



Report

Board of Directors Meeting Capetown, Sth Africa 10-12 December, 2015

Women's Commission

Name of the BOD Member: Helen Brownlee

Function: Chair

1. Meetings since last Board Meeting

- The Chair attended the ANOC General Assembly, Washington D.C. as a continental woman's representative (for Oceania).
- An informal meeting will be held on 10 December, 2015 in Cape Town to plan future activities. All Board Members are invited to attend at 14-15hrs on Thursday 10 December.

2. Tasks undertaken for this period

- Dr Cecilia Farias was elected Vice President, Association of Pan American Sport Federations (ACODEPA), as the first woman on the ACODEPA Executive. Recently she was also re-elected as President of the Pan American Canoe Federation (COPAC) 2015-2019.
- Helen Brownlee was recently inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame, the highest honour bestowed in Australian sport, for her contribution to canoeing and the Olympic movement.
- Ongoing dialogue regarding gender equality, particularly in regard to women in leadership positions within their NF's and Women's C1 inclusion in the Olympic Games program.
- Cecilia Farias represented the Commission at the August 2015 Executive Meeting, and all three women Board members were involved in the Jury for the World Championships of Sprint, Slalom and Ocean Racing.
- Expand and Extend – Women's Canoe Slalom program (specifically the Nepal program) won the Golden Paddle at the World Paddle Awards in Augsburg. As the Award Ceremony closely followed the second Nepalese earthquake, an Aid Appeal was launched worldwide through the canoeing family.

3. Issues and Main Points of Report

- Selection of ITO's for World Championships and Olympic Games needs to continually reflect gender equality to demonstrate that the ICF is serious about increasing the number of women in leadership roles (as well as through participation).
- The ICF Olympic Commission document needs to address gender equality as proposed by the IOC. There is urgency to action the IOC 2020 recommendations in order for our sport to remain viable.

4. Future Initiatives and Tasks

The Commission will work with the ICF towards equalising the number of events / medals available to men and women in a way that protects and promotes a balance of quality and universality, as foreshadowed by the Gender Equity Charter (endorsed by the Board in 2012)

5. Recommendations

That the ICF continue to work towards achieving gender equality across all activities, including selection of ITO's.

That the ICF equalise the number of events / medals available to men and women in a way which promotes a balance of quality and universality.

