REPORT

FINA APPOINTED TASK FORCE

PART 6 – THE EVENT

1. INTRODUCTION

This part is intended to explain in detail what happened during the event in Fujairah as well as before and after the event.

2. THE ARRIVAL IN THE UAE

Athletes, coaches and team officials arrived in the United Arab Emirates some days before the race through the International Airports of Abu Dhabi and Dubai and were picked up by the Organising Committee and transported by air-conditioned busses to a hotel in Dubai, close to the airport. The FINA Technical Delegate arrived in Dubai on 21/10/2010 at 6.30 in the morning.

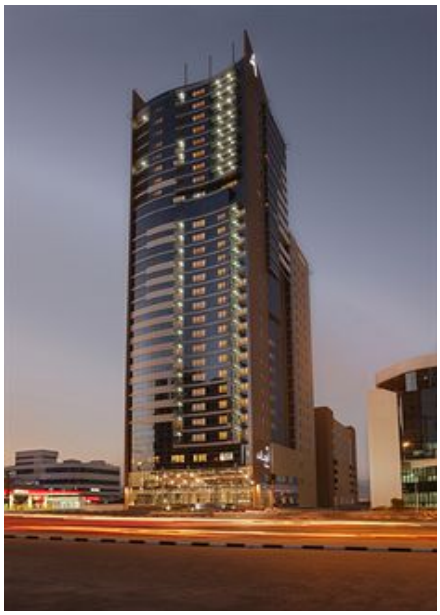
On 21 October 2010 the coaches, athletes and team officials were informed that all was put in place to have the event in Sharjah but that some weeks before the event was held, the UAE Swimming Federation received the message from His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Hamad Al Sharqi, Crown Prince of the Emirate of Fujairah, that he was interested to have the event in his Emirate and that he was willing to assist the Organising Committee, both financially and logistically. H.H. the Crown Prince suggested the event to be hosted in the newly constructed “Banana bay” in the city of Fujairah.

Coaches and athletes were informed that the venue in Fujairah was better because the venue was protected from winds and waves and could easily be supervised. They were informed that the bay was serviced by the Fujairah International Marine Sports Club which could provide all necessary logistics. The Emirates of Fujairah is about a two-hour drive east from Dubai and is located on the Gulf of Oman.

The UAE Swimming Federation issued an e-mail to the FINA Headquarters on Thursday 21 October 2010 at 11:32 hours to inform FINA that the event scheduled on 23 October 2010 was to be moved to Fujairah (see Appendix 10). The Task Force was informed by the Organising Committee that FINA approved by phone the change of venue but no evidence of this acceptance was provided.

The Task Force is of the opinion that it is difficult to adequately host an event when venue changes are made only some days before the event takes place. Contracts are put in place and invitations were mailed well in advance and FINA should try to avoid these wrongdoings in the future. Rules state that venues must be approved 4 months prior.

3. THE ARRIVAL IN FUJAIRAH



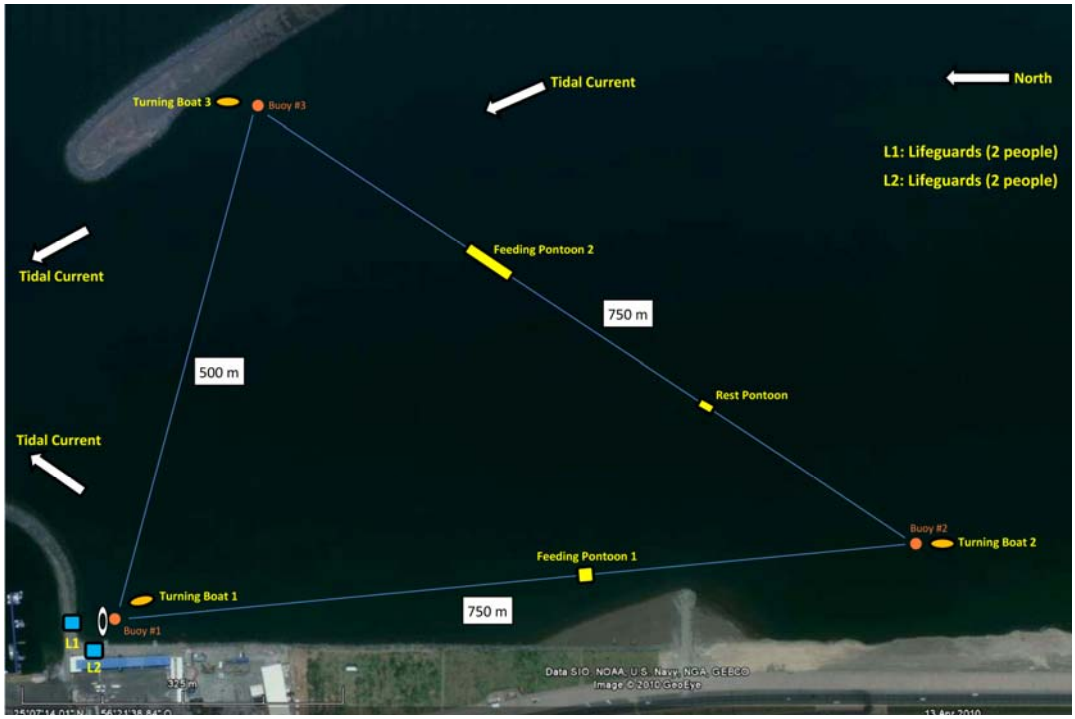
The Technical Delegate, Doping Control Delegate, Referees, Technical Officials, Team Officials and Competitors were transported to Fujairah on the 21 and 22 October 2010 by air-conditioned busses and cars. They were accommodated in a newly constructed Nour Arjaan by Rotana Hotel in Fujairah.

There was no training pool at the disposal of the competitors but they were informed that they could use the swimming pool on the roof of the hotel, which was small in size. Some competitors went to the competition venue in the Banana Bay to look at the venue and some of them trained there in the evening of the 21 October 2010.

On the 22 October 2010, most of the competitors trained in the Banana Bay.

4. THE COURSE SET UP

The competition course was set up by officials from the UAE Swimming Federation under the supervision of Mr Osama Nabil El-Shazly (Egypt), the appointed Safety Officer but also Course Director. Mr El-Shazly is experienced in setting up race courses. The course was installed with one feeding pontoon which was covered by a tent and could host 20-25 coaches, another feeding pontoon between turning buoy 2 and 3 without cover was added after the Technical Meeting, three big turning buoys, several smaller direction buoys in between the turning buoy and one small rest platform between buoy 2 and 3.



The course lay-out.

The UAE Swimming Federation gathered all officials and referees as well as volunteers and helpers to officiate in the event. The appointed officials were partly from the UAE, partly expatriates living in the UAE as well as some overseas experts flown in to the UAE to assist and/or officiate in the Event.

The location was new for all: competitors, coaches, referees and officials. The Organising Committee had less than 24 hours to set up, and did so as best as they could, given the timeframe to ensure that the venue was ready for competition. It is the Task Force's opinion that insufficient time was available for an adequate venue and event risk assessments, briefings and proper pre-event management to be done. The lead-in time to the event was a matter of days and some who worked on the event were called in to help in that very short time frame.

5. THE LACK OF INSPECTION

In the FINA rules, the FINA Technical Delegate is the custodian of the FINA rules. His first and principal mission is to ensure that the FINA Rules and Regulations are applied and respected.

Mr Valerijus Belovas from Lithuania was appointed only a few days before the event to travel to the UAE as Technical Delegate. From what the Task Force understands, he did not fully check essential requirements such as, amongst others, FINA approval of change of venue, safety requirements, availability of training pools and risk management.

He stated to the Task Force that he trusted the UAE Organising Committee that the event was organised in a satisfactorily manner.

6. THE TECHNICAL MEETING

The UAE Swimming Federation organised a pre-race Technical Meeting on the eve of the competition, the 22 October, starting around 18:00 hours. Rather than to organise the meeting in the air-conditioned rooms of the International Marine Club, the meeting was organised outdoors under a covered area which extended out from the Marine Club. Even at this hour the temperature was still uncomfortably high (around 33 degrees Celsius).

The Technical Meeting was run by Mrs Sarah Marks, an Australian expatriate living in the UAE, who was asked to assist the Organising Committee with the event only some days before the start of the World Cup because of her proficiency in English. While the meeting followed a pre-set order, and cold water was supplied to the participants, the location, the lack of light and the heat meant that the athletes in particular were anxious for it to finish.

The officials were introduced by Mrs Sarah Marks (Australia) acting Master of Ceremony. She introduced Mr Valerijus Belovas (Lithuania: FINA Technical Delegate), Dr Mohammed Diop (Senegal: FINA Medical Delegate), Mr Ayman Saad (Egypt: Executive Director of the UAE Swimming Federation) and Mr Osama Nabil El-Shazly (Egypt: Safety Officer). After the presentations, a promotional video about the Emirate of Fujairah was presented.

Following the video each of the swimmers was named and their numbers allocated. After having received their numbers, some of the swimmers chose to leave and return to the much cooler hotel.

Mr Osama Nabil El-Shasly, the Safety Officer for the event was then requested to provide the technical information about the course, the location of the pontoons and the safety provisions. Mr El-Shazly explained the course layout to be triangular, from starting point a 750m leg to the second buoy, then another 750m leg to the third and then one of 500m back to the starting point. There was no pontoon on the last leg of the triangle.

At this point in the Technical Meeting in Fujairah, after many swimmers had left the meeting, some coaches and managers posed questions on the course and its safety and asked for two feeding pontoons to be available and for the second one to be increased in size and to host 30-40 coaches. There was also some concern over the fact that the second pontoon was not covered and therefore not a good place to be for three hours in the heat of the day.

The UAE Organising Committee approved the request from the audience and installed the same evening a second pontoon that could accommodate some 30-40 coaches. The pontoon was however uncovered.

An anti-doping briefing was provided after the course layout information by Dr. Mohamed Diop (Senegal), the FINA Anti-Doping Delegate.

The Organising Committee believed that most people "seemed reasonably happy" with the outcomes of the meeting.

7. THE RACE OFFICIALS

The following race officials were appointed in Fujairah.

FINA Technical Delegate (heard by the Task Force)

The FINA Technical Delegate was Mr Valerijus Belovas (Lithuania). Mr Belovas has an extensive experience in Open Water Swimming and was appointed only a few weeks before the event because the appointed Technical Delegate, Mr Samuel Greetham (United Kingdom) could not travel to the UAE. During the entire competition, the Technical Delegate was following the competitors from an official FINA Boat that was put at his disposal by the Organising Committee.

FINA Anti-Doping Delegate

The FINA Anti-Doping Delegate was Mr Mohamed Diop (Senegal). Mr Diop is a Physician and is member of the FINA Sports Medicine Committee. Dr. Diop followed the competition from the shore and was overseeing the doping control at the event.

Chair of the Organising Committee (heard by the Task Force)

The Chair of the Organising Committee was Ayman Saad (Egypt). Mr Saad is an Egyptian expatriate living in the United Arab Emirates and is the Executive Director of the UAE Swimming Federation. Mr Saad followed the event partly from land and partly from the boat of the Organising Committee.

Communications and Public Relations (heard by the Task Force)

Some days before the start of the competition, Mr Ayman Saad appointed Mrs Sarah Marks as official responsible for Communications, Public Announcements, Public Relations, Medal Ceremonies and overall assistance. Mrs Sarah Marks is an Australian expatriate living in the United Arab Emirates.

Chief Referee, Male Race Referee (heard by the Task Force)

The Chief Referee, who was also acting as a co-course director and male race referee, was Mr Abdulla Mubarak Al-Zahmi (UAE). Mr. Al-Zahmi is an official FINA International Referee (list number 8). He was using a Yamaha jet ski and was constantly accompanying the leading groups of male swimmers. He was equipped with a radio and the necessary signalling flags to warn/reprimand swimmers.

Female Race Referee (heard by the Task Force)

The Female Race Referee was Mr Mohamed Faraj Suleiman Al-Alili (UAE), who is an UAE accredited referee. He was using a Yamaha jet ski and was constantly accompanying the leading groups of female swimmers. He was equipped with a radio and the necessary signalling flags to warn/reprimand swimmers.

Turning Buoy Judges (heard by the Task Force)

There were three turning buoys:

Turning buoy 1 was located at the start finish. It was supervised by;

- Mr Ahmed Moubarak Al-Zahmi (UAE), UAE Referee who acted as the spotter and
- Mr Abdo Kamel El-Gamal (Egypt), an Egyptian Expatriate living in the UAE and UAE Referee who acted as the writer.

Both were positioned in an open boat that was anchored behind the buoy. The boat was driven by a boat driver.

Turning buoy 2 was located at the east side of the Banana Bay. It was supervised by:

- Mr Abdulla Mohamed Abad (UAE), UAE Referee who acted as the spotter and
- Mr Mohamed Idris (UAE), UAE Referee who acted as the writer.

Both were positioned in an open boat that was anchored close to the turning buoy. The boat was driven by a boat driver.

Turning buoy 3 was located at the west side of the Banana Bay, close to the rocks. It was supervised by:

- Mr Obaid Salem Obaid (UAE), UAE Referee who acted as the spotter and
- Mr Mousa Hassan Hatem (UAE), UAE Referee who acted as the writer.

Both were positioned in an open boat that was anchored close to the turning buoy. The boat was driven by a boat driver.

Each boat was equipped with one radio. None of the people in the boats were wearing life jackets or similar and no boat was equipped with first aid and/or CPR equipment.

Pontoon Judges (heard by the Task Force)

- Mr Amr Mohamed Badawi (Egypt), an Egyptian expatriate living in the UAE was appointed as the Pontoon Judge on pontoon 1, located between turning buoy 1 and 2.
- Mr Sorour Khamees Saad (UAE) was appointed as the Pontoon Judge on pontoon 2, located between turning buoy 2 and 3.

Both had a radio at their disposal to communicate with the other officials.

It was noted that several swimmers were using the pontoons as support and were not disqualified. If this was the case, why were the FINA Open Water Swimming Rules not enforced by the pontoon judges?

Arrival Judges and Officials

Sufficient arrival judges were appointed. The Task Force has not requested the names of these people.

8. THE RACE SECURITY BOATS FROM THE COAST GUARD

Three security boats were provide by the Fujairah Coast Guards and tasked to secure the area and to eventually stop boats to enter the Banana Bay. Two of them were anchored outside of the bay and one inside the bay. They had no direct role in the safety of the competitors. Their mission was to mainly guarantee the security against intrusion in the Bay.

9. THE SAFETY AT THE EVENT

Safety Officer

The appointed Safety Officer was Osama Nabil El-Shazly (Egypt), approved FINA Official (list number 5). Mr El-Shazly flew in from Cairo (Egypt) to assist the Organising Committee with safety aspects. Mr El-Shazly has been an event organiser since 2000 and is experienced in organisation of over 20 similar events. He is a certified lifeguard from the Egyptian Diving and Lifesaving Federation. Mr Osama Nabil El-Shazly was at all times accompanying and spotting the swimmers and had a Yamaha jet ski at his disposal. He had a radio at his disposal. He had no life vest and no first aid or rescue equipment on the jet ski.

Deputy Safety Officer

The Deputy Safety Officer was Mr Tamer Ahmed Moustafa, an Egyptian expatriate living in the UAE. Mr Moustafa has no lifeguard certificate. He used the fourth jet ski that was available to occasionally spot swimmers. He had no life vest and no first aid or rescue equipment on the jet ski. The Deputy Safety Officer has neither lifeguard certification nor lifeguard experience.

Lifeguards on land

Mr Osama Nabil El-Shazly (Egypt), the Safety Officer, was informed some time before the Technical Meeting by Mr Aymen Saad, that some 4 to 5 trained lifeguards would be at his disposal. He had no time or possibility to organise a safety briefing because some of the lifeguards were still in Dubai and would only come to Fujairah on the day of the competition.

He was informed that the following lifeguards would be at his disposal:

- Mr Nabil Mohamed MAJARI (Tunisia), a Tunisian expatriate living in the UAE. Mr N. MAJARI has an USA Red Cross Lifeguard Certification.
- Mr Adel ABDELSATTAR (Egypt), an Egyptian expatriate living in the UAE. Mr ABDELSATAR has an USA Red Cross Lifeguard Certification.
- Mr Zubeer Mohamed MAJARI (Tunisia), a Tunisian expatriate living in the UAE and brother of Nabil MAJARI. Mr Z. MAJARI has an USA Red Cross Lifeguard Certification.
- Mr Hisham HAZEM (Egypt), an Egyptian expatriate living in the UAE. Mr HAZEM has an USA Red Cross Lifeguard Certification.

In his report (see Appendix 19), we can read:

- There was one lifeguard station on the North Rocks (this is on the left side of the start/finish area). That station was manned by one lifeguard, namely Hisham Hazem from Egypt.
- There was one lifeguard station on the sandy beach at the start area. That station was manned by two lifeguards: Nabeel Mohamed Majary and his brother Zubeer Majary, both from Tunisia.
- The two above described lifeguard stations were located close to the finish area. One on the left of the finish area (on the rocks) and one on the south of the finish area (on the sandy beach) at less than 100 m distance from each other.

- There were no lifeguard stations on the beach or on the rocks between feeding pontoon 1 and buoy 2 as stated by the Organising Committee and the Technical Delegate.
- There were no lifeguard stations on the rocks behind feeding pontoon 2 as stated by the Organising Committee and the Technical Delegate. The Safety Officer indicated that there was a public lifeguard station on the beach but the lifeguard was not involved in the race safety.
- There was a fourth jet ski available (in the start and finish area) for emergency cases but that was not used to constantly monitor and spot swimmers. That jet ski was sometimes occupied by Tamer Ahmed Moustafa and sometimes by Amir Badawi.
    - There were in total four jet skis available for the race used as follows:
    - One for the male race referee
    - One for the female race referee
    - One for the Safety Officer
    - One as a reserve in case of emergency.
- The following people are certified and trained lifeguards: Osama El-Shazly (Egypt), Amir Badawi (Egypt), Nabil Mohamed Majary (Tunisia), Zubeer Majary (Tunisia) and Hisham Hazem (Egypt).

In relation to safety, only one person on a jet ski was constantly spotting the swimmers (Mr Osama Nabil El-Shazly) while another Safety person on a jet ski was sporadically spotting the swimmers (Mr Tamer Ahmed Moustafa).

In his report the Safety Officer indicated that Mr Amir Badawi was also an appointed lifeguard while from the report of the UAE Swimming Federation we read that Mr. Amir Badawi was the judge on pontoon 1. This makes the Task Force conclude that the Safety Officer had no list available on who would be lifeguards and had no plan available on who of the safety people would do what.

10. BOATS INVOLVED IN THE COMPETITION

Complementary to the above two referee jet skis, there was:

- One boat for the FINA Technical Delegate.
- One boat for the Organising Committee.
- One boat to bring the coaches to the feeding pontoons and back to the harbour.
- Three boats to be posted at each of the three turning buoys. Each turning buoy boat was manned by two national turn judges and a boat driver.

None of the occupants of the boats had life vests. All above described boats were not related to the safety of the competitors while it should be noted that the occupants were looking at the swimmers and could alarm people in case of observed problems.

11. THE PRE RACE TIME

Google Map of the City of Fujairah (UAE)

The competitors were transported from the hotel to the Fujairah Marina in an air-conditioned bus. The distance between the hotel and the venue is some 4.0 km and was covered in some 7 minutes. The competitors were dropped on the parking of the Fujairah International Marine Club and stepped to the air-conditioned tent. The air temperature in the tent was still quite high because the air conditioning was not turned on sufficiently early. They started to prepare for the competition and applied their numbers to their shoulders and back.

12. THE RACE

At around 10.00 the men started their race and five minutes later the women started their race. 51 men and 26 women started, making a field of 77 competitors. Some four swimmers (three men and one women) withdrew from the race because of several reasons.

The race set up was as follows: the male competitors were always accompanied by the male race referee who was on a jet ski with radio and signalling flags and was always positioned in front of the pack. The female competitors were always accompanied by the female race referee who was on a jet ski with radio and signalling flags and was always positioned in front of the pack. The Safety Officer was on a jet ski and was moving from the male pack to the female pack.

The race was normal without noticeable irregularities. Francis Crippen was seen to be in the lead group all the time. After 7,500 m, however it was reported that he lost the contact with the lead group.

On the last pontoon, Francis Crippen was seen by Mr Aleksandr Beresnyev, a Russian coach and father of Beresnevoj Olga, a female participant in Fujairah. In his statement (see Appendix 37), Mr Beresnyev writes that he as well as coaches Fesenko and Yevseyev saw Francis Crippen swimming very slowly, which was not his habit. During the same time the attention on the people of the pontoon was distracted by the boat willing to bring the coaches from the second pontoon to the shore. He answered the boat driver that the female competitors were arriving and that only after having assisted his daughter, he would step into the boat. He feels very sorry that his attention was distracted.

13. THE ARRIVAL

The first male competitors arrived at 11:54 and the first female swimmer arrived at 12:05. After the first arrivals, the FINA Technical Delegate and Organising Committee boat headed to the adjacent harbour. After the final arrivals, people responsible for registering the finish left the finish pontoons.

Some competitors needed assistance because of heat exhaustion and the attention of the people was focussed on these competitors. Thomas Lurz of Germany who won the event admitted the weather conditions were very hot. Eugeny Drattsen of Russia who finished second admitted he had never swum in such hot conditions before.

14. THE TIMINGS

The reconstruction of the timings (in blue: best estimates) is given hereunder:

10:00 Start of the Men's race.

10:05 Start of the Women's race.

11:54 Finish of the first male competitor (Thomas Lurz from Germany)

12:05 Finish of the first female competitor (Swann Oberon from Switzerland)

12:21 Finish of the last male competitor (Amer Essa Bahri from the UAE)

12:26 Finish of the last female competitor (Merna Mohamed Amin Ahmed from Egypt)

12:05 After the finish of the men's and women's main groups, the Technical Delegate's boat docked and he returned to shore. He did not wait until the last swimmer arrived. Some athletes displayed signs and complained of symptoms consistent with that of heat exhaustion and dehydration. Some competitors were called to the doping control.

12:10 Alex Meyer~~s~~ (USA), who had not raced, noticed that Francis Crippen had not arrived. Alex asked the race officials if Francis Crippen has been disqualified or withdrew. They could not yet answer the questions. At this point Alex Meyer approached an official with a jet ski and they both went out to search the course. At this time, two loops of the course were done. Alex reports that at one point he saw a male swimmer in the distance whom he thought may have been

Francis Crippen, but reports that the driver of the jet ski refused to move closer to the swimmer to verify, as it would have “interfered with the race”.

12:30 to 13:15 Upon returning to the shore, Alex notified Jack Fabian (father of USA swimmer Eva Fabian), and he and other officials then also started searching the course on jet skis. There was no coordinated approach to this search. A general panic started to unfold, which saw athletes enter the water to start their own search. Whilst athletes were frantically swimming and diving around the course, there were several jet skis traveling at high speed also looking for Francis Crippen. Given this chaotic scenario it was lucky that no other people were injured.

Prior to the organisers sending jet skis out to search, it was first considered that Francis Crippen had chosen to go straight back to the hotel or had gone to the hospital without notifying anyone. One witness noticed that effort had been put into contacting the team hotel and the hospital to which other swimmers had been taken. The fact that Francis Crippen had not been accounted for by the race officials and finish judges together with the fact that his gear was still where he had left it and that his fellow team mates had grave concerns for his safety should have been evidence enough to raise immediate action.

The search was primarily concentrated on the area after feeding pontoon 2 up to the finish area.

It was obvious that there was no defined Search and Rescue or Emergency Action Plans in place. Mrs Sarah Marks later informed the Task Force that there was a definite lack of communication amongst the organisers and delegates and a large degree of panic which resulted in blame being directed at each other. It was also stated that Mr Valerijus Belovas, the FINA Technical Delegate, did not take control of the situation and was observed to be standing there, content in leaving the operations in the hands of the Organising Committee despite there being a definite lack of direction and action being undertaken.

There are circumstantial reports against the attitude of Mr Valerijus Belovas (Lithuania) appointed FINA Technical Delegate. These reports described that he did not respond to the emergency situation as would be expected from the official FINA Technical Delegate. It was reported that he was unwilling to get past his position of "all down to organisers, nothing to do with FINA" and “we have followed the rules”.

In an e-mail that Valerijus Belovas sent later to the TOWSC, he acknowledges that there are deficiencies in the way that events are run and that there needs to be reviews and changes made.

This comment in itself raises serious concerns as to the safety and professionalism in which FINA World Cup and Grand Prix events are conducted in general.

13:01 The report of the Fujairah Hospital states that Mr Allan Do Carmo from Brazil was brought to the Fujairah Hospital by ambulance and was given intravenous fluid therapy and was discharged from the Hospital on 24/10/2010.

13:24 The report of the Fujairah Hospital states that Ms Christine Jennings from the USA was brought to the Fujairah Hospital and was given intravenous fluid therapy and was discharged from the Hospital some hours later on 23/10/2010 (around 16:00-17:00 hours).

13:25 The report of the Fujairah Hospital states that Mss Eva Fabian from the USA was brought to the Fujairah Hospital and was given intravenous fluid therapy and was discharged from the Hospital some hours later on 23/10/2010 (around 16:00-17:00 hours).

13:25 After one hour, two coast guard boats left the adjacent yacht club with divers and lifeguards and arrived on the spot. Swimmers, who were still searching, were requested to leave the water in order to allow the Coast Guard to organise a Search and Rescue with divers.

13:55 Divers recover the body of Francis Crippen and lifted him into the Coast Guard boat. CPR is attempted by the lifeguards on board. Francis Crippen was reported to be found at a depth of 6-7 meters under water some two hours later. He was wearing his goggles.

14:05 The Coast Guard boat with the body of Francis Crippen arrived in the Yacht Club. There was no CPR performed at that time. He was lifted on a stretcher and his body and head was covered with a white sheet. Alex Meyer, his teammate in the company of Petar Stoychev, swimmer, could reach the stretcher and removed the sheet from the head of Francis.

14:15 The ambulance with the body of Francis Crippen leaves the parking place of the Fujairah International Marine Club.

14:25 The report of the Fujairah Hospital states that Mr Francis Edward Crippen from the USA was brought in dead to the Fujairah Hospital.

15. THE TIMING GIVEN BY THE TECHNICAL DELEGATE

The following timings were provided by the Technical Delegate in his report (See Appendix 12).

12:10 After the finish of the men and women main groups, the Technical Delegate went out from the water. The Technical Delegate did not wait until the last swimmer arrived.

12:15 The Technical Delegate writes in his report that he was informed at that time that Francis Crippen had not finish the race.

12:15 The Technical Delegate writes in his report that the Organising Committee was already searching for Francis Crippen on 12:15.

12:25 The Technical Delegate writes in his report that the Coast Guards with divers were sent out for Francis Crippen.

The Task Force is of the opinion that the timings given by the Technical Delegate in his report cannot be considered as a true record. This may be because it is likely he was not looking at his watch every moment to keep track of time and thus in the report felt an estimation of time was appropriate. It is not necessarily an effort to hide facts. It was confirmed by swimmers/coaches that the divers did not arrive until at least 1 hour later.

16. THE HOSPITAL

In total, three swimmers were taken to the Fujairah hospital alive and one swimmer was taken to the hospital not alive.

Dr Subash C. Gautam of the Fujairah Hospital issued a report related to the four patients brought to the Accident and Emergency Department of the Fujairah Hospital. The report is given in Appendix 24.

16.1. Allan Do Carmo (BRA)

The report of the Fujairah Hospital states that Mr Allan Do Carmo from Brazil was brought to the Fujairah Hospital by ambulance due to exhaustion and was given intravenous fluid therapy and was discharged from the Hospital on 24/10/2010.

16.2. Christine Jennings (USA)

The report of the Fujairah Hospital states that Ms Christine Jennings from the USA was brought to the Fujairah Hospital and was given intravenous fluid therapy and was discharged from the Hospital some hours later on 23/10/2010 (around 16:00-17:00 hours).

Ms Christine Jennings (USA) was among those who emerged from the race in a poor physical condition. She had waved for assistance on the last leg and had rolled onto her back to rest. No reaction by safety officers or lifeguards was given to the signals of distress, and it was reported to the Task Force that her signalling was not seen. She decided to continue swimming. She was taken to the ambulance but decided she did not need their assistance and was helped back to the air-conditioned tent. Mrs Sarah Marks, who happened to be a trained first aider saw Ms Christine Jennings try to walk to the tent, and offered assistance. Christine was taken to the tent, laid down and given ice and cold water to cool her down; her pulse and respiration were monitored. After some time Sarah Marks and Greg Towle could convince her to go to hospital as she felt her recovery would be faster if Ms Christine Jennings were to be given medical attention. After further strong encouragement to go Ms Christine Jennings agreed and despite having a stretcher there chose to walk to the ambulance. The Report of Ms Christine Jennings is given in Appendix 31.

16.3. Eva Fabian (USA)

The report of the Fujairah Hospital states that Ms Eva Fabian from the USA was brought to the Fujairah Hospital with a history of dizziness and muscular cramps and was given intravenous fluid therapy. She was discharged from the Hospital some hours later on 23/10/2010 (around 16:00-17:00 hours).

17. THE FIRST AUTOPSY OF FRANCIS CRIPPEN

One day after the tragic accident, on 24/10/2010, a limited autopsy was done on Francis Crippen by Dr. Osman Abdul Hamid Awad, Forensic Consultant of Fujairah on behalf of the Fujairah Court. The Forensic Medical Report is given in Appendix 16.

A death Certificate was produced by the UAE Ministry of Health – Department of Preventive Medicine. The Death Certificate is given in Appendix 23.

After reviewing the papers issued by the Forensic Consultant, Mr Saeed Khalfan Issa Alzbahi, Attorney General of Fujairah on behalf of the Court issued a letter to permit the release of the body of Francis Crippen to his family. The Report of the Attorney General is given in Appendix 17.

Death certificates and autopsy reports were made in Arabic and translated into English.

The body was release for transport and ultimately transported back to his hometown Conshohocken in the USA.

18. THE SECOND AUTOPSY OF FRANCIS CRIPPEN

On the request of the Crippen family, Francis Crippen underwent an extensive autopsy report provided by Mr. Ian C. Hood, MB, ChB, Forensic Pathologist (USA). The Report of the second autopsy is given in Appendix 30.

The results of the autopsies as well as more details thereof, including the cause of death, is given in Part 7 of this report.

19. CONCLUSION

From the above, the Task Force concludes:

- There was a lack of safety measures and effective vigilance over the swimmers.
- There was no effective system in place to monitor swimmers who appeared to be in distress.
- There was a lack of safety plan and search and rescue plan once a swimmer was noticed to be missing.
- There was a general lack of authority shown by the FINA Technical Delegate.