



Torino, 20 February 2025

Subject: Notification from the Nomination Committee

Dear Mr Sclaris,

On behalf of the Nomination Committee, I thank you for meeting with us on 18 February 2025 and following up on some items concerning your candidature as IFSC President. I am writing to you to formally follow up on the issues addressed in our meeting concerning the presidential ticket of the 2025 IFSC General Elections.

To summarise what was discussed, you have been made aware of the following three issues concerning presidential candidate Tijl Smitz (BEL):

1. The first issue concerns the recent email sent to the candidate from the IOC Deputy Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer regarding an ethical breach. The breach consists in the use (or misuse) of a quote by IOC President Thomas Bach in the candidate's campaign material, which may give the perception that the IOC is in any way involved with the IFSC General Elections.

The candidate removed the quote from his material upon IOC notification, however the Nomination Committee acknowledges that such material has been previously disseminated to other parties and IFSC voting members.

2. The second issue concerns the use of images of staff members in the electoral manifesto. Specifically, the manifesto contains a picture featuring the General Director, as well as athletes. The Nomination Committee shares the opinion that this action is contrary to the principle of staff neutrality and puts the General Director in an awkward situation by being associated with the candidate's campaign. As mentioned during the meeting, we take note that you did not see the manifesto in question and you can find it attached with this letter for transparency.
3. The third issue concerns the contact of IFSC staff, which was notified also in the context of the Executive Board meeting on 5 February 2025, and the Nomination Committee is aware that following the exchange with the General Director the candidate has ceased to contact the staff in relation to his campaign.

In our meeting, we asked you if any of these actions made or make you feel unfairly treated or in any way damaged, and your general thoughts on these incidents.

You have stated that:

1. The misuse of the IOC President words constitute damage to you as a candidate; furthermore, they damage the IFSC as an organisation and as a stakeholder of the IOC.
2. The corrective action requested by the IOC was complied with to the extent where the candidate removed the quote from social media, but did not provide any explanation or rectification to the Executive Board or the National Federations, nor to the IOC in terms of clarifying the corrective action taken.
3. In general, without delving into too much detail, your conclusion is that there is a lack of acknowledgment of the gravity of the issues, be it quoting the IOC President, or using without authorisation pictures of the staff and athletes, and this reflects poorly on the IFSC; furthermore, it negatively impacts the electoral process and puts all parties involved in a losing position.





On behalf of the Nomination Committee, we have taken note of your considerations. We will draw our conclusions in accordance with the mandate entrusted to us. Should you need any clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Dagmawit Girmay Berhane', written over a horizontal line.

Dagmawit Girmay Berhane

Chair of the Nomination Committee

