

BoD November 2021
Typed by HQ: November 2021
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INTERNATIONAL CANOE FEDERATION (ICF)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD IN ROME, ITALY
7 NOVEMBER 2021



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MINUTES BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
7 November 2021 – Rome, Italy

Participants:

Thomas Konietzko	Germany	President (Executive Committee Member)
Cecilia Farias	Argentina	Vice President (Executive Committee Member)
Lluis Rabaneda i Caselles	Spain	Vice President (Executive Committee Member)
Liu Aijie	China	Vice President (Executive Committee Member)
Luciano Buonfiglio	Italy	Treasurer (Executive Committee Member)
Simon Toulson	Great Britain	Secretary General (Executive Committee Member)
Shoken Narita	Japan	President of Asian Continental Confederation (Executive Committee Member)
Albert Woods	Great Britain	President of European Continental Confederation (Executive Committee Member)
Joao Manuel Da Costa Alegre	Sao Tome and Principe	President of African Continental Confederation (Executive Committee Member)
Maree Burnett	New Zealand	President of Oceanian Continental Confederation (Executive Committee Member)
Victor Ruiz	Puerto Rico	Acting President Pan American Continental Confederation (Executive Committee Member)
Toshi Furuya	Japan	Chair Canoe Sprint (Executive Committee Member)
Jean-Michel Prono	France	Chair Canoe Slalom (Executive Committee Member)
John Edwards	Canada	Chair Paracanoe (Executive Committee Member)
Martha Hernandez Sanches	Mexico	Continental Representative America
Maria de Fatima Fernandes Vara	Brazil	Continental Representative America
Ahmad Donyamali	Iran	Continental Representative Asia
Branko Lovric	Croatia	Continental Representative Europe
Jonne Go	Philippines	Continental Representative Asia
Andrej Jelenc	Slovenia	Continental Representative Europe
Jovana Stanojevic	Serbia	Continental Representative Europe
Ola Oluode	Nigeria	Continental Representative Africa
Danielle Woodward	Australia	Continental Representative Oceania
Ruud Heijselaar	Netherlands	Chair Canoe Marathon
Manuela Gawehn	Germany	Chair Wildwater Canoeing
Greg Smale	Great Britain	Chair Canoe Polo
Terry Best	Great Britain	Chair Canoe Freestyle
Colin Simpkins	South Africa	Chair Canoe Ocean Racing

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Tim Brabants	New Zealand	Chair Medical and Anti-Doping
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1. Introduction

This ICF Board of Directors meeting was held following the ICF Congress in Rome. Participants took part either in person or online due to the world pandemic “Coronavirus COVID-19”.

The meeting was chaired by **Thomas Konietzko**, who was elected President of the ICF by Congress 24 hours earlier.

Mr Konietzko thanked outgoing President **Jose Perurena** for his outstanding leadership over 13 years. He emphasised the importance of working as a team and of everyone’s opinions being important.

He said now was the right time to review everything, and to start a general discussion about the future direction of the ICF. He expressed his confidence in the ICF Staff and thanked them for the great work in the Congress preparations.

APPOINTMENT ICF WHITEWATER TECHNICAL MANAGER

The ICF slalom committee chair announced Christoph Kirsten would be offered the role as ICF whitewater technical manager, replacing Cyril Nivel who has joined Paris 2024. Mr Kirsten had a wide range of experience in whitewater and would be a great appointment. He would be contacted to negotiate contract and conditions.

OPENING DISCUSSIONS

ICF vice-president, Cecilia Farias, said she would like to see more coverage of the election of women to senior ICF positions. Mr Konietzko said it was one of his main priorities to increase the number of women at top levels of the Federation.

Canoe polo committee chair said he would like to see more positive comments about the work that is carried out by the ICF office. He said the comparisons provided by Mr Perurena of the office sizes of different International Federations showed the ICF is functioning very well.

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Mr Konietzko said he wanted to reassure all ICF staff that nobody would be impacted by any possible changes in the Headquarters. He said he planned to continue working with everyone in Lausanne.

CANOE STANDING COMMITTEES

The chairs of each discipline announced the make-up of their standing committees. The full list can be [found here](#).

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The ICF has received bids from Charlotte, USA, and Senegal to host the next board meeting. The Board agreed that with LA 2028 on the horizon, it would make sense to have the next meeting in Charlotte, around the end of March/early April 2022.