

Activity Report 2016

Taekwondo Humanitarian Foundation





Introduction

Generated by a strong sense of responsibility among taekwondo family of the World Taekwondo Federation and its members from around the globe, hands of volunteers gathered together to empower refugees through taekwondo.

It started as a dream that belonged to Dr. Chungwon Choue who shared it with a group of volunteers that established THF, the Taekwondo Humanitarian Foundation. In less than a year, THF was on the ground in Nepal with an earthquake relief program, in Jordan with a taekwondo academy in Azraq refugee camp for Syrian refugees and sponsoring an impaired refugee taekwondo athlete.

In 2016, THF was present in key taekwondo events and championships with awareness campaigns in its launching phase, and was introduced to global leaders notably at the UN and in Vatican. In addition, THF had its eyes always set on the future, its new projects, goals and challenges.

Background

There are about 20 million refugees in camps throughout the world. This figure does not include those internally displaced inside their own nations, nor those seeking asylum. According to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), one in every 122 of our fellow humans is now a refugee, internally displaced, or seeking asylum. Half of the world's refugees are children.

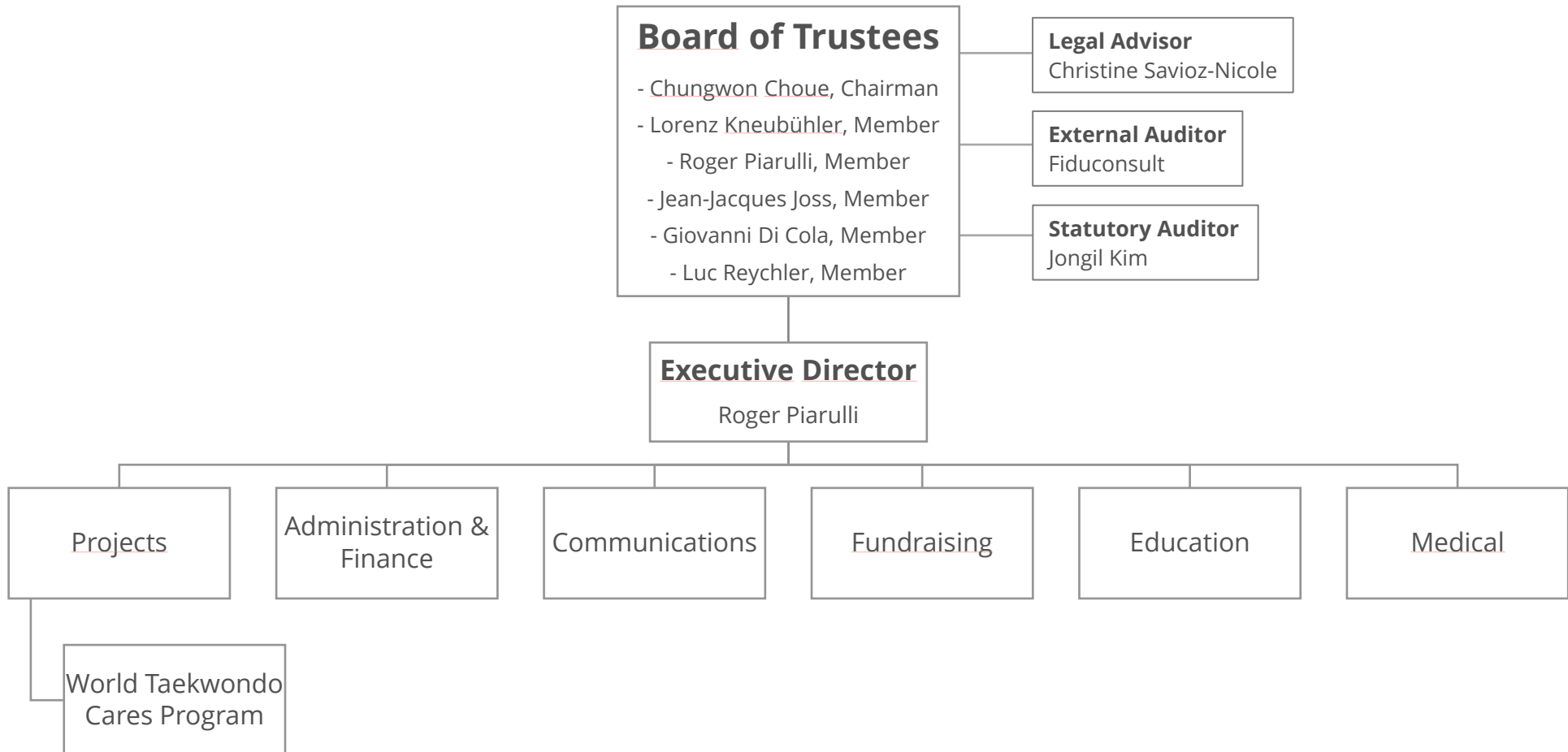
The World Taekwondo Federation, which administers the Olympic sport globally, has helped establish the Taekwondo Humanitarian Foundation (THF) in April 2016 in Lausanne, Switzerland. Its mandate is to spread the teachings of taekwondo to refugees worldwide, bringing the benefits of fitness, sport, self-defence, self-belief, and self-esteem to those who need it most. Taekwondo is an economical, easily deployed deliverable that can help raise the quality of life for refugees in camps worldwide, both children and adults. It is also a practical mean of integration for practitioners arriving in a new country.

Organisation

The Taekwondo Humanitarian Foundation is recognised by the Swiss Federal Department of Home Affairs as non-profit foundation under Swiss Law (Civil Code, Art. 80 ff). It was founded in Lausanne, Switzerland on April 15, 2016.

The purpose of the Foundation is to help displaced persons and refugees by using taekwondo and sports, along with related educational activities as tools for empowerment, education to global citizenship and well-being.

The organisation of the THF is composed by the Board of Trustees, an Executive Director and specialised departments. The World Taekwondo Federation's involvement within the Foundation's affairs goes through its World Taekwondo Cares Program, which is an operating partner of the Foundation in its projects.



Organisation structure of the Taekwondo Humanitarian Foundation



The World Taekwondo Federation granted an initial capital of CHF 50'000, paid in the form of capital contribution.

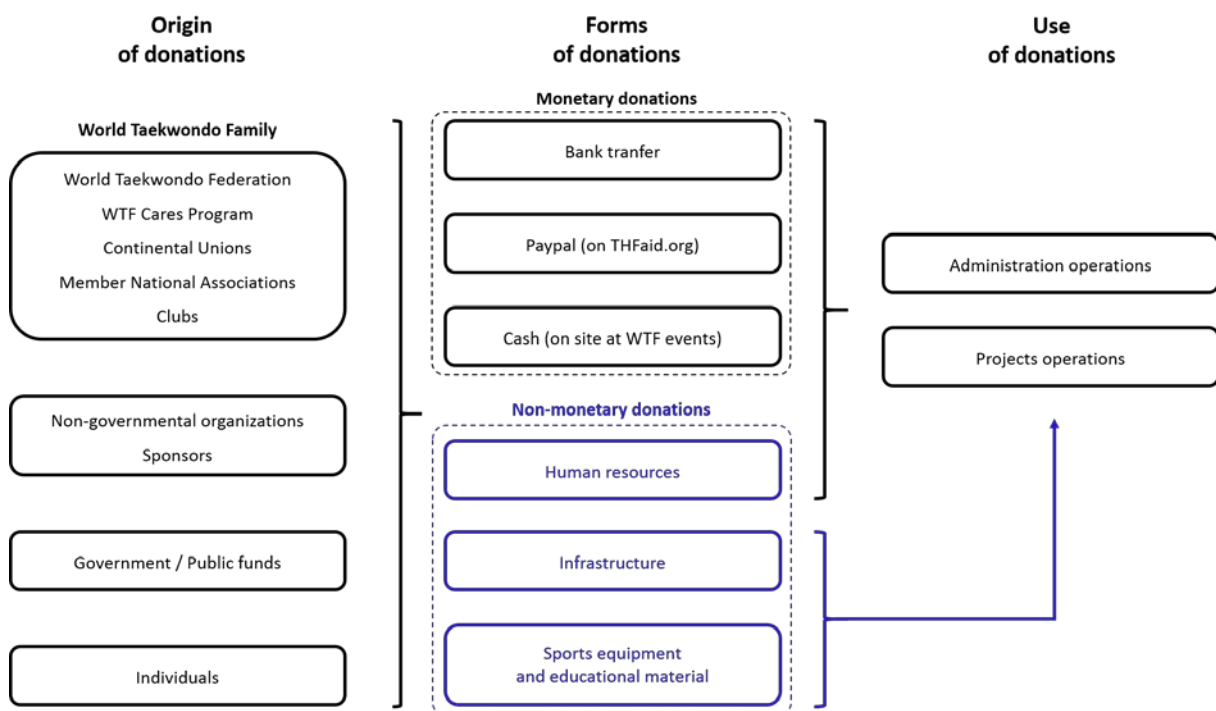
The foundation capital may be increased at any time with contributions made by:

- The World Taekwondo Family (WTF, continental federations, national associations, clubs)
- Private sponsors and NGOs
- Governments and public funds
- Individual donors

Donations to THF may consist of monetary or in-kind contributions. Monetary donations can be paid to the THF by bank transfer, via its donation platform on the THF website, or alternatively in cash, at the THF office in Lausanne or on-site at different WTF events. In-kind contributions can be done, for example, in the form of donations of new or second-hand equipment, the construction of real estate or of the patronage of human resources.

The funds received are allocated to the projects, communications, fundraising and administrative operations as needed. All efforts are made to keep administrative costs at the lowest in order to allocate a maximum of funds to running activities and the development of future projects.

Donors may demand that the use of their funds be used only for a particular project or part thereof. In case of donations made without specific instructions, the funds may be allocated by the THF to the type of spending currently needed to insure good running of the operations.



Origin and use of the funds donated to the THF



Projects

Taekwondo Academies

Under the guidance of the UNHCR, THF runs projects bringing taekwondo trainings and related educational activities to persons living in refugee camps where international and local instructors are dispatched on yearly missions. These projects are designed to guarantee a long-term presence, with the building of academies accessible to all for diverse activities.

Punctual Assistance Programs

In cooperation with National Taekwondo Federations, THF offers short-term recurring instructor training programs, where high-level taekwondo instructors get to acquire the necessary knowledge to train displaced population in chosen areas.

Refugee Athlete Career Support

THF supports refugee athletes with potential to help them evolve in the sport at elite level. The first THF-sponsored refugee is Austria-based Para-Athlete Hadi Hassanzada.

Support for spontaneous local projects

A number of Taekwondo Family members around the world have initiated spontaneous projects to help refugees getting integrated in local cultures. The refugees addressed to by this kind of projects may be children, women or any adult or impaired person in refugee-like situation depending on the initiator's targets. If the individual or club requires it, and complies with the THF guidelines and vision, the THF may send support in form of technical or financial assistance, know-how or equipment.

What was done so far

Nepal, phase 1

Punctual Assistance Program

After the devastating earthquake hitting Nepal in 2015, THF took the initiative to empower children through taekwondo, giving them hope and the spirit to rise again.

In early 2016, seminars and trainings were given to senior local instructors and children in 3 earthquake-hit areas. Almost 400 children were trained and equipped with taekwondo gear. The regions of Sindhupalchowk, Khadichaur, Pipaldada, Yamunadada, Ramechhap, Tatopani, Barabishe, Jiri and Manthali benefited from the THF actions.

THF does not want to stop there – THF is now studying to repeat the experience with other earthquake affected districts in 2017.



Taekwondo Academy in Azraq, Jordan



Earthquake Relief Program in Nepal

Azraq, Jordan

Taekwondo Academy

Some of the most heart-warming success stories of how a sport can wipe tears off traumatised children and turn their lives around in so many different ways, are found in THF taekwondo academy in Azraq camp in Jordan.

You will find boys and girls stop dropping out from school so not to miss their taekwondo class. You will find teenagers finding a role model in their coach after losing their parents in the war. You will find children finding something to belong to and wish upon, after being forced out of their homeland.

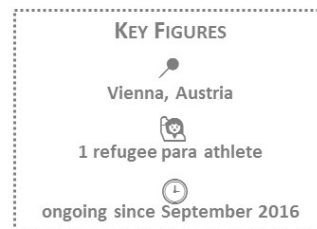
We will not celebrate and brag about the facilities THF established there, nor mention the successful trainings, belt tests and growing enrolment day after day. In this issue, the THF team will only share its gratitude that we were part of this project.

Get ready to hear more and more about this project next year: we are going to build our own training facility in the camp in the first trimester of 2017, which will allow us to train more children and diversify our activities!



Impaired Refugee Athlete Sponsorship
Refugee Athlete Career Support

Hadi Hassanzada, born in Afghanistan in the early 90s, lost his right arm in an attack that bombed his home. Fleeing the conflict, he left alone, on foot, his parents' home and headed west in search for peace and freedom. It took Hadi over one year to reach Austria: after a long wait in Turkey, he found hope in Vienna.



After joining a local football team, his coach noticed that Hadi had unusual physical abilities and asked a para taekwondo coach to introduce him to this sport and to train him further. He successfully progressed and, with the support of the Austrian Taekwondo Federation, the Booyoung Group, Daedo and the THF, he finally competed at the Para Taekwondo European Championships in September 2016.

The THF continues to support Hadi in his quest to compete in the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics.



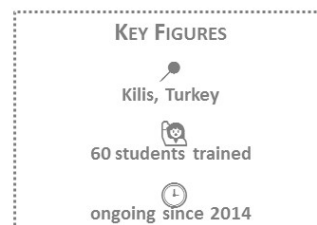
Hadi Hassanzada competing at the Para Taekwondo European Championships in 2016



Taekwondo Academy in Kilis, Turkey

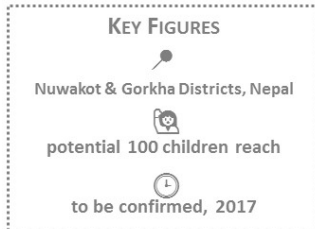
Kilis , Turkey
Support for spontaneous local projects

The Oncupinar Accommodation Center in Kilis is situated near Turkey's border with Syria and the Turkish Taekwondo Federation has been successfully operating a taekwondo programme in the camp for the past two years. There are currently 60 students learning taekwondo which not only keeps them physically active but teaches them respect, self-discipline and understanding.



Upcoming

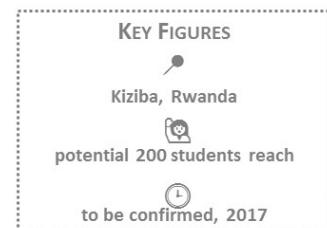
Nepal – phase 2 Punctual Assistance Program



After the success of phase 1 in Nepal, a second mission is being prepared which will bring know-how and equipment to the districts of Gorkha and Nuwakot. Gorkha district has been given priority in the 2nd phase training program as it is an epicenter of the April 25th 2015 earthquake. And Nuwakot is also one of the badly earthquake affected area. Taekwondo uniforms and shoes will be brought to young displaced taekwondo students who will demonstrate the taekwondo techniques they have learnt. Like in phase 1, local instructors will be trained and, in turn, spread their knowledge to children back in their districts.

Kiziba & Kigali, Rwanda Taekwondo Academies

The main project of the THF for 2017 will be the launch of activities in Rwanda. First of all a visit to Kiziba Camp to Introduce taekwondo through demonstrations and educate about the benefit of taekwondo training will be organised. After that the THF, in collaboration with Rwanda Taekwondo will establish a daily training programme for refugees in camps – Rwanda Taekwondo will establish a resident coach near the Kiziba Camp who will provide daily lessons to the residents. The THF will also provide basic uniforms and equipment to the refugees.



Promotion

Rio Olympics 2016 (August 2016)

A few important meetings and discussions took place in Rio during the 2016 Summer Olympics to discuss potential collaboration and partnerships.



World Taekwondo Day (4 September 2016)

The World Taekwondo Federation has organized a big taekwondo promotion in Seoul to officially launch the THF communication.

International Day of Peace (21 September 2016)

The Taekwondo Humanitarian Foundation has celebrated the 35th anniversary of the UN International Day of Peace and reiterated the important role that taekwondo can play in promoting peace around the world.

Vatican City (5 October 2016)

Under the theme "Sport in the Service of Humanity", taekwondo has reached a historic milestone with the WTF Demonstration Team performance in one of the most emblematic places in the world. It was a gathering of world leaders and influential people from all over the world: UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, IOC President Thomas Bach and the host of the event itself, Pope Francis.

Rome and Amatrice (7-11 October 2016)

The WTF Demonstration Team performed for refugees, mainly from African nations, at the refugee camp of the Italian Red Cross in Rome.

On 11 October the Demonstration Team performed in the earthquake-ravaged village of Amatrice, while organization executives made donations and pledged help in building infrastructure in the devastated area.

Shenzen, China (23 September 2016)

WTF President Chungwon Choue implored philanthropists, businesspersons and officials from China and around the world to join hands with the THF, at the China Charity Fair 2016, held at Shenzhen's Convention and Exhibition Center. The annual fair is the only national-level, comprehensive charity event in the world's second-largest economy. WTF President Choue was the only figure from the sports world invited to the event.

Burnaby, Canada (November 2016)

The international fundraising campaign kicked off at the World Junior Taekwondo Championship in Burnaby, Canada. The THF caught the occasion to tie its bonds with the City Council resulting in a long-term collaboration of the two entities. The THF Challenge fundraising during the Junior Championships topped at 6545 US\$.





Peace and Sport award (25 November 2016)

The WTF was named “Federation of the Year” at the Peace and Sport Forum last November. The award recognizes the sporting federation that makes an “Outstanding contribution to peace, dialogue and social stability in the world through sport”. The WTF received the award due to the efforts of the WTF initiative THF and its in-house charity program World Taekwondo Cares Program.

The World Taekwondo Grand Prix Final 2016 BAKU, Azerbaijan (10 December 2016)

The Baku World Taekwondo Grand Prix Final 2016, held in this city on the Caspian Sea concluded with a powerful message of support for the “Peace Through Sport” movement: all medallists held up white cards on the podium. The white card is a symbolic gesture of commitment to peace efforts worldwide and shows support for the International Day of Sport for Peace.

The “White Cards for Peace” initiative is run by the Taekwondo Humanitarian Foundation’s partner Peace and Sport. It started in 2014 as an interactive campaign on social media to raise awareness for sport activities as a means to promote peace and development around the world.

The World Taekwondo Federation Gala Awards Ceremony is held every year and rewards the year’s best players, best kicks, best referees, best coaches and best member of the national association. This event was the occasion to promote the Board Break Challenge among the Taekwondo stars and to raise funds for the Foundation.

Fundraising campaign: the THF Challenge

Break Boards, Change Lives

Launched in November 2016 at the World Taekwondo Junior Championships in Burnaby (CAN), the THF Challenge ‘Break Boards, Change Lives’ took over the world taekwondo family. By one taekwondo tradition and core moves, taekwondo aficionados from all over the world showed their support and aid to refugees. Donors weren't just breaking boards with their fists and kicks; they jointly broke all despair and chains stopping refugee children from dreaming of a better tomorrow.

How can anyone take part? It’s easy! All you need is a board to break, a video camera or smartphone to film the break, an Internet connection to upload your clip, and some money to donate to the THF.

The aim of this action is to get as many people involved in the cause of the THF in a different, fun way.

Online Petition Campaign

The Online Petition Campaign was launched in July 2016 to gather support for THF’s mission and broader vision of sport as a vehicle to change the lives of refugees and displaced persons for the better.

The petition aims to demonstrate global support to the use of Sport as an empowering tool for refugees worldwide, and to further convince global decision makers to take concrete action in that sense. The campaign will run until 2018.



Partnerships

Memorandum of Understanding UN High Commissioner for Refugees

signed on March 10, 2016

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, is a global organisation dedicated to saving lives, protecting rights and building a better future for refugees, forcibly displaced communities and stateless people.

UNHCR has signed an agreement in Geneva with the WTF that will make it easier for thousands of refugees across the Middle East, Asia, Africa and Europe to enjoy the Olympic sport and martial art of taekwondo and keep healthy. The programs are envisaged to help overcome a key problem in many refugee camps, which is their lack of educational, sporting and leisure facilities.

Cooperation agreement World Taekwondo Federation

signed on May 19, 2016

The World Taekwondo Federation is the International Federation (IF) governing the sport of Taekwondo. It recognizes national Taekwondo governing bodies recognized by the NOCs in the pertinent country as its members.

The WTF and the THF concluded a memorandum of understanding and a cooperation agreement to promote peace supporting activities and information exchange and cooperation between the two institutions.

Memorandum of Understanding GCS International

signed on May 19, 2016

The Seoul-based Global Civic Sharing was founded in 1998 with its overseas offices in seven countries, including Rwanda, Ethiopia, Mongolia, Kenya and Myanmar.

The WTF has signed a memorandum of understanding with Global Civic Sharing (GCS) on the promotion of taekwondo at refugee camps around the world. Under the pact, the two organizations will also cooperate to help eradicate poverty and develop civil society throughout the global community.

Skill Sponsorship agreement Société Générale

signed on September 7, 2016

Société Générale is a French multinational banking and financial services company headquartered in Paris.

Société Générale offers senior employees the chance to dedicate 50% of their working time to missions of public interest, those being of cultural, social, environmental or humanitarian kind. Société Générale signed an agreement with the THF, providing a patronage contract for Mr Roger Piarulli, who will invest half of its time to the benefit of the Foundation in its role of Executive Director.



Cooperation Agreement The Huamin Charity Foundation

signed on September 23, 2016

The Huamin Charity Foundation is a Chinese philanthropic organisation.

The Huamin Charity Foundation and the THF established a close cooperative relationship to help promote healthy living standards of refugees around the world. The Huamin Charity Foundation has donated \$600,000 to the THF in an effort to establish taekwondo academies for child refugees.

Memorandum of Understanding City of Burnaby

signed on November 16, 2016

Thy City of Burnaby, host city of the 2016 WTF Juniors World Championships, is the first city ever to be declared a Taekwondo Humanitarian Foundation Ambassador City.

The THF signed a memorandum of understanding with Burnaby City to advance the City and Foundation's shared goals of empowering refugees by providing educational opportunities, improving quality of life, and setting refugees on a path to global citizenship. This partnership and declaration will significantly benefit refugees in Burnaby and around the world.

Memorandum of Understanding Rwanda Taekwondo

signed on November 17, 2016

The Rwanda Taekwondo Federation is the national governing body of the state of Rwanda.

The Rwanda Taekwondo Federation, the WTF and the THF concluded a Memorandum of Understanding to promote humanitarian-, peace- and development-supporting activities, cooperation and information exchange between the three institutions. The cooperation will focus on the areas of promoting Taekwondo as a powerful vehicle towards peace, social development and integration of vulnerable populations, conducting joint humanitarian and development projects in Rwanda, exchanging expertise, know-how, information and publications and organising joint meetings, workshops and conferences.

Memorandum of Understanding Peace & Sport

signed on November 25, 2016

Peace and Sport is a neutral and independent worldwide organization that is operational in using sport and its values as an instrument for peace.

The memorandum of understanding was signed by WTF President and THF Chairman Chungwon Choue, and by P&S President Joel Bouzou. It has a duration of five years. It commits all parties to promote peace, social cohesion and coexistence, and to improve living conditions via taekwondo. It also encourages education, training and responsibility among youth through taekwondo practice, and calls for all three parties to cooperate – such as by connecting the WTF and THF with P&S's partners and projects worldwide.