



CITRUS AVIUS - BORTHA

INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

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Lausanne, September 3rd, 1993
Ref. no /93/chm

Re: Unification of karate
Adoption of the statutes of the World Karate Federation (WKF)

Dear Sirs,

As we previously informed you, we have the honour to communicate simultaneously to the WUKO and the ITKF a working document entitled "Principles to be included in the statutes of the WKF with a view to its recognition by the IOC" concerning which we wish to make the following observations:

1. Please note that, formally, this document does not constitute a draft set of definitive statutes of the WKF; indeed, it is not for the IOC to perform the final drafting of the statutes. Such drafting is the responsibility of those in charge within the organizations concerned, although we, the undersigned, are at their disposal to facilitate matters regarding specific points of detail, if necessary.
2. You should consider that the enclosed document sets out all the essential principles required by the IOC to permit the definitive recognition of the WKF to be proposed as soon as possible to the competent organs of the IOC itself. In other words, the IOC which has the intention of recognizing a single federation at a world level for the whole of karate, wishes that within the sa



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federation, a place be reserved for the activities practised hitherto under the aegis of the ITKF as well as that of the WUKO.

3. As you will see, the principles required by the IOC centre on two principal notions, namely:

a) recognition, within the WKF that there will be - at least during an initial phase, the duration of which cannot be estimated with certainty in the present situation - up to three categories of members, namely KT members (National Federations which have fully achieved the unity of karate in their country, K members (ex-WUKO National Federations) and T members (ex-ITKF National Federations). In the same spirit, it is planned to offer certain minimum guarantees to both K members and T members, which is what the creation of K and T delegates is aimed at ensuring. In the same spirit, it is planned to guarantee, within the various organs of the WKF, a number of seats for the representatives of the K members and T members. The creation of two permanent commissions, called the General Karate Commission (GKC) and the Traditional Karate Commission (TKC), is also aimed at organizing, in a structured way, the flexibility necessary to the running of the WKF, a flexibility which will be indispensable for a number of years.

b) Again in the same spirit, it is proposed to create three totally separate funds, namely a G fund (general), a K fund (which will be supplied on the basis of the assets of the WUKO) and a T fund (which will be supplied on the basis of the assets of the ITKF). Here, again, we have striven to provide for relatively simple operation, under the control of the treasurer and the Executive Committee.

4. As far as the title "General Karate Commission" (GKC) is concerned, this is merely a suggestion, and we would have no objection to accepting another name, provided that, with regard to the substance, the principles laid down are not modified. We had thought, inter alia, of the "Modern Karate Commission"; on this point, however, it is for the WUKO alone to let us have any proposals with regard to the name of this commission, if it deems this necessary.

5. As for the next stage of the procedure, namely the recognition of the WKF by the IOC, it will be as follows:

a) the working group made up of the undersigned parties is ready now to propose to the IOC Executive Board that it grant the WKF provisional IOC recognition, on condition that your two organizations, or one of them, informs us in writing of your acceptance of the principles set out in the enclosed document, and your undertaking to include them in the statutes.

b) official definitive recognition of the WKF could be confirmed by the IOC once the WKF has submitted to it for agreement the final text of its statutes.



QUI PRO AGRO PORTUS

We are happy to offer our assistance and remain,
Yours faithfully,

Letter signed by :

Kéba MBAYE
Chairman of the IOC
Juridical Commission

François CARRARD
Member of the IOC
Juridical Commission

P.S. Please note that the original text of the attached note and this letter was written in French. In conformity with Rule 27.3 of the Olympic Charter, in the case of divergence between the French and English texts of these two documents, the French text shall prevail.

NOTE ON THE PRINCIPLES TO BE INCLUDED IN THE STATUTES
OF THE WORLD KARATE FEDERATION (WKF)
(In French: FEDERATION MONDIALE DU KARATE (F.M.K.)
WITH A VIEW TO ITS RECOGNITION BY THE IOC

The present working document, drafted by the IOC, includes the terms of the principles which must be included in the statutes of the WKF to allow the IOC to pronounce the recognition thereof.

The present document is therefore not a set of draft statutes. It is for those responsible to establish for themselves a final draft set of statutes incorporating the principles set out in the present document; once such final draft has been approved by the WKF itself, it will then have to be submitted to the IOC with a view to the definitive recognition of the WKF.

The present working document is being communicated simultaneously to the WUKO and ITKF. These two organizations are invited to come to a decision concerning the present document which forms a whole. In the event of the acceptance of the contents of the present document by one or other party or by both parties, the working group will propose to the IOC Executive Board that it grant provisional recognition to the World Karate Federation (WKF), such recognition becoming final once the final text of the statutes, incorporating the principles set out in the present document, have been duly approved by the WKF and communicated to the IOC.

In short, what matters and is sufficient for the IOC is that the principles set out in the present document be incorporated into the statutes of the WKF; the Chairman of the IOC Juridical Commission and the IOC Director General are at the disposal of the parties in order to help them in the final phase of their work if they so wish.

1. Principles concerning the name, vocation, legal status, seat, objects, official and subsidiary languages, certain definitions and the settlement of disputes

1.1. Name:

World Karate Federation (WKF); in French: Fédération Mondiale du Karaté (F.M.K.).

The WKF is the result of the merger of the WUKO and the ITKF.

Its statutes, although based on those of the WUKO, shall respect the principles set out in the present note which duly takes into account the rules of justice which must prevail in the above-mentioned merger of the two federations.

1.2. Vocation:

To administer on a world scale all forms of karate. The WKF must be apolitical and permit no discrimination.

1.3. Legal status:

Non-profit-making international non-governmental organization of unlimited duration, in the form of an association endowed with a juridical personality.

1.4. Seat:

Paris. Transfer possible upon decision of the Executive Committee of the WKF. (EC).

1.5. Objects:

The mission of the WKF is to train athletes and develop their mental and physical health throughout the world by securing their participation in international karate activities. The WKF seeks to encourage good relations between its member federations and their athletes around the world.

Inter alia, the objects of the WKF are:

1. to promote cordial and friendly relations between its members and to supervise karate activities all over the world;
2. to protect the interests of karate throughout the world;
3. to organize karate throughout the world and to develop and promulgate the techniques and spirit of the karatedo (way of karate);
4. to establish the international technical rules of karate;
5. to organize world karate championships in collaboration with the member federations and continental unions. The right to organize world championships and other international meetings shall be granted only to such countries as are able to receive all the participants on their territory;
6. to get karate accepted in the Olympic Games and all other continental Games.

1.6. Official and subsidiary languages:

The official languages of the WKF are French and English.

In the case of divergence between the English and French texts, the French text shall prevail; if the subject of such divergence refers to the sport or technique of karate, reference shall be made to the original Japanese text.

The subsidiary languages are Spanish, German, Arabic and Japanese.

At Congresses, simultaneous translation shall be provided in French, English and Spanish.

✓ 1.7. Definitions:

- Karate: all sports activities governed by the WKF; within the WKF, those sports activities which were practised under the control of the former ITKF are more specifically designated as "traditional karate".

- Country: any state, country, territory or part of territory which the WKF considers, at its total discretion, as an area of jurisdiction of a National Federation which it recognizes. The name of a National Federation must correspond to its territorial limits and the tradition of its country, and must be approved by the WKF.

1.8. Disputes:

Any dispute arising from the application or interpretation of the statutes of the WKF to which the parties cannot reach an amicable settlement shall be settled exclusively and finally by a Panel constituted pursuant to the Statutes and Regulations of arbitration of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS). The parties undertake to comply with the provisions of the said Statutes and Regulations and to execute in good faith the award pronounced.

2. Principles relating to members and affiliations

2.1. Those National Federations (NF) admitted in such capacity may be members of the WKF.

2.2. An NF is an organization, endowed with a juridical personality, which in its country governs all forms of karate, namely forms of karate other than traditional karate as well as traditional karate.

2.3. The admission and exclusion of members of the WKF falls within the jurisdiction of the Congress.

Provisional admission may be decided by the EC, subject to ratification by the Congress.

2.4. In those countries where there is an NF governing all forms of karate, the WKF will admit a single NF as a member.

2.5. In those countries where there is no single NF governing all forms of karate, the WKF may recognize a maximum of two NFs, one governing forms of karate other than traditional karate, and the other governing traditional karate.

2.6. Those NFs governing all forms of karate will be designated as "KT Members".

Those NFs governing forms of karate other than traditional karate will be designated as "K Members".

Those NFs governing traditional karate will be designated as "T Members".

KT members, K members and T members constitute three distinct categories of membership. All the rights and obligations of all KT, K and T members within the WKF are equal, subject solely to the exceptions expressly provided in the statutes of the WKF.

2.7. All members of the WKF are obliged to comply with its statutes.

2.8. The NFs may be members of regional or continental unions or associations of NFs in order to participate in and supervise the organization of regional or continental karate competitions, including in the context of regional or continental games. The WKF may recognize such regional or continental unions or associations, such recognition in no way affecting the right of the WKF to deal directly with each NF and vice versa.

3. Principles relating to World Championships in Karate, other international competitions and eligibility

3.1. The WKF is the sole organization in the world qualified to organize world karate championships which are its exclusive property; world karate championships must include traditional karate events.

3.2. The WKF may organize other international karate competitions, including traditional karate.

3.3. The WKF determines the eligibility conditions applicable to the participants in all international karate competitions, including world championships.

4. Principles relating to organization, the organs of the WKF and decisions

4.1. The organs of the WKF are:
 - the Congress;
 - the Executive Committee (EC);
 - the President.

- 4.2. The WKF also includes at least two permanent commissions namely,
 - the General Karate Commission (GKC)
 - the Traditional Karate Commission (TKC).

The powers of these two permanent commissions are established in the statutes of the WKF

4.3. Congress

- 4.3.1. - The Congress is the supreme authority of the WKF. It is composed of all the delegates of the NFs.

- Each KT member NF may appoint two delegates, namely one delegate representing the forms of karate other than traditional karate (hereafter "K Delegate") and one delegate representing traditional karate (hereafter "T Delegate").

- Each NF governing all forms of karate other than traditional karate may appoint one delegate (hereafter "K Delegate").

- Each NF governing traditional karate may appoint one delegate (hereafter "T Delegate").

All the delegates have the right to take part in all the deliberations. Each delegate has one vote.

- 4.3.2. The Congress ordinarily convenes every two years in the place appointed by the preceding Congress, in the city in which the world karate championships are to take place.

An extraordinary Congress shall be convened by the President in a city chosen by the EC if the latter so decides, or if at least half of the NFs so request.

- 4.3.3. The Congress shall be validly constituted if at least one quarter of all the NF delegates are present.

- 4.3.4. All the decisions of the Congress are taken by a majority of the votes cast by the delegates present and taking part in the vote, subject to the decisions below:

- 4.3.4.1 All the decisions below shall be taken by a majority of the votes cast by the K delegates alone, the other delegates not taking part in the vote:

4.3.4.1.1 Election of those members of the GKC and TKC whose appointment is reserved, as provided by the statutes, for the K delegates.

4.3.4.1.2 Election of those members of the EC whose appointment is reserved, as provided by the statutes, for the K delegates.

4.3.4.1.3 Election of those members of other commissions whose appointment is reserved, as provided by the statutes, for the K delegates.

4.3.4.1.4 All decisions coming within the jurisdiction of the Congress and relating to eligibility, technical or competition rules concerning all forms of karate other than traditional karate.

4.3.4.1.5 All other decisions reserved, as provided by the statutes, for the K delegates.

4.3.4.2. All the decisions below shall be taken by a majority of the votes cast by the T delegates alone, the other delegates not taking part in the vote:

4.3.4.2.1 Election of those members of the GKC and TKC whose appointment is reserved, as provided by the statutes, for the T delegates.

4.3.4.2.2 Election of those members of the EC whose appointment is reserved, as provided by the statutes, for the T delegates.

4.3.4.2.3 Election of those members of other commissions whose appointment is reserved, as provided by the statutes, for the T delegates.

4.3.4.2.4 All decisions coming within the jurisdiction of the Congress and relating to eligibility, technical or competition rules concerning traditional karate.

4.3.4.2.5 All other decisions reserved, as provided by the statutes, for the T delegates.

4.4. Executive Committee (EC)

The Executive Committee is composed of:

- the President;
- at least two Vice-Presidents (of whom one shall necessarily belong to a T member);
- 20 elected members (of whom 10 members are elected by the Congress, 5 by the GKC and 5 by the TKC);
- permanent members;
- permanent offices.

4.4.1. The EC manages the affairs of the WKF and represents it pursuant to the statutes. It is qualified to take all decisions which are not reserved by law or by the statutes for another organ or for the permanent commissions.

4.4.2. The 10 members elected by the Congress are elected for a period of four years, to be renewed five at a time every two years (lots drawn by the EC for the renewal of the first ten).

As for the 10 other elected members, 5 members are appointed by the GKC and 5 members by the TKC, all for a period of four years.

All the members may be re-elected.

- 4.4.3. The permanent members are:
 - the President of the WKF and the former Presidents of the WUKO and the ITKF.
- 4.4.4. The permanent offices are:
 - the board of the Continental and Mediterranean Unions.
- 4.4.5. All the permanent members and permanent offices are ex officio members of the EC.

4.5. The President

The President of the WKF is elected by the Congress for a renewable period of 6 years. He may be re-elected indefinitely.

The President is responsible for the affairs of the WKF pursuant to the statutes of the WKF.

He represents the WKF before third parties.

5. Principles relating to the General Karate Commission (GKC)

- 5.1. The GKC is composed of at least 9 members elected by the Congress in accordance with the provisions below:
 - 5.1.1. The total number of members of the GKC is fixed by the Congress at the proposal of the EC.
 - 5.1.2. The majority of the members of the GKC (examples: 5 if the total number is 9, 6 if the total number is 10, 7 if the total number is 12 or 13, etc.) are elected by a majority of votes cast by the K delegates alone.
 - 5.1.3. In all cases, two other members of the GKC are elected by a majority of the votes cast by the T delegates alone.
 - 5.1.4. The remaining members of the GKC are elected by a majority of the votes cast by the Congress.
 - 5.1.5. The powers of the GKC are:
 - 5.1.5.1. to elaborate all the rules and regulations concerning all forms of karate other than traditional karate, in particular with regard to eligibility, competitions and all technical areas.
 - 5.1.5.2. to manage, under the supervision of the treasurer of the WKF and the EC, the K fund and report on such management to the EC.

- 5.1.5.3. to study all affairs relating to all forms of karate other than traditional karate and report on these to the EC.
 - 5.1.5.4. to perform all other missions or tasks assigned to it by the Congress or EC.
 - 5.1.5.5. to submit to each ordinary Congress a report on its activities.
- 5.1.6. The GKC itself elects its chairman from among its members.

6. Principles relating to the Traditional Karate Commission (TKC)

- 6.1. The TKC is composed of at least 7 members elected by the Congress in accordance with the provisions below:
 - 6.1.1. The total number of members of the TKC is fixed by the Congress at the proposal of the EC.
 - 6.1.2. The majority of members of the TKC (examples: 4 if the total number is 7, 5 if the total number is 8 or 9, 6 if the total number is 10 or 11, etc.) are elected by a majority of the votes cast by the T delegates alone.
 - 6.1.3. In all cases, two other members of the TKC are elected by a majority of the votes cast by the K delegates alone.
 - 6.1.4. The remaining members of the TKC are elected by a majority of the votes cast by the Congress.
 - 6.1.5. The powers of the TKC are:
 - 6.1.5.1. to elaborate all the rules and regulations concerning traditional karate, in particular with regard to eligibility, competitions and all technical areas.
 - 6.1.5.2. to manage, under the supervision of the treasurer of the WKF and the EC, the T fund and report on such management to the EC.
 - 6.1.5.3. to study all affairs relating to traditional karate and report on these to the EC.
 - 6.1.5.4. to perform all other missions or tasks assigned to it by the Congress or EC.
 - 6.1.5.5. to submit to each ordinary Congress a report on its activities.
 - 6.1.6. The TKC itself elects its chairman from among its members.

7. Principles relating to the finances, the keeping and auditing of the accounts of the WKF

- 7.1. Under the authority of the EC, the treasurer is responsible for the liquid assets of the WKF and the regular keeping of the accounts. The annual accounting period coincides with the calendar year (1st January-31st December).
- 7.2. Each year, the EC appoints an independent qualified accountant, or firm of qualified accountants, who is given the task of auditing the accounts of the WKF and reporting to it on them. At each Congress, the same accountant will moreover provide a succinct report on the audit of the WKF accounts in which he will indicate whether the accounts have been kept in a regular manner and in accordance with the statutes of the WKF.
- 7.3. The revenue of the WKF derives from the subscriptions paid by its members, the proceeds from the exploitation of all the rights of which the WKF is the holder and all other forms of revenue, including notably all donations, legacies and other gifts.

7.4 All the assets of the WKF will be divided into three separate funds: G fund (general fund), K fund and T fund, constituted and managed in accordance with the following provisions:

- 7.4.1. The three funds G, K and T will be constituted in the form of deposits and accounts opened by the treasurer of the WKF on behalf of the WKF at one, two or a maximum of three banks chosen, as regards the G fund, by the EC; as regards the K fund, by the EC at the proposal of the GKC; and as regards the T fund, by the EC at the proposal of the TKC.
- 7.4.2. The joint signature of two persons is required for all operations of whatever nature concerning the three funds; for the G fund, the signature arrangements are organized by the EC itself; for the K fund, the joint signature must be, on the one hand by the treasurer or members of the EC, and on the other by the Chairman or other members of the GKC; for the T fund, the joint signature must be, on the one hand by the treasurer or members of the EC, and on the other by the Chairman or other members of the TKC.

7.5. Support of the three funds:

- 7.5.1. G Fund:
The G fund will be supported by:
- all the income from all subscriptions paid by the members;
 - all donations, legacies and all other gifts;
 - 60% of all income deriving from all the rights connected with the world karate championships and all other international competitions.

- 7.5.2. K Fund:
The K fund will be supported by:
- the total property of the WUKO at the date of the entry into force of the WKF statutes, which will be transferred into the K fund;
- 30% of all income deriving from all the rights connected with the world karate championships and all other international competitions.
- 7.5.3. T Fund:
The T fund will be supported by:
- the total property of the ITKF at the date of the entry into force of the WKF statutes, which will be transferred into the T fund;
- 10% of all income deriving from all the rights connected with the world karate championships and all other international competitions.
- 7.5.4. Each of the three funds is moreover supported by the receipts and income of the property of that particular fund.

7.6. Utilization of the three funds

- 7.6.1. G Fund:
The G fund will be used to cover all the ordinary running costs of the WKF and its organs, Congress, EC, President, as well as for the payment of all administrative costs, general expenses, staff expenses and those of other authorized agents of the WKF.
- The G fund is placed under the responsibility of the treasurer and under the authority of the EC.
- 7.6.2. K Fund:
The K fund will be used to cover all expenses relating to the specific activities of the GKC.
- The K fund is placed under the responsibility of the Chairman of the GKC and under the supervision of the treasurer himself acting under the authority of the EC.
- 7.6.3. T Fund:
The T fund will be used to cover all expenses relating to the specific activities of the TKC.
- The T fund is placed under the responsibility of the Chairman of the TKC and under the supervision of the treasurer himself acting under the authority of the EC.

7.7. Transfers from one fund to another

- 7.7.1. The GKC decides freely on any transfer from the K fund to the G or T funds.
- 7.7.2. The TKC decides freely on any transfer from the T fund to the G or K funds.

- 7.7.3. In case of need, the EC may order the treasurer of the WKF to transfer to the G fund amounts drawn equally from the K or T funds in order to cover a deficit or lack of cash in the G fund.

Such transfers shall be the subject of substantiated advance notice in writing from the treasurer of the WKF and the accountants responsible for auditing the accounts of the WKF.

7.8. Responsibility of the WKF before third parties

The WKF is responsible for all its obligations towards third parties on all its property, including the G, K and T funds.

8. General Principles

8.1. Modification of the statutes

- 8.1.1. All modifications to the statutes of the WKF or to any of the rules or regulations thereof affecting the rights instituted by the principles specified in the present note on behalf of the K members or members of the GKC must obtain a two-thirds majority of the votes of all the delegates present at the WKF Congress, together with a two-thirds majority of the votes cast by the K members themselves.
- 8.1.2. All modifications to the statutes of the WKF or to any of the rules or regulations thereof affecting the rights instituted by the principles specified in the present note on behalf of the T members or members of the TKC must obtain a two-thirds majority of the votes of all the delegates present at the WKF Congress, together with a two-thirds majority of the votes cast by the T members themselves.

- 8.2. Generally speaking, the WKF shall ensure that it reserves, within all its commissions, committees or other working groups which it constitutes, at least 2 seats for the members appointed by the GKC and at least 2 seats for the members appointed by the TKC. This number could be reduced to 1 for the GKC and the TKC in those working groups where the number of members does not exceed 5.

Lausanne, 2nd September 1993