



INTERNATIONAL TRIATHLON UNION

2010 ITU CONGRESS

Budapest, Hungary 10 September, 2010

1. Call to Order: Marisol Casado, President of ITU, called the 23rd Congress to order at 9:15 am with the following delegates present.

Argentina

Gustavo Svane

Australia

Peter Hedge

Austria

Walter Zettinig

Julius Skames

Sabine Strauss

Belgium

Kathleen Smet

Bermuda

Steven Petty

Jennifer Gunn

Brazil

Roberto Menescal

Bulgaria

Emil Stoynev

Irena Chukanova

Canada

Stephen Holmes

Alan Trivett

Lori Ebbesen

Chile

Fernando Suarez

Enrique Retamal

China, P.R.

Wang, Xuanqing

Chen, Xiaoran

Chinese Taipei

Yu-Feng Liou

Super Hsieh

Colombia

Jose Luis Echeverry

Cook Islands

Geoff Stoddart

Bernie Raffae

Costa Rica

Sylvia Gonzalez

Croatia

Damir Segota

Goran Vrbanc

Sanja Papista

Czech Republic

Prof. Vaclav Bunc

Antonin Bauer

Denmark

Anna Karin Klarke

Kim Rhode

Ecuador

Cornelio Serrano

Egypt

Gen. Ahmed Nasser

Estonia

Tiina Pallas

Mart Haruoja

Finland

Timo Pennanen

Terhi Paakkonen

France

Denis Jaeger

Philippe Lescure

Michelle Moserat

Jean Marie Huot

Germany

Claudia Wisser

Dr. Ralf Eckert

Dierk Brandewinder

Great Britain

Zara Hyde Peters

Howard Vine

Chris Kitchen

Heather Williams

Honduras

Leslie Poujol Brown

Hong Kong

Kent Wong

Telia Cheung

Ruth Hunt

Hungary

Andras Lanyi

Peter Czenz

Ireland

Mark Risely

Matt McKerrow

Iran

Brig Gen Sabour

Dr. Ahanjan

Isreal

Michael Ziv

Shaul Dolev

Italy

Renato Bertrandi

Aldo Lucarini

Japan

Yasuoki Nakajima

Tomoko Wada

Kiriyo Suzuki

Kazakhstan

Yuriy Solovyev

Korea

Ki Woo Kyong

Kim In Gyu

Latvia

Vilnis Prieditis

Liechtenstein

Philip Schadler

Michael Schadler

Luxembourg

Bob Biewer

Claude Hermes

FYOR Macedonia

Fidanch Popovski

Stojan Popovski

Mauritius

Alain st. Louis

Daniel McKay

Mexico

Jaime Cadaval Nelly

Becerra

Morocco

Tarik Alouajaji

New Zealand

Gary Boon

Juliet Fahey

Dave Beeche

Nigeria

Dr. Lanre Glover

Ize Matabese

Netherlands

Henk van Lint

Philippines

Lulu Carrasco

Poland

Krzysztof Piatkowski

Portugal

Jose Luis Ferreira

Fernando Carmo

Rita Eustaquio

Russia

Rozaliya Korobova

Nataliya Polyakova



St.Kitts & Nevis

Winston Crooke
Philippe Dutilleul

Serbia

Dragan Nikolic
Simo Cickovic
Marija Nikolic Bjelan

Singapore

David Hoong

Slovakia

Anton Ihring
Jozef Jurasek

South Africa

Debbie Alexander
Jan Sterk

Spain

Jose Luis Hidalgo
Jorge Garcia
Alicia Garcia
Cristina Azanza

Sweden

Ria Damgren Nilsson

Switzerland

Oliver Imfeld

Ukraine

Andriy Bildan
Eduard Panarin

USA

Brian Harrington
Tim Yount
Celeste Callahan
Candy Cheatham

2. Welcome and Introductions:

2.1. Marisol Casado (IOC) extended a warm welcome to the National Federation delegates, council and guests and introduced András Lányi, President Hungarian Triathlon Federation to speak. Mr. Lányi welcomed all to his home country and spoke on the Green Initiative that is a focus for the 2010 Budapest Grand Final. Marisol Casado expressed her thanks to the Hungarian Triathlon Federation for hosting.

2.2. Marisol hands the floor to Loreen Barnett, Secretary General. Loreen discusses the National Federation status report and lists the seven (7) new National Federations;

Africa-Morocco

Americas-British Virgin Islands, US Virgin Islands

Asia-Oman, Cambodia

Europe-Iceland

Oceania-Papua New Guinea, Tonga

2.3. Congress approves full affiliation for the 7 new Federations

3. Roll-call of National Federations: Sheila O'Kelly, Chair of the ITU Credentials Committee reported that 59 National Federations were in attendance as per 1. Call To Order above.

4. Appointment of three(3) tellers: Congress supported Marisol Casado's proposal to appointed the following as tellers:

Alicia Garcia (ESP)
Gary Boon (NZL)
Jaime Cadaval (MEX)

5. Treasurer's Report:

5.1. ITU Treasurer Tom Carrasco (PHI) reviewed the key elements of the 2009 Audited Financial Statements as prepared by KPMG.

Discussion:

- a) Zara Hyde Peters (GBR) questioned how ITU manages foreign exchange risk and why there was a significant increase in Event related expenses over the previous year.
- b) Bill Walker, ITU Vice President responded to the FX question that in 2009 ITU had significant holdings in CAD dollars and that due to the strength of the CAD dollar against a weaker US dollar, ITU realised a significant gain in Foreign Exchange. In an effort to manage future risk to ITU regarding FX fluctuations, ITU attempts to hold equal percentages of incoming revenue

and outgoing expenses in each of the three currencies used by ITU. Further to this, ITU endeavours to maintain diverse holdings.

- c) Bill Walker reports that the Audit committee was unable to attend Congress this year but reads a report the Audit Committee has prepared.
- d) Gerardo Zettina (MEX), ITU Audit Committee, recommended that the 2009 Audited Financial statements be approved by congress.
- e) Rob Kasper, (USA) ITU Audit Committee, also recommended that the 2009 Audited Financial statements be approved with the additional comment that ITU should look at investigating investment options in order to increase returns on investments.

Motion: That the 2009 ITU financial Statements be adopted as presented.

Moved: Chris Kitchen (GBR) **seconded:** Ahmed Nasser (EGY)

Carried unanimously.

- 5.2. Bill Walker presented the 2011 Budget which has been tabled by the ITU Executive Board.

Discussion:

- a) Mark Risely (IRL) questioned the certainty of the TV revenues from the 2012 Olympics.
- b) Marisol Casado responds that the IOC releases the revenue projections 2 years in advance of the next Olympic Games, but that this number is of course barring no unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of the IOC.
- c) Bill Walker states that ITU is currently using reserves from Beijing which will be run down over the duration of the four years between Olympic Games.
- d) Renato Bertrandi (ITA) questioned the comparative costs of each of the ITU offices- Vancouver/Madrid/Lausanne
- e) Bill Walker, ITU's goal is to keep administrative costs low, but recognises that as ITU grows, it is necessary for admin expenses to also grow. As ITU is fortunate to have a President who is an IOC member, it is necessary that our President have appropriate funding. The addition of a Lausanne office will allow ITU to take advantage of its close proximity to the IOC.
- f) Sarah Springman, ITU Vice President, stressed the importance of having a presence in Lausanne, and emphasised that it was a great honour and privilege to have a President who was an IOC member and that we needed to be prepared to support her.
- g) Bill Walker, with the support of the Audit Committee recommends that ITU retain KPMG as auditors for 2010

Motion: That KPMG remain ITU's auditors for the year 2010

Moved: Peter Hedge (AUS) **seconded:** Jaime Cadaval (MEX)

Carried unanimously.

6. President's Report: Refer to Appendix A

- 6.1. Marisol concludes by congratulating Honorary President Les McDonald (CAD) on receiving the IOC Women in Sport award for 2010.

- 6.2. 2010 Promotional video shown, produced by ITU Media and Television Online Producer, Morgan Inglis.
- 6.3. Marisol is excused to attend LOC press conference

7. ITU Director Reports

- 7.1. **Sport Development:** Libby Burrell, ITU Director of Sport Development outlined the new role of the Continental Co-ordinators and a desire to empower the Regional Confederations. Continental Co-ordinators have developed strategic plans. Elite development programme remains major focus and athlete scholarships will continue on in conjunction with IOC Olympic Solidarity. Focus on new Federation development and sustainability is also key with new flags as a lasting legacy. Events and Sport Development are working together on a holistic approach. Libby concluded by thanking the Continental Co-ordinators for their help and support.
- 7.2. **World Championship Series (WCS):** Paul Coleman, Managing Director of ITU World Championship Series. Focus is on building on the success of the WCS/WC events. We are currently in the 2nd year of a 5 year plan and so far the media presence has increased dramatically. Major cities such as London and Sydney have been successfully added to the WCS calendar. TV production is an important, yet costly focus. Desire to engage and create identities for the age group athletes. 4 sponsors have been built into the series and long term sponsors have been successfully resigned. ITU is proud to have partnered with Laureus, an organisation that uses sport to promote social change. Paul concluded by expressing gratitude to Upsolut.

Discussion:

- a) Denis Oswald (FRA), expressed importance of the need for National Federations to be included in discussion and not just the athletes.
- b) Paul replied that ITU does not differentiate between the athletes and the National Federations.
- c) Henk van Lint (NED), noted that 2011 schedule has not been released.
- d) Paul Coleman stated that 6 of the 7 events have been confirmed and that the WCS calendar will not be announced until the end of September.
- e) Loreen Barnett added that ITU staff are making it a priority to post Event schedules two years in advance and are working hard to make this happen.
- f) Mart Haruoja (EST) questioned how athletes from smaller countries obtain the points they need.
- g) Enrique Quesada, ITU Director Results and Rankings, pointed out that the amount of points required to compete decrease from the WCS down and that those who are looking to earn points do not have as many races to choose from. Results/rankings team send lists of available races to all NF's.
- h) Kathleen Smet (BEL), stated that it is difficult for young talent to get on the start lists of European races and that it is too costly to travel to Events where there is room on the start lists. Mentioned "Wild Cards" for young athletes to race locally.
- i) Enrique Quesada, starting to change quotas, discussing requests from the Coaches Commission
- j) Marisol Casado welcomed Edwin Moses, iconic track and field athlete to speak on behalf of Laureus.

- k) Edwin Moses, attended the Sydney event, stressed the importance of using Sport as a tool for social change. Laureus is pleased to have entered into a partnership with ITU. ITU has a great platform with the three sports.

7.3. **Television and Media:** Brian Mahony, Director ITU Media

- a) Goal is to increase TV production; Continental Champs magazine shows, Multisport Champs to each have their own show.
- b) Desire to emulate the Sport Development programme, ie: train the National Federations in media and then utilise this talent at Events.
- c) Online programming will be taken back in house and improved. Social networking media continues to be a focus and will be developed on, ie: phone applications.
- d) Sport Presentation has been taken in house and works in conjunction with the Sport development and has been very successful.
- e) Team Championships is very important and stressed the need for support from each National Federation.

Discussion:

- f) Winston Crooke (SKN), asked about Eurosport and ITU
- g) Brian Mahony replied that Eurosport does not have the viewer ship

7.4. **World Cup Series:** Sheila O'Kelly, Managing Director ITU World Cup Series

- a) There will be 8 World Cups in 2011, dates cannot be released before the WCS schedule is confirmed and announced. Large wait lists for many of the 2010 WC Events and this is anticipated to be the same in 2011.
- b) It is important to have a WC Event in all regions, so that athletes have the opportunity to race locally. Currently there is a need for more presence in the Americas.
- c) The WC Events are a stepping stone to the WCS Events and to this end there is close collaboration with the WC team and Libby and the Sport Development team.
- d) Sprint and mixed relay is growing as well as growth in mass participation, the Ishigaki, Mooloolaba and Monterrey highlight a kids race and all of these are key to the development of the series.
- e) There is a need for increased promotion of the Series and it is important to work jointly with the National Federations in this regard.

7.5. **Anti-Doping:** Leslie Buchanan, ITU Director of Anti-Doping reported on the importance of education in anti-doping that this must come first.

- a) Paratriathletes will be tested at the Budapest Grand Final
- b) The Biological Passport is a new initiative and Leslie would like to thank Laurent Vidal for his assistance with this.
- c) Testing at the right time is very important as are the partnerships between ITU and the National Federations.
- d) Result management is important and NF's are encouraged to work with their local Anti-Doping Associations.

- 7.6. **Sport Department:** Gergely Markus, Director ITU Sports began by welcoming everyone to his home country.
- a) Currently the Sport department are re-organising in order to maximise efficiency. Expressed need for sustainability within the department.
 - b) Spoke on the achievements of the past season and gave thanks and credit to David Hoong for his involvement in the inaugural Youth Olympic Games (YOG) in Singapore.
 - c) Technical Officials page is being developed on the ITU website
 - d) Education is important and the Sport Development team is working with Leslie and others in this regard.
 - e) Gergely wanted to express acknowledgement of the efforts of the LOC throughout the year.

--- Congress paused at 11:10 am for a coffee break and resumed at 11:30 am ---

8. **Paratriathlon Committee,** Grant Darby, Paratriathlon Committee Chair, encourages National Federations to support their athletes, currently there are 23 countries represented which is an increase of 4 countries. ITU has applied for Paratriathlon to be included on the IPC Programme for 2016. Exponential growth in the sport is occurring but it is important to have access to Sport Development funding.

9. Reports From the Olympic Games and World Championships Organizing Committees: 2011 to 2012

9.1. **London 2012:**

- a) John Lunt, Competition Manager spoke on behalf of LOCOG
- b) Test event will take place 6th-7th August 2011
- c) Marisol Casado confirmed that Triathlon has signed on for the Monday/Tuesday of the second week of competition.

9.2. **2011 Extramadura ITU Cross Triathlon World Championships:**

- a) Alicia Garcia, Spanish Triathlon Federation Secretary General reported.

9.3. **2011 Gijon ITU Duathlon World Championships:**

- a) Alicia Garcia, Spanish Triathlon Federation SG reported.

9.4. **2011 Henderson ITU Long Distance Triathlon World Championships:**

- a) Frank Lowery, LOC reported.

9.5. **2012 Beijing ITU Triathlon World Championships Grand Final**

- a) Deputy Director, LOC reported.

9.6. **2012 Auckland ITU Triathlon World Championships Grand Final**

- a) Dave Beeche, CEO Triathlon New Zealand reported.

- 9.7. Marisol Casado noted it was beneficial to have the LOC's present to report and thanked them for doing so.

10. Resolutions from the National Federations of France and Germany

Seconded by Anna Karin Klarke (DEN)

10.1. Resolution 1: Age Group Uniforms

Whereas that the most important for the Age Grouper is the respect for the uniform of their country;

Whereas that the marking of the name and country codes on the uniforms involves marking costs for the competitors;

Whereas that these costs made the number of competitors fall on the regional championships of 2010 (for example Duathlon LD Budapest 2009: athletes 540, Nancy 2010: athletes 385);

Whereas that the more there are inscriptions, the less they are visible;

Be it resolved that Article 5.1 of the Age Group Uniform Rules is changed in;

5.1 Family Name and Country Code/Name: The family name is authorised on the uniform but is not compulsory.

If the family name is used it must be placed on the upper front of the uniform. It can also be placed on the upper front and on the buttocks.

The country code/name (optionally in the language of the country) is compulsory and must be placed on the upper front of the uniform. It can also be placed on the upper front and the buttocks.

In case the country name is used, the wording and design must be approved by ITU.

The representation of both the family name and the country code/name must meet the following criteria.

The rest without changes.

Discussion:

- a) ITU Executive Board supports the resolution and will recommend the resolution to the Technical Officials.

Vote on the resolution: 57 in favour, 2 against, no abstentions.

11. Elections:

11.1. Paratriathlon Committee (7 to be elected):

- a) John Beeson (USA)
- b) Renato Bertrandi (ITA)
- c) Dierk Brandewinde (GER)
- d) Grant Darby (CAD)
- e) Cornelio Serrano Rodrigues (ECU)
- f) Michael Ziv (ISR)

All 6 members have been elected by acclamation

11.2. Loreen Barnett noted the need for a women and someone outside of the Americas

11.3. Congratulations to the elected members of the Paratriathlon Committee

12. Reports from the Standing Committees: (Note: a written version of all reports was in the Congress document.)

12.1. **Technical Committee:** Enrique Quesada, President Technical Committee reported:

- a) The committee has:
 - Held meetings throughout the year via Skype conferencing
 - Successfully implemented the penalty box this year
 - Approved specific rules as brought forward by the Technical Delegates
 - Noted that the rules are always evolving

Discussions:

Chris Kitchen (GBR) Thanked the Technical Committee for their work to revise the rules, especially the penalty box and drafting rules and is happy that the rules continue to evolve.

12.2. **Medical Committee:** Dr. Sergio Migliorini (ITA), as chair of the committee, reported:

- a) The Medical Committee has reviewed and updated the ITU Competition Rules and Event Organisers Manual;
- b) It is important to meet with Medical Committees of other International Federations;
- c) University of Alicante; "I World Congress" 24th/25th and 26th March 2011 with keynote speakers/oral presentations.

Discussion: Marisol Casado thanked the Medical Committee and the University of Alicante and noted that other Universities have already expressed interest in organising such a Congress. The ITU Executive Board is to discuss this further.

12.3. **Women's Committee:** Tomoka Wada (JPN), as chair of the committee reported:

- a) Currently have 7 elected members and have had strong support from the Executive Board and notably ITU staff liaisons Sheila O'Kelly and Zita Csovelyak
- b) The committee had first "face to face" meeting in 2009 at the 2009 Gold Coast World Champs.
- c) A survey on the status of woman was sent to all the National Federations to which they received replies from 34 countries. The data from the survey is currently being analysed and the results will be delivered to the NF's in the near future.
- d) Happy to report that the first ever Women's Committee Seminar "Path to Excellence" was successfully held this week in Budapest with 4 notable speakers. Tomoko expressed her thanks to ITU Media for their support of the seminar.

12.4. **Athletes Committee:** Laurent Vidal (FRA) reported on behalf of the Athletes Committee;

- a) There is currently 7 members on the athletes committee, 4 men and 3 woman. Two of these members, Kris Gemmell (NZL) and Jessica Harrison (FRA) are members of the ITU Executive Board and help to create a link between the EBoard and the athletes.
- b) The athletes committee has recently organised a survey to be completed by the athletes.

- c) Athletes need to be leaders and have increased involvement in important decision making. The athletes note a continued need to build relationships with ITU/NF's and LOC's.
- d) Athletes Committee needs representation from ASIA
- e) Note that there is a need to work together even when disagreements occur.

12.5. **Multisports Committee:** Chris Kitchen (GBR) reported as chair of the committee:

- a) Began by thanking Gergely Markus and Zita Csövelyak, ITU Staff liaisons for their hard work and support.
- b) Both Immenstadt LD Triathlon Champs and Edinburgh Duathlon Champs were very successful this year and that the series is developing well.
- c) First Cross Triathlon World Champs will be held next year, and Duathlon has been included on the programme of the 2011 World Games in Colombia.
- d) Committee is always looking for feedback; Multisport has huge role to play in the development of the sport.

13. WTC/ITU relationship;

- 13.1. Marisol Casado reported that a good relationship has evolved in the area of doping control. Regulations between ITU and WTC are being negotiated; WTC will recognise ITU as the International Federation and WTC will be organisers.

14. Reports from ITU Committees/Commissions:

14.1. **Constitution Committee:** Gale Bernhardt spoke on behalf of the Constitution Committee:

- a) It has been difficult to work on the two documents, the ITU By-laws and Constitution, reviewing IOC best practices,
- b) 1st draft to be prepared by 1st January 2011, reviewed 14-16th January 2011 and goal to have final draft by 1st March 2011
- c) Marisol Casado noted the need for a Constitution that reflects our Federation
- d) At this time Antonio Fernandes Arimany as the ITU Financial and Legal Advisor was welcomed to the ITU team. Antonio worked on both the 2012 and 2016 Madrid Olympic bids and spent a year in Athens. He has relationships with NOC's and has been working with the Winter Federation in Spain.
- e) Alfredo Sanchez was also officially welcomed as a member of the ITU team.

14.2. **Winter Triathlon Commission:** Helmet Kaufman, Chair reported:

- a) Thanks was given to Kare Grotta as former Chair of the Winter Triathlon Commission
- b) Help is needed from ITU/NF's and ETU, more National Championships need to be added to the calendar, currently 15-18 countries are interested.
- c) Marisol Casado, it was a memorable occasion to have been made an IOC member in Vancouver during the 2010 Winter Olympics. Marisol had the opportunity to discuss Winter Triathlon. In order to advance hopes of Winter Triathlon in the Olympic Programme, the number of National Federations competing in and promoting Winter Triathlon needs to increase.

- d) Sarah Springman attended the Norway World Winter Championships. Noted that the effort to promote Winter Triathlon needed to be from the ground up. Promotion of Winter Triathlon needs to be a collective movement.
- 14.3. **Coaches Commission:** Member from Coaches Commission was not present to give report. Marisol noted that the relationship with the Coaches Commission was progressing positively. We must remember that when meeting with the coaches we are also meeting with the National Federations. Therefore it is important that the coaches are supported by their National Federations.
- 14.4. **Age Group Commission:** Howard Vine (GBR), Age Group Commission Chair
 - a) Goal of the commission is to represent Age Group athletes internationally, support the ITU rules, specifically drafting, educate Age Group athletes on anti-doping, find a common stand amongst the Age Group competitors/LOC's/ITU with regards to such areas as timing, medals, closing ceremonies.
 - b) Was invited to review the Age Group course start to finish and identified areas of concern which were addressed by the LOC.
 - c) Desire to support and assist the other committees/commissions.
 - d) Loreen Barnett thanked Howard for the work of the Age Group Commission

15. Regional Reports :

- 15.1. **Africa:** Alain St. Louis (MRI) reported on behalf of Africa
 - a) Expressed thanks to the ITU Executive Board for recognising the need to promote the sport of Duathlon in the African region.
 - b) Need for more events and to find ways to encourage more athletes to compete
- 15.2. **Pan-America:** Roberto Menescal (BRA) reported on behalf of Carlos Froes (BRA), ITU PATCO Regional Representative.
 - a) September through December is very busy for PATCO, Puerto Vallarta to host Administration/Governance Course
 - b) Number of Level 1 coaching/facilitator course being held in the PATCO region. Assistance programs for young athletes being developed
 - c) New PATCO regional webpage is fully functional and providing a useful venue for National Federations to post news and receive information in Spanish.
- 15.3. **ASIA:** David Hoong (SIN), ITU ASIAN Regional Representative reported:
 - a) Creation of ITU/ASIAN development office in Seoul, Korea; external auditor has been appointed.
 - b) Successful Event calendar for 2010, successful facilitators courses/athlete camps and coaches courses held. Upcoming coaches course in Mongolia
 - c) Development of mentor system for 2011
- 15.4. **EUROPE:** Philip Schadler (LIE), ITU European Regional Representative,
 - a) 2010 was a difficult year, ETU up and running in Great Britain, members convened in Hamburg to re-strategise.

- b) 2010 Events were great, U23 Champs were very successful, many thanks to Portugal for filling in.
- c) Desire to enhance media/tv profile, many projects are in the works, would like to assist in goal of having Winter Triathlon becoming a sport on the Winter Olympic Programme.

15.5. **OCEANIA:** Geoff Stoddart (COK), reporting on behalf of Jenny Mann (AUS), ITU OCEANIA Regional Representative;

- a) 1st year currently under review, 1st Oceania Congress held in Gold Coast in 2009, where a strategic plan and budget were agreed upon.
- b) Terry Sheldrake (NZL) appointed ITU Continental Co-ordinator for Oceania. Terry has assisted in the development of two new Oceania Federations, Papua New Guinea and Tonga.
- c) TD appointment for Juliet Fahey
- d) South Pacific Games Council
- e) Athlete identification, courses planned, currently within budget and on course to reaching objectives

16. New Business:

- 16.1 Marisol Casado commented on the necessity and importance of having annual Congresses and thanked all for their comments and involvement.
- 16.2 A minute of silence was called in honour of Peter Holmes, ITU Media Manager and Emilio di Toro, ETU President...friends and colleagues whom we lost tragically this year.

17. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:35pm

Minutes recorded by Adrienne Proseilo (CAN)

Appendix A:

MARISOL CASADO, ITU PRESIDENT'S REPORT "FROM GOLD COAST 2009 TO BUDAPEST 2010."

Dear Friends:

One more year has passed - another very important year for Triathlon.

If you had the time to read and study the written reports in the Congress package, you will see that my report will summarize the work of the Executive Board, Committees, Commissions and Staff. We still have a ways to go to reach perfect "good governance" but with the work of this year, we are getting closer.

February 2010 will remain etched in my memory as one of the most important months of my career. And remember my career is none other than the Triathlon. The Spanish Federation, the European Union and the International Union are the most important pillars. My education, the emotional stability that my family provides me, my friends and my colleagues are the tools that have allowed me to achieve this position.

We already have the key that should open some doors to allow Triathlon to occupy a larger space within the programme of the Olympic Games. Our Triathletes deserves.

These words were the introduction to my report after the 122nd IOC Session where I had the great honor to enter in IOC. I want to remind all of you, that in many cases, this privilege is a personal one. This is not the case for me. This is ITU's privilege, and we all are obliged to use this important tool the IOC gave to us. We must use it for the expansion of triathlon and the benefits to our athletes.

As you have seen in my activities report, I have had a very busy schedule, which, by the way, I have no problem to follow. The energy generated by the entire Triathlon community gives me the power to control the situation, the opportunity to share my time applauding the athletes, thanking the LOCs and encouraging the National Federation. I have never dreamt of such a wonderful benefit of my role as President.

It is primarily a pleasure working with the ITU Staff, although in some cases it is a challenge. In every organization a leadership change always take time, and ITU is no different. We go slow but in a good path and direction.

The strategic plan that the ITU Staff proposed in 2008 is still the core of the new document that you received. This document was "refined" as recently as July this year. We need to adapt it to the new circumstances that fortunately or unfortunately happen in the world in general, and in our ITU world in particular.

Of course, the ITU Strategic Plan is open for discussion. It is a document that lives and we will take note of your proposals to improve the results of the management of our sport.

In order to continue to follow the basic order that I presented in my acceptance speech, I will use this as a frame of my report as I did last year.

OLYMPIC TRIATHLON/OLYMPIC FAMILY RELATIONS

It was a big step to have Team Relay included on the Programme of the Youth Olympic Games. After the debut of the Team Relay in YOG, everything seems to be in favor, including the reports from the IOC Technical Department. I have started conversations with coaches and advisers to be sure that this format is able to fit

with the Olympic Distance in the Olympic Games. Of course you all are invited, and obliged, to participate in this debate, which is a motivation for the Alicante Conference next year in April.

The Qualification Period for London 2012 has been in place since June. The process was approved and is monitored, as always, by IOC sport department.

The Dextro Energy ITU World Championship Series is running beyond expectation in all areas: Athletes performance, TV distribution, sponsorship.

There has been a big increase in participants for World Cup and Continental Cup events.

The London Triathlon 2010 was a big success, another step forward to 2012. Still pending are negotiations on the final schedule. I hope that we will have the help of IOC so we get the best position possible to enhance our sport.

We expect that the ITU office in Lausanne will be ready in April. We have agreed to a space of 90 m². It will be used mainly by the Sport Department. As I said last year, I am confident that this will enhance the work of our staff, and of course, will tie our relationship with the IOC Head Quarter.

PROVIDING SUPPORT TO OUR ATHLETES.

Last year I express some concerns about ITU's investment in anti-doping programmes. But as you are able to see on the Anti-doping Director's Report, last June we launched the Athlete Biological Passport and we also started the Paratriathlon In-competition Testing Programme. That was a big effort and it gave our athletes the image that they deserve on the global sport panorama.

10 Sport Development scholarships were awarded to athletes, and 1 for a coach.

There were a number of training camps and clinics financed by ITU, and more are planned for the remainder of the year.

COMPETITION, BETTER TRAINERS AND HIGHER SKILLED TECHNICIANS:

We implemented some changes in the Sport Development, and in my opinion with good success, Officials and coaches education go together for a more global approach on the Development of the sport.

It is important to point out the Facilitators Course that we implemented this year.

TRIATHLON FAMILY: MULTISPORT.

I want to highlight the work of the Paralympic Committee, with the help of Vice President Sarah Springman and Thanos Nikopoulos from ITU Staff. ITU presented a very professional bid for inclusion on the Paralympic Programme. The decision will be next October. The situation is difficult as 7 other relevant sports are on the list and only two will have the privilege of being on the programme. Whatever the decision is, the improvement in Paralympics Triathlon is already in place. Our Paralympics Championship 2010 is already a gold medal. Thank you very much to the ITU Paratriathlon Committee.

Thanks also to Jose Luis Echevarri, president of the Federación Colombiana de Triathlon. We will be part of the World Games with our Duathlon. These games will be held in Cali, Colombia. I am confident that this will open a very big door for the Duathlon community and of course all our multisport athletes.

ORGANIZATION, TEAM WORK, CONTINENTAL ORGANIZATIONS.

I feel very proud about the work done for the benefit of the Continental Confederation management. This year the Executive Board approved five different projects for the five different continents, each trying to fulfill specific needs. In the short term the Executive Board will evaluate this new trend in the organization and I am confident that will result in better services for our main partner, the National Federations.

I want to refer to my calendar of activities that you have in your documents. A very Important issue was missing - my participation in Olympic Day, June 24, in Lausanne, where I had the pleasure to represent the ITU Honorary President, Les Mc Donald, at the Women and Sport Award Ceremony. It is not necessary to tell you how proud ITU should feel with this award. Thank you one more time Les Mc Donald for the contribution to Triathlon.