



26/7/19

Dear IOC Chair,  
Dear Heads of Delegation from IOC Members,

As you all know, recently -and probably for the first time in IOC history- a Member's delegate, Dr Ignazio Castellucci representative of Israel, was not admitted to participate in an IOC meeting for a supposed irregularity in his designation.

In what refers to this designation, the information transmitted to the Members by the credentials committee during the last day of the 109<sup>th</sup> Council of Members' session in Morocco was incomplete and incorrect.

Furthermore, the entrance of the Israeli delegate on 21 June 2019 was forbidden being him blocked and impeached to enter which is inadmissible, moreover in an organisation created by the United Nations.

The document COI/R.109 – VI/Doc. N°4 states that the credentials committee has met on 21 June 2019 from 8.50 a.m. to 9.15 a.m. and has informed the Council of the following:

“A letter from Dr. Adi Naali informing of the appointment for the 109<sup>th</sup> meeting of Mr. Ignazio Castellucci, from a personal email (adiplants@gmail.com) to the email of the IOC dated 20 June 2019 at 23:17 hours was received by the ES. This communication was not signed by a competent accreditation authority of Israel (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development).

This Committee cannot consider accredited for this Session to Dr. Naali as he was not appointed by the relevant authority of Israel. It was checked that in the past two sessions the accreditation was by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Additionally, Dr. Naali cannot accredit another person as head of delegation as he is not accredited by Israel for the current session. “

This report is not accurate and represents in no way the facts.

Israel does not accept its content as:

1. Dr Adi Naali is the Israeli representative since 2012 (not only in the last two sessions)



2. The letter forward by Dr Naali for the 109<sup>th</sup> session of Members nominating the Israeli delegate that was not accepted by the credentials committee has exactly the same format and was sent from exactly the same e-mail as the one once sent to the Executive Secretariat as written notification to authorize Turkey to represent its interests and exercise its right to participate in the decisions at the close of the 100<sup>th</sup> session of members and at the 20<sup>th</sup> extraordinary session of the Council of Members (Annex I) that was accepted without any reservation by the Council of members.
3. At 9.37 a.m., local time of Marrakech, of 21 June, while the accreditation committee was in its meeting, a second letter from Israel, coming from the Ministry of Agriculture, arrived to the Executive Secretariat informing not only of the designation of Dr Castellucci as the Israeli representative for the 109<sup>th</sup> session but reinforcing Dr Naali as the Head of Delegation of Israel, legitimating this way Dr Castellucci's nomination by Dr Naali in this latest letter of 20 June 2019 (Annex II).
4. All the countries that were present at the session of 21 June 2019 are witness that the meeting of the credentials committee finished at 10.30 a.m, local time, moment in which the credentials committee entered in the Council session to wrongly inform the Members on the situation.
5. The credentials committee does not mention the existence of this letter of 21 June at 9.37 a.m. , local time of Marrakech, to the Council of Members nor does the Executive Director, who has responsibility to manage this documental phase before the Council.
6. Furthermore, on 21 June at 10.53 a.m. local time of Marrakech another letter from the Israeli Embassy in Madrid arrived to the Executive Secretariat confirming the two previous letters. It is regrettable that this letter was not also forward to the Council of Members.
7. The false statement on the document COI/R.109 – VI/Doc. N<sup>o</sup>4 of the duration of the credentials committee meeting (8.50 a.m. to 9.15 a.m.) was voluntarily made with bad faith in order to indicate that the letter from the Ministry had arrived after the meeting of the credentials committee, which is not true as the Council of Members had to wait until 10.30 a.m., local time, for the presence of the credentials committee as all Members could verify.
8. To better understand the situation a Chronology of the facts is available at Annex III (the documents testifying the phone calls and the e-mails exchanged are available at Members' request)



9. All the Members and Observers could freely enter the room but the Israeli delegate entrance was physically and permanently blocked.
10. It is up to the Council to decide on whether one delegate can or cannot be in the room and invite him to participate or to leave the meeting. It is not acceptable the physical blockage of the entrance of a delegate when all the observers and delegates (except the one from Israel) could enter the room freely before the decision of the credentials committee.
11. The behaviour towards Israel was not correct neither in its form nor in its content and the Executive Director should give explanations to the Council of Members on why the Council was wrongly informed on the validity of the letter of designation forward by Dr Naali and why the letter forward to the Executive Secretariat by the Ministry of Agriculture was voluntarily omitted to/by the credentials committee and by the Executive secretariat staff to the Council of Members
12. It is clear that this manoeuvre of blocking the entrance of the Israeli delegate, making incorrect statements and omitting documents to the Council, had the objective of impeding Israel's participation in the meeting
13. Due to these circumstances, Israel does not consider the renovation of the senior Directors of the IOC to be legitimate, and does not trust in its management for the future
14. Israel does not accept nor approve any of the Decisions taken in this session as this country was impeached to participate in the meeting with a non-valid justification and trusts that all other IOC Members will not accept this unbearable situation and react to correct it for the sake of the organisation
15. This regrettable situation will be also transmitted to other institutions, and Israel will make all the necessary actions to defend the interests of the country.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Adi Naali

Head of the Israeli Delegation



## ANNEX I - letter of 2013

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **adi naali** <[adiplants@gmail.com](mailto:adiplants@gmail.com)>

Date: Fri, May 24, 2013 at 8:31 AM

Subject: Israel authorizes the delegate of Turkey to represent its interests at the close of the 100th session, 20th extraordinary session May 2013

To: <[Kalendar@gumrukticaret.gov.tr](mailto:Kalendar@gumrukticaret.gov.tr)>, <[M.Sepetci@gumrukticaret.gov.tr](mailto:M.Sepetci@gumrukticaret.gov.tr)>, <[iooc@internationaloliveoil.org](mailto:iooc@internationaloliveoil.org)>, Secretaria Dirección COI <[secdirec@internationaloliveoil.org](mailto:secdirec@internationaloliveoil.org)>, Secretaría Dirección 3 <[secdirec3@internationaloliveoil.org](mailto:secdirec3@internationaloliveoil.org)>

Dear ALL

Israel would like to authorize the delegate of Turkey to represent its interests at the close of the 100th session, 20th extraordinary session May 2013.

We see much importance in this topic and I am sorry that I won't be able to be there with you.

Best Regards.

Dr Adi Naali

Head of the Israeli Delegation

Olive Division Manager

Plants Production and Marketing Board

---



24/5/13

**Israel authorizes the delegate of Turkey to represent its interests at the close of the 100th session, 20th extraordinary session May 2013**

Pursuant to article 7(2) of the International Agreement on Olive Oil and Table Olives, 2005, Israel authorizes the delegate of Turkey to represent its interests and exercise its right to participate in the Decisions of the Council of Members at the close of the 100th session, 20th extraordinary session May 2013.

Dr Adi Naali  
Head of the Israeli Delegation  
Olive Division Manager  
Plants Production and Marketing Board

---



ANNEX II – Letter forward by the Ministry of Agriculture on 21 June at 9.37 a.m.  
(Morocco) (11.37 – Israel time)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: adi naali <[adiplants@gmail.com](mailto:adiplants@gmail.com)>

Date: Fri, Jun 21, 2019 at 11:37 AM

Subject: Re: Letter of Designation

To: Ignazio <[ignazio@castellucci.eu](mailto:ignazio@castellucci.eu)>, <[iooc@internationaloliveoil.org](mailto:iooc@internationaloliveoil.org)>



Thursday, June 20, 2019

Mr. Abdellatif Ghedira, Executive Director  
International Olive Council [IOC]

Dear Mr. Abdellatif Ghedira,

Kindly be informed that Dr. Adi Naali, Director of the Olive Department in the Israel Plants Board, is Israel's Head of delegation but due to the fact that he would not be able to arrive to Marrakesh, our representative and delegate to the 109th Meeting of the International Olive Council Meeting, Marrakech - Morocco, 17 - 21 of June 2019 is Mr. Ignazio Castellucci, Senior Lawyer, Adjunct Professor of Private Comparative Law, University of Teramo, Italy.

Sincerely yours,

Yakov Poleg, Director, Foreign Relations Department  
Deputy Director, Foreign Trade Center  
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development *yp*  
P.O.Box 30, Beit Dagan 50250  
ISRAEL

Email [yakovp@moag.gov.il](mailto:yakovp@moag.gov.il)  
Website [www.moag.gov.il](http://www.moag.gov.il)

 Before printing this email, please think about the environment

Cc: Dr. Adi Naali, Director Olive Department, Israel Plants Board

---

, Director  
Department of Foreign Relations  
P.O.Box 30, Beit Dagan 50250, Israel;  
Tel: ++972-3-9485561, Fax: ++972-3-9485870, Email: [regova@moag.gov.il](mailto:regova@moag.gov.il)

---



## ANNEX III - Chronology of events

### Thursday 20 June 2019:

Dr Naali sends a letter to the Executive Secretariat nominating the Israeli representative.

### Friday 21 June 2019: (all times in Marrakech local time)

08.15 the Representative of Israel arrives to hotel and goes to the meeting room. In the room there is no Israeli flag even though the Executive Secretariat had been informed of the Israeli participation.

08.30 The Representative of Israel goes to Executive Secretariat working room to present himself (the same room where the Credential Committee had its meeting)

At 8.52 The Representative of Israel is informed by the Lawyer of the IOC Executive Secretariat that the nomination made by Dr Naali is not considered valid as it is not signed (even though it was signed, and had been sent from Mr Naali's e-mail) nor comes from the Israeli government.

According to the credentials committee report, the designations of the last meetings had been checked. It is totally impossible to start the committee at 8.50, check the documents of the previous meetings and inform the delegate at 8.52 that his designation had not been admitted when it is up to the Council of Members to decide on whether a delegate is or is not admitted to participate at the session.

The Representative of Israel stays out of the room where the committee for the Credential Committee is gathering at close door.

9.06- The Representative of Israel talked by phone to Dr Naali that immediately starts with the arrangements for another letter, this time from the Ministry of Agriculture, to be send to the IOC.

9.37 and 9.42 An e-mail with a an official letter from Mr Yakov Poleg, Director of the Foreign relations department and Deputy Director of Foreign trade center of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development is sent to the IOC Executive Secretariat, where it is confirmed that due to the absence of the Head of Delegation it will be Mr Castellucci the Israeli representative and delegate.



9.37 Mr. Castellucci, officially accredited as representative of Israel, enters Credential Committee meeting room, informs that an e-mail had arrived with an official letter from the Ministry for his designation, but is forced to go.

9.49 Two members from the EU delegation were informed of the situation and informed also their Ministry of the situation.

10.17 The room still doesn't have the Israeli flag.

10.30-10.32 The representatives of the Credential Committee go to the main meeting room. The Representative of Israel follows them but is stopped to enter by three ladies and later plus one man that are at the door that state that they were given instructions not to allow the entrance of Representative of Israel as he has no badge and was not accredited.

Incredibly even before the Council takes a Decision, the Israeli representative is impeached to enter the room.

10.33 The lawyer of the Executive Secretariat goes out and informs for the second time that the Representative of Israel is not admitted

10.34 The session began

10.36 The Representative of Israel informs (phone and e-mail) to Dr. Naali that the plenary session had started and that he had not been allowed to enter.

10.53 The Embassy also sends an e-mail to the IOC with an attached letter authorizing Mr. Castellucci to participate as Israeli representative.

11.04-05 The ladies in the door still do not allow the Representative of Israel to enter

11.04 The representative of Israel writes an e-mail to all persons that received the e-mail of 10.53 from the embassy stating:

“Dear Minister, dear Sirs,  
I am outside the meeting hall and the security personnel don't let me in. I showed them the email from the embassy and the letter attached, to no result.  
Ignazio Castellucci”

11.14: the Embassy informs Mr. Castellucci that is trying to contact someone from the IOC at the session and asks Dr. Castellucci to clarify that he can't be stopped from entering as he had the Israeli designation letter.



11.15 Mr. Castellucci answers the Embassy that he is trying to enter with no success since early in the morning

11.12-11.29 Two staff from the IOC office try to print the written document from the Embassy but apparently can't.

11.29 As they can't print the IOC lawyer is asked to come out to see the embassy's e-mail and designation letter but he does not come out.

11.41 One staff from the IOC office gives Mr. Castellucci the e-mail from the Embassy and the letter printed

11.45-11.47 Mr Castellucci asks one of the ladies to take the documents to the IOC lawyer. She comes out and gives the papers back stating that he could not read them as he was too busy.

11.49 Mr. Castellucci writes a new e-mail to all the persons that received the e-mail of 10.53 stating:

"I just could ask one of the persons at the door to get in and bring copies of the embassy's email and attached letter to the IOC lawyer inside the hall, it seems that he refused to read it, "being too busy"  
Ignazio Castellucci"

11.50 Coffee break.

Mr. Castellucci asks the ladies at the door to take the papers to the lawyer but she refuses stating that he could give the papers when he abandoned the room for coffee break.

11.58 Mr. Castellucci asks one of the ladies from the support office to take the e-mail to the lawyer but she states she is not authorized to do so.

11.58 the Embassy sends another e-mail to all the addresses in copy of the mail of 10.53 stating

"Please keep trying. We are trying too"

12.00 The IOC lawyer goes out of the room to where Castellucci is standing waiting for him, looks the other way and goes away.

12.12 Mr. Castellucci sends his last e-mail stating: "Still trying. All refuse to talk to me, including IOC staff and senior officers".

12.20 Mr. Castellucci tries to talk with the head of the EU delegation that was also at the credential committee but he refuses to talk to him: "Sir I don't know



who you are and why you are talking to me”. Mr. Castellucci states: “who I am is written in this email that I am trying to show you” Head of the UE Delegation states he is not the IOC so he has not to read that mail.