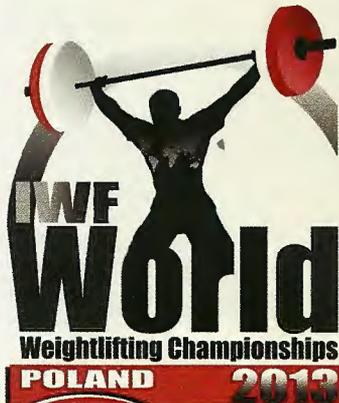


Dear Readers, Dear Friends,

Recalling the 2013 Wrocław World Championships it should be anticipated that Poland is one of the leading weightlifting nations of the world; it was not by mere chance that Wrocław



several decisions, formulate new regulations that should mark this quadrennial period. Following our re-election we have pinned down three main objectives. One: to continue the severe fight against doping, maintaining its high level and even elevating its intensity. Two: a strong promotion of the sport, i.e. pushing the publicity, the image-building, the communication levels of weightlifting to greater heights. Three: a more effective marketing activity, meaning reinforcing our financial potential through new marketing strategies, thereby being able to give even more help to the Member Federations, the Continents and Regions.

(at the time as Breslau under German rule) hosted a World Championships already in 1913, just eight years after the foundation of the International Weightlifting Federation. This year it was the eighth worldwide rendezvous staged in Poland and they will soon continue with the Junior Worlds to be held in 2015. Polish weightlifting can call both great traditions and success their own. Poland boasts 4 Olympic champions, several world and Continental champions, and the current Federation President, Szymon Kolecki himself is a two-fold Olympic silver medallist. And now he and his team organised a World Championships to everyone's satisfaction.

The Championships were originally slated for Warsaw but Kolecki took it to Wrocław and it proved to be a good decision. In this city the World Championships received ample attention from the people and the 'Hala Stulecia', the Centennial Hall was packed more than once. As for the athletic performance: it was characteristic for post-Olympic years. That means countries are searching for new talent, testing new forces looking to eventually launching them in



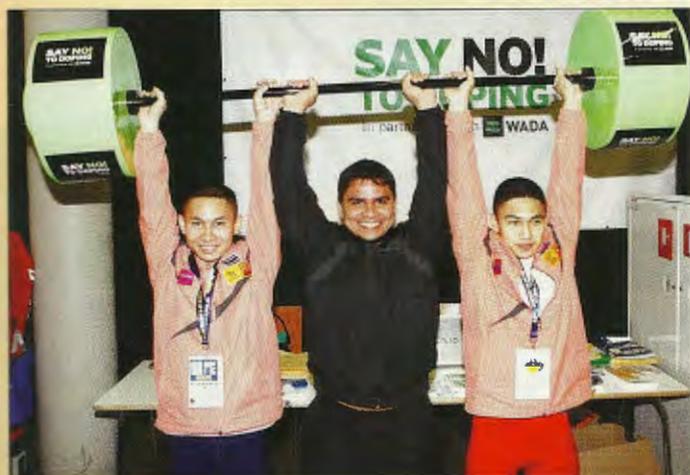
The Polish Federation, under the baton of President Szymon Kolecki, hosted outstanding World Championships

their Olympic squads at the next Games in Rio 2016. Thus, the field was a mixture of new faces and former big shots. The general standard was high illustrated also by the 5 senior and one junior world record achieved. The 2013 WWC was the first in a new Olympic cycle and the IWF, in its activities, has also entered into a new four-year cycle. We had to take

We believe that the measures taken in Wrocław did lay the grounds in all the three fields. We can now build on these foundations and that is very important. Regarding the further enhancement of the IWF's anti-doping fight in particular, the establishment of the independent Anti-Doping Commission was undoubtedly a major step. We continue



The IWF Executive Board in Wroclaw



The IWF has again upgraded its anti-doping fight and tightened measures

making extensive controls both in and out of competition. This year the number of tests will again exceed 2,000 – a huge quantity. Let us note at this point: sometimes it makes us smile when we hear from this or that Olympic sport that they are making 150 or 200 controls annually. Clearly, we are not talking about track and field, cycling or even swimming but it sounds a bit ridiculous in the light of our program. Of course, it costs a lot but this spending is the guarantee for our sport becoming and being clean. We have tightened the rules on countries with multiple doping cases: they have to settle the

finances within six months and as long as the fines are not paid their competitors are suspended. Moreover, we intend to include in the suspension the coaches and the leaders (entourage) which constitutes a major blow on countries that are serial producers of positive cases. In making weightlifting truly global we shall pay attention to extending the participation of athletes in the World Championships. For instance, we shall disregard technical officials from countries that have not been sending weightlifters to the competitors. It now happens that a certain Federation is represented by the same referee

time and time again who appears in every competition but we have never seen a lifter from that particular country. Such situations are no longer tolerable as the Technical Officials have their costs covered by the hosts in return for their service and that is a quite substantial expenditure. It should also be added that countries notoriously giving positive athletes will not be able to delegate TOs in the future. With all these measures we are aiming at a healthy balance and demonstrate that the IWF is for the athletes and does not encourage the "production" of officials with no sport behind them. In terms of marketing, its ultimate objective is to improve our finances and so empower the IWF to give even more support to our Members and the Continents. We should point out the fact that the financial support we are now giving to the five Continental Federations equals 50 per cent of our entire Olympic revenue in these four years. That is huge money. We can rightly expect from the Continental Federations to support our objectives on all the issues just mentioned. That includes the anti-doping fight, the policy regarding

the Technical Officials, the promotion of the sport, etc. In fact, Continental Federations are required to be more active than ever before. We should not forget to mention also that the IWF has supplied its Information Technology System (TIS) to each continent, free of charge, to promote competitions under their control. In summary: the Wroclaw World Championships was an outstanding event – thanks and congratulations to the Polish Federation; we had a very fruitful Executive Board meeting and Congress in a positive ambiance – the best omens for launching the Olympic cycle leading up to Rio de Janeiro.

Dr. Tamás Aján
President

Ma Wenguang
General Secretary

