

ITU Board meets in Seoul – Seoul – April 21, 2017



The ITU Executive Board met on April 18th and 19th in Seoul, South Korea to address many important topics at their first meeting after the 29th Congress held in Spain in December 2016.

During two fruitful days of meetings, the Board, presided by ITU's President Marisol Casado, agreed on launching the bidding process for cities interested in hosting the 2018 World Triathlon Series and World Cup events. After releasing the bid document in the coming days, cities will be encouraged to send their proposals for the 2018 calendar.

Furthermore, the Executive Board awarded the ITU 2018 Winter Triathlon World Championship to the city of Cheile Gradistei, in Romania. In addition to the Elite World Championship, the Balkan town will also welcome Under23, Junior, Paratriathlon and Age Group athletes to vie for a chance at becoming the next World Champion in their respective divisions.

One of the purposes of the meeting, the first of the newly elected members, was to analyze the competition structure within ITU and to explore the possible improvements, changes and adaptations. The Board members also had the chance to review the documents sent to the IOC to formally bid for Mixed Relay to be included on the Olympic Programme Tokyo 2020. A bid proposal that emphasizes the great asset that Mixed Relay is, not only to our sport, but to the Olympic movement and gender balance in sport.

With the future in mind, members of the Executive Board received an update on the venue, programme and calendar planned for the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo, as well as the 2018 Buenos Aires Youth Olympic Games. Looking

forward, members of the Board also decided to start preparations for the development of the new ITU Strategic Plan 2018-2021.

As the President arrived in Seoul following a full week of meetings in Denmark during SportAccord, the members of the Executive Board were informed of all the discussions held with ASOIF, SportAccord and the WADA Congress, held last month in Lausanne, Switzerland.

The Board also had the opportunity to discuss the latest updates of the current conversations with IRONMAN since signing the MOU.

The Executive Board approved the President's proposal to establish term limits for ITU Board members. The term limits will be introduced during the next Congress to be held in Rotterdam, September 2017.

After two days of meetings, members of the Executive Board were greeted by the President of the 2018 Pyeongchang Olympic Games Organising Committee, Mr. Hee-Beom Lee, and Vice President, Mr. Jaeyoul Kim, where they were treated to a visit through the venues which will host the Winter Olympic Games next year. Surely it will be a great success.

ITU and President Marisol Casado would like to extend their gratitude to the Korean Olympic Committee and President of the committee, Mr. Kee-Heung Lee, and the Korean Triathlon Federation, presided by Mr. Justin Park, for the warm welcome to their country and their hospitality during the visit.