



SOFTBALL ASIA

SOFTBALL ASIA

MINUTES OF THE 26TH SOFTBALL ASIA CONGRESS 2022

Date: 03 July 2022
Time: 08.00 pm (TPE time)
Venue: Taipei Marriott Hotel, Taipei, TPE

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Mr. Pan Yi Chuan | Chairman |
| 2. Dato' LOW Beng Choo | President |
| 3. Ms. Taeko UTSUGI | First Vice President |
| 4. Ms. KIM Eun Young | Vice President |
| 5. Ms. Sally LIM Swee Gaik | Secretary-General |

DELEGATES

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. CHEN Xu | China – CSA Vice President |
| 2. Ms. CHEN Jia Ren | China – CSA Representative |
| 3. Mr. Houman MANSOURIAN | Iran – IBASA President |
| 4. Mr. Farhad ESHVANDI | Iran – IBASA Vice President |
| 5. Mr. Ali BALDAWI | Iraq – IBSA President |
| 6. Mr. Ali ABDULWAHEED | Iraq – IBSA Secretary-General |
| 7. Mr. Yutaka MIYAKE | Japan – JSA President |
| 8. Mr. Shinsuke YABATA | Japan – JSA Secretary General |
| 9. Mr. SEE Kok Wooi | Malaysia –SAM President |
| 10. Mr. Willeam MAH Choon How | Malaysia – SAM Secretary-General |
| 11. Mr. Ahmed A. A. TAFESH Palestine | FPBSA President |
| 12. Mr. Abdulrahman ALSHERI | Saudi Arabia – KSA CEO |
| 13. Ms. FOO Pei | Singapore – SBSA President |
| 14. Ms. TAN Chia Mien | Singapore – SBSA Asst. Sec. Gen |
| 15. Ms. LO Yu Hsin | Chinese Taipei – CTSA President |
| 16. Mr. Yotsakrai Phainanitporn | Thailand – SBAT President via Online |

OBSERVERS

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1. Mr. Kashif RANA | IBASA International Affairs Director |
| 2. Mr. Tomoaki OKAMOTO | Executive Director, Japan Softball Association |
| 3. Mr. Bounheng SOUTHCHAK | Laos Vice President |
| 4. Mr. Amirul Islam LITOU | Bangladesh Secretary-General |
| 5. Mr. Deepak NEUPANE | Nepal Secretary-General |
| 6. Ms. Aki HUANG | WBSC Asia & Oceania Continental Liaison |
| 7. Ms. Jeri LO | CTSA Interpreter |
| 8. Mr. Tomohiro HISAKA | JSA Secretariat |
| 9. Ms. Taeko ONO | JSA Secretariat |
| 10. Ms. Akiko ITO | JSA Interpreter |
| 11. Mr. WOO Jisuk | Korea BSA Staff |

ABSENT WITH APOLOGIES

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Mr. Jean Henri LHUILLIER | Vice President |
| 2. Ms. Susan ZHANG Xuan | Vice President |
| 3. Mr. Kosol YIMPAIBOON | Vice President |
| 4. Mr. Jimmy FONG | Vice President |
| 5. Mr. CHANG Chia Hsing | Secretary to Chairman |

1. ROLL CALL

- 1.1 Softball Asia (SA) Secretary-General Sally Lim completed the Roll-call and confirmed that a quorum was present for this SA Congress to proceed.
- 1.2 SA President Beng Choo Low called the Congress to order at 08.00 pm (TPE time).
- 1.3 The Agenda for the 2020 Congress was unanimously accepted.

2. TRIBUTE - IN MEMORIAM

Before proceeding with the Congress, SA President Low requested the delegates and attendees to observe a minute of silence in memory of the following from the SA Family who passed away during the term. The information and background of the deceased were given in the President-Secretary General Report to be presented at this Congress:

- 2.1 The late Hiromi Tokuda, past Continental Vice President for Asia on the WBSC Softball Division Board, Advisor of SA and President of Japan Softball Association (JSA) who passed away on 09 October 2021.
- 2.2 The late Albert Chia, SA and Singapore Baseball Softball Association (SBSA) umpire, who passed away on 07 September 2020.
- 2.3 The late Rogelia (Roger) Rojas Jr., one of the top athlete-pitchers from the Philippines national team, RP-Blu Boys, who passed away early March 2022.

3. WELCOME ADDRESSES

3.1 Welcome Address by SA Chairman

- 3.1.1 SA Chairman Pan Yi Chuan welcomed everyone to Taipei and thanked them for their physical attendance. He said that it was good for the delegates and attendees to meet up in person after the lockdown and restrictions imposed by many Governments and health authorities as safety measures in view of the global Covid-19 pandemic.
- 3.1.2 He added that Taipei was happy to be host for this SA Congress in conjunction with the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) Congress and elections.
- 3.1.3 He stated that many sports and other events and activities were cancelled or postponed due to the global Covid-19 pandemic and hoped that SA would be able to re-start SA events soon. He wished everyone good health and an enjoyable stay in TPE.

3.2 Opening Remarks by SA President

- 3.2.1 SA President Low also thanked all delegates and attendees for their efforts to be present in person in Taipei for this SA Congress as well as the WBSC Congress and elections, despite the many challenges faced.
- 3.2.2 She informed that SA decided to have this SA Congress in conjunction with the WBSC Congress and meetings as a cost-saving measure for all the delegates since they would be attending the WBSC events during the same period.

3.3 Welcome to New Softball Asia Members

- 3.3.1 SA President Low informed the delegates that at the SA Extraordinary Congress

held online on 21 December 2021, the following 2 new National Federations (NFs) were approved as SA ordinary (full) members, with voting right:

- (i) Palestine Federation of Baseball and Softball (PFBS).
- (ii) Bhutan Baseball & Softball Association (BBSA).

3.3.2 She welcomed the 2 new SA NF-Members to the SA Family and the delegates from PFBS to this Congress. She informed that unfortunately, the representatives from BBSA could not attend this Congress in person due to travel restrictions imposed by the Bhutan authorities on overseas travel.

4. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE APPLICATION OF THE FOLLOWING AS SOFTBALL ASIA MEMBER:

4.1 Saudi Baseball & Softball Federation (SBSF)

4.1.1 SA President Low reported that SA received the application from the Saudi Baseball & Softball Federation (SBSF) for SA ordinary membership. She informed that from the documents submitted, it was noted that the SBSF has the recognition of its Saudi Arabia National Olympic Committee (NOC) and was already approved as WBSC Ordinary Member.

4.1.2 She said that she had reviewed the documents submitted by SBSF and that the application for SA Membership was approved at the SA Executive Council (EXCO) at its meeting held online on 23 February 2022 for recommendation to this Congress for acceptance and approval of membership. She tabled for approval by this Congress, the application of SBSA for SA ordinary (full) membership.

Proposal:

To consider and approve the Saudi Baseball & Softball Federation as a Full Ordinary Member of Softball Asia with immediate effect, that is, 03 July 2022, subject to payment of the necessary fees as recommended by the SA EXCO.

DECISION

The SA Congress unanimously approved the Saudi Baseball & Softball Federation as a Full Ordinary Membership of Softball Asia, with immediate effect, that is, 03 July 2022, subject to payment of the necessary fees.

5. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE 25th SA CONGRESS HELD ONLINE ON 15 DECEMBER 2020

SA President Low informed that the Minutes of the 25th SA Congress held online on 15 December 2020 was sent prior to this Congress to all concerned and that no requests for amendments were received by the SA. There were no amendments requested by the delegates present.

Proposal:

To consider and approve the Minutes of the 25th Softball Asia Congress held online on 15 December 2020.

DECISION

The SA Congress unanimously approved the Minutes of the 25th Softball Asia Congress held online on 15 December 2020.

6. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SA EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS HELD ONLINE ON 21 DECEMBER 2021

SA President Low informed that the Minutes of the SA Extraordinary Congress held online on 21 December 2021 was sent prior to this Congress to all concerned and that no requests for amendments were received by the SA. There were no amendments requested by the delegates present.

Proposal:

To consider and approve the Minutes of the Softball Asia Extraordinary Congress held online on 21 December 2021.

DECISION

The SA Congress unanimously approved the Minutes of the Softball Asia Extraordinary Congress held online on 21 December 2021.

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no other matters arising from the both sets of Minutes, that were, of the SA 25th Congress 2020 and SA Extraordinary Congress 2021, raised by the delegates present.

8. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE REPORT OF THE SA PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR THE PERIOD 01 DECEMBER 2020 TO 15 JUNE 2022.

8.1 SA President Low presented the Report of the SA President and Secretary-General for the period 01 December 2020 to 15 June 2022 as per **Attachment A**, which she informed was sent to all concerned prior to this Congress.

8.2 She stated that despite the slowdown in sports events and activities due to the global Covid-19 pandemic, SA had stayed connected to its Members by engaging in online communication and liaison. She thanked all those who continued to support SA in its events and activities and recorded SA's appreciation to all who hosted and participated in SA's tournaments, events and activities.

8.3 There were no queries raised on the matters in the Report.

Proposal:

To consider and approve the Report of the SA President and Secretary General for the period 01 December 2020 to 15 June 2022.

DECISION

The SA Congress unanimously approved the Report of the SA President and Secretary General for the period 01 December 2020 to 15 June 2022.

9. **TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE SA’S RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD 01 DECEMBER 2020 TO 31 MAY 2022**

9.1 SA President Low presented the SA’s Receipts and Expenditure Accounts for the period from 01 December 2020 to 31 May 2022, and highlighted the following:

Total Receipt: USD112,488.52
Total Expenditure: USD43,877.10
Surplus: USD68,611.42

9.2 She informed that the surplus was essentially due to the reduced number of SA events and activities, and from deposits for participation costs paid by participating teams for the Baseball5 Asia Cups which had to be postponed, due to the global Covid-19 pandemic. She informed that with the expected resuming of SA events and activities the surplus would not be sufficient and that more source of funds would be required.

9.3 She explained that the receipts from the SA Members’ annual subscription/fees and competition participation fees were not enough for the SA costs and expenses to operate and run all of the SA events and activities. She recorded SA’s deepest gratitude to the following:

9.3.1 SA Chairman, Mr. Pan Yi Chuan, for his contribution of approximately USD20,000.00 for the financial years 2020-2021.

9.3.2 JSA for their annual contribution of approximately JPY1,000,000 for the financial year 2020 and approximately JPY2,000,000 for the financial year 2021.

9.4 She also recorded SA’s appreciation to Mizuno for its continuous contribution of competition balls, umpire uniforms and other attire to SA, especially for the Asian Games.

9.5 There were no queries raised on the matters in the Statement of Accounts.

Proposal

To consider and approve the SA Receipts and Expenditure Accounts for the period 01 December 2020 to 31 May 2022.

DECISION

The SA Congress unanimously approved the SA Receipts and Expenditure Accounts for the period 01 December 2020 to 31 May 2022.

10. **TO CONSIDER THE REPORTS OF THE SA VICE-PRESIDENTS AND SA COMMITTEES**

There were no reports from the SA Vice Presidents and SA Committees.

11. **REPORTS ON UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

SA President Low reported on the following events and activities for the rest of 2022:

11.1 **WBSC-Asia Baseball5**

11.1.1 Joint (Technical-Scorers-Umpires) Seminar
Dates: 15 – 16 August 2022 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

11.1.2 Asia Cup Baseball5 (Open)

Dates: 17 – 19 August 2022 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Note: *The Baseball5 World Cup was scheduled to be held from 07 – 11 November 2022 in Mexico (ASIA 3 slots).*

9 confirmed participating teams: Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Chinese Taipei.

She reported that the organisation of both these Baseball5 events to be held in Kuala Lumpur were proceeding well.

She informed that there would be a separate WBSC-Asia Baseball5 meeting later with representatives from the participating teams for discussion since it would involve both Softball and Baseball NFs as Baseball5 authority is for both NFs.

11.2 Asia Cup U23 Men Softball

Dates: 01 – 02 September 2022 in Shimanto City, Kochi Prefecture, Japan

Note: *WBSC 1st U23 Men Softball World Cup was scheduled to be held later part of 2022 in Argentina (ASIA 2 slots).*

3 confirmed participating teams: India, Japan and Singapore.

11.3 Asia Cup Men Softball

Dates: 03 – 06 September 2022 in Shimanto City, Kochi Prefecture, Japan

Note: *WBSC Men Softball World Cup was scheduled to be held from 26 November – 04 December 2022 in Auckland, New Zealand (ASIA 2 slots).*

7 confirmed participating teams: Hong Kong, India, Japan, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Chinese Taipei.

She reported that both these Asia Cups (U23 Men Softball and Men Softball) would be held back-to-back in Shimanto City, Kochi Prefecture, Japan, and that the organisation were moving forward well. She thanked JSA and its team, in particular JSA Executive Director Mr. Okamoto (Shimanto-Kochi is his home-city) for all their efforts in organising both events despite the many challenges.

11.4 World Cup U12 Mixed Gender Softball

Dates: 07 – 11 December 2022 in Taichung, TPE

Note: *ASIA 2 slots – HKG and SGP, plus 1 for host – TPE.*

She reported that this World Cup (U12 Mixed Gender) would be hosted by Chinese Taipei Softball Association in Taichung, TPE. The participating teams from Asia would be Hong Kong and Singapore, plus Chinese Taipei team as host team.

11.5 Asia Cup Asian Universities Women Softball

Dates: 14 – 17 December 2022 in Pattaya, Thailand

8 confirmed participating teams: Hong Kong, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Chinese Taipei.

She reported that this Asia Cup would be hosted by the Softball Association of Thailand (SBAT) in Pattaya, Thailand and that SA was in continuing online discussions with SBAT on preparations.

12. APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION COMMISSION

- 12.1 SA President Low informed the delegates that the term of the Executive Council (EXCO) Members would end with this Congress and that the EXCO Members for the new term 2022 – 2026 would be elected at this Congress.
- 12.2 She informed that the SA Secretariat had sent out the nomination forms for the positions in the SA EXCO for elections and the List of Nominated Candidates was as follows, and all candidates had completed the necessary declarations, confirmations and agreement for the elections.

NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION TO SOFTBALL ASIA EXCO (2022 – 2026)

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name of Nominee</u>	<u>Nominating Member</u>	<u>Acceptance & Integrity Declaration Forms</u>
Chairman	Yi-Chuan PAN (TPE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chinese Taipei Softball Asso. (CTSA) 	Signed – Both dated 31 May 2022
President	Beng Choo LOW (MAS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brunei Amateur Baseball Softball Asso. (BABSA) • Hong Kong Softball Asso. (HKSA) • Japan Softball Asso. (JSA) • Softball Asso. of Malaysia (SAM) • Singapore Baseball Softball Asso. (SBSA) • Softball Asso. of Thailand (SBAT) 	Signed – Both dated 26 May 2022
First Vice President	Taeko UTSUGI (JPN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Japan Softball Asso. (JSA) 	Signed – Both dated 26 May 2022
Vice Presidents	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ZHANG Xuan (Susan) (CHN) 2. NG Ka Him, Patrick (HKG) 3. Eun-Young KIM (KOR) 4. Jean Henri LHUILLIER (PHI) 5. Yotsakrai PHAINPANITPORN (THA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chinese Softball Association (CSA) • Brunei Amateur Baseball Softball Asso. (BABSA) • Korea Baseball Softball Asso. (KBSA) • Amateur Softball Asso. of the Philippines (ASA-PHIL) • Softball Asso. of Thailand (SBAT) 	<p>Signed – Both dated 25 May 2022</p> <p>Signed – Both dated 31 May 2022</p> <p>Signed – Both dated 26 May 2022</p> <p>Signed – Both dated 25 May 2022</p> <p>Signed – Both dated 26 May 2022</p>
Secretary General	(Sally) LIM Swee Gaik (MAS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brunei Amateur Baseball Softball Asso. (BABSA) • Hong Kong Softball Asso. (HKSA) • Japan Softball Asso. (JSA) • Softball Asso. of Malaysia (SAM), 	Signed – Both dated 26 May 2022

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singapore Baseball Softball Asso. (SBSA) • Softball Asso. of Thailand (SBAT) 	
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12.3 She informed that the Congress would have to appoint the Chair and Members of the Elections Commission to conduct the elections pursuant to By-Laws 1.2, 1.2.1 and 1.2.2 of the Softball Asia Elections By-Laws. She proposed the following, who were the Chair and 2 members of the WBSA Legal Commission, be appointed as they were independent and had the experience and knowledge to conduct the elections:

- (i) Chair of the Elections Commission: Mr. Ron Finlay, who was the Chair of the WBSA Legal Commission.
- (ii) Members of the Elections Commission: Ms. Karen Gaunt and Mr. Vincenzo LaRocca, who were members of the WBSA Legal Commission.

Proposal

To consider and approve the appointment of the following as the respective Chair and Members of the Elections Commission to conduct the elections of the Softball Asia Executive Council Members pursuant to By-Laws 1.2, 1.2.1 and 1.2.2 of the Softball Asia Elections By-Laws:

1. *Chair of the Elections Commission: Mr. Ron Finlay, who was the Chair of the WBSA Legal Commission.*
2. *Members of the Elections Commission: Ms. Karen Gaunt and Mr. Vincenzo LaRocca, who were members of the WBSA Legal Commission.*

DECISION

The SA Congress unanimously approved the appointment of the following as the respective Chair and Members of the Elections Commission to conduct the elections of the Softball Asia Executive Council Members pursuant to By-Laws 1.2, 1.2.1 and 1.2.2 of the Softball Asia Elections By-Laws:

- 1. Chair of the Elections Commission: Mr. Ron Finlay, who was the Chair of the WBSA Legal Commission.**
- 2. Members of the Elections Commission: Ms. Karen Gaunt and Mr. Vincenzo LaRocca, who were members of the WBSA Legal Commission.**

12.4 SA President then requested all the SA EXCO Members to vacate his/her respective position, and handed over conduct of the Congress and elections to Mr. Ron Finlay as the appointed Chair of the Elections Commission, and to Ms. Karen Gaunt and Mr. Vincenzo LaRocca, as the other 2 appointed Members of the Elections Commission.

12.5 SA President and the SA EXCO Members vacated his/her respective positions. The elected Chair (Mr. Finlay) and 2 Members of the Elections Commission (Ms. Gaunt and Mr. LaRocca) took over conduct of the elections for the SA EXCO officials.

(The doors to the Meeting Room were closed and the Room secured, with no person or delegate allowed entry or exit during the entire voting process and procedure.)

13. ELECTIONS OF THE FOLLOWING OFFICE-BEARERS OF THE SOFTBALL ASIA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- 13.1 One (1) Chairman**
- 13.2 One (1) President**
- 13.3 One (1) First Vice President**
- 13.4 Five (5) Vice Presidents**
- 13.5 One (1) Secretary General**

13.1 Election of One (1) Chairman

The Chair of the Elections Commission, Mr. Finlay, announced the “Election of the position of Softball Asia Chairman”. He stated that there was only one (1) candidate for the post of Chairman, namely, Mr. Yi-Chuan PAN.

DECISION

With the confirmation by acclamation of the delegates of the Congress for the record, the Chair of the Elections Commission, Mr. Ron Finlay, declared Mr. Yi-Chuan PAN elected as the Softball Asia Chairman for the term 2022-2026.

13.2 Election of One (1) President

The Chair of the Elections Commission, Mr. Finlay, announced the “Election of the position of Softball Asia President”. He stated that there was only one (1) candidate for the post of President, namely, Ms. (Dato’) Beng Choo LOW.

DECISION

With the confirmation by acclamation of the delegates of the Congress for the record, the Chair of the Elections Commission, Mr. Ron Finlay, declared Ms. (Dato’) Beng Choo LOW elected as the Softball Asia President for the term 2022-2026.

13.3 Election of One (1) First Vice President

The Chair of the Elections Commission, Mr. Finlay, announced the “Election of the position of First Vice President”. He stated that there was only one (1) candidate for the post of First Vice President, namely, Ms. Taeko UTSUGI.

DECISION

With the confirmation by acclamation of the delegates of the Congress for the record, the Chair of the Elections Commission, Mr. Ron Finlay, declared Ms. Taeko UTSUGI elected as the Softball Asia First Vice President for the term 2022-2026.

13.4 Election of Five (5) Vice Presidents

The Chair of the Elections Commission, Mr. Finlay, announced the “Election of the position of Five (5) Vice Presidents”. He stated that there were only five (5) candidates for the post of Five (5) Vice Presidents, namely:

- (1) Ms. ZHANG Xuan (Susan) (CHN).
- (2) Mr. NG Ka Him, Patrick (HKG).
- (3) Ms. Eun-Young KIM (KOR).
- (4) Mr. Jean Henri LHUILLIER (PHI).
- (5) Mr. Yotsakrai PHAINPANITPORN (THA).

DECISION

With the confirmation by acclamation of the delegates of the Congress for the record, the Chair of the Elections Commission, Mr. Ron Finlay, declared the following elected as the Softball Asia Five (5) Vice Presidents for the term 2022-2026:

- (1) **Ms. ZHANG Xuan (Susan) (CHN).**
- (2) **Mr. NG Ka Him, Patrick (HKG).**
- (3) **Ms. Eun-Young KIM (KOR).**
- (4) **Mr. Jean Henri LHUILLIER (PHI).**
- (5) **Mr. Yotsakrai PHAINPANITPORN (THA).**

13.5 Election of One (1) Secretary General

The Chair of the Elections Commission, Mr. Finlay, announced the “Election of the position of Secretary General”. He stated that there was only one (1) candidate for the post of Secretary General, namely, Ms. Sally LIM Swee Gaik.

DECISION

With the confirmation by acclamation of the delegates of the Congress for the record, the Chair of the Elections Commission, Mr. Ron Finlay, declared Ms. Sally LIM Swee Gaik elected as the Softball Asia Secretary General for the term 2022-2026.

- 13.6 The Chair and Members of the Elections Commission handed back conduct of the Congress to the newly elected SA President, Ms. (Dato’) Beng Choo LOW. SA President Low thanked the Elections Commission for the smooth conduct of the elections. She also thanked the delegates of the Congress for their confidence in the newly elected SA EXCO officials.

(The Chair and Members of the Elections Commission left the Meeting Room.)

14. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS:

- 14.1 Softball Asia Advisor and as a member of the SA EXCO for the term 2022-2026.**
- 14.2 Continental Vice President for Asia onto the WBSC Softball Division Board for the new term and as a member of the SA EXCO for that term.**
- 14.3 Secretary to the Chairman at the Chairman’s Office and as a member of the SA EXCO for the term 2022-2026.**
- 14.4 One (1) internal auditor to serve for the term 2022-2026.**

14.1 Softball Asia Advisor and as a member of the SA EXCO for the term 2022-2026

SA President Low stated that under Article 15.4 of the SA Constitution, the EXCO may

appoint any person eligible and beneficial to SA as advisor. She proposed that JSA President, Mr. Yutaka Miyake, be appointed as an Advisor of Softball Asia and to serve on the SA EXCO for the term 2022-2026, in view of his vast knowledge and experience, and the important role played by JSA in the development of Softball in Asia and globally, and as host of SA events and activities.

Article 15.4 The Executive Council shall be authorised to invite and appoint such person(s) whom in its sole opinion, is eligible and beneficial to Softball Asia, to be patron(s) and or advisor(s).

Proposal

To consider and approve the appointment of Mr. Yutaka MIYAKE as the Softball Asia Advisor and to serve on the SA EXCO for the term 2022-2026.

DECISION

The SA Congress unanimously approved the appointment of Mr. Yutaka MIYAKE as the Softball Asia Advisor and to serve on the SA EXCO for the term 2022-2026.

14.2 Continental Vice President for Asia onto the WBSC Softball Division Board for the new term and as a member of the SA EXCO for that term

14.2.1 SA President Low informed that Dr. Yang Xu, President of the Chinese Softball Association (CSA), had served as the Continental Vice President for Asia on the WBSC Softball Division Board, taking over upon the demise of the late Mr. Hiromi Tokuda, and that Dr. Yang had served in that capacity as a member of the SA EXCO.

14.2.2 She also informed that Dr. Yang's term was completing with the upcoming WBSC Congress where elections and appointments would be made for the new term for the positions on the WBSC Executive Board, as well as the respective Baseball Division and Softball Division Boards.

14.2.3 She stated that under the WBSC Statutes and WBSC Elections By-Laws, Softball Asia, Softball in Asia was mandated with the authority to nominate and appoint the Continental Vice President for Asia onto the WBSC Softball Division Board.

14.2.4 She stated that under Articles 9.1.8 and 9.4.3 of the SA Constitution, any elected member of the WBSC Executive Board and WBSC Softball Division Board, and any WBSC Regional Vice President for the region/continent of Asia, shall be a Member-at-Large of the SA EXCO, and shall serve the SA EXCO for his/her term in the WBSC.

Article 9.1 The Executive Council shall comprise of the following office bearers:

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9.1.8 Any elected member(s) of the WBSC Executive Board and the WBSC Softball Division Board, and any WBSC Regional Vice President(s) for the region/continent of Asia, who shall become at large Members of the Executive Council.

Article 9.4.3 The at large Executive Council member(s) shall serve the Executive Council for the same term as his/her term in WBSC.

14.2.5 She said that the CSA played an important role in the development of Softball in Asia and as host of SA events and activities, and in view of his vast knowledge and experience, she proposed that Dr. Yang Xu be appointed again as the Continental Vice President for Asia on the WBSC Softball Division Board.

Proposal

To consider and approve the appointment of Dr. YANG Xu as the Continental Vice President for Asia on the WBSC Softball Division Board for the new term and to serve on the SA EXCO for that term.

DECISION

The SA Congress unanimously approved the appointment of Dr. YANG Xu as the Continental Vice President for Asia on the WBSC Softball Division Board for the new term and to serve on the SA EXCO for that term.

14.3 Secretary to the Chairman at the Chairman's Office and as a member of the SA EXCO

14.3.1 SA President Low stated that it was important to continue the good communication between the Chair and the SA Secretariat office, and in view of the busy schedule of the Chair as Deputy Speaker of his local county, she proposed Mr. Chang Chia Hsing, who is also the Secretary General of the Chinese Taipei Softball Association, be appointed as the Secretary of the SA Chairman's Office in TPE, and to serve on the SA EXCO for the term 2022-2026.

Proposal

To consider and approve the appointment of Mr. CHANG Chia Hsing as the Secretary of the SA Chairman's Office in TPE, and to serve on the SA EXCO for the term 2022-2026.

DECISION

The SA Congress unanimously approved the appointment of Mr. CHANG Chia Hsing as the Secretary of the SA Chairman's Office in TPE, and to serve on the SA EXCO for the term 2022-2026.

14.4 One (1) internal auditor

14.1.1 SA President informed that under Articles 7.8.11 and 14.1 of the SA Constitution, the Congress is to appoint an internal auditor to audit the accounts of the SA.

Article 7.8 The agenda of the Congress meetings shall include:

7.8.11 Appointment of one (1) internal auditor, if applicable.

Article 14.1 The account books of Softball Asia shall, where necessary, be audited annually by an internal auditor appointed by the Congress of the Executive Council.

14.1.2 Mr. See (Malaysia) proposed that Mr. Willeam Mah Choon How, the President of

the Softball Association of Malaysia, who is based in Kuala Lumpur, where the SA office is located (and therefore cost-effective and convenient to carry out the task), be appointed as the internal auditor of SA for the term 2022-2026.

Proposal

To consider and approve the appointment of Mr. Willeam MAH Choon How as the internal auditor of the SA accounts for the term 2022-2026.

DECISION

The SA Congress unanimously approved the appointment of Mr. Willeam MAH Choon How as the internal auditor of the Softball Asia accounts for the term 2022-2026.

The Congress took note of the results of the elections and appointments as follows:

Chairman:	Mr. PAN Yi Chuan	(Chinese Taipei)
President:	Ms. (Dato') Beng Choo LOW	(Malaysia)
First Vice President:	Ms. Taeko UTSUGI	(Japan)
Vice Presidents:	1. Ms. Susan ZHANG Xuan	(China)
	2. Ms. KIM Eun Young	(Korea)
	3. Mr. Jean Henri LHUILLIER	(Philippines)
	4. Mr. Yotsakrai PHAINPANITPORN	(Thailand)
	5. Mr. Patrick NG Ka Him	(Hong Kong)
Secretary-General:	Ms. Sally LIM Swee Gaik	(Malaysia)
Advisor:	Mr. Yutaka Miyake	(Japan)
Members-At-Large:	Dr. YANG Xu	(Continental Vice President - Asia, WBSC Softball Division Board) (China)
		(Any elected member of the WBSC Softball Division Board)
Secretary to Chairman:	Mr. CHANG Chia Hsing	(Chinese Taipei)
Internal Auditor:	Mr. Willeam MAH	(Malaysia)

15. TO CONSIDER AND DISCUSS THE SOFTBALL ASIA CALENDAR FOR JULY 2022 – DECEMBER 2023

SA President requested the delegates to take note of the Softball Asia Calendar for July 2022 until December 2023, in their respective planning and budget preparations for their respective events and activities. She stated that there were still challenges and uncertainties in view of the ongoing global Covid-19 pandemic and restrictions placed by various health and other authorities.

15.1 2022

- 15.1.1 July 09 – 13, 2022 **The World Games** Birmingham, Alabama, US
Women Softball competition
Place: Hoover Met Stadium, Birmingham, Alabama, USA
Group A: USA, Canada, Italy, Puerto Rico
Group B: Japan, Mexico, Chinese-Taipei, Australia
(China withdrew due to Covid-19 restrictions in China and was replaced by Puerto Rico)
(Tournament also for title of Women Softball World Champion)

- 15.1.2 Aug 15 – 16, 2022 **WBSC-Asia Baseball5 Technical–Scorers-Umpires Seminar**
Place: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 15.1.3 Aug 16, 2022 **Softball Asia EXCO Meeting**
Place: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 15.1.4 Aug 17 – 19, 2022 **1st Baseball5 (Open) Asia Cup**
Place: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
(9 teams – Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Chinese Taipei)
- 15.1.5 Sep 01 – 02, 2022 **U23 Men Softball Asia Cup (Play-off)**
Place: Shimanto City, Kochi Prefecture, Japan
(3 teams – India, Japan, Singapore)
- 15.1.6 Sep 03 – 06, 2022 **Men Softball Asia Cup**
Place: Shimanto City, Kochi Prefecture, Japan
(7 teams – Hong Kong, India, Japan, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Chinese Taipei)
- 15.1.7 Oct 22 – 30, 2022 **U23 Men Softball World Cup**
Place: Parana, Argentina
- 15.1.8 Nov 07 – 13, 2022 **1st Baseball5 World Cup**
Place: Mexico
- 15.1.9 Nov 26 – Dec 04 2022 **Men Softball World Cup**
Place: Auckland, New Zealand
- 15.1.10 Dec 06 – 11, 2022 **U12 Mixed Gender Softball World Cup**
Place: Taichung, TPE
- 15.1.11 Dec 11 – 13, 2022 **WBSC-Asia Softball Technical-Scorers-Umpire Seminars**
Place: Pattaya, Thailand
- 15.1.12 Dec 14 – 17, 2022 **Asian Universities Women Softball Asia Cup**
Place: Pattaya, Thailand
- 15.2 2023**
- 15.2.1 Dates TBD **1st Youth (U18) Baseball5 Asia Cup**
Place: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
(To qualify 3 teams from Asia for **World Cup 2023** – dates and place TBD)
- 15.2.2 Dates TBD **Women Softball Asia Cup**
Place TBD
(To qualify 3 teams from Asia for **World Cup Group Stage 2023** to be Spain. Italy, Ireland in Jul – Sep 2023
(Top 2 teams from each Group to qualify for Final Stage World Cup in 2024 in Italy)
- 15.2.3 Dates TBD **1st U15 Women Softball Asia Cup**
Place TBD
(To qualify 2 teams from Asia for **World Cup 2023** to be held in Japan in **Oct 2023** (dates TBD))
- 15.2.4 Dates TBD **U18 Women Softball Asia Cup**
Place TBD
(To qualify 3 teams from Asia for **World Cup Group Stage 2024**) (Final Stage World Cup in 2025)
- 15.2.5 Dates TBD **U18 Men Softball Asia Cup**

- | | | |
|--------|------------------------|--|
| | Place TBD | (To qualify 2 teams from Asia for World Cup 2023 – Dates and place TBD) |
| 15.2.6 | Dates TBD
Place TBD | Men Softball Asia Cup
(To qualify 3 teams from Asia for World Cup Group Stage in 2024 – dates and place TBD)
(Final Stage World Cup in 2025) |
| 15.2.7 | Dates TBD
Place TBD | 1st Slow Pitch Softball (Mixed Gender) Asia Cup
(To qualify 3 teams from Asia for World Cup 2023 expected to be held last quarter of 2023) |
| 15.2.8 | Dates TBD
Place TBD | Umpires Certification Seminars & Coaching Seminars |
- 15.3 SA President Low requested the delegates to contact the SA Secretariat if any of the National Federations wished to host any of the SA events and activities, or propose any additional events or activities.
- 15.4 Singapore Baseball Softball Association (SBSA) President Ms. Foo Pei informed that it was difficult for Singapore to host any SA event or activity for the following reasons:
- 15.4.1 The construction of the new Baseball-Softball there had not been completed, the delay was due to work stoppages caused by the Covid-19 pandemic; and
- 15.4.2 The hotel room accommodation was expensive in Singapore.
- She requested SA to consider the participation-commitment cost of USD60 person per day (for a twin-share room with 3-meals per day) be increased to at least USD80 to USD100 per person per day. SA President Low replied that the cost and rate would be discussed at the next SA EXCO Meeting expected to be held in August 2022.

16. NOTICE OF MOTIONS, IF ANY

There was no notice of motions received by the SA Secretariat to be tabled for discussion at this Congress.

17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

17.1 Lao Baseball Softball Federation

SA President Low introduced the Secretary General of Lao Baseball Softball Federation (LBSF), Mr. Bounheng Southichik, and informed that LBSF (which was formerly Lao Baseball Federation and already a WBSC Member, but expanded to include authority-governance over softball) would be a new member of WBSC. She requested LBSF to apply for SA membership. Mr. Southichik looked forward to support from SA and its members to develop Softball in Laos.

17.2 Saudi Arabia Baseball Softball Federation

Mr. Abdulrahman AlSheri, the Chief Executive Officer of the Saudi Arabia Baseball Softball Federation (SABSF) informed that there were baseball and softball teams and activities in Saudi Arabia. He looked forward to working with SA to see how SABSF may assist to promote and develop Baseball and Softball as they would like to play a role.

17.3 Iran Baseball Softball Federation

SA President Low congratulated Iran Baseball Softball Association President, Mr. Houman Mansourian, on his election as a Member At-Large of the Baseball Federation of Asia (BFA). Mr. Mansourian informed that they will continue with development activities of Softball in Iran.

17.4 Iraq Baseball Softball Federation

Iraq Baseball Softball President Mr. Ali Baldawi informed that it was very difficult to carry out any Baseball and Softball activities in Iraq due to the ongoing conflicts there, and they have no field nor facilities and equipment was difficult to get.

17.5 Palestine Baseball Softball Federation

Palestine Baseball Softball Federation President Mr. Ahmed Tafesh informed that despite the many challenges in Palestine, they have carried out Baseball5 events, and would continue efforts to develop Baseball and Softball. He stated that getting equipment was difficult and they needed assistance in coaching.

17.6 Japan Softball Association (JSA)

JSA Executive Director, Mr. Tomoaki Okamoto informed that the preparations to host the U23 Men Softball Asia Cup and the Men Softball Asia Cup were proceeding well and he welcomed participants to the beautiful city of Shimanto in Kochi Prefecture on the occasion of both Asia Cups in September 2022. He requested those who would be unable to attend in person, to watch the games which would be live-streamed.

17.7 Chinese Softball Association (CSA)

CSA Vice President Mr. Chen Xu welcomed everyone to the 19th Asian Games Hangzhou, which had been postponed to 23 September to 08 October 2023. He stated that although the China Government was still not allowing teams to travel overseas for sports participation, CSA was continuing to promote and organise local Softball activities and events within China.

17.8 WBSC Elections

SA President Low introduced the following, who were candidates for the coming WBSC elections to be held at the WBSC Congress on 04 – 05 July 2022, and requested them to each give a brief address to introduce themselves:

17.8.1 Mr. Craig Cress, who was USA Softball Association Chief Executive Officer.

17.8.2 Mr. Krunoslav Karin, who was WBSC-Europe President.

17.8.3 Mr. Gabriel Waage, who was WBSC Europe Vice President for Softball.

18. ADJOURNMENT

18.1 SA President Ms. Low thanked all delegates and attendees for attending this Congress. She thanked WBSC Asia & Oceania Continental Liaison Ms. Aki Huang for helping with the set-up and preparations for this Congress and for her services in assisting the NFs for Asia. SA President Low then wished everyone and their families would continue to stay well, healthy and safe. She requested everyone to continue to support each other and the SA to further develop Softball in Asia as she said, the strength was in unity and cooperation.

18.2 There being no other matters, the meeting was adjourned at 09.30 p.m., with a vote of thanks to the Chair of the meeting.

Minutes confirmed by:

Below
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DATO' LOW BENG CHOO
President, Softball Asia

03 July 2022