

## **ISAF Governance**

### **Affiliated Continental Members**

A submission from the Executive Committee

#### **Purpose or Objective**

For ISAF to agree in principle in November 2014:

1. the specific and consistent role for continental sailing associations in the worldwide promotion and development of the sport, and in the governance of ISAF;
2. the processes that will enable the structural and regulatory changes for the implementation of this role to be agreed in November 2015.

#### **Proposal**

Council is asked to approve, in principle, the following vision and principles for the role of Continental Confederations in ISAF. If approval is given in principle, the Executive Committee will consult further with the current ISAF Affiliate Continental Members and other stakeholders, and then make detailed submissions in 2015 to implement the proposals.

1. The following continental sailing confederations ("the Confederations") will be established:
  - a) ISAF Africa
  - b) ISAF Asia
  - c) ISAF Central & South America
  - d) ISAF Europe
  - e) ISAF North America & Caribbean
  - f) ISAF Oceania

Note: whether it is preferable to have one or two confederations within America (which is a single IOC continent) should be reviewed by ISAF and its American MNAs. There is currently a Pan American Sailing Federation, and a South American Sailing Confederation, but there is no North American equivalent. In addition the Pan American Games, which are held every 4 years, are the region's major Regional Games.

2. The mission and objects of each Confederation will be:
    - a) To support the development and promotion of the sport of sailing in its continent in accordance with ISAF's policies and strategy, and in compliance with ISAF's Constitution, Regulations, and guiding principles.
    - b) To comply with aims, objects and directions of ISAF, and generally to act as the agent of ISAF in the management and delivery of programs.
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- c) To promote brand awareness and brand image of ISAF and sailing within each continent.
3. The fundamental structure of ISAF as an international federation of Member National Authorities will remain unchanged. The organisation of the Confederations will be based on the following principles:
- a) Each ISAF MNA and Associate Member shall automatically be a full member (or Associate member) of the one appropriate Confederation.
  - b) Confederations will work within a formal structure within ISAF in accordance with the already well defined IOC model.
  - c) The constitution of the Confederations shall be based on a common template approved by ISAF and rules of governance/procedure standardised. The template will acknowledge regional issues.
  - d) The role of MNAs within a Confederation will be established and set by ISAF and shall include clear lines of communication, authority and accountability.
  - e) Elected or appointed representatives of each Confederation shall meet during the Annual ISAF Conference.
  - f) ISAF will work with the Confederations to develop sustainable governance models that are open, transparent and inclusive, reflecting best practices in sport governance.
4. The responsibilities of the Confederations will primarily be:
- a) To collaborate in the scheduling and delivery of ISAF development programs in association with MNAs to ensure that programs best serve the widest number of countries in the continent.
  - b) To promote continental opportunities for accelerated implementation of ISAF development initiatives in association with MNAs, and to assist in the management and delivery of selected seminars and programs.
  - c) To consult with MNAs and organizing authorities for Regional Games, and make recommendations to ISAF on appointments of the ISAF Technical Delegates and ISAF Race Officials for Regional Games.
  - d) To work with organizing authorities, ISAF committees and ISAF Technical Delegates to provide continuity and promote 'best practice' in the planning and delivery of sailing competitions at Regional Games.
  - e) To provide other general advice and assistance when requested by the organizing authority or ISAF Technical Delegate for the effective management of sailing at Regional Games.
5. The Confederations will support the activities of all Olympic and Paralympic classes in their continents, and will work with organizing authorities and ISAF committees to promote the use of Olympic and ISAF Youth Worlds equipment at major Regional Games. The Confederations will also work with the ISAF Secretariat to harmonise event scheduling and avoid conflict between continental events and major regattas on the international sailing calendar.
6. The Confederations will have a defined role in the allocation of ISAF seminars and clinics in their region and shall be committed to both the development of grass roots programs and elite competition at major Regional Games. They will work with ISAF to raise awareness of safety and universal measurement systems through seminars, clinics and training programs.
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Confederations will advise ISAF on the development of regionally responsive and clearly defined training programs for coaches and race officials.

7. The Executive will consider a funding model for Confederations that replaces their current need to charge MNAs an annual subscription.

#### Current Position

ISAF and the current continental sailing associations are separate and independent organisations.

Continental Associations are ISAF Affiliate Continental Members or Affiliate Members.

There is no North American continental sailing association.

#### Reasons

1. The Executive Committee has reviewed various international sporting codes to examine how to get more coherence and coordination into the work of ISAF throughout the various continents without impinging on the role of MNAs. The Executive Committee believes the IOC governance structure is an excellent example to emulate and is simple and clear.
2. As an international sports federation with global responsibility for the sport of sailing, the continental governance model that ISAF currently has does not reflect best practice for sailing with respect to regional delivery. Continental Associations that are currently affiliated with ISAF are surprisingly divergent in both their mission and their structure and tend to operate independently of the international body. This does not reflect a sport working uniformly together for the greater good.
3. To this end, and to correct the inconsistencies in ISAF's relationships with continental and regional entities, sailing and non-sailing, the Executive Committee proposes the above proposal with respect to Continental Associations to bring the sport in line with the IOC model. This will generate considerable benefit for the ISAF family overall and improve communication and relationships with the authorities responsible for Regional Games. Clearly identifiable continental confederations of MNAs will enable bodies such as Continental National Olympic Committees to more effectively engage with ISAF.

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#### **2014 NOVEMBER CONFERENCE**

#### **COUNCIL DECISION – NOVEMBER 2014**

Council received submission 017-14 from the Executive Committee

#### **Decision**

**On proposal to defer from Adrienne Greenwood, seconded by Totos Theodossiou, Council deferred Submissions 017-14, 018-14, 019-14, 020-14 and 023-14 to November 2015. A Working Party shall be appointed drawn from the Executive Committee, Constitution Committee and the Continental Associations and the members shall be appointed by the President (3 rejected, 0 abstain, 37 approve – 39 participated).**

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Recommendation from the Reporting Committee

Executive Committee

**Recommendation to Council: Approve**

Opinion from the Other Committees

Constitution Committee

**Opinion: No Recommendation**

Subject to policy.

ISAF Classes Committee

**Opinion: Approve**

1. The ICC is concerned over possible implications to ISAF Classes.
2. The ICC notes Regulation 25.2.2 awards to ISAF Classes the sole rights to host Class Continental Championships. This should be noted under paragraph 4 of the proposal.

Regional Games Committee

**Opinion: Defer**

The Regional Games Committee recommends that the Executive Committee establish a Working Party to define the roles and responsibilities of the continental sailing associations in the ISAF governance model. The Working Party shall:

1. include representatives of the current ISAF Affiliate Continental members, the Executive Committee, and such other members as are deemed necessary.
  2. ensure broad consultation with relevant individuals and groups, and in particular, with all ISAF Affiliate Continental members.
  3. report to the Executive Committee at the ISAF Mid-Year Meeting and return with final recommendations at the 2015 ISAF Annual Conference.
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