To: Sir Reedie,

Copy: Mr. Bach, Mr. Parsons

Dear Sir Craig Reedie!

We, the undersigned, represent the main organizations involved in the regulation of the Russian sports.

The serious crisis that has affected the Russian sports was caused by some unacceptable manipulations of the anti-doping system revealed in the investigations conducted under the auspices of WADA (Pound’s Independent Commission, McLaren – Independent Person) and the IOC (the Schmid Commission).

As a result of the accomplished investigations, on 5 December 2017 the IOC Executive Board has taken the decision, upon which, inter alia, the Russian Olympic Committee (ROC) has been suspended. We have accepted and executed this IOC EB decision based on the findings of the Schmid Commission.

On behalf of all the organizations which we represent, we regret sincerely that these manipulations and practices occurred in Russia. We would like to assure you that all organizations concerned are taking necessary steps to encourage and to promote the observance of the anti-doping rules which oblige individual athletes and the Russian national teams, as well as their trainers, doctors and other support staff, to compete strictly in compliance with the requirements of the World Anti-Doping Code.

It is important to note that the recent CAS decisions caused reasonable doubts in the validity of evidence provided by the former head of the Moscow Anti-Doping Laboratory G.Rodchenkov to the IOC Disciplinary Commissions dealing with sanctions for individual athletes.
Along with WADA, our organizations and the Russian State bear the obligation to ensure integrity in sport (Article 16 of the 2005 International Convention Against Doping in Sport, Article 20 of the World Anti-Doping Code). We want to assure you that any eventual manipulations and practices were carried out without our knowledge or authorization.

In this regard, it is important to remember the speech of 1 March 2017 in Krasnoyarsk when Mr. Putin said:

“... despite the shortcomings in the work, we should pay heed to what the independent commission said. We should pay attention to WADA demands as we have to admit that there are established cases of doping. This is totally unacceptable. It means that the existing Russian anti-doping monitoring system has not worked out, and this is our fault, and we should say it aloud and admit.”

We would also like to assure you that we have learned the lessons from this crisis. Significant reforms are currently under way, and we are confident that they will make the fight against doping more efficient in our country. The reforms include the adoption of law on criminal liability for inciting sportsmen to use of the prohibited substances; the Russian Ministry of Sports’ withdrawal from the founders of RUSADA; the new financial rules and the increased funding of the organization, as well as handing the control over the Moscow Anti-Doping Laboratory to the Moscow State University.

In addition, we confirm that appropriate actions have been taken and will be taken against the individuals involved in the operation of the systemic doping scheme including ensuring that such individuals no longer have any role in or influence over Russia’s anti-doping efforts. We also reiterate our commitment to ensuring that RUSADA and other bodies including international federations can carry its activities in Russia effectively and without improper external interference.

We also assure you that we fully support the investigation conducted by the Investigative Committee of Russia with respect to the alleged anti-doping rules violations. We believe that the guilty will get the punishment they deserve under the court judgements.
We sincerely feel that all the efforts currently undertaken by WADA, IOC, IPC, ROC, RPC, the Russian Ministry of Sports and the Independent Public Anti-Doping Commission are bearing fruit and that the time has come for WADA to restore RUSADA in full and for the IOC and IPC and the respective international federations to admit Russian athletes to the main global sport events under the same conditions as the athletes from other countries. Those decisions will serve as further incentive for all acting athletes and young sportsmen in the future.

Best regards,

Minister of sport of Russian Federation

President of the Russian Olympic Committee

President of the Russian Paralympic Committee

Pavel Kolobkov

Aleksandr Zhukov

Vladimir Lukin