Monday 8th September

1. Opening
   The chairman made a short address of welcome. He thanked the Romanian Aikikai Aikido Foundation for their great efforts in organizing the meeting and seminar.

2. Roll Call
   The General Secretary took the roll call and circulated a sheet for members to give their signatures.

3. DC Meeting Agenda
   The Chairman asked for confirmation of the meeting agenda and this was approved (see Appendix 1).

4. Minutes of the 2012 IAF Congress
   4a. Approval of the Minutes
       The minutes were presented and approved. After a final clean-up the minutes will be circulated to the members.

   4b. Issues Arising from the Minutes
       Mr Dragt presented the items following from the Minutes (see Appendix 2). Some items were already on the agenda; others were presented in detail.

   a. Media strategy
       Mr Izawa explained that there is an increased demand for material. He pointed to the activities such as the appointment of Mr Giannini as assistant webmaster. He explained by presenting a mind map.

       Mr Giannini explained that maintaining the information about the members was a cumbersome task. He sent a request for information to the members. Mr Vriesman indicated this request did not reach his federation. Mr Izawa explained that some of the information presented by members was unreliable. Mr Vriesman pointed to the problem that some information on the web-site was about non-members, and the DC should find a solution for this issue.

       Mr Izawa explained that the map he had produced contained many subjects and wanted to install working groups to address these issues.
Mr Vriesman asked about the relationship with Hombu on this matter. Mr Izawa explained that Hombu did not appear to have material or have access to it. Mr Tani supported the assumption, indicating that material was there, but was not easily available.

Mr Izawa would like to create a digital library. Mr Tani indicated that most material was hard-copy.

Mr Dragt proposed that the IAF offer its help on that issue to Hombu.

Mr Goldsbury proposed to distinguish media-strategy and communication-strategy. He raised the problem that members do not maintain their information online. He particularly referred to the All Japan Aikido Federation. Mr Izawa proposed to generalize this to information coming from Japan.

Mr Goldsbury asked DC members to leave a valid email address for future communication.

b. Make Aikido Grow

Mr Heylbroeck indicated that his working group reported on this issue during the 11th Congress. The report would be distributed.

c. Mission Statement

Discussion of this item was postponed until Thursday.

d. Reports from the 11th Congress Working Groups

Mr Heylbroeck and Mr Vriesman indicated they recorded for two groups. Perhaps Mr Stenudd had some other reports. Otherwise it was agreed to ask the spokesmen of the working groups for their notes so that their work could be analysed. The reports of the working group with Mr. Heylbroeck and Mr. Vriesman as spokesmen, were given during the Congress to the General Secretary.

e. Definition of Non-competitive Sport

Mr Goldsbury reported that he gave a presentation about this issue at a convention of SportAccord in St Petersburg. He also discussed the issue with Tada Shihan.

Mr Tani indicated that even the notion of non-competitive sport hardly defines Aikido. Aikido was non-competitive but it was not a sport. It could therefore not even be a non-competitive sport.

Mr Heylbroeck confirmed that the notion of sport is uneasy in Aikido’s case, but that it was an unavoidable issue for a SportAccord member such as the IAF. He explained that he tried to replace the word “sport” by “Aikido” within the new IAF anti-doping rules but WADA refused to accept this. Therefore, he included a provision indicating that it was only for the purpose of interpreting the anti-doping rules that “sport” should be considered as covering Aikido, thereby avoiding any recognition that Aikido could be a sport.
5. Reports

a. Chairman’s Report

The chairman presented his report (see Appendix 3). He referred particularly to the Google Hang-out meetings. Mr Vriesman indicated that he wanted to be involved in these meetings. Mr Heylbroeck indicated that he would prefer more communication within the whole DC, even if not every week but perhaps once every two months.

Mr Dragt warned that the Hang-outs were essentially the preparatory meetings for the actual DC meetings. If the whole DC were invited, this would turn the Hang-outs into unprepared meetings.

Mr MacRuari explained that the technology had only recently become available, and in no way expressed a policy.

Mr Goldsberry referred to the past and explained that he had looked for ways to communicate in between the official DC meetings.

Mr Dragt proposed to have a meeting on Google-Hangout once every two months.

b. General Secretary’s Report

Mr Izawa reported on some of the issues in his report (see Appendix 4).

He referred to the Combat Games, the exposure on Facebook and YouTube. He presented a map with social issues. Mr Heylbroeck added to the issue of violence, in itself and not only as regards children violence as presented in the mindmap. He felt that Aikido, and thus the IAF, had a lot to offer as a counterbalance to the increasing violence in society and sports.

Mr Izawa indicated that the decision for the next date and location of the Combat Games was expected in November. The expected date for the next games was 2017.

He reported that the next location for the General Assembly was under discussion and that the city of Takasaki had presented itself as a candidate.

He has asked for feedback from the participants in the Combat Games and asked Mr Blomquist to lead that investigation. The results were attached to his report.

c. Financial Report

Mr Goldsberry ran the DC through the financial report (see Appendix 5).

Mr Heylboeck asked questions about verifying the content of several expenses and receiving a fully translated document. Mr Goldsberry indicated that Mrs Wang would verify the finances as auditor. The language issue in the communication with the treasurer’s office would be taken account of.
d. SportAccord
Mr Goldsbury reported on the issue that with SportAccord the issue of non-recognized members was an item the IAF must address.
He pointed out the IAF has taken on an active role within SportAccord, and the activities challenge the IAF both in terms of human resources and of financial resources.
Mr Vriesman warned the IAF must prepare goals and a strategy to avoid being overcome by the consequences.
Mr Izawa presented a map on revenues (see Appendix 6).
Mr MacRuari pointed to WADA and SportAccord being financial challenges but proposed to avoid putting these issues in the statutes.

e. World Combat Games Technical Delegate / Event Manager
Mr Vriesman gave a presentation (see Appendix 7). The recommendations made by Mr Vriesman will be discussed at a later point on the agenda.
Mr Macruari supported the idea that more volunteers are needed. He also reported that the feedback from participants was positive.

f. WADA
Mr Heylbroeck reported on the WADA issue.
He first described the anti-doping activities required from the IAF at all times:

- Communication with WADA and SportAccord’s Doping Free Sport Unit (DFSU); he has developed a good relationship with those entities, especially the DFSU, and he has attended the yearly symposium in Lausanne since 2012.
- Organizing doping tests; he emphasized that his idea was to comply with the minimal requirements of WADA, which is currently to have 2-3 in and out-of-competition tests each year; he explained that taking into account the Members’ complaints on the tests held in 2012, he made it a point to ensure that the test would be held in a fair manner, with sufficient educational explanation on site to the athlete; he believed that there had been no complaint from athletes in St Petersburg;
- Working on the IAF rules and adapting to changes in the WADA Code and regulations; referring to the matter of Aikido not being a “sport”, he mentioned that he was taking every opportunity he has to plead in favour of exemptions for Aikido (for instance, as regards the concept of “in-competition” and “out-of-competition”) and to make it more practical for the IAF. There was unfortunately very little manoeuvring room.
Mr Heylbroeck then explained what needed to be done by the DC at this time:

- Signing the service agreement with the DFSU, which he negotiated so that the IAF would receive assistance from the DFSU to manage the Therapeutic Use Exemption process (as the IAF is not equipped to do it on its own). This worked well for St Petersburg but the agreement has not been signed yet (the final version, integrating the changes he requested, is expected to arrive by email during this week). As a general rule, he suggested to outsource as much as we can to the DFSU to alleviate the IAF’s workload.

- Approving the new IAF Anti-Doping Rules, modified to comply with the new WADA Code, effective as of January 1st, 2015, which is an important and unavoidable obligation for any IF member of SportAccord; he explained that he asked for the DFSU to prepare a first draft that he would then review (this was done at no cost for the IAF); that draft (86 pages) only arrived on August 29, 2014, with a note from the DFSU saying that it should ideally be submitted to WADA for comments before the DC approved it, meaning that Mr Heylbroeck had to review and comment the draft within approx. two days; as it was impossible to thoroughly do it with such a short notice, he focused on the key issues (definition of “practitioner”, “Event”, interpretation of “Sport”, removing unnecessary formalities for practitioners, etc.); the reviewed draft had been approved by WADA and could now be formally approved by the DC.

He explained that in his opinion, the DC had the authority to approve the Rules and that in any event, there was no other way to meet the deadline of January 1st. However, he felt that since the previous rules were approved by the General Assembly, there had to be a communication to the Members, explaining why the process was different this time. The minutes of the DC might be sufficient in that regard. He also emphasized that the Members should be invited to take a very close look at the Therapeutic Use Exemption process and to inform their own members, as it probably was the most important and relevant item for aikido practitioners.

6. IAF Legal Status

Mr Goldsbury explained that there was a long history involved. He presented a document about the legal standing of the IAF. He explained that there was some confusion about when the IAF was founded. Hombu claims the IAF was created in 1976 in Japan, but the first president of the IAF claimed that the IAF was created in 1975 during a meeting in Spain. This was relevant, because where the federation is created may imply which law applies.
He further pointed out that there was no proof whatsoever that the IAF is a legal body in Japan. The previous general secretary Mr Somemiyia considered that it was important for the IAF to become a non-profit organisation (NPO) in Japan. However, this was never realized. In the past there had been a situation where the IAF was threatened with a law-suit. After private consultation with a lawyer in Japan, this threat was ignored, but the incident proved that the threat of liability was a real possibility.

The Chairman presented the document circulated: IAF-Legal Status. He elaborated on the options and offered the issue for discussion, following five questions that are stated.

Mr McRuari believed that the actual risk for the IAF as being liable was small. He did believe that it is necessary to protect the officers of the IAF against their liability. He points out that Mr Dragt expressed concern that there are actual risks in terms of liability, for instance in relation to participating in the Combat Games and SportAccord. He asked Mr Heylbroeck to give his opinion on these scenario’s. Mr Heylbroeck indicated that it was difficult to predict, but that the scenario’s presented could not be excluded.

Mr Izawa informed the DC that Doshu and Osawa Shihan had called him and had asked the IAF not to pursue the incorporation of the IAF as an independent legal body.

Mr Goldsbury presented the organizational chart Hombu publishes (see Appendix 8), in which the IAF is presented as a department of the Hombu, although the chart is ambiguous. He referred to a conversation where Doshu expressed his concern that the IAF would get involved in the dissemination of Aikido. He pointed out that any proposal would have to address this concern.

Mr Goldsbury asked Mr Tani to comment on the issue. Mr Tani stated that the map was not a valid representation of the opinion of Hombu on the relationship with the IAF. He further stated that Hombu would like a more detailed explanation why the IAF would need to be incorporated.

Mr Dragt explained that there was an actual development within SportAccord that required proof of the legal status of the IAF. Mr Izawa supported this argument with other examples. He pointed out that there is already the claim of a competing organization to represent Aikido in SportAccord.

Mr Heylbroeck presented an analysis of the situation. He went back to the initial question, which was raised as member of the IAF at the 2012 Congress, in which he stated that if the IAF does not know which law applies, it was impossible to work on the statutes, as there could be provisions excluded by the applicable law.

He pointed to the loss made at the previous general assembly, the exceeded budget for the Combat Games, and the possible questions from SportAccord as well as our own members, and referred to the risks involved and possible ways to address them. Referring to the three scenarios presented by the Chairman, he personally feels that the incorporation should probably occur where the
formalities were less stringent and where there was a lesser risk of discussion between the members. There probably was logic in remaining in Japan, depending on the formalities it involved. Mr Izawa proposed to resolve the issue of liability by compensating DC members for such an insurance. Mr Dragt expressed great concern about resolving an organizational issue by covering it with such compensation.

The matter was tabled until Thursday.

7. Statutes

Mr MacRuari explained that the changes in the statutes were limited to removing the associate membership and changes in the article on the official language. There was some discussion. The conclusion was that the new DC members would like to be informed which changes were proposed in the previous version, since it had not been approved by the general assembly in 2012. This information would be presented on Thursday.

Further discussion revolved around the question to what extent pressures from outside should influence the functioning of the IAF. For instance, does pressure from SportAccord force the IAF to change towards accepting their demands? The members agree this should not be the case, but there was concern that the same questions could come from within the IAF.

8. Organizational Structure

8a. DC Meetings Frequency

Mr Dragt explained there were some related issues involved. As the DC appeared to agree that there was an increase in issues the IAF needed to address, and members indicated they saw options to let the IAF take a more active role, the question arose how to handle the consequences of having more meetings, creating revenue, and so on. Mr Izawa supported the proposition that the IAF should take on a more proactive role.

Mr Goldsbery explained that the original idea was considered to have annual DC meetings in between the formally required congresses (held every two years): every year there would be either the general assembly or the formal DC meeting.

Mr Vriesman supported the idea and proposes to have such a meeting in Japan to improve communication with the Aikikai. Mr Izawa proposed to have a rotation of meetings within and outside Japan.

Mr Heylbroeck proposed to add a provision in the statutes allowing for other means of reaching decisions. Mr Izawa proposed to add articles concerning sending documents through registered mail. He further proposed to extend written resolutions to the general assembly. Mr Heylbroeck
and Mr Dragt expressed concern this could be complicated and vulnerable, as well as disrupt the process of allowing discussion between members at the congress. The organizational consequences would be that the workload would be spread across working groups, which would change the role of DC members. This idea was supported by Mr Izawa. The Chairman asked for a proposal and this would be tabled at a later point.

8b. Financial Implications
This was not discussed at this point in the DC Meeting.

8c. Organizational Implications
This was not discussed as such, but Mr Giannini was appointed assistant webmaster, following a proposal by the Chairman.

**Decision List for Sept 8**

- Recover working groups reports from the 11th Congress: contact Mr Stenudd
- Definition of non-competitive sport: Mr Goldsbury and Mr Vriesman will work on a definition
- Organize regular DC-meetings over Google-Hangout (once a month? once every two months?)
- The legal status will be discussed in more detail in working groups
- The previous draft of the statutes will be tabled for discussion on Thursday
- The general strategy to increase the number of meetings is approved
- The general strategy to increase revenue through activities is approved
- The general strategy to do more work through working groups is approved
- Mr Giannini is appointed assistant webmaster.
Tuesday 9th September

The Chairman opened the meeting. He welcomed Mr Delhomme to the meeting. The minutes of the first day were circulated and the Chairman asked for feedback. He informed the meeting that a supplementary budget had been drawn up to cover this directing committee meeting, which would be circulated later.

9. IAF Activities
A list of activities was presented. DC Members added to this list (see Appendix 9). Consequently a level of priority was added to the list, and the arguments for and against the items were presented.

10. SportAccord Combat Games
10a. Combat Games Review
Mr Goldsberry requested Mr Vriesman to summarize his feedback (see Appendix 7). Mr Vriesman mentioned some issues. Mr Goldsberry added practical issues. There was some discussion on the issues that were raised.

10a. Combat Games Future
Mr Izawa pointed to the document that Mr Vriesman and Mr Giannini had provided: an evaluation document which would be circulated. Mr Vriesman asked for a decision on a 'commercial free tatami zone'.
Mr Goldsberry returned to the issue whether country teams should be introduced, particularly if there was an increase of the number of athletes participating. Mr Izawa pointed to the fact that some countries had participants that only worked as tori and not as uke. Mr Dragt expressed a preference to avoid demonstrations per country because it was an IAF event and not an event of countries. Furthermore, he expressed concern that this could lead to countries being compared by spectators. DC members gave further input.

11. SportAccord
11a. Integrity
Mr Izawa gave a presentation on the issue as it was addressed by SportAccord (see Appendix 11). He pointed out that issues such as match fixing and doping were not issues for Aikido, but that SportAccord still asked the IAF to raise awareness on this issue.
Mr Goldsberry asked whether there were other issues DC-members were thinking of. Some issues that were raised were dan grading, physical abuse and sexual harassment.
Mr Izawa indicated that his point was only to inform the DC members about the issue as SportAccord approaches it.

11b. Gender Equality
Mr Izawa pointed to the fact that the issue was on the political agenda of the IOC and SportAccord.
Mr Goldsbury raised the question that Hombu did not have female instructors. Mr Tani explained that a request of this nature had never come to the Hombu Teaching Department. Mr Izawa referred to the upcoming issue of Combat Games location, such as the Emirates.
Mr Dragt explained he feels gender equality was a general topic in in society as a whole. It would not be difficult to find examples of inequality. However, the IAF had no policy to close the gap between the general principle of equality and the skewed numbers in representation on the managing bodies.
Mr Ozaki explained that about 30% of practitioners in Japan was female. He felt that there was no discrimination against women in Japan. Mr Goldsbury indicated that to have female instructors at the demonstrations at the IAF congress needed a lot of persuasion.
Mr Goldsbury reminded the DC that the initial question was in reference to SportAccord’s request for information on presenting policy. Mr MacRuairi pointed to the proposal he made on earlier occasions to ask members to involve females in their delegations.
Mrs Wang explained she visited an international event in Asia on the issue of gender equality. She supported the point that this was an important and relevant issue for the IAF.
Mr Izawa indicated how his request to involve women in the CG in Beijing worked better, and in St Petersburg this went down.
Mr Tani inquired whether there is actual criticism on this issue. Mr Dragt replied that representing the IAF at the platforms like SportAccord was uncomfortable because the IAF had no such policy.
Mr Goldsbury supported this point.
Mr Dragt presented a summary of the discussion, which was approved (see Appendix 12)

12. New Members

Mr MacRuari circulated a document containing the new applications:

**Greece**
There are three organizations that have recognition. The summary is that the AGF is best qualified.

**Lithuania**
The LAAF is considered the most suitable candidate for membership.
Kyrgyzstan
There appears to be only one organization, but there is little knowledge available.

Spain
There is one active application, but there are at least three other groups active.

Ukraine
There is one recognized group, the other possible organization is in Crimea, which is now Russian territory.

After some discussion different solutions arise
- provide general information on the web-site
- publish pending applications on the web-site
- offer the umbrella structure as a solution
- on a case-by-case basis: negotiate with organizations to cooperate
- on a case-by-case basis: exert pressure on the organizations involved

13. Umbrella Organizations
Discussion of this point was postponed until the group discussions on Thursday.

14. Media Strategy
Discussion of this point was postponed until the group discussions on Thursday.

15. Elections
Mr Dragt explained the background of the items on the agenda.

15a. Which Offices are vacant
He proposed that despite the liberal nature of the articles in the statutes, members do not actually present candidates, out of respect for DC-members who are already in office. He proposed that the DC should announce which offices will actually be vacant to avoid this situation.

15b. Applications for Candidates
Mr Izawa presented the opinion that candidates should actually present their skills and views so the general assembly can actually judge what they have done at the next elections, based on that statement.
Mr MacRuari refers to this as the job description.
Mr Heylbroeck warned that any procedure selected should avoid giving the impression that the elections were being influenced.

Mr Goldsbury read an article from the statutes, pointing out that the names of candidates who had previously been nominated had to be announced on the first day of the GA, but candidates could also be presented beyond that time.

Mr Delhomme and Mr Heylbroeck pointed out that most other organizations only elected the chairman in office, and after that the offices are appointed by the DC-members.

Mr Dragt explained the historical background why the general secretary has always been elected in office.

15c. Gender Equality

Discussion of this point was held over until the group discussions on Thursday.

**Decision List for Sept 9**

- The priority list is agreed on
- A working group related to the Combat Games will be established
- Discussion on membership to be continued in the working groups
- Publishing new member applications on the web-site
Wednesday 10th September

16. IAF Meeting Frequency

There was some discussion about what actually should be discussed:

- the frequency of the general assembly
- how actually to realize the increase in number of DC meetings

The frequency of DC meetings will increase anyway through meetings on the Internet. There was some discussion on the time at which these meetings will take place. Another proposal was to record those meetings and publish them on-line (allowing ‘asynchronous’ meetings during which others view and comment after the fact in a collaborative online space).

There was a brainstorming session where several issues were discussed. The main conclusions were:

- the frequency can be increased to every year
- this can be two or three meetings
- the meetings should be 2 or maximum 3 days
- there was a need to find the budget for the meetings, which could come from organizing seminars
- a proposal was to organize the event (DC meeting plus seminar) in such a way that the meeting and the seminar are held consecutively
- a proposal was to agree a standardized format which can be presented to member countries
- in general terms the experience is that the DC meetings require a budget of 1.800.000 Yen or around 15.000 Euros; a proposal was to make this part of the standard contract
- the members that accepts to organize the DC meeting may have specific requirements. How this is handled will be discussed in a working group

Some details of the discussion:

**Frequency:**

The frequency could be annually. Mr Heylbroeck indicated that the Statutes do not require a two year period between two DC meeting but that it is a maximum of 2 years between the DC meetings.

The conclusion was reached that this should be discussed in more detail in a working group during the DC meeting.
Duration of the meetings
Because the frequency of the meetings is already increased by holding regular meetings on Internet, there is agreement that the DC-meetings should be much shorter. The general feeling is to have a meeting lasting two days. There is some discussion whether the seminar can be supported by DC members teaching. The general understanding is that the DC meeting should be seen as a separate event. The concern then becomes how to find the instructors for the seminar, and to establish a long-term relationship with the instructors who could teach at such an event.

17. IAF 2016 Congress

Format of Future Congress Minutes
This issue was raised at earlier assemblies. The Chairman explained that in the initial period the minutes were made by listening to the recordings on tape. Mr Dragt explained that he has made the draft minutes since 1992 and that due to the time lost with translation it had always been very easy to make relatively concise transcripts, maintaining the essence of the dialogue. He pointed out that some member federations had asked for shorter minutes, virtually reducing the content to decision lists. The conclusion of the discussion was that the preference is to maintain the present format.
After some discussion Mr McRuari suggested that taking minutes during the DC meeting was also an issue, and proposed that Mr Giannini act as assistant to Mr Dragt.

Location
Mr Sho Ozaki gave a short presentation, which included a PowerPoint presentation with material provided by Takasaki City.

Starting point: Takasaki proposed to be host to 2016 12th IAF Congress

Why Takasaki?

- Well established: the Gunma Aikido Federation had its 45th anniversary this year
- Location: 50 min by Shinkansen (“bullet train”); gateway to the Japanese Alps.
- Held demonstration meeting with Doshu present
- Mr Arai is a board member of All Japan Federation
- Many dojos with many members, young to old
- Takasaki municipality prepared the document for this presentation

[Missing points as Martin was writing people to invite them to this document]
Takasaki (Main) Arena

- 7 minute walk from (JR Takasaki) train station to Main Arena
- Size: 85m x 42m; > 1000 tatami; 6,000 spectators can view
- Plentiful parking
- Wireless facilities
- Big beautiful new Main Area proposed as venue
- Alternative venue (Hamagawa Gymnasium) in place in case the new facility is not ready (due for completion in March 2016)
- The construction should be finalized by July 2016, but there are alternative facilities in the unlikely event that the construction should be delayed

Hotel Options

- Many hotel / accommodation facilities (w/ “Good prices” - Kei Izawa); prices starting from about 35 Euros / night
- All have ‘services for foreign guests’
- Options include
  - Hotel Metropolitan Takasaki
  - Takasaki Washington Hotel Plaza
  - Central Hotel Takasaki
  - Hotel 1-2-3 Takasaki
  - APA hotel T Station
  - Toyoko Inn T Station West Exit
  - Toyoko Inn T Station non-smoking building

Reception Facility (White Inn)

1,000 person reception facility; close by

Further points

- Proposal that Congress would be in October, although earlier is possible
- A organising group is organised with members (?)
- Doshu and Waka Sensei are informed (?)
- Takasaki (Municipality) sees this as ‘very important event’; is committed to host and promised ‘complete support’ on the moral and financial side;
- On the side of IAF, Kei proposes a ‘small’ task force for the event and that we could use our (IAF) facilities, for example:
  - to maximise the efficiency of registrations (using the website form capabilities);
  - to post to Facebook and other media to promote the city (and events);
Mr Ozaki gives a presentation of the possible next location, Takasaki - Japan. He indicated that the location was in the centre of Japan and could be reached easily by train, for less than 5000 Yen.

Mr Ozaki proposed to hold the general assembly in the second half of October. There was already an organizing committee in place, existing of Mrs Takamizo, Mrs Yokoi and Mr Makoto Ito. Mr Mitsuteru Ueshiba had also participated in the preparations on behalf of Doshu. He further explained that the city or Takasaki, the mayor and municipality, had expressed their support both on the moral and financial side, and were willing to make a substantial effort (which was under debate). But this would protect the IAF from a financial loss such as that which incurred during the 11th Congress in Tokyo.

The prefectural Aikido organization was also very enthusiastic and Doshu had expressed support for the event. Mr Ozaki expressed the hope the DC will agree to organize the event in Takasaki.

Mr Goldsbury raises the issue of interpreters. Mr Dragt proposed to resolve this in a practical manner. Mr Vriesman supported a proposal to delegate this to the general secretary.

Mr Delhomme inquired whether the date was fixed. Mr Goldsbury indicated this was still subject to negotiation.

Mr Goldsbury expressed concern based on the experience in Tanabe and Tokyo that there was insufficient coordination between the organizing committee in the municipality, the organizing committee in Hombu and the IAF DC. He stressed that he wants this to be better in this case. Mr Vriesman proposed to solve this issue by appointing an event manager that participated in this committee.

Mr Izawa referred to other practical issues such as visa support, travel arrangements and the travel agency involved by Hombu. He proposed to establish another working group.

He further proposed to promote the event and the city of Takasaki in the media as part of the event.

Mr Goldsbury proceeded to the decision of organizing the general assembly in Takasaki and the Directing Committee unanimously approved the proposal made by Mr Ozaki.

Mr Dragt pointed to the fact that the date was an issue.

**Practical Issues**

**Translation**

- Could be covered by simultaneous translation and the rental of headsets; avoiding discussion having to be translated after the fact into two languages, tripling meeting time
• Maxime: France could offer to help with costs of translation. He will confirm this with the French federation.

18. Budget

• A supplemental budget was necessary for this meeting of 1.800,000 Yen.
• One issue that could be looked at is IAF membership fees
• Not even basic operating expenses can be afforded given the current IAF membership fees
• It was proposed previously that IAF Seminars could meet the extra income needs to cover actual expenses
• Parties and so on have brought the balance into the red several times
• Members have paid extraordinary fees, as well as our finance people at Hombu, for making wire transfers and exchanging currencies; Martin Giannini spoke previous to this meeting with Kei Izawa about alternatives for moving currencies that could save money for all concerned; August Dragt said that we could possibly save monies by using other services, however, the magnitude of the problem is not covered by doubling a fee from 100 to $200, as the problem may be more like a multiple of 10 times;
• A spreadsheet entitled, ‘List of Outstanding IAF Annual Fees’, showed that there are also debts owed. A significant amount was from Morocco, which had been suspended, and so may reflect an amount that might not ever be recovered;
• Kei Izawa reported several of the outstanding fees that have now been paid for this year;
• Kei Izawa recommended a task force on addressing these issues (such as ‘Activities Planning’)
• August Dragt asked for clarity on the amounts and reduced the outstanding fees to about $4.5K by eliminating the $10K no longer expected from Morocco; other countries were briefly discussed, such as Argentina (given the financial crisis and difficulties in obtaining fiat currency, there may be other such cases where payment may not be made); remaining include Indonesia, Lebanon, Macau, Italy, Mexico, Norway and Venezuela;
• Kei Izawa - The DC is disassociated from the money flow, what goes in and out. If we begin to engage in even more activities, with working groups, etc., and the gap continues where our budgets do not correspond to actual figures, then the problem of budgeting will continue to grow.
• It was suggested that an expert in accounting approach the General Treasurer to figure this out
• Frédéric Heylbroeck asked about the relationship with the treasurer: Was he member of a member federation? Was he a professional and/or a volunteer?

• He felt that this may be relevant to any decision to ask for more detailed information or additional work. The Chairman indicated that the relationship was not completely clear and that in his understanding, the Treasurer was also the professional accountant who handled the Hombu accounts (Mr Shoda was the employee of this accounting firm who handled the accounts of the IAF) who agreed to act as treasurer for the IAF as a favour to the Hombu. Some DC members were uneasy about this situation, which would be looked into by the Officers of the DC.

**Decision List for Sept 10**

- the priority list is agreed on
- a working group related to the Combat Games will be established
- membership is continued to the working groups
- publishing new member applications on the web-site
Thursday 11th September

Mr Peter Goldsbury welcomed and Mr Mitsuteru Ueshiba to the DC meeting. He thanked him for attending the meeting and for his support for the IAF.

Mr Tani forwarded a message from Mr Tony Smibert, who expressed his desire to have been here, and reported that he was feeling better.

The Chairman passed the floor to Mr Izawa and Mr Dragt, to facilitate a session in “a little bit of a different style to what we have done in the past.”

19. Working Groups

(NB. The Agenda for the Directing Committee Meeting, approved on the first day, comprised the following items:

a. New Members
b. Legal Status of the IAF
c. Combat Games Program
d. WADA policy changes
e. Gender Equality
f. Budget
g. Media Strategy
h. 2016 Congress
i. IAF in the Future
j. IAF Seminars

However, since participants were allowed complete freedom as to which groups they would join and what topics would be discussed, not all these topics were discussed and another topic, IAF Seminars, was also included. In addition, there was some dispute on how the groups and topics to be discussed would be divided during the course of the day.)

August Dragt introduced a new concept (for the DC) and a methodology called Open Space (Technology). The plan for the day was to spend one hour in each session, during which there would be two simultaneous groups in session, with five sessions during the day. This would cover all of the ten topics on the Agenda. Those attending a particular session would decide a facilitator for the session, brainstorm, and then summarize what they had been talking about, such as ideas, proposals, and ‘specific steps that you propose we can do, the budget involved, and time, people and money, to perform those steps.’
Mr Izawa expressed some more thoughts on how this way of working was used in corporate settings. Since the number of members at this meeting was very small, it was thought that two groups for each hourly session would be sufficient, so as not to split the groups too much. Mr dragt then brought up the topics up for discussion, which corresponded to the original agenda items.

Session 1

IAF Seminars (Agenda Item j)

Present were: Frédéric Heylbroeck, Martin Giannini, Dorin Marchis, Sho Ozaki, Teresa Wang and translator Florien Popescu

During this session a case study was examined, via questioning Dorin Marchis, organiser of the DC meeting and of the IAF Seminar with Mitsuteru Ueshiba,

Case Study: The 2014 Romania IAF Seminar

Dorin Marchis was asked to join the group to provide his experience in organizing this IAF Seminar / DC Meeting.

The questions and discussion indicated that:

1. Mr Marchis did not think that the IAF should present itself as the organizer, as it was the host organization who did all the work.
2. Mr Marchies stated that the support of the IAF was quite limited; even the presence of the Chairman and officers at the press conferences was not a major change compared to how he usually organized the seminars in Romania (they always make sure to have press coverage). Having the event branded “IAF” was something, but not enough.
3. Mr Marchis was fine with the schedule as it is set, except for the fact that one hour was not enough for each instructor.

Mr Marchis was asked how the schedule was prepared for the seminar. His initial request was to have Mitsuteru Ueshiba. Then the IAF recommended to invite Ulf Evenas. Subsequently, Mr Marchis said that in that case he would like to receive Christian Tissier and suggested to invite him himself. The IAF replied that it was an IAF matter. Later on, he suggested that classes could be organized during the week, and on Friday, since the DC was present. He asked for Peter Goldsbury, Kei Izawa and Wilko Vriesman as he knew them. Sean MacRuairi was recommended by the IAF. Frederic Heylbroeck indicated that he was against the idea of DC member acting as instructors for the IAF, as a matter of avoiding conflict of interest and giving the impression (i) that the DC imposes
its members as instructors at the IAF events or (ii) that being a DC member may be a springboard to an international-level instructor position.

4. For Mr Marchis, the purpose was to have as many Romanians present at the seminar, as the priority. To achieve this, he agreed that his students and most of the Romanian would pay a lower fee or no fee at all for the seminar. He stated that the cost would not be covered by the seminar. They would probably be covered if there were approximately 800 fully paying practitioners.

5. Mr Marchis was disappointed by the attendance of other presidents from national federations to the seminar. He did not see the unity within the IAF when there were such events. He hoped there would be more and that was the main reason why he had asked for a country-based demonstration. Considering the limited attendance, he was happy that there is no country-based demonstration.

6. Mr Marchis regretted that Hombu / IAF did not make sure that the IAF seminar would be the sole event in the area (Kuribayashi Shihan was in Bulgaria at the same time and Kanazawa Shihan was in Poland).

The Working Group of the DC made these recommendations:

IAF must support the host, not impose, especially as it is not paying the costs.

“Support” implies:

- According to Mr Ozaki, considering the IAF seminar as a business, that must be successful;
- Coordinating with the Hombu and verifying the seminars schedule in the area;
- Gathering people from as many Member nations as we can through (i) publicity, invitations, (ii) organizing a country-based demonstration, (iii) (possibly) specifically inviting the presidents of the member federations (maybe taking care of their costs), encouraging them to motivate their students to come;
- Ensuring the presence of Mitsuteru Ueshiba and/or the instructors the host would like to have;

Decision Points

1. The IAF will consider an IAF seminar as a business that must be successful (not a loss to either IAF or the host)
2. The IAF will coordinate the IAF seminar scheduling in consultation with Hombu (to avoid competition for participants of nearby seminars led by Hombu Shihans)

Session 2

**Gender Equality (Agenda Item e)**

Notes by Martin Giannini

Present were Kei Izawa, Maxime Delhomme, Sho Ozaki, Teresa Wang, Martin Giannini and translator Florin Popescu

This Working Group of the DC discussed the issue of Gender Equality and asked and answered some questions, recognised that there are opportunities, and made some recommendations to the full DC:

Why do we think there is a problem? Why do we not have more women?

- Because it is a martial art (budo), and take its roots from history
- In France, Maxime Delhomme is telling (all) people that they can learn Aikido; therefore, he is a crook and a liar if he says this, but in fact, it is not true (for women, for example); therefore, if you decide to share that we are all equals, otherwise, it is not honest to invite people (women) to do something where they are not really welcome
- There is a “male problem” in Japan, in the world. And the world is changing. We hope for peace and gender equality. Why is this difficult? We have to take from what we see on the mat, and to be practical. Otherwise, we will only wish for more equality, but it will not be real. And ‘martial art’ is to be ‘effective’.
- Teresa Wang believes the message of Aikido is “peace and love”; She believes it is very important (for society);
- Maxime Delhomme said “Aikido is something special.... it is budo for peace, not to win.” When my clients are in a legal fight, they have to find a peaceful solution, because they / we all live together. We need our ladies to carry the message of peace, not to carry the message that they have to be strong like men.
- Maxime Delhomme: In Japan, there is equality in law. But the world is divided. Women also compete in a different way. We take the richness of Aikido, the gold, and put sand on top?
- “Ladies first”? Martin said this is a chauvinistic message. That the world has long been Patriarchal.
Opportunities:

- Kei Izawa: Equality is a societal (worldwide) “trend”; We need to find ways to recruit more practitioners;
- If more women put Aikido photos on social media, for example, more will join.
- Maxime Delhomme: Aikido should be easier for women because they do not execute “things” by strength. Does this present a way in which we can provide a message for girls / women to bring them to Aikido? A story: naturally, they come more relaxed to Aikido, and are ‘ready’ to train naturally, and then copy the boys and become more stiff and rely on strength, etc. So why not introduce the concept: “Ladies first”.

Notes on the Recommendations

- Kei Izawa: Hombu sent no women to the 2012 Combat Games.

Recommendations of the Gender Equality Working Group to the DC

- We recommend having a female shihan at the next Combat Games.
- We recommend having at least two female shihans at the Congress (as in 2012).
- We recommend to the member nations that at least one of the delegates that are sent to the Congress is a woman.
- We will send requirements or guidelines to the members that, based on the spirit of the international Olympic charter, and looking at society (Kei Izawa will clarify), the IAF will announce a passionate and inclusive message in said (Olympic) spirit, for the healthy growth of Aikido, etc., that we support women participating. That in fact, the spirit of Aikido is “feminine”, and that our audience will grow because of this, because the world is facing “masculine” violence. Maxime Delhomme: Peace is not to be ‘weak’. We have something to give to the world. The message is “ladies first.”
- Maxime Delhomme: We should write a statement about the “peace message of Aikido”. We deal with strength, but come to peace. “We have to see the top of the mountains, not our shoes.”
- We recommend that there should be more female membership in the DC.
- We ask for permission to use and to have access to a photo of O Sensei surrounded by women practicing Aikido for use as part of a media statement that the message(s) of Aikido are “love and peace” and “inclusive of women”.
International Aikido Federation
Directing Committee

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- We recommend publishing an interview conducted with Maxime Delhomme and Yoko Okomoto. The point would be to elaborate on the question and answer provided by Teresa Wang: “Why should you come to Aikido? To practice peace, a feminine principle”.

Session 3

New Members (a)

Present: Kei Izawa, Teresa Wang, Sho Ozaki, Martin Giannini, Maxime Delhomme, Wilko Vriesman (briefly), Florin Popescu

Background Principle of National Recognition of only 1 Federation

Kei Izawa Sensei reminded us of what Tani Sensei said on behalf of Doshu at the last Congress that every Aikido practitioner and federation should strive to cooperate and “Get together”. That this is one of the main principles originated by the Founder.

Teresa Wang said further: That when thinking about new members, we have to be sure that the organisation that we are going to accept, is (or is not) representative of that country.

Tasks / Recommendations to the DC

1. Kei Izawa: IAF will annually approach all federations that are already Hombu recognized federations, inviting them to become members of the IAF, as well as inviting them, and indeed helping / encouraging (perhaps even “requiring” them), to follow our suggestions to form umbrella (or other) organisations, in order that the maximum number of federations can become members of the IAF.

2. Mr Ozaki said that Hombu can include in their procedures for recognizing federations, that they cooperate, and to also apply for membership in IAF. That, in fact, the Aikikai Foundation has a requirement that federations be inclusive, cooperative, etc., and to become members together to the IAF. The Foundation demanded cooperation in the prefectures, in creating their federations. All 47 prefectures now have a federation that is (automatically) part of the All Japan Aikido Federation. In the same way, every national federation could be automatically, compulsively, included in IAF. Of course, there are nations where the various federations do not want to cooperate. This has also happened in Japan and those groups are not included.
3. Kei Izawa: How do SportAccord and the IOC recognise a nation? Perhaps IAF should redefine the boundaries to be a ‘National Federation’ according to their approach.

4. Maxime will write a concept paper on how to go about this policy.

Decision Points

1. The DC resolves to annually write to federations that are already Hombu recognised federations (but not already members of the IAF), inviting them to become members of the IAF, and helping and encouraging them to follow our suggestions (see Session 1, “Structural Change to Involve more Members”), to form umbrella (or other) organisations, in order that the maximum possible number of federations become members of the IAF.
Friday 12th September

20. Confirmation of Decision List
Owing to the temporary absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman opened the meeting.

21. Meeting with Mr Mitsuteru Ueshiba and DC Members
The Chairman welcomed Mr Ueshiba and apologized for the late start.

a. Relationship IAF - Hombu

Thoughts by Mr Ueshiba
Mr Ueshiba: The relationship (within Aikikai Foundation or between Hombu and IAF) is a “vertical relationship”; Founding meaning of the IAF is to help harmonise the relationships within countries. I hope that the IAF will not change its purpose and that it will remain the same in 10 years time. Most important is to continue to practice, under the guidance of Doshu.

Discussion
Mr Dragt: The highest priority is that Doshu has some concerns and the only way we can resolve “this” is by communicating; If this platform of dialogue at such a meeting can be an avenue for communication, this could be very good.
Next: Because Aikido has such respect for seniority, it may be hard for younger people to find time and place to have the necessary discussion. Mr Dragt says that we must make space to allow them to contribute.
He explains that the decision process is changing and is a learning curve. He hopes.
Mr Heylbroeck: The DC and the organisers of the IAF seminar appreciate your support and your attendance at this meeting. We’ve discussed this in working groups and our hope is that we can continue to count on your support for future IAF Seminar.
Mr Izawa: Expressed his gratitude for coming to Romania. He said that this would be his last term as General Secretary. He shared some thoughts on the relationship with Doshu. Aikikai has a vertical structure, and the IAF has a horizontal structure. The IAF needs a Vision and needs to know Hombu’s Vision, to find its place and grow in harmony with Doshu and the Hombu.
Mr Goldsbury: Stated that he considered it his ‘duty’ as Chairman to have regular meetings with Doshu and that there are regular discussions on improving communications between the IAF and Hombu. There will be a time when the Chairman does not reside in Japan, and this in particular will require that communications are ensured and enabled between IAF and Hombu. He asked Waka Sensei’s thoughts on this matter who replied:
Mr Ueshiba: Said that he completely agreed that there is a need to continue to be strong communication between IAF and Doshu.

Mr Vriesman: Said that it would be welcome to have a DC Meeting at Hombu Dojo.

Mr Ueshiba: Most important is to report to Doshu on decisions.

Mr Goldsbury: The IAF DC has indeed met in the Hombu Dojo meeting room in the past.

Mr Dragt: We now know that the next present to give to Hombu is, WIFI. He says that we have decided that we will have higher frequency of DC meetings. As a consequence, we think that we can have shorter meetings of 2 or 3 days. We will have meetings every 2 or 3 months by Skype or Google Hangouts; That it would be welcome to have more meetings in Japan.

Mr Ueshiba: I think that we are already very close (joking, as he is sitting close to August)

Mr Dragt: Would Hombu welcome more communications from the IAF? For example, we are struggling with some issues:

- In SportAccord, they want to ensure that all member federations are IOC recognised. This would mean that the International Aikido Federation would also need to engage in a process of compliance, such as having an agreed Sports Integrity Policy, Gender Equality Policy, etc.; that they would perhaps require further information on how we are organised; that the IAF need to know where they stand when they meet with SportAccord on these matters, and would welcome knowing Hombu’s position in these regards.

b. IAF Role in Proliferation of Aikido

No discussion.

22. Closing Remarks of the Chairman

Gratitude was shown for the ‘immense work’ of Mr Dorin Marchis and the Romanian Aikido Federation and all who worked so hard to make the meetings a success. Thanks were given to Tani-San and Mr Ozaki for participating. Thanks were also given to Mr Dragt, Mr Giannini and Mr Heylbroeck for their contributions and as well for Mr Dragt’s change of format and introduction of Open Space working group sessions.

The meeting was closed.
APPENDIX

1. Agenda
2. Matters arising from the minutes
3. Chairman’s report
4. General Secretary’s report
5. Financial Report
6. IAF Revenue (Mindmap)
7. Combat Games
8. IAF Legal Standing
9. Hombu Organizational Chart
10. IAF Activities
11. SportAccord Integrity
12. Gender equality
APPENDIX 1: AGENDA IAF DC Meeting 8 – 12 September 2014

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<th>Item</th>
<th>Date - time</th>
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<td><strong>Monday</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Opening</td>
<td>9:00</td>
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<td>2. Roll call</td>
<td>9:10</td>
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<td>3. DC Meeting Agenda</td>
<td>9:20</td>
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<tr>
<td>a. Approval of the minutes</td>
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<td>b. Issues arising from the minutes</td>
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<td>5. Reports</td>
<td>10:30 – 12:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>a. Chairman</td>
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<td>b. General Secretary</td>
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<td>c. Financial report</td>
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<td>d. SportAccord</td>
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<td>e. Combat Games Event Manager</td>
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<td>f. WADA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>12:30 – 14:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. IAF legal standing</td>
<td>14:00 – 15:00</td>
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<td>7. IAF statutes</td>
<td>15:00 – 15:30</td>
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<td>8. Organizational structure</td>
<td>16:00 – 17:00</td>
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<td>a. DC meetings frequency</td>
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<td>b. financial implications</td>
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<td>c. organizational implications</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday</strong></td>
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<td>9. IAF activities</td>
<td>9:00 – 10:00</td>
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<td>10. Sportaccord Combat Games</td>
<td>10:00 – 12:00</td>
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<td>a. Combat Games Review</td>
<td>10:00</td>
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<td>b. Combat Games Future</td>
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<td>11. Sportaccord</td>
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<td>a. Integrity</td>
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<td>b. Gender equality</td>
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<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>12. New members</td>
<td>14:00</td>
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<td>13. Umbrella organizations</td>
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<td>14. Media strategy</td>
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<td>15. Elections</td>
<td>16:30</td>
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<td>a. which offices are vacant</td>
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<td>b. application for candidates</td>
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<td>c. gender equality</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday</strong></td>
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<td>16. IAF meeting Frequency</td>
<td>9:00 – 11:00</td>
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<td>17. IAF 2016 congress</td>
<td>11:00 – 12:30</td>
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<td>a. Agenda</td>
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<td>b. Issues</td>
<td>11:30</td>
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<td>c. Preparation and dead-lines</td>
<td>12:00</td>
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<td>d. Format of future minutes</td>
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<td>e. Location</td>
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<td>f. Practical issues</td>
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### International Aikido Federation

**Minutes DC-Meeting**

**Directing Committee**

**September 2014**

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<tr>
<th>Lunch</th>
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<td><strong>18. Budget</strong></td>
<td>14:00 – 15:00</td>
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<td><strong>19. Working groups</strong></td>
<td>15:00 – 17:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>a. New members</td>
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<td>b. Legal status of the IAF</td>
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**Thursday**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>20. Working groups</th>
<th>9:00 – 17:00</th>
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<tr>
<td>a. Combat Games program</td>
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<td>b. Wada policy change</td>
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<td>c. Gender equality</td>
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<td>d. Budget</td>
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<td>e. Media strategy</td>
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<td>f. Next congress</td>
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<td>g. IAF 5 years from now</td>
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**Friday**

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<tr>
<th>21. Reports working groups</th>
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<td>22. Decisions</td>
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<td>23. Meeting with Mr Ueshiba + Members</td>
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<td>a. Relationship IAF – Hombu</td>
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<td>b. IAF role in proliferation of Aikido</td>
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<td>24. Closing remarks Chairman</td>
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APPENDIX 2: Matters arising from the minutes

- WADA
- New Communication Strategy
- Make Aikido Grow – Ideas for Increased Membership
- Statutes / Legal status
  - Mr McGinnis (USA) presents a motion to
  - request the DC to return with a proposal on the statutes within 2 years;
  - present a proposal for the legal status of the IAF within two years;
  - 6 months before the meeting the proposals and comments be circulated to
    the members.
- Report from the working groups
  - Mr Albornoz (Chili) presents a motion on communication. He proposes:
    - to give the DC the order to unify the work of the groups and develop a mission
      statement for the next four years, and
    - do so before the end of the congress
- Any other business
  - A motion is entered for the IAF to develop a definition of non-competitive sports. The
    general secretary indicates he will scan the motion and send it to the members.
APPENDIX 3: Chairman’s Report

IAF Directing Committee Meeting
Cluj-Napoca, Romania, 8 – 12 September 2014

Visit to Korea
I visited Korea in September 2013 and circulated two reports. Nothing has so far come of this, but I have been informed that the event is still planned to take place.

SportAccord World Combat Games
This event took place in St Petersburg on October 18 – 26, 2013. Unlike the Combat Games held in Beijing, the St Petersburg Games were held in a country with a strong aikido presence and arrangements had already been put in place at the 11th Congress for a large training seminar, to coincide with the IAF demonstration.
With respect to the IAF demonstration, the DC established a working group to organize the event, headed by the General Secretary. This worked reasonably well, but there were problems largely caused by failures in communication from the Russian side. The working group had to deal with three separate entities: SportAccord; the local organizing committee for the main event, which also covered travel and hotel accommodation; and the Russian organizers of the seminar.
Communication among these groups was occasionally conspicuously lacking and sometimes caused major problems at the event.
I would like to express sincere thanks to all members of the working group for their sterling contribution to the great success of the Games.

DC Communications
The Vice-Chairman, General Secretary and Assistant General Secretary have been holding regular conversations via Google Hangout—with great success. The communication is generally weekly and the results are well worth the efforts taken to find a time acceptable to people living in four different time zones.

Preparations for the 12th IAF Congress in 2016
Preparations have already begun, with visits by staff of the Hombu Dojo to the City of Takasaki, in Gunma Prefecture. The City of Takasaki have approached the Aikikai with a view to holding the Congress there. It is quite close to Tokyo, can be reached via Shinkansen from Tokyo, and is a gateway to the Japan Alps.
APPENDIX 4: General Secretary Report

General Remarks

The two years since the last Congress 2012 in Tokyo has been very productive for IAF. The momentum had been rising since the Combat Games in Beijing in 2010. Participation to the Congress in 2012 managed to get close to 700 aikidokas attending in spite of the high cost of the Yen exchange rate as well as concerns about the after effect of the Tohoku area great earthquake and tsunami. We also added four new member federations in 2012 and we continue to receive more applications to join the IAF. The Congress conducted a demo program at the end of the event which was streamed over the internet for the first time.

Based on the success of our participation in Beijing Combat Games 2010 and our active and close collaboration with SportAccord, IAF has managed to raise its profile, not only in the Aikido community globally but within the martial arts and other sports in general as well.

With the experience in Beijing in 2010, IAF formed a working group to deal with the preparation of the World Combat Games in St. Petersburg in 2013. We divided the responsibilities for the demo program preparation and execution, registration and administrative support, anti-doping matters, media and communications, photo shooting, narrator and content creation, interface with SportAccord and other IFs at the senior level. While it was a superb team effort, I would like to highlight the great contribution by Mr. Wilko Vriesman, especially for the interface with the local host which was very challenging. Also from a demo content perspective, we capitalized on some extra official quota to increase the presence of one more Shihan bring the total to 3 Shihan demo on top of the additionally over 85 participants. The number of participating federations totalled 32 which is 70% of the IAF member federations (This rose from 21 federations in Beijing 2010). We were also privileged to have Waka Sensei as Ambassador for the event in St. Petersburg.

SportAccord on the other hand achieved a much higher level of media engagement, with the support of professional entities that specialize in international broadcasting of major sports events such as IEC and many other entities which elevated the exposure of the event and IAF/Aikikai in general. The chart below indicates the “TV” exposure for Aikido and the event contacts we have received. This does not include the major exposure we have been receiving from youtube and internet activities.
Operational issues:

General Secretary maintains regular contact with SportAccord, IWGA, Hombu and those federations that require some type of documentation support. As reported separately, together with Dr. Goldsbury or his delegate, we attend the SportAccord Conventions and IWGA meetings, World Combat Games preparatory meetings, SportAccord IF meetings. I also visited Cluj, Romania in June 2013 for initial preparatory meetings for the DC meeting in 2014. As those were reported separately, I will not repeat the content of the meetings. Some of the key trip reports will be attached to this General Secretary report.

SportAccord and IWGA

IAF is a member of both SportAccord, a successor organization to GAISF (General Association of International Sports Federations) and IWGA (International World Games Association). In the past we were more active in IWGA since we had the opportunity to give Aikido demonstrations in the World Games. But most recently, IWGA imposed a strong pre-condition to IAF to conduct some type of
competition in order to participate in the World Games and as such, we have opted not to participate in events where we are forced to do competition. In the SportAccord Convention in Belek Turkey April 2014, a new president (Jose Perurena Lopez) was elected to IWGA and now we can re-assess the possibilities to participate again in the World Games, as long as the competition requirement is removed.

SportAccord on the other hand, invited us to participate in the World Combat Games (until Beijing called just Combat Games). The format for SportAccord is for only 15 martial arts and combat sports so the exposure we receive is much focused than the World Games multi sport format of IWGA. IAF has worked closely with Hombu to set the criteria for the demo program with the tacit approval of Doshu.

SportAccord also provides us with an international networking opportunity with other martial arts such as Judo, Kendo, Sumo, Karate and many others, supplementing the activities of Aikikai which has with Budo Council in Japan. Because SportAccord is an organization.

**Media activities:**

IAF is not structured nor had the necessity to actively pursue a media strategy. However with the participation in World Combat Games, the need to promote the event and be part of the SportAccord growing media activities expansion required that IAF also started to actively pursue a media strategy. At the DC meeting in Cluj Romania we will discuss further steps for the media strategy. In order to have an integrated approach, we plan to coordinate with all the federation members as well as Aikikai Hombu to optimize the media impact.

With World Combat Games activities, we expanded our web/internet activities to go beyond the IAF web page.

**Facebook:**

As a result of our photo and video posting activities, also with the support of photographers Ms. Goska Smierzchalska and Viktor Kazarin, our Facebook account is spreading very rapidly. As of this writing (August 27, 2014) we have 85K fans who have joined in our account. These high quality pictures are an asset for IAF for future promotional materials. You can visit our Facebook account at the following:
We have started to use this platform to promote some of the member federation events and content. We need to create a systematic approach to make best use of it.

Currently IAF has about 85K fan base (for comparison see below)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federation</th>
<th>FB Fan Base</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intl Judo Fed</td>
<td>485K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Taekwondo Fed</td>
<td>213K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Karate Fed</td>
<td>61K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savate</td>
<td>3K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intl Kendo Fed</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intl Sumo Fed</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

YOUTUBE:

We are pleased to announce that IAF has started a Youtube channel for posting video clips of IAF related activities. We are fortunate to have received very high quality video production data from SportAccord and IEC in Sports after the event in St. Petersburg last October.

While it may take a long time to upload in digest-able portions, we have embarked on the task of doing so with the help of Mr. Martin Giannini who was a volunteer for the St. Petersburg admin and web related activities. This task may not look to amount to too much work but indeed it is a full editing job to cut and edit a long hard drive material in small portions and we would like to thank the tremendous contribution of Mr. Giannini. In addition, Mr. August Dragt, Assistant General Secretary, took initiative to video tape many of the demos prior to the official video tapes became available by SportAccord/IEC which helped raise the awareness and traffic to our FB and Youtube sites.

The IAF specific Youtube channel can be accessed at the following address:

https://www.youtube.com/iaf

The Youtube subscription base is still a very low 721 (as of Aug. 27, 2014) but we will plan to increase this with more content. Subject to be discussed in the DC meeting.
Social issues and new expectations

As IAF’s activities become more prominent and more involved with organizations such as SportAccord, it is inevitable that we shall get more involved in social issues surrounding us.

Social issues such as “Anti-doping”, “social causes such as integration of people with disabilities”, “gender equality”, “sport integrity”, “Aikido promotion for world peace” and many others will have to be discussed within the DC. Currently we are being reactive to requirements from SportAccord.

This will conclude the General Secretary’s report for the period October 2012 till September 2014.

Next World Combat Games

We had anticipated to get the news of the next World Combat Games while we were attending the SportAccord Convention in Belek Turkey this April. As of Aug. 27, 2014, we have not been informed as to where the next World Combat Games will take place nor the timing of the event. It is anticipated that the location and timing will be announced at the IF Forum meeting in Lausanne this November.

Preparations for next IAF Congress in 2016

Preliminary discussions have been initiated with regards to the 2016 IAF Congress in Japan. Dr. Goldsbury as well as the undersigned has had discussions with Hombu to assess some potential new locations (Takasaki City, Gunma Prefecture). Arai Shihan from Gunma Prefecture has taken some initiatives to discuss matter with the city officials and we expect some initial report from Mr. Sho Ozaki at the DC meeting in Cluj.

Sincerely,

Kei Izawa
IAF General Secretary
APPENDIX 5: Financial Report

参考資料/Reference
* 会計年度は12月までですが、本理事会用に7月で締めて作成しています。
* The data shows the IAF financials from January 1, 2014 to July 31, 2014.
* This document was drawn up as a reference for the DC Meeting.

贷借対照表
BALANCE SHEET

平成26年7月31日現在
AS FOR JULY 31, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>資産：ASSETS</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>現金：PETTY CASH</td>
<td>¥ 5,854</td>
<td>$ 56.93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 三井住友銀行（新宿通り）普通預金
SUMITOMO-MITSUI BANK SHINJUKU-DORI BRANCH ORDINARY A/C | ¥ 10,092,587 | $ 98,148.27 |
| 郵便貯金：POSTAL DEPOSIT | ¥ 1,443,745 | $ 14,040.11 |
| 合計：TOTAL | ¥ 11,542,186 | $ 112,245.31 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>負債：LIABILITIES</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>本部勘定：HOMBU ACCOUNT</td>
<td>¥ 7,992,849</td>
<td>$ 77,728.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>剰余金：SURPLUS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>次期繰越収支差額：PROFIT C/F TO THE NEXT TERM</td>
<td>¥ 3,549,337</td>
<td>$ 34,516.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>合計：TOTAL</td>
<td>¥ 11,542,186</td>
<td>$ 112,245.31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

注：FOOTNOTES
①未収年会費：RECEIVABLE MEMBERSHIP FEES = $17,950 (13 MEMBERS)
($10,600 はモロッコの未収分。$10,600 is receivable fees of Morocco.)
②平成26年7月31日現在のレート：EXCHANGE RATE ¥102.83 = US$1.00 (July 31, 2014)
APPENDIX 6: IAF REVENUES

IAF Revenue

- Free content/ Ad revenue
- Subscription content/ Royalty sharing
- General Sports Apparel
- Iwata-ya, Tozando, perhaps Mizuno Advertising
- Advertising revenue from IAF web content
- WCG Participation revenue
- Depends on WCG frequency and SportAccord offer
- Membership dues
- Revision of dues and stronger enforcement
- Royalty from Apparel supplier
APPENDIX 7: COMBAT GAMES REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Combat Games Review

- Program from Beijing was continued
- Seminars and social events were implemented
- Insufficient people on the team
- Division of tasks
  - Political
  - Event management
- Insufficient means of communication
- Management divided over different hotels
- Logistics went very well
- Communicating with Russia involved different layers
- Travel
  - Multiple visa requirement
- Registration
- Swiss Timing

Combat Games Future
Recommendations for the CG 2017

- Organization
  - larger team coordinated by an event-manager
  - to appoint a (female) assistant TD
  - Entire team present on location 2-3 day before the event
  - working budget for the event
  - an IAF credit card
- media
  - Program flyer for the audience
  - to produce a event DVD for the athletes
- Technical
  - ambassador
  - to appoint a female TD assistant
  - appoint a female shihan
  - to maintain the existing program format
  - if the numbers of athletes increase to 200, allow country demonstrations
- DC decisions
  - principle of commercial-free tatami zone
  - working budget
  - IAF credit card
- Registration system
  - Use existing system
APPENDIX 8: HOMBU ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

* The International Aikido Federation (IAF), comprised of Aikido Organizations of each country with the purpose of expediting friendship, is a Voluntary Organization as well as an Auxiliary Organization of Aikikai.
APPENDIX 9: IAF ACTIVITIES

**Items for IAF future activity**

- IAF seminars (8)
  - Recurrent activity
  - Allocation of classes
  - Practice should always be there
  - Regional promotion
  - Enhance the strength of the member federation
- Umbrella organizations (6)
  - Large numbers of organizations that are left out
  - SportAccord asking questions
  - Discrepancy Hombu recognized organizations
  - Look for alternatives
- Gender equality (6)
  - Societal trend
  - Increase membership
  - Demonstrate female strength in instruction
  - Understand the dynamics
    - Follow the facts
  - Requirements in SportAccord
  - Change in thinking in the DC
- Budget (6)
  - Event management
  - Increasing number of activities
- New members (5)
  - Getting new members
  - Countries just want recognition

- Take a proactive position
- What is the IAF for
- Legal status of the IAF (4)
  - General goal
  - Relationship with the Aikikai
  - Liability
    - What are they
    - How to limit them
- Media strategy (4)
  - Media gathering / maintaining
  - Communication
    - Internal
    - External
  - Policy
  - Relationship with the press
  - Branding
  - Merchandizing
- Statutes (2!!)
- Combat Games program
- Wada policy change
APPENDIX 10: SPORTACCORD INTEGRITY

Integrity

- Raise Awareness - educating athletes
- Sport Integrity
  - Stop Match Fixing in Sport
  - eLearning and accreditation

IAF INTERNATIONAL AIKIDO FEDERATION
APPENDIX 11: GENDER EQUALITY

Gender equality

- SportAccord
  - Governance
  - IAF policy
- Example of the situation in Japan
  - 30% female practitioners
  - Few female instructors
  - No female instructors in Hombu
- Practical
  - Involvement of women in delegations to IAF GA
  - Involvement of women in CG demonstrations
- In principle
  - Aikido is fundamentally open and equal to men and women
- For members
  - Some countries already are demanded to take positive action to meet requirements