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# **GEORGIA SHAPES UP ITS PREPARATION FOR THE 2015 UIPM BIATHLE/ TRIATHLE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP**

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Friday, the 18th of September will be the opening day of the 2015 UIPM Biathle/ Triathle World Championship. The event will bring together to the city of Batumi, Georgia, a number of 300 athletes of various age groups and several countries to compete.

While preparations for this UIPM flagship competition are continuing picking up pace, the Local Organizing Committee received this weekend the official visit of UIPM Evaluation group Bernard Petruschinski, Technical Delegate, Leandro Pontes, Communications and Media Assistant, and Howard Jones, member of UIPM Biathle working group.

On the occasion, Batumi was hosting the Biathle/ Triathle Open Tournament as a rehearsal for athletes, organizers and volunteers. During an entire weekend workshop, the UIPM representatives had the opportunity to check accommodations and venue arrangements and to

discuss aspects related to broadcast, promotion and operations.

Mr Howard Jones was amazed by the city of Batumi and competition's installations: "First impression of Batumi were very favourable. It is a coastal resort attracting visitors from around the Region. There is a very long seafront promenade and it appears to be sport friendly with designated cycle lanes. The area appears to be safe and the opportunity for athletes to train for running and swimming without fear. The town is cosmopolitan with a western influence. There is an eclectic mix of historical architecture, Soviet-style housing and ultra-modern high rise accommodation, much in the construction process."

President of Georgian Modern Pentathlon Federation and the LOC, Vyacheslav Malishev demonstrated all his belief that Batumi will deliver a great event to the world: "Federation has set the goal which is to organize the best ever Biathle and Triathle World Championships and we gradually grow to this. On behalf of our Federation, I invite everybody to visit beautiful country Georgia and a wonderful, fast-growing city resort Batumi."