



Fédération Internationale de Roller Sports

MINUTES OF FIRS CONGRESS PORTIMAO 4TH DECEMBER 2010

Federations in attendance:

1. Angola
2. Argentina
3. Australia
4. Belgium
5. Brazil
6. Canada
7. Chile
8. Colombia
9. Czech Republic
10. Egypt
11. France
12. Germany
13. Great Britain
14. Iran
15. Israel
16. Italy
17. Japan
18. Macao
19. Mexico
20. Netherlands
21. New Zealand
22. Portugal
23. South Africa
24. Spain
25. Szwitzerland
26. USA
27. Uruguay

Aracu: Welcome to Portimao, the interpreters are ready, we have simultaneous translation in English, Spanish and Portuguese at the Congress of today, there are 4 languages.

Before starting our works, I want to welcome all of you, the delegates are fewer than those who normally attend such a meeting, as this is not an elective congress. A special greeting to the Portuguese Federation and its President Fernando Claro, whom I will give the floor to, for a greeting. Let me also extend a greeting to the manufacturers of skating equipment. Today for the first time I wanted them to be present with us here at the Sports Arena, they are the economic heart of our world, and it is right that they are an integral part of a Federation that wants to grow; later, in my report, I will talk about what are the structures and relationships that unite us. I will now present the table of the Executive Board of the International Federation of Roller Sports: you know them all, but I feel compelled to greet them and name them all, on my right Valerie Leftwich, my first Vice-President Australian, then Fernando Claro, FIRS Vice President and President of the European Confederation, FIRS Vice President Carlos Orlando Ferreira, who is also President of the Pan-American Confederation, FIRS Vice-President Patricia Wallace, President of the Oceania Confederation, FIRS Vice President Wendi Gila President of the African Confederation, elected little more than a years ago, on my left, the Secretary General Roberto Marotta who is also President of the International Technical Committee for Speed, our friend and President of the International Technical Committee of Rink Hockey Harro Strucksberg, President of the International Committee of Inline Hockey, Gilbert Portier and Jim Pollard, President of the International Technical Committee of Figure Skating; only one Vice-President is missing today, Mr Shen Zhinguo, President of the Asian Confederation, who was elected two weeks ago. I want to emphasize that Mr Zhinguo is also the Secretary General of the Chinese Olympic Committee, therefore a very influential person in sports policy.

Before starting our work, I give the floor for a brief greeting to the President of the Portuguese Federation Fernando Claro.

Claro: Thank you Mr. President, good morning to you all, first of all I want to thank my friend and FIRS President Sabatino Aracu and all my colleagues of the Executive Board and of course all those present. I am happy for your presence here in Portugal and I can assure you that this assembly and this Championship will always have a special place in my heart. It was played a lot of work to get to where we are today, for the affirmation of skating in all its disciplines and around the world. Portugal and I personally are willing to cooperate in any way, both particular and institutional. Finally I wish you all a good stay today and for the rest of the Championship. Thanks

Marotta: Good morning, I inform you that there are 26 affiliated Federations with a total of 101 votes, the quorum is 51 votes. Let us approve the scrutineers, we propose Mr Vaziri President of the Iran Federation, Antonio Aguiar from Macao and Hervé Lallement for France. Approved unanimously. We go to point C of the agenda, approval of the Report of the previous Congress: it can be found in this folder, if there are any objections or amendments to be pointed out, please report them now. If there are not, we can vote for approval. Approved unanimously. The floor to the President for his report.

Aracu: Roberto thanks, thanks friends, we are together for many years, I believe that the Congress is the most important moment, because it is an occasion to take stock of what it has been done and if it was done well, what are our problems and how we can solve them. I thank again for their presence the managers of companies producing equipment for skating, because I think that their presence is important, but today only as auditors for a future comparison. There can be no growth in any sport, if there is no growth in the economy that turns around.

We and the producers are closely connected; in fact they have the duty to make skates and we to be skaters, it would be very difficult to sell skates without skaters and to be skaters without skates. So ours is a common fate, many countries and even the International Federation are helped and sponsored by the manufacturers of skates and sports facilities.

Today I want to start from where we left two years ago, the Elective Congress of Rome, during which you gave me your trust. In February 2009, the greatest commitment that we took was the Olympic project, in fact, speed skating was included by the IOC among the seven sports candidates to become Olympic; as you know two of them would have become immediately, while others would have to wait again. To be included in this group was already a great achievement: for the first time we were taken into account, and from then on the situation has changed, each of us who comes in contact with the IOC, from Jim Pollard to Wendi Gila is referred to as "the Roller", and this did not happen before.

As you saw, a movie was shown behind my shoulders, that in particular was created after the Olympic project, but for this purpose it has been realized spectacular movies sent worldwide in support of our policy to try to enter the Olympic Games, a policy based on claims that had been provided and on the experience gained four years ago. They told us they wanted a young and spectacular sport, and we had great appreciation in this regard by international journalists. Several times in Lausanne, the headquarters of the IOC, these journalists have asked us for interviews, and we also received many phone calls, both myself and our Secretary General; they expressed their appreciation for our sport, for being a spectacular sport, and were persuaded we would have entered, and that I pointed out also to Mr. Rogge, IOC President.

We had prepared a political program to be developed in these four years, which included meetings with each delegate of the IOC, a lobby action from the United States to Australia. I have travelled to different countries of the world to meet IOC members who would have voted, in fact I met the Secretary General of the Chinese Olympic Committee during one of these trips.

In August 2009, President Rogge decided to change the rules: not to let the Assembly vote as it was four years ago, but to entrust the decision to his own Executive Board, and this was a blow that we did not expect. It was certainly good to let us know, but we could concentrate our efforts in a different way, we could try lobbying with the political governments of some countries, so that members of the Executive Board could stay close to us. But we have not been given this opportunity. I am not here to criticize other sports, each sport is beautiful and everyone loves his own, for me clearly roller sports are absolutely the most beautiful, rugby and golf are for those who practice them and we must accept that they have won.

What I do not approve is that they have won with the criteria that we did not expect; when I met President Rogge in Lausanne after the exclusion, I stated that they told us to look for sports for young people, spectacular sports and young people can also like golf, but certainly we can not define it a sport for young people, rugby is certainly a great sport, but in the way "at seven" it is certainly not spectacular.

The international media have often pointed out that ours is a great sport because it is practiced by both men and women, in all our disciplines there is this duality. We can say that we are one of the few federations, as well as swimming and athletics, which plays the races alternating male and female, and this is certainly another feature in our favour. We are not here to mourn, but to do a cold, lucid and clear analysis: money and organization have won and if these are the selection criteria we have to make qualitative leaps. We must be aware that something is still wrong, that often in our events, and I have no problem to say this in front of our producers, we were not able to give our best. For years I have been fighting for the image, we have made progress, but we must go further, the Olympic project is not finished, people stop dreaming are broken people and I'll never stop dreaming and fighting, until you will see me here, in this or any other role, I will be with you to fight for this great goal.

But a more important goal is to develop high level roller sports, we were considered by the IOC, they came to see our World Championships, and sometimes we let them see empty grandstands.

We are not ready and we have to admit it, otherwise we give to them all the responsibilities, they did not follow the patterns that they had promised to the world, but we have a machine that finds still difficulties to get off the ground.

Here among us today there is no people, who does not love our sport, we are all driven by a great passion, but that is not enough, we need an organization that everyone can see, it is necessary for the future of our sport.

The movie you saw before, for example, was sent to all countries of the world: those who have not received it, can ask for it. The realized videos are high quality products, which can be used both for television and for a commercial, and are available to all, there is not a FIRS copyright, they have been made trying to give a different identity to our Federation.

I thank my colleagues who are with me at this table and that yesterday have supported me for 13 consecutive hours, during which no one has thought to his own needs, but only to work and think about how to solve the problems of skating and hockey. This is a great honour for me, because I know that I have people around me, who love this sport, and that with me are looking for new lines: promotion, for example through the production of great movies, common areas, a total revision of our sport.

Yesterday we saw two new disciplines: Inline Alpine, which has enjoyed a great success in countries such as Austria, Switzerland, Germany, the Czech Republic and Slovenia, and in general all the European Alps; and Roller Derby, presented by the President and the Executive Director of the Federation of the United States, a team sport, that may seem violent, but it is not and that in the USA has many members. These phenomena can not be ignored, I turn to the producers of skating equipment, because there are many opportunities: the inline alpine in summer may also affects the world of skiing.

Even on an amateur level many producers can enjoy this discipline creating satellite industries, buying skates, sky poles, and what is necessary, this helps of course to expand our economic circuit.

Our Federation currently brings together established disciplines such as freestyle, downhill, skateboarding, inline hockey, rink hockey, speed and figure skating, and many new disciplines; there are not many other Federations, that can boast the same strength. This could allow us to organize a Roller Festival, that is my dream and I hope that in the next 5 – 6 years we can organize a World Championship, involving all disciplines at the same time, an event involving the participation of 10,000 athletes and their managers.

At the present time we often find difficulties to organize a single championship of figure skating or speed, but I believe that the organization of a championship for all disciplines would be easier, because such a big and international event would focus the attention of traders, who are willing to invest, and would make politicians more susceptible.

Any local government, the one of Buenos Aires as the one of my city could be willing to cooperate with us if we could bring an event like this, dealing with various

Championships, with different races at all times and in many locations, especially a great attraction for the media.

My goal, like yours, is to go to the Olympics, but what I am anxious to do today, is to make strong the roller world.

Many years ago we changed the name of the International Roller Skating Federation in International Roller Sports Federation, and it was a first change of course, we must grow and move forward, so it is necessary to take forward new initiatives. Yesterday, for example, the project Sport Facilities was deliberated: it consists of a Regulation for the facilities, which will enable us to answer to the requests, that we receive from around the world for the realization of facilities. Until some time ago we were not able to do real projects, we have now the opportunity to provide them for free to anyone who asks for them. A country, that wants to build a new facility must be sure, that the Federation will assist it in every way. This speech is not directed only to the developing countries but also to those, in which there is a strong tradition; in the next month, for example, we will be in Mexico with two new testers for two new tracks for speed skating, one will be created in Guadalajara for the Pan American Games; the organizing association of these Games required the approval of the tracks at our International Federation, and this is certainly very important.

A first step for our growth may be the realization of facilities, a second is certainly the school.

As Italian I am proud to see so many Italians winning in international competitions, but as President of the International Federation I am disappointed, because I would like to see on the podium new nations, like Iran, Angola or Israel because I believe that the turn of medals means strength. We must help these emerging countries to grow at a sporting level, the Federation, in the past, has sent coaches to different countries of the world such as China or Albania. Now we need to train new coaches, we must introduce the idea of school in each country: we can send the best coaches anywhere in the world, by paying the travel expenses, but it is important for these coaches to find there not only skaters, but a possible number of new coaches. The technical growth of a class of coaches is the real investment, and helps to create the most modern Federations. A country without school has no chance of development, as a company that does not make house training is destined to die, so for us it is necessary to create an International School.

In the past we have organized international courses for coaches, now we want to realize one course that forms the ambassadors of the International Federation: we will organize one by the end of next year, to which those who wish can participate. We appeal to people who possibly have already skated, able to become coaches if necessary, in the various sectors, but that after the training course are also able to go to a not yet affiliated country, to create relationships with the Olympic Committee of the place. They must be able to organize a group of managers in

addition to coaches, they will be responsible to understand and form the one, who will be the future President of the Federation. In the case of already existing but not too efficient Federations, they can help in managing the various technical sectors.

Today we are present in several important events, such as the Pan American Games, Asian Games, which are the most important in terms of numbers after the Olympics, but we must work in order to ensure our presence in the future; for this reason we must have the greatest number of Federations in each continent, otherwise we risk to be excluded.

There is a possibility that this happens in Asia and therefore we are talking with the President of the Asian Games.

We must all work to enhance the brand of our Federation, we want the sponsors to be close to us, but we have to offer something in return, and with a policy of developing our coaches and ambassadors, in addition to the job that I just mentioned, will take care of the interests of our sponsors and if it would be necessary, we will not have problems to send them around the world with the brands of the companies in full view on the tracksuit.

We need to create a pool of sponsors who are nearby, and I go back to the speech made at the beginning, if sponsors help us to create a lot of skaters, they will then have people who will buy their skates or their wheels, people, who will need to build tracks. We want to make a revolution, we expect to be here in two years to use only products approved by the International Federation, we will do a lot of publicity about it, we will put it on the website, certifying their quality, avoiding in this way that unknown brands invade the markets of the world. We need a quality brand and parameters will be drawn for this. All this will increase the quality and allow us to collect money, which will then be reinvested in promotion. We have a clear budget and we want in the future to invest for promotion up to US \$ 300,000. Help me then to enhance our brand! I give you an example:, the Italian Roller Sports Federation shows in its letterhead as "affiliated FIRS", because this mark is to be spread all over the world. The more this brand is known, the more it can get.

During these occasions it is good to discuss the common initiatives, one of them was the Grand Prix for Speed Skating held around the world, which gave the opportunity to the skaters to compete and earn money by winning the stages, because if it is true we are talking about amateurs.

These speed stages, which give also economic benefits to FIRS, will be realized also for figure skating. The first step was made in Colombia, and I thank the Colombian Federation for the seminar organized for athletes of figure skating, which was held in Bogota, but I thank especially President Carlos Orlando Ferreira, who is also strong man of politics, and this has helped us a lot searching the necessary funds to accomplish this great project. The next stop will be in Florence, we are looking for others South America, Asia or Africa. The stage in Colombia was sold to many televisions in South America and had a great success.

Another interesting activity was carried out in the Mediterranean area: the Roller Cruise, a sport event, that took place on a cruise ship and in which figure skating had a starring role: every evening in the ship theaters skating performances were the top show.

The Roller Cruise can be defined as a travelling figure skating stage, as each stage of the cruise included a training, and to get the best results as promotion we distributed skates on board so that ordinary guests could try to skate.

We discuss now the problem of the revision of the Statute, which as you know is 40 years old: we thought it was enough to put it in order, but now we believe that everything is to be remade because it is not suitable for a modern and open-minded Federation. It is more difficult to change a single part of it, that to rewrite it completely; maybe we will get more time, but we have to get a statute that allows us to be freer. For example, in the Congress today, to let the producers be present, we had to make a stretch, but I imagine a future meeting to which you do not participate just to hear the President's speech, but a meeting, for example, during an exhibition among all producers of equipment for skating in the various disciplines or an exhibition of facilities companies, during which the Congress participants could meet even those, who provide them with the equipment.

I imagine it as a two-day meeting, in which the first day could be devoted entirely to the examination of the bids of the countries for the organization of the World Championships, with the participation of 60-70 countries, of their respective promoting committees together with their local authorities, with presentations of the events through movies and with the description of the guarantees on the success of the event. This is the kind of result we need to achieve: it is not something that can be achieved in a short time, but you have to aim high. Again communication is the key, so we are present in the most important international sports exhibitions as Sportell, but we need more cooperation from the organizing committees. We are the first International Federation to have created its own television, Roller TV, which began in 2006 with a little scepticism, and that now boasts great results: now during the junior championship we had almost 250,000 accesses, an achievement so great that it was necessary to widen the band. We are one of the few federations, that broadcasts its own championships and this has become a reference point for fans. We know, that the observers of the IOC are linked to websites, and so in the coming months you will see our new website, a container that must be constantly filled: I ask you to send us contents, we want to promote all the national championships such as the continental ones, in this regard your contributions are necessary, because we have not yet the possibility to send TV crews around the world.

Our Federation now has many employees, who are working for you, they are at your disposal for any need on facilities, communication or for any other need.

Dear friends, I think I traced the lines of what we have to do, to change course, to grow, we can not remain tied to how we were 20 years ago. I do not ask the impossible, but to join our forces. The World Championships for all disciplines can be a great media spectacle. Hockey has its contacts in the journalism in France, Spain, Italy, Portugal and Argentina, figure skating some others, but if we realize a joint project those contacts will be obliged to take care of Roller Sports in general.

The project of a championship for all disciplines had yesterday the approval of the Executive Board, but is not a final and absolute choice, our leadership is open and flexible, able also to reconsider its decisions if you do not prove them necessary. We also evaluated the appropriateness of making the World Championships every two years, so as to alternate a year the Worlds and a year the Continental ones to give more breath to the countries and to ensure the quality of the Continental Championships

Dear friends, I am at your disposal throughout the day, ready to listen, now we hear the reports of the Vice-Presidents and of the Technical Committees, but to conclude I repeat the invitation to work with us, I hope that, as me, you will continue to struggle and to look for solutions, and I hope that our world can open itself to the business, both for those who practice sport and for those who produce what we use. Let us open ourselves up to the world, count always on me and on my staff that is always available to all. Passion commitment and love, and good return home. I wish you a year happier than the previous one.

Marotta: Let us approve the President's report. Approved unanimously. I let the floor to the four Vice-Presidents for their report.

Leftwich: you have my report in the folder, it is very short, much of the work this year concerns the inline hockey; like the President I had the opportunity to travel around the world, I was with him and Mr. Portier in Dubai, where we had the opportunity to meet the Federation of ICE inline hockey, to discuss with them problems concerning the inclusion of inline hockey in their site.

Last year I also worked on revising the Statute as requested by the Executive Board: in the folder you have some proposals, they are not many because we understand the need to rewrite it entirely and this year we will focus on it. This Statute is 40 years old, but its rewriting must be done carefully, the various proposals will be evaluated during the next three Executive Board, but it is very important for us to look for resources, professionals who help us in this work.

During the past year some of you have come to me asking me questions, I tried to answer all, when I was not able, I have sent them to those who could give me a solution and I invite you to continue to contact me for any request .

I thank Fernando Claro for organizing this event here in Portugal in an exceptional way, and I want to thank all the EB and in general FIRS members. Thank you.

Claro: Dear friends, despite the economic crisis that you all know, and that concerns the whole Europe, I was very glad to see that the calendar of European events was

respected. In this sense, we must acknowledge the efforts of all who have worked with responsibility for the spread of roller skating, both in the Technical Committees of the European Confederation and in the National Federations, that are working with engagement to the achievement of many sports projects.

The goal of the European Confederation, as well as that of FIRS, is to work and interact with the world; we can not stop in our geographical area, but we must stay together and focus the efforts to bridge the gap with the world. I would like to thank you all, you can count on the European Confederation for any support, I wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Thanks.

Wallace: My report can be found in the folder but I want to emphasize a point, the Confederation of Oceania is very isolated and would have many problems if the World Championships were held every two years, and I am very glad that the ice skaters are approaching our sport and take part in competitions of other Federations. We organized a Continental Championships in Oceania, which is growing and is getting success. Our Championships were attended by many Japanese skaters, and I take this opportunity to extend to you an invitation to come and visit our country and compete with us. I do not have much to add, I want to thank the Portuguese Federation for the excellent organization, I wish you a Merry Christmas, thank you.

Gila: I want to give you some information about the structure of my Confederation because I consider it very important. Currently we have the Federation of Angola, Cameroon, Egypt, Kenya, Mozambique, South Africa, with its competitions for the rink hockey, Namibia for inline hockey, and new Federations in Ghana, Uganda, Nigeria, Malawi and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Many countries participate at international level only in speed and rink hockey but we are working hard for the spread even of figure skating. We had a big help by the World Organization of the Inline Hockey coaches and its President, who organized stages in Kenya and Cameroon, and helped us a lot to solve some of our problems. We have organized a Speed Championship with great success in South Africa, attended by athletes coming from all over Europe and we have also organized one in Kenya and the government has decided to support us better thanks to its great success. In July there was a Hockey Clubs Championship in South Africa and we must thank Angola for having saved the event by creating a separate Committee, because the sponsor withdrew at the last minute. We are planning to organize a continental championship for the artistic and the rink hockey to be held next year and this year we will have one for speed and it will be attended by five countries; it is the first Continental Championship which is held since 8 years and this makes us very proud and hopeful for the future.

As you all, we are going through a severe economic crisis, but the support of the International Federation, of CIPA and of the coaches helps us a lot to handle emergencies. I want to thank Mr. Pollard for providing us with technical equipment

and Alessandra for the information included, that allowed the arrival of many skates, that are the thing we most need. Thank you for having listened to me, if you have questions, I am ready to answer. Thanks.

Ferreira: Thank you Roberto, a greeting to all delegates and members of FIRS Executive Board, and our host Portugal, thank you for this welcome. Mine will be a short report on the Pan-American Confederation; first of all I want to explain how it is organized as it is an entity managing roller sports throughout the American continent, from Alaska to Patagonia, and for this reason, for the great extension of the territory, we have divided the Continent into three parts and three sub-federations; two sub-federations have already been approved by the Panamerican Confederation and one is going to be recognized.

The South American Sub-Confederation includes Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Chile, Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay. We are going to recognize Bolivia as Federation affiliated to the Panamerican Confederation and so consequently to the Sub-South American Confederation.

For the Central America we have the Sub-Confederation of Central America including Panama, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic. This year we worked hard and we hope to get new members and these countries are Belize, Barbados, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Bermuda, the Virgin Islands and the Bahamas.

On the other side of the Continent to the north there are Mexico, the United States and Canada.

It is important that FIRS members are aware of the American Confederations, because many sporting events belonging to the Olympic cycle are handled here and these Confederations, member of the Pan-American Confederation, shall be empowered to organize in the area their own championships or Games that have been prepared by the Olympic Committee of each sector.

Our biggest concern is the permanence of roller sports in the Games of the Olympic cycle, organized by the various Olympic committees in each area. Among these, the most important are the Pan American Games, held every four years. The next ones will be held in October in Guadalajara, and we got that roller sports are present with two disciplines, speed and artistic. In the last Games, roller sports presented six medals: 2 for figure skating, one for men and one for women, and 4 for speed, 2 for men and 2 for women. For speed skating combined competitions of speed endurance and medium distance took place and athletes were awarded based on a sum of the scores obtained in the various competitions.

For the next Games in Guadalajara we obtained the increasing of the number of medals for speed skating in two, 3 men and 3 women will be awarded and, as we were asked by the International Speed Committee the winner of each specialty will be awarded, while in figure skating the number of medals will be the same as in the previous year.

The Confederation has made a negotiation about the number of athletes participating, and we obtained the participation of 8 countries for speed skating and 8 countries for figure skating. As just said, the permanence of skating in the Games of the Olympic cycle is the largest commitment of the Pan-American Confederation, but equally important is the participation in the Sub Continental Games such as Central American and Caribbean Games. These Games are attended by 35 Olympic Committees, all the countries of Central America and those that border the Caribbean Sea; last July they were held in Mayaguez in Puerto Rico. As roller skating is not an Olympic sport, the participation in many of these events is not automatic, so it is always necessary a lobby policy: for example, skating in Mayaguez had been excluded, so we had to find a sub site, that was the city of Bogota and in this way speed skating could compete while artistic could remain in Mayaguez.

There are also other Games, such as the South American, attended by the countries of the southern part of the continent and Panama, which is the border land between South and Central America. These Games were held this year in Medellin, Colombia, and also here there were speed skating and artistic. Also in the South American continent we have the Bolivarian Games, to be attended by all the countries liberated by Simon Bolivar, and we were there with the speed skating.

This is important if we think of our goal of becoming an Olympic sport, and here I want to thank publicly those who make it possible, i.e. the American National Federations which are in their countries hosts of the Olympic Games and work hard for this goal. In particular, for the Pan American Games I thank the Mexican Federation and its President; they were in fact present throughout the programming of the Games to be held in Guadalajara and the same can be said of the Colombian Federation for the Central American, Bolivarian and South American Games,.

In South America every four years a ranking event takes place for the participation in the Pan American Games; in 2011 this event will be held 5-12 March in the city of Rosario in Argentina, and all four disciplines will be present. We hope in the participation not only of the 21 just recognized Federations by the Pan American Confederation, but also other nations that are still waiting for approval for the affiliation.

The Confederation support also some international events organized by its sub confederations, such as the South American Championships, the South American Open and the Central American Championships.

Finally I want to fill you about the work we have undertaken with a group called SARS, which operates the American television in its two major sports broadcasters, which are SIN and FOX, and the goal is to broadcast, according to FIRS and not just in America, some continental and World Championships, and this topic was discussed yesterday during the Executive Board. SARS Group represents also multinational companies and hopes to find a big sponsor for the Pan-American Confederation. We are working hard so that a big multinational company such as Coca Cola, Pepsi Cola

or Movistar, companies present on the American continent with its products, become our sponsor as early as next year.

Finally I want to thank some people, who allow that roller sports are developed across the continent, first of all my American friend Jim Pollard who came with me in my travels throughout the continent working for roller sports remaining in the various Games.

After the Panamerican Games there will be those of Toronto in Canada: the battle for the survival of roller sports will be more difficult, given the recent inclusion of rugby and golf in the Olympic Sports: of course we will do everything we can.

I also thank Marcelo Martinez, who will host the next Pan American Games in Argentina and Roberto Ordoñez who is working, so that these Games are worthy of our sport. Finally, the Colombian Federation, host of South American and Central American Games.

Thank you, I wish you a wonderful 2011.

Marotta: Thanks Carlos Orlando I will now briefly explain my report as FIRS Secretary General, it can be found in your folder, but I want to give you more information. First of all I want to thank the members of the Executive Board, the colleagues of the Technical Committee and the Vice-Presidents who have collaborated with the Secretariat in the management of the International Federation, I want to thank all our employees who work in our offices in Rome, many of you had the possibility to know them or at least to talk with them on the phone: Laura, Cecilia, Alessandra, Lorena, Raffaella and Simona. The year 2009 was for the Secretariat a busy year, we worked together with the President and all the staff in preparing the application for our possible entry into the Olympic world. In particular, we have to complete a very long questionnaire similar to that of other Olympic sports, which has committed us very much as you know, even if the result was negative.

We have participated in numerous meetings with the IOC, from the meetings with Vice President Dr. Bach up to the June 2009 meeting in Lausanne; we have also participated in the World Games 2009 in Kahoshiung and in September in Copenhagen, where the Olympic Committee has given us the sad answer of the exclusion of our sport. Finally at the end of year, I personally as Secretary General attended the election of the President of the African Confederation in which Wendi Gila was elected.

This year as every year we have attended SportAccord in Dubai, an annual convention which brings together all international sports federations.

To our Federation are affiliated 114 national federations, but we must be aware that only about 80 play a sport regularly and organize their own championships; it is therefore necessary to increase the number of affiliated federations, and soon in a further item on the agenda we will ratify the membership of seven new countries:

Moldova, Latvia, Gabon, Uganda, Congo, San Marino and the UAE, while we will provisionally approve other three countries: Malawi, Greece and Turkey.

The Secretariat was particularly committed to follow all the issues related to antidoping in compliance with WADA rules, in particular, I thank my colleague Pat Wallace for the extraordinary work that she has done to control this difficult area and in this respect I ask for participation and collaboration of all of you and your coaches, so that it could be paid particular attention to WADA rules. We will be credible towards the International Olympic Committee only if we can demonstrate that we comply fully WADA rules.

Finally, the financial management of FIRS.

FIRS has been able to collect, in addition to the contribution of the affiliated Federations, as income more than \$ 300.000 from sponsorship and advertising, money that allowed us to develop a sustained activity and to create an appropriate structure.

This is only a first step, but we hope that with the initiatives taken by President Sabatino Aracu we can arrive quickly to acquire additional sponsors to give way to the FIRS to help even more in developing countries.

With this I finished with my report and give the floor to the Presidents of the Technical Committees.

Pollard: Thank you, Mr. President it is an honour for me to be with you all again at a Figure Skating Championship, unfortunately for me Congress and Championship coincide, and it absorbs a lot of my time and my work.

Over the past two years in the world there have been many competitions as you can read in my report; I was able to help Carlos Ferreira and Wendi in their work with all federations. I have travelled around the world to meet the Olympic committees, my wife has kept a calendar of the time I was away from work and has counted about three months. I have been a lot of time away from home but I am happy because skating is my life, and thanks to the work done with the Olympic Committees in America we have got that figure skating was agreed for the first time in these Games. It was a great challenge as we have often had trouble getting the minimum number of participants, and the exclusion of even one Federation has put at risk the admission. For example Cuba, because of political problems, could not send athletes and participate in official events.

As the President and the Secretary I met all the representatives of National Olympic Committees that I could, and it is nice to participate in meetings of the Olympic Committee when a hundred people smile and greet you by saying "Roller sports are with us." It is important that each national federation let known itself directly from the Olympic Committee. I often had to deal with the representatives of the Olympic Committees and found that they did not know our delegates and I am equally surprised that so many representatives of the Federations present here today had never seen the promotional video that was shown before. I know it was sent to all

nations, and this means that there is no adequate communication between Federations and their delegates, who work for figure skating or speed etc Please note that everything you receive from FIRS, you have the duty to give it to your representatives so that they can do a promotion work.

I have written a calendar of events for the next two years, it is important to know it. Unfortunately we have no international sponsors, and it frequently happens that we can not fund the presence at the meeting, I received many requests for coaches in preparing athletes for international competitions and we are trying to do everything possible to meet the needs of all disciplines .

The new FIRS website is expected soon and will be updated with all international competitions and this is very important; next year the World Championships will be held in Brasilia, Brazil and I hope to see you all there. Thanks Fernando for the hospitality and I invite you to look to the future, I also thank my committee for the great job done, in everything I invite you to contact us.

I leave you wishing you a wonderful new year, we are one big family and it is important to see each other often. Thanks.

Portier: Roberto, thanks for giving me the opportunity to speak out to the family of Roller Sports. I wish to give you a scoop, the next International Championship will take place in Roccaraso, to chair the organizing committee will be Danila Chiarini, a well known person in the world of figure skating.

I do not read to you my report, but I want to update you on the development of the inline hockey in the world, especially visible in South America where it is practiced already in Colombia, Venezuela, Argentina and Ecuador.

In Asia, the development is only local, while in Africa it seems there are good opportunities because many of the speed skaters play also inline hockey. I must highlight the fact that many federations are affiliated with FIRS but only a few practicing inline hockey. Historically it has always been more conservative in other disciplines, but now even the inline has a history of 15 years, so do not be afraid to accept the sport under the umbrella of your federation, we are ready to help you through this development process, our committee can arrange courses for both coaches and referees and above all please contact us for any need. I hope to see you all in Roccaraso and I wish you a good 2011 in roller sports.

Strucksberg: Thanks Robert, good afternoon everyone, thank you for the opportunity to talk about the Roller Hockey, my report is in the folder and is written in both official languages, so I'll just point out that most of the problems are mainly financial and concern all the countries. I want to thank those who support our sport federations, such as that of Macao and its representative Aguiar: without them our sport would die. In the same way I thank my International Committee for the great work done. Thank you very much.

Marotta: Just a brief report about the International Speed Committee; I am honoured to be the President of a so important discipline that, in recent years, has

reached the summit of the world sport, and I say it with great pride because seeing 57 countries participating in our championships in 2008 in Gijon in Spain, with 750 athletes representing all continents, with 15 countries that got the medals, shows that speed skating is growing all over the world. Thanks to the Chinese Federation, which has managed to organize in 2009 with a notice of only 9 months the World Championships after the withdrawal of Switzerland. In 2009 we also participated in the World Games, our event was one of the most important of all World Games. As you know we have great athletes and great Federations in Asia with a great history; carrying out the World Games in Taiwan has been a great success for us, being the speed skating there, particularly developed. We have to be present in all multi sport events, to participate in all events so that other sports have to talk about us, they must understand and know us. Jim, I too have spent more than three months away from home, but this is the passion of my life, I believe the same for you.

In 2010 we participated at the World Championships in Guarne Colombia, and I must thank particularly the Colombian Federation, that in just seven months, was able to organize an important world championship after the withdrawal of Venezuela. 41 countries were present and many others were unable to attend due to visa problems. Last week the Asian Games were over, the most important multi sports event in the world after the Olympic Games, and we were present with speed skating and artistic.

We also had great success in Asia because we have very strong competitive countries such as Korea, China and Taipei, China. At the last day of our competition the most important Chinese newspaper, China Daily, had on the first page of the sports section, the picture of our competition in which an athlete of Taiwan beat a Korean athlete. It was a reason of great pride and gave us hope for our future.

We have an intensive program for the next two years: in 2011 our Worlds will be held in Korea but we will also have an important appointment, the Pan American Games in Guadalajara, and also here we must show to be a real sport, athletic, exciting, a sport able to catch the public. In 2012 the World Championships will be held in Italy in 2013 in Belgium in the city of Ostend. In 2013 we will also have the World Games in Colombia in Cali, and we will be there with the best athletes, with those who have had great results in the previous World Championships. Finally in 2014 we will be present in the Asian Championships in the city of Incheon, Korea. I speak of all these multi-sports events as only those in Asian and Pan-American Championships, because our sport has the opportunity to compete and to show its own enthusiasm, to demonstrate its athletic quality, comparing with the other Olympic sports and to show to those who live in sport, how our discipline deserves to become Olympic.

But our sport is not limited to the official discipline of speed skating, we aggregate under CIC umbrella other disciplines such as downhill, a particular discipline followed by televisions, that have always been interested in speed and risk; we also

accepted the freestyle, a sport that you can see in any public park in the world and then just yesterday we opened the doors to two new sports: inline alpine slalom, very similar to the slalom practiced on skis, but with the advantage of being able to be practiced in a descent of any city in the world, and that allows us then to show the spectacle also outside the track, and finally under suggestion of our American friends, we opened the doors to Roller Derby, a sport new in the rules, but old in its movie representation. These two new disciplines have become part of the great family of Roller Sports in the world: welcome and good luck.

Thanks for all the activities carried out especially to promote and help the developing countries, we need new countries to participate in events, to let our disciplines become bigger and bigger.

Continuing with the agenda let us discuss the financial statements of our International Federation. All of you have received the consolidated financial balance, you will find it in the main folder and is about the incomes and expenses of all four Technical Committees as well as of FIRS. This additional sheet, prepared by our auditor Luis Alfonso Muñoz, can be found as summary in the penultimate page.

I am not going to read all the numbers and amounts, but I will indicate incomes and expenses of each Technical Committee The Executive Board had incomes of U.S. \$ 305,698, and expenses of U.S. \$ 259,935 with an operating surplus of U.S. \$ 45,763.

The Speed Committee had as incomes US\$ 195,653 and as expenses US\$ 109,497 with a surplus of US\$ 86.156.

The Figure Skating Committee had incomes of U.S.\$ 128,545 and expenses of U.S.\$ 98,941 with a surplus of U.S. \$ 29,604.

The Rink Hockey Committee had incomes of U.S. \$ 193,891 and expenses of U.S. \$ 183,345 with a surplus of U.S. \$ 61,546 with a cash balance of U.S. \$ 12,946, because 48,600 U.S. \$ have yet to be collected.

The Inline Hockey Committee had incomes of U.S. \$ 56,824 and expenses U.S. \$ 36,877 and a surplus of U.S. \$ 19,947.

The consolidated balance of four Technical Committees and the International Federation, therefore of the Executive Board, amounts totally to U.S.\$ 880,611 as incomes and U.S. \$ 637,595 as expenses with available funds of U.S. \$ 243,016.

I leave now the floor to Alfonso Muñoz for his report as Auditor

Muñoz: The amounts reported by Roberto photograph the financial situation of the five committees and represent the operations, that take place regularly throughout the year, I want to make some clarifications that I think are important, first, that all figures are expressed in dollars, The second is that the Executive Board, after some difficult years from an economic point of view. is once again in surplus, the figures for 2009 confirm the wishes of President Aracu to find sponsors and patrons for the communication. They support the new strategy of the FIRS, and allow us to foresee a promising future. Among these data, we can highlight the U.S. \$ 83,818 of advertising and television contracts which, I believe, are already a significant

beginning. Secondly I wanted to highlight the contribution made by the Italian Federation to FIRS to support the whole administration of the Executive Board and which amount to U.S. \$ 69,646. Finally, I mention another amount because it is something new: the contribution that the International Olympic Committee gave to FIRS. In the past years it was between 20,000 and 25,000 U.S. \$ and this year it amounted to U.S. \$ 48,855. All this has allowed that the incomes of U.S. \$ 305,000 of the Executive Board have increased to 11.5% in 2009 compared to 2008. The remaining U.S. \$ 45,000, available to FIRS after an operating year, are the first step forward slowly but surely.

The Speed Committee shows a growth path: while the whole Executive Board participates with 38%, the Speed Committee participates with 22% and shows a positive balance of U.S. \$ 86,165. The three remaining committees keep the budgets of previous years without significant changes, but the Rink Hockey Committee has receivables and we hope that next year it finally gets it. We are working carefully, trying not to risk too much with the expenses and to permanently improve the incomes and we hope that the 2010 budget, which will be ready in the first months of the year, give us economic even more favourable results.

Marotta: I ask the Assembly to approve or reject the financial report.

Approved unanimously.

Next item on the agenda: the ratification of the new federations affiliated to the International Federation.

All the documentation required by FIRS for the membership has been delivered and is in our HQ.

I want to add that one of the requests we made is the approval of the NOC, but unfortunately we not always obtain this not because the respective Olympic Committees did not want their federations to be recognized, but because they fear that official recognition would legitimize these federations to apply for financial support. The new federations, which are permanently affiliated to FIRS and will be ratified and voted on separately are:

Moldova: vote, approved unanimously, Moldova recognized;

Latvia: vote, approved unanimously, Latvia recognized;

Gabon: It is one of the countries for which the Olympic Committee did not give consent: vote, approved unanimously, Gabon recognized;

Uganda: vote, approved unanimously, Uganda recognized;

Democratic Republic of Congo: there is a clarification about the name of the state, unanimously approved, Democratic Republic of Congo recognized;

Republic of San Marino: vote, approved unanimously, Republic of San Marino recognized;

United Arabian Emirates: vote, approved unanimously, United Arabian Emirates recognized

We shall now vote for the provisional recognition of those who have not yet provided all necessary documentation, in fact as you know, the Executive Board may proceed to a provisional approval to allow these countries to begin to participate in the Championships even if they have no voting rights until the formal recognition. The Executive Board yesterday has provisionally recognized the following countries: Malawi, Greece and Turkey

The floor to President Aracu.

Aracu: On this last point, let me emphasize that this is an important moment, many major countries have applied to become our affiliates, and this because we are doing in the world a good job in the areas. Thank you for your cooperation, often you are just the ones who, with your efforts, bring the roller sports in the neighbouring countries; so I feel confident, this is the spirit that we must pursue.

Marotta: before discussing the next item on the agenda, at the request of the President of Rink hockey, Harro Strucksberg, I inform you that in recent months, FIRS Secretariat has received an application for membership by an independent sports organization that practices rink hockey in Mexico; it has requested to be recognized as National Independent Federation. We have asked the Mexican Federation what was the situation and if they thought it was possible to give up the control of rink hockey in favour of this new organization. The Mexican Federation has strongly opposed the creation of a new association and has guaranteed to develop its activity in this area, paying the required membership fees to FIRS and participating with his own team to the last World Rink Hockey Championships. Despite the negative response, the President Harro Strucksberg pressed by this organization, has asked the Executive Board to vote by mail for the acceptance of this Association. The majority of the members of the Executive Board opposed this vote and discussed this topic during the Executive Board, which was held yesterday. After extensive discussion, the Executive Board rejected the request for an independent affiliation of the Roller Hockey Agrupación de Mexico, confirming that the Roller Hockey, like other disciplines, remains under the control of the Mexican Federation.

Let us now discuss the proposed amendments of the Statute.

A first amendment was approved yesterday by the Executive Board and concerns the Technical Regulations, this is the adaptation of our technical rules so that they are compliant with the WADA anti-doping rules, and therefore we felt that this change should be approved quickly.

We analyze now the amendments proposed by our Federation, but I must first inform the Congress, that the Executive Board decided that changes are not sufficient but that the whole body of our statute requires a reformulation. It has been 40 years since it was drawn up and now it shows its inadequacy. It must be completely revised, and we realized that partial changes in an already old structure, could create more problems in managing our International Federation. Referring to

the example made yesterday by President Aracu, it is as if we were to change only one wheel of our car, we must instead make a new draft. The Executive Board has pledged itself to realize it during the next year and this will allow us to get to next Congress in 2012 with a new statute. The new statute will be sent on time to all affiliated Federations so that they can study it and eventually make their contribution. However, we have examined the proposals made by the Federations, one in particular has been formulated by several Federations and is about the carrying out of the World Championships every two years instead of every year. The Executive Board has talked a long time about this, trying to assess the various aspects of the problem: on the one hand there is the difficulty of some less developed countries, that find in the World Championships, the only possibility to compete at international level, on the other hand there is the devaluation of our world champions. Every year is announced the achievement of world titles that, however, last only a few months.

Then there is a problem that involves many federations, especially the biggest ones, the problem of the financial commitment for participation in the annual World Championships. Finally, every year it is more difficult to find organizers for these Championships, countries that may face such an important burden as the organization of such an event.

In the light of these considerations and considering valid the arguments of the two Federations, which have proposed the change, the Executive Board decided to approve yesterday only the calendar of the next World Championships until 2014, while in 2015 no championships will be assigned if the proposal of World Championships every two years will be approved.

This means that the last annual championship will be held in 2014 and then we will go to 2016 and 2018. With a great sense of realism, the Executive Board realized that this decision should be flexible, as it will raise some objections already during the next Congress in 2012.

Ultimately the decision taken is to start with the World Championships every two years by deleting the program of 2015.

At the end of this introduction it will be particularly welcome your participation and comments in this regard, we want to understand what are the ideas and thoughts of our members.

Another important change is that relating to age for participation in the Junior World Championships: for roller hockey and figure skating the age limit had already been set as less than 20 years, i.e. up to 19 years, speed skating adapts then to this new age limit, but due to differences between our disciplines, it will be different the age of entry the junior category, so for speed skating the minimum age will be 15 years and up to 19 years old.

It is an important change that does not directly address the statute, but that affects everyone in the management of our sport.

The final decision of the Executive Board is therefore that the statutory changes are suspended waiting for a proposal for the drafting of the Statute to be realized in the coming year.

I give the floor to potential interventions. The floor to Carmelo Paniagua, President of the Spanish Federation.

Paniagua: Thanks Mr. President, I thank you for the theme proposed by the Royal Spanish Federation of Skating, about the carrying out of the World Championships every two years, and I thank the President for the words spoken that emphasize the reasons for which this proposal was made. I support and I hope that the annual carrying out of the World Championships ends in 2014, each country would make its remarks on it, but I hope you give the due weight to this proposal, which will be studied with interest from an economic, sports and prestige point of view and I want to add something that has been left out and that I consider very important: There are a lot of competitions and a lot of medals that are handed over, and this certainly is not good for our sport from the perspective of its attempt to become Olympic. I understand the difficulties of some countries that wish to participate in the World Championships each year because they have not their own championships, but I think that our job is to help them in this organization in order to strengthen the sport in this continents and to create new continental competitions, so that the world and continental championships will alternate. I also want to point out that there was much talk today about continental competitions in Asia and South America, how important it is for us to participate, but you have omitted to say that last Monday the European Olympic Committee approved the creation of the European Sport Games. I ask the President of the European Confederation Fernando Claro and our President to get in touch with the European Olympic Committee so that in 2015, first edition of these Games, roller sports may be present. I am Vice President of the Spanish Olympic Committee and I hope to be helpful in this regard. I thank the Committee for accepting the proposal of the Spanish Federation.

Strucksberg: I speak as President of the German Federation, I am in favour of the proposal submitted by Spain and I agree with all the arguments.

President of Israel: I agree with the proposal of Spain. Then I wanted to express my support to the President about his proposal for the Roller Sports Games, I think the idea of these Games is really good, it would show everybody how great we are, and would highlight this in the eyes of the Olympic Committee, we need to acquire this kind of power.

Quintanilla: I thank all for what has been said, but I wish that today we could create a Committee responsible for the revision of the Statute among those present today at the Congress.

Marotta: We have already a commission that deals with the revision of the Statute within the Executive Board, all the Federations will receive on time the draft and will propose any changes they deem appropriate, then there will be a Congress that

will have the sole objective of evaluating the proposals and preparing the drafting of the Statute.

Quintanilla: I spoke because in South America we had a specific law for Sport and this has allowed the Federation and the Olympic Committee to work together. I say this to speed up the process because if we have to evaluate the proposals of the 150 member federations we will not come soon to a conclusion.

Marotta: For this reason the Commission is composed of a few people working on a draft, all federations can propose changes but it does not mean they will all be accepted.

Quintanilla: When do we have a first draft?

Marotta: We hope at the end of 2011, it will be a demanding task and we need a few months time.

Aracu: I wish to speak on this point because I believe we can define it a true act of sports policy: to remake a statute is an historic and very demanding work, requiring the participation of all. We commissioned professionals so that the statute could be easy, but at the same time contains all the rules that can help us. Already the presence in the Executive Board of the Presidents of all the continents is a guarantee, but I hope that the Presidents of the Federation could give their contribution both from a political and a technical point of view. Let me give an example: yesterday we met some new disciplines, it can be expected to appoint a Technical Committee to be attached to the existing ones, but this can be possible only if it will be written in the statute, such a decision is especially strategic. During the next Executive Board to be held probably in July, a full day will be devoted to the drafting of the Statute, and so even during the next one, that probably will be held in Brazil at the World Championships, and we will think about the possible organization of one or two in 2012. My point of view is that a statute should be small and easy, that it should not contain too many things, because otherwise you risk having to change again. I therefore urge all those who have legal capacity and can give us some suggestions to come forward.

Finally, despite the Executive Board has decided to play the World Championships every two years, I am interested to know your opinion

Gray: I think we should separate the continental championships from the worlds because the countries which do not have high-level championships, have also economic problems to reach other parts of the world to compete in international competitions.

Aracu: I would say that the spirit is just that: to alternate world and continental championships, in order to highlight them.

Marotta: President calls the Assembly to express an informal vote to determine who is favourable or not.

Brazil: I think that this is an important topic and therefore we should send a communication to all countries so that all can express their opinion in writing, because here we are few compared to the number of affiliated Federations.

Marotta: the decision has already been taken by the Executive Board, that has full right, what we want, is to know your opinion on it, being here 30 delegates. The vote does not invalidate the decision.

Let us proceed to vote, I ask the help of the auditors. For: 41 Against: 57

Let us discuss the next item on the agenda, the ratification of the office of auditor, the Executive Board proposed to confirm for the appointment Dr.. Luis Alfonso Muñoz. Vote! Approved unanimously.

Gray: Regarding the maximum age for participation in the Junior Championships I believe it is not clear if to be nineteen years means to be excluded or not from competitions.

Marotta: Age is sub-20, that is, participants must be 19 years old on 31 December of the year in which they compete. I want to explain why we have taken this decision, as we discussed a lot about this yesterday during the Executive Board. The maximum age is the same for all disciplines, the minimum age is different due to the fact that, while figure skating is less dangerous if a thirteen-year-old competes with a nineteen-year-old, in speed skating to let compete on the same track athletes of so different age can be very dangerous; only for that reason we have increased the minimum age that, for our Committee is currently 13 years old to 15, to avoid creating a danger for children.

Israel: I would like the results of all disciplines to be publicized and made known on the site, I asked the Secretary to do this, but perhaps my request has not been understood.

Marotta: We will provide to solve the problem.

Gila: I want to bring to your attention the fact that I consider very important the presence of a representation of athletes, who can speak with the Olympic Committees and that highlights the problems of different disciplines and different countries. For the future development of our sport I think it would be a good idea to create a commission of athletes.

Marotta: the statute already provides that within the FIRS Executive Board there is a representative of the athletes, elected by the athletes themselves every four years. In the last World Championships in Korea it was elected a representative man for the first 2 years and a representative woman for the next two, so you have an alternation between the sexes. The representative woman is currently pregnant and therefore could not attend this Congress. We heard about her inability to be here only a few days ago so we had not time to convene the representative man. We welcome the suggestion of the Olympic Committee to have a representative of the athletes in our Executive Board.

Brazil: I would like to speak about the Committee's decision to organize the championships every two years, I think this will affect this economy in terms of contributions of the committees to CIPA; lacking the organization it will also lack the economic contributions that are normally paid for the organization of these events, and this will affect adversely the help given to various countries and various disciplines.

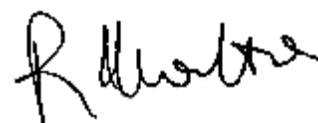
Aracu: we must not face the problem in these terms; planning more championships FIRS of course collects more money, but we are interesting in high quality standards and in the right care. I would also point out that even during the vote, many of those who voted in favour of the championships every year, are already themselves who do not participate in the championships.

Ziestler: Hello everyone I am very happy to be here representing this new discipline which is the Inline Alpine: we had prepared a promotional video but we can not let it start. However I will try to present it to the best as most of you do not know it . It is a very interesting discipline, because it can be practiced by skiers in the summer as training and is proving very popular. Last year was organized the first World Championships in Stuttgart, Germany which was also attended by Mr. Marotta, who I think it was positively impressed. Last year for the first time the Japanese athletes have come here in Europe and now there are two groups who practice this sport in Japan. Soon there will be a very important event in Italy, in Genoa, it will be a spectacular event that I hope will be advertised well in the world of Roller Sports. Anyone who needs more information can contact us by mail and we will be happy to answer. So I hope you have interest in this new discipline, and I am proud that now the Alpine is represented by FIRS. Finally, I want to invite you to the next World Championships in Bavaria and I would be very happy if the President could be present. Thanks.

Aracu: I thank you all, the works of this Congress are over, a hug



Sabatino Aracu
PRESIDENT



Roberto Marotta
SECRETARY GENERAL