



To CMAS Board of Directors

9<sup>th</sup> June 2023

We have recently found out that CMAS has opened participation again for Russian and Belarusian athletes in international CMAS championships under “CMAS1” and “CMAS2.” As far as we know, the CMAS Freediving Worldchampionship in Kuwait 8.-13.5.2023 was the first CMAS event where they were allowed to participate. Their participation had been suspended since March 2022. CMAS published a press release 6<sup>th</sup> March 2022 about the suspension. <https://www.cmas.org/news/cmas-official-statement>

We are now missing communication about the return of these athletes. In our opinion good governance including transparency is essential when dealing with issues of this importance. CMAS has published on its website 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023: “CMAS BoD approved to implement the IOC and the United Nations guidance regarding Russian and Belarusian athletes.” <https://www.cmas.org/sport/during-the-bod-223-meeting-held-on-11th-february-it-was-unanimously-approved-to-implement-the-ioc-and-the> . We haven't seen/received any official communication from CMAS after this. In CMAS General Assembly 8<sup>th</sup> April the topic was briefly discussed on general level.

The IOC published on March 28<sup>th</sup> 2023 a press release giving strict guidelines how the return of athletes with a Russian or Belarusian passport to the international sport competitions should be done, if the international federation should make the decision of accepting their return. The requirements highlight that the athletes need to be Individual Neutral Athletes. In the IOC recommendations is clearly stated that Teams of athletes with a Russian or Belarusian passport cannot be considered.

<https://olympics.com/ioc/news/ioc-issues-recommendations-for-international-federations-and-international-sports-event-organisers>

In CMAS General Assembly in Belgrade CMAS executives pointed out that if CMAS will not follow the IOC recommendations finding a way to let Russia and Belarus athletes rejoin international sport events this could be harmful for CMAS's attempt for entering Olympic program one day. Registration for the Finswimming Junior Worldchampionship 2023 in Cairo shows us that there are teams registered in all relays, girls, boys and mixed teams under “CMAS1.” In our opinion this is violating strongly the recommendations of the IOC about not letting teams enter, that is teams consisting of athletes with Russian or Belarusian passports. We should only see Neutral Individual Athletes in the competitions, who fulfill everything that the IOC has listed in their recommendation 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

In the entries for the Finswimming Junior WC2023 Cairo we can see the following Team-registrations:

CMAS1-CMAS1 UNDERWATER FEDERATION(CMAS1), CMAS1 (CMAS1)	CMAS1-CMAS1 UNDERWATER FEDERATION(GORELOV, EGOROV, KHLYNOSKII, GAIVAK)	/ MIN:02/ SEC:26/ HUN:21/ YEAR:2023-03- 23/ PLACE:TOMSK/ OOR:FALSE	4X100M SF MEN JUNIORS
CMAS1-CMAS1 UNDERWATER FEDERATION(CMAS1), CMAS1 (CMAS1)	CMAS1-CMAS1 UNDERWATER FEDERATION(PESHKOV, EGOROV, KHLYNOSKII, SHCHETOV)	/ MIN:05/ SEC:39/ HUN:37/ YEAR:2023-03- 23/ PLACE:TOMSK/ OOR:FALSE	4X200M SF MEN JUNIORS
CMAS1-CMAS1 UNDERWATER FEDERATION(CMAS1), CMAS1 (CMAS1)	CMAS1-CMAS1 UNDERWATER FEDERATION(SAPRYKINA, BARABANOVA, MISHUSTINA,	/ MIN:06/ SEC:10/ HUN:37/ YEAR:2023-03- 23/ PLACE:TOMSK/	4X200M SF WOMEN JUNIORS
CMAS1-CMAS1 UNDERWATER FEDERATION(CMAS1), CMAS1 (CMAS1)	UNDERWATER FEDERATION(ALKHIMOVA, TIMCHENKO, ARZAMASTSEVA, BARABANOVA)	SEC:42/ HUN:14/ YEAR:2023-03- 23/ PLACE:TOMSK/ OOR:FALSE	4X100M SF WOMEN JUNIORS
CMAS1-CMAS1 UNDERWATER FEDERATION(CMAS1), CMAS1 (CMAS1)	CMAS1-CMAS1 UNDERWATER FEDERATION(BALABAN, ISAKOV, TREGUBOVA, PANTINA)	/ MIN:03/ SEC:05/ HUN:56/ YEAR:2023-03- 23/ PLACE:TOMSK/ OOR:FALSE	4X100M BF MIXED JUNIORS
CMAS1-CMAS1 UNDERWATER FEDERATION(CMAS1), CMAS1 (CMAS1)	CMAS1-CMAS1 UNDERWATER FEDERATION(GORELOV, EGOROV, ALKHIMOVA, ARZAMASTSEVA)	/ MIN:01/ SEC:09/ HUN:22/ YEAR:2023-03- 23/ PLACE:TOMSK/ OOR:FALSE	4X50M SF MIXED JUNIORS

We would like CMAS to clarify the following things and see this being communicated to all CMAS members:

- 1) Which body does the athlete reports required by the IOC (about neutrality)?
- 2) On which criteria this body decides that the athlete has no connections to military or national security agencies? IOC requires clearly that athletes who are contracted to the Russian or Belarusian military or national security agencies cannot compete.
- 3) How does CMAS control that the IOC requirements for the antidoping are fulfilled?
- 4) When and where has the official decision being done of letting the Russian and Belarusian athletes to rejoin the CMAS sport events?
- 5) According to the current IOC recommendations Teams consisting of athletes with Russian or Belarusian passports shouldn't be entering international sport event, only Individual Neutral

Athletes. Having Team entries for participating in a relay violates this. Will CMAS accept Team entries to relays in Finswimming championships or other CMAS Championships teams competitions consisting of athletes with Russian/Belarusian passports?

Yours sincerely,



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