

Dear President Bejnarowicz, My dear Polish friends,

Today, during the Ordinary Congress your Federation can celebrate a very successful year 2016. Not only the two medals in Rio, but also the strong performance of your young athletes in the recent Junior and Under 23 World Championships demonstrated impressively that your Federation is one of the strongest worldwide.

So is the close collaboration between your Federation and other Canoe Federations worldwide for the success of our sport. The Polish Federation and your President Jozef Bejnarowicz are well recognized within the international canoe family and you are an accepted and welcome partner in all discussions about the future development of our sport as an Olympic core sport.

Your Federation is a role model among all the national federations regarding sponsorship and collaboration with business partners. Hardly no another Federation can present such impressive results in the search for sponsors and in the presentation of our canoe sport on a national level. Your federation is well perceived by the Polish public. This is a result of your hard and successful work as one of the top Olympic sports in your country and I have to admit that personally, I have learned a lot from your president when it comes to sponsorship and presentation.

I wish you all a very successful Ordinary Congress and look forward to continue the strong collaboration between our federations in the future, based on respect and love for our sport.

Best regards

Thomas Konietzko

German Canoe Federation