



SOFTBALL ASIA

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MINUTES OF THE 25TH SOFTBALL CONFEDERATION ASIA CONGRESS 2020

Date: 15 December 2020
Time: 14:00 (02.00 pm) Malaysia Time
Venue: Online via Zoom

ATTENDANCE

Softball Asia Executive Committee (EXCO) Members

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Dato' (Ms.) Low Beng Choo | President |
| 2. Ms. Taeko Utsugi | First Vice President |
| 3. Mr. Jean-Henri Lhuillier | Vice President |
| 4. Ms. Kim Eun Young | Vice President |
| 5. Ms. Sally Lim Swee Gaik | Secretary-General |

Softball Asia Committees Chairs

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1. Mr. Yutaka Miyake | Chair, SA Coaching Committee |
| 2. Mr. See Kok Wooi | Chair, SA Competitions & Technical Committee |
| 3. Ms. Heidi Ip Kit Ching | Co-Chair, SA Competitions & Technical Committee |
| 4. Ms. Tan Chia Mien | Chair, SA Scorers Committee |

Delegates of SA Affiliate-Members.

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| 1. Mr. Wan Md. Tambrin | Brunei – Secretary General |
| 2. Dr. Yang Xu | China – President |
| 3. Mr. Ng Ka Him (Patrick) | Hong Kong China – President |
| 4. Mr. Mau Chun Hong | Hong Kong China – Secretary General |
| 5. Ms. Seyedeh Najmeh Hosseini | Iran – Vice President |
| 6. Mr. Hiroyuki Yokota | Japan - Secretary-General |
| 7. Mr. Tomoaki Okamoto | Japan – Executive Director |
| 8. Mr. Choi Il-Hyun | Korea – Senior Manager |
| 9. Mr. Woo Jisuk | Korea – KBSA staff - interpreter |
| 10. Mr. Willeam Mah Choon How | Malaysia – Secretary General |
| 11. Ms. Nor Azlin Tarmidzi | Malaysia – Assistant Secretary |
| 12. Ms. Francesca Altomonto | Philippines – Secretary General |
| 13. Ms. Foo Pei | Singapore – President |
| 14. Ms. Sheng Thong Yin | Singapore – Secretary General |
| 15. Ms. Justin Tsai | Chinese-Taipei – Deputy Secretary |
| 16. Mr. Yotsakrai Phainpanitporn | Thailand – President-elect |
| 17. Mr. Thanikul Boonmahatanakorn | Thailand – Committee Member |

By Special Invitation

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Riccardo Fraccari | WBSC President |
| 2. Mr. Michael Schmidt | WBSC Executive Director |
| 3. Ms. Aki Huang | WBSC Executive |
| 4. Mr. Valerio Cianfoni` | WBSC Executive |

Observers

- | | |
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| 1. Mr. Cherfy Lee | HKSA Council Member |
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| 2. | Mr. Tony Mariadass | SA Media Officer |
| 3. | Ms. Akiko Ito | JSA Interpreter |
| 4. | Mr. Tomohiro Hisaka | JSA Staff/Interpreter |
| 5. | Ms. Taeko Ono | JSA Staff/Interpreter |

ABSENT WITH APOLOGIES

- | | | |
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| 1. | Mr. Hiromi Tokuda | Advisor |
| 2. | Ms. Susan Zhang Xuan | Vice President |
| 3. | Mr. Kosol Yimpaiboon | Vice President |
| 4. | Mr. Jimmy Fong Song Kuan | Vice President |
| 5. | Mr. Chang Chia Hsing | Secretary (Chairman's Office) |
| 6. | Baseball Softball Association of DP Korea | |
| 7. | Softball Association of India | |
| 8. | Indonesia Baseball Softball Federation | |
| 9. | Iraqi Softball Federation | |
| 10. | Softball Association of Pakistan | |

1. ROLL CALL

- 1.1 Softball Asia (SA) Secretary-General Ms. Sally Lim completed the Roll Call and confirmed that a quorum was present. SA President Dato' (Ms.) Low Beng Choo called the Meeting to order at 14:00 (02.00 pm) Malaysia time.
- 1.2 SA President Ms. Low informed that SA Chairman Mr. Pan Yi Chuan conveyed his apologies for not being able to attend this Congress. On behalf of SA, she welcomed the following newly-elected/re-elected President of the following SA Members:
- 1.2.1 Ms. Foo Pei – re-elected President of Singapore Baseball Softball Association (SBSA) and the new SBSA Executive Committee (EXCO) Members.
- 1.2.2 Mr. Yutaka Miyake – elected new President of Japan Softball Association (JSA) and the new JSA EXCO.
- 1.2.3 Mr. Yotsakrai Phainpanitporn – elected new President of Softball Association of Thailand (SBAT).

2. SOFTBALL ASIA PRESIDENT AND WBSC PRESIDENT'S WELCOME ADDRESS

- 2.1 In her welcome address, SA President Ms. Low thanked all the EXCO members and delegates present for taking the time to attend this Congress. She stated that due to the current global Covid-19 pandemic and the many travel, health and safety restrictions, and with many countries/territories still having border lockdowns on international travels, a physical Congress-meeting was not possible, and the best alternative was this online Congress. She stated that she was happy to note that many SA Members/NFs were carrying out some physical activities whenever permitted and many online activities due to the postponement of physical tournaments and events. She expressed hope that the situation would get

better soon so that physical meetings, tournaments, events and other activities could resume.

- 2.2 She said that SA was honoured that WBSC President Mr. Riccardo Fraccari had accepted the special invitation to attend this online Congress and invited him to give his welcome remarks.
- 2.3 WBSC President Mr. Fraccari thanked SA for the invitation to attend this Congress. He said that the whole world was facing tremendous challenges, including all those in sports due to the global Covid-19 pandemic. He informed that WBSC has had to postpone or cancel many of its events, including World Cups scheduled for 2020, due to the pandemic. However, he stated that the situation has given WBSC more time to review and analyse its internal structure and events in order to strengthen WBSC to serve its members better and organise events more effectively. He added that WBSC has also embraced new communication channels and technology.
- 2.4 He informed that WBSC was very proud that Softball would have the privilege and honour to be the first event to start competition in the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, which saw an unprecedented postponement by a year. He said that Softball's opening 6 games to be played in Fukushima would be a special historic return for Softball to the Olympics; and would symbolize recovery, hope and resurgence after the devastating earthquake in 2011. He stated that WBSC has been working hard with the IOC, the Tokyo 2020 organisers, Baseball Japan and Softball Japan, to ensure the best organised event.
- 2.5 He stated that in the current challenging times, it was even more important for all parties to come together to work in cooperation to move sports forward. He thanked SA President and SA EXCO, and all SA Members and others in Asia, who have supported WBSC and continued to work in unity to show that Asia was a column of strength for WBSC.
- 2.6 He took the opportunity to wish everyone and their families a blessed, healthy and happy new year, with best wishes.
- 2.7 SA President Ms. Low thanked WBSC President for his kind words and encouragement, as well as WBSC's support to SA and SA Members, and for his visionary leadership of WBSC. She wished him a speedy recovery and well-deserved rest with his family over the new year holiday break.

3. IN MEMORIUM

Before the Congress proceeded, the attendees observed a minute of silence for the following athlete who passed away on 08 February 2020 after a long courageous fight with cancer:

Yan Fang (1969 – 2020)

- WBSC Softball Hall of Famer.
- Former team captain of Chinese national softball team.
- Founder of Yan Fang Softball Fund in 2019, with her own donations to help the development of youth softball, promote prosperity and

development of Chinese softball.

- An athlete of the China national Softball team that:
 - won the silver medal at the Atlanta Olympic Games 1996
 - was placed 4th at Sydney Olympic Games 2000.
 - won 3 consecutive gold medals at Asian Games Beijing 1990, Hiroshima 1994 and Bangkok 1998, and
 - many other national and international tournaments.

She requested the Chinese Softball Association to convey SA's condolences to the family and inform SA if the family required any assistance from SA.

4. AGENDA & MINUTES OF THE 24th SCA CONGRESS – 05 DECEMBER 2018, KUALA LUMPUR

- 4.1 The Agenda for the 2020 Congress was unanimously accepted.
- 4.2 SA President Ms. Low informed that the Minutes of the 2018 SA Congress held on 05 December 2018 in Kuala Lumpur 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 24th Softball Asia Congress held on 05 December 2018 in Kuala Lumpur Malaysia as proposed by Mr. Jean Henri Lhuillier and seconded by Japan Softball Association (Mr. Yutaka Miyake).

DECISION

The SA Congress unanimously approved the Minutes of the 24th Softball Asia Congress held on 05 December 2018 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no other matters arising from the above Minutes of the SCA Congress 2018 raised by the delegates present.

6. REPORT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WBSC SOFTBALL REVIEW WORKING GROUP

- 6.1 SA President Ms. Low requested WBSC Executive Director Mr. Michael Schmidt to give a brief report on the work and recommendations of the WBSC Softball Review Working Group (SRWG).
- 6.2 Mr. Schmidt reported on the following as regards the SRWG:
- 6.2.1 The SRWG was formed by WBSC to review all the Softball tournaments and events. It comprised of representatives from each of the continents.

- 6.2.2 The SRWG had several meetings over the past 2 -3 months, either weekly or bi-weekly, and had agreed on certain recommendations on revised competition formats and calendar.
 - 6.2.3 The SRWG recommendations were tabled to the WBSC Executive Board (EB) at its meeting on 09 December 2020 for consideration and the EB had been given time to review and approve the recommendations; the EB approval was pending.
 - 6.2.4 The main change for the WBSC World Cups for Softball – Men, Women, U23 Men, U18 Men, U18 Women and U12 Mixed Gender – would be the move from a 2-year cycle to a 4-year cycle.
 - 6.2.5 Another significant change would be that the World Cups for Men, Women and U18 Women Softball would be changed to a 2-tier/stage system. The qualified teams would be divided into 3 – 4 pools/groups for a 1st tier-stage preliminary round robin competition within each pool/group – the pools/groups competition could each be held in different locations. The top teams (number from each pool/group to be determined) of each group would then qualify to play in a 2nd tier-stage/final round/super round World Cup competition to determine the World Cup champion for each category.
 - 6.2.6 The other World Cups, namely, for U23 Men, U18 Men and U12 Mixed Gender Softball would continue to be played using the current 1-tier/stage (all teams in 1 tier-stage) World Cup competition.
 - 6.2.7 There would be a revised overall calendar for the WBSC World Cups for Baseball and Softball.
- 6.3 He informed that the SRWG took into consideration many factors before finalising the recommendations, such as:
- 6.3.1 Reduce risks and costs for teams during the current global Covid-19 pandemic with less international travel and less busy overall year of intense competition, by moving to a 4-year cycle for the World Cups.
 - 6.3.2 Consider Athletes’ welfare and wellbeing (with less intensity as less days of competition and less games over a single stretch of time) under a 2-tier/stage World Cup.
 - 6.3.3 More teams may qualify to participate in the 2-tier/stage World Cup as more teams would be eligible to participate due to a proposed increase in the number of participating teams at the 1st tier-stage of the World Cup, whilst the top teams would have less intensity but higher-level competitive games at the 2nd tier-stage finals of the World Cup.
 - 6.3.4 Cost cutting was important as allocations for sports were being cut by many governments and sponsors, with priority being given to assist in the adverse effects resulting from the pandemic.
- 6.4 WBSC President Mr. Fraccari informed that in view of the global pandemic, it was not possible for WBSC to continue with its past calendar of so many

tournaments and events in a single year. As such, the formation of the SRWG was necessary for the review and analysis to make recommendations to help save costs for the organisers and WBSC, lessen the burden for participating teams, but still remain competitive and attractive for them.

7. TO DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON THE SA CALENDAR AND THE ASIA CUP TOURNAMENTS and OTHER EVENTS/ACTIVITIES IN 2021

SA President Ms. Low stated that the current global Covid-19 pandemic has caused many international and domestic tournaments, events and activities in all sectors, including sports, to either be postponed or cancelled. She said this included the postponement and cancellation of several SA tournaments, events and other activities. There was discussion and agreement on the following as regards the SA Calendar for 2021 onwards, if the circumstances permit.

7.1 Asia Cup Men Softball

7.1.1 It was noted that the WBSC World Cup Men Softball had been postponed by WBSC and the Local Organising Committee (LOC) to 19 – 27 February 2022, to be held in Auckland, New Zealand.

7.1.2 There was still no host nor dates confirmed for the Asia Cup Men Softball qualifier to be held in 2021; it was discussed that it may be held towards the later part of 2021. SA would endeavour to find a host, failing which Malaysia was on standby to host, with the competition venue on all-grass fields.

7.1.3 The Asia Cup would be the qualifier for 2 Asia teams to be eligible to participate in the World Cup Men Softball 2022.

7.2 Asia Cup (23 Men Softball

7.2.1 Mr. Schmidt informed that WBSC was still in discussion with the LOC on the possibility to postpone that U23 Men Softball World Cup from October 2021 to 2022, in Santiago de Estero, Argentina but that no definite decision has been reached on that postponement.

7.2.2 There was still no host nor dates confirmed for the Asia Cup U23 Men Softball to be held in 2021, pending the decision of WBSC on the dates for the World Cup.

7.2.3 The Asia Cup would be the qualifier for 2 Asia teams to be eligible to participate in the WBSC World Cup U23 Men Softball.

7.2.4 It was noted that there was a possibility of Singapore or Malaysia hosting that Asia Cup.

7.3 Asia Cup U12 Mixed Gender Softball

7.3.1 It was noted that the WBSC World Cup U12 Mixed Gender Softball was scheduled to be held on 24 – 29 August 2021, in Taichung, Taiwan. Only 1 Asia team (other than the host) would be eligible to participate in that World Cup.

- 7.3.2 It was noted that based on the responses to the Survey sent by SA to all SA Members in June 2020, only 2 teams indicated interest, namely, Hong Kong -China and Chinese Taipei, to participate in the Asia Cup U12 Mixed Gender Softball tournament; China, Japan, Korea and Philippines had stated that they would not participate in that Asia Cup.
- 7.3.3 As such, there may not be a need to hold the U12 Mixed Gender Softball Asia Cup to qualify the 1 Asia Team to be eligible to participate in that World Cup because Chinese Taipei would be eligible to participate as host and Hong Kong-China would be the only other Asia team interested.

7.4 Asia Cup Asian Universities (U23) Women Softball

- 7.4.1 It was noted that SA had planned for the Asian Universities Women Softball Asia Cup to be held in 2021 (dates to be determined) and that SA was still waiting for the proposal paper from Softball Association of Thailand (SBAT) to host that tournament.
- 7.4.2 In view of the election of a new SBAT President, SA President Ms. Low asked the SBAT President-elect Mr. Yotsakrai Phainpanitporn whether SBAT was still interested to host that tournament as their outgoing President Mr. Kosol Yimpaiboon had informed that SBAT would host it in mid-2021 at either University of Kasetsart or University of Thammasat in Bangkok.
- 7.4.3 SBAT President-elect Mr. Phainpanitporn confirmed that SBAT was still interested to host that tournament but he had the following questions:

- (i) Whether the name of the tournament could be changed to “Asia Cup U23 Women Softball”, without using the word “Universities”.

He said this was because the Sport Authority of Thailand (SAT), (who would give funding for that tournament) indicated that the SAT would only support and fund if national teams participate, and not universities’ teams; if it is a “Universities-level” tournament, then the funding should be from the Education Department. He stated that the SBAT was still in discussion with the SAT on the proposed budget.

- (ii) Whether SBAT could change the host city to Pattaya, Thailand.

He confirmed that Pattaya was the new proposed city, as the International School in Pattaya has offered its venue (with 2 all-grass competition fields). He informed that the fields in the Universities of Thammasat & Kasetsart were not in good condition and required a lot of upgrade works. He presented some photographs of the competition venue and changing room facilities.

- (iii) Whether the proposed competition dates could be in May - June, 2021.

- 7.4.4 SA President Ms. Low clarified as follows:

- (i) The name of the tournament would remain as it was started as a “Asian Universities” tournament for the participating athletes to be students of universities, with the age limit of U23. and it was up to the NFs participating how to select their respective team.
- (ii) SBAT should submit to SA a written proposal, with more photographs, to host the tournament and propose the venue and dates, and a proposed budget, for SA’s consideration and approval. It was discussed that dates in May – June 2021 was too soon as the participating teams should be given more time, preferably 4 – 6 months, to select their respective teams and make the necessary preparations.

7.5 Asia Cup Baseball5 (Open & Youth categories)

- 7.5.1 It was noted that the Baseball5 (Open and Youth category) Asia Cups planned for 2020 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, was postponed due to the global pandemic and that the new dates had yet to be determined.
- 7.5.2 Those Asia Cups were to have served as a qualifier for 2 Asia teams in each of the Open and Youth (U18) category of the WBSC World Cup Baseball5.
- 7.5.3 SA President Ms. Low requested the WBSC Executive in charge of Baseball5, Mr. Valerio Cianfoni, to give a brief update on the new dates proposed by WBSC for the World Cups for Baseball5.
- 7.5.4 Mr. Cianfoni reported that WBSC has decided on the following for the Baseball5 World Cups:
 - 2022 – WBSC World Cup Baseball5 Open category (to be held biennially in even years, that is, 2022, 2024, 2026, etc.). To start in 2022 as 2021 is already a very busy/crowded year for other Baseball-Softball tournaments and events.
 - 2023 – WBSC World Cup Baseball5 Youth category (14 – 18 years old) (to be held biennially in odd years, that is, 2023, 2025, 2027, etc.). The age category has been changed to 14 – 18 years old to align with the age category for the Youth Olympic Games (YOG) since Baseball5 has been included in the YOG by the IOC (International Olympic Committee).
 - Hosts for the 2022 and 2023 Baseball5 World Cups and specific dates yet to be determined.
- 7.5.5 It was noted that Baseball5 has been included by the IOC onto the sports programme for the Youth Olympic Games in Dakar, which has been postponed from 2022 to 2026.
- 7.5.6 SA President Ms. Low informed that since Asia Baseball5 was a joint event/activity between Baseball Federation of Asia (BFA) and SA, she would discuss the hosting of the Asia Cup Baseball5 tournaments with BFA before updating the SA Members.

7.6 Postponement of the World Cup U15 Women Softball

7.6.1 It was noted that WBSC has postponed the inaugural World Cup U15 Women Softball from 2021 to 2023. As such, the Asia Cup U15 Women Softball which was scheduled to be held in 2020, has been postponed to 2022.

7.6.2 It was noted that the Chinese Softball Association (CSA) has informed that it was still interested to host the Asia Cup U15 Women Softball in due course.

7.7 Postponement of the World Games Birmingham (Women Softball)

It was noted as follows as regards The World Games (TWG):

7.7.1 The postponement of TWG to be held in Birmingham, United States (USA), where Women Softball has been included onto the sports programme, from 2021 to the new dates of 09 – 13 July 2023.

7.7.2 3 teams from Asia, China, Japan and Chinese Taipei have been selected to participate.

7.8 Seminars and Courses

SA President Ms. Low informed that:

7.8.1 SA intended to organise WBSC-Softball Asia level seminars for Technical Officials, Scorers and Umpires in conjunction with the Asia Cups to be held, and would keep SA Members posted on developments.

7.8.2 SA, under the WBSC-Asia Baseball5 Commission, and in collaboration with the BFA, intended to organise the WBSC-Asia Baseball5 Technical Seminar in conjunction with the Baseball5 Asia Cups to be held, and would keep SA Members posted on developments.

8. REPORT ON SOFTBALL ASIA – JAPAN SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION COACHING WEBINAR JOINT PROJECT

8.1 SA President Ms. Low informed that the SA EXCO approved the SA – Japan Softball Association (JSA) Coaching Webinar Joint Project at its SA EXCO Meeting held online on 14 October 2020.

8.2 She stated that the Webinar Project was headed by the SA Coaching Committee Chair, Mr. Miyake (who was also JSA President) and he had 3 other coaches assisting him, and was supported by the JSA Secretariat and staff. She requested Mr. Miyake to make a presentation and report on the Webinar Project.

8.3 Mr. Miyake gave the following report on the Coaching Webinar Project:

Objective: To increase the promotion and development of SB skills and knowledge in Asia, particularly during the current global Covid-19 pandemic lockdown, where physical seminars/courses may not be

conducted, and many are subjected to movement restrictions.

Team: The Team would comprise of the JSA coach-instructors who conducted the WBSC-Asia Coaching Certification Seminar in Penang, Malaysia in January 2020, namely:

- Mr. Yutaka Miyake as Head/Coordinator of Project.
- Mr. Toshihiro Kuriyama
- Mr. Hirotaka Kadomatsu
- Mr. Subaru Takahashi

Method: 20 Video footages – each 30 minutes.

8.3.1 The tentative schedule was for the Webinar videos to be available from early December, and to be completed by end March 2021. The first video (Pitching Level 1) had been completed and uploaded onto to special online platform created for the Project, and the link to that special platform was through the SA website by way of a password. Participants and NFs should register through SA; the Webinar videos were open to all those interested.

8.3.2 The Webinar videos would cover the different skills for Softball, such as pitching, defense, batting, base-running, strategy, etc., from the beginner's level to the advanced level.

8.3.3 Live webinars for online discussions and queries were proposed on dates to be determined.

8.4 SA President Ms. Low thanked Mr. Miyake and his team, as well as the JSA and its staff, for their committed support and dedicated efforts in organising and producing the Webinar project.

8.5 Mr. Schmidt reminded SA that the WBSC Academy also has webinars and videos available on different topics, which were open to all those interested. He said there were already available webinars for Baseball5 and Grassroot-level coaching, and other topics would be regularly uploaded. The webinars were currently in English and Spanish, and that translation into other languages was being looked into.

8.6 SA President Ms. Low informed that SA Members have been informed of the availability of the WBSC Academy webinars. She said that the SA-JSA Joint Coaching Webinars were preparatory webinars, and intended to prepare participants before they take up the WBSC-level coaching certification courses. She stated that SA would continue to work with WBSC to organise future WBSC-SA courses and seminars jointly and follow-up on the first such WBSC-SA certification course (Levels 1 and 2) that was held in January 2020. She expressed hope that the WBSC-SA would organise a “Level 3 Certification” and a “Train the Trainers” courses soon.

9. REPORT ON THE ALLOCATION & DISTRIBUTION OF USED SOFTBALL EQUIPMENT

9.1 SA President Ms. Low informed that the SA EXCO (at its Meeting held online on

14 October 2020) approved the allocation and distribution of 1 set each of used softball equipment (received from WBSC from the old ISF Plant City office) to the following 4 NFs.

- 9.1.1 India
- 9.1.2 Malaysia
- 9.1.3 Pakistan
- 9.1.4 Thailand

9.2 She requested Mr. See Kok Wooi, who was assisting SA on the shipping and delivery, to give an update as regards the delivery of those used equipment. Mr. See reported as follows:

9.2.1 He had obtained the addresses from India, Pakistan and Thailand for the delivery. Malaysia's set has been delivered.

9.2.2 There was a delay in the shipment delivery due to travel restriction regulations - there are very few shippers operating routes, and he would keep SA posted when there were shipping schedules available.

9.3 SA President Ms. Low informed the Brunei NF (Mr. Wan Tambrin) that she would communicate with them as regards SA's other allocation of used equipment available. She also requested Mr. Wan Tambrin to follow-up with WBSC (with Ms. Huang) to update communication channels and payment of the WBSC annual membership fees.

9.4 M. Huang reminded all NFs to respond to, and complete and return to WBSC, the recent WBSC Survey sent to all NFs to enable WBSC to update its records on the NFs. SA President Ms. Low requested Ms. Huang to keep SA posted on responses so that SA could assist to follow-up on those who fail to respond.

9.5 SA President Ms. Low pointed out to WBSC President and WBSC Executive Director that there were some Asian Softball NFs which were WBSC Members but had yet to respond positively to SA's request for membership applications, such as Bangladesh, Mongolia, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Palestine.

9.6 WBSC President Mr. Fraccari requested that SA follow-up on the matter with WBSC to push for their applications for SA membership. Ms. Huang informed that she has been in communication with some of these NFs, which were active in Baseball, and that she would continue to pursue the matter with them as regards Softball.

9.7 SA President Ms. Low stated that if those NFs want to retain "Softball" in their name of the NF, then they must activate their softball activities and become an SA member, otherwise, they should not retain the "Softball" name and deprive others of forming NFs to develop softball in their countries/territories.

10. TO CONSIDER AND, IF APPROPRIATE, APPROVE THE REPORT OF THE SA PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR THE PERIOD 01 DECEMBER 2018 TO 30 NOVEMBER 2020.

10.1 Secretary General Ms. Lim informed that the Report of the SA President and

Secretary-General for the period 01 December 2018 to 30 November 2020 as per **Attachment A** was sent to all concerned prior to this Congress. She then proceeded to present the Report.

- 10.2 There were no queries raised on the matters in the Report.
- 10.3 WBSC President Mr. Fraccari stated that he was very impressed with the many tournaments, events and activities carried out by SA, and thanked all the SA Members for being so active. He stated that WBSC would continue to support the SA activities. SA President Ms. Low stated that the more developed Softball NFs were always supportive of SA events and efforts, including the efforts to help the developing Softball NFs.

Proposal:

To consider and approve the Report of the SA President and Secretary General for the period 01 December 2018 to 30 November 2020 as proposed by Softball Association of Malaysia (Mr. See Kok Wooi) and seconded by Japan Softball Association (Mr. Yutaka Miyake).

DECISION

The SA Congress unanimously approved the Report of the SA President and Secretary General for the period 01 December 2018 to 30 November 2020.

- 10.4 SA President Ms. Low recorded SA's appreciation to all who hosted and participated in SA's tournaments, events and activities.

11. TO CONSIDER AND, IF APPROPRIATE, APPROVE THE SA'S RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD 01 DECEMBER 2018 TO 30 NOVEMBER 2020

- 11.1 SA President Ms. Low informed that the SA's Receipts and Expenditure Accounts for the period from 01 December 2018 to 30 November 2020 as per **Attachment B**, was sent out to all concerned prior to this Congress. Ms. Low proceeded to present the Statement of Accounts.

- 11.2 She explained that the receipts from the SA Members' annual subscription/fees and competition participation fees were not enough for the SA expenses. She recorded SA's deepest gratitude to the following:

11.2.1 SA Chairman Mr. Pan Yi Chuan for his contribution of approximately USD10,000.00 the year 2019 and the additional sum of USD3,000.00 for the Asia Cup U17 Men Softball 2019 competition.

11.2.2 Japan Softball Association (JSA) for their annual contribution of approximately JPY2,000,000.00 the year 2019 and approximately JPY1,000,000.00 for the year 2020.

11.2.3 WBSC for the Continental Development Grant of USD25,000.00 for the

year 2019 and USD12,500.00 for the year 2020.

- 11.3 She apologised to the Chinese Baseball Association for the time taken to refund the deposits paid for the Asia Cup Baseball5 (Youth) tournament. She stated that the other deposits paid by the teams that have registered their interest for the Asia Cup Baseball5 tournaments were set aside in case there were any requests for refund.
- 11.4 She also informed that most of the SA expenses were for organising SA tournaments, events and activities.
- 11.5 SA recorded its appreciation to Mizuno for its continuous contribution of competition balls, umpire uniforms and other attire to SCA, especially for the Asian Games.
- 11.6 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 2018 to 30 November 2020 as proposed by Singapore Baseball Softball Association (Ms. Sheng Thong Yin) and seconded by Brunei Baseball Softball Association (Mr. Wan Tambrin).

DECISION

The SA Congress unanimously approved the SA Receipts and Expenditure Accounts for the period 01 December 2018 to 30 November 2020.

12. NOTICE OF MOTIONS, IF ANY

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

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 Debt due and owing by Indonesia Baseball Softball Federation

SA President Ms. Low reported that unfortunately, the Indonesia Baseball Softball Federation (IBSF) and IBSF President Mr. Andika Monoarfa have not paid the following debt due and owing by them to SA, which they failed to pay for the Asia Cup Women Softball in 2019 held in Jakarta, Indonesia. She said that SA has not been successful in attempts to contact them.

Particulars of IBSF Debt

- USD5,000.00; and
- Indonesia IDR155,940,000.00.

13.2 Host for the U23 Men Softball Asia Cup in 2021

13.2.1 SBSA Secretary General Ms. Sheng informed that Singapore was interested to host the U23 Men Softball Asia Cup as the construction of their new Baseball-Softball field should be ready in 2021 and it would be a good test to have the tournament there. She said that SBSA would like to contribute to SA by hosting that tournament, barring any delays in the construction and hopefully, the pandemic situation becomes manageable.

13.2.2 SA President Ms. Low thanked SBSA for the request and said that she would follow-up with SBSA on the matter.

13.3 Chinese Softball Association

Chinese Softball Association (CSA) President, Dr. Yang, expressed hope that CSA would be able to host their national softball tournaments as scheduled in 2021. He also confirmed that CSA would work with the LOC on the hosting of the U15 Women Softball Asia Cup in 2022. He thanked SA for the support and efforts.

13.4 Japan Softball Association

JSA President Mr. Miyake thanked SA President for her leadership and the SA Members for their support and cooperation. He also expressed hope that the SA Members would be able to meet for a physical meeting soon and that other physical events and activities could resume in the near future.

13.5 Korea Baseball Softball Association

Korea Baseball Softball Association (KBSA) Vice President Ms. Kim Eun Young (through the KBSA interpreter) queried whether SA had plans for a physical meeting in Kuala Lumpur in 2021 so that KBSA could submit their budget to the KSOC (Korea Sports & Olympic Committee) for approval. SA President Ms. Low confirmed that KBSA and all others should budget for a physical SA EXCO meeting in 2021, which she hoped to host, provided the Covid-19 situation becomes manageable.

13.6 Amateur Softball Association of Philippines

Amateur Softball Association of Philippines (ASA-Phil) Secretary General Ms. Francesca Altomonto, informed that the Philippines was still under lockdown with physical activities very limited, and as such, they were still conducting their activities mainly online. She said that it has been very challenging.

13.7 WBSC

Mr. Schmidt congratulated SA on being very active. WBSC President Mr. Fraccari wished everyone all the best for the new year ahead, and looked forward to meeting in person soon.

14. ADJOURNMENT

14.1 SA President Ms. Low thanked WBSC President Mr. Fraccari, WBSC Executive Director Mr. Schmidt, the WBSC Executives, all delegates and attendees for

attending this Congress. She thanked WBSC Executive Ms. Huang for helping with the technical set-up for the Meeting. She wished everyone and their families would continue to stay well, healthy and safe, and wished everyone a blessed Happy New Year ahead.

- 14.2 There being no other matters, the meeting was adjourned at 04.30 p.m., with a vote of thanks to the Chair of the meeting.

Minutes confirmed by:



DATO' LOW BENG CHOO
President, Softball Asia

15 December 2020