



## Report of the meeting between IAU and ITRA 27 January 2017

### Participants :

- Liesbeth Jansen (IAU) / Nadeem Khan (IAU) / Enrico Pollini (ITRA) / Matthias Proud (ITRA) / Paco Rico (IAU) / José Santos (ITRA) / Hilary Walker (IAU)

### Agenda :

1. IAU and ITRA Organisation Chart for 2017 and 2018
2. Future of TWC
3. Review of the GIS for 2017
4. Health Policy
5. Official documents for TWC competitions

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### 1. IAU ITRA Organisation chart for 2017 and 2018

#### 2017 :

- General coordinator : Enrico Pollini (ITRA)
- Technical coordinator : Enrico Pollini (ITRA)
- Communication coordinator : José Santos with Matthias Proud in support (ITRA)
- Administrative Financial and Logistic coordinator : Hilary Walker (IAU)
- Protocol coordinator : Paco Rico with Lin Gentling in support (IAU)

#### 2018 :

- General coordinator : Paco (IAU)
- Technical coordinator : José (ITRA)
- Communication coordinator : Matthias (ITRA)
- Administrative Financial and Logistic coordinator : Hilary (IAU)
- Protocol coordinator : To determine after IAU Meeting in Monaco next week (IAU)

The General Coordinator will send an email to both LOC copying everyone here explaining the IAU ITRA organisation Chart. To be done soon by Enrico while all roles will be attributed (see next

week after IAU meeting in Monaco). Same will be done by Paco after Penyagolosa event end of April.

Presence in Penyagolosa 2017 :

- Liesbeth, José, Matthias and Meghan will be present for the race on Saturday 22nd of April.
- We will all come one day in advance in order to take advantage of the presence of all of us to discuss about TWC.
- José will take advantage of the presence to meet Tico and maybe arrange a meeting depending on his availability.
- While ITRA staff will run in the race, Paco will ask Tico for helping Liesbeth to follow the race during the event.

Enrico proposes an intermediate meeting between IAU and ITRA in order to better advance in the preparation of the next 2017 TWC.

## 2. Future of TWC

ITRA reminded that regardless of the results of the surveys conducted by ITRA and IAU, the calendar agreed in the Lisbon meeting was based on an announcement 3 years in advance for the upcoming TWC and so for 2019 we are already running late because it should have been done in October 2016.

IAU commented that if the final decision is for a 2019's edition of the TWC it is feasible to compress the calendar and announce it 1,5 years before the event instead of 2 years.

In addition to the survey sent to runners and organizers by ITRA one year in advance, IAU also sent a survey to the IAU National Federations in order to collect their feedback from the TWC. You will find in attachment a summary of the survey.

To resume:

- 21 participants to the survey. (waiting for Paco's feedback concerning list of countries)
- National federations are balanced between a TWC every year or every 2 years.
- The 2 balanced options are an event every year with an alternating of distances and an event every 2 years with multiple distances.
- National federation are also 80% in favour of an major event every year which could continental championships.

IAU and ITRA agree that regardless of the final decision, different distances were highly supported in both surveys so the 2 main options are either an event every year with alternating distances or an event every 2 years with both distances

*Note: Most of the pros and cons have been discussed during the meeting. But the list is also repeated below to better prepare for the next meeting and find an agreement on the final decision.*

### **First option: an event every year with an alternating of distances**

Pros:

- Easier for Federation to allocate an annual budget for an annual major event instead of carrying over the budget for the next year.
- An annual event can be good for the promotion of Trail Running

- The fact that we have alternating distances avoids the calendar problem of top elite runners because we are targeting different type of runners (50k runner is not the same as the Ultra distance runner)

Cons:

- Difficulty of maintaining the importance of an event taking place every year for the community and making sure that communication grows as much as could be for example a TWC every 2 years or olympic games every 4 years.
- Risk of making an event with not so many top runner and not having this prestige of a TWC and lost attractiveness for the future.
- Brands interest are not on a TWC every year because they would prefer their runners focused on other project because the attractiveness is not so high and because they are not well represented during the event.

### **Second option: an event every 2 years with 2 distances**

Pros:

- Easier to prepare an event in term of communication for an event every 2 years and make the attractiveness growing. Event more popular with more information to communicate on before, during and after the race
- Easier for the organisation to attract major sponsors to support the race if the event is organized every 2 years.
- Possibility to alternate with Mountain Running World Championships and or continental trail championships

Cons:

- It's complicated for some national federations (the smaller ones which are the majority of the members according with IAU) to send 2 competitive teams for each distance.
- The majority of the national federations work on an annual budget scheme and are not able to save money from one year to the next one, and so they would have problems with having the necessary funds to send a full delegation to both events. Paco gave the example of the Spanish federation and Hilary the one of UK.

Considering that IAU is having their council meeting in one week's time with possible changes to their directors' responsibilities and also that the information generated by the next TWC could be important to take into account, IAU and ITRA agreed:

- To continue to complete the list of pros and cons for each option and bring measurable data for the next meeting
- To wait for the next first TWC on short distance (50K) in order to collect and compare year to year the attractiveness of top runners and the mediatisation of the event.

As IAU and ITRA staff will be present on Badia Prataglia during the 2017 TWC and as a final decision should be taken very shortly, a new IAU/ITRA meeting is scheduled for Monday 12th June just after the 2017 TWC.

In case of having a TWC every year and by consequences a 2019 event, then the agreed timing plan to choose the 2019 event will be to reduce by 6 months the calendar agreed in Lisbon in order to announce a candidacy 1,5 year in advance instead of 2 years.

It is also proposed for the future to have a vision of 4 years for the future in addition of the 3 years for candidacies. That's means, for the next meeting in 2017, we will also agree on the format for the period of 2020 to 2024.

### **3. Review of the GIS for 2017**

All pages of the GIS were reviewed during the meeting. A final document will be approved and sent for Feb 6. Hilary to send other comments to Enrico and to finalise responsibilities after IAU meeting on Feb 5th

#### 4. Health Policy

IAU underlines the effort made by ITRA regarding health for the sport but also pointed out the fact that, as trail races are now events under IAAF rules, the ITRA health policy needs to be agreed by IAAF.

ITRA agrees to verify with its Medical Commission the legitimacy of the procedures used till now but at the same time if it turns out that it is not advisable to carry on with those procedures ITRA agrees to modify its implementation and communication to the athletes and national teams:

- Explaining that our aim is to protect the health and promote the safety of the athletes and only that.
- Be very clear that our Health Policy has nothing to do with anti doping fight. That's a role of the National anti doping authorities.
- Be clear that its voluntary and not compulsory but also that it is on the best interest of the athletes to submit to such an evaluation.
- Explaining that the analysis are carried on by official and credible hospitals/entities/doctors following all the correct medical procedures.
- Explaining what kind of samples can be collected and also that all results are kept strictly confidential.
- Explaining the procedure facing an abnormal result: in that case, it may put in risk the athlete's health and safety, the athlete will be called by the medical commission to discuss the situation. Explain also what are the possible outcomes of that meeting.

*Note: As no experts from IAU and ITRA concerning health were present at this meeting all this remarks can be complete by the concerned people : eg Patrick Sallet, president of the medical commission, Pierre Sallet, President of Athletes For Transparency, who executes the preventive actions during TWC and Pierre Weiss, former IAAF General secretary, who agrees on the implementation of the health policy during the 2015 TWC.*

The text concerning health policy will be reviewed for the upcoming week according to IAU, ITRA and IAAF's comments.

#### 5. Official documents for TWC competitions

ITRA underlines that most of the official documents for TWC competitions needs to be updated in order to be adapted to trail running specificities, the new role of ITRA and be completed by additional informations.

It concerns the following documents : Bidding Procedure / Application Form / Protocol Guidelines / IAU Travel Grants and Wild Card System / General Information Sheet / Team Manual / Technical Guidelines / Technical Meeting / Organisational Guidelines

Outside of the meeting, here few examples :

- Bidding Procedure: It needs to be adapted with the new IAU / ITRA process defined at Lisbon in April 2016
- Application Form: We need a special Trail Application Form (this one was written for 100km ou 24h races)
- Protocol Guidelines: it needs to be adapted in regards with the role of ITRA (small changes)
- Technical Meeting: The document made by José for 2016 TWC is an excellent point of start. The chapter 12 must have a link towards the ITRA's Safety Guidelines. We need to add 3 chapters : Live tracking / Sustainability and Environment / Health Policy
- Organisational Guidelines: The information provided about communication is very weak. We need to write a separate Communication Guidelines with at least the following chapters : Communication Charter (name of the race, presence of ITRA and IAU logos, place for private partners) / Website / Social networks / Communication plan (before, during, after the TWC) coordinated with ITRA and IAU communication plans / Press relationships / Media partnerships / Live tracking / Animation during the event

ITRA will work on the reviewing of the documents and will share its comments with IAU.