



Via Electronic Mail

July 20, 2016

Sir Philip Craven, President
 International Paralympic Committee
 Adenauerallee 212-214
 53113 Bonn
 Germany

Dear President Craven:

As you know, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) President has personally expressed the intention of the IOC to comprehensively and appropriately address the documented findings of a State-directed, Russian effort to win-at-all costs. This Russian effort has undermined the values of Olympism and the integrity of international sport, including by directly corrupting the results of the two most recent Olympic and Paralympic Games. As a community of National Anti-Doping Organizations, who, like you, are committed to clean sport and the wellbeing of the Olympic and Paralympic Movements, we applaud the IOC Executive Board for the resolved expressed in its 19 July 2016 Statement to “take the toughest sanctions

available” in response to the findings of Prof. Richard McLaren detailed in the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Independent Person (IP) Report released on Monday of this week.

Due to the seriousness of the findings made in the IP Report, the IOC’s commitment to take the toughest sanctions available is exactly the type of leadership required in order to set the standard for international sport and ensure that no country’s government or Olympic program may ever again act with such willful disregard for the values of clean sport. We write to you to ask for a similar commitment from the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) to protect the rights of all athletes to compete at a Paralympic Games free of the specter of state sponsored doping and subversion of anti-doping processes. The leadership of the IPC in not tolerating institutionalized, government run doping and abuse of athletes will set the legacy of the Paralympic Games for generations to come.

As previously expressed to President Bach, we support the IOC Executive Board’s decision to enact legal consequences under the Olympic Charter and World Anti-Doping Code based on the findings in the IP Report.¹

However, as recognized in the IOC’s Statement, the decisions of the IOC Executive Board are an initial response only and do not constitute the “toughest sanctions available” to the IOC. Nor, as the IOC has recognized, do the announced sanctions represent a complete and fully commensurate response to the “shocking and unprecedented attack on the integrity of sports and on the Olympic Games.”

We believe, in light of the evidence in the IP Report regarding the direct involvement of Paralympic Sport in Russia, that a full and complete response to the circumstances detailed in the IP Report must include a determination regarding the status of the Russian Paralympic Committee at the Rio Games and include a final determination regarding the eligibility of Russian Paralympic athletes to compete in the Rio Olympic Games. Given the urgency of this matter and the interest of Paralympic athletes in having clarity and finality concerning these issues, we urge you and the IPC to take prompt action on these eligibility questions.

In light of the strength of the IP Report which the IOC, WADA and the Olympic Movement (including the IFs and numerous athlete organizations) have fully accepted, we believe it is

¹ Those actions enacted by the IOC EB, include:

- (1) not giving patronage to any sports event or meeting in Russia;
- (2) not granting accreditation to any official of the Russian Ministry of Sport or any person implicated in the IP Report; and
- (3) asking winter sport International Federations (IFs) to freeze preparations for major events in Russia (however, given the extensive involvement in cheating and subversions of anti-doping processes related to summer sports- seems as if this ban should apply across summer sports as well.

appropriate and necessary for the IPC Governing Board to take decisive action to uphold the integrity of the Rio Paralympic Games. As a consequence, we call upon the IPC to exercise its leadership authority under the IPC Constitution and take the following steps in response to the IP Report to protect the Rio Paralympic Games:

- (1) Suspend the Russian Paralympic Committee (RPC) and exclude it from the Rio Paralympic Games;
- (2) As a consequence of the suspension of the RPC, provisionally deny entry to all Russian athletes nominated by the RPC to participate in the Rio Paralympic Games; and
- (3) Establish a working group to apply a uniform set of criteria to determine whether individual Russian athletes should be permitted to participate in the Rio Paralympic Games under a neutral flag; thereby striking a fair balance between collective responsibility and individual justice so that no truly clean elite Russian Paralympic athlete is barred from the Rio Paralympic Games.

Anything less than these three (3) outcomes is not a reasonable and proportionate measure given the circumstances caused by the Russian state run doping program that corrupted the past two Olympic and Paralympic Games. Accordingly, we urge you and the IPC Governing Board to promptly implement these measures.

With respect to the issue of whether there are individual Russian athletes who should be permitted to compete in the Rio Paralympic Games notwithstanding the suspension of the Russian Paralympic Committee, we agree that this should be evaluated on a case by case basis.

It is apparent that any such individualized analysis must, at this point, be conducted by an internal working group created by the IPC, which the IP has the authority to do under Article 5.4 and 6.1 of the IPC Constitution. There is simply insufficient time remaining before the Rio Paralympic Games to delegate this task to separate international sport organizations. Moreover, there is the risk that a decentralized process implemented at this late date would be subject to inevitable disparities and inconsistencies which would further undermine the WADA Code goal of having a uniform, harmonized world anti-doping program.

We believe that the foregoing is the most efficient, logical and effective way to protect the values of Olympism and the integrity of the Paralympic Games and we stand ready to assist the IPC in any way you may require to implement what we are proposing. For instance, a number of our organizations have individuals participating on the WADA –IOC Pre-Games Testing Task Force and we are willing to make them available to the IPC during the period of the lead up to the Paralympic Games to conduct the assessment of individual athletes. If there is any other way we can be of assistance to the IPC to address these urgent issues please let us know.

This is a defining moment for the Olympic and Paralympic Movements that we all cherish and support through our daily work as your partners in clean sport. As time is of the essence, we

trust that you and the IPC Governing Board will move forward expeditiously on these requests and we stand ready to assist in any way possible.

Sincerely,

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Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport

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