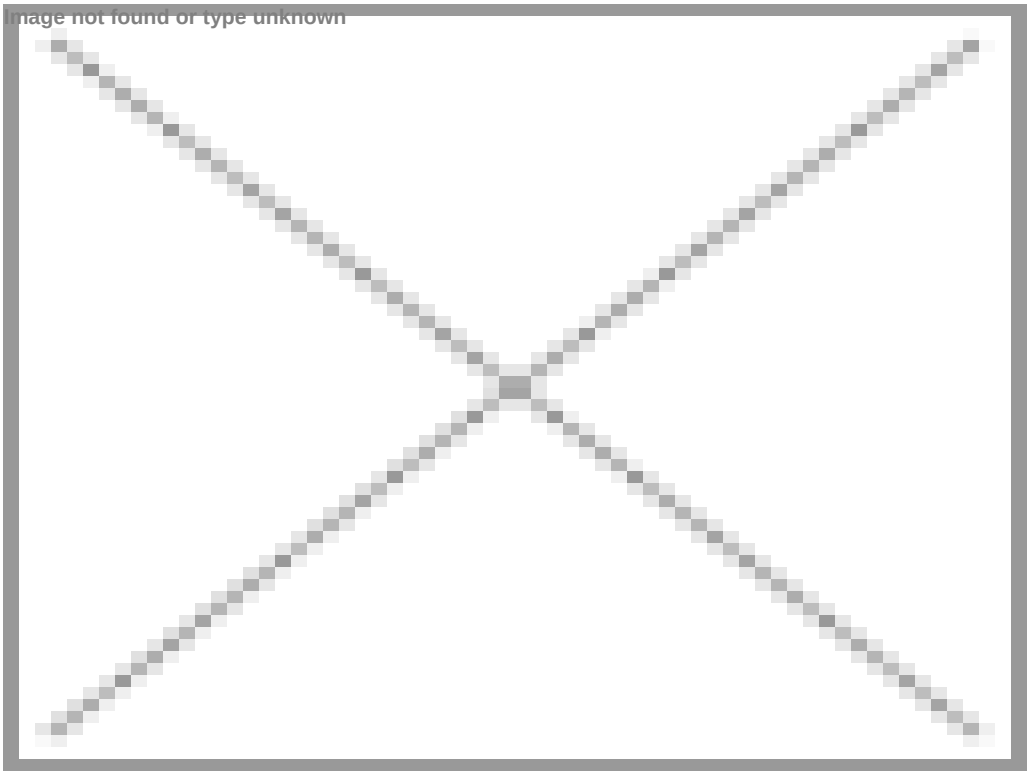
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UIPM BACKS WORLD OLYMPIANS ASSOCIATION'S DECLARATION OF SUPPORT FOR THE OLYMPIC CHARTER



The Union Internationale de Pentathlon Moderne (UIPM) has today become the first International Federation to express its backing for the Declaration of Support for the Olympic Charter which was signed by Olympians representing all five continents at the inaugural World Olympians Forum organised by the World Olympians Association (WOA), in Moscow, Russia in October.

The Declaration pledges:

1 - To continue to spread the spirit and practice of Olympism in our communities

2 - To work for peace and a better life for all through sport

3 - To help our fellow Olympians with their life transitions and their post-career health and fitness issues

4 - To oppose any political or governmental interference in the autonomy of sports organisations

which might prevent an athlete from exercising their right to compete in the Olympic Games or other major sporting events which also embody the Olympic Spirit

UIPM President, Klaus Schormann, said:

“The Modern Pentathlon community passionately upholds the fundamental values of Olympism and we are proud to support this wonderful initiative from the World Olympians Association. The pledges embody the core values of the UIPM, the autonomy of sport, and we look forward to working with our Olympians to put the words into action.”

WOA President, Joël Bouzou, said:

“As Olympians, we are the principal torchbearers for Olympism and it is up to us to recognise the efforts of Olympians around the world to inspire and engage future generations. It was an honour and a privilege to create the Declaration of Support for the Olympic Charter on behalf of all Olympians worldwide and we are delighted to receive further backing from the UIPM. It is a special feeling for me since I am a Pentathlete, and I want to give any of them the same chance I had to compete in Olympic Games. ”

Dmytro Kirpulyanskyy, Chair of the UIPM Athletes’ Commission, said:

“The health and well-being of Olympic athletes is a top priority and it’s also important that they are empowered to spread the true values of Olympism within their communities. The UIPM Athletes’ Commission welcomes the WOA’s Declaration of Support for the Olympic Charter which will bring many benefits for Olympians worldwide.”