**RPC Progress Report on meeting the Road Map for implementation of the Russian Paralympic Committee Reinstatement criteria**

The RPC in close cooperation with the IPC Taskforce, since January 2017 up to present time, has done an overall work aimed to meeting the RPC Reinstatement criteria and appropriate paragraphs of the Road map (Criteria/Road map).

The RPC starting point towards implementation of the RPC Reinstatement criteria began since establishing of the RPC Coordination Committee for the interaction with the IPC Taskforce on issues of the RPC’s membership reinstatement in the IPC. Since March, 2017 the RPC Coordination Committee is submitting to the IPC Taskforce the monthly RPC Progress Report on implementation of the RPC Reinstatement Criteria (the Report), in the framework of implementing paragraphs of the Road map:

* RPC Report for March of 2017 (RPC letter №AS-155/17 as of April 3, 2017 is attached);
* RPC Report for April of 2017 (RPC letter №AS-211/17 as of April 4, 2017 is attached);
* RPC Report for May of 2017 (RPC letter №AS- 258/17 as of June 2, 2017 is attached);
* RPC Report for June of 2017 (RPC letter №AS-300/17 as of July 3, 2017 is attached);
* RPC Report for July of 2017 (RPC letter №AS-395/17 as of August 4 2017 is attached);
* RPC Report for August of 2017 (RPC letter №AS-444/17 as of August 25, 2017 is attached);
* RPC Report for September of 2017 (RPC letter №AS-537/17 as of October 4, 2017 is attached);
* RPC Report for October of 2017 (RPC letter №AS-596/17 as of November 3, 2017 is attached).

A special attention was paid to implementation of RPC’s membership Reinstatement criteria, in particular: to establish a strong anti-doping culture, to promote an open environment of whistleblowing on reporting on any apparent anti-doping rule violations and to increase the level of athletes’ and athlete support personnel’s awareness of National Sport Teams of Russia in the field of anti-doping.

In frames of meeting the paragraphs of the Road map for implementation of the Criteria, the RPC has developed and agreed with the IPC Taskforce, WADA-appointed independent international experts and the RUSADA the following documents, which are currently used by the RPC in its activities:

* RPC Anti-Doping Rules
* Mechanism to ensure the proper enforcement of any consequences imposed in respect of anti-doping rule violations
* Procedure of systematic publication of all decisions imposing sanctions on persons under its jurisdiction in respect of anti-doping rule violation
* Mechanism of athletes’ notifications on inclusion to registered testing pool (RTP) and the necessity to enter whereabouts information into ADAMS
* RPC “Hotline” for an immediate reporting of any apparent anti-doping rules violations
* RPC Anti-Doping Educational Program
* Educational courses for the coaches and specialists of National Sport Teams of Russia via the e-learning educational platform of RUSADA called “Triagonal”
* RPC’s mechanism to ensure that individuals, who have obtained RUSADA’s certification via e-learning educational platform “Triagonal”, have in fact done so
* Anti-doping declarations and statements of non-infringement of anti-doping rules.

The following documents have also been forwarded to the IPC Taskforce by the RPC Coordination Committee:

* RPC-compliance with the World Anti-Doping Program, including compliance with the World Anti-Doping Code and the IPC Anti-Doping Code;
* Federal laws related to the anti-doping activities;
* Detailed information with confirmation of persons who were released from their positions due to indication in Maclaren’s Report.

On August 19, 2017, the RPC at the House of Paralympic sport held a number of official events aimed to promoting “clean” Paralympic sport, developing the ethics principles, justice and fairness, athletes’ healthcare, equal playing field for all the athletes, including:

- official launch of RPC “Hotline”;

- start of the RPC Anti-Doping Educational Program;

- RPC first anti-doping seminar;

- introduction of athletes - Paralympic Sport’s Ambassadors;

- Round table with participation of NPCs’ executives;

- RPC Governing Board meeting.

In terms of implementation of the RPC Educational Anti-Doping Program, the RPC jointly with the WADA-appointed independent international experts and the RUSADA’s specialists prepared 20 lecturers of educational anti-doping programs. Since August 19, 2017, the RPC has held 39 educational anti-doping seminars for athletes, coaches and athlete support personnel of National Sport Teams of Russia of para rowing, para badminton, wheelchair basketball, boccia, sitting volleyball, goalball, judo, para cycling, para alpine skiing, para canoe, wheelchair curling, para athletics, Nordic skiing, table tennis, powerlifting, para swimming, para shooting, para snowboard, wheelchair tennis, para triathlon, para taekwondo, wheelchair fencing, para ice hockey and 5-a-side football.

Upon the results of the seminars, 838 persons have successfully undergone through testing and have been granted with the certificates:

- 473 athletes of Winter and Summer Paralympic Sports, included into the List of Russian athletes who the RPC would wish to put forward for participation in IPC-sanctioned international events;

- 150 athletes of National level of Winter and Summer Paralympic Sports, not included into the List of Russian athletes (933 persons);

- 215 coaches and specialists of National Sport Teams of Russia of Winter and Summer Paralympic.

Out of a list of 67 Russian athletes – candidates for participation in qualification events in alpine skiing, snowboard, cross-country skiing and biathlon, all of 67 athletes have had their education, testing and were granted with the certificates of RPC Educational Anti-Doping Program.

The Schedule of anti-doping seminars in December, 2017 is attached.

In addition to the RPC anti-doping seminars, the RPC has put obligation for all coaches and specialists of National Sport Teams of Russia of Paralympic sports, working with Paralympic athletes as well as the RPC Governing Board members and the RPC staff members to undergo through the RUSADA’s e-learning educational platform “Triagonal”. Currently, **546 persons, including coaches, specialists of National Sport Teams of Russia of Paralympic sports and members of the RPC Governing Board and the RPC staff**, have undertaken the RUSADA’s e-learning educational platform “Triagonal”**.**

In August, 2017 the RPC informed and sent to the IPC Taskforce and the IPC the respective lists that all of the athletes, included in the list of 935 Russian athletes, who the RPC, under p.19 of the Road map, would wish to put forward for participation in IPC-sanctioned competitions, were the RPC to be reinstated, as well as coaches, medical staff, specialists and other athlete support personnel of National Sport Teams of Russia of summer and winter Paralympic sports (559 persons), the RPC administration, the RPC staff members, the RPC Governing Board members, RPC committees/commissions/councils/working groups, who all have signed anti-doping declarations. The lists of persons who have signed anti-doping declaration were also sent to the IPC Taskforce.

With the purpose to promote an open environment with zero-tolerance to doping and preserving “clean” sport, the RPC has produced some special propaganda attributes and published in the second release of “Paralympic Sport” magazine, the information on anti-doping procurement of the athletes, operation of the RPC “hotline”, examination of medical supplies, e-learning educational platform of RUSADA and special crosswords, where everybody is able to assess his/her knowledge in the field of anti-doping.

In order to increase the level of education in the field of anti-doping procurement of the athletes of National Sport Teams of Russia and all those, who take an active part in their preparation, the RPC has published the Athlete Anti-Doping Guideline, RPC Anti-Doping Rules and IPC Anti-Doping Code, as well as it was developed and published by the RPC on its website – the RPC trivia game on anti-doping activities.

With the purpose to increase availability of any anti-doping information and to simplify the search of any particular document on anti-doping activities, the RPC has published on the RPC’s website home page the link to “Anti-Doping” Section and printed it with red color in order to attract the attention of its visitors. In “Anti-Doping” Section you can find all necessary information for athletes and athlete support personnel, including anti-doping rules, guideline for providing whereabouts information into ADAMS, information on granting the TUEs, links to RUSADA’s and WADA’s websites and other information.

The important step on the way toward implementation of the RPC Reinstatement criteria, was the ratification of the “Agreement on informational cooperation between the RPC and the IPC in the field of personal data” (hereafter as - the Agreement). The ratification of the Agreement allowed the RPC Coordination Committee to forward to the IPC and to the IPC Taskforce following information:

* the personal data of the RPC Governing Board members and heads of the RPC Committees\Commissions\Councils and Working Groups.
* the list of athletes, coaches and specialists of the Russian National Sports Teams of Paralympic summer and winter sports, employed by the CSP.
* the list of Russian Paralympic athletes, residing in “closed cities” and who have to indicate whereabouts information of their temporary residence in ADAMS.

 In the frame of the implementation of these criteria, the RPC forwarded to the IPC and to the IPC Taskforce following documents:

* the Organizational Chart of the Russian Paralympic Committee
* the RPC Constitution ( Russian \ English versions)
* the Review of the RPC Compliance with its own Constitution.
* Members of the RPC Committees\Commissions\Councils and Working Groups
* List of medical staff working with the National Sport Teams of Russia of Winter and Summer Paralympic Sports.

The RPC has made the respective amendments in its internal documents regarding an immediate termination of its relationship with a person who is found to have committed an anti-doping rule violation. Regardless of its position or role.

 The RPC in August 2017 has received the approval of the RPC Regulations on Ethic, Conflict of Interests and Fight against Corruption (the Regulations) by the WADA-appointed international experts – Mr. Peter Richard-Nicholson and the IPC Taskforce. The Regulations was considered and adopted by the RPC Governing Board meeting as of August 19, 2017.

 On August 23, 2017, Mr. Peter-Richard Nicholson held a seminar for the RPC staff and the RPC Governing Board members on the matters of practical application of the RPC Regulations on Ethic, Conflict of Interests and Fight against Corruption.

On November 27, 2017 the RPC Governing Board in compliance with the RPC Regulations on Ethics, Conflict of Interests and Fight against Corruption, approved RPC Independent Ethics Officer and three independent lawyers to be included into RPC Appeal Commission, who were agreed with Mr. Peter Richard-Nicholson in advance.

One more of the essential sections of the RPC Reinstatement Criteria in the IPC memberships is “athletes testing”.

In order to meet p. 19 of the Road map, the RPCdeveloped, quarterly updates and provides to the IPC Taskforce, the IPC, UKAD and RUSADA the updated List of Russian athletes (hereinafter as – the List), who the RPC would wish to put forward for participation in IPC-sanctioned competitions, were the RPC to be reinstated. The RPC has come to an agreement with the IPC and the IPC Taskforce that the RPC is able to amend the list as well as to prioritize athletes in order to include them into the IPC and International Federations’ RTPs and the RUSADA’s National RTP.

 Following the *Limited Interim Measure: Conditions of Participation of Russian Paralympic Committee neutral athletes/support personnel* received from the IPC as of September 8, 2017, the RPC in cooperation with Russian Federation of Sport for Persons with Physical Impairments and Russian Blind Sport Federation has composed the list of Russian leading athletes in para alpine skiing, para snowboard, para cross-country skiing and para biathlon (67 athletes) for participation in qualification events for the 2018 PyeongChang Paralympic Winter Games.

One of the main requirements of the Limited Interim Measure: each athlete must have undergone at least two tests during the six months immediately preceding the relevant event.

Currently, all of 67 athletes applied by the RPC for participation in qualification events for the 2018 PyeongChang Paralympic Winter Games in para alpine skiing, para snowboard, para cross-country skiing and para biathlon have undergone at least two tests, i.e. they met the respective IPC’s requirement.

The RPC jointly with All-Russian Para Sports Federations are in close cooperation with and regularly assist RUSADA in implementation of testing plan, in particular:

* provide with the information of Sport Calendar of competitions and training camps with indication of an accurate location of sport and training venues and list of athletes;
* provide with the necessary methodological support to all Russian athletes, included into the International and National RTPs, in order to provide an whereabouts information accurate and in time.

Presently, 212 Russian athletes are included into the IPC, the RUSADA and other international Registered Testing Pools (the list is attached).

On August 22, 2017 in the frame of implementation of the Paragraph 22 of the Criteria, the RPC forwarded written notification about the requirements to all athletes, coaches, medical and other athlete’s personnel – members of the Russian National Teams in Paralympic Sports (there are around 2000 persons), as well as the National Federations in Paralympic Sports (such as: Russian Federation of Sports for Persons with Physical Impairments, the Russian Blind Sport Federation, the Russian Federation of Sports for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities): «*… once the RPC has been reinstated to IPC membership, and so is permitted to enter athletes in IPC-sanctioned competitions (including the Paralympic and Paralympic Winter Games), until further notice a Russian athlete will nevertheless only be entitled to participate in such a competition if: (a) he/she has been in the IRTP, NRTP or International Federation Registered Testing Pool for at least the six months immediately preceding the event, and (b) during that period he/she has undergone at least two tests…, such tests must comprise two separate missions and be carried out on different days…».*

The Calendar of training events and competitions in Paralympic winter sports in December 2017 is attached.

Also, in terms of implementation the Criteria devoted to testing and assistance in the implementation of the test distribution plan, the RPC has developed and provided the IPC Taskforce and the IPC with the following documents:

* Mechanisms for athletes’ notification on inclusion into the registered testing pools and of necessity of providing their whereabouts information into the ADAMS;
* Official response from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russian Federation to provide with an assistance as required with obtaining any necessary yearly visas for international doping control officers/blood collection officers, on a timely basis to enter to the Russian Federation;
* Reminder with indication of obtaining visas for international doping control officers/blood collection officers to enter to the Russian Federation (developed with the Ministry of foreign affairs of the Russian Federation);
* Official response of the Ministry of Sport of Russian Federation relating the procedure of entering international doping control officers/blood collection officers to “closed cities”, in order to collect samples at no advance notice from athletes located there.

In terms of implementation the Criteria paragraphs related to the “budget” section, presently the RPC is expecting the IPC agreement of updated financial draft contracts (№ 1 - on conduction of the anti-doping testing of athletes, № 2 –on payment of legal services related to the process of the RPC membership reinstatement at the IPC), samples of the invoices and samples of formation of provision of legal services in various acts and invoices, taking into consideration the Russian and international legislature.

The RPC is interested to be reinstated in the IPC memberships and is convenient to cover the necessary expenses, but all the mechanisms of payments and financial documents must be justified and be strictly compliant with the Russian legislation.

**As things stand on November 30, 2017:**

1. **It was confirmed that most of the paragraphs of the RPC Road map were implemented (please Attachment 1). On some paragraphs, (as it has been agreed with the IPC Taskforce) the RPC is working and will continue to work in the future, in accordance with scheduled plan of its obligations.**
2. **The implementation of the Paragraph 13 of the Road map is depending on the information to be provided by the IPC Taskforce (Attachment 2).**
3. **Implementation of two paragraphs of the Road map, related to the p. 6.2 of the RPC Reinstatement Criteria – are out of the RPC’s exclusive competence.**
4. **Since the period of RPC’s suspension and up to day, the RPC assisted by the IPC Taskforce and the IPC ensured the following:**
* substantial changes in its activities to protect “clean” sport;
* developed and integrated into the operational activities of the RPC important materials and documents related to anti-doping.
* demonstrated that the most significant paragraphs of RPC Reinstatement Criteria are met and it could be expected that it would be further implemented.

Detailed information on the activities that were carried out by the RPC, documents and materials developed by the RPC that were forwarded to the IPC Taskforce and presented in the attached table «Information on the progress of meeting of the RPC Reinstatement Criteria for the period of January 11 to November 30 of 2017».

1. **We believe that, as of today the RPC, not less than other of IPC’s members complies with all requirements of the World Anti-Doping Program and is able to fulfil its membership’s obligations towards the IPC, including compliance with the WADA Anti-Doping Code and the IPC Anti-Doping Code.**

**We are kindly asking you to inform the IPC Governing Board on the implementation of the RPC Reinstatement Criteria and also appeal to IPC Governing Board for an exclusion from the Road map of the requirements related to the RUSADA’s reinstatement and the Russian state authorities to address on the McLaren’s findings.**

**Conclusion**

The Russian Paralympic Committee is non-profit public organization, which has no right to conduct any kinds of investigations of any asserted anti-doping rules violations and\or anti-doping regulations as well as to acknowledge or deny the McLaren’s Commission findings on existence of a state supported doping system in the Russian Federation.

This is an exclusive prerogative of the governmental bodies.

At the same time, we would like to inform you that the President of the Russian Olympic Committee Mr. Alexander Zhukov declared in the course of the WADA Foundation Board’s meeting: «We agree with the fact that the anti-doping system in Russia has significantly failed, it is recognized, among other things, by the highest leaderships of our country,..This malfunction was the result of organized activities made by a group of individuals in order to manipulate Russian athletes’ doping samples for the benefit of their own. The organizers were the leaders of RUSADA, the Moscow Anti-Doping Laboratory and other structures, the degree of involvement and guilt of specific individuals will be determined upon completion of the investigation, which is currently being conducted by the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation, meanwhile, we forcefully deny the existence of a state-sponsored doping system." (see the link to the interview: <http://tass.ru/sport/4733205>, we entirely share this position).

Besides, the WADA’s president Sir Craig Reedie, summing up the results of the WADA Foundation Board’s meeting on November 15, 2017 in Seoul « Anyway, we with RUSADA are really moving forward, and many things are changing with the course of time…. We started cooperation with the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation, and I can say that there has already been progress in our communication».

We agree with the response of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs towards Sir Reedie’s statement: «We are convinced that sport is an autonomous sphere of people's lives that should be fenced off from the political agenda, it is meant to serve the purpose of uniting, respecting the traditions and culture of the states of the world, and not destroying the ties between countries and people.

Taking into consideration all of the above mentioned, we are kindly asking you to support the RPC’s request to be fully reinstated in IPC memberships.