



**World Skate  
General Ordinary Congress  
Barcelona (Spain) July 3, 2019**

**National Federations attending:**

- |                    |                                 |                                 |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Andorra         | 22. Great Britain               | 43. Portugal                    |
| 2. Angola          | 23. Guatemala                   | 44. Russia                      |
| 3. Argentina       | 24. India                       | 45. Russia SB                   |
| 4. Australia       | 25. Indonesia                   | 46. San Marino                  |
| 5. Austria         | 26. Italy                       | 47. Senegal                     |
| 6. Belarus         | 27. Japan                       | 48. Serbia                      |
| 7. Brazil          | 28. Korea                       | 49. Slovakia                    |
| 8. Brazil SB       | 29. Latvia SB                   | 50. Slovenia                    |
| 9. Canada (ILH)    | 30. Lithuania                   | 51. Slovenia SB                 |
| 10. Chile          | 31. Macau                       | 52. South-Africa(Art.<br>Speed) |
| 11. China          | 32. Malaysia                    | 53. Spain                       |
| 12. Chinese Taipei | 33. Mexico                      | 54. Sweden ILH                  |
| 13. Colombia       | 34. Morocco                     | 55. Sweden SB                   |
| 14. Costa Rica     | 35. Namibia                     | 56. Switzerland(Art.<br>Speed)  |
| 15. Croatia        | 36. Netherlands(Art.<br>Hockey) | 57. Thailand                    |
| 16. Cuba           | 37. Netherlands (Speed)         | 58. Ukraine                     |
| 17. Czech Rep.     | 38. Netherlands SB              | 59. USA                         |
| 18. Ecuador        | 39. New Zealand                 | 60. USA SB                      |
| 19. France         | 40. Pakistan                    | 61. Uruguay                     |
| 20. Georgia SB     | 41. Paraguay                    |                                 |
| 21. Germany        | 42. Peru                        |                                 |

**WORLD SKATE Executive Board Members attending:**

- Sabatino Aracu - President
- Roberto Marotta - Secretary General
- Laura Morandi - Vice Secretary General
- Fernando Claro - First Vice President and President World Skate Europe
- Alberto Herrera Ayala - Vice President (World Skate America)
- Karen Doyle - Commissioner World Skate Oceania

- Guoyong Liu - Vice President (World Skate Asia)
- Nicola Genchi - Chairman of the Artistic Technical Commission
- Jorge Roldan - Chairman of the Speed Skating Technical Commission
- Sigfried Zistler - Chairman of the Roller Alpine and Downhill Technical Commission
- Carmelo Paniagua - Chairman of the Rink Hockey Technical Commission
- Gary Ream - Chairman of the Skateboarding Commission
- Andrea Fonzari - Chairman of the Inline Hockey Technical Commission
- Olivier Pascal - Chairman of the Roller Freestyle Technical Commission
- Kelvin Koo - Chairman of the Inline Freestyle Technical Commission
- Fernando Regueiro - Chairman of the Roller Derby Technical Commission
- Patricia Wallace - Chairman of the Sports Medicine Commission

## **WORLD SKATE Management and Staff attending**

- Martina Aiello
- Paula Contarino
- Maria Grazia Di Valerio
- Francesco D'Urbano
- Lina Maria Lizcano
- Alessandra Lunadei
- Elisabetta Mariani
- Simona Mercuri
- Caterina Noto
- Sara Rubinetti
- Sergio Sacripanti
- Francesco Zangarini

## **Agenda**

1. President's opening address
2. Appointment of the Chairman of the Assembly
3. Appointment of scrutineers
4. Approval of the minutes of the previous Congress (Att. 1)
5. Report by the President
6. World Skate Games 2021
7. Report by the Secretary General
8. Financial Report
9. Report the Chairman of Sports Medicine Commission
10. 2020 International Sporting activity
11. Amendments to the World Skate Statutes (Att.2)
12. Ratification of memberships or resignations
13. Items duly submitted by Member federations and/or Executive Board within the prescribed period
14. Other urgent issues raised at the notification of the meeting (with the approval by two-thirds of those present owning voting rights).

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## PRESIDENT'S OPENING ADDRESS

World Skate President Sabatino Aracu opens the session by thanking and welcoming the authorities representing the Member Federations of World Skate, the delegation of the Roller Games Nanjing 2017, and the delegation of the World Skate Games Argentina 2021.

President Aracu also thanks the organizers of Barcelona 2019, headed by the President of the LOC and Executive Board member Carmelo Paniagua, and Ramon Basiana, President of the Catalan Roller Sport Federation. The special guests are then presented: Yassin Youssif, representing the Olympic Solidarity, Olivier Perkovich, representing Skateistan, and Ambassador Alain Economides, in charge of World Skate Institutional Relations.

Guest of Honor, the President of ASOIF Francesco Ricci Bitti.

Aracu gives the floor to Maite Fandos, representing the Municipality of Barcelona, who expresses her gratitude for selecting Barcelona for the WRG, that will remain a milestone of the city. Barcelona supports similar international sports events with such a high number of participants, the highest after the Olympic Games held in Barcelona in 1992, when Rink Hockey was included in the Olympic program as a Demonstration sport. She therefore thanks Carmelo Paniagua and Ramon Basiana, her traveling companions in this adventure.

Santi Isiquer, the Secretary of the Generalidad de Cataluña, welcomes all participants on behalf of the government of Catalonia, and recalls that 128 competitions are scheduled in Barcelona and in its surroundings, thanks to the collaboration between the Spanish and the Catalan Federations, World Skate and the sponsors. He also underlines the importance of spreading urban sports in cities.

Francesco Ricci Bitti offers his congratulations to Barcelona and World Skate, and underlines how the latter - thanks to the inclusion of skateboarding in Tokyo 2020 Olympics, is now member of ASOIF, the association representing the summer Olympic sport disciplines. World Skate includes several disciplines that are very much attractive to young people, and urban sports easy to practice because they do not need large and specific facilities; it is however necessary to reach a higher level of professionalism, and therefore the Statutes and the By-Laws adjust to changes and to the evolutions that we see in the various sports.

Dora Zhang takes the floor and recalls the difficulties encountered in the organization of the Roller Games in Nanjing, which in the first edition included 10 disciplines of World Skate and over 110 events. This was possible thanks to the help of provincial and governmental public and sports administrations.

Several venues were built, all certified and complying with the existing standards. Nanjing was included among the cities that have organized the highest number of sports events, and not just Roller Sports. Dora Zhang therefore thanks World Skate for allowing the city of Nanjing to organize World Skate's first Roller Games.

Aracu underlines that the Roller Games were held in Asia, now in Europe and the next ones in South America, in Buenos Aires, where the Youth Olympics took place like in Nanjing. The floor is then given to the representatives of Argentina, led by the Secretary General of the Argentinian Olympic Committee Mario Moccia, Daniel Ventura e Carlos Gianni.

Daniel Ventura thanks President Aracu for trusting Buenos Aires that showed it can be an Olympic city with the YOG. In 2021 there will be the WSG with a team full of enthusiasm, the government of the autonomous city of Buenos Aires, the Municipality of Vicente Lopez, the government of San Juan.

Mario Moccia greets all participants and underlines his enthusiasm when Aracu shared with him the idea of this multisport project. A video with the details of the event is shown.

The organizing committee will work in close contact with World Skate, with the representatives of the three cities hosting the event, and with the Argentinian Roller-Skating Confederation. The national sports authorities will be involved, as well as the NOC to develop the best framework, and then an Executive Committee whose Director General will be Mario Moccia and three Vice-Directors representing the three cities.

Aracu thanks Mario Moccia and gives the floor to Carmelo Paniagua, the President of the Organizing Committee of Barcelona 2019.

Carmelo Paniagua greets and welcomes everybody to Barcelona. He thanks Nanjing for the hospitality provided two years before, and congratulates Argentina for the future organization. He tells about months of hard work by a team, and two federations - the national one chaired by him and the autonomous federation of Catalunya - joined forces to organize the event. 123 competitions will be held, and over 4000 athletes. Paniagua thanks therefore World Skate, Sabatino Aracu and all the participants.

Aracu moves on to the items of Olympic Solidarity as a form of cooperation that the IOC promotes by allocating funds for sports development in the different Countries, and gives the floor to Yassine Yousfi.

Yassine Yousfi thanks and briefly describes the activity carried out within the Olympic Solidarity, and underlines that a close collaboration must be set between NOCs and IFs. It is necessary to work four years in advance to train and prepare athletes to the Olympics, and the main goals include the support to NOCs and to their athletes also through a transparent financial support. Collaboration activities are carried out with National Federations, Universities and training centers. Yousfi invites all those that have a project to refer to the NOCs; athletes are at the center of the picture, followed by coaches and by the management of NOCs. Together with World Skate, projects for coaches were implemented, in addition to long-term projects and activities devoted to athletes.

Aracu recalls that World Skate established an Olympic Solidarity Department, and that Turkey and Colombia received some funds.

The floor is given to Oliver Percovic, representing Skateistan.

Oliver Percovic thanks for the invitation and tells that on the occasion of his visit in Afghanistan as a skateboarder in 2007 everybody wanted to try the skateboard, especially the girls. He therefore saw a huge potential in this sport, and started to organize some testing sessions; skateboarding has become a sport for women as well. He met the President of the NOC that invited him to participate in the Olympic Committee; he asked for financial support to countries like Norway, Denmark and Germany to support the establishment of a school for skateboarding. It was opened in 2009 and it initially had 360 students; the schools were then established in Cambodia and South Africa.

Aracu opens the works of the Assembly, and asks for a few seconds in the memory of Riccardo Grin who passed away one year ago and that was for a short period of time the First Vice President of the International Federation, and then gives the floor to the Secretary General Marotta.

MAROTTA opens the works by appointing three members of World Skate staff as scrutineers: Francesco D'Urbano, Paula Contarino and Sergio Sacripanti, and asks to the Assembly's approval.

Voting for the approval of scrutineers: unanimously approved.

#### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS CONGRESS.

The minutes of the previous Congress are put to the vote.

Voting: unanimously approved

#### REPORT BY THE PRESIDENT

Aracu thanks the delegates attending, and representing the five Continents, and highlights how this is the first Congress of World Skate with 11 disciplines and 134 Members.

He underlines that the disciplines of World Skate comply with the gender equality principle, are appreciated by young people, and represent an opportunity for fitness purposes. These disciplines are so appealing that were also included in the advertising of important brands.

Skateboarding will certainly give a new mark to the Olympic Games of Tokyo 2020. Extraordinary Olympic qualification events were launched, which started with the Dew Tour in Long Beach.

As regards World Championships, they were held in Nanjing for Park, marking an increase in participating Countries from 8 to 47, and in Rio de Janeiro for Street.

There will also be the World Championships in San Paulo and Mexico City, by continuing the collaboration also with our partner Street League.

Aracu then thanks all the partners that supported World Skate in the organization of events, including Street League, the DEW Group of Pepsi Cola and the Brazilian STU, as well as other partners such as the Chinese Federation, that provided financial support in the organization of events.

Other scheduled events include the Youth Olympic Games in Dakar, Senegal, where World Skate will try to participate with Speed, Skateboarding and maybe with another discipline.

Other events for next year include the Artistic Skating World Championships in Asunción, Paraguay, and the Speed and Inline Hockey Championships in Colombia, and then Inline Freestyle in Shanghai.

There is then the project for a World Skate Cup with two days of skateboarding competitions at the city centers of the main cities in the world, with a closing open marathon.

Scooter was added to the already-existing disciplines; it will keep its autonomy but within World Skate.

The President mentions the unveiling of the World Skate Academy, which will be fundamental to organize courses and workshops for all the disciplines of World Skate, with the main goal of training coaches and judges.

The promotion of World Skate disciplines will also avail itself of movable tracks and facilities, which will allow to broaden the number of cities hosting events; reference is also made to the Speed track in Barcelona, that will be dismantled and then reassembled in other locations.

Aracu thanks for all these projects the staff of World Skate, with over 20 people that work full time to implement all the projects and the initiatives.

Some amendments to the Statutes are necessary, and probably further changes will be needed every two years, because the world of sports evolves fast, and we shall not be afraid of innovation.

The Secretary General Roberto MAROTTA takes the floor and informs all the delegates that have not yet confirmed at the accreditation center the validity of the Flag and Anthem of their Countries that they shall do so. The name of the flagbearer during the WRG shall also be notified.

#### REPORT BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Marotta recalls that World Skate has grown exponentially thanks to the Olympic discipline of skateboarding and the participation of Speed Skating in YOG; this led to the increase in the number of member federations and produced a remarkable increase in the amount of work with the subsequent growth in the number of staff members at the headquarters in Lausanne and at the office in Rome. Information is regularly published in the website, but it needs to be read by the people involved in the different disciplines in national federations, especially as regards the need to comply with all the deadlines set.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

Marotta reads the figures of the financial statements 2018 and the budget for 2019. The folder handed out to participants also includes the Auditor's report. Marotta recalls that the accounting is on a cash and not on an accrual basis.

Voting for the approval of the financial statements 2018: unanimously approved.

Voting for the approval of the budget 2019: unanimously approved.

Aracu thanks the Italian Olympic Committee for the support provided through 5 of its employees that are currently working for World Skate, in addition to the offices of Rome. The President underlines that the budget for 2019 has almost doubled as compared to 2018, showing the economic (among other things) growth of World Skate.

#### REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE SPORTS MEDICINE COMMISSION

Patricia WALLACE thanks all National Federations for their cooperation in the antidoping program, and thanks the staff of World Skate - particularly Caterina Noto and the Legal Counsel Francesco D'Urbano - for their help, as well as the other members of the Sports Medicine Commission, Doctor Scott and Doctor Schulze.

In 2017/2018 World Skate worked to comply with all the standards in force from the point of view of antidoping and protection of personal data. Several audits were performed, involving nine Federations and several national anti-doping organizations. It was necessary to educate the athletes from all disciplines, including skateboarders that are not familiar with anti-doping procedures. Some surveys carried out show that 40% of positive tests are not intentional and derive from use of food supplements. The training and awareness raising of athletes about doping is therefore fundamental, especially in consideration of the terrible consequences that event a one-year sanction may have on their future and their mind.

180 tests were performed in 2018; it is necessary to improve the DCF, the Doping Control Forms, especially when tests are organized through National Federations on behalf of World Skate.

WADA is presently revising the antidoping code, that will be approved in November 2019. Consequently, in 2020 World Skate shall rewrite its antidoping code to make it comply with the new international rules

and to introduce some important training-related recommendations.

Another issue that had to be faced was the situation of transgender athletes: a policy is now available in the website of World Skate.

Aracu thanks Pat Wallace and the Sports Medicine Commission for their important contribution, which allows World Skate to be highly considered by the relevant authorities, by WADA, the IOC, ASOIF, etc..

The Secretary General Roberto MAROTTA takes the floor and confirms that the number of votes in attendance amounts to 213; therefore, the simple majority is 107, and the qualified majority representing two thirds of votes is 143. He also clarifies that in case any of the delegates leaves the room, the quorum will be calculated on the total of the votes cast.

Marotta asks to change the order of the Agenda, and to ratify the new member federations, and then move on to the amendments to the Statutes.

Voting by simple majority for the approval of the change in the order of the Agenda:

Votes against: 9

Approved by simple majority

#### RATIFICATION OF NEW FEDERATIONS:

Marotta asks to vote for the ratification of the following Federations:

- Skateboard Federatie Nederland
- Canada Skateboard
- Brazilian Skateboarding Confederation
- Kazakhstan Skateboarding Federation
- Turkish Skateboarding Federation
- Costarican Skate Federation
- Lithuanian Skateboarding federation
- Timor Leste National Roller Federation
- USA Skateboarding Federation
- Skateboarding and Roller Sports Association of the Philippines Inc.
- Mauritius Roller and Skateboard Federation
- Royal Moroccan Federation of Urban Sports and similar sports
- Skate Sports Organization Malta
- Slovenian Skateboarding Association
- Swedish Skateboard federation
- Finnish Skateboarding Association

The ratification of each Federation is approved unanimously.

#### SPORTS ACTIVITIES 2020

President Aracu underlines that the main event will be Tokyo 2020, in addition to the events previously mentioned, such as the Artistic Skating World Championships, and gives the floor to the President of the Federation of Paraguay, Lorena Vilneuva.

Aracu then thanks Shanghai for the Inline Freestyle World Championships.

#### ADOPTION OF THE AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES.

The Secretary General Roberto Marotta informs that he will proceed by calling out the articles of the Statutes in sequence, and by submitting them to voting according to the votes present in the room.

President Aracu takes the floor and clarifies that these Statutes were revised during the entire year, and that the contents were amended to comply with the appropriate legal form. The most important changes include:

- one Federation per Country. The main goal is to allow sports disciplines to keep their independence, but to come together in a single representation as it happens in other international multisport Federations such as FINA. This will be done in compliance with the laws in force in the single Countries.

- gender equality, as required by the International Olympic Committee. For this reason, the President and the Vice-President of World Skate, as well as the President and the Vice-President of Continental Areas,

shall be of different genders.

- the election day, during which electing - besides the President of World Skate - also Continental Presidents (World Skate Vice-Presidents).

- each Technical Commission shall include the Continental Chairman of the relevant discipline.

The Vice-Presidents will be the true representation of World Skate in the Continents, and the Membership fees of the Federations need to be paid to Continental Areas for the development and the promotion of sports in such areas.

Marotta gives the floor to Ignazio Gonzales, the delegate of Spain, and then to the delegate of Colombia, that underline that everything can be improved, and their opinions will always be expressed with a constructive approach.

Marotta thanks and clarifies that the single articles will be called out, but not entirely read, because all the delegates already know them.

Art.1 Recognitions, Headquarters, Official Language.

Ignazio Gonzales takes the floor, and underlines that two aspects need to be tackled: the 11 disciplines shall be listed with a logical and fixed order, namely by alphabetical order or by date of official inclusion of each discipline. He believes that none of these two criteria was followed, and therefore proposes to adopt at least one of them.

Aracu takes the floor and clarifies that he asked to list skateboarding first as it is an Olympic discipline; in any case, a criterion will be defined.

Gonzales asks to keep the two languages, English and Spanish, as the official languages, because there are no valid reasons to change. They have been the official languages since the establishment of FIRS, and Spanish is the most widespread language in the world, after Chinese. If Spanish were removed as the official language of World Skate, there would be no simultaneous interpretation during Congresses. He therefore speaks to the Spanish-speaking delegates, asking them to consider voting against the proposal under paragraph 7.

Marotta replies by stating that he knows the position of the Spanish Federation. World Skate has 136 Federations and encompasses several activities in its daily work. Having two languages entails three types of problems: delay in communications due to translation needs; costs; organizational difficulties, having considered that the President of the African Confederation is asking to include French as well, because in Africa there are several French-speaking countries. English has become a universal language in all international meetings. The use of a single language will make our work easier. Marotta ensures however that the Spanish language will continue to be used in official documents and during the Congresses.

The delegate from Sweden takes the floor and comments on the list of disciplines: World Skate is an umbrella organization, and according to him there shall be three groups of disciplines: roller skating and its disciplines, skateboarding and its disciplines, and scooter that is a separate discipline.

Aracu reminds all the delegates that a letter with these proposals was sent to them 60 days before the Congress, asking for counterproposals that were not made by anybody. Now it is possible to vote in favor or against such proposals.

Marotta adds that the order of disciplines is the following: the two first are Olympic disciplines, the first in Tokyo and the second at the Youth Olympics in Buenos Aires; the historical disciplines of our Federation follow, and then the most recent ones.

The delegate from Colombia underlines the importance of approving the Statutes and also the need to take into consideration all the proposals made, but Aracu stresses the fact that amendments had to be submitted within the time set. Now it is only possible to approve the amendments to the Statutes or not.

Marotta calls the scrutineers and asks to vote on art. 1 as proposed by the Executive Board.

Art.1 is approved by majority: 127 votes cast, 13 abstentions and 114 votes in favor.

Gonzales recalls that in order to amend the Statutes, two thirds of the votes are needed. The President underlines that the majority is calculated on the number of those that vote, and not on the total number of those entitled.

Marotta asks to vote on Art.2, that obtains 134 votes in favor.

The Delegate from Colombia draws the attention on an error in paragraph 4, showing a typo to be corrected. Marotta ensures that the correction will be done as requested.

The next articles are put to the vote.

#### Art. 3

Gonzales underlines that in his opinion there is a contradiction in article 3 that needs to be corrected: subsection 4 mentions the national sports authority, and subsection 6 refers to the National Olympic Committee.

Marotta states that it is clearly explained that in many Countries the highest authority is the Government and in many other Countries it is the NOC; World Skate relies on the NOC as the highest authority. This is the reason why there are these two wordings.

Art. 3 is put to the vote with the amendment approved by the Executive Board and included in the sheet that was added.

Votes against: 4; Abstentions: 0. Approved by majority.

The following articles are the put to the vote:

Art.4: Unanimously approved

Art.5 Unanimously approved

Art.6 Unanimously approved

Gonzales takes the floor on art. 7, and asks to add under paragraph 10 a requirement that existed in the past, that is to say that each delegate of the Federation shall be a member of the Federation he/she represents.

Aracu underlines that the amendment was made to help those delegates that for any reason whatsoever are not able to participate in the Congress. If a citizen from the same Country joins the meeting by showing a written proxy by the President of that Federation, it means that such person is trustworthy; therefore, it is not possible to limit the freedom of the Countries.

Art. 7 is put to the vote as proposed: 9 abstentions, approved by majority.

#### Art. 8

Gonzales underlines that art. 8, section 10 refers to the composition of the Executive Board, and would therefore deserve a separate article. Furthermore, paragraph 15 states that the Executive Board shall meet every two years instead of once yearly.

Aracu underlines that the Executive Board meetings are starting to be held remotely, through videoconferencing systems, in order not to be too burdensome for the Federation. It is therefore possible to leave the wording as it is, but in case of need all the necessary meetings are convened and held.

Marotta underlines that the subsequent paragraph 16 states that the Executive Board may convene electronic meetings whenever needed.

Aracu reiterates that delegates had at their disposal 60 days to send their remarks, and that during the meeting it is not easy to analyze them. Therefore, all the remarks will be taken in due consideration afterwards.

Gonzales says that on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2019 a letter was sent to World Skate with all such comments.

Marotta says that the articles of the Statutes will be voted as written in the document, and all the remarks will be taken into consideration, analyzed afterwards, and voted during the next Congress.

Voting: Abstention by Spain, approved by majority.

#### Art. 9

Ignazio Gonzales takes the floor and informs that he had asked to remove the word “elective” so that in case of a vacant position the designated persons may replace him/her. The position would therefore be taken by the Chairpersons of the Committees that are part of the same team.

Voting: Spain votes against. Approved by majority.

The following articles are then put to the vote:

Art. 10. Unanimously approved

Art. 11. Unanimously approved

Art. 12. Unanimously approved

Art. 13. Unanimously approved

Art. 14.

The delegate from Colombia takes the floor, and asks all the delegates to pay attention to articles 14 and 15, which entail that the new Statutes remove some powers to Continental Confederations. The Pan-American Confederation is well-established, it organizes several activities, it has a legal and administrative autonomy, and is regulated according to the international law that allows to establish associations without being in contrast with the principles of an association as World Skate. The sports regulations comply with the rules of World Skate; therefore, there is no need to lose autonomy and put aside Statutes drafted according to the international legal standards. Reference was made to FINA, but there is also FIFA, the most powerful federation that includes autonomous continental federations. With the amendments proposed, a Continental Confederation cannot make agreements with sponsors. He therefore proposes a careful reading of these two articles. The delegate of Colombia believes that Art. 24 of the previous Statutes are more in line with his proposal, and therefore believes that it is necessary to read such paragraphs carefully. In order to introduce democracy in sports, it is not possible to limit the rights and opportunities of Continental Confederations.

Aracu says that a total independence may sometimes generate confusion. Having considered that there is a total financial independence, the Congress has already decided that these are Areas and not legally autonomous Confederations; they have to be Areas, being part of a single family that is World Skate. Continents are free to have sponsors, all is needed is the approval by World Skate in order to avoid conflicts of interests that might originate in case World Skate and a Continental Area sign agreements with similar partners. Continents need to be financially supported, and hopefully this will be done in the future. But it is necessary to behave like a single entity.

Ignazio Gonzales agrees with Colombia, but asks for a clarification about paragraph 9 on the athletes' representative, that in the case of an Olympic discipline may be selected by the Executive Board. Gonzales asks how this complies with the criterion providing for the election of athletes' representatives.

Aracu says that World Skate has several disciplines, and it is important to have visibility also at the Olympic level. This is the reason why Leticia Bufoni - an athlete with extraordinary international visibility - was chosen. And it is fair that the athletes' representative belongs to the Olympic discipline, skateboarding.

The following articles are put to the vote. 127 votes are cast:

Art. 14: Votes against: 21; abstentions: 9. Approved by majority

Art. 15: Votes against: 13; abstentions: 9. Approved by majority.

Art. 16 - Unanimously approved

Art. 17 - Unanimously approved

Art. 18 - Unanimously approved

Art. 19 - Unanimously approved

Art. 20 - Unanimously approved

Art. 21

Ignazio Gonzales takes the floor, and underlines that this article states that all articles immediately come into force, at the end of the Congress, with some provisions that shall come into force on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2021; however, no mention is made of whether the regulations and the Statutes of Continental Areas remain in force, and this potentially means that as from this moment Continental Areas have no more regulations and Statutes. From an operational point of view this is not correct, and therefore exceptions need to be extended by keeping in force the present Statutes and By-Laws until 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021.

Aracu replies that the Statutes clearly enter into force immediately whereas the different offices are kept until the next elections of 2021. The clear thing is that as from this moment no elections are held at the Continental Areas.

Art. 21: Unanimously approved

Voting on the entire text of the amended Statutes:

Votes against: 9. Approved by majority.

The Secretary General recalls that all the delegates already received the new text of the By-Laws approved by the Executive Board, which therefore take effect immediately.

There are no proposals by the single Federations, exception made for the one submitted by Koty on the use of the French language, already rejected.

Having tackled all the items in the agenda, the Secretary General gives the floor to the President for the

closing remarks.

Aracu thanks all the participants for their presence and for the work carried out. Very old statutes were amended, and this required commitments, debates and sharing of views.

The Congress is closed at 5.30 p.m.



Roberto Marotta  
Secretary General



Sabatino Aracu  
President