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SAILING FEDERATION of UKRAINE

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ISAF President Mr. Carlo Croce

Dear Mr. Croce,

I would like to draw your attention to the violation or the ISAF Constitution and Regulations carried out by Russian MNA concerning the Ukrainian sailors and the jurisdiction of the Sailing Federation of Ukraine at all. Unfortunately all these attempts are supported by ISAF.

Russian MNA enters Ukrainian sailors to the international events like Sailing World Cup events. In Quingdao two Ukrainian RS:X sailors – Olga Maslivets and Maksym Oberemko were entered as representative of Russia. Sailing Federation of Ukraine was even not informed about that fact. Now in the entry list of the Miami SWC two Ukrainian sailors – Maksym Oberemko and Yevgenii Galitskiy were entered as Russian sailors. Neither Russian MNA nor the sailors asked any approval for the nationality change. Competition manager of ISAF Alastair Fox informed us about ISAF decision to allow Ukrainian sailors from Crimea to represent Russia on the international events, but he did not tell us, who had taken this decision. This is exclusive competence of the Executive Committee, but we do not have any request from EC in this matter or other information regarding the hearing of this matter on the EC meetings.

In the event calendar of the ISAF stated that Russian National Cup will be held in Sevastopol – area of the jurisdiction of the Sailing Federation of Ukraine. This is the regatta of Grade 3 – international event sanctioned by ISAF. We did not receive any requests from the Russian MNA for approval of this event. It means that ISAF sanction the event that is prohibited in accordance with the ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing and Constitution.

We declare that Crimea is integral part of Ukraine and therefore only Sailing Federation of Ukraine can organize or sanction sailing events in this area. Sailors from Crimea have represented Ukraine during past three years and in accordance to the ISAF Eligibility code they can change the nationality status only with prior approval from the Sailing Federation of Ukraine. Our goal is not to hinder the development of sport of sailing in the Crimea region, but to build normal and respectful relations in our sport, based on the ISAF Constitution and Regulations. We are ready for co-operation with the Russian MNA and will try to find the smart solution in our very difficult geopolitical circumstances. But we insist on the full and exclusive jurisdiction of Sailing Federation of Ukraine in Crimea and call for compliance with the ISAF Constitution and Regulations.

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Considering the above mentioned, I kindly ask you as a President of ISAF to initiate the discussion of this matter on the nearest ISAF Executive Committee meeting and to urge Russian MNA from further actions that are not coordinated with the Sailing Federation of Ukraine. I am aware that we all together can find the clever way out from this situation and that strict compliance with the ISAF Constitution and by-laws can help us to avoid the misunderstanding in the future.

Using this opportunity I would like to thank you for all you efforts for the sport of sailing, especially in the field of support of emerging nations.

Best regards

Vasyl Gureyev

President of Sailing Federation of Ukraine

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