1. Welcome

WADA Athlete Council (AC) Chair, Ryan Pini welcomed the members to their third meeting of the year.

He thanked the International Olympic Committee Athletes’ Commission (IOC AC) for offering that the AC Chair serve as a liaison to the IOC AC, which was kindly accepted.
He also thanked the AC members who attended Athlete Forums and served on Athlete Engagement and Independent Observer teams.

2. Update on the Executive Meeting

The AC Chair provided an update on the Executive Committee (ExCo) meeting that was held in Shanghai, China on 22 September 2023, to which Vice-Chair Gaby Ahrens attended on his behalf. A number of items were discussed including the upcoming World Anti-Doping Code update, the approval of the 2024 List of Prohibited Substances and Methods, as well as recommendations of the Compliance Review Committee (CRC) that were approved by the ExCo.

Lastly, the ExCo had a strategic planning session, and this future work will engage the AC.

3. Update on AC Vacant Seat

The AC Chair provided an update on the vacant seat situation since it was last discussed by the AC on 2 June 2023. It was decided to continue the discussion in November 2023 at the Council’s in-person meeting.

4. CRC Athlete Member, process and selection

The AC Chair thanked Gaby Ahrens, Jennifer Harss and Inaki Gomez who were on the CRC Athlete Member Selection Panel. Prior to this meeting, the AC received their full report and a recording from the CRC Chair explaining the role of a CRC member. The AC members in attendance agreed unanimously to select the athlete candidate recommended by the Selection Panel as the AC nominee for the CRC athlete member seat starting January 2024 for a three-year term. This nomination will be presented to the ExCo for approval in November 2023, as guided by the selection process approved by the AC and the WADA Governance Regulations.

A special mention of Gaby Ahrens was made as it related to her work on the final report and the extensive hours in chairing this process.

5. Overview of Education Committee and Deputy Foundation Board positions: selection and election

The AC was provided an overview of the role of the Education Committee and its commitments, as well as an understanding of the Deputy positions on the Foundation Board.

The athlete position on the Education Committee was temporarily filled in 2023 by an AC observer, while in January 2024 it will become a permanent position. Regarding the Deputy roles, one of the two positions must be filled by a para-athlete.

The AC Chair requested that members submit their interest for either of these positions by Monday 9 October 2023, which would then allow a virtual on-line election to confirm these positions. Those with the highest votes will be announced to the AC by email on Friday 13 October 2023. Once the Education Committee athlete member is confirmed, the appointment will be set for approval at the upcoming ExCo meeting on 16 November 2023.
6. Terms of Reference (TOR): discussion on possible revisions

It was decided that the TOR would be discussed in person in November 2023. It was noted that, once the AC agrees on the revisions needed (if any) in the TOR, the Foundation Board will need to approve the revised TOR for them to come into force.

7. Next in-person meeting

The Athlete Council will have its second in-person meeting in 2023 on 15 November in Montreal, Canada.