

Mr. Marcel Hug

Via Email

Bonn, 2 April 2010  
HM/IPC

Dear Mr Hug,

**Re: Competition Opportunities in Athletics**

I am writing in response to your letter sent via fax in relation to major international events and the Paralympic cycle.

It was the decision of the IOC to delete the exhibition events from the Olympic Programme and the IPC did not contest the IOC's decision. It was felt the development of the Paralympic Games is at a level where the Games need no promotion during the Olympic Games. IPC Athletics are looking to pursue exhibition events during other competitions such as IAAF World Championships and Regional Championships. It is the intention of IPC Athletics to work with the IAAF, regional federations and the respective local organizing committee (LOC) to put on a quality competition opportunity and in so doing maximizing the impact, increasing the profile and showcasing the sport.

In terms of the 2009 IAAF World Championships in Berlin there was extensive discussion with the LOC for two exhibition events however a solution for holding the events could not be found for the competition due to time and the cost born by the LOC. While wheelchair events have historically been staged at the World Championships it is not regulated they must be the disability group included on the programme. In the case of Berlin 2009, the

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LOC of the World Championships presented a recommendation to the IAAF and the events being recommended were for visually impaired athletes.

Unfortunately it is the case that the four year competition cycle has been broken however IPC Athletics are working hard to begin again the cycle. Despite multiple calls for expressions of interest to host European Championships in 2010 there were no formal bids submitted to IPC Athletics. IPC Athletics expect to publish the competition cycle through to 2018 within the month and will be providing competition information for nations to consider the opportunity in advance.

I trust this provides clarification to your questions. I trust you will ensure the athletes listed on your original letter are informed of the content contained in this response.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Helen Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ms. Helen Murphy  
IPC Athletics Sport Manager  
International Paralympic Committee

CC. Ms Veronika Roos – NPC Switzerland  
Mr Jason Hellwig – Chairperson, IPC Athletics Technical Committee  
Mr. Xavier Gonzalez – IPC CEO