

IFF President Report on meetings in Singapore/Malaysia February 2012

Participants: IFF: Mr. Tomas Eriksson, IFF President

Report on present issues

1. Objective and purposes of meetings

Mr. Eriksson is to do the follow ups on WUC in June 2014, SEA Games in June – December 2015, WFC U19 Men in May 2015, and situation and status of Singapore Floorball Association (SFA), and Malaysia Floorball Association (MFA), and meet and check the status of NOC affiliation with respective NOC.

2. Prepare meeting held on February 15, 2012

Mr. Eriksson meet with Mr Sani Mohammed Salim, the President of SFA, in order to prepare the planned meetings in the upcoming days with Singapore University Sports Council, and Singapore National Olympic Council, and with Singapore Floorball Association, on WUC 2014, SEA Games 2015, and WFC U19 2015, and the situation within SFA.

Singapore University Sports Council, supported by SFA is ready to bid for the WUC 2014 to FISU, and IFF has helped providing all needed documents, in advance, that is FISU work plan for WUC, updated FISU financial regulations, and a copy of the bid for WUFC 2010 as an example. There are mainly two issues to settle, the proposed dates, June 11-15, 2015, and the division of tasks between SFA and the respective Universities. IFF has written a proposal for the letter of interest to FISU, and we went through all papers, and prepared tomorrows meeting with Singapore University Sports Council.

SEA Games 2015, www.seagfoffice.org, the dates are not yet set, same reasons as for WUFC, namely that the venues for board and lodgings, are to be available, either midst of June 2015, or early August 2015, because of the semesters for schools and universities in Singapore. Early in 2014 the new www.sportshub.sg is ready, with totally three venues, one new venue for 3 000 spectators, and a new national stadium with 55 000 spectators, and the old indoor stadium (we played WFC 2005 there) for 12 000 spectators. SEA Games regulations stipulate four countries that need to be affiliated with their respective NOC which is yet not the case in any of our five members.

WFC U19 for men was discussed, dates April 30 – May 4, 2015, and the only main issue for the moment is that no dates are set for the SEA Games, which could clash concerning planning and marketing of the WFC U19. But this was not seen as a major issue.

SFA is in debt to IFF (with 15 000 CHF), and it was stated that SFA cannot be appointed organisers of the events, unless this is settled. Mr. Sani gave the background that last years funding from SSC is not yet SFA at hand, but all needed documents are thee, and once settled, all debts will be paid to IFF. Mr. Sani shared he opinion that this must be settled before moving on with the process of events. Concerning affiliating to the SNOC this is more of an administrative issue and will be handled.

3. *Singapore University Sports Council meeting on February 16, 2012*

Mr. Eriksson and Mr. Sani meet with the four Universities that comprise Singapore University Sports Council, a member of FISU, the delegation headed by President Mr Alan Koh (from Singapore Management University) and former president Mr Kenneth Chan (from Singapore Institute of Management). Represented were also NTU and NUS (National Technology University and National University of Singapore). These four Universities have a system of rotation concerning the chair.

We went through in detail;

- Work plan for WUC (FISU)
- Updated financial regulations for WUC (FISU)
- Bid dossier, example
- Letter of interest to FISU

Singapore would like to organize the WUFC 2014 in both men and women categories. The proposed dates for the Championships are June 11-15, 2014. The candidature, by Singapore University Sports Council, is supported by Singapore Floorball Association. A full application, based on the FISU regulations, will be FISU at hand later on, but before playing this years' WUFC May 23-27, 2012 in the Czech Republic there will be sent a letter of interest to FISU, so that all concerned parties are informed about next organizer for 2014.

4. *Meeting with Singapore National Olympic Council (SNOC) on February 16, 2012*

Mr. Eriksson and Mr. Sani meet with Mr. Chris Chan, secretary general of SNOC. Mr. Chan is also a member of the SEA Games Federation Council, www.seagfoffice.org, Mr. Chan explained that there are three different categories of sports participating, in category A, B and C.

Category A consists of the mandatory two sports, namely swimming and athletics, B category of at least 20 sports, and category C of maximum 8 sports (where Floorball fits in, proposed by the organizer to a large extent), and there is also the possibility to be a demonstration sport. Last edition in Indonesia in November 2011, a total of 42 medal sports took part, but that was considered too many, and the objective is to have $2+20+8 = 30$ sports. Mr. Chan pointed out the need to have at least four associations affiliated to their respective NOC, and to grow in these four countries, and to lobby.

5. *Meeting with Olympic Council of Malaysia Mr. Sieh Kok Chi on February 17, 2012.*

Mr. Eriksson meet with Mr. Sieh Kok Chi, secretary general, in Kuala Lumpur, together with Mr. Rizal Razman, President of Malaysia Floorball Association. Mr. Sieh was very well informed about our sport, one reason that Floorball is very strong in KL, and that the OCM is renting halls in KL. Mr. Eriksson spoke about IFF plans and Vision and objectives and entering multi sports events, out of which SEA Games is one, heading for Asian Games (indoor Games). Mr. Sieh, also a council member of the SEA Games organization, informed that the plans look as follows:

- 2013 SEA Games in Myanmar (decided)
- 2015 SEA Games in Singapore (decided)
- 2017 SEA Games in Brunei (proposed)
- 2019 SEA Games in Malaysia (proposed)

Mr. Sieh said that Malaysia Floorball's affiliation to (OCM) www.olympic.org.my is merely an administrative issue, once Malaysia Floorball is properly registered with Malaysia Sports Commissioners Office, which Mr. Rizal pointed out is under way in first half of 2012.

6. Meeting with Malaysia Floorball Association President Mr. Rizal on February 17, 2012

Mr. Eriksson meet with Mr. Rizal and Mr. Rizal informed that there are 14 states in Malaysia, in which there is good development for Floorball in four states, namely Selangor, Penang, Sabah and Johor. Mr. Rizal informed that the problem was that when MFA joined IFF in 2002 the MFA was not yet properly registered, and on top of this, the requirements have since then changed for registration with Malaysia Sports Commissioners Office (SCO). <http://pps.kbs.gov.my/index.php/en/corporate-information>. This will be dealt with preliminary first half of 2012, and the MFA will affiliate, as an associate member (without voting power) also to the NOC of Malaysia. Mr. Rizal also draw the conclusion that in retro-perspective MFA joined the international scene “too soon”, and himself joining in 2007 elected President, all the rest of MFA except Mr. Suresh as secretary general left. In the years 2005 to 2008 the MFA was more or less “down and trashed”. Mr. Rizal felt that the objective is to “re- enter the international scene” soonest possible, likely in 2014, and also felt that the plans, which he supported, was good for WUC 2014, and WFC U19 men in 2015, and the SEA Games possibility in 2015 or later. Mr. Eriksson informed that Malaysia is under suspension since September 1, 2010, due to unpaid debts (11 000 CHF), to IFF. Mr. Eriksson informed that he and IFF is not at all satisfied with the situation, and that the communication has been poor. Mr. Rizal and Mr. Eriksson agreed upon that the flow of communication must improve, and that the debts situation be settled, in order to lift the Malaysian suspension.

7. Meeting with Mr. Suresh, secretary general of MFA on February 18, 2012.

Mr. Eriksson meet with Mr. Suresh, secretary general of MFA. Mr. Suresh gave a clearer picture of the legal status of MFA and its registration to the sports bodies of Malaysia. He was of the same opinion as Mr. Rizal that registration to the proper authorities in Malaysia in Sports will be dealt with in 2012. Mr. Suresh said that in Selangor and Penang there are both women and men leagues up and running playing every weekend. The youth development is now strong as well in four states. In two out of four states there is also a better and solid base administratively, more people involved, and improving in the others as well. The economy is not good but “balanced” and improving. We went through the debts situation, and Mr. Suresh is looking at re- entering the international scene and was well aware that debts must be settled, and that the flow of communication must improve before the suspension can be lifted.

8. Meeting with Mr. Kieran Foo Singapore Sports Council on February 20, 2012

The meeting with Mr. Foo, responsible within SSC, as sports manager for Floorball, was unfortunately cancelled. It was agreed that Mr. Sani will update Mr. Foo on the developments towards IFF. Within Singapore Sports Council (SSC) there is besides Mr. Foo, also Miss Jaime Cheong, national team player for Singapore, now working at the Sports Performance division within SSC. Mr. Sani will also keep SSC CEO Mr. Teck Yin Lim informed about the development for upcoming events.

9. Conclusion meeting Mr. Eriksson and Mr. Sani on February 20, 2012

Mr. Sani and Mr. Eriksson evaluated the possibilities overall, not the least towards the newly installed www.sportshub.sg with for Floorball three venues, one 3 000 spectators, one 12 000 spectators, and one with 55 000 spectators. The need is through SSC to have dates and bookings ready two years in advance. The entire Sportshub will be available in the start of 2014, so in principle all proposed events would be feasible in the Sportshub. However for the U19 most likely the Republic Polytechnic would be the main arena. And for the WUFC it is up to University Council to choose the venues.

10. Meeting with Valhall Sports Center joint SFA office at Kallang Park February 21, 2012

Mr. Eriksson had a meeting at Valhall Sports, at Kallang Park, in the actual Sportshub, where there are two courts, and SFA offices combined. Mr. Dahlgren and Mr. Liang presented the venue, and its location right in the new Sportshub, close to SSC, makes for example many employees from SSC come and play regularly.

Upcoming meetings and issues

- Thailand, the Philippines and Indonesia, the need to assist with affiliating to the respective NOC (letter of information has been sent to all five countries on January 27, 2012) concerning the SEA Games.

Issues that need to be discussed or decided upon or taken action upon

- Check up Singapore and Malaysia registration/affiliating to NOC
- Check up debts for Singapore and Malaysia to be settled
- Check up SFA/WUFC letter to FISU
- Check up letter of interest from SFA to IFF on WFC U19 2015 Men
- Check up letter of information/status on SEA Games 2015 from SFA to IFF/Sea Games countries

New ideas, etc...

- Since both SNOC and SSC are very pleased with the Youth Floorball development within Singapore, by far the most expanding sport in Singapore, it may be a good proposal that at any international event SFA present how SFA have been working to be prosperous. Youth development within Asia would be a good case study for others.