

03 May 2024 # 344-HK/5126/10



Mr. Thomas BACH, IOC President

Mr. Thomas KONIETZKO, President of the International Canoe Federation

Dear Sirs,

The National Olympic Committee of Ukraine, the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine and the Ukrainian Canoe Federation express their respect to you and inform you about the following.

We would like to reiterate the unchanging position of Ukraine that amid the still ongoing unprecedented brutal military aggression of the russian federation, with the support of the republic of belarus, against Ukraine the representatives of the aggressor states must not be present at the international sports arenas in any status.

We wish to inform you that it has come to our attention that the teams (doubles) of russian and belarusian athletes - both men's and women's —received the permission for the participation in a neutral status in the European Olympic qualifiers in kayak and canoe scheduled to take place in Seged, Hungary, on May 8-9, 2024. These participants represent the russian federation and the republic of belarus respectively: Uladzislau Kravets, Dzmitry Natynchyk, Vitaly Ershov, Maxim Spesivtsev, Anastasiia Dolgova, Svetlana Chernigovskaya, Mikhail Pavlov, Veranika Leaniuk, Maryia Kavalenka.

We are deeply concerned by this development and hereby request to address this breach of the conditions set by the IOC for the admittance of teams of athletes from the russian federation and the republic of belarus in a neutral status to the Olympic selection process.

The recommendations of the IOC make clear that teams of athletes with a Russian or Belarusian passport cannot be considered. In other sports the participation of teams (duets in artistic swimming or crews - pairs, fours - in rowing) is not permitted.

We ask you to consider this information and take any possible actions within your authority to prevent the participation of teams of Russian and Belarusian athletes in international competitions, including the European Olympic Qualifiers and other qualification tournaments for the Olympic Games.

We would like to reiterate Ukraine's steadfast stance. As long as Russian troops, with the support of the Belarusian government, continue to commit brutal war against the Ukrainian people, Russian and Belarusian athletes must be banned from participating in any international competitions in any, including neutral, status.

We rely on your solidarity with the Ukrainian Olympic sports movement.

Sincerely,

Vadym GUTTSAIT

President of the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine

Matviy BIDNYI

Acting Minister for Youth and Sports of Ukraine Igor SLIVINSKYI

President of Ukrainian Canoe Federation