

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE  
AND  
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF SPORTS FOR THE DEAF**

A. WHEREAS the International Olympic Committee (**IOC**) and the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (**ICSD**) share the same objective of promoting physical and sporting activities for the well-being of society;

B. WHEREAS the ICSD is the global governing body for deaf sport. Its purpose is to organise events and multi-sport competitions for deaf athletes;

C. WHEREAS the ICSD, as an organisation recognised by the IOC, shall comply at all times with the Olympic Charter, the IOC Code of Ethics and the Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance of the Olympic and Sports Movement, as well as contribute to the Olympic Movement's goal of *"building a peaceful and better world by educating youth through sport practised in accordance with Olympism and its values"*;

D. WHEREAS Recommendation 7 of Olympic Agenda 2020 calls for strengthening relationships with organisations managing sport for people with different abilities, with a view to exploiting synergies in all possible areas.

**NOW THEREFORE**, in consideration of the foregoing, the IOC and the ICSD (hereafter individually referred to as a **"Party"** and collectively as the **"Parties"**) hereby enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (**MOU**), which describes the status of the ICSD and recognises the relationship between the IOC and the ICSD, and hereto agree as follows:

**Article 1 - General Principles of Cooperation between the Parties**

1.1 At the date of signature hereof, the ICSD is in good standing with the IOC and continues to be recognised as a non-governmental international sports organisation.

1.2 Pursuant to Recommendation 7 of Agenda 2020, the Parties will endeavor to find synergies with regard to:

- Including deaf athletes and spectators in sport;
- protecting athletes' health and clean athletes;
- organising activities and sporting events within the Olympic Movement;
- sharing and managing knowledge on support and training programmes for athletes and officials, as well as support programmes for effective games management;
- sharing content on the IOC's Olympic Channel and other platforms; and
- aligning their communication, marketing and commercial programmes.

**Article 2 – Support of the ICSD by the IOC**

Notwithstanding the generality of the foregoing, certain specific rights and obligations, such as any support to ICSD events, any financial support or any use of Olympic properties, shall be further detailed in a separate agreement between the Parties.

**Article 3 – Termination**

3.1 The ICSD acknowledges and accepts that its continuing recognition by the IOC is conditional upon the ICSD complying at all times with the Olympic Charter, the terms of this MOU and other conditions associated to the status of an IOC recognised organisation, which shall be in accordance with the Olympic Charter and the terms of this MOU.



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3.2 This MOU will remain in effect indefinitely unless terminated by either Party with a written notice to the other Party. Any such termination shall take effect immediately, subject to any contractual obligations already entered into by either Party under this MOU.

3.3 The withdrawal, by the IOC, of its recognition of the ICSD shall cause the immediate termination of this MOU and any rights granted to the ICSD hereunder.

#### Article 4 – Applicable Law and Arbitration

This MOU shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of Switzerland. Any dispute arising from or in connection with the execution or interpretation of this MOU or breach thereof which cannot be settled amicably, shall be finally settled, to the exclusion of the ordinary courts, in accordance with the Statute and Regulations of the Court of Arbitration for Sport. The parties undertake to comply with the said Statute and Regulations, and to enforce in good faith the award to be rendered. The seat of arbitration shall be in Lausanne, Switzerland.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this MOU on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016 by their respective duly authorised representatives named below.

INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

By: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thomas Bach**  
President

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF SPORTS FOR  
THE DEAF

By: \_\_\_\_\_

**Valery Rukhledev**  
President