

The ITF Board of Directors gathered in Paris for its second in person meeting of the year. The meeting was very productive and covered many strategic as well as operational matters.

ITF STRATEGIC UPDATE

Finance & Audit Committee

The Board was given an update from the Finance and Audit Committee Meeting held the previous week. The group management accounts for first quarter of 2022 and the Forecast update for the full year, were reviewed. The Board received and approved recommendations from the Finance Committee in order to manage ongoing economic uncertainty and maintain Reserves. The 2023 budget goal is to be break-even.

The Board received the updated risk register and risk management report, with the top five risks noted as arising from three areas: Governance, Major Events / Tours and Safeguarding.

The Board received an update on the investment portfolio performance which showed that as a result of global events a fall within the first quarter of \$2.7M but it was noted that the portfolios performed better than benchmark despite falling markets.

ITF MAJOR EVENTS

Davis Cup by Rakuten Finals 2022

The Board had detailed discussions around player prize money and nation participation payments for both the Davis Cup and Billie Jean King Cup. The Board is balancing payment levels during times of uncertain economic conditions in order to provide necessary resources to the National Associations for the development of the sport.

Billie Jean King Cup by BNP Paribas Finals 2022

The ITF Board received a final bid presentation from the LTA putting forward Glasgow as the host city for 2022. The Board approved Glasgow as the host.

Billie Jean King Cup Strategic Partnership

The Board reviewed various private equity investment strategies as part of the Billie Jean King Cup strategic plan. The Board will continue to receive and review the business plan which will be updated to reflect prospects through to 2030 and market interest will be tested.

WTN Strategic Partnership

The Board reviewed strategic options in order to further develop ITF World Tennis Number to grow participation and service the National Associations through strategic partnerships.

Padel Tennis

The Board discussed the matter of Padel Tennis as described to National Associations during the ITF EGM on 6 May. The Board resolved to continue to have co-operative dialogue with FIP while pursuing business planning to help ITF Member Nations realise opportunities to grow and develop Padel Tennis within their nations. The Board resolved that matters should be brought to the 2022 ITF AGM.

GOVERNANCE AND INTEGRITY

Constitutional Review

Following the ITF Board's commitment to clarify, rationalise and simplify the current written Constitution in both its content and its form, the Board received an update on the project. The ITF Board had emphasised the need to consult with nations and regions, and a meeting was held in Paris with many nations in attendance to discuss principles of the potential changes. The Board discussed Gender Equality quotas and approved to move forward with an increase in the composition of the ITF Board of a minimum of 4 women in 2023; increasing to 5 women in 2027 and 6 women in 2031. The ITF Executive will continue the consultation process with National Associations through further stakeholder meetings during Wimbledon. The results of the Constitutional reforms will be brought to the 2022 AGM for nations to vote.

Safeguarding

The Board was provided with an overview of the ongoing Safeguarding strategy development and the implementation plan. The Board reviewed examples of cases and the challenges associated with international safeguarding such as jurisdiction and complexity of cases. The Board recognised the importance of safeguarding and determined that ITF should be a champion of safeguarding among international federations and that adequate resourcing should be in place to support the strategy. The ITF Executive will be reviewing all activities that fall within the ITF's responsibility to ascertain that appropriate risk management measures are in place.

Gender Identity Update

The Board was provided with an extensive presentation on the ITF's Gender Identity strategy and eligibility policy. They discussed the IOC transgender eligibility framework and its implementation across all sports, understanding that ITF will be prioritising the principles of the IOC framework in order to identify any changes to the current transgender policy. Consultation with stakeholders will continue where necessary.

Sustainability

The Board received an update on the sustainability strategy of the ITF. Targets set in the 2021 Climate Change Conference have, through the United Nations Sports for Climate Action programme, filtered down into sport. The IOC and ASOIF have identifiable targets to which the ITF is party. ITF's mission is to deliver an innovative and value-driven sustainable tennis eco-system, which can be achieved through a multi-phased programme. In order to deliver the mission, the ITF's focus will be on environmental sustainability and work will be undertaken with equipment suppliers and manufacturers to reduce the environmental impact of equipment such as balls and rackets. Additionally, measures to reduce the ITF's carbon footprint at the ITF Headquarters in Roehampton will be identified. Worldwide business travel for tennis is a major contributor to carbon emissions.

Dave Haggerty
President