

**Present: Members of the Executive Board:**

**Harry Otten** President, **Jacek Pawlicki** Tournament Director, **Johan Demasure** Tournament Director Youth also representing Belgium, **Frits Luteijn** treasurer, **Frank Teer** General Secretary and President Technical Committee, **Vladimir Langin** president of the section 64, **Hugh Devlin** president of the section Checkers, **Janek Mäggi** president of the European Draughts Confederation, **Ndongo Fall** representing the African confederation, **Bat Erdene Chimeddorj**, president of the Asian confederation also representing Mongolia, **Tamara Tansykkuzhina** World Champion Women, **Alexander Georgiev** World Champion

The Executive Vice President **Ibrahima M'Bouillé Fofana** is absent without any message.

**Representatives of sections:**

**Richard Beckwith** for the section Checkers, **Alexander Nikiforov** for the section 64.

**Representatives of Confederations:**

**Viktoria Lehtmets** tournament director of the EDC

**Members of FMJD committees:**

**Oumar Thiero** president of the Medical Committee also representing Mali,  
**Adama Gueye** member of the Medical Committee also representing Senegal, **Jean Marc Ndjofang** member of the Ethics committee.

**Representatives of federations:**

**Boris Mushailov** for Azerbaijan, **Iryna Pashkevich** for Belarus, **Claude Ngondiep** for Cameroon,  
**Chen Zelan** for China, **Filip Kareta** for Czech Republic, **Tarmo Tulva** for Estonia, **Jan Ziolkowski** for Germany,  
**Alex Penkalo** for Hungary, **Yury Goldstein** for Israel, **Giorgio Carbonara** for Italy, **Omata Mitsuo** for Japan,  
**Edvard Buzhinsky** for Lithuania, **Guntis Valneris** for Latvia, **Ion Dosca** for Moldavia, **Marcel Kusters** for the Netherlands with a mandate from Brazil, **Bartosz Socha** for Poland, **Alexander Yurgenson** for Russia, **Dan Isabirye** for Uganda, **Anatoli Yatsenko** for Ukraine, **Yunus Amindjonov** for Uzbekistan.

A total of 25 federations is represented. After some discussion about payments of their membership fees they were all considered as having fulfilled their financial obligations so they all have voting right.

**Assistants, translators and spectators:**

**Alexei Chizhov**, **Matrena Nogovitsyna** and **Aynur Shaibakov** Russia, **Yury Chertok** president Russian federation for International draughts, **Anatoli Gantwarg** Belarus, **Hadu Mirme** Estonia, **Flaubert Ndonzi** France, **Albert Labis** France, **Gilles Taillandier** president French federation for 64 and 144, **Pascal Moulet**, **Laurent Franck** and **Pierre Monet** all FFJD 64-144, **Ingo Zachos** Germany, **Daniele Berte** Italy, **Sergio Sparpita (?)** Italy, **Johan Haijtink** president KNDB Netherlands, **Ivan Shovkoplias** Ukraine, **Elena Yatsenko**, translator French-Russian, **Pierre d'Almeida** translator English-French, **Vitalia Doumesh**, translator English-Russian, **Antonina Langina** section 64, **Andrey Agapov** section 64.

## Opening and welcome

### **The President Mr. Otten opens the morning session at 11.00**

**The president welcomes the federations** present in the meeting.

## Accreditation and voting right

The president addresses **two questions**:

The first question is from Belarus who has asked that **two representatives want to speak for Belarus** during the meeting.

For each federation one speaker is allowed following bye laws article 4.3.

When this point comes Belarus will have to ask permission that Mr. Gantwarg speaks and not Mrs. Pashkievitch.

The second question is about **the voting right of Russia**.

Mr Tchertok paid and the General Secretary has asked the Russian representatives to decide among themselves who is speaking for Russia and has voting right for Russia in the meeting.

They did not come to an agreement.

The FSR (Yurgenson) wants voting right based on the payment by Mr. Chertok.

Mr. Tchertok informed the Executive Board that this payment should not be considered as payment of the membership fee of the FSR but as a support for the FMJD.

This means Russia has no voting right.

Mr. Yurgenson states that in that case he will pay directly the membership fee for Russia. He does and Russia has voting right.

**Cameroon also asks for voting right.** The promise of the Cameroon federation to pay during the meeting is accepted by the treasurer and also Cameroon gets voting right without a remark of any other federation.

There are some representatives of the new French federation for 64 and 144 but on a direct question of the General Secretary they state that they do not represent the FMJD member FFJD.

**Yellow Voting cards** are given to all federations with voting right. The General Secretary explains that voting is done by raising hands with this voting card so that we can see who is validly voting. A voting committee is formed to assist in counting the votes, consisting of : Ndjofang from Cameroon and Xie Fang from China. A test voting shows that 25 voting cards are showed by the representatives of the federations.

## Introduction to the project for new statutes by President Harry Otten.

The president tells about the meaning of the new statutes as already explained in his letter of February.

## Letter of Belarus: not to discuss the statutes but to assign a committee, see the letter "Belarus Draughts Federation`s reaction to the new Statutes "

**Pashkievitch:** I want that 4 times World Champion Gantwarg may speak for Belarus about this point.

**Gantwarg:** I came specially to this meeting because it is important for our future

In 1984 I was World Champion and at the assembly in Dakar the proposal was accepted that 64 became part of the FMJD.

To make correct decisions we have to know the whole situation and I have a lot of experience in draughts 100 and draughts 64.

We have different sorts of draughts with different rules but draughts 64 is part of the culture of many countries.

I know that the relation between 64 and 100 is a very difficult question. Draughts 100 is also part of the culture of many countries. The culture of one country should not dominate the culture of all countries.

Federations which are members of FMJD have players in these countries who play different kind of draughts, like USA

From countries who pay the fee to FMJD 8 or 9 are against this split of draughts in different organizations.

There are also other sports with different disciplines who are not divided in different members.

If you do this it is not clear at all which federation can be associate members.

Now the section 64 has created its own federation. And this is a more difficult situation for 64. So that is why our proposal is to have a committee from all disciplines to develop new statutes for FMJD.

FMJD was established for draughts 100, 4 countries at first and many other countries joined, and in all these countries draughts 64 is an important part of draughts.

**The President thanks Gantwarg** for his input and mentions that it is not that strange for an International sports Federation to have associate members. Also the International Chess Federation FIDE has associate members.

In the past 6 months we had lengthy exchanges with the sections 64 and checkers and most of their amendments were recommended by the council to be accepted by the General Assembly.

The wording of Partner members means that 64 and Checkers remain an integral part of FMJD.

The IDF that was just established in Bulgaria: I suppose for the moment that this organization is for Russian Draughts 64; I have no idea whether Brazilian 64 and checkers are involved in it.

I remind you that players from our partner member 64 came to Beijing last year and that this year checkers is invited, all arranged for and partly paid for by FMJD

**Nikiforov, section 64:** In Bulgaria was established the International Draughts Federation for draughts 64 who will develop all kinds of draughts on 64: Russian, Brazilian, Italian, Czech Draughts.

**Otten:** did you have contact Checkers or Brazil about this idea to develop all these kinds of Draughts?

**Nikiforov:** No.

**The Italian federation:** principles of life and death for our national federation, most of it is 64. It is important that we stay together. We ask for another 2 to 3 months for discussion.

We are in favor of the Belarus proposal.

**The Executive Board proposes to discuss the statutes and asks for a vote about this.**

**Otten:** we need to move forward into a modern organization. We have sent you the proposals in February and asked for a discussion and there was no reaction from the federations, not from Italy, not from most of the federations. So it is not logical to ask for another 3 month for discussion.

**Vote:** who is in favor to discuss the statutes in this meeting and to continue the meeting as it is proposed in the agenda? This is the proposal of the Executive Board.

There are 9 votes in favor , 13 are against the proposal of the board

The president states that the proposal to discuss the statutes is not accepted and asks for a break of 15 minutes because this is considered to be a **motion of distrust against the FMJD board.**

President Harry Otten and General Secretary Frank Teer, shortly thereafter followed by the Tournament Director Jacek Pawlicki made their functions available to the General Assembly. Members of the Russian federation and the checkers President Hugh Devlin applauded after this statement, as if emphasizing their distrust for the Executive Board of the FMJD.

After a break of 20 minutes the President resumes the meeting, explaining that he will close the meeting in a minute and that the President and General secretary will leave the meeting.

The President quotes the bye laws of the FMJD article 4.1

“the President, if present, has to open and close the General Assembly himself. After his closure, the General Assembly is ended and all subsequent meetings cannot be considered as General Assembly nor having the power of decision of a General Assembly.”

The president suggests to the federations to talk with each other about this new situation, with emphasis on the remark that this meeting of the federations could not have the status of General Assembly anymore.

The president proposes that he will come back around 15:00 to hear if something comes out of the meeting of the federations and if necessary to have a short reopening of the General Assembly, may be just for one minute.

**The morning session is closed at 12:15.**

## **Report of the afternoon session:**

1. on request of the Ukrainian and Chinese delegations, it was clarified that the failure of the proposed new statutes was not meant to be a vote of mistrust against the executive board, and that the assembly asks the executive board to maintain in office. This was agreed by overwhelming acclamation.

2. Mrs. Chen Zelan was voted in as new vice president, replacing Mr. Fofana, with whom there has been no communication any more during the last two years, by overwhelming and unanimous acclamation.

Also there was a request to vote on a proposal by Belarus to establish a committee consisting of 3 members each from Draughts 100, Draughts 64 and Checkers to create a new proposal for the statutes within three month.

There had been a final vote by roll-call which ended in a tie 11 for it and 11 against it, with Harry Otten voting against it using his right as president for a deciding vote.

Apart from that there were hostile discussions about why the proposed statutes were not even discussed, and Mr. Otten offered to meet representatives of Checkers and Draughts 64 sections the next day to start to discuss about their problems with the statutes proposal