

Sustainability Commission

Meeting March 2025

5th March 2025



Attended:

Commission Members: Sigrid Beckmann (MEX), Ferran Muniesa (ESP), Ece Asya Ikizler (TUR), Heiko Thoelmann (NED), Lara Poljsak (SLO), Mariana Douka (GRE), Maja Lesny (POL), Nuno Gomes (ANG), Peina Chen (CHN), Vaclav Bravek (CZE), Amy Munro (GBR)

Board Representatives: Beatriz Gonzalez Luna (MEX) and Line Markert (DEN)

World Sailing: Director of Sustainability – Alexandra Rickham, Sustainability Executive – Rebecca Videlo

Agenda:

1. Welcome by Chairperson

SB welcomed the members to the new commission and introduced the vice chair FM along with the staff working to support the commission, AR and RV. She also introduced the board liaison, BGL and LM, who are here to listen and help raise matters to the board meetings if needed.

SB encouraged members to speak up during their meetings and emphasised the importance of creating a collaborative environment.

2. History of the Commission and introduction of advisory roles

AR took members through the history of the commission, noting that it was formed in 2017 to oversee the progress of the Sustainability Agenda 2030. The

commission aims to bring people together from the community who are able to support Agenda 2030 and driving it forward. NG is returning to the commission once again, who has served on it for many years now. Noted that the commission has been important in terms of how we activated around Sustainability.

AR ran through the terms of reference for the commission, noting that the commission report to the board. She emphasised that commissions differ operationally compared to committees and are regarded as advisory role to World Sailing.

With the last commission the sustainability department would report every quarter to the commission on what has been done in that period. The commission would pull apart our work and provide advice to steer work in the right direction.

AR introduced two advisory members who have been kept on from the last commission. Julie Duffus Senior Sustainability Manager at the IOC, can make sure we manage our relationship with the IOC as a federation. Julie brings a lot of knowledge and learning to ensure we align ourselves with the IOC's direction. Amy Munro is a sustainability consultant who has worked in sailing for a long time with a diverse range of entities.

AM introduced herself highlighting her work with teams and organisations such as the 11th Hour Racing Team, with main interest and expertise in Life Cycle Assessments, alternative materials and safeguarding.

3. Sustainability at World Sailing

AR gave insight into Sustainability at World Sailing, noting that Agenda 2030 is our North Star and guides us in everything we do. Agenda 2030 does need revitalising which is on the cards for this year. World Sailing is a signatory of UNFCCC's Sports for Climate Action and IUCN's Sports for Nature. An annual

sustainability report is produced, outlining process made against Agenda 2030. These key documents will be shared with the commission through a teams folder, members should let RV know if they have issues accessing the folder.

Looking forward to 2025 the main areas, including the annual sustainability report which will be an impact report this year, working closely with the development department. The report will include a full carbon footprint of 2024 activities. Sustainability Sessions are an ongoing project, currently in Season 2, with momentum picking up, members are reminded to share each session out to their wider network to encourage sign ups. The Life Cycle Assessment project for Olympic Classes should get off the ground too. Ongoing work around nature and nature protection at events, along with general event sustainability measures.

AR rounded up that a major focus of the commission is primarily on environmental sustainability, especially now with the establishment of the EDI committee, but expect there to be some cross overs between areas.

4. Introductions

- a) Who are you?
- b) Why did you choose to be part of this commission?
- c) Where would you like the sport to be in 4 years time?

Members of the commission, Board liaison members and WS Staff introduced themselves and outlined their motive to be part of this committee.

5. Meeting structure and cadence going forward

RV explained the variety of time zones the members are in and the most suitable time to have a meeting. The best times are 1200 or 1300 UK time, and it was noted that this may be a problem for those based in Europe since it's the middle of the day.

It was suggested that we could push it towards 1500 or 1600 UK time, if that suits those outside of Europe.

MD confirmed that it suited her, if she was the sticky point.

ML confirmed that the meeting is only an hour so that it is sufficient for a mid day meeting in Europe.

AR suggested that the cadence of meetings should start of as monthly and asked that members can indicate any days that they have no availability on a monthly basis. Then we will set up a monthly recurring meeting that works best for everyone.

AR then moved conversation towards the Annual Conference. The Commission has not had a face to face for a number of years, this is an area we need to decide later down the track.

6. Working groups

AR set out how previous working groups were done centred around carbon, technical, nature and events. She encouraged members to put their hands up and say if there are specific areas they are interested in.

AR suggested potentially making a working group around athletes and ambassadorship after listening to member's focus areas.

7. AOB

AR highlighted that the World Sailing Sustainability Award is reopening conversations with 11th Hour due to the contract expiring. Noted that the award may need restructuring, and the commission involvement would be welcome.

HT asked if there was any measurements or details of impact so far. AR clarified that this is in the 2023 Sustainability Report, Agenda 2030 and individuals can always ask for further information. These documents will be in the shared Teams folder.

NG asked if we can have a dropbox or similar to share files between members.

AR responded that yes this will be shared with members through a Teams folder.

MD asked if the meeting can be two hours later. AR confirmed that we can hold it at 1500 UTC, this was confirmed to be suitable for all on the call.