected for all major championships.

He also mentioned the importance of applying the rules and the right wrestling position in Greco-Roman wrestling to ensure active, offensive and ultimately attractive wrestling.

The question of the conditions of work for the referees was also commented, where the long days and tiredness could lead to poor performance. Some ideas should be examined in that sense.

Mr Silvestri also mentioned some difficulties to adapt to new technologies (pad for the mat-chairman), but that a solution with an assistant was found.

Finally, Mr Silvestri talked about the upcoming activities: FISU project to introduce refereeing among Wrestlers studying at the university; preparation of the referees for Paris 2024 and preparation of the qualification process.

He concluded that the results of the hard work during these last years was successful, but the work should continue for the next challenges.

Mr Lalovic thanked Mr Silvestri for his report. He said the Refereeing is based on responsibility and righteousness, and the better dialogue between referees and coaches/athletes was key. He said that the refereeing had improved enormously over the last ten years, but the job is never finished.

Mr Lalovic also mentioned that the Wrestling Rulebook should be re-drafted (and not changed) to be clearer and more precise.

No questions or comments were raised. The report was approved.

10. Update on Strategy for Wrestling & UWW for 2022-2026

An update concerning the UWW 2022-2026 Strategy launched during the 2021 Congress was provided by Mr Roy.

Updates were provided on three focus areas - *Youth Engagement*, *Women's Wrestling and Digital Transformation* - and three National Federations were invited to present their projects in line with these areas: Mr Finizzio (NF of Italy) presented their project named "Grassroot & School Development Program" with the objective of introducing children to the world of wrestling; Mr Andreas Wieser (NF of Switzerland) presented their project "Swiss Wrestling Women to the Top" focusing on bringing different groups of women (athletes, coaches, referees) on a higher level, while increasing the promotion of wrestling to the general public; Mr Dokmanac (NF of Serbia) presented how they implemented the systematic use of UWW's digital tools to enhance the management and promotion of their national competitions.

Updates were also provided on the areas of Image and *Associated Styles*, and the Congress was also informed about the planning of specific projects in 2023 in these two areas.

No questions or comments were raised. The update report was approved.

11. Report by the UWW Associated Styles Committee

An update on the activities of the Associated Styles was provided by Mr Onur Simsek.

Mr Simsek gave an update on the styles being in active development (Belt Wrestling, Pankration, African Wrestling, Classic Women Wrestling, Pahlawani). He described those styles that benefit from an active engagement, both nationally and regionally.



Mr Simsek also gave an update on the federation developing the associated styles (affiliated and associated members): 110 federations in 85 countries.

He also mentioned the number of events held over the period 2018-2022, where the total participation amounted to 5712 participants (66% male, 34% female) within 67 days of competition.

Mr Simsek asked all national federations to get in touch with him should further feedback or advice be needed.

No questions or comments were raised. The update report was approved.

12. Questions by the National Federations

Mr Lalovic informed that no written questions were received in advance to be debated at the congress, therefore there should not be discussions for the agenda item, however he opened the floor for any important questions.

The delegate from Serbia asked for the floor and mentioned that Wrestling should remain focused on sports, and not in politics. He talked about the sanctions imposed on the federations of Russia and Belarus but wanted to remind their great contribution to our sport. He said that what is happening in Ukraine is terrible, but one should not disregard the sufferings of other people in the world. As athletes, he said to we always look towards fair play, justice and peace, not matter the differences between the people. He also said that, as an organization we should not be the ones that impose sanctions. He finally mentioned the war between Serbians and Croats in the past, but noted that these two people managed to overcome their conflict.

Mr Lalovic asked the delegate whether there was any question in his intervention. The delegate responded that no question was meant in his intervention.

The delegate from Nepal was also given the floor. He thanked the President and UWW for their efforts for the development of the sport. He mentioned the financial difficulties faced by his federation for the participation in UWW events.

13. New affiliations

There were no completed applications to submit to the Congress for approval.

14. Election of the Bureau Members

The floor was given to Mr Pedro Silva, Chairman of the Elections Commission.

Before proceeding to the elections, Mr Silva asked whether all delegates with voting rights received their tablet. He then explained in details the voting and the election rules (number of tours, absolute and simple majority), including all the possible scenarios depending on the distribution of the votes among the candidates (gender, seniority).

A tablets user's video was shown and a test with colours was carried out.

Mr Silva read the names of the candidates and informed the Congress that one candidate, Ms Zhang Xia, had withdrawn her candidacy a few days before.

He then asked whether at this point, any candidates wished to withdraw their candidacy. Not any candidacy was withdrawn.

The Congress proceeded to the elections.



The results of the 1st round were the following and read by Mr Silva:

UNITED WORLD WRESTLING		
Session 2022 BELGRADE (SRB)		
09.09.2022 / 12:49:50		
Results: Elections of the Bureau Members Vote for : 7 Minimum: 1		
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Box given / Boitiers distribués :	122	
Participants :	122	
Majority / Majorité :	61	
Mr IGALI, Daniel	83	Elected
Mr HAMAKOS, Theodoros	82	Elected
Mr DITTMANN, Karl-Martin	81	Elected
Mr PIRCALABU, Razvan	79	Elected
Mrs YAKSI, Rodica	79	Elected
Mr ALIYEV, Namig	73	Elected
Mrs ZHANG, Ye	62	Elected
Mr ASYLBEK UULU, Damirbek	57	
Mrs TANIOKA, Kuniko	31	
Mrs PELJEE, Buyandeleger	28	
Mr ALIREZA, Dabir	25	
Mr LACAZE, Lionel	21	
Mrs KURE, Anette	17	
Mr KOPYTKO, Yuriy	11	
Mr SINGH, Brijbhushan S.	9	
Mr BOSSE, Marthinus J. H.	5	

As one open seat was in replacement of the late Lucio Caneva, whose term end in 2026, the candidate with the least votes in this first round - Ms Zhang Ye - was allocated this seat. Her term will end in 2026.

The term of the other 6 elected will last until 2028.

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.

15. Miscellaneous & closing of the Congress

As the next ordinary Congress is planned in 2024 (whether during the Games or after), Mr Lalovic proposed that a presentation on Paris 2024 be made to update the Congress about the preparations of the Games. He gave the floor to Mr Rey, UWW Sports Director.



UNITED WORLD WRESTLING

Mr Rey informed about the competition schedule (morning and evening session, particularities with 1st and last day). He finally updated the congress about the qualifying system and the qualifiers. He enjoined the national federations to bid for the organization of a qualifier, and reminded them about the obligation to participate in the continental championships to participate in the continental qualifiers.

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

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The Congress was adjourned at 13h15. Minutes submitted by Mr Roy.



Nenad Lalovic
President



Carlos Roy
Secretary General

Corsier-sur-Vevey, 4th October 2022 / cr