



IOC EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION PROPOSAL

10.3
P.1

Author of proposal: James MACLEOD

Date of proposal: 8 March 2021

Signature:

SUBJECT: NOC of the Republic of Belarus

REFERENCE DOCUMENT OR BRIEF STATEMENT OF REASONS:

Further to the IOC Executive Board decision of 7 December 2020 in relation to the NOC of the Republic of Belarus, the IOC has been informed of the following developments:

- The quadrennial Elective General Assembly of the NOC of Belarus took place on 26 February 2021. On that occasion, the NOC Statutes were amended and the elections of the members of the NOC Executive Board were held.
- The IOC noted that the **NOC Statutes** were updated in line with the usual standards of good governance. Specific provisions were expressly included to:
 - o ensure better protection of the athletes' rights and preserve the athletes from any discrimination or undue pressure;
 - o strengthen the autonomy of the NOC by ensuring in particular that the elected members of the NOC Executive Board no longer simultaneously occupy any governmental position;
 - o better reflect gender equality within the NOC Executive Board; and
 - o introduce limitations on the number of terms and a maximum age limit for the elected members of the NOC Executive Board.
- From the report sent by the NOC regarding the results of the **NOC elections**, the IOC noted that most of the elected members of the NOC Executive Board are new. However, the IOC also noted, with great disappointment, that the NOC has failed to fully address the first item of the IOC Executive Board decision of 7 December 2020. In particular, the outgoing NOC President, Mr Alexander Lukashenko, who chaired the NOC Elective General Assembly, was initially a candidate for his re-election but withdrew his nomination in favour of his son, Mr Viktor Lukashenko, who was unanimously elected as the new NOC



President. The third person who was expressly mentioned in the IOC Executive Board decision of 7 December 2020, Mr Dmitry Baskov, was also re-elected as a member of the NOC Executive Board.

- The IOC received an email from the NOC's Athletes' Commission confirming their athlete's wish to compete under the country flag in the upcoming Olympic Games as the NOC of Belarus (copy of email attached in annex)

**FINANCIAL REPERCUSSIONS:** Included in budget Extra-budget credit requested

Amount and details: [click and type]

DECISION REQUIRED FROM EB:

In view of the outcomes of the NOC Elective General Assembly and the conclusion the IOC Executive Board came to in its decision of 7 December 2020 that the previous leadership of the NOC of Belarus had not appropriately protected the Belarussian athletes from political discrimination within the NOC, their member federations or the sports movement, it is proposed that the IOC Executive Board adopt the following provisional measures until further notice (or until such time as the NOC fully addresses the first item of the IOC Executive Board decision of 7 December 2020):

1. To not recognise the election of Mr Viktor Lukashenko as the new President of the NOC of Belarus and the election of Mr Dmitry Baskov as a member of the NOC Executive Board and maintain their exclusion from all IOC events and activities, including the Olympic Games. The IOC will liaise with the NOC and the other members of the newly elected Executive Board, through the NOC Secretary General.
2. To maintain the other provisional measures taken by the IOC Executive Board on 7 December 2020, as follows:
 - a. Suspend all financial payments to the NOC of Belarus, with the exception of payments related to the athletes' scholarships and the preparations of the Belarussian team for, and their participation in, the Olympic Games.
 - b. Request the relevant International Federations to make sure that all eligible Belarussian athletes can take part in qualification events for the upcoming Olympic Games without any political discrimination.
 - c. Suspend any discussions with the NOC of Belarus regarding the hosting of future IOC events.
 - d. Request all constituents of the Olympic Movement to respect these measures in the interest of protecting Belarussian athletes' rights and the reputation of the Olympic Movement.
3. To request the NOC of Belarus and its member federations to ensure that there is no political discrimination in the participation of the Belarussian athletes in qualification events, and in the final selection of the team of the NOC of Belarus, for all Olympic Games.
4. To not invite, or grant any accreditation to, any senior Government official from the Republic of Belarus for Olympic Games.



The IOC Executive Board will continue to monitor the situation and reserves the right to consider any further action or to remove any of these provisional measures, depending on the evolution of the situation.



IOC EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION

Reference:	10.3 P.1
Date of decision:	08.03.2021
Signature of President or Director General:	

- Decision **APPROVED AS PROPOSED**
- Decision **REJECTED**
- Decision **POSTPONED** (new date: [click and type])
- Decision **APPROVED WITH THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS OR CHANGES**

Person in charge of follow up:	James Macleod, NOC relations Director
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Report to be given to:

- | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|------------------|
| EB: | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Deadline | [click and type] |
| President / Directors' Meeting: | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Deadline | [click and type] |





ANNEX: Email received 05 March 2021

Dr. Thomas Bach
IOC President

Mr. James Macleod
IOC Olympic Solidarity and NOC Relations

Ms. Coventry
IOC Athletes Commission Chair

Dear Dr. Bach,
Dear Mr. Macleod,
Ms. Coventry,

On behalf of the Athletes' Commission of the National Olympic Committee of the Republic of Belarus (hereinafter – the Athletes' Commission) and following the General Assembly held on 26 February 2021 in the NOC Belarus headquarters, we would like to inform you that the Athletes' Commission representatives and other Belarusian athletes took part in the selection of the new leadership of the Olympic Movement of the country (for the first time, the governing bodies do not have any members who have any functions in governmental entities) and voted for the new Statute of the NOC Belarus, which complies with the recommendations of the IOC and even more protects the rights of representatives of the sports community of the Republic of Belarus.

The Athletes' Commission delegate its representatives to take part in the Assembly. Among participants in the discussions of important topics of sports development were not only honored athletes who have already finished their careers (more than 20), but also active athletes who have the maximum chances to win medals in the upcoming Olympic Games in Tokyo and Beijing (such as Vladislav Goncharov, Anastasiya Mironchyk-Ivanova, Daria Naumava, Alla Tsuper).

The Athletes' Commission representatives were elected as members of the updated composition of the NOC Belarus Executive Committee, namely Dzmitry



Dauhaliouak as the NOC Belarus Vice-President and Aliaksandr Bahdanovich as the NOC Belarus Executive Committee member.

One of the main topics on the General Assembly's agenda was preparation for the Summer Olympic Games Tokyo 2020. During discussions the Belarusian athletes once again expressed their deep concerns on the continuing pressure and speculations from the mass media, including the foreign ones. Furthermore, "information attacks" about the possible participation of the Belarusian delegation in the Olympic Games under the neutral flag and the inevitable strengthening of sanctions against NOC Belarus have been going on.

In this regard, we are expressing our concerns, as the political situation in the country has calmed down and there is no discrimination against athletes and coaches, who were tried to be used for political purposes and involved into political issues. All the athletes are preparing systematically for the upcoming Olympic Games regardless of their political points of view.

The Belarussian athletes represented by the Athletes' Commission believe that their opinion will be heard and they will not be deprived of the opportunity to proudly perform in the Olympic Games under the flag of their country.

We are looking forward to further development of the Olympic Movement in the Republic of Belarus within fruitful relationship between the NOC of Belarus and the IOC.

NOC Belarus Athletes' Commission