ISAF Restructure

A submission from the Portuguese Sailing Federation to the Annual General Meeting

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Purpose or Objective
To restructure ISAF.

Proposal 1
To approve the dissolution of the Council in ISAF structure and direct the Constitution Committee to draft the necessary formal Resolutions to effect this change to the Constitution and Regulations, and that such Resolution to be submitted to the next General Meeting;

Committees and Commissions should directly respond to the Executive Committee. Some powers of the committees should be reinforced, under the supervision of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee should be the only body responsible for managing the sport of Yachting, including (notwithstanding the powers of the General Assembly) the receiving, consideration and determination of policy under the direction of any resolution reviewed by the General Assembly;

Proposal 2
If proposal 1 is approved, to add two more Vice-Presidents (nine in total);

Current Position
As above.

Reasons
1. ISAF has a very heavy structure which should be reduced, even at some costs. With the dissolution of the Council, ISAF Structure will be considerably simplified. Will expedite the decision-making process in ISAF as well as considerable reduce the number of its officers;

2. Since 2010 Council Members are no longer “Directors” of ISAF; Council is a big structure (42 individuals) and 28 are members representing groups of MNA – or an intent to represent all 140 MNA – in decision making of our sport;

3. Being organized by groups of countries creates clear advantage on some groups where less countries have more seats at council and disadvantage to bigger groups with less sits;

4. Some countries don’t feel represented in the Council and sometimes don’t recognize the vote of their representative at Council;
5. All non-governance decisions, specially changes in the articles and regulations should be 
discussed and voted at the General Assembly meetings, were all MNA can individually 
represent themselves and all have their own vote;

6. Better representation and participation from all countries is a good image of a worldwide 
sport, where decisions can be made by simple majority of all MNA. It would be more fair and 
better accepted by all countries as all have the equal opportunity to directly participate and 
express their will, voting on what they believe is in the best interest of the sport, applying 
their own national and regional concerns/wishes.