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To all IDO-Member Federations

Vice President Ambassador Asia / Asia-Pacific & Africa

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Hamburg, May 19, 2014

Cancelled Event in Arandjelovac, Serbia, due to State Emergency

Dear friends and members of IDO,

On behalf of the IDO Presidium we have to confirm that the IDO Presidium had to cancel the IDO European Jazz, Modern- and Ballet Championships which were scheduled to be held in Arandjelovac, Serbia, from May 29 to June 1, 2014 for the reason that a **state emergency** has been proclaimed in that region due to terrible floods and high waters and possibly following diseases. Since many people have lost their homes, streets are flooded and bridges are in crashes, it is impossible to organize and conduct the scheduled event as planned.

First of all, the IDO Presidium wishes to express its great sympathy with all those people who are directly affected by this tragedy. We are also in sympathy with all those who had prepared and planned to attend the IDO event which now had to be cancelled and postponed to a later date.

To all those who are directly or indirectly affected by such cancellation, the IDO Presidium would like to give the following advice:

- The proclamation of a state emergency due to the flooding is a case of Force Majeure under which the IDO Presidium represented by the IDO Vice President and Sport and Competition Director Fiona Johnson Kocjančič was not only legally entitled but forced to cancel the event scheduled for time from May 29 to June 1, 2014.
- 2. Unfortunately, it is not possible to hold the IDO European Jazz, Modern- and Ballet Championships in the time from May 29 to June 1, 2014 in any other venue in the Beograd region, since the state of emergency which was proclaimed in the region of Arandjelovac not only affects that region. Rather, most of our friends in Serbia and many people which would be required to conduct such an event in the Beograd region are personally affected by this tragedy and therefore not in a position to prepare and conduct an IDO event. And, to make it still worse, present news are that barriers of rivers in Croatia do not hold, which will make the situation even worse in the whole region there is also the fear of disease following such a tragedy.



- 3. While the IDO Presidium has taken care of a cancellation of the venue for the scheduled event, we ask all IDO members who have made bookings with hotels or other accommodation facilities to immediately cancel those reservations for the reason of Force Majeure. If there is a problem, please contact the Organizer, *Miodrag Kastratovic* to try to assist you. You may find his contacts in the IDO-website under the postponed competition.
- 4. For the same reason, all national members are asked to immediately cancel all transportation arrangements which have been made for the benefit of participants.
- 5. In order to inform all participants and potential participants of the event, the IDO Presidium has immediately published the cancellation of this event on the IDO website and through IDO-Facebook. Nevertheless, we ask you to contact all participants and potential participants of this event and to inform them that they have to cancel all accommodation and transportation arrangements which individual participants have already made. We regret that although this is clearly a case of Force Majeure, a cancellation of bookings, in particular flight connections, may not give a claim for reimbursement in the relation between individual participants and airlines or hotels. We can offer that the IDO Presidium will issue an official confirmation to individual participants (upon request) that the event has been cancelled for the reason of Force Majeure if this may help individuals to negotiate a reimbursement of costs. However, we believe that presenting this letter with the reference to the notice on the IDO website should be sufficient.

If you need any additional information or advice, please feel free to contact either Fiona Johnson Kocjančič or myself.

With best regards,

Michael Wendt