



OCEANIA TENNIS FEDERATION

Minutes of the 20th Annual General Meeting
held virtually- Sunday 14th March 2021
Commencing 9:05am (NZ Time)

Attendance

Delegates (16):

American Samoa	Wasko	Florence
Australia	Reid	Vicki
Cook Islands	Hosking-Ashford	Davina
Fiji	Lalavanua	Sereima
Guam	Hsieh	Mae
Federated States of Micronesia	Skilling	Sterling
Nauru	Tanning	John
New Zealand	Scorer	Terri-Ann
Northern Mariana Is	Race	Jeff
Palau	Ngirilild	Nikolas
Papua New Guinea	Stubblings	Barbara
Solomon Islands	Akao-Waita	Shalom
Tahiti	Manea	Ruth
Tonga	Fakakovikaetau	Amanaki
Tuvalu	Molotii	Asita
Vanuatu	Sands	Sarah

In Attendance (11):

Australia	Osborne	Bruce-OTF Vice President
Guam	Smith	Torgun
New Caledonia	Le Dain	Olivier
New Zealand	Paterson	Julie
New Zealand	Patrick	Celia
Palau	Rengiil	Ernestine
Papua New Guinea	Stubblings	Barbara
Tahiti	Criqui-Leissner	Anne
Vanuatu	Mainguy	Cyrille- OTF President
OTF Executive Officer (Joint)	Breen	Richard

OTF Executive Officer (Joint) Smith David

Also in Attendance (6):

Haggerty	David	ITF President
Fairweather	Kelly	ITF COO
Santilli	Luca	ITF Executive Director-Tennis Development
McGurran	James	ITF, International Relations Manager
Purcell	Gary	ITF Development Officer, Pacific Oceania
Pollard	Geoff	OTF Life Member, ITF Life Vice-President

Observers (2):

Minogue	Andrew	Pacific Games Council CEO
Eritai	Roreti	Secretary, Kiribati Ministry of Sport

1. Opening Welcome and Address from the OTF President

The President of the OTF, Cyrille Mainguy, opened the AGM by welcoming everyone to the 20th OTF AGM. He said that this is the 2nd consecutive year that we have met virtually and that hopefully in 2022, we would all get to meet face-to-face at our next AGM; that he looked forward to that. He then welcomed the delegates and other attendees from 17 of the 20 OTF Member Nations.

He then especially welcomed the 5 attendees from the ITF: David Haggerty, ITF President; Kelly Fairweather, ITF Chief Operating Officer; Luca Santilli, ITF Executive Director of the Development Department; James McGurran, ITF International Relations Manager and Gary Purcell, ITF Pacific Oceania Development Officer.

He thanked everyone for attending our AGM but equally the commitment that all the Nations are making in the Pacific Oceania Region as we collectively embrace the ITF 2024 Strategy to grow tennis across the Pacific Oceania Region and the globe.

He then said that we were fortunate to have 2 observers attending our AGM today. He then gave a very special welcome to Andrew Minogue, CEO of the Pacific Games Council and Roreti Eritai, the Secretary for the Ministry of Sport of the Kiribati Government.

He then commented that his expectation was that the AGM would be approximately 4 hours in length; that during this time, we will likely stop a couple of times for a 5-minute coffee break; that this year is an election year; that this is the first election under the new OTF Constitution that was

approved by you all in Melbourne on the 19th January 2019, so he was looking forward to welcoming the new Board later in the AGM. He then thanked the current Board for their dedicated work and commitment to tennis and its development in our region over the last 2 years. In closing his opening welcome, he said that you have all been circulated the documentation for the AGM to give you ample time to read this in advance of the AGM; so, as we work through the AGM, we will be taking circulated material as read unless there are any questions which we will invite. So finally, he welcomed again everyone and said it is so good to be with you all on this very important day in the OTF calendar, albeit, virtually.

2. Establishment of a Quorum

David Smith confirmed that there was a quorum with 16 delegates attending (constitutionally 9 required).

3. Apologies

Rajiv Singh (FIJ)
Wilfred Sacault (TAH)

4. ITF President's Welcome

David Haggerty commenced by thanking all the attendees and the OTF for the opportunity for the ITF attendees to join the OTF Annual General Meeting. He said that it was hard to believe that it is almost a year since the last OTF AGM and that it was unfortunate that we all couldn't meet in person; that hopefully 2022 will be our chance. We have all had to learn how to use video conferencing to keep our business strong and that it was an honour to address so many of you today. He said that later on Kelly Fairweather would update everyone on the ITF's action in regard to Stakeholder Engagement. He then briefly updated everyone on the ITF's 2021 plans and the ITF progress on 2024.

He then referred to the presentation that had previously been circulated to attendees in advance of the AGM. He then proceeded to highlight a few of the slides. He said that the ITF's 8 priorities are not new, viz Investment, Development, Davis Cup and Billie Jean King Cup, Olympics & Paralympics, Opportunity, Partnerships, Integrity and Communication. These are at the heart of ITF 2024 and have provided a framework for the last 5 years. It goes without saying that Covid-19 has had an impact on progress but the ITF is still confident that we can reach our targets with flexibility and dedication. We

believe these priorities will provide us with more players, stronger and empowered Nations, deeper relationships across the tennis world built on mutual respect and trust, and a transformed and dynamic ITF that is able to innovate.

The ITF is in the progress of getting feedback on these objectives. Looking forward into 2021, we are continuing with the programmes that we launched last year and we have added Participation as this becomes a key focus in our quest to have 30 Million more tennis players by 2030. The Roll Out of the World Tennis Number is a key driver of this initiative. Last year, despite the challenging global circumstances, we continued to make progress and implement several key projects. These included the re-branding of the Fed Cup to the Billie Jean King Cup, the automation of the Beach Tennis circuit with IPIN and Baseline launched, a National Association Assistance Programme with \$1.5M of funding to support the return to tennis. A new Stakeholder Engagement Taskforce was formed aimed at increasing our collaboration and improving communications with Regions and Nations. This provides an opportunity for Regional Associations and National Associations to input into the strategic direction and improve alignment. He thanked OTF's David Smith for participation in the taskforce.

The Advantage All Project rolled out a series of tools to assist Regional and National Associations with their journeys to achieve gender equality. Additionally, as part of our digital transformation, we saw the roll out in early 2020 of Office 365 which was very timely as among its many other benefits, it has allowed us to work remotely during these last 12 months. These achievements have been team efforts across all stakeholders and I want to thank you for the commitment and resilience you have shown in what has been a very tough year. I mentioned earlier the National Association Assistance Programme. This is designed to assist Nations hold National Tournaments and Coaching and Officiating workshops. To date the OTF Member Nations have accessed 60% of the funding available and I encourage you to access the remaining 40%. Nations should contact Gary Purcell for further details with the deadline for the programme having been extended to the 30th June 2021.

A key programme for the ITF this year is our Gender Equality in Tennis Programme and the ITF's aim to make tennis an Equal Advantage Sport. Earlier this week we launched the Advantage All Leadership Programme. This programme will see more than 100 women from National Associations from around the world invited to a series of webinars hosted by industry professionals covering a range of topics from developing leadership skills to goal setting and self-motivation. Networking opportunities will also be provided to a select group. The key focus of the programme is to expand

the pipeline of female candidates for future Board and Presidential elections with the ultimate aim of achieving gender balance in the Boardroom. I would like to invite all of you to the first ITF Global Forum on Gender Equality called "Level the Playing Field." It will take place on the 12th April. The event will feature Billie Jean King and a panel of carefully selected experts and athletes from sports and industry who will talk about their experiences, discuss the research and provide their opinion about the challenges and opportunities for women in sport and what needs to change. The OTF leads the way in gender equality at Regional and National levels and is something that everyone should be really proud of. I would like to thank Julie Paterson and Vicky Reid for their work on the ITF Gender Equality in Tennis Committee as well as the OTF Office and Barbara Stubbings for their support at the regional level.

At last year's OTF AGM, I gave you an update on the Governance Review. The objective of the review is to align the Constitution with 2024 Strategy and specifically with the Integrity and Development priorities. In integrity, we are reviewing a number of areas including making corporate structure more transparent, reviewing senior leadership positions to reflect good governance principles, improvement corporate governance procedures for ITF licencing, improving membership obligations to lift the standards of governance, improved diversity on the ITF Board and updating the Constitution in line with best practices. In the area of Development, we will continue to focus on growing tennis where it is needed most. Since our last discussions, we have introduced new safeguarding protocols and updated the nomenclature used in the ITF Constitution. We continue to review the corporate structure and the ITF Constitution as well as the rules concerning ITF elections with the support of the ITF Ethics Commission Report.

Kelly Fairweather then provided an update on another important ITF 2024 Programme- Stakeholder Engagement. He said that over the last 5 years the ITF has sought to improve our communication for our Member Nations to align strategies with the 6 Regional Associations. Our commitment to this started back in 2017 with the mantra "Every Nation has a Voice." There has been a concerted effort to connect with and listen to all of our Member Nations. We introduced an International Relations Department; we opened the doors to the ITF Office to international visitors from National and Regional Associations; we have increased our attendance at the Regional AGMs; we have introduced new engagement events to our calendar; we believe we have made it easier for Nations to attend the ITF AGM and other major ITF conferences; these steps have resulted in a significant increase in the number of Nations engaging with the ITF and helped to strengthen our ties with the Regional Associations; we estimate globally that 75% of the ITF

membership is now actively engaged with the ITF Office and their Development Officer and that figure in the OTF Region is even higher; the feedback provided by the Regions and the Nations already contributes to how we develop our strategy year-on-year; in 2021 we are looking to take this further to engage and empower the Nations and Regions to strategically align the NAs and RAs as best we can in order to deliver on our ITF 2024 Strategy.

Last year, we appointed a Stakeholder Engagement Taskforce comprised of National and Regional Association representatives to advise us on how to improve our engagement with Member Nations and to identify and define new projects on which we can collaborate; I also like to send my thanks to the OTF Board and David Smith in particular for your active and unabating involvement in this group; since its formation the Taskforce has surveyed the NAs for their opinions on ITF strategy giving us a better understanding of where you would like to see the ITF and RAs focussing on in the future; this information has been analysed by Region, by membership class and by development tier; this has helped to give us a clear understanding of the picture of what our Nations see as priorities; the Taskforce has also been influential in helping us define the role of the ITF and the RAs in our projects in our daily work; an updated Memorandum of Understanding has been developed which will strengthen our commitment of working together to deliver global and regional projects.

We have also provided input to a new virtual onboarding process for new NA leaderships as well as supporting ITF Communications Departments efforts to improve our communication methods with yourselves; we have been working on the concept of Co-creation; this is to develop a process for the NAs and RAs to give regular input into the ITF Strategy and our priorities; so that the entire ITF community can align around our global objectives; we also then customize our approach regionally; we can identify new priority projects at the regional level; this collaboration we believe will increase our chances of achieving our targets such as the roll out of the World Tennis Number and our participation target of 30 Million new players by 2030; he then discussed how this process would work during a calendar year; it starts with an ITF Meeting with the leadership to discuss an aligned strategy; the next step is that each RA working with the ITF leads its member Nations through a discussion process either by on-line survey or interactive workshops in order to give input to the ITF and RA Strategy; of course, NAs can always suggest new projects for collaboration with both the ITF and the Region; a summary of these discussions is then submitted to the ITF Board with input from the ITF Departments; where there is clear consensus across the various groups, we then work together to adopt those changes into our

ITF and/or Regional Strategy; as an example in 2021, the year can be divided into 4 quarters each with its own actions; in the first quarter(Q1) we would discuss where there can be the greatest strategic alignment, agree the methods for engaging with the Nations; in Q2 we then these discuss these strategies with the member Nations; in Q3 we can summarize and share this feedback for review by the ITF Board, executives and also share with the other Regions for transparency, alignment and wider discussion; and finally in Q4 we would clarify the strategic priorities for the next 2 year cycle and the MOU is updated accordingly; if any global discussions are required, these can be accommodated in the ITF Conference prior to the AGM in November.

The ITF Office and Stakeholder Taskforce will continue to support the Regions and the Nations throughout this process; we will also use the calendar of meetings throughout the year as platforms to update the strategic priorities like we are doing right now for this AGM and provide you with the opportunities to discuss the right input on how we can improve our collaboration. Kelly Fairweather closed by thanking everyone for giving him the opportunity to update the membership and invited any questions.

Richard Breen asked David Haggerty as to when the Constitutional Review Process would be finishing. David Haggerty advised that this is an ongoing process; that the Constitutional Committee will be meeting in May; that with Covid-19 restrictions in 2020, they weren't able to do as much work as they would have liked though they did meet a few times virtually; that we did have the nomenclature change last year at the AGM; there may be some things that we will bring to this year's AGM but most of the meaningful changes will be in 2022; that way it is in advance of the 2023 AGM when there will be another election.

Kelly Fairweather said that the Constitutional Committee is meeting in May and then we will be organizing a series of conference calls specifically on this topic towards Q2 and Q3 of 2021; this will enable the ITF to explain what we are proposing and thereby get ideas and feedback from member Nations.

Terri-Ann Scorer then asked: in regards to the National Association Engagement which is being held in conjunction with the Grand Slam Tournaments; for the Nations that do not have the opportunity to travel at this time due to Covid-19 border restrictions, will there be other ways that such Nations can participate in that engagement either by video-conferencing, printed materials or other ways of providing feedback?

David Haggerty said that there will be a number of different ways that we will be able to do this; that we are planning to do something at Roland

Garros and Wimbledon if conditions allow but at this point in time, we are not sure what we will be able to do; that there will be a series of different opportunities likely to also include webinars.

Jim McGurran said that if we are able to hold the events on site at the Slams then we will try to incorporate a hybrid style event so that there will be an opportunity for people to log in remotely and participate in the conversations that way; timing will be a bit of an issue so it might be that we may have to record the meeting and play it again at more reasonable or effective timings during the day to other parts of the World and do a Q&A; so that we would have staff members available during the recording to answer question live.

5. Approval of the 2020 AGM Minutes

David Smith said that these had already been circulated twice; once within a few weeks of the 2020 AGM and again with the file documentation for this AGM. Bruce Osborne then moved that we accept the Minutes as a true and correct record of the AGM; this was seconded by Torgun Smith. The Minutes were then unanimously accepted and adopted.

6. Annual Report 2020

David Smith said that this had also been circulated about a month ago and included in the back section of the Annual Report, the Final Performance Statement for 2020. He said that it was a slightly smaller report than normal due to the restrictions that Covid-19 placed on events with restricted travel. Bruce Osborne then commented that this was a fantastic report and that it does give a lot of information especially at a time when we didn't get to see one another or hear in the normal way what was going on.

David Smith then said that one of the extremely sad occurrences of 2020 which is detailed in the report, was the passing in late December of Kwalam Apisah who is a friend of all our Nations and us personally. David Smith then moved that we adopt the Report, this was seconded by Ernestine Rengiil. This was accepted and adopted.

7. Election of the OTF Board Members

David Smith commenced by saying that there are 15 delegates currently in the virtual meeting room that are eligible to vote. He explained that New Caledonia, being an Associate Member, was ineligible to vote. He said that this was the 1st transitional election under the new Constitution hence why some positions are for 4 years and others for 2 years to get into the rotational cycle of voting for the Board. He then detailed via the PowerPoint entitled

“Voting Procedure” that had previously been circulated to all attendees the process and the key points to understand for the voting.

He covered:

- The Order of the Elections.
- The meaning of the word “majority” that was required to be elected as opposed to “simple majority.”
- Regional Representation.
- Tied Voting Process.

He explained that we need approval from the Voting delegates (which was unanimously agreed to) due to this being a transitional election year for the Constitution, for the order that we will do the voting. He then sought approval for the order of the voting to be:

1. Order of Voting:
 - a. President (4-year term).
 - b. Vice President (2-year term).
 - c. Board Member – 3 positions (4-year term).
 - d. Board Member – 3 positions (2-year term).
2. Majority of Votes needed:
 - a. He explained that being the highest polling candidate is not enough and that for a nominee to be elected they must secure more than 50% of the votes.
 - b. If not, then the lowest polling candidate(s) are removed and a revote is taken until there are 3 candidates declared elected with a majority.
3. Tied Process:
 - a. He explained that if there was a tie for a particular position then a revote would be taken just involving the tied candidates.
4. Regional Requirement:
 - a. He explained that also we need to ensure that the finally elected Board comprises at least one person ordinarily resident in each of Australia, New Zealand, Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia.
5. Casual Vacancy
 - a. He also explained that should there be a situation where a more than 50% threshold was not achieved for any position, then this would be treated under the Constitution as a “Casual Vacancy” and would be filled by the Board.

He explained that even though there is only 1 nomination for both the President and Vice-President, there still needed to be a vote to ensure both candidates received more than 50% vote from the voting delegates. He

also explained that there were 9 candidates for the Board all of whom were seeking either a 4-year or a 2-year term.

Following the on-line voting process, the following were duly elected to the OTF Board for the terms as detailed below:

Position	Candidate	Term of Office
President	Cyrille Mainguy (VAN)	2021 - 2025
Vice President	Bruce Osborne (AUS)	2021 - 2023
Board Member	Davina Hosking-Ashford (CI)	2021 - 2025
Board Member	Torgun Smith (GUM)	2021 - 2025
Board Member	Barbara Stubbings (PNG)	2021 - 2025
Board Member	Vicki Reid (AUS)	2021 - 2023
Board Member	Terri-Ann Scorer (NZL)	2021 - 2023
Board Member	Florence Wasko (AS)	2021 - 2023

Cyrille Mainguy then congratulated everyone elected onto the OTF Board and said he was looking forward to working with everyone. He commented on the gender balance with 5 of the 8 elected onto the OTF Board being women. He also thanked those unsuccessful candidates which was a sign that more and more candidates want to be elected to the OTF Board.

David Smith then congratulated everyone elected onto the Board and said that he and Richard Breen were looking forward to working closely with you all.

Appointment of Auditor

David Smith then explained that with the retirement of Barry McMillan, the OTF Board had engaged Transparent Accounting Ltd as our Accountant and Charity Integrity Audit as our Auditor. It was the Board recommendation that we continue with Charity Integrity Auditor who he said did a very thorough job. They took all the accounting files and asked a lot of questions, many of which related to the newness of the OTF to them.

8. FINANCE

i. Adoption of the 2020 Audited Accounts

David Smith said that in the back end of the Annual Report was the 2020 Financial Performance Statement. Barbara Stubbings moved, seconded by

Bruce Osborne that we accept the 2020 accounts as audited and presented. The accounts were then unanimously accepted and adopted. He then said that there was a high bank balance but funds had just been advanced by the ITF for several projects (Pacific Nations Cup, U12/14/16s, ITF Regional Championships) before the World went into lock down last March. These funds will be used later in the year when these projects happen in Q3 and Q4.

ii. Pacific Oceania Assistance Budget 2021

Luca Santilli then thanked everyone for the opportunity to present at the AGM. He said that since the very start of the pandemic, the ITF Development Department and the OTF Executive have worked closely to develop a plan and prepare a Covid-19 budget for when a return to tennis is possible; we hope that for Pacific Oceania that this will be later in the year; the frequency of the meetings has increased to weekly to ensure that we could address any issues relating to Development Projects including the ITF/OTF Regional Training Centre in Fiji. I am going to now provide you with an overview of this year's ITF/OTF Assistance Budget; we are the only International Organization that invests more than \$12 Million annually worldwide in development with the budget since 2016 being \$141 Million with \$85 Million coming from the ITF and over \$56 Million from the Grand Slam Development Fund (GSDF); since 2016, spending in Development has more than doubled and only the pandemic has slowed down this trend. Based on the feedback received from the Nations on this project in 2020, we have worked closely with the 6 Regional Associations and the Grand Slam Board to put together the best possible budget for 2021; in order to cope with the financial emergency, the budget had to be reduced by approximately \$3 Million worldwide while ensuring tennis can still develop; some projects have had to be reduced or suspended; that in 2021 the ITF will be contributing \$7.2 Million and the GSDF \$2.24 Million towards the combined 2021 budget total of \$9.44 Million. It is important to note that all GSDF money is spent directly on projects; the 2021 budget is similar to the budget that we had in 2018 with the ITF's objective to return to more normal levels as quickly as we can; the GSDF has been in place since 1986 to encourage increasing opportunities for players in developing regions; since its inception, the fund has invested more than \$56 Million in the development of tennis worldwide; and in the past 4 years has directly supported 112 National Associations; it is a fund that has helped support and create countless champions worldwide.

He then discussed the background of the global Development Budget by project area including the subscription rebate; the events and performance area spending amounts to 54%, so more than half the Development Budget is invested in these 2 important areas; the Education amounts to 5% and

Participation 18% which includes the ITF World Tennis Number and the ITF Academy Digital Project; despite the large budget reduction, we have been able to keep the investment in the facilities budget at the same level as 2020 as this was a key priority for Nations; over the past 4 years close to \$2 Million has been awarded to National Associations to expand and refurbish their tennis facilities; the administration resource pillar accounts for 15% of the investment and includes the ITF Development Officers, the Regional Associations' Administration Grants, communication and promotion, staff travel, Development Advisors and Coaches' Commission.

He then showed a slide which highlighted the ITF's commitment to grow the game of tennis in Pacific Oceania; funding for the Region has increased by 122% from \$700,000 in 2016 to \$1.56 Million in 2020; the current financial crisis has halted this increase in 2021; this year's budget(2021) is \$1.24 Million and will be used by the OTF and ITF to fund projects to help support players, coaches and National Associations with their return to their tennis journey; despite the over 20% budget reduction, working with the OTF we have ensured that all of the key projects have been maintained for 2021:the POJC, the 12U competitions, the Pacific Nations Cup were protected along with the touring teams; at the same time we took the difficult decision to temporarily suspend the ITF/OTF Regional Training Centre in Fiji and to revert to a remote tennis programme supporting players with online education, training and competition; we have protected the JTI equipment subsidy budget for 2021; the investing in facilities is a key priority for many Pacific Nations and for this reason we have maintained the budget at a similar level to last year; 2020 was certainly a challenging year and whilst we might be too early to predict what 2021 may bring, one thing I do know is that the determination of the Pacific Oceania Region to grow the game is strong; I look forward to when we can all meet again in person and hopefully we can do this later on at the ITF AGM or the OTF AGM next year.

Bruce Osborne then thanked Luca and said his team has done a remarkable job through an incredibly trying time; and to see the support still coming from the ITF is outstanding even though we would still like to see more assistance to our Region; but hopefully this will happen over the next 12-24 months so that we can get back to normal; thank you Luca, it has been most appreciated, I can assure you. Cyrille Mainguy reiterated these comments.

David Smith said that the relationship that we now have with the ITF is probably the strongest it has ever, ever been; that the extent of the engagement not only with you Luca but David, Kelly and James and we appreciate particularly James all the work that you do behind the scenes;

you are giving enormous support to our Region; and as Bruce Osborne just said, we look forward to being back to close to where we used to be in the not too distant future and doing what we really do well and that is developing our game in our Region.

David Haggerty said that he appreciated this feedback and to see that everyone is really working hard in the Region and that every dollar that the ITF invests goes a long way, so thank you for everything that you do.

iii. OTF Regional Administration Budget 2021

David Smith explained that with the ITF budgetary restraints this had been reduced from \$100.1M in 2020 to \$70.1M in 2021. He shared the screen of what had been approved by The OTF Board and the ITF.

iv. OTF Membership Fee 2021-2023

It was recommended that this be kept at the current Fee of A\$200.00 per year for Full Members and A\$100.00 per year for Associate Membership. This is billed in a 2-year cycle so invoices would be sent over the next month or so for the 2-year period from 2021-2023 for A\$400 for Full Members and A\$200 for Associate Membership.

9. ITF Development

i. 2021-2024 ITF Development Strategy and Update

ii. Facilities

iii. ITF World Tennis Number

iv. JTI Subsidy Grants

v. Coaching and Player Development

Luca Santilli said that as a follow up to the OTF 2020 AGM, we will now talk about how the ITF in close collaboration with the OTF has responded to the current Covid-19 crisis, how it has engaged and adjusted to the ambitious Development Plan of the last 12 months; I will provide a summary of the overall Development Strategy highlighting some of the key digital projects which are part of the ITF digital transformation strategy: viz the ITF Academy and the ITF World Tennis Number. This digital solution will change the way that players coaches and tennis lovers will play tennis in the years to come; the investment in digital technology provides significant savings for the ITF Member Nations and shows the ITF's commitment to create tools that can help them to become digital leaders in our game; this will help retention and supporting players at all levels of the game.

Luca Santilli gave an overview of the entire ITF Development Strategy for the period 2021-2024 which is a continuation of the previous 4 year strategy; this is what we be focussing on for the next 4 years in alignment with the

Regional and National Associations; our mission is to increase the number and standard of players worldwide. Following feedback from 170 Nations from our online survey in 2020, we have updated the ITF Strategy and its priorities; this has been approved by the ITF Development Advisors for implementation during the next 4 years; alongside some exciting new projects, the most notable change is that we have renamed the Coaching Strategy Pillar to Education; it better reflects the scope of providing educational tools and more opportunities via the ITF Academy which is the ITF's digital platform not only for coaches, but also for players, volunteers, managers and administrators and sports science practitioners; the strategy continues to provide a clear sense of direction for Development whilst supporting ITF's 2024 Strategy; the main Strategy Principles include monitoring and measuring, technology innovation which are both very important parts of our work in Development; there are 6 strategy areas: participation, education, events, facilities, performance and administration & resources; and for each of them, the list of key projects are instrumental to deliver on the core objectives of increasing participation worldwide and developing talented players.

As mentioned earlier by David Haggerty, it is a strategy that has participation at its core; the aim is to increase opportunities to play for ages, genders, standards and physical abilities; the ITF has set a very ambitious goal of growing participation from 87M players in 2019 to 120M players in 2030; we call this project 30 by 30 and the roll out of the ITF World Tennis Number is a game changing digital project that will be instrumental in achieving this goal; as a follow up to the 2019 Global Report, we are now gathering 2019 and 2020 data as part of a new report for National Associations which will be published before the ITF Participation Conference in July; the ITF and the Nations will be able to see where we are with the understanding of the impact of Covid-19 on participation; so we can measure progress so that we can set realistic goals towards 2030; it is clear that to achieve 30 by 30, the ITF must work closely together with our Stakeholders and the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy as presented earlier by Kelly Fairweather; the participation initiative that creates participation resources for Nations such as the Junior Tennis Initiative, Tennis Festivals, Tennis for Kids and others that we will be discussing with over 150 Nations towards the end of April. Following the successful addition in 2018 and 2019, the ITF World participation Conference will be held as a virtual event from 12-14 July 2021.

With the ITF World Tennis Number, the vision held by the ITF Board Directors was to create a unifying digital platform to reach and engage the millions of players around the World via the National Associations; this is a digital development tool offered free of charge to all National and Regional Associations; as such, the ITF World Tennis Number will unify the sport of

tennis by establishing a common language; a single global benchmark to grow tennis in each territory and continent around the World; the ITF World Tennis Number is the collective digital tool for all Member Nations and will become the standard tool for all tennis players around the World; we are very excited about this innovative project and we are working with the OTF to roll this out in the Pacific; there are very good conversations ongoing with Guam, Tennis New Zealand as well as Tennis Australia; more than 95 National and Regional Associations including the OTF have signed the ITF World Tennis Number Agreement to exchange match data legally and safely and they are currently all working on this integration with the ITF; the ITF World Tennis Number was launched in Singapore in early 2021 with other Nations following throughout the year; the objective is to achieve mass adoption by mid-year to allow ITF Juniors to pilot the World Tennis Number as an entry criteria for events in the last quarter of 2021; priority acceptance in tournaments will follow the ITF Rankings and the World Tennis Number will effectively replace the draw-by-lot system based on National Rankings; this will improve the integrity of the ITF Acceptance criteria process ensuring that the best players are accepted into tournaments; the ITF World Tennis Number is complementary to all National Tennis Rankings and each Nation will use it according to their needs; the objective is to provide a digital tool for Nations to engage with their recreational players to ensure level-based play and an enjoyable tennis experience. Luca Santilli then played a short video.

He then said that the vision of the ITF Academy is to provide information and access to continuous education and personal development opportunities to all those interested in tennis and sport; the ITF Academy is the education platform of the ITF; we are using new digital technology opportunities for coaches, players and managers worldwide; we are providing an opportunity for National Associations who don't need to build such a platform themselves; during 2020 a letter was sent to all National Associations highlighting membership plan options for use of the ITF Academy; both Tennis Australia and Tennis New Zealand have been involved in the pilot project with Tennis New Zealand being an early adopter of the ITF Academy National Portal which they are currently using to run their coaching education activities and programmes; currently on the ITF Academy there are over 160,000 users with more than 4.6 Million page views; 46% of ITF Academy users are female and 54% of users prefer to use their mobile phone; more than 130 on-line courses are available in 5 languages including English, French, Spanish, Portuguese and Russian with English the majority language used by 46% of users; users of the ITF Academy come from 212 Nations with the majority from Europe and South America; the ITF Academy now has 3 dedicated sections for coaches, parents and players; in addition, courses have also been published to support the wider

work of the ITF including the ITF World Tennis Number, GET Advantage All and the Tennis Express Programme for Adults beginners. During Covid-19 the ITF Academy was instrumental in offering relief packages free-of-charge to coaches worldwide with over 10,000 coaches taking advantage of courses.

Gary Purcell then reported on the strategic pillars of education, facilities, participation and performance; from a more regional perspective, he then shared some of the highlights we had in these areas since the last AGM and also an outline of the plans moving forward into 2021 and beyond. Specifically, from a Pacific Oceania perspective we have 850 registered users of the ITF Academy, which is a 111% increase since May 2020; there are now courses available for coaches, parents and players which have been actively promoted; our goal is to have as many people as possible registered in the Academy to access this outstanding educational platform. Moving on to Education, unfortunately due to travel restrictions which came into effect in March 2020 the Cook Island Play Tennis Course was the only programme I had the opportunity to host in person; though many Nations ran very successful local Play Tennis Courses(Guam, Vanuatu); we did adapt to our new reality and were able to hold many online webinars and educational opportunities for the coaches in the Region; some of these webinars were delivered solely by ITF staff though we also collaborated with Tennis New Zealand and on a few occasions, particularly when we were discussing the player development, involving the Tennis New Zealand High Performance Director, Christophe Lambert; there were also webinars on the Tournament Software than involved Blake Taylor, the Tennis New Zealand Events Manager. There will be a new programme rolled out this year which is the National Tutor Development Programme which will be delivered on line specifically aimed at developing Play Tennis tutors; following the completion of the course the respective NAs can then certify the tutor as a National Tutor; the goal of this is to get Nations to a position where they are self-sufficient at the Play Tennis level.

Gary Purcell then discussed facilities and shared a slide detailed all the National Training Centres in each Nation in Pacific Oceania and one slide he shared showed which Nations, because of the number of courts that they had, could host events and also which Nations would need help long term to get their facilities up to the standard where they would be able to host significant events. This information will be useful when looking at facility grants and overall, forward regional planning.

In addition, a new facility programme package will be rolled out in 2021 to provide Nations with the know-how, best practice and tools to advocate for financial support from Government, Sports Institutions and private sponsors. This will hopefully bring more resources to the sport to increase the number

of facilities particularly in developing regions. He then talked about the ITF National Training Centre Support & Recognition Programme; in recent years both Tahiti and Samoa have benefitted from a visit by an ITF expert; these visits by the 2 Australian experts will be followed up on as well as expanding the programme to other Nations in the region; this year this will be carried out virtually due to travel restrictions; meetings will be held with the National Training Centre Manager, the Head Coach and the Strength & Conditioning Coach where applicable.

He then referred to the Participation Article that was printed in the ITF World News Magazine last December highlighting some of the great participation work being carried out across the Region of Pacific Oceania; the article focussed on grass roots tennis and it was great exposure for the region with a good spread of activity from the East, the West and the Northern Regions. He then talked about the largest participation programme, the Junior Tennis Initiative and said that there were currently 15 active Nations with close to \$27,000 distributed to the Region in 2020; that with logistical issues caused by Covid-19, only 1 nation received their JTI equipment last year; the rest of the equipment is ready to be despatched this year from London following pre-shipment questionnaires; for 2021 we still have \$43,000 provisionally allocated to the Region and we are working hard to ensure that as close to this amount as possible can be distributed. Covid-19 has improved the linkage with the JTI Co-ordinators through the regular virtual JTI calls. In the performance area, we have felt the restrictions of travel with subsequent event cancellation; as a result, we were only able to travel on a limited number of the tours early in 2020; we are still hoping to be able to travel on some of the tours that we have planned in the regional calendar later in 2021; in the meantime, we are busy developing new Covid protocols; there will be a requirement for coaches to complete both an anti-doping and integrity course as well as police checks.

He then referred to the GSDF Player Grants with Paige Hourigan (NZL) receiving \$12,500 in 2020 and Colin Sinclair (NMI) also receiving grants; Colin Sinclair received \$12,500 in 2020, the same as in 2019; the pandemic has had a huge impact on his ability to travel and play in 2020 but he resumed his playing activity towards the end of 2020 and he will be able to use the remainder (\$3,000) of his grant in 2021. On the Junior side both Corban Crowther (NZL) received in 2019 \$6,250, \$12,500 in 2020 and \$12,500 in 2021 and is now ranked 66 in the ITF World Junior Rankings; Vivian Yang (NZL) is receiving a grant of \$12,500 in 2021 and has still some funds left from here 2020 grant. She has a current ITF Junior Ranking of 234.

He then talked about the ITF Pacific Oceania Training Centre and that it was disappointing to have to make the difficult decision to suspend activities for 2021; in hindsight, it was the right decision given the uncertainty still with the border closures and travel restrictions. This year the players are still being

supported by the ITF in 3 core areas; education, training and competition; for the students who chose to continue with our online schooling option, they are enrolled in a US-based Academy called Ed Options; all students have access to teaching staff and guidance Coordinators whenever needed; in terms of training and competition assistance, the ITF have teamed up with Sports Science Consultancy company called Fusion Sports who run a programme called the Athlete Management System(AMS) ; this AMS is my way to keep in contact with all the players daily; this programme has a huge number of functionalities which allows us to track and monitor how the players are getting on; each player has created an athlete development plan which acts as their goal setting blue print and this plan covers tennis, education and life goals; we've just introduce a new feature which allows the players to share videos with Dermot Sweeney, the ITF Technical Director-Training Centre & Players; this allows us to see what the players are working on and we can give feedback and advice as required; we have also activated an ITF Academy membership for all the players which will give them access to the library area; we think with the hundreds of videos stored there that this will be an invaluable tool for the players. He then said that, despite the Covid restriction, Dermot and himself meet regularly with the players to discuss their progress and I communicate with all the players on a daily group chat and we also connect weekly on video calls or as often as needed.

Luca Santilli said that we are all very much aware of the power of tennis to transform lives; we are very satisfied with the level of collaboration and proud of the work that we have done with the OTF Executive Team over the past few years to grow tennis in Pacific Oceania; of course, we have much still to do; in this very difficult year of 2020, I would like to remind everyone that during 2020 Tennis Fiji reached 10,000 kids with Outreach and Community Programmes; Guam and Vanuatu also ran Play Tennis Courses and Tahiti strengthened their Coaching Programme by applying for a Coach Education System; the ITF Development story is about a journey that began in 2017 and together with your support, the Oceania Tennis Federation and the National Federations, we are creating a tennis transformation that will ensure that everyone has a chance to join the global tennis family; my sincere thanks for the work that you all do for the next generation of players.

vi. ITF Regional Training Centre and House, Lautoka, Fiji

Richard Breen said that the ITF Regional Training Centre is scheduled to reopen in 2022; the ITF have made a financial commitment to maintain the rental payments on the ITF House and also paying for the lease to the Fiji

Sports Council for the Regional Tennis Courts so that the infrastructure is in place when the ITF House reopens in 2022; there is a caretaker who is living in the ITF House with his family; it is Max who is the local Tennis Fiji Development Officer; Tennis Fiji are still maintaining and looking after the actual tennis courts and surrounding facility; there is also an ongoing investigation by the Police into the break-in that occurred in mid-September 2020 at the ITF House and the money that was stolen; the ITF van has recently been sold in the last week with the plan to upgrade this when the Centre reopens.

10. Gender Equality in Tennis (GET)

Julie Paterson then shared a presentation that she had prepared entitled "Advantage All." In introducing this segment, he said that it wouldn't be lost on anyone that the OTF is leading all the Regional Associations in terms of gender balance on the OTF Board, with the OTF Board, following the election, going from a 50% women composition to 63%.

Julie Paterson commenced her presentation by saying that Vicki Reid and her are members of the ITF Gender Equality Committee; at the most recent meeting we talked about how we could enhance engagement with the Advantage All Strategy and one of the things we talked about was ensuring that we are getting in front of the Regional Associations and the National Associations to ensure that we are keeping the Advantage All Strategy in the forefront of everyone's mind.

She then said that she would discuss the ITF's Strategic Objectives and also some of the data that the ITF is gathering following feedback from the survey that was completed last year plus additionally some of the initiatives that are happening as well.

She reminded everyone of the objectives of the Gender Equality Strategy:

- The Vision is that Tennis is an Equal Advantage Sport.
- The Strategic Pillars are:
 - Women being empowered to take leadership positions and this is something that the OTF are embracing and leading the way globally.
 - We want to see more women coaching and leading the administration of our sport as well as having influence on future generations off the court with increased visibility in leadership and governance roles.
 - We want to see more balanced opportunities to participate in and enjoy tennis with the programmes and competitions that we offer with funding linked to this.

- We want to create an Equal Advantage environment by addressing and eliminating bias and discrimination at every level of our sport.
- We also want to work towards raising the commercial appeal of our game so that women's tennis is seen as progressive and inspiring with the resultant growth in audiences.
- We want women's tennis to have an equal opportunity from a broadcaster's perspective.
- Also, growing the awareness of the media image of women's tennis. We need to build powerful, positive language that focusses on the sport and performance.

She then highlighted the important data by giving an international snapshot:

- Male/female participation is almost equal with 47% of all tennis participants globally being women.
- Tennis players account for 12 of the 15 highest paid female athletes in the World.
- 40% of participants on the ITF World Tour are women.
- However, there are some real gaps and one of these is coaching, where only 1 in 5 coaches are female.
- Only 22% of certified officials are women.
- There is less than 20% of the combined female representation at ITF and Regional Board level.

She then discussed the feedback from the National Association Self-Assessment Questionnaire:

- So far, 57.5% of the 200 NAs had responded; so clearly there is still a bit of work to do to ensure that all the Nations are engaged. Any strategy that we write needs to be embedded in our modus operandi.
- 77% of these respondents reported balanced opportunities for women and girls to play and enjoy tennis.
- However, only 12.2% have a clearly documented gender equality strategy with strategic priorities and objectives; which in essence is saying that there are a lot of NAs who are doing well in this area and have great initiatives but don't actually have a documented strategy.
- To date 116 RAs and NAs have nominated Gender Equality Contacts; quite good numbers but still quite a gap for many NAs to have someone appointed in their organization as the Gender Equality contact.
- 2 RAs have reached 30% or more representation on their Board.
- The OTF now has 63% and Tennis Europe 44%; the ITF being 41%.

So, some of the activation that has been done within the Advantage All Strategy.

Julie Paterson went on to say that some of the work that is coming out of the ITF and the team that sits in behind the Gender Equality Committee is quite outstanding; the quality of the toolkits and the tools that are available are fantastic. She referred to the online toolkit which most attendees would have viewed on the ITF website

(<https://www.itftennis.com/media/3635/write-your-own-strategy.pdf>)

with one of the pieces being "Writing Your Own Strategy." This is a very comprehensive document/guide that is user friendly; also, how to balance the Board with good ideas on Brand and Communications. Another initiative is the Advantage All Leadership Development Programme which is really focussed on trying to increase the numbers that I detailed earlier. Sitting within this programme are the Webinar Series, the virtual summits and mentoring. Work is continuing in balancing gender equality in officiating, culture, value and voice.

Barbara Stubbings then gave an update on the Gender Equality situation in Pacific Oceania. She said that the Self-Assessment Questionnaire was sent out to all the Nations in the region. As it stands at the moment only 4 of the 20 OTF Member Nations have yet to submit this. She alluded to the fact that the OTF Board now comprises 63% women and is acting as a beacon of light across the ITF Member Nations; also of the OTF Member Nations, 8 have female Presidents (40%); at today's election for the OTF Board, 8 of the 11 candidates (73%) were women; so we can see that the representation of female leadership in the Pacific Oceania Region is strong. One of the not so encouraging statistics for our Region is in the area of coaching and high performance; in Pacific Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand), there are only 12 certified Level 1 female coaches with 4 of those being in Fiji, 2 in Vanuatu so clearly not a good representation across Pacific Oceania Nations; so this clearly needs to be a focus for all of us in the immediate future; there are only 2 senior female players who currently have ITF rankings (Abigail Tere-Apisah and Steffi Carruthers); but we are slowly seeing an increase with the likes of Carol Lee, Patricia Apisah who are studying in the USA and hopefully in the near future will move into the senior world rankings; in the female junior rankings, there are only a handful with world rankings.

She thanked Tennis Australia for the invitation in March 2020 to attend the Global Victoria Women's Summit in Melbourne where we had the opportunity to meet Billie Jean King and various members of Tennis Australia.

Vicki Reid thanked the OTF and ITF for the excellent work that everyone is doing with the Advantage All Strategy and that it has been really exciting

to work on the ITF Gender Equality Committee; she said that Tennis Australia is very committed to Gender Equality and where we can we will be looking to source funding and opportunities to continue to advance Gender Equality not only in Australia but across the wider Pacific Oceania. Tennis Australia's Strategy also has 5 pillars: play, learn, values, sports and culture and we are trying to align that as closely as possible to that of the ITF; similarly, our female coaching numbers are much lower than we would like and we are working really hard to advance that; we are working to obtain some Federal funding to help support us through this process.

The Global Victoria initiative in Melbourne a year ago enabled us to invite 5 Pacific women to this event which was supporting professional development including technology and sport; it was a 5-day event with at one stage Donna Neisau and Sereima Lalavanua presenting to an International audience with Rachel Froggart, who is the CEO of Women in Sport Aotearoa; both received a standing ovation and received huge accolades for their speeches; that she is working very closely with the Victorian and Australian Governments to build on this momentum and continue these opportunities.

David Haggerty commented that it is great to see what you have done in the OTF in this area and he thanked Tennis Australia for everything that you are doing to help support the Region; it means a lot and he said he recalled vividly reading about the symposium when it happened a year ago; congratulations on the Board Election, please keep this very good work up; it is great to see the OTF setting a new standard for the rest of the regions to try to emulate; so, well done.

11. Senior Events/Teams

i. Pacific Nations Cup

David Smith said that this event is currently scheduled for the 18th – 23rd October in Apia, Samoa; that we won't really know until we get into Q3 whether this event will occur with the opening of borders; so, we will be planning towards this date. Tennis Samoa were due to host the event in 2020, but this was deferred due to Covid -19; once we get into Q3, we should have a better feel for borders being open and commence the final planning. Member Nations would be updated further as we get closer to Q3.

ii. Davis Cup/Billie Jean King Cup

David Smith said that the OTF has selected the Pacific Oceania Team which is Colin Sinclair (NMI), Matthew Stubbings (PNG), Clement Mainguy (VAN) and Brett Baudinet (CI) who is the playing/captain.

This would be the first time that Clement Mainguy would play Senior Davis Cup, though he has previously played Junior Davis Cup. He said that the venue would be in Tay Ninh, Vietnam in the week commencing the 14th June and participating in this event will present enormous challenges for our region; he had already alerted the ITF to the fact that Pacific Oceania may need to withdraw their team due to the challenges around border closures and quarantine; he advised that there was a 3-week quarantine to enter Vietnam, which the ITF were unaware of until he advised them as we were working through processes; unless there is an entry quarantine waiver for the event, he could not see Pacific Oceania and potentially other Nations competing particularly when some players would then additionally be subject to a further 2 week quarantine to return to their home Nation. Regarding Billie Jean King Cup, he advised that at this stage we haven't heard about any timing and location for this event.

iii. Pacific Games CNMI 2022 and SI 2023 Update

Andrew Minogue, the CEO of the Pacific Games Council (PGC), started by congratulating Cyrille Mainguy, Bruce Osborne and the OTF Board Members for their election to the OTF Board and said that he was looking forward to working closely with everyone elected.

He then gave a background to the Pacific Games for new members present and for the ITF representatives; he then shared some statistics from the last Pacific Games in Samoa in 2019; he said that the tennis event was an excellent event despite all the rain; there were 15 Member Nations that competed in the tennis event; that there were only 3 other sports that had more Nations competing; of these 15 Nations, 12 sent female players and that there were only 4 other sports that had a higher female representation than tennis.

He said that, on the development side, it is very clear that the work that the OTF and Nations are doing is showing up at our Games where we have 26 sports; it shows that tennis is doing a terrific job in developing tennis players in the Pacific Region; he thanked the OTF and also the ITF for the support that everyone is giving to tennis in the region as it shows up in our Games as one of the strongest sports; it is a compulsory sport so tennis must be on the programme when the main Games take part every 4 years.

He then talked about the way the Pacific Games are evolving where starting in 2015 we invited Australia and New Zealand to participate in 4 sports; in Samoa in 2019, the number of sports was increased to 8; that in the Solomon Islands in 2023, this number is likely to increase to 10; the PGC has worked closely with ONOC and the Oceania Olympic Committees and the Olympic Movement to try to position the Pacific

Games as the Continental Games of Oceania wherever possible to make an event towards Olympic qualification; the PGC is well on the pathway to that happening as the number of sports with Australia and New Zealand competing is increasing and the focus has been on Olympic sports; at some point in the near future the PGC will be turning to the OTF given tennis has a spot on the Olympic programme to see if there is a way that we can integrate the full membership of Oceania into the Pacific Games; that this is something that the PGC want to work closely with the OTF on , likely to be in the coming Games cycle. The next PGC event is the Pacific Mini Games in the CNMI; these Games were scheduled for June 2021 but due to Covid-19 and the postponement of the Tokyo Olympics these Games will take place next year from the 17th -25th June 2022; at the moment there is a proposal from the host country to bring tennis back on to the Programme for these Games; it was on the original programme but after a major typhoon in 2018 the PGC worked very closely with the CNMI Governor to try to make sure that he wouldn't cancel the Games; to keep the Games on the calendar, the PGC reduced the number of sports from 12 to 6; there is a proposal to bring tennis and weight lifting back on to the Programme; the Executive Board of the PGC will meet just after Easter to consider that formally and I understand a letter is being prepared by the Governor of the CNMI to guarantee the funding that would be needed to bring those sports back on to the Programme; I am hoping in the next 4 weeks to have good news on the re-inclusion of tennis back into CNMI 2022; if so, then that would be very appropriate given the success that the CNMI had with their tennis at the Samoa 2019 Games. He then said that the Pacific Games in the Solomon Islands were scheduled from the 16th- 29th July 2023; the Solomon Island has never hosted the main Games before, only the 1st Pacific Mini Games in 1981; that this is a huge opportunity for them as a Nation building event; the PGC is very fortunate in that the Solomon Islands Government has had the Peoples Republic of China as the major aid donor partner; they are building the tennis courts amongst the King George VIth Complex in Honiara which will house the main stadium, the swimming pools, a couple of indoor facilities, hockey pitches; the design of this is almost complete and they will be going out to tender very shortly and we expect construction of that complex to start in the middle of 2021; David Smith and I have been liaising with the people in the Solomon Islands to ensure that the surface and the method of laying the surface (Plexipave) is correctly specified and laid so that we don't have the same mistakes that have occurred on multiple occasions across the Pacific, most recently in Samoa where with our aid donor partner (China), they come in and just put the surface down with little consultation with the PGC or

the sport itself; we are hopeful that we will correct this for the 2023 Games; both organizing committees in Saipan and Honiara have started and are planning their work ahead with the Games remaining on track. Hopefully I will see you all in Saipan in 2022 and the Solomon Islands in 2023. I look forward to the OTF continuing the very good work that you all do in representing tennis at the Pacific Games. He closed by thanking the OTF for the opportunity to speak at the AGM.

David Smith asked Andrew Minogue: “how many athletes competed in the 2019 Pacific Games in Samoa?” Andrew Minogue said that there were 5,000 athletes and team officials, coaches, medical staff etc. Of that number, about 3,700 were athletes; that whilst this is a cause for celebration to know that our Games are popular and very well attended and were the largest we have ever had, even though previous Games have had more sports; as an example in 2007 when Samoa previously hosted the Pacific Games, we had 33 sports; in 2019, we only had 26 sports, but the number of athletes was much greater; it is a cause for concern in that we need to make sure that the Games remain sustainable and affordable to host; that over the past 12 months with Covid-19, we must also make sure that the Games are held safely; there were concerns in Samoa with the overcrowding of the Games Village; the good news is that the Games, and tennis exemplifies this, are popular and they are very well supported by our member countries; however, it is an on-going issue for us to manage those numbers; but tennis is a compulsory sport and you can plan with certainty that you will be on the programme and that is a credit to the work that the OTF is doing in the region. He said that his expectation for the CNMI 2022 Mini Games would be that the sports programme would be finalized with 12 months to go, viz June this year.

Shalom Akao-Waita said that Solomon Island 2023 Pacific Games was being seen as a national project for the Country with full support from the Solomon Islands Government; from a tennis viewpoint, we are very happy that we will be getting a tennis complex; however, in terms of officials, we do need training for our officials and volunteers; with our coaches and high-performance players, these are areas that we will be looking to get support from our OTF/ITF network. David Smith said that the OTF would be working very closely with the Solomon Island Tennis Association to ensure that they have all the support and resources for the tennis event to be a success.

iv. ITF Seniors Regional Championships/30+ Seniors

v. Oceania Teams Championship – Future

Bruce Osborne said that recently a 30+ Seniors Event was held in Australia; this Event is the 2nd highest ranking tournament on the Seniors calendar in the World; it is a \$1000 but unfortunately due to all the border closures and the lack of international travel, the event was downgraded to a \$700 which is still significantly higher than most seniors' tournaments around the World. Tennis Seniors Victoria were awarded the 1-year contract to run the event; they will probably put their hand up again to host the event at the Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club, which is an iconic tennis venue. It is the normal venue for the event and is the only venue that has been inducted into the Tennis Hall of Fame; it is a great venue for us to conduct the event.

Geelong Tennis Club hosted the event this time and they did a remarkable job considering the difficult circumstances; the tournament was very strong with virtually all of Australia's best players coming to play the event; there were over 150 players playing including about 6 or so internationals who were already in Australia. So a well-organized event by Tennis Seniors Victoria; they should be given a tick of approval as it was a very difficult event to host with the ITF protocols in place to keep everyone safe.

Bruce Osborne then discussed the Oceania Teams Championships; it is the only event at this stage where we have Australia and New Zealand participating with Pacific Nations; it has been an incredibly successful event over the years with Samoa and Fiji holding 2 of the very best events in recent years and then Australia immediately before that. This event comes at a time when we have the Pacific Nations Cup, which is an annual event, we have the Pacific Games every 4 years and we also have the Pacific Mini Games in the 2 years in the middle of each Pacific Games; the calendar now for teams events is quite significant and there certainly is at least 1 teams event every year; for us to continue with the Oceania Teams Championships on top of all the other events is something now that everyone needs to consider very carefully especially in light of the fact that it is costing so much to travel to these venues.

Bruce Osborne asked that everyone start to think about this event's future and at a subsequent OTF Board Meeting, we would need to make some discussion about the ongoing viability of the Oceania Teams Championships. He said that he would be sad to see it go but also understood if Nations felt that it was an event that all Nations found it difficult to host and run; whilst we still have the option of Australia and New Zealand involved, Bruce Osborne said he would be pushing to keep this on the calendar.

Richard Breen said that from a smaller Pacific Oceania Nation's perspective, it was very beneficial to be able to compete with Australia and New Zealand; that he understood the event was first set up by New

Caledonia who hosted the first events; he said it would be a shame to lose this event as it provides playing opportunities for Pacific players as whilst we have the Pacific Games and the Pacific Nations Cup, this is not a lot of events when you look at the calendar; hopefully Nations will put their hand up to host this event.

Torgun Smith said that the GNTF had been talking to the ITF and Japan Tennis about doing their World Tennis Tour Pro Circuit Event in June; together with that also the Grade 5 Junior Event; we are working with the ITF to try to pull this event off; there is still quarantine in Guam but there is talk about this being lifted in May; that the local Government would be open to an athlete and officials exemption from quarantine if protocols are in place; they have looked at the ITF "Return to Competition Protocols" for the pro circuit; Guam is normally part of the Japan summer swing; Japan has cancelled all their events till the end of May; his view was that it would be unlikely for Japan Tennis to have any pro circuit events before the Olympics; the ITF asked the GNTF whether they could do more than 1 professional event but would be unlikely funding-wise as the GNTF struggle just to host 1 event; at this stage the GNTF is still planning on holding this event and any beyond that we would need ITF's help and support to assist fund, but it is doable even though the time line is tight.

David Haggerty said that the ITF is encouraging Nations to host events when it is safe to do so; that we do have the National Association Assistance Programme and Andrew Moss (ITF) can have a look at that; but we will follow this up with Andrew Moss and find out; with Japan, they are probably going to do everything they can to protect the Olympics and Paralympics.

12. Junior Events/Teams/Grants

i. Under 14 Ranking System

Richard Breen then presented a PowerPoint for a proposed new U14 Ranking & U14 Pacific Oceania Circuit. He said that this is a new initiative and that the ITF and OTF have been engaging for the last 12 months on how we can do this; what we are trying to do is have an U14 Ranking for the Oceania circuit; it will help to align us with the other ITF Regions; it will also create more opportunities for our region and the U14 players.

He then discussed the background and said that we are trying to raise the standard and the depth of the U14 age category; to create more opportunities for competition with the best players; to benchmark player performance against Oceania Nations, New Zealand and Australian

players and to also use the WTN rating and incorporate this into the WTN framework.

There are 4 stages and given the difficulties with Covid-19, we are including a national stage where there will be national tournaments and we will look at the results of those national tournaments; we will have the Regional Championships and tagging on the back of the Regional Championships the intent is to have another U14 Regional Event; we will take into account the POJC and we will also stage Masters Events after the POJC. Given the uncertainty with travel and Covid-19, this is our intention and if we can implement some of this, then we will do this. The aim is to try to implement the complete plan.

There will be ranking points awarded and depending on whether it is a National, Regional Event, Masters or POJC then these events will attract a different layer of points. The intent is following the AGM to go out to the Member Nations and get feedback and fine tune improvements on the plan. In the future, we would hope that we would have the opportunity through this system to benchmark Pacific players against players from Australia and New Zealand.

ii. ITF Regional Championships and POJC

Richard Breen said that it is the intention of the OTF to have these events in 2021 if they can be held safely. Currently the dates for the Regional Championships are from the 19th-23rd July; we decided not to have them in the first half of the year to put ourselves better placed that these could be held with some certainty in the second half of the year; these dates are not set in stone as we went out to the host Nations that were going to host in 2020 to confirm that they would be able to host in 2021; all 3 Nations came back with a positive response; Vanuatu will be hosting the West Pacific; Samoa will host the East Pacific and Guam the North Pacific. Following the AGM, we will be reviewing the situation with each region as regards travel, borders open etc as each area is in a different stage. There isn't a lot of travel at the moment but there is talk of things changing in May/June. Once we have feedback from Nations, we can then assess whether we need to postpone the July dates till later in the year; if that is the case, then we would be looking at September to hold these events so that the POJC can follow in October. The POJC is currently scheduled from the 4th-13th October.

iii. ITF Pacific Junior Circuit

Jeff Race said the NMI have determined that they are not going to host their event this year due to Covid -19 given that the event would be only 2 months away and there is too much uncertainty given quarantine issues and that there are minimal flights into Saipan. Richard Breen said

you can still continue with your events, as has been happening in New Zealand, if you have enough players at that level; New Zealand had theirs earlier in the year and Australia have some scheduled in the ensuing months; in Fiji, we host 3 events; normally we would host these in June; these will not be held then, but we are still hopeful that we can hold these later in the year depending on flights/borders. Regarding the B2 event, we did ask both TA and TNZ earlier in the year whether either were interested in hosting this event given that there will be the expectation of more travel between Australia and New Zealand; that hopefully then the ITF would approve the B2 grade without dropping it down a level. After the AGM I will be following this up. There was also some discussion about whether this event could rotate around the Region as in being in a rotation of New Zealand, Australia and the Pacific over a 3-year rotational period; that discussion still has to happen; we are hopeful that in 2021 that the B2 can still be held in one of the Nations but it is unlikely to be in the Pacific.

Torgun Smith mentioned earlier in the AGM, that Guam is still looking to host their event in late May/early June; if they can't host it then, they may look to hold this later in the year.

iv. Junior Davis Cup/Billie Jean King Cup/WJT

Currently we have 1 team that is potentially entered; at the beginning of 2021 we were able to play the pre-qualifying in the U14s but the Boys and Girls teams didn't qualify; also, the same with the Junior Davis Cup which meant that there was no further progression for those teams. However, we did have the Junior Billie Jean King Cup that had progressed into the Qualifying event; they were going to have the opportunity to play this event but this was cancelled last year; we were in 2021 looking at funding 1 team through the Pacific Assistance Grant; when we looked at the players who were available and how they matched up with their peers in the event, it made more sense to field a WJT Pacific Oceania Team in the girls as opposed to the Billie Jean King Cup because 2 of the players would be the same in either the Billie Jean King Cup or the U14 Teams; it was felt, given their age, that they would do better in the U14 Teams. At this stage, we do not know if this event is going to occur; what we are concerned about is being able to do this event safely; so at this stage, it is looking unlikely that a team will be able to participate in that event; additionally the depth of players impacts on this as if the # 1 player was unavailable, then this would have a huge impact if everyone had to move up 1 place (the #2 becoming the #1 etc) on the team and their ability to do well at the event; if we can't field the top 3 players, then we would unlikely field a team as there is a huge drop off to players who would be ranked #4, #5 and #6.

v. AOPP Funding

Vicki Reid then discussed the Australian Open Pacific Pathway Programme. She said this is continuing in 2021; applications opened in January; we received 9 applications and all 9 have been approved viz: American Samoa, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Guam, Solomon Islands, Tahiti, Samoa and Vanuatu. All the Nations have requested equipment which is very much needed; this has already been despatched and Nations should receive this over the next month or so; also, the first payments have also been made.

13. Pacific Sports Partnership

Vicki Reid then summarized the last 4 years and explained that the programme is funded by the Australian Government to advance gender inclusion within sporting organizations and to also increase healthy behaviours in nutrition and relationships. In the last 4 years we have had significant increases with over 26,000 individuals involved in over 900 communities with a 52/48 male/female split in these programmes; additionally, we had almost 1,000 participants with a disability; there were 31 new jobs created with the 52/48 gender balance; 15 new female leaders employed in Fiji and Vanuatu; 6 coaches including 3 female; there were 255 teacher training sessions delivered to enable ongoing tennis activities with large volumes of equipment donated to schools and communities; there was a big shift in the gender balance of the staff; it was 80/20 male/female when we originally started 4 years ago; it is now 50/50 balance; there are now more and more women getting engaged in communities and they are feeling confident to do so.

Regarding participation outside the school environment, there has also been a significant increase in females which indicates that more women and girls are engaging; there has also been the creation of sustainable income for 6 coaches; the Fiji National Sports Commission Staff have been trained to deliver tennis activities which enables a sustainable pathway and has now in place a sustainable workforce to now deliver the activities; we are also working closely with World Vision on the programmes and activities; there is the development of child safeguarding policy for Tennis Fiji and the Vanuatu Tennis Federation including codes of behaviour which have also been translated into the local languages. While we are not continuing the PSP Programme, we are continuing to work really closely with the Government and particularly in the areas of coaching and leadership to try to source funding to try to be able to continue with the opportunities to advance gender equality

across the Pacific; we are working closely with the High Commission in each of the Pacific Nations to then be able to come back and further engage the Australian Government.

Vicki Reid then presented a short video that gave an overview of the Programme over the last 4 years. Both Cyrille Mainguy and Richard Breen thanked Vicki Reid and Tennis Australia for both their programmes which have transformed so many lives in Vanuatu and Fiji. Cyrille Mainguy also congratulated Tennis Australia, despite the challenges, on holding a very successful Australian Open and asked that this be passed on to Craig Tiley.

14. OTF AGM 2022

David Smith said that the currently plan, given the fluid situation we are working within at the moment, is to hold this hopefully face-to-face in Port Vila, Vanuatu in March/April 2022. As we get into the latter part of Q3 or more likely the early part of Q4, we should better be able to be more definitive once flights/borders start to open.

15. Any Other Business

There was no further business. David Smith then thanked the 35 attendees for joining this virtual 20th OTF AGM despite the awkward hours in Palau, London etc; he also particularly thanked the 5 attendees from the ITF; that the OTF really appreciate the commitment that the ITF is making to our region and we can see that here today by the number from the ITF attending; he thanked them all for the investment in time, effort and the financial commitment that the ITF are making to the region; also to Geoff Pollard for attending the AGM; additionally also Roreti Eritai, the Secretary for the Kiribati Ministry of Sport who were are working very closely with at the moment; he said he would be sure that she would have learnt a lot for attending the AGM; no doubt subsequently you will be asking a lot of questions; we are all here to assist you, and Andrew Minogue, the CEO for the Pacific Games Council. Finally, he congratulated everyone who has been elected to the OTF Board either for the next 4 or 2 years; so Cyrille, you as President, Bruce as Vice President and the OTF Board of Barbara, Torgun, Davina, Vicky, Terri-Ann and Florence; he said that both he and Richard Breen look forward to working with you all; in the near future we will advise you of the date for the first OTF Board Meeting. So, thank you all.

Geoff Pollard then said it was great to see everyone on this virtual AGM and apologized for his lateness at the start of the Meeting; that he was delighted to see how the OTF was continuing to progress; he congratulated everyone and said he looked forward to catching up with everyone in the not-too-distant future.

Cyrille Mainguy thanked everyone for their attendance; he thanked the outgoing OTF Executive Board for their work over the last 2 years; he welcomed the new OTF Board Members and said he was looking forward to working closely with everyone; he thanked the ITF Team for their attendance and said that over the last few years the OTF/ITF relationship has really strengthened and he was sure this would continue. He thanked David Smith for organizing the virtual AGM which was a great meeting; he said it is a new beginning and he looked forward to collectively growing tennis in the Pacific Oceania Region.

David Haggerty congratulated everyone on a successful AGM and thanked David Smith for organizing and putting together the AGM which was well organized. He said that the ITF appreciated the opportunity to join you; Oceania is doing a great job; congratulations on embracing diversity in tennis which is so important; Tennis Australia did a great job with the recent Grand Slam probably under the most rigorous conditions that any of us have ever seen; it shows how important tennis is to Tennis Australia but also the World; I look forward to seeing you soon and I do plan to get to Vanuatu; I'm planning it next year as I have good feelings that we will be in a much better place because of everything that you are all doing. Thank you again from all the ITF staff and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Kelly Fairweather said that what struck him at the AGM was the tremendous mood of cooperation amongst the Oceania membership; he said that he could promise us that it is not like this everywhere in the World; it is absolutely wonderful to see and really congratulations on the work that everyone is doing. Brilliant!

Luca Santilli said that he wanted to echo what David Haggerty and Kelly Fairweather had just said; that on behalf of Gary Purcell and the Development Team. We are very, very committed to the Pacific; we enjoy the hard work, we enjoy waking up early to have virtual meetings with you; we really appreciate what has been done in the last 4 years; the OTF has embraced the ITF Strategy; that we have come a long way and we look forward to coming to see you all face-to-face.

The AGM closed at 12:40pm (NZ Time)