

WELO Governing Committee Meeting
World English Language Olympics

Date: 25 February 2026
Time: 13:30–15:00 (UK time)
Location: Virtual
Chair: Juan M. Elizande Sanchez
Secretary-General: Slavas Palkevicius

13:30–13:35 – Welcome and Opening

Presenter: Juan M. Elizande Sanchez, WELO Chair

- Welcome
 - Confirmation of quorum
 - Approval of agenda
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13:35–13:45 – WELO Phase 2 Presentation

Presenter: Juan M. Elizande Sanchez, WELO Chair

- Key developments since previous Governing Committee meeting
 - Phase 2 objectives and structural framework
 - Governance consolidation
 - Strategic priorities
 - Transition pathway toward Phase 3
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13:45–14:00 – WELO Platform Integration (WELO.org)

Presenter: Slavas Palkevicius, WELO Secretary-General

- WELO.org as the official global platform
 - Website structure and architecture
 - Registration flow (schools, students, representatives)
 - User journey and access logic
 - Data security and rollout timeline
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14:00–14:15 – WELO Finals: Structure and Disciplines

Presenter: Berenice Oliva, WELO Head of Business Development

- Structural model of the World Finals
 - Disciplines framework
 - Competition progression logic
 - Age categories and evaluation coherence
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14:15–14:30 – WELO National Committees

Presenter: Slavas Palkevicius, WELO Secretary-General

- National appointment status
 - Committee formation progress
 - Operational readiness overview
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14:30–14:40 – LearnRight: Integrity & Verification Framework

Presenter: Slavas Palkevicius, WELO Secretary-General

- LearnRight integration within WELO
 - Academic integrity model
 - Verification and anti-cheating structure
 - Alignment with Phase 2 and Finals
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14:40–14:50 – WELO Ongoing Projects

Presenter: Berenice Oliva, WELO Head of Business Development

- Academic framework development
 - Assessment coordination
 - Discipline refinement
 - Operational priorities
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14:50–15:00 – Open Q&A, Decisions & Closing

- Questions from Governing Committee members
- Confirmation of key decisions
- Assignment of action points
- Confirmation of next meeting date

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING COMMITTEE MEETING

World English Language Olympics (WELO)**Date:** 25 February 2026**Location:** Virtual**Chair:** Juan M. Elizande Sanchez**Secretary-General:** Slavas Palkevicius

1. Opening of the Meeting

The meeting was formally opened by the Chair, Juan M. Elizande Sanchez.

- Quorum was confirmed with **15 members present**.
- The agenda was approved without amendments.

The Chair acknowledged the progress achieved during the previous development cycle and outlined the purpose of the meeting.

2. Phase 2 Presentation and Closure

The Chair presented a summary of developments achieved since the previous Governing Committee meeting and reviewed the structural objectives of Phase 2.

Key areas highlighted:

- Governance consolidation under the official Charter
- Strategic alignment of committees
- Structural integration across participating countries
- Preparation for operational execution

Following discussion, the Committee agreed that **Phase 2 objectives have been fulfilled**.

Decision:

Phase 2 of WELO development is formally closed.

3. Transition to Phase 3

The Secretary-General presented the transition pathway toward Phase 3.

Phase 3 was defined as:

- Structured global execution

- Platform-led coordination
- Operational readiness across participating countries
- International visibility and activation

The Committee approved the formal entry into **Phase 3 – Structured Global Execution**.

4. WELO.org Platform Integration

The Secretary-General presented the structure and rollout of WELO.org.

It was confirmed that:

- WELO.org will serve as the official global platform
- The website integrates registration flows for schools and students
- The platform includes structured access logic and secure data handling
- The global platform will go live on **3 March**

The Committee approved the platform launch.

5. WELO World Finals 2027

The Committee formally confirmed:

- The **Royal Hospital School (England)** as the location for the WELO World Finals 2027
- The official **disciplines framework** for the World Finals

The confirmation of disciplines was recognised as a major milestone, providing academic clarity and structural coherence for national competitions and the global final stage.

Berenice Oliva expressed appreciation for the Committee's confirmation of both the Finals venue and the disciplines framework, noting that this decision represents a significant step forward in operational maturity.

6. National Committees Update

The Secretary-General presented an overview of national appointment status and committee formation progress.

It was confirmed that:

- **41 countries are participating within the WELO framework during its first operational year.**
- National Committees are progressing toward operational readiness.
- Agencies of varying scale are forming structured national bodies.

Examples acknowledged:

- Language Kingdom joining forces within the Spanish framework
- Crown Education joining the Turkish structure

The Committee noted the importance of balanced participation from both established and emerging agencies.

7. LearnRight – Integrity & Verification Framework

The LearnRight item was introduced for discussion.

Due to the involvement of a German-based accreditation body currently reviewing structural and compliance considerations, the Committee agreed to defer detailed discussion.

Decision:

The LearnRight strategic alignment review will be moved to a future meeting agenda pending further documentation and clarification.

8. Ongoing Projects

Updates were provided regarding:

- Academic framework development
- Assessment coordination
- Discipline refinement
- Operational priorities for Phase 3

No formal motions were raised under this item.

9. Decisions Confirmed

The following decisions were confirmed:

1. Closure of Phase 2
2. Formal transition into Phase 3
3. Launch of WELO.org on 3 March
4. Confirmation of Royal Hospital School as WELO Finals 2027 venue
5. Confirmation of the World Finals disciplines framework
6. Acknowledgment of 41 participating countries
7. Postponement of LearnRight discussion

All decisions were approved with no objections recorded.

10. Closing of Meeting

The Chair thanked members for their engagement and commitment.

The meeting was formally adjourned.

Next meeting date: To be confirmed.