

To the
Members of the FIS Council / FIS Honorary Members
National Ski Associations
Committee Chairs

INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION
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Oberhofen, 31st July 2020

Summary / Minutes of the FIS Council Meeting 31st July 2020

Dear Council Members,
Dear President,
Dear FIS Family Ski and Snowboard Friends,

In accordance with article 32.2 of the FIS Statutes we have pleasure in sending you the Summary and Minutes of the FIS Council Conference Call Meeting which took place on 31st July 2020.

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Members present
3. FIS Congress 2020
4. FIS Working Budget 1.1.2020 - 31.12.2021
5. Appointment of a Vice-President
6. Any other business
7. Closing of the meeting

1. Opening of the Meeting / President's Report

President Gian Franco Kasper opened the Council Meeting welcoming the presence of the Council Members and thanking those attending despite those who were dealing with unsociable times especially in Australia and Asia.

He underlined to the Council Members the importance of the main agenda item regarding the 52nd FIS Congress. It is the backbone of the FIS democratic process of governance and the official meeting of the FIS member National Ski Associations. Therefore it has the highest priority in the FIS organisational structure.

2. Members present

The following elected Council Members were present at the online meeting on Thursday 2nd July 2020:

President Gian Franco Kasper; Vice-Presidents Mats Årjes, Aki Murasato, Patrick Smith, Roman Kumpost, Members: Steve Dong Yang, Dean Gosper, Alfons Hörmann, Hannah Kearney (Athletes' Commission Representative), Dexter Paine, Flavio Roda, Erik Roeste, Konstantin Schad (Athletes' Commission Representative), Peter Schröcksnadel, Martti Uusitalo, Eduardo Valenzuela, Michel Vion; Secretary General Sarah Lewis

Observer: Elena Vaelbe (RUS) representing Andrey Bokarev

3. FIS Congress 2020

Due to the current situation and outlook with Covid-19 governmental restrictions, the Council has decided at Meeting on 31st July 2020 that regrettably the 52nd FIS Congress cannot take place on Sunday 4th October 2020 in Zurich (SUI) and is postponed to 1st to 5th June 2021 in Portoroz (SLO).

The Autumn FIS Technical Committee Meetings scheduled from Wednesday 29th September to Friday 2nd October 2020 will not take place either and will be carried out as online-meetings during the same timeframe. Respective invitations and information for online access will be sent out in the coming weeks.

Before reaching its decision the Council discussed the situation thoroughly in great detail, understanding the significance of the FIS Congress for the membership and the organisation's democratic process of governance.

From a legal perspective, the Council's competence to postpone the FIS Congress was addressed too. The expert legal opinion confirmed that: *"The Council can decide when and where to hold the Congress by simple majority, according to the Statutes. This includes a postponement of the Congress. The Corona ordinance in Switzerland allows virtual meetings, but it does not oblige the companies and associations registered (as is the case with FIS) or active in Switzerland to do so. It is the responsibility of the Council to navigate through the extraordinary situation."*

Besides the postponement of the majority of other International Federation Congresses, a high number of National Ski Associations have advised FIS they have postponed their annual general meetings, which are without the additional risks and implications of international travel and gatherings.

Furthermore the travel restrictions subject participants from many FIS member countries to quarantine to and returning from Switzerland and these are occurring at no notice when there has been a change of a countries' status.

In reaching its conclusions and final decision about the FIS Congress 2020, the main reason for the Council position is underpinned by the FIS policy of respecting the health and safety of all participants at all its events as highest priority. A postponement was the unequivocal recommendation of the FIS Medical Committee Expert Group based on the health risks. The level of risk at indoor events is 19 times greater than outdoors. In view of the current uncertainties

around Covid-19 it would be wise and responsible to postpone such a significant international gathering.

The President and Council Members all confirmed they will serve their elected period of mandate until the 52nd FIS Congress in Portoroz (SLO). They agreed that during these current uncertain times that look likely to continue as a result of the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic, it is important to have a stable organisation to confront the difficulties.

FIS can execute its activities and services to the full extent until the re-scheduled 52nd FIS Congress in spring 2021 and can now focus all resources on the challenges and execution of the upcoming winter competition season, which is highest priority for FIS, the National Ski Associations and all the stakeholders including the winter sports industry.

The Council agreed to monitor the developments over the upcoming nine months. If it finally proves not possible to meet in person in Portoroz (SLO), the 52nd FIS Congress will take place online during the same timeframe, thus providing certainty that the 52nd FIS Congress will take place either in person in Portoroz (SLO) or otherwise online in the same timeframe.

Details about arrangements for the 52nd FIS Congress “2020” from Sunday 30th May to Saturday 5th June 2021 in Portoroz (SLO), which is the date and location already defined for the FIS Committee Meetings and Presidents Conference will be communicated to the National Ski Associations and other participants after the FIS Council Meeting on 9th October 2020.

4. Approval of the FIS Working Budget 2020 - 2021

Due to the first postponement of the FIS Congress 2020, the Council decided at its Meeting on 25th May 2020 to submit the FIS Accounts for the 2018 - 2019 financial period to the National Ski Associations for approval in writing. The deadline for the decision was 1st July 2020 and most member National Ski Associations responded, all of whom unanimously approved the accounts without any remarks or questions, including approval of the reports of the internal and external auditors.

Vice-President and Chairman of the Finance Commission Mats Arjes reported that FIS had thereafter sent the National Ski Associations details of the Special Distribution payments allocated per member NSA in mid-July.

He continued that it had not been necessary to make changes to the Working Budget for the 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2021 period approved by the Council on 25th May 2020. It reflects a loss of CHF 6 million in the value of the FIS security holdings after the first quarter of 2020. In the current period operational savings could be made as a result of restrictions limiting travel, as well as economies made where possible in view of the uncertain financial outlook.

The Council approved the FIS Working Budget 2020 - 2021 and decided to submit it to the National Ski Associations by e-mail for consideration and approval, in a similar way to the FIS Accounts 2018-2019.

Following formal approval by the member National Ski Associations, FIS will be able to communicate the NSA financial support for the 2020-2021 period in the usual timeframe in September with CHF 5 million paid out in each of the two years.

In rounding off his report to the Council, Vice President and Chairman of the Finance Commission Mats Arjes reported that discussions have begun with the Organisers of the FIS World Championships 2021 in regard to potential financial implications as a result of measures that the government authorities officially implement. It is however too early for the Finance Commission to review proposals. A status update will be given at its next meeting on 9th October 2020.

5. Appointment of a Vice-President

The Council unanimously appointed Roman Kumpost as Vice-President to the vacant position Europe (Eastern regions), following the passing of Janez Kocijancic.

Roman Kumpost has been member of the FIS Nordic Combined Executive Board since 1989 and served as its Chairman in 2010 - 2013. He was elected as a Council Member in 2010. He also served and continues to serve a wide variety of roles within the FIS Family and in the Czech Republic. These include as President of the Organising Committee of Nordic Junior World Ski Championships in Liberec (CZE) in 2013 and previously as President of the Organising Committee of the FIS Nordic World Ski Championships in Liberec from 2004-2007. He is a current Vice-President of the Czech Olympic Committee and member of the IOC Public Relations Commission.

Vice President Roman Kumpost stated that he was honoured to serve FIS and particularly to follow after the esteemed Janez Kocijancic who was great leader and mentor for him.

The position of Vice-President remains valid until the conclusion of the period of mandate until the 52nd FIS Congress takes place and the Council is elected in spring 2021.

5. Any Other Business

5.1 Election of the Organisers for the FIS World Ski Championships 2025 in the Alpine Events and Nordic Disciplines

The Council acknowledged the procedure and technology system for the online for the Election of the Organisers for the FIS World Ski Championships 2025 in the Alpine Events and Nordic Disciplines. Each of the four Candidates will make its final presentation by videolink prior to the secure election of the two Organisers by the Council Members.

After the voting is concluded and there are two winners, the results will remain confidential until the official public announcement by President Gian Franco Kasper, which will be live-streamed.

The coverage will turn to the two winning Organisers to make a speech and sign the Hosting Contract. The award of the two FIS World Ski Championships 2025

in the Alpine Events and Nordic Disciplines will be confirmed after the National Ski Association and its Organiser have signed the Hosting Contract on camera. Thereafter the certificate announcing the elected Organiser will be handed over.

For the Ski Flying 2024 and FIS Freestyle Ski, Snowboard and Free Ski Events 2025 the status will be addressed by the Council at its Meeting on 9th October.

The five ski flying hills Organisers, their National Associations and FIS Ski Flying are addressing the rotation presently. As the infrastructure is already in place and up to date in all cases, the same lead-in time is not necessary.

The FIS Freestyle Ski, Snowboard and Free Ski World Championships 2025 candidacy of Krasnoyarsk (RUS) is on hold until CAS has ruled on the appeal which will decide whether or not Russia may be elected to host future senior World Championships for the time being.

6. Closing of the meeting

President Gian Franco Kasper referred to the next Council Meeting on Saturday 3rd October which will convene online for the Election of the Organisers for the FIS World Ski Championships 2025 in the Alpine Events and Nordic Disciplines.

Thereafter, the main autumn pre-season FIS Council Meeting will take place on Friday 9th October with a full agenda including proposals from the respective discipline FIS on-line Technical Committee meetings from Wednesday 30th September to Friday 2nd September.

In concluding the Meeting, President Gian Franco Kasper expressed appreciation of the Council's handling of the difficult decision to finally postpone the 52nd FIS Congress.

If you should have any further questions in regard to the decisions of the FIS Council, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretary General.

In the meantime please stay well and keep safe.

Yours sincerely

INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION



Sarah Lewis
Secretary General

31st July 2020/sl