

# WAKO NEWSLETTER

**WAKO participation at SportAccord  
Convention Aarhus/Denmark 2-7 April 2017**



## WAKO NEWSLETTER

### WAKO participation at SportAccord Convention Aarhus/Denmark 2-7 April 2017

First week of April 2017 was very important week for WAKO kickboxing sport.

On SportAccord convention approx 96 International Sport Federations and 10 associated members. In total 1.620 delegates were present from the Sports which are recognized by SportAccord, including the exhibitions.

WAKO delegation was: Prof. Dr. Borislav Pelevic, WAKO President, Espen Lund, WAKO Vice President and Chairman of The WAKO International Relations Committee and Roy Baker, WAKO Vice President and WAKO Europe Acting President.

WAKO delegates undertook all advances of this opportunity to conduct multiple meetings with representatives of many International Organizations and the IOC itself in support of our ongoing IOC membership application:

IOC, SportAccord, AIMS, IWGA, FISU, ARISF, IWG, Peace&Sport...and with many persons representing IOC: Mike Joyce, IOC Sport Department, Dr Ugur Erdener IOC Vice President , Mr. Ching-Kuo Wu who is IOC Executive Board member, Nenad Lalovic, IOC member, Mr. Jose Perurena IOC member, Patrick Baumann, IOC member, as well as many other sport officials.

Dr. Thomas Bach, IOC President has opened the SportAccord Convention and AIMS General Assembly during SportAccord Convention.

WAKO is a member of SportAccord and AIMS.



*Dr. Thomas Bach, IOC President addressing the AIMS conference members*



*Dr. Thomas Bach opening SportAccord Convention*

## SPORTACCORD CONVENTION

SportAccord Convention is the world's premier and most exclusive annual event at the service of sport. It is focused on driving positive change internationally and dedicated to engaging and connecting: International Sports Federations, rights holders, organising committees, cities, press and media, businesses and other organisations involved in the development of sport.

## SPORTACCORD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SportAccord had its General Assembly during the event, where the main issue was **changing the name of the organization in to GAISF (Global Association of International Sport Federations)**, as well as recognition of four new members of SportAccord (now GAISF) (37 other applicants are denied).



*Mr. Kit McConnell, IOC Sports Director, speaking during SportAccord General Assembly*

**IWGA ( INTERNATIONAL WORLD GAMES ASSOCIATION ) - GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

IWGA had its General Assembly on 4th of April during the event, and the main decisions were:

- Best global media coverage ever for The World Games.
- No new members accepted in the IWGA.
- Strong IOC & IWGA cooperation



*IWGA Annual meeting (General Assembly)*

**AIMS (ALLIANCE OF THE RECOGNIZED INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF SPORT)  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

AIMS had its General Assembly also and the main issue was the social responsibility and cooperation of sporting federations.



*Stephan Fox, AIMS President and SportAccord Vice President during AIMS General Assembly*

### **WAKO DELEGATION MEETING WITH IOC REPRESENTATIVE MIKE JOYCE**

We had a meeting between WAKO delegates: Borislav Pelevic, Roy Baker and Espen Lund and IOC Sport department representative Mr. Mike Joyce. The main issue of the meeting was WAKO Application for the recognition. We delivered the statuses of the points discussed in Dublin 3<sup>rd</sup> March. Mr. Joyce was satisfied with how the things proceeds in WAKO and expressed his sincere hope of positive outcome of the process within 2017.

We don't know yet in what meeting IOC will bring up Membership issues. However, what we know is that only the shortlisted IFs from 2016 will be evaluated. WAKO need to keep on their toes and deliver quality and act competitive as a solid international sport federation, united and focused on this primary goal.



*WAKO President with Mike Joyce*



*Roy Baker and Mike Joyce*

## WAKO DELEGATION WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE PEACE & SPORT

6th April was the date dedicated to peace through sport. WAKO is fully committed to the 6th April Peace & Sport initiative and delegates joined the P&S campaign during Convention.



*WAKO delegates in White Card campaign*



*President Mr. Joel Bouzou and other officials in the White Card campaign during SportAccord Convention*

## MEETING WITH SPORTACCORD (now GAISF) PRESIDENT PATRICK BAUMANN

We had a separate meeting with a very busy Mr. Patrick Baumann, SportAccord President (now GAISF) for WAKO was an opportunity to establish and strengthen good relations between WAKO and SportAccord, discuss about IOC application for the recognition and to analyze the complex problems of the international sport today. Except being GAISF President Mr. Baumann chair the International Basketball Federation as General Secretary, he is IOC member and he is also chairman of the Lausanne 2020 Youth Olympic Games. I would consider him as busy, influential and very important partner for WAKO future.



*With Mr. Patrick Baumann, SportAccord (now GAISF) President*

## **MEETING WITH IWGA (WORLD GAMES) PRESIDENT**

WAKO delegates meeting with IWGA (The World Games) President Mr. Jose Perurena, was one of the most important meetings during the SportAccord Convention. Since Mr. Perurena is also IOC Member, it was the perfect occasion to discuss WAKO Application for IOC recognition.

Very interested in the ongoing process, Mr. Perurena was introduced with third, revised WAKO Application and went through the main documents. He was very pleased how WAKO is structured and organized.

He promised full support for the WAKO in the process of recognition. Recognition of the new IOC members is upon the IOC Sports Department so he suggested soon conversation with colleagues from the IOC Sports Department about WAKO.

The second issue at the meeting was The World Games in July in Wroclaw and WAKO participation. He stressed the importance of the participation on The World Games since the IOC recognized IWGA The World Games as a partner and Olympic Channel will broadcast The World Games in Wroclaw. "IOC and other partners are interested in what we are doing and how we develop because they expect us to set the stage for new sports which bring in new audiences and attract young people", stressed Mr. Perurena.



*WAKO President with Mr. Jose Perurena*

## **WITH MR. RAFFAELE CHIULLI PRESIDENT OF THE ARISF ( ASSOCIATION OF THE IOC RECOGNIZED SPORT FEDERATIONS)**

WAKO - ARISF meeting at SportAccord Convention was one of the biggest challenges for WAKO Delegates, to establish good relations with ARISF, the association for all IOC recognized sport federations not a part of the Olympic Programme.

ARISF President Dr. Raffaele Chiulli, despite his informal character and very friendly approach to all delegates to the Convention, was very interested in a meeting with WAKO delegates to be informed about latest WAKO situation concerning number of member nations, number of practitioners, WAKO structure, IOC application for the recognition, etc. He has spoken of the pride in seeing five of ARISF sports included in the Tokyo 2020 Summer Olympic Games program.

He said: “There was a clear understanding that ARISF can play a key role in screening, monitoring and supporting all the IFs to help them achieve high standards in such areas as good governance.”



*WAKO delegates with ARISF President Mr. Raffaele Chiulli*

### **WAKO - FISU meeting at SportAccord Convention**

Very important outcome of the participation in the Convention was the meeting with FISU (International University Sports Federation) representatives.

WAKO President Borislav Pelevic had a pleasure to shake hands with FISU President Oleg Matytsin, as the confirmation of the positive outcome of WAKO Application for the membership in FISU. WAKO will become a FISU member during the next FISU General Assembly which will be held in August 2017 in Chinese Tai Pei. WAKO representatives have been invited on the event.



*Borislav Pelevic and Oleg Matytsin, FISU President*



## WAKO – IWG MEETING

During Sportaccord (now GAISF) Convention in Aarhus, Denmark there was a meeting organized between WAKO and International Working Group on Women and Sport - IWG.

Mr. Borislav Pelevic, WAKO President and Ms. Game Gyneth Mothibi, IWG General Secretary, discussed about WAKO membership in IWG organization. Ms. Game Mothibi congratulated WAKO President membership. It was also discussed about preparations for the IWG Conference in Botswana 17-20 May 2018.

IWG is very reputable organization in International Sport, deals with gender equality and women's presence in sport at all levels. It creates initiatives aimed at promoting physical activity, offering men and women equal opportunities in sport and enlisting men as allies in the fight for gender equality.

"The most important highlight of this partnership for WAKO is to clearly step forward in work towards gender equality and equal participation of women and girls in kickboxing organization at all levels: as athletes, coaches, referees and executive officials," was the mutual statement after the meeting.



*WAKO President with Ms. Game Mothibi, IWG General secretary*

Daily schedule on the Convention was full of important activities. Meetings, presentations, plenary conferences and contacts with media were going on from the early morning so WAKO President Dr. Borislav Pelevic, WAKO Vice presidents Mr. Roy Baker and Mr. Espen Lund took all opportunities to introduce WAKO Application for the IOC recognition to the main sports authorities.

### MEETING WITH IOC VICE-PRESIDENT DR. UGUR ERDENER

Among all high-level meetings was the one with the IOC Vice President Dr. Ugur Erdener: (IOC History: Member of the Executive Board (2014-2016); IOC Vice-President (2016-); Member (2009-2014) then Chair (2014-2015) of the Medical Commission; Chair of the Medical and Scientific Commission (2015-); Member of the following Commissions: Women and Sport (2010-2014), Evaluation for the Games of XXXIII Olympiad in 2024 (2016-).

The most important issue on the meeting was WAKO Application and process of the IOC recognition. He knows the strong Turkish WAKO federation and is convinced about WAKO's strong international position and promised his full support.



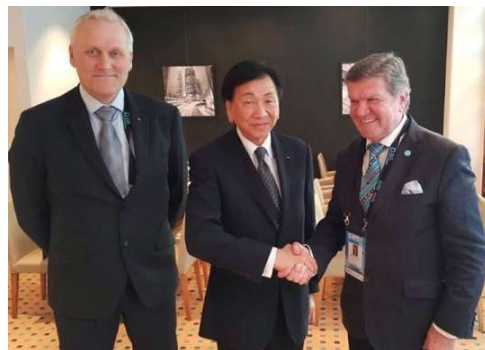
*WAKO delegates with Mr. Ugur Erdener, IOC Vice President*

### MEETING WITH IOC EXECUTIVE BOARD AND AIBA PRESIDENT DR. CHING-CUO WU

Borislav Pelevic and Espen Lund had a meeting with International Boxing Association AIBA President Dr. Ching-Kuo Wu, and with Executive Director AIBA William Louis-Marie.

What is the most important for WAKO is that **Mr. Ching-Kuo Wu is also IOC Executive Board member.**

During the meeting we went through a WAKO presentation, and the meeting was very productive for WAKO, in terms of convincing Mr. Wu to support WAKO.



*WAKO delegates with Mr. Ching-Kuo Wu, IOC Executive Board member*

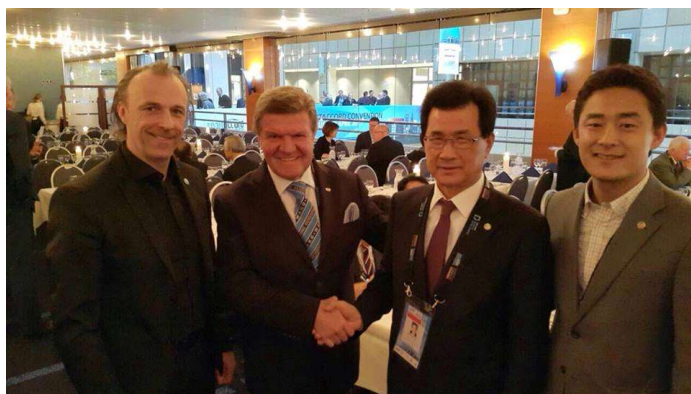
**WAKO delegates were present at the meeting with Stephan Fox, AIMS President and H.E. General Tanasak Patimapragorn Ph. D. Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand** during the Opening Ceremony of SportAccord Convention 4th April, where was confirmed Bangkok, the capital of Thailand, as the host city for the 2018 edition of SportAccord Convention.



*Bangkok will be the next host city of GAISF Convention*

**WAKO delegates met Mr. Si-Jong Lee from Korea, Governor Province Republic of Korea,** World Martial Arts Committee (WMAC) President and President of Korea Martial Arts Federation, who was the main organizer of the 2016 Cheongju World Martial Arts Masterships. About 2,100 athletes from more than 80 countries participated in the international martial arts sporting event with 16 martial arts events, such as Muaythai, Sambo, Jujitsu, Kickboxing, Taekwondo and Martial Arts Show, and 2 special events.

WAKO President was kindly invited to be the guest on the next edition of World Martial Arts Masterships 2017.



*With Mr. Si-Jong Lee from Korea, WMAC President*

**The last meeting WAKO delegates had was with Mr. Nenad Lalovic, IOC member and SportAccord Council Board member**, who is Serbian like WAKO President and a friend of him, and who has already gave a strong support to WAKO in the process of IOC recognition.



*WAKO delegates with Mr. Nenad Lalovic, IOC member and SportAccord Council Board member.*

Prof. Dr. Borislav Pelevic

WAKO PRESIDENT