



DRAFT MINUTES

ITF LIMITED
(trading as the International Tennis Federation)

ITF CONFERENCE & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024

HONG KONG, CHINA

10 & 11 OCTOBER 2024

CONTENTS

	Pages
ATTENDANCE LIST	3-9
ITF CONFERENCE – 10 OCTOBER 2024	
Opening Remarks	10
2024 Strategy Update	11
Digital	12
Development	13
Tours & Player Pathway	15
Major Events	17
Governance	20
ITF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 11 OCTOBER 2024	
Opening Address	25
AGM Agenda	26
Finance	27
Appointment of Auditors	31
Membership	31
Governance	33
Awards for Services to the Game	35
Departmental Reports	36
ITF Advantage All Awards	36
Future Annual General Meetings	36
Meeting Closure	37

ATTENDANCE LIST FOR THE ITF AGM ON 11 OCTOBER 2024

ITF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Haggerty	ITF President
Brian Hainline	ITF Vice President
Salma Mouelhi Guizani	ITF Vice President
Rafael Westrupp	ITF Vice President
Carlos Bravo	ITF Board of Director
Roger Davids	ITF Board of Director
Jack Graham	ITF Board of Director
Asa Hedin	ITF Board of Director
Nao Kawatei	ITF Board of Director
Philip Kwan Yat Mok	ITF Board of Director
Lionel Ollinger	ITF Board of Director
Mary Pierce	ITF Board of Director
David Rawlinson	ITF Board of Director
Jordi Tamayo De Winne	ITF Board of Director
Bulat Utemuratov	ITF Board of Director
Dietloff von Arnim	ITF Board of Director
Mark Woodforde	ITF Board of Director

REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

ATF - Asian Tennis Federation

Manpreet Kandhari, Executive Director

Yuriy Polskiy, President

CAT - Confederation of African Tennis

Hichem Riani, General Secretary

COSAT - Confederación Sudamericana de Tenis

David Samudio, Board Member

COTECC - Confederación de Tenis de Centroamerica y El Caribe

Persio Maldonado, President

OTF - Oceania Tennis Federation

Cyrille Mainguy, President

David Smith, Executive Officer (Joint)

TE - Tennis Europe

Jonathan Jobson, Head of Communications

Henrik Thorsøe Pedersen, President

CLASS B MEMBER NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS (with voting rights) represented by:

ALB - Albanian Tennis Federation

Klaus Bardeli, General Secretary

ALG - Fédération Algérienne de Tennis

Nabil Cheriak, Chairman

ANG - Federação Angolana de Tenis

Platini Mendes, President & CEO

ARU - Tennis Aruba

Franz Sydow, President

AUS - Tennis Australia

Jacquie Quinn, Executive

Vicki Reid, International Relations Director

AUT - Österreichischer Tennisverband

Thomas Schweda, Chief Executive Officer

AZE - Azerbaijan Tennis Federation

Sabira Abdullayeva, Executive Director

BAH - The Bahamas Lawn Tennis Association
Perry Newton, President

BAN - Bangladesh Tennis Federation
Abu Syed Mohammad Haider, General Secretary

BAR - Barbados Tennis Association Inc.
Raymond Forde, President

BDI - Fédération de Tennis du Burundi
Evariste Bankimbaga, General Secretary
Gilbert Nibigirwe, Chairman

BEL - Fédération Royale Belge de Tennis
Samuel Deflandre, General Secretary

BEN - Fédération Beninoise de Lawn Tennis
Agossou Bernardin, Codjo, General Secretary

BHU - Bhutan Tennis Federation
Palden Jigme Dorji, President

BOT - Botswana Tennis Association
Atang Mole Mokgware, First Vice President
Gosekwang Oaitse Thipe, Chairman

BRA - Confederação Brasileira de Tenis
Aristides Barcellos, Board Member
Gilson de Franca dos Santos, Committee Member

BRN - Bahrain Tennis Federation
Fuad AlRowaieji, General Secretary

BRU - Brunei Darussalam Tennis Association
Pg Hj Mohd Sufferizal Pg Hj Murzuki, Deputy President
Yusree Yusainey, General Secretary

BUL - Bulgarian Tennis Federation
Georgi Krumov, Board Member

CAN - Tennis Canada
Jennifer Bishop, Past Chair
Peter Kruyt, President

CGO - Fédération Congolaise de Lawn Tennis
Germain Ickonga Akindou, Chairman

CHI - Federación de Tenis de Chile
Sergio Elias, Chairman

CHN - Chinese Tennis Association
Xilin BAI, General Secretary
Wenbing SUN, Deputy General Secretary

CIV - Fédération Ivoirienne de Tennis
Hianot Marcel Kouadio, First Vice President

COD - Fédération Congolaise Démocratique de Lawn Tennis
Georges Koshi, Chairman

COL - Federación Colombiana de Tenis
Pablo Robledo, President

CRO - Croatian Tennis Association
Vladimir Jovanoski, Executive Director
Franc Regina, First Vice President

CYP - Cyprus Tennis Federation
Demetrios Leontis, President

CZE - Czech Tennis Association
Katerina Kramperova, International Secretary

DEN - Dansk Tennis Forbund
Emil Bødker, Executive Director
Christian Lunøe, President

DJI - Fédération Djiboutienne de Tennis
Sougueh Ibrahim Sougueh, Chairman

DOM - Federación Dominicana de Tenis
Alexis Alcantara, Treasurer
Ruben Tejeda, General Secretary

ESA - Federación Salvadoreña de Tenis
Nicolas Noyola Cabezas, Deputy President

EST - Estonian Tennis Association
Allar Hint, General Secretary
Enn Pant, President

ETH - Ethiopian Tennis Federation
Tamrat Bekele, President

FIN - Suomen Tennisliitto
Esa Kiiskinen, President
Teemu Purho, Chief Executive Officer

FRA - Fédération Française de Tennis
Nathalie Dechy, International Relations Manager
Emma Henniquau, International Relations Manager

GBR - The Lawn Tennis Association
Roy Colabawalla, Deputy President
Sandi Procter, President

GER - Deutscher Tennis Bund EV
Jan Hanelt, Senior Vice President

GHA - Ghana Tennis Association
Isaac Aboagye Duah, President

GUA - Federación Nacional de Tenis de Guatemala
Tulio Héctor
Dávila Villatoro, President

GUM - Guam National Tennis Federation
Tara Perez-Steffy, First Vice President
Torgun Smith, President

HKG - Hong Kong, China Tennis Association Ltd
Michael Ming Git Cheng, President
Pak Nin Christopher LAI, Chief Executive Officer

HON - Federación Hondureña de Tenis
Ivanhoe Cálix, President

HUN - Magyar Tenisz Szovetseg
Csilla Suto, General Secretary

INA - Indonesian Tennis Association
Andi Fajar Asti, General Secretary
Nurdin Halid, President

IND - All India Tennis Association
Sunder Iyer, Assistant General Secretary

IRI - Tennis Federation of Islamic Republic of Iran
Davood Azizi, President
Amir Homayoun Sadri, Head - Technical Committee

IRL - Tennis Ireland
Letty Lucas, President
Kevin Quinn, Chief Executive Officer

ISL - Icelandic Tennis Association
Magnus Ragnarsson, President & CEO

ISR - Israel Tennis Association
Avi Perets, President

ITA - Federazione Italiana Tennis
Giorgio Di Palermo, Manager
Raimondo Ricci Bitti, Board Member

JOR - Jordan Tennis Federation
Khaled Naffa, President
Diana Rasekh, Director

JPN - Japan Tennis Association
Toshihisa Tsuchihashi, Executive Director
Misako Yoshii, International Relations Director

KAZ - Kazakhstan Tennis Federation
Linera Yessimbayeva, Translator

KEN - Tennis Kenya

Wanjiru Karani, General Secretary

James Kenani, President

KGZ - Kyrgyzstan Tennis Federation

Elnura Dzhumakhmatova, General Secretary

Nurdin Medetov, President

KOR - Korea Tennis Association

Cheon Jin Choi, General Secretary

Chahoon Im, International Relations Manager

KOS - Kosovo Tennis Federation

Jeton Hadergjonaj, President

KSA - Saudi Arabian Tennis Federation

Arij AlMutabagani, President

Hesham Bakhsh, Chief Executive Officer

KUW - Kuwait Tennis Federation

Abdulredha Al Ghareeb, President

Faleh Alotaibi, General Secretary

LAO - Lao Tennis Federation

Daovone Phachanthavong, Chairman

LAT - Latvian Tennis Union

Irina Kuzmina-Rimsa, Development Director

LTU - Lithuanian Tennis Association

Ramūnas Grušas, President

Virginija Paliukaite, General Secretary

LUX - Fédération Luxembourgeoise de Tennis

Claude Lamberty, President

Markus Stegmann, Treasurer

MAC - Macau Tennis Association

Louise Ioc Leng, Ung, President

MAR - Fédération Royale Marocaine de Tennis

Abdelaziz Laarraf, First Vice President

MAS - Lawn Tennis Association of Malaysia

Patrick Chin Joon Liew, First Vice President

Mirzan Mahathir, President

MDA - Moldova Republic Tennis Federation

Ceslav Ciuhrii, President

Catalin Giosan, Board Member

MDV - Tennis Association of the Maldives

Yusuf Riza, General Secretary

MEX - Federación Mexicana de Tenis

Carlos Ricardo González López de Lara, President

Norberto Mantifan, International Relations Director

MGL - Mongolian Tennis Association

Altangerel Batjargal, Board Member

MLT - Malta Tennis Federation

Simon Fiorini Lowell, Deputy President

Marc Gingell Littlejohn, President

MNE - Montenegrin Tennis Association

Miloš Karadžić, Director

MON - Fédération Monegasque de Lawn Tennis

Melanie-Antoinette De Massy, President

Thomas Drocourt, Executive Assistant

MOZ - Confederação Mocambicana de Tenis

Jonas Alberto Junior, President

MTN - Fédération Mauritanienne de Tennis

Lemine Lemrabott, President

MYA - Tennis Federation of Myanmar

Myo Thu Ra, Chairman

NAM - Namibia Tennis Association

Samson Kaulinge, President

NED - Koninklijke Nederlandse
Erik Poel, General Secretary

NOR - Norges Tennisforbund
Lars Gjerdaker, President
Aslak J. Paulsen, General Secretary

NZL - Tennis New Zealand
Julie Paterson, Chief Executive Officer
Terri Ann Scorer, President

OMA - Oman Tennis Association
Mutassim AlZadjali, Chairman

PAK - Pakistan Tennis Federation
Salim Saifullah Khan, Past President
Aisam ul Haq Qureshi, President

PER - Federación Deportiva Peruana de Tenis
Mario Monroy, President

PHI - Philippine Tennis Association
Marie Antoinette Mendoza, Executive Director
John Reynald Tiangco, General Secretary

POL - Polski Związek Tenisowy
Dariusz Saletra, International Relations Director
Daria Sulgostowska, Board Member

POR - Federação Portuguesa de Tenis
Vasco Costa, President
João Santos, Senior Vice President

PUR - Asociación de Tenis de Puerto Rico
William Micheo, President

QAT - Qatar Tennis Federation
Saad Almohannadi, Executive Director
Tareq Zainal, General Secretary

ROU - Federatia Romana de Tennis
George Cosac, President
Gabriel Moraru General Secretary

RSA - Tennis South Africa
Gavin Crookes, President & CEO

SEN - Fédération Senegalaise de Tennis
Layti Ndiaye, First Vice President

SEY - Seychelles Tennis Association
Fatime Kante, President

SGP - Singapore Tennis Association,
Mui Soon Gilbert, Executive Director
Wilson Tay, General Manager

SLO - Slovene Tennis Association
Gregor Krušič, Chief Executive Officer

SRI - Sri Lanka Tennis Association
Iqbal Bin Issack, President
Suresh Subramaniam, Deputy President

SUD - Sudan Lawn Tennis Association
Mohamed Islam Elsanhoury, Chief Executive Officer

SUI - Swiss Tennis
Rene Stammbach, President
Ruth Wipfli Steinegger, Deputy President

SWE - The Swedish Tennis Association
Christer Sjö, General Secretary

SYR - Syrian Arab Tennis Federation
Safa Sarakbi, President

TAN - Tanzania Tennis Association
Francis Thomas, President

THA - Lawn Tennis Association of Thailand
Nannapat Nantasuk, Public Relations Officer

TKM - Turkmenistan Tennis Association

Eziz Dovletov, President

TOG - Fédération Togolaise de Tennis

Mawuli Clément Ahiale, Chairman

Messan Ayeboua, Advisor to President

TPE - Chinese Taipei Tennis Association

Ching Hsin KUO, Deputy General Secretary

Tsai-Ni Wu International Affairs

TTO - TennisTT

Hayden Mitchell, President

TUR - Türkiye Tenis Federasyonu

Cem Tınaz, Board Member

UAE - Tennis Emirates

Naser Al Marzooqi, General Secretary

UGA – Uganda Tennis Association

Matthias Nalyanya, President

UKR - Ukrainian Tennis Federation

Evgeniy Zudin, Chief Executive Officer

USA - United States Tennis Association

Maggie Chan Jones, Director

YEM - Yemen Tennis Federation

Mohamed Alsurmi, President

Sarem Mohammed, Assistant President

ZIM - Tennis Zimbabwe

Walter Jera, President

CLASS C MEMBER NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS (without voting rights) represented by:

CKI - Tennis Cook Islands

Davina Hosking-Ashford, President

CUW - Tennis Federation Curacao

Nirmala Kappel, President

ERI - Eritrean Tennis Federation

Yohannes Tesfay, President

FIJ - Tennis Fiji

John Breen

Romil Patel, President

GEQ - Federación Ecuatoguineana de Tenis

Cesar Ikaka Etame

GUY - Guyana Lawn Tennis Association

Cristy Campbell, President

NRU - Nauru Tennis Association

John Tannang, General Secretary

PNG - Papua New Guinea Lawn Tennis Association

Barbara Stubbings, President

SKN - St Kitts Lawn Tennis Association

Watkins Chiverton, President

SOM – The Somali Tennis Association

Saad Gedi, President

SUR - Surinaamse Tennisbond

Mike Mac Intosch, President

VAN - Fédération de Tennis de Vanuatu

Laurence Mainguy

SPECIAL GUESTS

Parliamentarian

Richard Bush, Legal Counsel

Billie Jean King Cup Limited

Kris Dent, Chief Operating Officer

Kerstin Lutz, Chief Executive Officer

Bird & Bird

Hannah McLean, Legal Counsel

ITF FOUNDATION MEMBERS

APT Asia Pacific Pty Ltd,

Neil Wallace McIntosh, Senior Account Manager

California Sports Surfaces

Caroline Field, Director

Mapei Far East

Sorada Jlingjid, Business Development Manager

ITF STAFF

Dominic Anghileri, Senior Executive Director – Finance & Administration

Louis Aubry, AGM Organising Team

Louise Booth, Executive Director - Digital

Amir Borghei, Development Officer

Heather Bowler, Senior Executive Director - Communications

Joanne Burnham, Communications Manager

Mairi Davies, AGM Organising Team

Kelly Fairweather, Chief Executive Officer

Vicki Fecci, AGM Organising Team

Jane Fraser, Executive Assistant to the President

Dario Giovannelli, Executive Director - Legal

Tim Jones, Participation Manager

James McGurran, International Relations Manager

Stuart Miller, Senior Executive Director - Integrity & Legal

Ella Monsey, AGM Organising Team

Andrew Moss, Executive Director – ITF World Tennis Tour & Data Rights

Luca Santilli, Executive Director – Tennis Development

Jonathan Stubbs, Development Officer

ITF CONFERENCE – 10 OCTOBER 2024

OPENING REMARKS

The President opened the 2024 ITF Conference and welcomed the Nations to Hong Kong.

The President thanked President Michael Cheng, former President Philip Mok and the Hong Kong, China Tennis Association for hosting the 2024 ITF Conference and AGM.

The President expressed his excitement at being back in Asia for the ITF AGM and commented on the milestone for Asia in successfully hosting the Davis Cup Finals Group Stage in Zhuhai in September.

The President explained that the ITF 2024+4 Strategy is the ITF's guiding light and introduced the theme of this year's ITF Conference and AGM as "Connecting World Tennis".

The President reiterated the ITF's mission "to deliver tennis for future generations" and that the ITF, in collaboration with the Nations, provides pathways in the sport.

The President highlighted that an essential element of the efforts over the past eight years was ensuring input from the Nations. The ITF, its Member Nations and Regional Associations play a critical and unique role in providing the pathway for the next generation of stars to reach the top of the game. The President commented on Mr Carlos Alcaraz's story and background by way of example to highlight the importance of support at a national level from the Member Nations at the beginning of the player pathway.

The President highlighted the role of the ITF and Member Nations in providing benefits for every individual playing tennis either competitively or recreationally, coaching or officiating.

The President congratulated the Member Nations for staging a record number of events in every category and in more countries in 2023 and 2024. The President highlighted multiple records set in providing opportunities and pathways across various of the ITF tours, including the World Tennis Tour, World Tennis Tour Juniors, Wheelchair Tennis Tour, Beach Tennis World Tour and World Tennis Masters Tour.

The President commented on the Billie Jean King Cup by Gainbridge and the Davis Cup. The President revealed increases in audience numbers in stadiums, via broadcast and online for the 2023 editions of both the Billie Jean King Cup and the Davis Cup.

The President commented on the Davis Cup Finals Group Stage events in September which showcased some dramatic and exciting ties and the President looked forward to the Billie Jean King Cup Finals and Davis Cup Finals taking place in Malaga in November. The President revealed that more Nations were involved across these competitions in 2024 than ever before.

The President stated that the ITF is currently working with twenty-four commercial partners who provide invaluable support across a range of ITF properties. The President referenced Gainbridge who has continued its support for the Billie Jean King Cup as title sponsor and acknowledged Infront as the ITF's incoming global data and streaming partner from January 2025 on a four-year agreement.

The President explained that the ITF Junior Tennis Initiative is a vital tool in encouraging juniors to play tennis and, for the most talented, as a stepping stone on the player pathway.

The President commented on World Tennis Number as a key project in boosting participation and a vital digital platform for growing the tennis community. Two million players from 60 National Associations and Regional Associations utilise World Tennis Number.

The President stated that coach education is another strength of the Nations, regions and the ITF and that the ITF Academy has been a game-changer in this area and continues to grow.

The President commented on the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games in Paris this summer and the successful staging at Roland-Garros. The President expressed his thanks to Mr Gilles Moretton and the Fédération Française de Tennis team for their collaboration in making Paris 2024 an amazing success. The President highlighted the importance of the Games in bringing vital revenue for reinvestment and providing the biggest global platform for the sport. The President explained that when tennis returned to the Games in 1988, the ITF had 104 Member Nations; now the ITF has 213 Member Nations.

The President emphasised the growing global footprint of tennis. The President commented on several firsts for nations in the sport over the last 12 months, including Joao Fonseca as the first Brazilian boy to be named ITF World Champion, Gloriana Nahum as the first Beninese female to win a Grand Slam match and Edilson Rosa as the first player from Mozambique to win a World Tennis Tour Juniors singles title in more than 30 years.

The President explained that the 2024 ITF Global Tennis Report shows there are more people playing tennis across the world than ever before – 106 million players, which is a 26% increase on 2019. The President warned of the risk of complacency and encouraged continued engagement with audiences in new and improved ways to future-proof tennis for future generations.

The President returned to the theme of this year's Conference and AGM, "Connecting World Tennis", and reiterated the importance of collaboration in strengthening the core tennis nucleus. The purpose of the ITF is getting more people to play tennis more often. The Global Tennis Report data shows this is being achieved and the President is confident that efforts will continue to grow the global tennis community. The President emphasised the importance of digital technology as the great enabler in the future success of the ITF and in connecting world tennis. The President encouraged everyone to get on board with the digital revolution and confirmed that the ITF is here to help the Nations with this.

The President played a video to showcase the ITF's digital highlights.

The President handed over to Mr Kelly Fairweather.

2024 STRATEGY UPDATE

Strategic Initiatives – Mr Kelly Fairweather – CEO

Mr Fairweather thanked those who prepared for and presented at yesterday's ITF World Participation Conference.

Mr Fairweather commented that the Olympic and Paralympic Games reinforce the idea that tennis is one of just a handful of truly global sports and that it is the third most popular sport in the world. Mr Fairweather emphasised that all attendees should feel proud of their contributions towards that.

Mr Fairweather reiterated that the ITF's clear purpose is to encourage and keep people enjoying and playing the sport so that the organisation can deliver tennis for future

generations. Mr Fairweather stressed that the ITF and its Member Nations are the foundation of the sport.

Mr Fairweather commented that the same key eight priorities which were introduced in the ITF 2024 roadmap in 2016 will be used for the next four years (investment, development, Davis Cup and Billie Jean King Cup, Olympics and Paralympics, opportunity, partnerships, integrity and communication).

Mr Fairweather revealed that the ITF Board identified four areas of focus which are critical to success: Tours & Player Pathway, Major Events, Development and Data & Digital. Mr Fairweather commented that Major Events and Tours & Player Pathway are vital to the ITF and its Nations to promote the game, fund the game and grow the game which is supported by Development and Data & Digital.

Mr Fairweather introduced the upcoming presentations for the remainder of the Conference.

Mr Fairweather introduced the ITF's digital vision as a bold and ambitious vision which is vital in an era of unprecedented technological change. Mr Fairweather highlighted that digital represents a huge opportunity for the ITF and its Member Nations to promote, fund and grow the sport.

Mr Fairweather handed over to Ms Louise Booth.

DIGITAL

Ms Louise Booth - Executive Director, Digital

Ms Booth introduced the presentation and the overarching goal for every Nation to have a direct connection with every tennis player in the world. Ms Booth stressed that this is a necessity for the long-term sustainability of the sport.

Ms Booth acknowledged that the ITF and its Member Nations are a diverse community of nations with differing digital capabilities. However, every Nation wishes to grow the game and secure tennis for future generations. Ms Booth commented on how the game is grown now is very different to how it was grown in the past. Ms Booth stressed that, for sports marketing, digital will change the game beyond recognition and become a catalyst for growth for each Member Nation.

Ms Booth revealed that the ITF's digital vision is to create the biggest, most thriving and passionate online tennis community in the world. Ms Booth commented that this is possible from the data which is gathered from player interactions being used to better cater for tennis players' needs. Ms Booth highlighted that, by focusing on understanding our community, the ITF and Member Nations can meet the expectations of the modern consumer who increasingly expect personalisation. Ms Booth highlighted that the online community will be an important loop for growth: the more people reached, engaged with and recruited into this community, the more people an emotional relationship can be formed with, the more they will spend on the sport, and the more can be re-invested to grow the game.

Ms Booth introduced two clear objectives to distinguish between tennis players and tennis fans. For tennis players, the objective is to grow and sustain participation through great digital experiences. For tennis fans, the objective is to grow the fan community by getting more people into the World Cup of Tennis by bringing them closer to the action.

Ms Booth commented on the ongoing work in the Digital Team around improving the digital ecosystem around the Davis Cup and Billie Jean King Cup however stated that the focus of the presentation is how digital can help to grow participation.

Ms Booth highlighted that building relationships with the large amount of casual or recreational players has not always been easy. Ms Booth revealed that from the 106 million people who play tennis worldwide, only 7% have a direct relationship with their National Association. Ms Booth commented that players are providing several commercial providers with their personal information when booking courts or joining leagues rather than their National Association. Ms Booth commented that this important personal data needs to be retained by the National Associations and the ITF to keep money in the game and serve recreational players. Data is the currency of the future and a strategy to acquire data to the National Associations is very important to diversify revenue streams.

Ms Booth commented that the ITF and its Member Nations must play to their strengths, for example, the World Tennis Number, the Academy, the tournament structure and IPIN. Ms Booth stated that one of the biggest strengths is the network of Nations and Regional Associations however, perhaps the biggest strength is that all money generated gets reinvested back into the sport.

Ms Booth introduced a vision for a Super - app solution for National Associations to connect directly with recreational players and improve the user experience for their players, serving all their tennis needs through one platform. Ms Booth introduced a video regarding this concept and spoke to its benefits.

Ms Booth reiterated the benefits of working together to succeed, for example pooling resources together driving economies of scale. Ms Booth introduced the rollout plan and development of the concept.

Ms Booth handed over to Mr Luca Santilli.

DEVELOPMENT

Development Programme – Mr Luca Santilli – Executive Director, Tennis Development

Mr Santilli opened by reiterating the importance of the new digital strategy to promote and grow tennis and generate new revenue and opportunities. Mr Santilli stated that all Nations and the ITF are in this together. Mr Santilli commented how digital is part of our lives already and provides an opportunity to create the largest tennis community in the world.

Mr Santilli described how his professional life and the tennis world has been transformed by digital technology. Mr Santilli stated that the ITF has many digital products and platforms for Member Nations and offers its support through grants, workshops and webinars.

Mr Santilli recognised the ITF Academy as one of the most important and comprehensive digital products from the ITF, providing a digital educational platform for all tennis stakeholders. Mr Santilli revealed that since its launch in 2019, the ITF Academy has grown to over 440,000 users and 125,000 registered members worldwide.

Mr Santilli commented that World Tennis Number takes this impact further. Mr Santilli stated that World Tennis Number is a fundamental tool for growing recreational tennis globally. Mr Santilli highlighted the key reasons for Nations to adopt World Tennis Number as soon as possible using examples from the Member Nations.

Mr Santilli highlighted how the Digitalisation Grant Programme, webinars and workshops have been assisting National Associations. Mr Santilli reiterated that the initiative is not just about funding but also about sharing expertise and accelerating digital transformation in a sustainable way.

Mr Santilli commented on how the ITF partnerships have helped to create a robust digital ecosystem, and all are integrated with World Tennis Number to update ratings and rankings for players. Mr Santilli called on attendees to embrace automated tournament management and take a step forward in their Nation's digital transformation

Mr Santilli acknowledged that the Junior Tennis Initiative is an essential part of the development strategy for introducing tennis by putting rackets in the hands of many young children for the first time and that the new JTI online reporting platform had simplified the management of Junior Tennis Initiative activities for the member nations.

Mr Santilli thanked the Nations who have contributed to the National Association Survey which was hosted on the ITF Academy. Mr Santilli highlighted how extensive and valuable this data is and how the ITF, along with its Member Nations, are the only tennis organisations who can provide this data. This data is to be published in the 2024 ITF Global Tennis Report. Mr Santilli reiterated the importance and power of data to shape strategy. Ultimately, data supports the growth of tennis locally, regionally, and globally.

Mr Santilli commented that social media is an easy, low-cost way to share achievements and engage with the world. Mr Santilli encouraged Member Nations to use social media for these purposes.

Mr Santilli reminded attendees of the power of the network of 200+ National Associations and encouraged attendees to learn and collaborate with each other. Mr Santilli highlighted the opportunity the ITF digital strategy provides to grow tennis like never before and Connect World Tennis. Mr Santilli expressed that the ITF and its Member Nations must adapt and evolve and make use of the digital skills of the younger generation who are leading the way.

Mr Santilli handed over to Mr Fairweather.

Mr Fairweather thanked Ms Booth and Mr Santilli for their presentations. Mr Fairweather stated the importance of data and the third iteration of the World Tennis Report and how the ITF is ahead of many other sports in this area.

Mr Fairweather invited questions from the floor:

1. **Mr Persio Maldonado (DOM)** – Mr Maldonado thanked Mr Fairweather and the speakers. Mr Maldonado asked to what extent the ITF is considering the possibility of having one or more TV channels worldwide to stream all matches (Juniors, professional tours, Masters and Beach tennis).

In response, Mr Fairweather stated that the next presentation was going to cover this topic.

2. **Mr Hayden Mitchell (TTO)** – Mr Mitchell stated that the Tennis Association of Trinidad and Tobago would have hosted both the Davis Cup and Billie Jean King Cup Groups 3 and 4 this year and they struggled to find a platform that was universal for others to watch it. Mr Mitchell queried if, going forward, if there will be a platform to stream these for other nations in the Davis Cup and Billie Jean King Cup.

In response, Ms Booth, confirmed that this is the plan but would have to confirm details at a later date.

Mr Fairweather handed over to Mr Andrew Moss.

TOURS AND PLAYER PATHWAY

Mr Andrew Moss – Executive Director, World Tennis Tour & Data Rights

Mr Moss introduced his presentation by stating that sport has a unique power to engage people. Mr Moss stated that now is the time for the Tours & Player Pathway department to focus on the emotional association of sport.

Mr Moss stated that he would speak about what initiatives each of the five ITF Tours (World Tennis Tour, Beach, Masters, Juniors and Wheelchair) have implemented to increase that emotional association and profile of the Tours. Mr Moss stated that the Tours have the right technical foundations in place but, so far, an untapped potential to engage fans and provision of valuable services to players. Mr Moss stated that the objective is a virtuous circle of more players playing more tennis or engaging with more tennis more often.

Mr Moss stated that this sentiment is fundamental to the mission and purpose of the ITF and, if successful, its reputation and status will be enhanced among fans and players. Mr Moss stressed the importance of the commercial strategy rather than just investment and introduced some of the key questions the ITF is facing when implementing this.

Mr Moss introduced the first part of the presentation on streaming and social media. Mr Moss commented that the engine room of the Tours' digital strategy is the World Tennis Tour and how this can be innovated and bring tennis onto mobiles. Mr Moss revealed a new contract with Infront who are committed to streaming all M25, W50, W75 and W100 tournaments - around 22,000 matches which is up from 6000 in 2019. Mr Moss stated that the ITF is also exploring with other National Associations the possibility of streaming some more M15, W15 and W35 tournaments which would be around 60,000 matches. Mr Moss stressed that the value of the data rights contract is in aggregation and centralising rights and the revenue generated benefits all National Associations.

Mr Moss stated that the ITF had 6.7 million individual streaming sessions on the World Tennis Tour OTT platform with no marketing and no promotion. Mr Moss commented that, next year, the ITF will have full control over this and is developing its own OTT platform and apps. Mr Moss provided examples on how emotional association will be achieved and introduced a video of Ms Sada Nahimana playing and winning in her home nation, Burundi, to showcase this.

Mr Moss commented on how Beach Tennis is the Tour which more than any other has embraced digital with its work on social media. Mr Moss stated that the Sand Series Finals reached over 1 million views on YouTube so far. Mr Moss introduced a video from a BT400 tournament to showcase this.

Mr Moss also commented on the emotional association stemming from the Olympics and Paralympics. Mr Moss revealed that ITF video content from the Paralympics in Paris 2024 topped 9 million views. Mr Moss introduced a video from when Tokito Oda won his gold medal to showcase this.

Mr Moss expressed the ambition to stream the top-level Junior events and the Masters tournaments beyond the World Championships.

Mr Moss introduced social media as the next focus of the presentation. Mr Moss stated that all Tours are present on Instagram and a presence on TikTok will follow and the ITF is starting to develop good ideas about what works in terms of creating engaging content. Mr Moss demonstrated some examples of successful online content.

Mr Moss moved on to cover player servicing. Mr Moss acknowledged that Ms Booth outlined the future for World Tennis Number for recreational players, but Mr Moss spoke to what the World Tennis Number can do in the Tours and Player Pathway department. Mr Moss commented that the World Tennis Number is a method of entry for the Masters and Juniors Tours since 2023, it is more accurate at predicting the correct result of a match than the ITF ranking, Regional Associations accounted they would implement World Tennis Number for their Junior competitions going forward and that the World Tennis Tour is proposing to use the World Tennis Number as a method of acceptance after WTA, ATP and ITF rankings. In and of itself, the World Tennis Number has created an objective method of entering tournaments.

Mr Moss introduced the secondary benefits of World Tennis Number as it indicates how digitisation can assist players including by saving player costs. As an example, a player can look at their World Tennis Number and make an informed decision between travelling to tournaments or improving their rating close to home. Mr Moss also introduced the integrity benefits of the World Tennis Number and how it could mitigate some integrity risks.

Mr Moss discussed the benefits which can be provided to players through IPIN, the ITF service which allows players to enter and withdraw from tournaments. Those players on IPIN already have a relationship with the ITF and are already benefitting from a service from the ITF. Mr Moss introduced possible additional services and value to these players on IPIN. Mr Moss discussed the initiative which will be introduced from 2025 to allow players to download streams of their matches in IPIN for review and analysis. This would assist with players costs by not having to bring a coach to tournaments.

Mr Moss also introduced the intention for World Tennis Tour streams to provide more enriched data including winners, unforced errors and ball tracking amongst other things and queries if this would be a possible, valuable service which players would pay for. Mr Moss acknowledged the balance of saving players costs early in their career whilst also discussing the potential value of such a service. However, across the five tours, Mr Moss introduced the possibility of a cycle where revenue from valuable data pays for more streaming which, through highlights, allows the ITF and players to clip their matches and increases the profile of the game which in turn increases the engagement of players because the resultant data encourages them and others attracted to the sport to play more tennis more often.

Mr Moss commented that whether digital strategy is aimed towards raising profile and engaging fans or in player servicing, the foundation of tennis will continue to grow. Mr Moss reiterated how increased loyalty with players will help to raise the profile and status of the ITF. Mr Moss also reiterated to keep monetisation in mind and provision of an indispensable service.

Mr Moss emphasised that it is not just the aggregation of digital content but also the aggregation of ideas in the room which will protect and enhance the sport. Mr Moss expressed his enthusiasm at what can be achieved by working together.

Mr Moss handed over to Mr Fairweather.

MAJOR EVENTS

Mr Kelly Fairweather – CEO, and Ms Kerstin Lutz – Chief Executive of BJKC Limited

Mr Fairweather reiterated how each presentation is linking the threads of the strategy and introduced his presentation on Major Events.

1. **Davis Cup** – Mr Fairweather commented on how well the 2023 Competition went with a TV audience of 22.7 million for the final. Mr Fairweather commended Malaga as hosts with strong player participation and great crowds. Mr Fairweather confirmed that a record 157 Nations entered the 2024 Davis Cup with more than 900 athletes representing their Nations. Mr Fairweather emphasised that the Davis Cup is a truly global event. Mr Fairweather spoke to the Davis Cup Finals Group 2024 stages and expressed enthusiasm for the 2024 Final 8 with 4 out of 7 sessions being sold out as at the date of the Conference. Mr Fairweather revealed, across the Davis Cup Qualifiers and Group Stage, 300,000 fans have watched in stadiums, the events have been shown across 182 markets on TV and there has been a 36% increase on social media impressions for the Group Stage alone. Mr Fairweather confirmed that the ITF is currently analysing the hosting options for the Final 8 in 2025. Mr Fairweather commented on the unique 2024 Finals seeing the Billie Jean King Cup Finals taking place alongside the Davis Cup.

Mr Fairweather recalled last years' announcement of the agreement with the ATP Tour which cements the Davis Cup as the only men's team tennis event. Mr Fairweather revealed that the Board has agreed to format changes for the event and reminded delegates of these changes.

2. **Billie Jean King Cup** – Mr Fairweather handed over to Ms Kerstin Lutz. Ms Lutz expressed her excitement at being at the Conference and AGM. Ms Lutz reminded delegates of the Billie Jean King Cup Limited company and its objectives, which included ensuring the competition has a proper strategy to take to the market and provide the funds to ensure the objectives are reached. Ms Lutz acknowledged that Billie Jean King Cup Limited is backed by the ITF and TWG Group to ensure funds are there to grow the competition and make it a commercially viable proposition. Ms Lutz thanked Billie Jean King and Ilana Kloss for their roles in making this happen. Ms Lutz stated that the aim of the company is to grow and leverage the competition.

Ms Lutz introduced Billie Jean King Cup Limited's vision for the Billie Jean King Cup competition to be the brightest, boldest and most unifying women's tennis spectacle in the world. Ms Lutz introduced the team who will assist in helping to deliver this vision which included Mr Kris Dent, CEO, who has huge experience in tennis. Ms Lutz described that the business plan, budgeting plans and building of the team is critical to delivering the vision. Ms Lutz stated that Billie Jean King Cup Limited has done a full brand review which will be revealed in 2025. Ms Lutz highlighted that the calendar and structure are integral to this and critical to bring it all together to create a great commercial proposition. Ms Lutz thanked the committees for supporting the re-structure and revealed that they are in the middle of new media rights tender which is in partnership with the Davis Cup. Ms Lutz commented that sponsorship is an ongoing process and a key part of the strategy and informed the Conference that E.L.F was the most recent sponsor secured. Ms Lutz confirmed that the final priorities are to find a host city for the next three years and deliver the 2024 Final.

Ms Lutz then reviewed the 2023 Billie Jean King Cup Final in Seville and revealed that attendance increased by 35% and the positive impact of the Final on the city of Seville.

Ms Lutz also revealed that there was an over 100% increase in audiences in 199 territories which highlighted the interest and commercial reality of the event. Ms Lutz acknowledged the difficulty in attracting interest from paying broadcasters and asked the Member Nations for their support. Ms Lutz commented on how the equal prize money is essential in what they stand for, so it is important the journey continues along that path.

Ms Lutz then reviewed the Billie Jean King Cup 2024 so far and expressed excitement about the Finals in Malaga. Ms Lutz commented that the joint location brought a lot of additional considerations. Ms Lutz thanked all the Member Nations for their support and encouragement of players to represent their Nations in the competition globally.

Ms Lutz looked towards the calendar for 2025 and introduced the round robin system for qualifiers and play-offs before, in 2026, the home and away format can resume. Ms Lutz noted that it is crucial the format is set for the next three years and confirmed they were working hard to secure the host city. Mr Lutz stressed that it is key to please the partners to make the competition a success.

Ms Lutz handed back to Mr Fairweather.

3. **Olympics and Paralympics** – Mr Fairweather began this section of the presentation with a highlights video. Mr Fairweather expressed how fantastic the Games were which were followed by an outstanding Paralympics in August with Olympic Tennis and Paralympic Wheelchair Tennis front and centre. Mr Fairweather joined the President in thanking the Fédération Française de Tennis for their collaboration to make the events a success. Mr Fairweather revealed that over half the world's population is expected to have engaged via broadcast or digital channels with Paris 2024 with 20 million TV viewers in China alone to watch Zheng Qinwen's gold medal victory. Mr Fairweather ran through some further highlights from the tennis events at the Games. Mr Fairweather showed some feedback from players about the amazing atmosphere generated by the fans at Roland Garros and their Olympic experience generally. Mr Fairweather revealed that digital engagement with Olympic tennis on ITF channels was higher than ever before and provided some statistics on this.

Mr Fairweather stated that the Paralympics were an impressive showcase for wheelchair tennis with strong crowds. Mr Fairweather ran through some highlights from the medal winners of the tennis events at the Paralympics. Mr Fairweather informed delegates that the ITF's Paralympic digital channels also performed better than ever during the Paralympic period and provided some statistics on this.

Mr Fairweather had no doubt that the success of tennis and wheelchair tennis at Paris 2024 is a fantastic springboard for the ITF and Nations for planning the next 3 years of growth and looked forward to LA 2028.

Mr Fairweather invited any questions from the floor:

1. **Mr Isaac Aboagye Duah (GHA)**

Mr Duah thanked the speakers. Mr Duah relayed a comment from a meeting with the President in Africa, namely that Ghana hosted the African Games and, as per the ITF rules, the winner of the event was supposed to be at the Olympic Games if their ranking

was above 400. However, the winner of the African Games from Kenya lost the opportunity because of these rules. Mr Duah commented that the rules should be re-considered so that the winner of the African Games or the Pan-American Games or others gain entry without attaining certain ranking points. Mr Duah contrasted the position with other sports, such as swimming, who give these opportunities to countries who struggle to be in the Olympics. Mr Duah requested that the Committee looks at the rules governing who wins these competitions so that countries have an opportunity to be represented in the Olympics.

In response, Mr Fairweather stated that this was discussed at committee level, but this is an International Olympic Committee regulation which all sports have to adhere to. There is a minimum ranking and despite the ITF strongly appealing this to the International Olympic Committee, they were not successful. Mr Fairweather also noted that the ITF does have universality places which it offers.

2. Mr Raymond Forde (BAR)

Mr Forde recalled a pre-Covid plea he had for small nations who had to host Group 1 or Group 2 playoffs. Mr Forde stated that hosting is quite a financial burden for those countries and asked if money could be given if requested by the Nation to assist with staging the event.

In response, Mr Fairweather confirmed he will bring this up with the Finance Director and stated the ITF is sympathetic to those requests and do consider these on a case-by-case basis.

3. Mr Watkins Chiverton (SKN)

Mr Chiverton thanked the presenters and queried what would be the safeguards in place for juniors in respect of any streaming of the World Tennis Tour Juniors tournaments. Mr Chiverton recalled that there was previously a policy on why the Juniors Tour was not broadcast and wondered if this was still in place.

In response, Mr Fairweather referred to Mr Moss who confirmed that with safeguards in place, more streaming at Juniors Tour level is possible but comes with an absolute prohibition on use for betting purposes. Mr Moss stated that he will check but believes that player and parental consent would be required.

4. Ms Wanjiru Mbugua-Karani (KEN)

Ms Mbugua-Karani congratulated the ITF on an amazing Olympic Games. Ms Mbugua-Karani queried whether there will be a tennis event in the upcoming Youth Olympic Games and, if not, if there is still time to ensure there is one.

In response, Mr Fairweather confirmed that the IOC communicated to the international federations that there would be a reduced programme in the Youth Olympic Games in Senegal which means that there will only be an engagement event and not a tennis tournament. Mr Fairweather expressed his and the President's disappointment over this decision which they have conveyed to the IOC. Mr Fairweather thanked all delegates.

Break in proceedings for refreshments.

GOVERNANCE

Dr Stuart Miller – Senior Executive Director, Integrity & Legal; and Mr Jack Graham – Board Member and Chair of the Constitutional Committee

Off-Court Coaching

The President introduced governance as the next stage of the Conference and handed over to Dr Stuart Miller.

Dr Miller introduced the proposal for off-court coaching which is to be voted on at the ITF AGM. Dr Miller explained that tennis is one of the only sports in which coaching during play is not permitted, which risks limiting the development of players.

Dr Miller explained the features of the current Rule 30 including the definition of coaching, the general prohibition, the exception to the general prohibition for team events and the three further clarifications which have been added to the rule over time.

Dr Miller highlighted two challenges with the current rule: (i) implementation of the permission for on-court coaching under certain circumstances; and (ii) policing the rule. This proposed rule change has been under consideration by the Rules of Tennis Committee (RoT Committee) for some time.

Dr Miller revealed that the RoT Committee was of the view that permitting off-court coaching has the potential to make the sport fairer and more entertaining and so permitted trials to take place over the last 7 years, which, by 2023, had extended to all competitions at all levels of professional tennis.

Dr Miller confirmed that the RoT Committee considered feedback from trials and concluded that the benefits of permitting off-court coaching outweighed the risks. The RoT Committee therefore recommended to the ITF Board that a permanent amendment to the Rules should be made.

Dr Miller explained the proposed amendment including the rewrite to Rule 30, the new Appendix IV, and the matters reserved for the governing body or sanctioning body of the event concerned.

Dr Miller confirmed that in the proposed amendment the definition of coaching is retained but the decision on whether to permit off-court coaching falls to the sanctioning body of the event concerned. Dr Miller confirmed that the exception to permit on-court coaching for team events remains. Dr Miller then described Appendix 4, which sets out when coaching is permitted, and how. Finally, Dr Miller highlighted the decisions which would be reserved for the sanctioning body of the event concerned.

Dr Miller described the benefits that may accrue from the proposed amendment including: (i) improved player development; (ii) enhanced professionalism of coaching and coaches; (iii) the opportunity for Chair Umpires to focus more on play rather than policing the coaching rules; (iv) improved regulation, through bringing those who acted as coaches within the Code of Conduct; and (v) a standardised approach across tennis as to how coaching is implemented.

Dr Miller reassured delegates that the ITF will support stakeholders with implementation of the amendment which, if approved, would come into effect on 1 January 2025.

Dr Miller, on behalf of the RoT Committee, requested that the Member Nations support the rule amendment in alignment with the Board's recommendation.

Dr Miller invited questions from the floor:

1. Mr Pablo Felipe Robledo (COL)

Mr Robledo thanked Dr Miller for the presentation. Mr Robledo congratulated the ITF with moving forward with the approval of the new Rule 30 to generate more accountability and transparency when playing tennis. Mr Robledo noted that the no coaching rule has been flaunted previously and stated the rule change is the right process to follow.

Mr Robledo stated that in the Colombian Federation of Tennis, coaching for juniors was recently approved for internal tournaments and queried how much regulatory freedom there would be at Federation level and if Federations would have to wait until the new rule comes into force or if it can be implemented now.

In response, Dr Miller confirmed that permission to conduct trials in advance of the amendment coming into effect must be granted by the RoT Committee. Dr Miller confirmed that sanctioning bodies will have considerable flexibility to determine how off-court coaching is implemented, but where it is implemented, the requirements of the Rules of Tennis must be followed. Dr Miller noted that regulation of coaches was not a specific objective of the proposal, but is a by-product of it.

2. Mr Hayden Mitchell (TTO)

Mr Mitchell expressed his agreement with the rule and commented on the definition of coaching being discreet and brief. Mr Mitchell stated that he would like to see more definition of what this means to avoid different interpretations.

Dr Miller confirmed that this is now part of the officials' education courses so they are able to understand how to assess what is permitted and prohibited. As this has been trialled for seven years, Dr Miller confirmed that the ITF believes that officials already have significant experience in this regard.

3. Mr Evgeniy Zukin (UKR)

Mr Zukin stated that the rule change was long overdue and confirmed their support. Mr Zukin commented that coaching in between points can be messy especially in Junior tennis so requested that the ITF looks carefully at whether coaching between points should be allowed at the junior level.

Dr Miller thanked Mr Zukin for his comment.

4. Ms Nirmala Kappel (CUW)

Ms Kappel queried whether the change would exclusively be for coaches as sometimes players travel without coaches and maybe have other players watching their matches instead. Ms Kappel asked if these individuals would also be allowed to coach.

Dr Miller confirmed that, providing the individual is a designated coach and identified at the start of the tournament as the player's coach, then that person will be permitted

to coach. Dr Miller reiterated that it would be up to the sanctioning body to determine if that individual needs to hold qualifications or other comply with other requirements in order to be a coach but as far as the RoT Committee is concerned, there would be no restrictions as to who can coach.

5. Mr Mike Mac Intosch (SUR)

Mr Mac Intosch asked for advice, especially for smaller tournaments, for distinguishing between a coach and an enthusiastic parent as sometimes it is difficult to distinguish between these. Mr McKintosh queried what consideration has been given to this by the RoT Committee.

Dr Miller referred back to his answer for the previous question and reiterated that the coach needs to be designated as the coach in advance, so that the chair umpire or any official can identify who that person is. Dr Miller also reiterated that it is for the sanctioning body to put restrictions on who the coach can be.

6. Mr Persio Maldonado (DOM)

Mr Maldonado noted that in other sports such as baseball, instructions are provided through hand signals which has been seen in tennis despite this not being allowed. Mr Maldonado commented that the rule change will ensure transparency and stated that in the Dominican Republic regulations has been adopted for national tournaments to allow coaching of juniors to come from a coach or another player, but the player must declare who is going to be their coach before the match. Mr Maldonado highlighted the importance of this if others are using hand gestures from off the court. Mr Maldonado also commented that for under 14s and under 16s, coaching is a way of helping the children. Mr Maldonado questioned the extent of the flexibility to allow the player to declare another individual, for example another player, as their coach.

Dr Miller confirmed that hand signals are a permitted method of coaching in the proposal so there could be some intricate method of communication to try and distract an opponent. Dr Miller stated that other individuals around the court who are not designated as coaches would be able to do as they please as they are not covered by the Rules. This means a player could have somebody else other than their designated coach giving them hand signals as they are treated the same as any other spectator.

Dr Miller confirmed that he would review how coaching by members of a player's entourage will be addressed, but noted that those persons are covered by the current rule.

Dr Miller thanked the delegates for their questions and handed over to Mr Jack Graham.

Constitutional Review

Mr Graham highlighted that, as chair of the Constitutional Committee, he will explain the content and rationale about what will be voted on tomorrow at the AGM.

Mr Graham provided the reasons why the Constitution is being reviewed. Mr Graham stressed that sports governance is as important to the ITF as the rules of tennis or player integrity and that well governed sporting organisations give themselves the best chance of achieving

success. Mr Graham acknowledged that governance is not static, and perfection is not attainable and therefore changes should not be delayed due to not being able to solve every single issue.

Mr Graham explained that the ITF wishes to improve its governance and the governance of its stakeholders, including the National Associations and Regional Associations, and this starts with the Constitution. Mr Graham explained that the current ITF Constitution is out of date with current expectations of good governance and has inconsistencies and gaps, having not been fully reviewed since its introduction in 1997. Mr Graham stressed that a clear constitution makes it easy for Nations, Regions and other stakeholders to understand the ITF's mission, structure, how it's governed and how it makes decisions. Mr Graham also noted how a clear constitution reduces the chance for misunderstandings, inconsistencies or legal disputes.

Mr Graham then commented on the process followed in the constitutional review. Mr Graham explained that the constitutional review has been an extensive and collaborative process, and that two successive ITF Boards have been engaged in numerous detailed discussions on this project and its strategic benefits to the ITF. Mr Graham confirmed the current Board is formally recommending the adoption of this new constitution.

Mr Graham expressed the objective to clarify rights and responsibilities in respect of National Associations. Mr Graham provided an overview of the key proposed changes, including:

- language added to the Bye-Laws to reinforce the autonomy of Nations to govern and deliver tennis in their country;
- the ITF not prescribing upon Nations precisely how to choose their leaders, as long as IOC principles of fair and transparent elections are adhered with – this will remain each Nation's independent choice;
- when a Nation makes a disciplinary decision, the ITF will have the right to recognise that decision and all other Nations must implement the decision;
- Nations and Regions must act ethically and honestly in their dealings with the ITF and without improper influence, but there is no express requirement to comply with the ITF Code of Ethics;
- Nations will be required to have their own safeguarding protocols in place which must align in principle with the ITF's own safeguarding policies but understanding each Nation will have local laws to comply with; and
- suspension and expulsion criteria have been made clearer and more transparent.

Mr Graham also explained what will not be changed:

- the Nations remain free to adopt their own governance structures and make their own decisions, guided by national laws;
- Membership Classes and share structure;
- rights of National Associations; and
- the application process for increases and decreases in shares.

Mr Graham then commented on the some of the changes specific to Regional Associations, including:

- Regional Associations can only accept members from within their own geographic region;
- formalisation of the collaborative approach between Regions and the ITF, with the wording kept general to recognise that each region has different needs and ways of operating;
- alignment between the ITF and Regions in relation to the suspension of a National Association;
- explicitly stating that a Region can only have its affiliation to the ITF withdrawn in very limited circumstances and that our approach will be to work together with Regions to resolve issues in advance; and
- any withdrawal of affiliation must be decided by Council with a 2/3 majority.

Mr Graham noted that Regions' roles and responsibilities, rights and application process for affiliation had not changed.

Mr Graham stated that the changes being proposed for the Board include:

- a formal vetting process for candidates; and
- a reduction to the existing term limits to 20 years maximum as a Board Member or President in total (with maximum of 12 years in any one post);
- Inclusion of Board Members' duties; and
- the requirement to play Billie Jean King Cup the same number of times as Davis Cup in order to be eligible to nominate candidates for office.

Mr Graham confirmed what has not changed in relation to the Board, including:

- all election processes;
- board size, composition and regional and gender minimums.

Mr Graham commented on changes affecting the Council. Mr Graham stated that a key component of corporate governance, particularly in complex multi stakeholder organisations, relates to which body is responsible for making which decisions for transparency and accountability. Mr Graham confirmed that the proposal maintains the fundamental principle that the Council has the ultimate decision-making power of the ITF. Mr Graham also confirmed that there were very few changes to the powers of the Council and that, in general, greater power is being given to the Council.

Mr Graham confirmed a single vote on the proposals as a whole will be held and invited comments from the floor:

1. Mr Persio Maldonado (DOM)

Mr Maldonado thanked Mr Graham for the work completed towards developing the proposed Constitution. Mr Maldonado requested an explanation about the whole process and how this final version of the Constitution was achieved.

In response, Mr Graham stated that this was probably the broadest consultation process the ITF has had. Mr Graham confirmed that various drafts of the Constitution have been made available for comment, a number of regional and national associations have provided substantial input, and discussions have been held by the Constitutional Committee and ITF Board. Mr Graham expressed his appreciation for the input and time which has been given to assist the consultation process.

The President expressed his thanks and closed the 2024 ITF Conference.

ITF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 11 OCTOBER 2024

OPENING ADDRESS

The President addressed the ITF Honorary Life Presidents, Honorary Life Vice Presidents, Counsellors, ITF Board, National Association Presidents, General Secretaries, and delegates and welcomed them all to the 2024 ITF AGM. The President thanked all for their commitment and engagement in attending the AGM to conduct the important business of the ITF.

Mr Fairweather confirmed there was a quorum established as per Article 18(b) of the Constitution – of 213 Member Nations in total, 131 Nations represented in the AGM by a total of 202 delegates. Together with companions, other international representatives and ITF staff, the total number of attendees is 291. The voting delegates have been identified and verified in registration in accordance with Article 18(e)(i) of the Constitution. 117 Class B Nations registered, holding over half the Class B shares between them. Mr Fairweather confirmed 402 of the total number of 482 shares were registered. There were 14 Class C Nations in attendance.

The President introduced Mr Kenneth Fok JP, member of the Legislative Council of Hong Kong SAR, vice president of the Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China to officially open the ITF AGM.

Mr Fok commented that the AGM epitomised the spirit of unity that tennis and sport brings to the global community and his pride of how far tennis and sports worldwide has come since the AGM was last held in Asia especially with the pandemic. Hong Kong and tennis have emerged stronger. The Hong Kong government is pushing for sport and mega event economy as a key pillar to drive the economy. Mr Fok acknowledged the unwavering support and commitment of the Hong Kong government towards sports with a particular mention to the new Kai Tak Sports Park which is due to open which will give Hong Kong the facility to host international mega events.

Mr Fok commented on how the success of Hong Kong athletes has boosted confidence in sports development in Hong Kong. Beyond the thrill of the competition, the hosting of sport events has significantly contributed to sports tourism and economy. Mr Fok commented on the concept of the Greater Bay Area which they are driving forward, with mention to Zhuhai which hosted the Davis Cup recently. The Greater Bay Area has expanded audiences with hardware and software integration. In 2025, the Greater Bay Area will be hosting the All-China Games, and it is anticipated that the Greater Bay Area will co-bid and co-host international sporting events in the future. Mr Fok commented on ongoing work to create a clearer tennis blueprint for bigger events in Hong Kong. Mr Fok wished for a successful and productive AGM and that the AGM will inspire all to promote value of sportsmanship, unity and excellence both on and off the court.

The President thanked Mr Fok for his message.

The President introduced Mr Michael Cheng, President of Hong Kong China Tennis Association, to address the attendees.

Mr Cheng stated that tennis is the most popular individual sport in the world, and it plays a significant role in mega-event economy. The Hong Kong Government's policy on sport development has three strands: (i) promote sport in community; (ii) support elite athletes; and, (iii) develop Hong Kong into a centre for major international sport events. Mr Cheng commented on the importance of mega sport events to provide local athletes opportunities,

inspire participation, provide an incentive to strive for better results and bring economic growth. Mr Cheng stated these are the reasons why the Hong Kong Tennis series was created and to elevate Hong Kong stature internationally. Sport is becoming a central strategy for cities to promote their image and global position which is a tremendous upside for tennis. However, Mr Cheng, noted that it is important that development starts with the ITF and its commitment to growing tennis and work with National Associations. Mr Cheng commented that it is their aim to encourage participation and that the ITF provides the opportunity to young children to compete. Mr Cheng stated that the success of professional ranks is down to the hard work of the Regional and National Associations.

The President thanked Mr Cheng and Mr Fok.

The President recapped his review of the year from the ITF Conference and reiterated the theme of the 2024 AGM: "Connecting World Tennis". The President reiterated the great work of the Nations and Regions in developing the game across the world and the role of digitalisation in growth.

The President provided an update on Rafael Nadal's retirement announcement. The President shared excerpts of the ITF's statement on Mr Nadal's retirement and the impact this may have on the Davis Cup Finals ticket sales and audience reach.

AGM AGENDA

The President reported the following apologies.

Apologies received from the Fédération Libanaise de Tennis, Egyptian Tennis Federation, Hellenic Tennis Federation, Slovak Tennis Association, Serbian Tennis Federation, Federación Ecuatoriana de Tenis and the Iraqi Tennis Federation.

Apologies received from Mr Fathi Farah, Mr Francesco Ricci Bitti, Ms Lucy Garvin and Mr Jean-Claude Talon.

The President acknowledged the presence of Honorary Life Counsellors and Vice Presidents present, Mr René Stammbach and Mr Sergio Elias.

The President confirmed the appointment of Mr Richard Bush, Partner at Bird & Bird LLP, as Parliamentarian to assist with the smooth running of the meeting.

The President requested nominations for the role of Scrutineers in accordance with Article 18(f) of the Constitution to scrutinise the election process who are not the voting delegates of each Nation. Three scrutineers required.

Ms Sandi Procter (GBR) nominated Mr Roy Colabawalla (GBR)

Mr Persio Maldonado (DOM) nominated Mr Raymond Forde (BAR)

Mr Peter Kruyt (CAN) nominated Ms Jennifer Bishop (CAN)

The President was thankful for the nominations received and the appointment of the three Scrutineers was confirmed by way of a show of hands.

The appointed Scrutineers were asked to move to the Scrutineer table.

The President spoke through the process for voting for the AGM.

The President ran a test vote to check that voting delegates were comfortable with the electronic voting system.

The President ran a second test vote to ensure that voting delegates were comfortable with the electronic voting system.

The President ran a third test vote to ensure that there are no issues with the electronic voting system.

The President ran a fourth test vote to ensure that there are no issues with the electronic voting system.

The President requested that all attendees put their phones on flight mode during voting to assist with connectivity issues. The President confirmed that voting will be open longer to ensure everyone is able to vote.

The President ran a fifth test vote to ensure that there are no issues with the electronic voting system. The President confirmed the issues had been resolved.

The Minutes of the 2023 ITF AGM were **approved**.

The President called for a minute's silence to pay respects to family, friends and colleagues who passed away over the last year and who have contributed to the sport of tennis in many ways, particularly to former ITF President Brian Tobin and former ITF Board Member Mr Ruurd De Boer. The President thanked everyone for their compassion.

FINANCE

The President expressed his thanks to Mr David Rawlinson, Chair of the Finance Committee, and the Committee, for their work over the past few years and highlighted the importance of this work. The President then passed over to Mr Rawlinson and Mr Dominic Anghileri, for the formal presentation of the 2023 ITF Financial Accounts.

Mr Rawlinson thanked the President and the Board for the honour of chairing the Finance Committee, thanked Mr Stambach for his past service and thanked the Finance Committee. Mr Rawlinson then set out an overview of the presentation and informed that questions would be taken at the end.

2023 Financial Statements

Mr Rawlinson confirmed that the 2023 Annual Report and Financial Statements of the ITF Trust have been published on the ITF website, including the audited accounts for ITF Licensing (UK) Limited. These documents comprise the entire group of companies which make up the ITF including the consolidation of the Billie Jean King Cup joint venture. Mr Rawlinson stated that the full accounts for Billie Jean King Cup Limited are filed separately. No activities fall outside of these accounts and the ITF Board have full oversight of all activities. Mr Rawlinson confirmed that all financial statements are voluntarily, independently audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP under international auditing standards. Mr Rawlinson confirmed that the financial statements are also scrutinised by the newly formed Audit and Risk Committee. Mr Rawlinson thanked the Audit and Risk Committee for their support and collaborative report. PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP have confirmed there were no issues to be brought before the management or those charged with governance. PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP's report to Directors state that the ITF Trust Group's financial statements give a true and fair view of the Group's financial position as at 31 December 2023.

Mr Rawlinson confirmed that the 2023 Annual Review and Financial Overview included a calculation of the total amount reinvested to grow tennis around the world. In 2023, this amounted to over 90% of total revenue. This reflects that the ITF does not make annual profits and passes its wealth onto the National Associations.

Mr Rawlinson stated that the Finance Committee and the Board spent a lot of time to deliver a sustainable future and overcome short term challenges in recent years. Mr Rawlinson expressed his pride over the elevation of the Davis Cup and Billie Jean King Cup and the success of the Paris Olympics. Mr Rawlinson commented that across the tours, there are more tournaments in more countries than ever before which has increased funding through data sales.

Mr Rawlinson addressed the complexities of incorporating the Billie Jean King Cup joint venture and working with Tennium for the Davis Cup, both for the first time.

2023 Results

Mr Anghileri provided an update on the ITF's financial performance in 2023. Mr Anghileri provided context around the 2023 Budget being set based on Kosmos being responsible for the Davis Cup and the ITF being responsible for the Billie Jean King Cup with both situations fundamentally changing early in the year. For this reason, Mr Anghileri did not dwell on the budget.

Mr Anghileri commented that, as the process for securing external funding for the Billie Jean King Cup was already in progress, the Board increased player prize money to a level equivalent to the Davis Cup in anticipation of a new partner. Mr Anghileri expressed his happiness to have welcomed The Walter Group as partners in the joint venture who have provided substantial funding and are taking a lead on commercial matters.

Mr Anghileri stated that the 2023 Budget approved by the Board in November 2022, planned to achieve these aims whilst maintaining operating activities above break even, with the cost of strategic projects being partly funded by investment returns in the year with the remainder being funded from reserves as previously agreed by the Board. Mr Anghileri reiterated that due to the basis on which the 2023 Budget had been prepared changing significantly, the Executive Team and the Finance Committee reevaluated and presented a mid-year review forecast to the Board. Mr Anghileri summarised the main changes and why these arose.

Mr Anghileri confirmed that the commitment to investing in the World Tennis Number project and WTT were maintained and, as the investment portfolios were performing well, the forecast return was increased which led to an anticipated improvement in the result to a surplus of \$1.2 million. The actual result from Operating Activities was slightly below forecast partly due to income targets being challenging to meet in a short time frame.

Mr Anghileri confirmed that Strategic Project Expenditure came in on budget at \$3.9 million and investing activities performed better than expected. This meant that almost all Strategic Project Expenditure was paid for out of investment returns rather than reserves. Mr Anghileri noted that, although the overall result was slightly below forecast, it was \$3 million better than the 2023 Budget.

Mr Anghileri explained that the end of year foreign exchange revaluation gave rise to a positive adjustment of \$2.8 million which increased Closing Net Assets to \$43.3 million, comfortably above the original 2023 Budget and the minimum level agreed by the Board. Mr Anghileri reiterated the reduced relevance of comparing to the 2023 Budget in this year.

To add further context, Mr Anghileri compared the 2023 performance to performance in 2022. Mr Anghileri commented that the 2022 actuals did not include Davis Cup player prize money which does not affect the operating result but is relevant when making a comparison across the two years. Mr Anghileri also confirmed that 2022 included the full Billie Jean King Cup income and expenditure which is now accounted for separately with only the ITF share of the result and the transfer of intellectual property rights to the joint venture included in 2023. Mr Anghileri stated that investment into strategic projects increased by almost \$1million but investment gains of \$3.6million covered almost the entire cost of the strategic projects, contributing to the improvement of the overall result.

Mr Anghileri passed back to Mr Rawlinson.

Mr Rawlinson reiterated all figures by way of summary and stated the result provided a sound position at the point of entry into the 2024 Financial Year which was a good thing due to a challenging 2024. Mr Rawlinson stated that the Board has accepted that there will inevitably be a requirement to utilise reserves to maintain activity levels and support National Associations and players.

Mr Rawlinson passed back to Mr Anghileri.

2024 Budget

Mr Anghileri summarised the Budget for 2024 (approved by the Board in November 2023).

Mr Anghileri commented on the difficulties with the budgeting process due to uncertainties over the outcome of the Davis Cup.

The Budget for Operating Activities for 2024 expected an operating deficit of \$0.8million, maintaining a cautious approach to revenue assumptions and taking decisions to reduce costs in the budgeting process.

Mr Anghileri stated that the Budget for investment and strategic activities was also scaled back to an expenditure of \$3.4million for strategic activities and a conservative estimate of investment returns at \$1.1million.

Mr Anghileri confirmed that this leads to a total Budget deficit of \$3.1million and closing net assets at \$35.5million. Mr Anghileri confirmed that the Board approved the Budget, acknowledging the consequential reduction in net assets.

Mr Anghileri revealed the 2024 Mid-Year Review reflects a reduction in income projections to \$105.9 million due to the experiences from the 2023 Davis Cup and inability of the ITF to secure a title partner. Some of the cut costs of the Davis Cup in the Budget process have had to be reinstated in recognition of contractual commitments to the ATP and players. Mr Anghileri confirms that this is crucial to unlock higher revenues in the future but creates a requirement to cut costs elsewhere. Mr Anghileri revealed that the projected deficit exceeds the Budget. Mr Anghileri stated that investment in strategic project is on Budget and that investment returns are projected to be better than in the Budget.

Mr Anghileri confirmed that this has generated an increase in overall deficit to \$12.4million for 2024. Mr Anghileri stated that, although this is not the result that is wanted, net assets will be maintained at \$31million which, given the favourable result in 2023, is only \$4.5million below budget and still at a level considered appropriate by the Board.

Mr Anghileri expressed caution regarding the result given a number of uncertainties that remain, in particular the outcome of the Davis Cup Finals in Malaga and explained that, as always, the year-end figure remains subject to final foreign exchange adjustments which is difficult to predict.

Mr Anghileri summarised the long-term financial performance with reference to net assets at the end of the year. Mr Anghileri confirmed that, over the past six years, net assets have reduced by \$15million but investment in strategic projects amounted to \$19million. Mr Anghileri concluded that the drop in net assets could be seen as entirely accounted for by projects that are strategically important to the ITF and of the benefit of the National Associations and players. Mr Anghileri summarised the key issues which the ITF has had to contend with over the past six years but stated that distribution to National Associations and players has increased.

Mr Anghileri stated that the Board and Executive Team are working hard to turn things around in 2025.

Mr Anghileri passed back to Mr Rawlinson.

2025 Outlook.

Mr Rawlinson stated that external investment for the Billie Jean King Cup was secured, there is an increase data right revenues due to the Infront contract and also stated that the ITF will retain the running of the Davis Cup. Mr Rawlinson revealed that, as the ITF is still in negotiations for the hosting agreement, the Board is not in a position to finalise the 2025 Budget. Instead, the Board will be working towards a set of principles which Mr Rawlinson summarised.

Mr Rawlinson concluded that there is a belief that the finances can be turned around significantly over the next few years. Mr Rawlinson congratulated the Executive Team on successes to date and expressed support for their efforts to secure the next phase of the Davis Cup.

The President welcomed questions from the floor:

- 1. Mr Salim Saifullah Khan (PAK):** Mr Khan recalled his prior reprehension regarding the Kosmos deal and queried if any damages have been paid by Kosmos.

Mr Rawlinson stated that this matter is currently progressing through the legal process. Mr Rawlinson confirmed that the ITF's legal advice expressed confidence that the case will be decided in the ITF's favour and would confirm £25million which was on deposit as the ITF's funds.

The President thanked Mr Rawlinson and Mr Anghileri.

The President also expressed his thanks to the oversight of the Audit Committee.

The President confirmed there is no vote required on the Accounts as per Article 14(b) of the Constitution.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

The President confirmed that the Board of Directors recommends the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as auditors. The President opened the decision to a vote.

The Parliamentarian confirmed the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as auditors was **approved** by a 99% majority.

Break in proceedings.

MEMBERSHIP

The President reminded delegates that membership applications require a two thirds majority to pass. The President confirmed that any membership application approved shall take place from 1 January 2025 and any suspensions shall be effective immediately.

The President confirmed that the Board of Directors has given a recommendation after evaluating each application according to the criteria for increasing share allocations, effective since 2015 and listed in Appendix C of the Constitution.

Applications for an increase in shares were as follows:

1. **BEL** – increase in shares from 5 shares to 7 shares. The Board of Directors recommended acceptance of the application. The vote in favour was 90.58% and therefore the application was **approved** by the Meeting.
2. **COL** – increase in shares from 3 shares to 5 shares. The Board of Directors recommended acceptance of the application. The vote in favour was 94.18% and therefore the application was **approved** by the Meeting.
3. **PER** – increase in shares from 1 share to 3 shares. The Board of Directors recommended acceptance of the application. The vote in favour was 95.31% and therefore the application was **approved** by the Meeting.
4. **KSA** – increase in shares from 1 share to 3 shares. The Board of Directors recommended acceptance of the application. The vote in favour was 89% and therefore the application was **approved** by the Meeting.

The President confirmed that the increase in shares for Belgium, Colombia, Peru and Saudi Arabia will come into effect on 1 January 2025.

Applications for transfer of membership from **Class C** to **Class B** membership were as follows:

1. **SUR** – transfer of membership from Class C to Class B membership. The Board of Directors recommended acceptance of the application. The vote in favour was 95.05% and therefore the application was **approved** by the Meeting.

The President offered his congratulations and welcomed Suriname as a Class B Member from January 2025.

The President acknowledged the Nations who have given notice of their intention to apply for a transfer of membership from Class C to Class B at next year's ITF AGM:

- Mali
- Cook Islands

The President was pleased to report that since publication of the AGM Agenda, Samoa paid their overdue fees and were therefore no longer considered for suspension at the 2024 AGM. The President confirmed that there are no National Associations who have failed to pay their subscription fees for two successive years.

Late Resolutions

The President introduced a late resolution put forward by the Nicaragua Tennis Federation seeking a transfer of membership from **Class B** to **Class C** membership. The President noted that the application was not given in accordance with Article 17(a) of the Constitution and therefore, in accordance with Article 17(d) of the Constitution, the Council must first consider if the matter is deemed to be urgent before it is considered. The President reminded delegates that a four fifths majority is required to allow the late resolution to be heard at the AGM. The President opened the decision to a vote.

The Parliamentarian confirmed the vote to hear the late resolution was **approved** by an 84.85% majority and so the Meeting can consider the late application.

The President opened the voting for the transfer of membership from **Class B** to **Class C** membership for Nicaragua. The vote in favour was 87.86% and therefore the application was **approved** by the Meeting.

2025 Subscription Payments

The President invited Mr Anghileri to announce the subscription payments for 2025 who did so as follows:

For Class C Members, subscription will remain at \$250.

For Class B Members, \$1,006 plus \$6,002 per share (an increase of 6% based on OECD CPI inflation for the previous full year).

Waiving of membership fees

Application from the Sudan Tennis Association submitted to the Council asking that their 2024 subscription fees be waived. The Board of Directors noted that the Sudan Tennis Association has already paid its 2024 subscription and recommends acceptance of the application. The vote in favour was 94.64% and therefore the application was **approved** by the Meeting.

Application from the Ukraine Tennis Federation submitted to the Council asking that the 2024 subscription fees be waived. The President reminded delegates that in 2022 and 2023, both the ITF and Tennis Europe waived Ukraine's fees. Tennis Europe has also waived Ukraine's 2024 fees. The Board of Directors noted that the Ukraine Tennis Federation has already paid its 2024 subscription and recommends acceptance of the application. The vote in favour was 97.73% and therefore the application was **approved** by the Meeting.

Philippine Lawn Tennis Association

The President recalled the suspension of the Philippine Lawn Tennis Association (PHILTA) in 2020 via Resolution approved by the Council with an 84.26% vote majority. The Council approved a Resolution to delegate its powers to the Board to lift PHILTA's suspension subject to conditions by a 96.85% at the 2023 ITF AGM. The President confirmed that since this time, PHILTA has resolved its material issues and complied fully with the ITF constitutional requirements for its suspension from membership to be lifted. The President commented that the ITF is pleased with the new relationship and confirmed that on 11 January 2024, the Board exercised its powers delegated to it by the Council to lift the suspension and readmit PHILTA to membership with immediate effect. The Board of Directors recommended ratification of the Board's decision to lift PHILTA's suspension from membership. The President opened the decision to a vote. The vote in favour was 100% and therefore the application was **approved** by the Meeting.

The President handed over to Mr John Reynald Tiangco (PHI).

Mr Tiangco (PHI) expressed his immense gratitude and joy. Mr Tiangco thanked the entire ITF Council for voting to ratify the decision to reinstate PHILTA and stated that this signified a new chapter for PHILTA. Mr Tiangco commented that the past few days were an invaluable learning experience and confirmed the comradery within the tennis community. Mr Tiangco acknowledged that there is still work ahead and the challenges would be embraced. PHILTA's return was only possible due to ITF support and PHILTA is excited to take part in and host tournaments. Mr Tiangco expressed that, with continued support and guidance, PHILTA is confident in its ability to elevate tennis in the Philippines and beyond.

GOVERNANCE

The President summarised the work undertaken since 2021 through the Governance Review Project which aimed to improve governance in the ITF and relevant stakeholders. As part of the Project, the ITF conducted a detailed review of the existing Constitution. The President confirmed that the review concluded that the existing Constitution was outdated and did not meet standards for good governance for a global sports federation. The President thanked Mr Jack Graham for his efforts in the Project and his service on the ITF Constitutional Committee and Development Advisors Committee. The President referred the Council to the Proposed Constitution at Annex 1.

The President confirmed the two parts of the resolution:

1. A resolution to alter the ITF Constitution by replacing the current Constitution with the Proposed Constitution pursuant to Article 32(a) of the Constitution.
2. A resolution to delegate to the ITF Board the power to approve any final drafting changes wherever applicable required to the Constitution and Bye-Laws to give effect to the alterations contained in the Proposed Constitution and/or made in line with the principles of the Proposed Constitution pursuant to Article 32(b) of the Constitution.

The Parliamentarian confirmed that the resolution was **approved** by a 92.29% majority.

The President summarised the resolution submitted by the Oceania Tennis Federation, Tennis Australia, Tennis New Zealand, Guam National Tennis Federation and the Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association for a guaranteed seat on the ITF Board of Directors for a representative of Oceania. The ITF Board of Directors does not support the resolution

submitted and felt this resolution would undermine the Governance Reform Project work carried out to this point.

The President handed over to Mr Cyrille Mainguy (OTF President).

Mr Mainguy stated that Oceania would like representation on the ITF Board and, as it stands, a guaranteed seat is available to all other regions except Oceania. Mr Mainguy stressed that Oceania is the only region with no specific mention in the ITF Constitution and stated that the ITF cannot call itself a world body without representation from all regions. Mr Mainguy stated that being left off the Board leaves Oceania feeling devalued, left out and not genuinely regarded as part of the ITF. Mr Mainguy stated that the proposal does not affect any other places on the Board, nor does it alter the majority or the quorum. Mr Mainguy stated that having an Oceania representative on the Board would improve the governance of the ITF as it would ensure a diverse perspective and support Oceania's connection with the ITF (and vice versa). Mr Mainguy noted that the geographical distance from others makes engagement more important. Mr Mainguy responded to the reasons specified by the Board for not supporting the proposal.

Firstly, it was not agreed that having fifteen Board Members is not good governance as other international sports federations have boards of either the same size or larger in line with the IOC's universal principles of good governance.

Secondly, Mr Mainguy did not consider that an additional member would encourage self-interested decision making as seven Board Members are required to come from other regions.

Thirdly, Mr Mainguy accepted that there are other ways to seek Oceania's views but queried why the same does not apply to all other regions who have seats on the Board. Mr Mainguy considered this to be unreasonable and unfair to Oceania.

Fourthly, Mr Mainguy did not agree that adding one Member would be at the cost of another ITF objective and suggested that having a guaranteed Member from Oceania would improve the governance, diversity and perspective in the Board.

Mr Mainguy concluded that there is no rational or reasonable justification to not give Oceania a guaranteed seat on the Board and the proposal would not change the balance of power nor the majority so no other Nations would be adversely affected by the change.

The President handed over to Mr Graham to respond.

Mr Graham commented that the issue of Board representation had been around for a long time and, whilst views are respected, additional context was required. Mr Graham stated that Board representation is a complex issue and is difficult to balance the size of Nations, Regions and countries.

Mr Graham noted that the AGM has been reluctant to increase the size of the Board. Mr Graham referenced a proposed resolution in 2012 to add a seat for Asia which was rejected by the Council despite Asia having 50 countries and roughly 4.5 billion inhabitants. Mr Graham commented that Oceania has been represented on the Board in all but two terms. Mr Graham stated that there are many ways for regions to have a voice and have input which have been enhanced through Regional Presidents' meetings and committees. Mr Graham also commented that COTECC also does not have a guaranteed seat despite having over 20 Class B Members. Mr Graham acknowledged that an important principle of the ITF is that everyone elected to the Board represents the ITF, rather than the region from which their Nation comes. Mr Graham concluded that it is the Members who decide who its representatives are, and that choice will remain despite the outcome of this resolution.

The President invited any other delegates to speak in relation to the resolution and handed over to Ms Terri-Ann Scorer (NZL).

Ms Scorer commented that Oceania is vast, its Member Nations are resilient and creative, and it has valuable experience and perspectives to bring to the table of a global organisation. Ms Scorer stated that Tennis New Zealand supports this motion.

The President handed over to Ms Vicki Reid (AUS).

Ms Reid commented that many presentations at the Conference spoke to inclusion across high performance and participation. Ms Reid suggested that this motion speaks to inclusion at the decision-making level. Ms Reid stated that Tennis Australia supports this motion.

The President opened the voting.

The Parliamentarian confirmed that, with 43.91% of votes in favour, the resolution was **not approved**.

The President summarised the ongoing trials regarding off-court coaching. The President introduced the proposal to amend Rule 30 of the Rules of Tennis and to insert a new Appendix to permit off-court coaching. The President confirmed that if the proposal was passed, the new rules would take effect on 1 January 2025 in accordance with Article 28 of the Constitution.

The President confirmed the two parts of the resolution:

1. A resolution to amend Rule 30 of and insert an Appendix 4 into the Rules of Tennis.
2. A resolution to delegate to the ITF Board the power to approve any final drafting changes wherever applicable required to give effect to the alterations contained in the proposed amendments pursuant to Article 32(b) of the Constitution.

The Parliamentarian confirmed the resolution was **approved** by a 96.21% majority.

AWARDS FOR SERVICES TO THE GAME

The President confirmed the nominations for award for services to the game as follows:

- Ms Jingqian YI (CHN)
- Mr Erik Poel (NED)
- Mr Khalid Talaat Farid (SUD)
- Mr Bolivar Pacheco Salazar (ECU)
- Dr Paul Roetert (USA)
- Mr Mykhailo Filima (UKR)

The President confirmed that the Coaches Commission nomination was Mr Frank Zlesak (CZE).

The President invited the delegates to approve these nominations.

The Parliamentarian confirmed the vote is 99.47% yes and therefore the motion is **passed**.

The President congratulated all the recipients of the awards and confirmed that all awards would be given to representatives of the winners' Nations to present to the winners at an appropriate time. The President invited Mr Poel, the one winner who was present at the AGM, to collect his award and give an acceptance speech.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

The President referenced the comprehensive Departmental Reports in the AGM Agenda that have been submitted for the delegates' information, and the President confirmed these materials will be taken as read.

ITF ADVANTAGE ALL AWARDS

The President introduced the third edition of the ITF Advantage All Award. The President provided an overview of the work ITF Advantage All carries out and challenges it has faced, in particular the work on gender equality which has been the focus since 2018. The President confirmed the entries of these awards are available on the ITF Academy.

The President commented on the IOC and UN's recognition of the work tennis does in this area. The President stated he is proud to be a UN HeForShe Champion. The President introduced a video produced for the HeForShe 10th year gala during the UN Summit 2024 which was shown to the AGM.

The President stated that the 2024 HeForShe Impact Report included an ITF case study and stated that the ITF has contributed to other UN women programs. The President commented that the ITF and Advantage All continues to be recognised for its progress towards gender balance both on and off the court. The President called for all the Nations to embrace this initiative.

The President confirmed the highly commended Nations as follows:

- Tier 1: Guatemala, Tunisia, Solomon Islands
- Tier 2: Austria, Bahrain, Costa Rica, Ireland
- Tier 4: Great Britain, Switzerland

The President confirmed the global winners for the ITF Advantage All Awards 2024 as follows:

- Bronze: Fédération Française de Tennis
- Silver: Asociación Argentina de Tenis
- Gold: Tennis Australia

The President invited representatives who were present from each global winner National Association to collect their awards in turn.

The President acknowledged the work Tennis Australia does in hosting the Australian Open and supporting the region.

The President expressed his congratulations once again to all award entries and winners.

FUTURE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

The President confirmed the Board of Directors has selected Riyadh, Saudi Arabia as host for the next ITF Conference and AGM. The President introduced a short message from the president of the Saudi Tennis Federation, Ms Arij Mutabagani.

Ms Mutabagani thanked the President and the ITF and expressed the honour it was to host the next AGM in Riyadh. Ms Mutabagani described Saudi Arabia's transformation journey to achieve Vision 2030 and stated the AGM will be an opportunity to see this progress.

A brief promotional video of tennis in Saudi Arabia was played for delegates.

The President thanked Ms Mutabagani.

The President confirmed that the ITF has received expressions of interest from several Nations for the hosting of future AGMs and encouraged any other Nations to advise the ITF for future consideration if they wished to do so.

MEETING CLOSURE

The President formally thanked the Hong Kong, China Tennis Association for hosting the 2024 ITF Conference and AGM.

The President thanked the ITF Board Members and acknowledged their work, passion and contributions in the past year.

The President thanked the Regional Association Presidents, the Committees and Commission Chairs and the Committee Members for their outstanding contributions to the ITF.

The President expressed special thanks to CEO Mr Kelly Fairweather and the ITF Executives and Staff for their continued contributions and ensuring the ITF 2024+4 strategy is central to work they do. The President acknowledged the talent of Staff and volunteers throughout the organisation.

The President thanked the ITF team for its work in making the AGM a success.

Finally, the President thanked the Member Nations for their passion and dedication to tennis. The President acknowledged that tennis would not be connected the way it is with the participation levels it has were it not for the work of the participating Nations. The President thanked the Nations again on behalf of the ITF Board and the ITF.

The President reiterated the ambitious plans and goals of the ITF to connect world tennis and reiterated the ITF will work together with the Nations and make the vision a reality. The President stated he was looking forward to seeing everyone in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia for the 2025 ITF Conference and AGM and wished the Council continued success in connecting world tennis.

The President officially closed the 2024 ITF AGM.