



ASOIF COUNCIL'S ANNUAL REPORT TO THE 49TH ASOIF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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1 KEY UPDATES SINCE 48TH ASOIF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1.1 ASOIF Presidential Transition

The 48th ASOIF General Assembly unanimously elected Ingmar De Vos as ASOIF President in April 2024 in Birmingham, United Kingdom. The former President, Francesco Ricci Bitti and the ASOIF staff have facilitated a smooth transition. Ingmar De Vos has officially started his four-year mandate on 1 January 2025.

In recognition of Francesco Ricci Bitti's distinguished tenure and contribution to the Olympic Movement, the 144th International Olympic Committee (IOC) Session elected him as IOC Honour Member on 20 March 2025.

1.2 International Olympic Committee Presidential Election

The IOC Presidential election has been held during the 144th IOC Session on 20 March 2025 in Costa Navarino, Greece. Kirsty Coventry was elected the 10th President of the IOC in the first round of voting among seven candidates. She will start her eight-year mandate on 23 June 2025.

In celebration of the incumbent IOC President, Thomas Bach's outstanding achievements and services to the Olympic Movement, the 144th IOC Session elected him as IOC Honorary President for Life on 19 March 2025.

1.3 Paris 2024 Olympic revenue distribution and funding of International Federations

The IOC has completed the distribution of the Paris 2024 Olympic revenue share to the International Federations (IFs). The total amount is USD 590.1m, representing a 9.22% increase from Tokyo 2020, which was USD 540.3m.

While the increase has been satisfactory, the current Olympic revenue distribution model will require review and revision in the near future, particularly regarding the three new IFs who will be part of the revenue distribution scheme of Los Angeles 2028 (LA28)

In addition, there needs to be a clarification regarding the funding of additional sports proposed by the Organising Committees for the Olympic Games (OCOGs).

1.4 Olympic Esports Games

The 142nd IOC Session endorsed the proposal by the IOC Executive Board to create the Olympic Esports Games (OEG). The OEG will be organised by the IOC in partnership with the National Olympic Committee (NOC) of Saudi Arabia for 12 years. Initially scheduled to take place in 2025, the IOC confirmed on 11 February 2025 that the inaugural OEG will be postponed to 2027, which will allow more time for comprehensive planning and to ensure the event aligns with Olympic values.

1.5 IOC Safeguarding Initiative

Following the IOC's announcement of a USD 10 million fund for safeguarding activities for the 2024-2028 period, the IOC has established regional safeguarding hubs in Southern Africa and the Pacific Islands, with groundwork laid for a hub in Europe.

The ASOIF President is a member of the International Safe Sport Steering Committee, which includes representatives from sport, intergovernmental organisations and civil society.

1.6 ASOIF Membership Survey

As part of its strategic planning, ASOIF has launched a membership survey in April 2025 to learn about the unique challenges and opportunities faced by its member IFs, of which the outcomes will inform ASOIF's strategy for the future.

ASOIF has commissioned Quantum Consultancy to design the survey and support the development of its strategy. The survey aims to ensure ASOIF remains equipped to support its members effectively and to reinforce the collective strength of the Summer Olympic IFs.

The survey outcomes will be discussed during an interactive session at the ASOIF member closed informal working meeting on 10 June 2025, one day prior to the General Assembly. Subsequently, the strategy will be developed based on the input received, which will be presented to the ASOIF Council for approval at its meeting on 27 October 2025. The validated strategy will then be presented to the 50th ASOIF General Assembly in 2026.

1.7 Fifth Review of International Federation Governance

ASOIF published the Fifth Review of International Federation Governance on 25 June 2024. For the first time, all participating member IFs met the target set, which for this edition was a moderated score of 150 out of a theoretical maximum of 240.

In addition to the main findings, the report, entitled 'Progressing towards better International Federation governance', includes an overview of changes in scores from the previous reviews, highlighting the IFs' significant progress and summarising important developments. It also features case studies of three IFs who have achieved considerable improvement since the previous iteration.

The Fifth Review included 10 new indicators to align the questionnaire with the revised IOC Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance and to take account of the International Partnership against Corruption in Sport (IPACS) Benchmark. Meanwhile, the 50 scored indicators from 2021-22 were retained with only limited modifications.

2 SUMMER OLYMPIC GAMES & YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES

2.1 Paris 2024 Olympic Games

The Paris 2024 Olympic Games took place from 26 July to 11 August 2024. This marked the third time Paris hosted the Summer Olympic Games, following previous editions in 1900 and 1924. The Games, for the first time in history, achieved full gender parity on the field of play. Approximately 10,500 athletes representing 203 NOCs and the IOC Refugee Olympic Team competed across 32 sports in 329 events at some of the most iconic venues. ASOIF is grateful for the close collaboration with the IFs, IOC and Paris 2024 OCOG to deliver the Games.

Following the successful delivery of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, ASOIF has conducted a post-Games debrief to support the transition to LA28. All IFs have completed and returned the debrief questionnaire. Subsequently, ASOIF drafted a debrief report based on the questionnaire findings, which informed the discussions at the ASOIF Paris 2024 Debrief Workshop held on 25 October 2024 in Lausanne, Switzerland. The Workshop was attended by more than 50 participants representing the IFs, as well as representatives from the IOC, Paris 2024 OCOG and LA28 OCOG. Based on the feedback from the Workshop, ASOIF revised the debrief report and circulated it to all ASOIF members and the IOC on 25 November 2024.

2.2 Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games

The Coordination Commission (CoCom) for the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games (YOG) held its eighth meeting in person in November 2024 in Dakar, Senegal to review the progress made since its previous meeting. Venue renovations are on track for completion by the end of 2025. The construction of the Youth Olympic Village is scheduled to be finished by October 2025.

In December 2024, the IOC Executive Board approved the programme and athlete quotas of Dakar 2026. It was decided to maintain the official involvement of all 35 IFs in the upcoming YOG, with 25 sports included on the competition programme and 10 on the engagement programme. Dakar 2026 will showcase one discipline from each of the 25 sports, featuring 151 events with 2,700 athletes competing. The engagement programme will be promoted through interactive activities on site and via digital platforms.

The IOC Executive Board approved the Participation Principles for Dakar 2026 on 17 March 2025. According to the IOC, there will be no qualification events for Dakar 2026. Instead, there will be an invitation-based approach requesting the NOCs to indicate their interests and priority in selecting the athletes and sports.

2.3 Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games

The LA28 OCOG announced its new Chief Executive Officer, Reynold Hoover in June 2024. Mr Hoover joined LA28 following leadership positions in the United States (US) military and senior civilian roles in the federal government.

The CoCom for the LA28 Olympic Games held its fifth meeting in person from 12 to 14 November 2024 in Los Angeles, US. The CoCom received updates on the LA28 OCOG's activities in the coming years, including the planning and delivery of the Venue Masterplan, competition schedule, Look of the Games, ticketing, etc.

The IOC organised a LA28 IF Transition Seminar from 20 to 21 January 2025 in Lausanne, Switzerland. During the Seminar, the LA28 OCOG provided updates on the competition schedule, Venue Masterplan, sport planning, technology, etc.

The IOC Executive Board approved the LA28 event programme and athlete quotas on 9 April 2025. With a total of 351 medal events, the LA28 programme maintains the core athlete quota of 10,500, with an extra 698 quota places allocated for the five additional sports. In addition, The LA28 OCOG published a comprehensive venue plan on 15 April 2025, confirming the locations of multiple Olympic Sports and the use of several of Los Angeles' most famous venues.

The sixth meeting of the LA28 CoCom will be held in person from 4 to 6 June 2025 in Los Angeles, US.

2.4 Brisbane 2032 Olympic Games

The 100 Day Review of Brisbane 2032, initiated by the Queensland Government, has released its report on 25 March 2025. This comprehensive assessment aimed to realign the Games' infrastructure and planning to ensure timely delivery, fiscal responsibility and legacy benefits for the region.

Several ASOIF member IFs have conveyed concerns regarding the consultation and communications process, resulting in unexpected venues allocation for their sports. While recognising the complex nature of planning the Games and the evolving landscape in which decisions must be made, it is essential that IFs are involved early and meaningfully in venue validation. ASOIF encourages the Brisbane 2032 OCOG to proactively communicate to and engage with the IFs.

The first meeting of the Brisbane 2032 CoCom will be held in person from 20 to 22 May 2025 in Brisbane, Australia.

3 ASOIF MEMBERS & CREATIVE SPORT AWARD

3.1 ASOIF Members Update

At the time of writing, the following IF Presidents have been elected or re-elected since the 48th ASOIF General Assembly in April 2024 (in chronological order):

- Jay Shah was elected as the new Chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC) in August 2024.

- Antonio Arimany was elected as the new President of World Triathlon in October 2024.
- Morinari Watanabe was re-elected as President of the Fédération Internationale de Gymnastique (FIG) in October 2024.
- Nenad Lalović was re-elected as President of United World Wrestling (UWW) in October 2024.
- Thomas Konietzko was re-elected as President of the International Canoe Federation (ICF) in November 2024.
- Tayyab Ikram was re-elected as President of the Fédération Internationale de Hockey (FIH) in November 2024.
- Quanghai Li was re-elected as President of World Sailing in November 2024.
- Brett Robinson was elected as the new Chair of World Rugby in November 2024.
- Fabio Azevedo was elected as the new President of the Fédération Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB) in November 2024.
- Robert Stull was elected as the new President of the Union Internationale de Pentathlon Moderne (UIPM) in November 2024.
- Bob DeMarco was elected as the new President of World Lacrosse in November 2024.
- Pierre Trochet was re-elected as President of the International Federation of American Football (IFAF) in December 2024.
- Zena Wooldridge was re-elected as President of World Squash in December 2024.
- Marco Maria Sclaris was re-elected as President of the International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC) in April 2025.
- Khunying Patama Leeswadtrakul was elected as the new President of the Badminton World Federation (BWF) in April 2025.

At the time of writing, the following IF Secretary General has been appointed since the 48th ASOIF General Assembly in April 2024:

- Hugh McCutcheon was appointed as the new Secretary General of the Fédération Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB) in November 2024.

3.2 Associate Membership

The Associate Membership of the International Cricket Council (ICC), the International Federation of American Football (IFAF), World Lacrosse and World Squash became effective on 1 January 2025.

Since Breaking is not included in the LA28 Olympic Programme, the Associate Membership of World DanceSport Federation (WDSF) has lapsed on 31 December 2024.

3.3 World Boxing

On 26 February 2025, the IOC Executive Board has granted the provisional recognition of World Boxing as the IF within the Olympic Movement governing the sport of boxing at world level. Subsequently, the 144th IOC Session has approved the inclusion of boxing on the LA28 sports programme on 20 March 2025. As such, World Boxing has submitted the application for ASOIF's Associate Membership for the General Assembly's consideration.

3.4 Creative Sports Award

The 13th Edition of the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Creative Sports Award has announced that nominations are now open under the theme "The Best Initiatives, Programs, or Projects in the Sports Field". The Summer Olympic IFs will be invited to submit their nominations before the deadline which is 31 August 2025. The winner will be announced on 25 November 2025, followed by the official Award Ceremony to be held on 21 January 2026.

where the winning IF will be presented with the Order of Merit and a financial reward of AED 1 million (approximately USD 272,000) for use in the IF's development activities.

4 ASOIF

4.1 Statute amendments

The proposed Statute amendments relating to language clarifications and indicating sources of ASOIF's income for commercial registry purpose are covered under Agenda Item 12.

4.2 Audit and Internal Financial Control

The 48th ASOIF General Assembly approved the appointment of Forvis Mazars as ASOIF's official auditor. The ordinary audit of ASOIF's 2024 accounts has completed with a positive opinion. Forvis Mazars has also examined ASOIF's internal control system and identified areas for improvement.

The General Assembly will be asked to approve the Auditor's Report under Agenda Item 11.1 and to appoint the auditor for 2025 under Agenda Item 11.2.

4.3 Commercial Registry

ASOIF's application to the Vaud Commercial Registry was submitted in early June 2024. A number of clarifications were sought by the Registry and ASOIF has been advised that its Statutes need to explicitly state the sources of the association's income.

4.4 Staff and Administration

ASOIF's staff currently comprises five Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) and one part-time (60%) members.

James Carr has officially started his position as Executive Director on 1 January 2025.

5 GOVERNANCE TASK FORCE

Following the publication of the Fifth Review of IF Governance report in June 2024, the Governance Task Force (GTF) met on 7 November 2024 and agreed to continue the IF governance assessment project.

At its meeting on 22 January 2025, the ASOIF Council appointed Snežana Samardžić-Marković as the new GTF Chair. Formerly Minister of Youth and Sports in Serbia and subsequently Director General of Democracy at the Council of Europe, Snežana Samardžić-Marković has been a GTF member since 2021.

6 CONSULTATIVE & ADVISORY GROUPS

6.1 Medical & Science Consultative Group (AMSCG)

Chair: Margo Mountjoy (International Golf Federation)

The IF Medical Chairs convened in Lausanne on 6-7 May 2025 for the ASOIF Medical Workshop. The event brought together 55 participants representing 26 Summer Olympic IFs, 4 Winter Olympic IFs and several invited speakers. This year's workshop introduced a refreshed and dynamic format, featuring a mix of panel sessions, quickfire presentations, and breakout discussions aimed at enhancing collaboration on shared medical challenges faced by IFs.

A comprehensive post-workshop report was circulated to all IFs, summarising key takeaways across several priority areas:

- The application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Sport Medicine;
- Women's Health in sport;
- Development and implementation of IF Medical Plans;
- Shared health and science challenges across federations;
- A plan to enhance networking among IF Medical Chairs; and
- Updates on gender eligibility regulations and Differences of Sexual Development (DSD).

The second day of the workshop was dedicated exclusively to gender eligibility and DSD. In a first-of-its-kind collaboration, IF Legal Chairs were invited to join medical delegates for a joint collaboration. Renowned international experts, including Prof David Handelsman (Endocrinology and Andrology) and legal advisor Chris Lavey (Bird & Bird), and a number of IF Medical and Legal Chairs participated in two high-level panel sessions.

The discussions were divided into two key themes:

1. Biological, legal, and ethical frameworks related to gender eligibility and DSD
2. The complex political and implementation challenges posed by the intersection of international policies and national laws

The sessions were expertly moderated by Dr Peter Harcourt (AMSCG Member) and Stephen Bock (ALCG Chair), ensuring productive and balanced dialogue across medical and legal perspectives.

6.2 Legal Consultative Group (ALCG)

Chair: Stephen Bock (Fédération Internationale de Volleyball)

The ASOIF Council appointed Stephen Bock, Head of Legal and General Counsel at FIVB, as the new ALCG Chair.

The ALCG last met on 6 May 2025 to discuss and share best practices regarding IFs' electoral procedures, following a large number of IF Presidential elections in recent months. The group also deliberated on safeguarding in sport and explored the feasibility of establishing a collective safeguarding initiative among the IFs.

Additionally, the ALCG discussed various IFs' approaches to gender eligibility and DSD policies. The group members participated in the ASOIF Medical Workshop on 7 May 2025, contributing legal perspectives to the predominantly medical discussions surrounding transgender and DSD issues in sport.

The ALCG also discussed how it could contribute to the ongoing review of the World Anti-Doping Code. In addition, the group explored ways to support IFs with limited resources and no in-house legal capacity.

6.3 Olympic & Multi-Sports Games Consultative Group (AOMSG)

Chair: Kelly Fairweather (International Tennis Federation)

The AOMSG held its last meeting on 28 February 2025, which was also attended by a representative from the IOC Sports Department.

Following the IOC LA28 IF Transition Seminar, the AOMSG addressed the issues and concerns raised by the IFs based on their experiences in Paris 2024 during the Seminar, including matters related to ticketing, hospitality, accredited seating, etc. The group also discussed LA28's venue planning and athlete quotas.

In addition, the AOMSG received updates from the IOC regarding the preparations for Dakar 2026, as well as the upcoming IOC Presidential election.

Finally, the AOMSG deliberated on how to strengthen its future role and enhance the communication with the ASOIF members regarding information it received from the IOC and OCOGs.

6.4 Commercial Advisory Group (CAG)

Chair: Antony Scanlon (International Golf Federation)

In consultation with the CAG, ASOIF had commissioned Intelligent Research in Sponsoring (IRIS), a German market research firm, to gather and analyse the targeted markets' demographic data for all IFs on the programme of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. The study aimed to support IFs in their marketing, sponsorship and sports development efforts. Bespoke reports were distributed to all ASOIF member IFs in November 2024.

The CAG held its last meeting in February 2025 to discuss esports, following the IOC's announcement that the inaugural Olympic Esports Games would be postponed to 2027. Additionally, the group agreed to hold the ASOIF Commercial Workshop in Q4 2025, with a focus on Games-time hospitality.

6.5 Technology and Innovation Consultative Group (TICG)

Chair: Nicolas Chapart (Fédération Internationale de Basketball)

The SPOT 2024, an annual forum dedicated to sports technology and innovation organised by ThinkSport, will take place from 12 to 13 May 2025. This year's event will focus on AI, wearables, athlete mental health, among other key topics.

6.6 Sports Development & Education Group (ASDEG)

Chair: Deqa Niamkey (United World Wrestling)

On April 3 2025, ASDEG hosted an online workshop exploring the potential of AI applications in sports development and education. Designed as an educational learning module, the session was tailored for IF participants. To ensure a common foundation, two preparatory videos were shared ahead of the workshop – one providing an introduction to Large Language Models (LLMs) and the other offering guidance on crafting effective AI prompts.

The workshop brought together 60 participants representing over 30 IFs. Speakers Stefan Ljutzkanov and Yash Deshpande delivered an engaging and insightful presentation, walking

attendees through five key steps to enhance content creation using AI-powered tools and techniques. Most participants were at a basic to intermediate level in their understanding of AI, and the session aimed to raise that baseline – helping IF professionals feel more confident and competent in using AI for educational and developmental purposes.

There was clear interest in further engagement, with many expressing a desire for a follow-up workshop focused on strategic planning, Key Performance Indicator frameworks and data-driven decision-making tools. Participants also highlighted the need for practical guides and tailored examples to support the application of AI within their own federations.

6.7 Diversity and Gender Equality Consultative Group (ADGEG)

Chair: Sabrina Ibáñez (Fédération Equestre Internationale)

The ADGEG oversaw the successful delivery of the fifth edition of the ASOIF Women Leadership online programme, which ran from 5 to 31 March 2025. Of the 40 participants, 39 successfully graduated, bringing the total number of programme graduates to over 220.

In parallel with the fifth edition, a survey of ASOIF graduates from the 2021-2024 programmes was conducted. With a 73% response rate (approximately 135 completed surveys), the survey provided credible insights and globally relevant representation, covering 69 countries.

Key findings highlighted the programme's positive impact:

- 84% of participants reported increased confidence; and
- 13% had applied or campaigned for a more senior role within their national or international sport organisations.

These results confirmed the programme's role as a powerful catalyst for advancing gender balance in sports leadership.

However, the survey also revealed persistent systemic and cultural barriers, including bias and harassment, present within the IFs, but especially at the national level. These factors continue to hinder meaningful and widespread transformation. These challenges remain for the group to address in future projects and initiatives.

6.8 Sustainability Consultative Group (ASCG)

Chair: David Graham (World Sailing)

The ASCG met virtually on 15 May 2025 to review the current status of the SMART Tool (Sustainability Monitoring and Reporting Tool), a final approval of the indicators, agree on an agenda for the ASCG workshop in Q4 2025 as well as discuss IF engagement at future United Nations (UN) Climate Change Conferences.

Ben Barrett, an ASOIF and IOC consultant on sustainability, has been developing the first draft of the SMART Tool. This tool is designed as a self-assessment resource to help IFs evaluate their sustainability efforts and guide strategic planning. It aligns with ASOIF's governance assessment methodology to ensure consistency. By using the SMART Tool, ASOIF and the IOC aim to better understand the Olympic Movement's sustainability impact and provide clear evidence of IFs' contributions toward the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

7 EXTERNAL BODIES

7.1 World Anti-Doping Agency

The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Executive Committee last met on 27 March 2025, during which several key issues were discussed, including the establishment of a Working Group on Contaminations to address concerns related to inadvertent doping violations.

The WADA Foundation Board will convene virtually on 29 May 2025. This meeting will include the elections of WADA's independent President and Vice-President. There is one candidate standing for election of the President. Incumbent WADA President, Witold Bańka, has submitted his application for re-election to the Board. Similarly, there is one candidate standing for election of the Vice-President. Incumbent WADA Vice-President, Yang Yang, has submitted her application for re-election to the Board.

WADA acknowledged the US government's decision to withhold its 2024 contribution of USD 3.6 million, which accounts for approximately 6% of WADA's annual budget. In accordance with its statutes, WADA stated that representatives from countries failing to pay their dues are ineligible to participate in its decision-making bodies. Consequently, the US representatives have lost their seats on WADA's Foundation Board and Executive Committee.

Meanwhile, WADA is currently in the final stages of its comprehensive review of the World Anti-Doping Code and International Standards. WADA has initiated the Third Stakeholder Consultation Phase which will remain open until 30 May 2025. The updated Code is set for approval at the 2025 World Conference on Doping in Sport, with implementation scheduled for 1 January 2027.

WADA will deliver a report to the General Assembly under Agenda Item 15.5.

7.2 SportAccord Executive Committee

The SportAccord Executive Committee last met on 19 April 2025 and decided to cancel the 2025 SportAccord Convention, originally scheduled for 9-12 June 2025 in Istanbul. The decision followed a comprehensive assessment of the recent political uncertainty in Istanbul and unresolved issues at the host city level. It was also decided that there would not be another SportAccord Convention to be held in another city in 2025. This could have a impact on SportAccord's annual financial contributions to its shareholders, namely ASOIF, Winter Olympic Federations (WOF), Association of IOC Recognised International Sports Federations (ARISF) and Alliance of Independent Recognized Members of Sport (AIMS). Host city selection and planning for the 2026 and potentially the 2027 editions have been identified as the first priorities for SportAccord.

7.3 Association of Paralympic Sports Organisations

The work of the Association of Paralympic Sports Organisations (APSO) is coordinated on a permanent basis by ASOIF staff for the benefit of APSO members whose Paralympic disciplines are included in the programme of the next Paralympic Games.

Following the conclusion of the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games, APSO conducted a first-of-its-kind and IF-sourced debrief of the event. A critical finding emerged: the level of IF staff engagement and the quality of services expected at the Paralympic Games can no longer be sustained under the current level of financial support from the International Paralympic Committee (IPC). While this challenge has been raised recently by several ASOIF members,

it is particularly pressing for Independent Paralympic IFs, which lack access to Olympic revenue streams.

To address these concerns, a high-level meeting was held on 24 February 2025 between the IPC President, the IPC Chief Executive Officer and the APSO Executive Board. The IPC acknowledged the issue but was unable to offer assurance of a satisfactory solution, citing limitations imposed by the confidential bilateral agreement between the IOC and IPC on the co-hosting of the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

In response to member requests, APSO is currently in the process of developing a Strategic Plan for the period 2025-2032, which was scheduled to be finalised in the first half of 2025.

In 2025, the APSO General Assembly will elect a new President and a new Vice-President, as both Sabrina Ibáñez and Tom Dielen will complete their second and final terms. The electoral General Assembly will take place on 23 September 2025 in Seoul, Republic of Korea, alongside the IPC General Assembly.

ASOIF Council May 2025