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RELEASE TO THE PUBLIC

The European Weightlifting Federation Executive board organized its meeting (28/06/2021) in response to the ITA "FINAL REPORT Anti-Doping Rule Violations and Related Allegations of Misconduct from 2009 to 2019" (published 24/06/2021). At the opening of EWF EB meeting, Dr. Hasan Akkus announced his decision (26/06/2021) to voluntarily step aside from all duties until the whole matter is clarified. He gave way to the EWF to do its work for European weightlifting.

The EWF Executive Board meeting was attended by all members, and following discussion, the EWF EB unanimously concluded:

1. The President-elect, Dr. Hasan AKKUS, informed the Executive Board of the European weightlifting federation his decision regarding his temporary inability to continue as president of the EWF and his decision to step aside from his public activities in order to clear his name and deal with the charges against him in the ITA report, before the relevant legal bodies

2. The EWF Executive Board is obliged to act in accordance with the Constitution of the European Weightlifting Federation which stipulates in accordance with Article 19.11 of the Constitution:

"Should the President be unable to fulfil his/her duties, the first Vice President shall act as President until the President can resume his/her duties and/or until the next Congress which shall elect the new EWF President."

3. The Executive Board of the European Weightlifting Federation respects its commitment to act in accordance with the Constitution and hereby declares Mr. Maxim AGAPITOV, 1st Vice President, to become the Interim President of the EWF.

4. The Executive Board of the EWF also decided that in three months/90 days from today it will examine the situation.

Examine the status of the legal proceedings that are taking place in the case of Dr. Hassan AKKUS.

Mr. Maxim AGAPITOV
Interim President



Dr. Milan MIHAJLOVIC
General Secretary

In accordance with the information presented to the EWF Executive Board, the EWF Executive Board will determine whether there is a need to hold a presidential election procedure in accordance with the guidelines in the EWF constitution.

5. Needless to say, if, before the end of the three-month term, President-elect Dr. AKKUS concludes his litigation and is qualified to return to office, the need for Article 4 of this resolution will be unnecessary.

We have acted in accordance with the laws and the presumption of innocence as an organization committed to a culture of responsibility. As a result, we have proposed a concrete and long-term solution while keeping in mind the context in which we live. EWF EB has no dilemma in that we all want weightlifting to progress, but it is also clear to us that every problem has multiple solutions at all times.

EWF remain committed to clean sport, and as a result, we decided to consider obligating every organizing committee at every EWF event to organize anti-doping seminars during the competitions and we will start with the next European Championships in Poland and Finland. In order to reach a clean sport, we as EWF ask all MFs to fully support and participate in those anti-doping projects. We recognize that this is a minor step, but it is one that is required in the context of the existence of an educational need.

We are convinced that the only way to address the challenges that our sport faces is through collaborative action, mutual harmony, and respect, and we anticipate support from all EWF member federations.

We wish you and your athletes good health and success for the upcoming Olympic Games, as well as the European Championships in Poland and Finland.

European Weightlifting Federation Executive Board