

**46<sup>th</sup> CIPS CONGRESS  
BOHINJ  
(SLOVENIA)  
26 APRIL 2025**

**AGENDA FOR THE PLENARY SESSION  
AGENDA FOR THE CIPS CONGRESS  
Saturday, April the 26<sup>th</sup> 2025**

**Preliminary Session:**

- Appointment of a committee to verify proxies;
- Confirmation that the Congress is in order, that the constitution is valid, and that the votes represented are valid.

**AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

1. Approval of the minutes of the Cape Town Congress (2024)
2. Acceptance of new members
3. Reports from the Praesidium (President and Vice-Presidents)
4. Reports from the C.I.P.S. International Federations
5. Report from the Secretary General
6. Report by the Treasurer, approval of the 2024 financial statements
7. Report by the Auditors
8. Full discharge of the President and Treasurer
9. Discussion and vote on the reports
10. Setting of membership fees for 2026
11. Approval of the 2025 budget
12. Discussion and vote on motions
13. Decision on the venue and date of the next congresses: 2026 and 2027
14. Any other business

Election session:

15. Election of the session chair
16. Elections in accordance with the statutes
17. Introduction of the new Council
18. Closing of the Congress

## PRELIMINARY SESSION

On 26 April 2025, in the meeting room of the ECO Hotel located at Triglavska cesta 17, Bohinjska Bistrica, Slovenia, at 9.30 am – the time set for the first meeting of the Congress – Secretary-General Luigi Stuani announced that 85.20% of the votes, equivalent to 60 eligible voters, had been duly recorded.

President Matteoli, acting as Provisional President of the Congress, then declared the Congress duly constituted and opened the proceedings. Before commencing the Congress proceedings, he proposed waiting a few minutes to allow those undergoing accreditation to enter the room.

He reminded those present that registration procedures would be carried out by the Secretary General in accordance with the regulations in force.

The President welcomes all the guests and delegates present and thanks them for their large participations.

President Matteoli reminds the meeting that it is necessary to elect the Election Committee in accordance with the Statutes.

### 15 Election of the President of the session

President Matteoli proposes the following members for the ballot: Mr Bruna, President of the Spanish Federation, as President of the electoral session; Ms Durante, Treasurer of F.I.P.S.e.d., and Mr Miroslav Žaberl, President of the Slovenian Federation, as members of the Ballot Committee.

The Congress approves this decision.

Mr Bruna thanks the Congress for its confidence.

## AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### 1. Adoption of the minutes of the Cape Town Congress (2024)

The Congress approves the minutes of the Congress held in Cape Town in 2024.

### 2. Acceptance of new memberships

President Matteoli announced the new membership applications received by the three FIPS organisations and accepted by the Praesidium:

-Armenia (FIPSeD pending); if it does not submit the necessary documents within three months, its membership will be discussed again at the next Congress. Unanimous approval by the Congress;

-India (ordinary member) affiliated to the three FIPS organisations. Unanimous consensus of the Congress;

-Mozambique (FIPSeD candidate). Unanimous consensus of the Congress;

-Iran (ordinary member), already affiliated to FIPS-Mouche and FIPSeD since this year, is also joining FIPS-Mer. Unanimous consensus of the Congress.

President Matteoli also informed the Congress of the situation regarding the Northern Ireland Sea Anglers Federation (NISFA), which had been discussed within the Praesidium, following the letter of disappointment sent by NISFA to

CIPS in the wake of the decision taken by the 2023 Congress, held in Rome on 30 April, to retain only the IFSA (Irish Federation of Sea Anglers).

President Matteoli wishes to clarify that Mr Zangerlé informed the Praesidium that, despite this new letter of disappointment from NISFA, the situation has not changed and we therefore continue to support the membership of the federation already present within CIPS, which represents the four Irish

provinces. The Praesidium agrees with the decision to maintain the membership of the IFSA (Irish Federation of Sea Anglers), which is already part of CIPS, as decided by the aforementioned 2023 Congress.  
The Congress unanimously reaffirms the decision taken in 2023.

## **REPORTS**

### **3 Reports from the Praesidium (President and Vice-Presidents)**

President Matteoli presented his report, discussing the overall situation which has inevitably had an impact on the 2021 Championships right up to the present day. He concluded the financial section by stating that all the Federations have paid their membership fees for 2024.

President Matteoli outlines the anti-doping situation. As regards FIPSeD, there have been four positive cases, two of which are still under review. WADA has made requests to CIPS, which has approached the ITA to seek support in monitoring doping cases as requested by WADA in order to comply with rules.

President Matteoli discusses the bid to be recognised by the Olympic Committee as an Olympic sport. The Olympic Committee has stated that it is necessary to comply with the guidelines provided by WADA; furthermore, an Athletes' Commission, an Anti-Doping Tribunal, an Equality Commission and an Ethics Commission must be established. The President announces that all requirements have been met, that we are working with the ITA to fulfil WADA's requirements and to set up the Ethics Commission, the last one still to be established.

The President emphasised that the Olympic Committee had been reluctant to accept CIPS's application for fear of a potential conflict and overlap with the ICSF. President Matteoli noted, however, that the concerns raised by the Olympic Committee had already been addressed.

President Matteoli raises an issue to be resolved, namely CIPS's online visibility. The three FIPS enjoy considerable visibility, but this does not translate to CIPS. The President emphasises the importance of collaboration between the three FIPS to ensure that their contacts reach CIPS.

Regarding the hosting of championships, President Matteoli states that, until now, they have mainly taken place within Europe, but the number of championships has increased, both in terms of new disciplines and new categories. The President shows an Excel file covering the four-year period from 2021 to 2024, illustrating the increase in affiliations by federations from other continents. This highlights positive growth despite the absence of Iceland.

### **9 Discussion and vote on the reports**

President Matteoli asks whether there are any questions or requests for further clarification regarding the topics covered in his report. The Congress unanimously approves President Matteoli's report, and he thanks the Congress.

President Matteoli gives the floor to Vice-President Knight, who presents his report on young people and immediately emphasises the importance of setting a good example for them. Mr Knight presents some charts showing that the nations participating in championships or youth initiatives are always the same and their numbers are not increasing. Mr Knight asks CIPS to encourage and raise awareness of youth involvement, otherwise the question will arise as to who will be fishing in the future. He also

highlights the difficulty of addressing each nation individually; therefore, it is very important that each nation takes responsibility for its own young people. Mr Knight is keen to provide an example of engagement: during the World Ice Fishing Championship, the 'Catch and Release' initiative was also organised in schools, highlighting how young people can become passionate about fishing if everyone demonstrates greater commitment.

Vice-President Knight concludes by thanking the Congress.

## **9 Discussion and vote on the reports**

President Matteoli asked whether there were any questions or requests for further clarification regarding the topics covered in Mr Knight's report. The Congress approved the report unanimously.

President Matteoli asks Mr Marchi, a member of the Environment Commission, who immediately highlights the seriousness of the environmental problem, particularly regarding the use of plastic that settles on the seabed, precisely where fish are accustomed to feeding. Mr Marchi goes on to state that we can do something at our level, such as not using plastic in championships. At the FIPS-Mer meeting, it was agreed that delegates must inspect the Championship venue and, if it does not comply, they must report it, and the organisers will no longer be permitted to host competitions for three years. Furthermore, inspectors will be present at competitions to remind anglers who do not comply with the defined standards of the rules.

At the end of the competition, assistant judges will inspect the fishing stations and, in the event of a breach of the new anti-pollution measures, the anglers responsible will be reported.

President Matteoli handed over to FIPS-Mer President Zangerlé, who endorsed Mr Marchi's report.

Mr Marchi, adding that FIPS-Mer has adopted a reward system, meaning that if a federation organises a championship that meets the various criteria discussed previously, FIPS-Mer awards that federation the "GREEN" designation, which is valid for one year. This is because, for various reasons, sanctions are difficult to enforce; on the contrary, positive incentives are easier to recognise and award.

President Matteoli interjected to say that he is in contact with someone working on alternatives to plastic, particularly single-use plastic. President Matteoli added that they are trying to ascertain whether lead can be replaced, but for the time being this is very difficult as it is a perfect material for fishing.

## **9 Discussion and Vote on the Reports**

President Matteoli asks whether the Congress has any questions or requests for further clarification regarding the topics addressed by Mr. Marchi. The Congress unanimously approves the report, and Mr. Marchi thanks the assembly for their attention.

### **4 Reports from the C.I.P.S. International Federations**

President Matteoli announced that the reports from the three presidents of the three FIPS federations would now be presented and gave the floor to the President of FIPS-Mouche, Mr. Podmanik, who announced the introduction of combined championships, such as Women's and Seniors, to stimulate public interest. Mr. Podmanik also notes that women's participation in competitions is growing significantly. President Podmanik then moves on to the work done on the rules and statutes, stating that the new rules have also been submitted to the delegates for approval, since it should not be solely the administration that decides the rules but also those who participate in the championships.

President Podmanik presents the changes and improvements made to the FIPS-Mouche website, where visitor statistics can be tracked; as a result, an increase in website traffic has been observed, thanks in part to the ever-growing number of athletes.

President Podmanik also announced the introduction of an electronic voting system to preserve and guarantee anonymity, as only the administrator will be able to access the data processed by the system and displayed.

## **9 Discussion and Vote on the Reports**

President Matteoli asked whether the Congress had any questions or requests for further clarification regarding the matters addressed by the President of FIPS-Mouche. The Congress unanimously approved the report, and Mr Podmanik thanked them for their attention.

President Matteoli gives the floor to the President of FIPS-Mer, Mr Zangerlé, who informs the Congress that the number of World Championships in which the organisation participated in 2024 has risen to 15, and that he has therefore observed a slight increase in the number of teams during the competitions.

President Zangerlé spoke about anti-doping, where misunderstandings had unfortunately arisen; for example, in Mexico, tests had not been carried out despite having been requested. There had been only one positive case, but it involved a captain who had failed to declare medical treatment.

Mr Zangerlé then spoke about the amendments made to two sets of regulations to facilitate the participation of disabled athletes in championships and announced that, from 2025, all championships will adopt the "Catch and Release" rule. Finally, the President of FIPS-Mer discussed the financial statement, which showed a deficit, and announced that he had not stood for re-election as President, before taking the opportunity to thank everyone.

President Matteoli asked whether the Congress had any questions or requests for further clarification on the topics covered by President Zangerlé. The Congress approved the report unanimously.

President Matteoli presented his report in his capacity as President of FIPSeD. He began by announcing that there had been an increase in the number of teams taking part in the championships, which this year totalled 27. Mr Matteoli then spoke about the adoption of 'Catch and Release' during the World Ice Fishing Championship and was pleased to announce that everything had gone very well, so we are on

the right track. As regards the increase in the number of teams, this poses a problem, namely that the available space is sometimes insufficient, as in the case of the Trout Area Championship or the Carp Fishing Championship, for which a change to the rules could be considered to facilitate the running of the event. There has been an increase in championships using artificial lures, but for young people these disciplines are not very accessible as they are decidedly expensive.

President Matteoli announced the decision to invest in an app capable of speeding up and facilitating the creation of rankings, which are updated second by second and are immediately available. The President explained how the app works, stating that users simply need to record the weight of the fish on their phone and the data entered will be sent to Mrs Durante's computer, thereby automatically compiling the rankings.

## **9 Discussion and Vote on the Reports**

President Matteoli asked whether the Congress had any questions or requests for further clarification regarding the topics covered in his report. The Congress unanimously approved President Matteoli's report, and he thanked those present.

President Matteoli asks the Chair of the Athletes' Commission, Mr Brown, to present his report. Mr Brown begins by emphasising the importance of informing athletes about doping to avoid problems and repercussions. He concludes by outlining the changes that have taken place within the Athletes' Commission and warmly thanks its members for the excellent work carried out to date. Mr Brown asked the three FIPS to work together to raise the profile of the Athletes' Commission so that its members could become a point of reference and comparison for anglers.

## **9 Discussion and Vote on the Reports**

President Matteoli asked whether the Congress had any questions or requests for further clarification regarding the matters discussed by the Chair of the Athletes' Commission. The Congress unanimously approved Mr Brown's report

## **5 Report of the General Secretary**

President Matteoli asks CIPS Secretary General Stuani to present his report. Mr Stuani outlines the difficulties encountered during the pandemic lockdown and wishes to thank the members of the International Secretariat for their consistent efforts.

## **9 Discussion and Vote on the Reports**

President Matteoli asks the Congress whether it may proceed to approve this report. The Congress unanimously approves the report by the Secretary General of the CIPS, Mr Stuani.

President Matteoli gives the floor to the President of the Equality Commission, Mrs Durante, who presents her report, highlighting the work carried out over the past four years to promote the participation of women and transgender people in sport fishing competitions. To this end, CIPS has established women-only competitions such as the FIPSeD Carp Fishing event and the World Fly Fishing Championship. Ms Durante urges the federations to emphasise

how important it is to encourage women's participation in championships. Ms Durante addressed the issue of transgender participation and stated that CIPS will follow the IOC's guidelines; therefore, to

ensure fairness in competition, transgender individuals will not be permitted to participate in competitions such as the Women's World Carp Fishing Championship and the Women's Marine Weight Long Casting, as this would create an imbalance in terms of physical strength. President Durante concluded by stating that these provisions had already been submitted to and approved by the CIPS Praesidium and took the opportunity to pay tribute to the Congress.

## **9 Discussion and Vote on the Reports**

President Matteoli asked whether the Congress had any questions or requests for further clarification regarding the topics covered in President Durante's report. The Congress unanimously approved the report.

## **6 Treasurer's report, approval of the 2024 financial statements**

President Matteoli announced that they would now move on to the financial section, and therefore asked the CIPS Treasurer, Mr Goupil, and the CIPS Auditor, Mr Otal, to outline the financial situation over the past four years.

Mr Goupil presents the financial report for 2021 to 2024, followed by a provisional budget for 2025, whilst also announcing the amount of subsidies that CIPS will allocate, as it does every year, to the three FIPS.

## **6 Auditors' Report**

Mr Otal refers to the report by the treasurer, Mr Goupil, to explain in detail the expenditure incurred by CIPS over the past four years, and then goes on to provide a precise account of the financial results for the 2024 financial year.

## **10 Setting of membership fees for 2026**

President Matteoli proposes to the Congress that membership fees for 2026 remain unchanged. The Congress approves unanimously.

## **11 Approval of the 2025 budget**

President Matteoli asks whether the Congress has any questions or requests for further clarification regarding the matters discussed by the Treasurer and the Auditor. The Congress unanimously approves the financial report and the provisional budget.

## **13 Decision on the venue and date of the next congresses: 2026 and 2027**

President Matteoli asked if anyone had a proposal regarding the venue for the next CIPS Congress.

The President of the Egyptian Federation requested to give a brief presentation on Cairo and asked for the opportunity to host the next CIPS Congress.

President Matteoli asked him to submit a proposal containing all the necessary information so that a decision could be made.

President Matteoli declares the ordinary part of the Congress closed at 12.30 pm and proposes a coffee break before the Election Session, which will begin at 12.45 pm.

The Congress approves unanimously.

## **ELECTIVE SESSION**

### **16. Election of the CIPS President in accordance with the Articles of Association**

President Bruna announced that further delegates had been accredited after the Congress had begun. The President asked the Congress whether there were any motions opposing the accreditation. No motions were tabled.

President Bruna therefore reads out the numbers of members accredited to vote: total number of members entitled to vote 142, total number of accredited delegates (present or by proxy) 77, of whom: 66 members in person, 11 members by proxy.

President Bruna briefly outlines the election procedure to follow and also introduces the candidates, giving them the opportunity to introduce themselves. He informs the meeting that the election of the President, Vice-Presidents and Treasurer will take place first.

Mr Matteoli, candidate for the presidency, sees no need to speak further, as he has already outlined in his report the actions to be undertaken over the next four years.

Mr Knight, a candidate for the vice-presidency, gave a short speech introducing himself.

Mr Andries Maree, a candidate for the vice-presidency, also gave a brief introduction of himself.

Mr Massar Sarr Amadou, a candidate for the vice-presidency, gave a speech outlining his views and introducing himself.

President Bruna invites the delegates to vote to elect the President of CIPS. Once the voting has concluded, Mr Bruna announces the result for the post of President.

- Out of a total of 77 votes:
- In favour 74
- Blank ballots 3

Mr Bruna therefore declares Ugo Claudio Matteoli elected President of CIPS.

Mr Matteoli thanks the Congress. He is certain that he has taken on a very important role, one that has been put forward by people who have worked at the very highest levels. He hopes to be on the same level so as to be able to achieve very important things. Finally, he notes that work must continue towards recognition by the International Olympic Committee.

### **16. Election of Vice-Presidents and Treasurer in accordance with the Articles of Association**

President Bruna calls for a vote for the positions of Vice-President.

Mr Bruna announces the results of the vote for the positions of Vice-President.

- Out of a total of 77 votes:
- Andries Maree 62
- John Knight 39
- Massar Sarr Amadou 33

Mr Bruna declares John Knight and Andries Maree Vice-Presidents of CIPS. We now move on to the

vote for the position of Treasurer.

Mr Bruna announces the result of the vote for the position of Treasurer.

- Out of a total of 77 votes:

-Audrey Nuttens 77

Mr Bruna declares Audrey Nuttens Treasurer of CIPS.

#### 16. Elections to the Athletes' Commission in accordance with the Statutes

Regarding the Athletes' Commission, President Matteoli noted that, out of a total of six seats to be filled that meet the conditions set out in Article 9 of the Rules of Procedure, there were only five valid candidates; he therefore proposed that these members be appointed by acclamation. The candidates are: Greig Brown and Vasil Kostov, for FIPSe; Ingvild Aurdal and Tereza Rutová, for FIPS-Fly; Stephane Miller and Benjamin Morga, for FIPS-Sea; however, the latter nomination has been withdrawn by the International Federation.

President Bruna seeks approval of President Matteoli's proposal. The Congress unanimously approves this proposal.

Mr Bruna proclaims Greig Brown, Vasil Kostov, Ingvild Aurdal, Tereza Rutová and Stephane Miller as members of the Athletes' Commission.

In the absence of a member of the Athletes' Commission, the President asks the FIPS-Mer International Federation to submit the name of a person who could serve on the said commission.

President Bruna seeks approval of President Matteoli's proposal. The Congress unanimously approves this proposal.

#### 16. Election of the Audit Committee in accordance with the statutes

There are five candidates for the Audit Committee: Jacques Goupil; Stefano Garagnani; Teodor Bentu; Sean Warner; Damiano Tamietto.

President Bruna calls for a vote on the positions of Auditors.

Mr Bruna announces the results of the vote:

- Out of a total of 77 votes:

-Jacques Goupil 51

-Stefano Garagnani 48

-Teodor Bentu 39

Mr Bruna declares Jacques Goupil, Stefano Garagnani and Teodor Bentu as members of the Audit Committee and Sean Walter, the highest-ranking of those not elected, as an alternate member.

#### 18 Closing of the Congress

President Matteoli takes the floor to thank President Bruna for his cooperation, the two translators and the staff of the Italian Federation for their work in organising the Congress.

In the absence of any further comments, President Matteoli declares the election session of the CIPS Congress closed at 14:15.

**José Luis Bruna**  
**President of the Elective Session of Congress**

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**Luigi Stuani**  
**General Secretary of the CIPS**

