

XXXVI ICF Ordinary Congress
Baku, Azerbaijan
25-26 November 2016

Name of the BOD Member: Cecilia Liliana Farias

Function: Pan American Canoe Federation President

1. Meetings since last Congress

Reported at the BOD meeting held in Marrakesh March 21-22, 2015

- ODEPA/PASO meeting: Pan American Sports Organisation. Puerto Vallarta. MEX January 2015.
- Meetings with IOC members
- Discussion with the President of the Americas Paralympic Committee (APC): Paracanoeing in Lima 2019.
- Presidents and SGs of various NOCs: coordination for the delivery of seminars; follow up from the NOCs to the work related to canoeing in the respective NFs, re-activation of NFs; others.

Report prepared for the BOD meeting held in *Cape Town December 2015*

- Pan American Sport Organisation Congress July 6-7 2015.Toronto, CAN.
- ACODEPA Congress. July 8th 2015 Toronto, CAN.
- COPAC Congress. July 11th 2015 Welland CAN.
- Meetings with NOC Presidents; Sports Confederation's Presidents and High Performance Director of the USA NOC "USOC" in Toronto.
- ICF EXCO Meeting August, Milan.
- Olympic Programme Commission meetings:
 - Marrakesh: March 19th 2015
 - Milan: August 18th 2015
 - Skype meeting: October 19th 2015
- IPC Vice President Andrew Parsons, and IPC CEO Xavier Gonzalez, to discuss the COPAC Para-canoe Project. October 23rd Doha, Qatar.

Reported at the BOD meeting held in Madrid, 9-12 March 2016

COPAC Exco and Continental Representatives from the Americas meetings.

For the ICF Congresses, Baku, 23-25 November 2016

COPAC Exco and Continental Representatives from the Americas meetings in Atlanta. USA. May 2016

2. Tasks undertaken for this period

Reported at the BOD meeting held in Cape Town December 2015

- Ran unopposed for re-election of COPAC's Presidency and Continental Representative from South America. Mandate: 2015-2019
- Ran for election of Vice President of the Association of Sports Confederation of the American Continent (ACODEPA). I won the election with a majority of 29 votes out of 32.
- Prepared with the COPAC team, the Para-canoeing Programme.

Reported at the BOD meeting held in Madrid, 9-12 March 2016

COPAC Paracanoe Project Organisation of Seminars and travel of the Classifiers: Successful Seminar held in La Habana, Cuba on February 15-16 and in Bogota (COL) on February 26-28

Project resources:

- Boats: donated by NELO MAR Kayak Co. to COPAC for this Project.
- Boats shipping costs and custom clearance: paid by the NF.
- Travel of the Medical and Technical expert: paid by the Brazilian Paralympic Co. (3 air tickets).
- Travel of one of the Technical expert: COPAC reallocation of Development funds.
- Per diem: COPAC reallocation of Development funds
- Full board costs for the experts and 20 participants in Cuba and in COL: host NF.

For the ICF Congresses, Baku, 23-25 November 2016

- Work as a member of the Working group of the Americas Paralympic Committee (APC), to develop a strategy and implementation plan for the establishment of the APC independence from the IPC by the year 2019
- Successful process of affiliation of French Guyana
- Haiti and Jamaica NFs: support the affiliation process
- Preparation for the delivery of the Seminar for Sprint Continental Judges funded by the CHI NOC
- Continuation of the COPAC Para-canoe Programme and support of the Seminar for classifiers delivered in Mexico October 2016. Plan to deliver similar seminar in Montevideo (URU)
- Support the Breast Cancer Survivor Dragon Boat organisations in Argentina.

3. Issues and Main Points of Report

Reported at the BOD meeting held in Marrakesh Morocco March 21-22

ICF Canoe Mentoring Programme: COPAC identified the following as critical success factors to be considered for the implementation of the programme in the Americas:

1. Human Resources:
 - a. Increase of working hours of the COPAC' staff and therefore expenses.
 - b. Identification and engagement of the canoe coach to be sent to the NFs that have the potential but lack technique and means, such as the case of people in the jungle areas of the Americas (Amazonia and others)
2. Financial Resources: sport equipment is needed (canoes and paddles). Purchase of the equipment and shipping costs have to be paid.
3. Canoe Coach Trip, full board and per diem to be afforded with the Continental Development funds.
4. Donation of used canoes is not a valid option in our large continent where costs of shipping are high.

COPAC wishes to be part at any discussion of Programs or activities prior to implementation in our Continent. This was not the case for the Canoe Summit.

Para-Pan American Games Inclusion on the Para-Pan American Games Lima 2019

The activities to be supported with the development funds increase while the budget remains the same. Multiple activities have to be completed in order to:

- a. Increase the number of participating NFs
- b. Deliver seminars for classifiers
- c. Organise the yearly Para-Pan American Championships
- d. Organise and deliver the classifications during Championships
- e. Ensure boats availability

A dedicated Paracanoeing budget is needed in the American Continent in order to ensure the delivery of these activities that will pave the way to the Para Pan American Games.

Report prepared for the BOD meeting held in Cape Town December 2015

- Lack of dedicated Para canoeing budget for the Continental Projects. The approved budget is the unused one for the Sprint activities.
- The permanence of canoeing in the Paralympic Games and the incorporation on the Para-Pan American Games is not being supported with a dedicated paracanoeing budget.
- With new affiliated NFs COPAC needs to support their preparation for further participation on the Sprint and Slalom disciplines at the Pan American, South American, Central American and Caribbean Games and others.

The delivery of support to the news NFs is in risk as in order to afford one project we have to disregard others.

Always moving forward

- Insufficient Continental budget for the administration of 33 affiliated Federations plus one in process of affiliation (Haiti).
- Request of budget's reconsideration was presented to the ICF EXCO with no positive response.
- The COPAC budget remains the same since the last four years regardless the advancement of a professional administration to the service of all the Federations at the Continent.

Reported at the BOD meeting held in Madrid, 9-12 March 2016

Lack of dedicated budget for the COPAC Paracanoeing Project:

1. The continuation of this Project requires dedicated funds. One Project can't be funded in detriment of others.
2. One of the ICF objectives is to ensure that canoeing will be included into every Multi Sport Game's Program, as the Para-Pan American Games are. Therefore the ICF shouldn't rely on the good will of other organisations such as the Brazilian Paralympic Committee and the sport equipment donation to achieve its goals.
3. The IPC & APC request the submission of this type of Project to the sports that wish to be included on the Para-Pan American Games, Lima 2019.

COPAC submitted this Project as one of the pillars for a sustainable development of paracanoeing along the coming four years.

4. As the ICF requested, this Project was submitted to the ICF for a budget's consideration; but several months passed with no solution or alternative proposal as of now.

Pan American Games, Toronto 2015: Distribution of funds of tickets sale

ODEPA & ACODEPA requested to the OC of the Toronto 2015 OC the revision of the ticketing revenue, that in order to preserve the rights of its members.

4. Future Initiatives and Tasks

Reported at the BOD meeting held in Marrakesh Morocco March 21-22

- Revisit Strategy and working plans in view of the coming 4 years
- Review the biannual plan (2015-2017) together with the Continental Representatives and Chairpersons
- Continue planning the **Seminar for Leaders of National Federations** (seeking for funds and the best experts).
- Continue my work with the **Olympic Programme Strategy Commission.**
- Contribute with the best of my knowledge to the **ICF Governance Commission**

- Attend the ODEPA meeting July 2015
- Participate at the ACODEPA meeting July 2015
- Participate at the Pan American Games, Toronto 2015; as President of COPAC and President of the Jury

COPAC approved the celebration of the following Continental Championships and Events:

2015: Paracanoeing Pan American Champs and Continental Paralympic Games Functional Classification: June 18-21 Sao Paulo BRA. This Championship will be celebrated together with the South American Paracanoeing Championships

2015: Canoe Polo Championships & Qualifier for the World Championships 2016: Senior Men, Senior Women, U21 Men and U21 Women August 20-22. Edmonton, CAN.

2016: Sprint Pan American Championships and Continental Olympic Qualifier the World Championships: Lanier Olympic Venue, USA. May 19-22; 2016.

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- Continue with the COPAC's Paracanoe Project.
- Continue and promote the relationship with the COPAC' Sponsor Nelo M.A.R. Kayak Ltda and the Brazilian Paralympic Committee which are key sponsors of the Projects in the Americas and other initiatives of cooperation.
- Continue with the support to Lima 2019 OC.
- Support the development of the NFs that will host Sub Continental Games to ensure canoeing on the programmes of the ODESUR Games in Cochabamba 2018 (BOL); and the Central American Games Barranquilla 2018 (COL).
- Liaise with Lanier Olympic Venue (USA) to prepare the 2016 Pan American Sprint Championships and Americas Continental Olympic Qualifier.
- Attend the Olympic Continental Qualifier: Sprint, Lanier May 2016; and the Slalom Pan American Champs in Rio 2016.

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- Support the affiliation of French Guyana Federation (South America).
- Affiliation of Haiti (to ICF and COPAC).
- Peru NOC interested on the NELO- ICF- COPAC Project for Boats Building. We will continue the conversations.
- PER NOC interested in including Ocean Racing (2 medals) on the Pan American Games Lima 2019.
- Continuation of the COPAC Para-Canoeing Project with Uruguay NF. Course offered to Belize

- Support the ODESUR Games Cochabamba. BOL
- Participation at the ASOIF Women Forum: March 7-9. Lausanne

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- Support the celebration of the Pan American Games Lima 2019 both Sprint and Slalom.
- Revisit the strategy of the COPAC Para-canoe Programme, and contact the COPAC Sponsor NELO MAR Kayak Company.
- Attend the South American Marathon Championships in Buenos Aires.
- Support the education process of the Canoeing Judges of Buenos Aires 2018 Youth Olympic Games. Requested equal quantity of participants of both genders.
- Visit Lima to identify and approach the Organising Committee.
- Continue the support for the Dragon Boat Breast Cancer Survivors. It is important to know that men who suffered cancer are also part of these groups.

5. Recommendations

Reported at the BOD meeting held in Marrakesh Morocco March 21-22

ICF to support the inclusion of Paracanoeing in the Para-Pan American Games Lima 2019.

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To the ICF to produce a clear document that will contain the New Governance Proposal and deliver to the NFs with due time to read and analyse. Especially to consider that for many recipients English is not the mother tongue therefore time and clear message has to be given.

To the National Federations to carefully read and understand the New Governance Proposal document and request clarification if needed.

To the delegates that will make the Congress in Baku, to embrace change refreshing the current structure of the ICF. To request a more efficient management of our IF with clear strategy. To update the Development Programme considering the needs of every Continent. To understand the Olympic Programme proposal and move towards change. To make a good election.