



THE EUROPEAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEES

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

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DEFINITIONS

In these Articles the words standing in the first column of the table set out hereunder shall bear the meaning set opposite to them in the second column thereof, if not inconsistent with the subject or context.

Words	Meanings
ANOC	The Association of National Olympic Committees.
Anthem	A musical work either specially written or chosen from existing works and used as the official anthem of the EOC.
Articles	The EOC Articles of Association, as originally framed or as amended and in force from time to time.
Association	The European Olympic Committees.
Athletes' Commission	The EOC Athletes' Commission as defined in these Articles.
Bye-Law	A rule that better explains or regulates in depth the content of an Article, approved following the proceedings referred to in Article 25.2.
EG or European Games	The European Games organised by the EOC.
Elective General Assembly	An Ordinary General Assembly at which the Officers (13.2.a) and other members of the Executive Committee (Article 13.2.b) are elected.
ENOC	An NOC that is a Member of the EOC.
EOC	The European Olympic Committees.
EOC Properties	The EOC Symbol, Emblem, Flag, and identifications, designations, emblems, mascots, medals, commemorative coins, flames and torches as defined in these Articles.
EOC Sport Events	The European Games, the European Youth Olympic Festivals, the Games of the Small States of Europe, and such other sport events as the EOC may organise in the future.
Executive Committee	The Executive Committee of the EOC constituted in accordance with these Articles.
External Auditors	The certified chartered accountants, who shall be members of an internationally recognised auditing body, elected annually by the General Assembly.
Extraordinary General Assembly	A General Assembly which must be specifically convened in accordance with Article 12 of these Articles.
EYOF	The European Youth Olympic Festival, winter and summer editions, organised by the EOC.
General Assembly	A General Assembly of the EOC constituted in accordance with these Articles which meets as an Ordinary General Assembly or an Extraordinary General Assembly.
GSSE	The Games of the Small States of Europe organised under the aegis of the EOC and IOC.

Host City	The city or cities, region or regions that host an EOC Sports Event, or a combination of any of these.
IOC	The International Olympic Committee.
Member	A member of the EOC; and "Membership" shall be construed accordingly.
Month	Calendar month.
NOC	National Olympic Committee.
Office	The EOC registered office.
Officers	The Officers are the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary General and the Treasurer.
Olympiad	In accordance with Bye-Law to Rule 6 of the Olympic Charter an Olympiad is defined as follows. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An Olympiad is a period of four consecutive calendar years, beginning on 1 January of the first year and ending on 31 December of the fourth year. 2. The Olympiads are numbered consecutively from the first Games of the Olympiad celebrated in Athens in 1896. The XXIX Olympiad began on 1 January 2008.
Olympic Charter	The Olympic Charter as amended and in force from time to time (the version current at the date of adoption of these Articles being the version in force at the time).
Olympic Games	The Games of the Olympiad and the Olympic Winter Games.
Olympic Sport	A sport for the time being listed in the Olympic Charter as a programme sport of the Olympic Games.
Ordinary General Assembly	A General Assembly held annually according to Article 12 of these Articles.
Organs	The General Assembly, the Executive Committee, and the Quadruka of the EOC.
President	The President for the time being of the EOC.
Quadruka	The Organ composed of the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary General and the Treasurer of the EOC.
Rule	A Rule of, or made by the IOC pursuant to, the Olympic Charter.
Seal	The common seal of the EOC.
Voting Member	A Member of the EOC entitled to vote at meetings of the EOC.
WADA	World Anti-Doping Agency.
(In) writing	Written or reproduced in any one or more visible substitutes for writing.
Year	Calendar year, beginning on 1 st January and ending on 31 st December.

Chapter 1

The Olympic Movement in Europe and the EOC's Action

Article 1 Name

The name of the Association is "EUROPEAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEES", the abbreviated name being "EOC".

Article 2 Objects

The objects for which the EOC is established are:

- a. To serve, promote and protect the common and collective interests of the ENOCs.
- b. To promote integrity in sport and protect sport from all forms of corruption including, without limitation, unethical competition manipulation, all in concert with the initiatives in this regard of the IOC.
- c. To encourage ethical behaviour and good governance in sport in compliance with the Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance of the Olympic and Sports Movement.
- d. To foster the development of the Olympic Movement and its ideals throughout Europe, in accordance with the Olympic Charter and in close collaboration with the IOC, ANOC and the Olympic Associations of the other continents, in promoting the development of physical and moral qualities that come from contests in the friendly spheres of sport.
- e. To organise any and all kinds of events, functions, festivals and activities, and to consistently encourage the Olympic spirit amongst the youth of Europe.
- f. To ensure that the EOC remains a completely autonomous and independent body and resists all political, religious, racial and commercial pressures.
- g. To develop Olympic Solidarity Programmes of the IOC in Europe.
- h. To exercise all exclusive rights and the control of the European Games as defined in Article 26.
- i. To exercise all the exclusive rights and control of The European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF) as defined in Article 27.
- j. To receive contributions, inheritances, disbursements and donations from any entity whether private or public, Italian or foreign, to be used for the EOC's institutional purposes as defined herein.
- k. To buy, acquire, hold, deal with, manage, direct the management of, sell, exchange, mortgage, charge, dispose of, grant, register or otherwise turn to account any right or interest in, over or upon any property of any kind whatsoever and in particular any intellectual property rights, copyrights, designs, trademarks, patents, licences, franchises, concessions and the like (or rights in respect thereof) conferring right of use or any secret or other information and/or any film, video, television, internet or broadcasting rights which may seem capable of being used for any of the purposes of the EOC and to use, exercise, develop, grant licences in respect of or otherwise turn to account any rights and information so acquired, and also to undertake any kind of trade, business or activity for the purpose of promoting, advancing or protecting the interests of persons or bodies engaged in Olympic sport.

BYE LAWS TO ARTICLE 2

1. *For the purposes indicated above under Article 2.k the EOC may receive from other entities involved in its institutional activities, rights and proceeds for the organisation of the European Games and the EYOFs (in the broadest sense of the term) as well as sponsorships for the events that fall within the objects of the Association. All this instrumentally and for the purpose of executing the objects of the Association, both directly and by ceding all or part of its rights to third parties.*
2. *For greater clarity the EOC always acts for the achievement and accomplishment of the objects described in this Bye Law, and can thus operate in line with its main objects as well as take part in temporary groupings for a specific purpose, participate in companies and/or entities, commissions, autonomous branches etc. that can contribute to the achievement of its objects.*

Article 3 EOC Symbol

1. The EOC Symbol consists of a 50-piece mosaic representing the 50 ENOCs.



2. The EOC Symbol is the sole property of the EOC and a registered trademark. The EOC Symbol cannot be used without the prior written consent of the EOC.

Article 4 EOC Emblem

1. The EOC Emblem consists of the EOC Symbol, the wording “EUROPEAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEES” and the Olympic rings.



2. The EOC Emblem as approved by the IOC is the sole property of the EOC. The EOC Emblem cannot be used without the prior written consent of the EOC.

Article 5 EOC Flag

1. The EOC Flag contains the EOC Emblem in a white background with no border. The EOC Emblem is located in its centre.
2. The EOC Flag is the sole property of the EOC and cannot be used without the prior written consent of the EOC.

Article 6 EOC Sport Events

1. The EOC Sport Events consist of:
 - a. The European Games (EG)
 - b. The European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF)
 - c. Such other sport events or sport related events that the EOC may decide to organise from time to time.
2. All EOC Sport Events are the exclusive property of the EOC which owns all rights relating thereto, in particular, and without limitation, all rights relating to their organization, exploitation, broadcasting, recording, promotion, representation, reproduction, access, archiving and dissemination in any form and by any means or mechanism whatsoever, whether now existing or developed in the future.
3. The EOC Symbol, Emblem, Flag and identifications (including but not limited to “European Games”, “European Youth Olympic Festival”), designations, emblems, mascots, medals, commemorative coins, flames and torches, shall be collectively or individually referred to as “EOC Properties”. All the rights to the EOC Properties belong exclusively to the EOC.

BYE LAW TO ARTICLE 6

1. *The EOC may take all the appropriate steps to obtain the legal protection, on both a national and international basis, of the rights over the EOC Sport Events and over any EOC Property.*
2. *All contracts or arrangements concerning the EOC Sport Events must be approved and signed by the EOC.*

Chapter 2

The European Olympic Committees

Article 7 EOC Legal Status

1. The EOC is an international not-for-profit non-governmental organization of unlimited duration recognized by the IOC, subject to Italian law, and specifically to Articles 14 and following of the Italian Civil Code. It has its own legal personality. It is fully responsible for its obligations by means of its patrimony, with the exclusion of the direct responsibility of its Members, Organs and employees.
2. The EOC has its legal seat and Head Office in Via della Pallacanestro, 19 - 00135 Rome, Italy.

BYE LAW TO ARTICLE 7

The EOC may establish branches for the purpose of better representing the EOC for specific activities.

Article 8 Mission

The mission of the EOC is to develop and protect the Olympic Movement in Europe in accordance with the Olympic Charter and to organise the EOC Sport Events.

Article 9 Members: general provisions

1. Only an NOC in Europe recognised by the IOC shall be admitted to Membership of the EOC.
2. A register shall be kept by the EOC containing the names and addresses of all the Members.
3. The admittance of a new Member shall be proposed by the Executive Committee and ratified at a General Assembly by a two-thirds majority of the Members attending and voting.
4. Member National Olympic Committees must support the objects pursued by the EOC whilst benefiting from all the rights given to them by these Articles.
5. Member National Olympic Committees are liable for annual fees set by the General Assembly for each four-year period. Only member National Olympic Committees having paid the appropriate annual fee shall be considered as voting Members.

Article 10 Voting Membership

1. A member, honorary member or honour member of the IOC expelled from the IOC may not be an Officer, a member of the Executive Committee or a delegate of a National Olympic Committee to the EOC.
2. Voting Membership shall comprise:
 - a. Representatives of the National Olympic Committees accepted into Membership in accordance with these Articles and which are in good standing in respect of such Membership.
 - b. To be recognised by the EOC and accepted as a Member, a National Olympic Committee must be recognised by the IOC and conduct its activities in compliance with the Olympic Charter.

Article 11 Honorary Positions

1. A person who has given exceptionally meritorious service to the Association may be appointed to an Honorary Position in the Association if the following process is satisfied:
 - a. the Executive Committee must recommend the appointment of such person at a General Assembly having first given notice of such recommendation as an item of business; and
 - b. the recommendation is approved by a simple majority of the Members present and voting at a General Assembly.
2. The rights, privileges and obligations of persons appointed to Honorary Positions shall be determined by the Executive Committee from time to time.
3. The term of a person appointed to an Honorary Position is granted for life but any such person may be suspended by the Executive Committee, and his or her Honorary Position terminated by the General Assembly, if it is determined that such person has in the opinion of the Executive Committee, or the General Assembly in the case of termination, acted in contravention of these Articles and Bye-Laws, the Olympic Charter and/or has acted in a manner that would bring disrepute to himself or herself and/or the Association. The process for deciding to suspend or terminate a person's Honorary Position under this Article shall be the same as the process applicable for suspension and expulsion of membership of the Association.
4. Persons appointed to Honorary Positions do not have voting rights.

Article 12 General Assembly

1. The General Assembly is the supreme governing authority of "The European Olympic Committees". It is composed of the Officers and other members of the Executive Committee elected in accordance with these Articles, and the delegates nominated by the voting Members. The functions of the General Assembly are:
 - a. at each annual General Assembly, to approve the annual reports for the preceding year;
 - b. at each annual General Assembly, to approve the annual accounts (balance sheet and financial accounts) of the preceding year after having taken into consideration the report of the External Auditors;
 - c. at each annual General Assembly, to approve the budget for the following year;
 - d. at each annual General Assembly, to appoint the External Auditors for the following year and to fix their remuneration;
 - e. To hold elections in the second year of each Olympiad at which the Officers (Article 13.2.a) and other members of the Executive Committee (Article 13.2.b) are elected;
 - f. to agree upon the number and composition of the Commissions on proposal of the Executive Committee;
 - g. to elect the delegates to the positions of the Executive Council of ANOC in accordance with ANOC's Constitution and in compliance with article 13.9 of these Articles, and, if the case arises, to elect delegates to the different international organisations;
 - h. to adopt activity programmes;
 - i. to make modifications if necessary to these Articles;
 - j. to take a stand upon all questions or proposals submitted by the Members or by the Executive Committee.
2. An Ordinary General Assembly shall be held once in every year within the 30th of June, at such day, time and place as may be determined by the General Assembly. The Ordinary General Assembly held in the second year of each Olympiad will be the Elective General Assembly.
3. The Elective General Assembly will also present reports from the President, Secretary General and the Treasurer.

4. All General Assemblies of the EOC shall be either Ordinary General Assemblies, as provided for in Article 12.2, or Extraordinary General Assemblies. The Executive Committee may convene an Extraordinary General Assembly at any time. In addition an Extraordinary General Assembly of the EOC will be convened by the Secretary General, on the written requisition, with cause stated, of not less than one fifth of the voting Members. Such Extraordinary General Assembly shall be held within sixty (60) days of the written requisition.
5. An Ordinary General Assembly and an Extraordinary General Assembly called by the Executive Committee to pass a special resolution shall be called by ninety (90) days' notice in writing at the least.
6. The agenda and relevant documentation shall be sent to the Members at least thirty days before the date of a General Assembly.
7. The accidental omission to give notice to or the non-receipt of notice by any Member entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at any General Assembly of the EOC.
8. Every notice calling a General Assembly shall specify the place and the day and hour of the meeting. The notice shall specify the nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting and, if any resolution is to be proposed as a special resolution, the notice shall contain a statement to that effect.
9. The following business shall be deemed special: all that is transacted at an Extraordinary General Assembly; and all that is transacted at an annual General Assembly with the exception of the consideration of the accounts, balance sheet and the reports of the President, Secretary General, the Treasurer, the Executive Committee and the External Auditors, the election of the Officer(s) and the elected member(s) of the Executive Committee (Article 13.2.a et b), the appointment of the External Auditors and the fixing of the remuneration of the External Auditors.
10. No business shall be transacted at any General Assembly unless a quorum is present when the meeting proceeds to business. Save as hereinafter provided a quorum shall be the representatives of not less than one half of the voting Members plus one, which have complied with Articles 10.2.a and 10.2.b.
11. The President shall preside as Chairman at any General Assembly, but if the President is not present then the Vice-President may preside on the President's behalf. If neither the President nor the Vice-President is present then the members of the Executive Committee present shall choose one of their number to preside as Chairman at the meeting. In the event of a tie, the Chairman of the meeting shall be chosen by lot.
12. At any General Assembly meeting a resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is demanded by (a) the Chairman or (b) not less than twelve Members present and entitled to vote.
13. A declaration by the Chairman that a resolution has been carried, whether unanimously or by a particular majority, or lost, and an entry to that effect in the minute book, shall be conclusive evidence of the fact, without proof of the number or proportion of votes recorded for or against such resolution.
14. If any votes shall be counted which ought not to have been counted, or might have been rejected, the error shall not vitiate the resolution unless it be pointed out at the same meeting, or at an adjournment thereof, and not in that case unless it shall in the opinion of the Chairman be of sufficient magnitude to vitiate the resolution.
15. If a poll is duly demanded (and the demand is not withdrawn) it shall be taken in such manner as the Chairman may direct, and the result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded. The Chairman may appoint scrutinisers and may adjourn the meeting to some place and time fixed by him for the purpose of declaring the result of the poll.

16. In the case of an equality of votes, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, the Chairman of the meeting at which the show of hands takes place or at which the poll is demanded shall be entitled to a second or casting vote.
17. Only the most senior of the delegates present from each voting Member shall have the right to vote at meetings of the EOC, in accordance with the provisions of this Article.

BYE LAWS TO ARTICLE 12

1. *Three delegates from each National Olympic Committee Member are entitled to attend any General Assembly of the EOC. Each National Olympic Committee must notify the Secretary General in writing of the names of its delegates to the General Assembly and the seniority of those delegates. Such notification shall be received by the Secretary General not less than thirty days before the meeting is due to take place. If the notification from the National Olympic Committee Member does not specify the seniority of the delegates, the seniority shall be determined by the order in which the delegates' names appear on the notification, the first-named being deemed the most senior.*
2. *Copies of the minutes at which elections or delegate replacements of Members have taken place shall be sent to the IOC. All documents must be certified as true copies by the President and the Secretary General.*
3. *The minutes of all General Assemblies other than an annual General Assembly shall be distributed by the Secretary General to all Members within six months of each such meeting, by email to the voting Members.*
4. *In the event that a poll is required, as provided for in Article 12.12, the vote can be organized by electronic means.*
5. *If in the opinion of the President an urgent matter arises between General Assemblies which requires a decision of the Voting Members before the next Ordinary General Assembly or before an Extraordinary General Assembly can be convened or it is not practicable for an Extraordinary Assembly to be convened, then the President may seek approval of a resolution by the voting Members by a resolution by email or other electronic means of voting. At least 72 hours from the time the proposed resolution is sent for electronic vote, shall be provided to the voting Members to enable them to cast a vote under this Bye-Law. At least two-thirds of the total number of Voting members must be in favour of a resolution voted on under this Bye-Law to be passed.*
6. *In the event of a health emergency or other cases of force majeure that make it impossible or impractical to convene a meeting of the General Assembly or the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee may stipulate that a General Assembly or Executive Committee meeting of the EOC may be held as an online meeting, provided that attendees can identify each other, can debate with each other and can cast their votes securely.*

In particular, the following requirements must be met:

- a. *the quorum of the meeting has to be ascertained and certified;*
- b. *attending and voting members must be able to participate in the meeting through an online means of communication;*
- c. *attending and voting members must be able to ask questions about the agenda items by online means (e.g. email) up to 72 hours before the meeting;*
- d. *all questions timely asked by the Members before the meeting must be answered during the Assembly;*
- e. *follow-up questions or comments can be made during the assembly through an online chat facility;*
- f. *all online meetings are recorded for future reference.*

Article 13 Executive Committee

1. The affairs of the EOC shall be managed by an Executive Committee to be constituted as

hereinafter provided, which is responsible for the execution of decisions taken by the General Assembly, and the administration of the EOC.

2. The Executive Committee shall consist of:
 - a. the Officers referred to in these Articles,
 - b. twelve other members who are duly nominated for such membership and elected by the EOC in accordance with the provisions of these Articles,
 - c. the Secretary General of ANOC (If representing a European NOC) (ex officio), and
 - d. the Chairman of the Athletes' Commission (ex officio), and
 - e. unless the hosting country already has a member on the Executive Committee, an ex officio member who is nominated by the NOC of the European Games Host City, immediately following the election of that European Games Host City. Said ex officio member shall be a legal representative of that NOC and shall sit on the Executive Committee until the end of the year in which that European Games takes place.
 - f. A minimum of 5 of the elected 16 members must be of each gender.
3. The Officers of the EOC to be elected are:
 - a. the President;
 - b. the Vice-President;
 - c. the Secretary General; and
 - d. the Treasurer.
4. Nominations for Officers and members of the Executive Committee must be submitted in writing to the Secretary General at least sixty (60) days before the meeting referred to in Article 12.3. Nominations can be made only by a voting Member. An NOC may only nominate a citizen of its own country. The Secretary General shall, at least ninety (90) days before the meeting referred to in Article 12.3, write to each NOC inviting nominations for Officers and members of the Executive Committee. Nominations should reflect the IOC recommendations regarding Gender Equality.
5. Voting for election to any office under these Articles shall be by secret ballot.
6. Should the President or any Officer(s), or other elected member(s) of the Executive Committee (Article 13.2.a et b.) cease for any reason to hold office during their term of office, elections for the position(s) concerned are to be held at the following General Assembly, provided that the conditions set forth in Article 12.5 are met. For the avoidance of doubt in case the conditions set forth in Article 12.5 are not met, the elections must be held during the next General Assembly at the latest. The Vice-President shall assume the office of President, while the Secretary General, Vice President and the Treasurer are appointed by the Executive Committee amongst its members until the elections referred to in this Article.
7. Any change in the Officers of the EOC shall be notified in writing by the Secretary General to the IOC and ANOC.
8. The President, during his term of office shall serve as a Vice-President of ANOC, and the Vice President and the Secretary General, during their terms of office shall serve as members of the Executive Committee of ANOC representing the EOC.
9. If only one person stands nominated for any of the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary General or Treasurer such election or elections may be held by a show of hands provided the General Assembly so decides unanimously.

10. The President, Vice-President, Secretary General or Treasurer shall be elected on the first count if they obtain an absolute majority of the votes cast. If an absolute majority is not obtained a second or subsequent count/s is undertaken eliminating each time the candidate obtaining the fewest votes.
11. The twelve members of the Executive Committee are elected in one count by relative majority. To be valid, each voting paper must include twelve names. If the 13th candidate/s obtain an equal number of votes as the 12th candidate, a second or subsequent count shall be undertaken between them to fill the vacancies concerned.
12. The Executive Committee may invite Observers or Guests without voting rights to attend a General Assembly or other meeting of the EOC.
13. The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the Executive Committee may be fixed by the Executive Committee and unless so fixed shall be 8. A meeting of the Executive Committee for the time being at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all powers and discretions for the time being exercisable by the Executive Committee.
14. Membership of the Executive Committee shall be vacated ipso facto if the member:
 - a. resigns by writing under his hand left at the Office;
 - b. becomes an employee of the EOC, a paid consultant or adviser to the EOC or provides for profit any other services to the EOC;
15. A member of the Executive Committee shall be excluded if he:
 - a. is adjudged bankrupt in Europe or in any territory outside Europe or makes any arrangement or composition with his creditors generally;
 - b. becomes of unsound mind, duly documented by medical certification or by a decision of a competent court in the country in which the member has his legal domicile;
 - c. is convicted of an indictable offence unless the Executive Committee otherwise determine;
 - d. is directly or indirectly interested in any contract with the EOC and fails to declare the nature of his interest;
 - e. The Executive Committee may act notwithstanding any vacancies in its body but if at any time their number shall be less than the quorum fixed by or in accordance with these Articles they may act only for the purpose of filling up vacancies in the members of the Executive Committee or summoning a general meeting.
16. Any member of the Executive Committee absent from two consecutive meetings is considered as having resigned, except in the case of "force majeure" duly justified. Any such decision is made by the Executive Committee.
17. A resolution in writing signed by a majority of the members of the Executive Committee for the time being shall be as effective as a resolution passed at a meeting of the Executive Committee duly convened and held, and may consist of several documents in the like form, each signed by one or more of the members of the Executive Committee. The EOC shall be entitled to act on a signature transmitted by facsimile or e-mail or other form of electronic communication provided that the Secretary General is satisfied as to the authenticity of the signature. Where it is proposed to have a resolution passed in accordance with this Article the Secretary General shall transmit a copy of the resolution proposed to be signed to each member of the Executive Committee at such address (physical or e-mail) or facsimile number as that member shall have notified to the Secretary General. If the member has not notified any such address or number it shall be sufficient for the Secretary General to transmit a copy of the proposed resolution to the address or number of that member last known to the Secretary General.
18. **THE PRESIDENT.** Among his duties, the President shall:

- a. be responsible for implementing the strategic plans and policies of EOC. The President shall have, subject to the authority of the Executive Committee, general supervision of the affairs of EOC. The President shall, when present, chair the meetings of the Executive Committee and the General Assemblies of the EOC. The President shall have such other duties and powers as the Executives Committee may assign to him or her and as may be otherwise set out in these Articles. The President is the official spokesperson of the EOC;
 - b. represent the EOC in dealings with all International bodies including, but not limited to, the IOC, Associations of National Olympic Committees, International Federations, International Governmental Organisations, etc.;
 - c. sign, as necessary, any accounting documents and financial reports;
 - d. sign, as necessary, any contract on behalf of the EOC, with the agreement of the Executive Committee;
 - e. make public the balance sheets and other fundamental acts of the Association through the channels the General Assembly deems opportune or according to law should such a provision exist, and in any case as per IOC directives;
 - f. The President may delegate any of the powers of the President with respect to management of the EOC to the Secretary General or to any other member of the Executive Committee;
 - g. The President of the EOC shall serve as Vice-President on the Executive Council of ANOC, subject to the ANOC Constitution;
 - h. If the President is unable to perform any of his duties the Vice-President shall perform them in his stead.
19. THE VICE-PRESIDENT. The Vice-President shall:
- a. assist the President in the performance of his duties, as delegated by the President;
 - b. in the absence of the President, assume the role of the Chairman at General Assemblies or meetings of the Executive Committee.
20. THE SECRETARY GENERAL. The Secretary General is in charge of the EOC and supervises its day-to-day activities to further the objects of the Association. In particular, the Secretary General shall:
- a. establish the agenda of the General Assembly and of the Executive Committee according to the instructions of the President.
 - b. verify the draft minutes of the General Assemblies and of the Executive Committee and submit them for approval to the President.
 - c. supervise the accreditation of delegates to the General Assembly and other meetings.
 - d. supervise correspondence with the members of the EOC.
 - e. represent, together with the President, the EOC vis-à-vis international organisations.
 - f. sign any documents concerning the day-to-day administration of the EOC on behalf of the Executive Committee.
 - g. supervise the day to day operations of the Treasury, in particular the lodgement of funds and the disbursement of monies, subject to limits laid down by the Executive Committee;
 - h. effect payments or other monies due by the EOC, by cheques or by electronic means, which shall be signed by the Treasurer and by, either the President or the Secretary General.
21. THE QUADRUKA. The Quadruka shall meet as and when it deems it necessary, to examine the business of the EOC and take decisions in the interests of the EOC as it sees fit. Said decisions shall be ratified by the Executive Committee.

BYE LAWS TO ARTICLE 13

1. *The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice a year. The Executive Committee may meet together for the despatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings as they think fit. The President of the EOC will preside over and conduct the business of meetings of the Executive Committee. In his absence the Vice-President will act as chairman. In the absence of the President and the Vice-President some member appointed from among those present, will act as chairman (“the Chairman”) with the same powers as the President.*
2. *The Vice-President will perform such duties as are assigned by the President or are laid down from time to time by the Executive Committee.*
3. *Questions arising at any meeting shall be determined by a simple majority vote and, in the case of an equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.*
4. *The Secretary General shall give at least thirty (30) days’ notice of any meeting of the Executive Committee. The notice shall specify the place, day and the hour of the meeting and enclosing the agenda and, where necessary, any documentation required.*
5. *The Secretary General on the requisition of 8 members of the Executive Committee shall at any time summon a meeting of the Executive Committee. At least twenty-one (21) days’ notice (inclusive of the day on which the notice is given) specifying the place, the day and the hour of meeting and enclosing the agenda shall be given of every meeting so requisitioned of the Executive Committee.*
6. *No business not mentioned in the agenda for any meeting of the Executive Committee shall be transacted at any meeting of the Executive Committee unless in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting, supported by a majority of the other members of the Executive Committee present at the meeting, such business arises directly out of an item included in the agenda or out of the minutes of the last preceding meeting or as a matter of urgency.*
7. *All acts done by any meeting of the Executive Committee, or by any person acting as a member of the Executive Committee, shall as regards all persons dealing in good faith with the EOC, notwithstanding that there was some defect in the appointment of any member of the Executive Committee or person acting as such or that any such member or person was disqualified or had vacated office or was not entitled to vote, be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed and was qualified and had continued to be a member of the Executive Committee and had been entitled to vote.*
8. *Any one or more members of the Executive Committee, including the Executive Committee as a whole, may participate in any meeting of the Executive Committee and vote on any proposed resolution at a meeting of the Executive Committee without being physically present. Such meetings may occur by telephone, through video conference facilities or by other means of electronic communication, other than electronic mail (email) communication, provided that prior notice of the meeting is given to all members of the Executive Committee and all persons participating in the meeting are able to hear each other effectively and simultaneously. Participation of any member of the Executive Committee in this manner at a meeting shall constitute the presence of that member at the meeting.*
9. *If in the opinion of the President, an urgent or important matter arises between Executive Committee meetings which requires a decision of the Executive Committee before its next meeting and it is not practicable for a meeting to be held by any of the means as provided under Bye-Laws 4 and 5 to Articles 13, the President may seek approval of a resolution by the members of the Executive Committee by email or other electronic means of voting. At least 72 hours from the time the proposed resolution is sent for electronic vote shall be provided to members of the Executive Committee to enable them to cast a vote under this Bye-Law. At least two-thirds of the total number of members of the Executive Committee entitled to vote must be in favour of a resolution voted on under this Bye-Law for it to be passed, except for a resolution to requisition an Extraordinary General Assembly meeting under Article 12.4, in which case a simple majority of votes in favour of such resolution is required.*

10. *The Executive Committee shall cause minutes to be made in books provided for the purpose:*
- a. *of all appointments of officers made by the Executive Committee;*
 - b. *of the names of the members of the Executive Committee and any commission, committee or working group thereof; and*
 - c. *of all resolutions and proceedings at all meetings of the EOC and of the Executive Committee and of any commission, committee or working group thereof.*
11. *The EOC representatives on the ANOC Executive Council are as follows:*
- a. *The President, the Vice President and the Secretary General by election as specified in Article 12.1.g and 13.9. Consequently, any Officer of the EOC that takes office in substitution of another Officer who holds a position on the ANOC Executive Council shall replace that Officer in that role as well.*
 - b. *A further member to be elected by the EOC elective General Assembly.*
 - c. *A female representative appointed by the ANOC President in consultation with the President of the EOC in his capacity as ANOC Vice President for Europe.*
 - d. *An additional member who shall be appointed by the ANOC President in consultation with the President of the EOC in his capacity as ANOC Vice President for Europe.*

The additional member and the female representative shall represent the EOC for the duration of the ANOC quadrennial.

12. *The following addition is made to Article 13.2.e:*

The Executive Committee may at its discretion extend the mandate of the ex-officio member nominated by the European Games Host City to the end of the year in which their mandate expires, following which the newly elected Executive Committee may at its discretion decide to extend said mandate until the end of the year in which the following European Games are held.

The Executive Committee shall approve procedures to be adopted for elections and such procedures shall include provisions to ensure the minimum gender number as per (13.2.f) above is met.

Article 14 Athletes' Commission

An EOC Athletes' Commission shall be constituted and a chairperson elected, in accordance with regulations adopted by the EOC Executive Committee on 5 May 2005 in Tirana, Albania, and as the Executive Committee may amend from time to time. All regulations and procedures of the EOC Athletes' Commission shall be adopted by the EOC Executive Committee after consulting with the EOC Athletes' Commission. The chairperson of the Athletes' Commission shall become an ex officio member of the EOC Executive Committee.

Article 15 Commissions and Working Groups

1. The Commissions and Working Groups act as consultative bodies to the Executive Committee.
2. The Executive Committee may appoint Commissions or Working Groups, determining their functions, responsibilities and objectives.
3. In carrying out their functions each Commission and Working Group shall respect eventual rules and regulations decided by the Executive Committee.
4. The Chairman of each Commission and Working Group shall co-ordinate the proper running of

activities and write reports on those activities to the Executive Committee.

5. For each Commission and Working Group a member of the Executive Committee shall be appointed to act as liaison officer between it and the Executive Committee.

Article 16 Honorary Award

The Executive Committee has the exclusive authority to make honorary awards to individuals or organisations who, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, have reinforced the effectiveness of the EOC or have rendered distinguished services to the cause of sport and Olympism.

Article 17 The Seal

The EOC shall have a common seal with its name engraved thereon in legible characters and the Executive Committee shall provide for the safe custody of the Seal and the Seal shall never be used except by the authority of the Executive Committee. Every instrument to which the Seal shall be affixed shall be signed by the Secretary General, or by some other person appointed by the Executive Committee for the purpose, and by one other member of the Executive Committee.

Article 18 The Audit Committee

18.1 An Audit Committee consisting of three members shall be nominated by the Executive Committee for a term of four years. One of the three members shall be nominated by the Executive Committee as Chairman of the Audit Committee. The duties of the Audit Committee are:

- a. to liaise with the Treasurer and the External Auditors on all audit matters;
- b. to preview the annual reports and annual accounts with the Treasurer and the External Auditors to satisfy itself that the Association's expenditure is in line with its aims and that the information contained in the annual reports has been fairly and accurately stated and submit an advisory report to the Executive Committee discussing accounting policies proposed for the financial statements;
- c. to give the Executive Committee assurances as the Executive Committee may reasonably require, regarding the reliability of financial information submitted to it and of financial statements issued by the Treasurer;
- d. to review the External Auditors' management letter and the Treasurer's response thereto;
- e. to evaluate the independence and objectivity of the External Auditors;
- f. to review performance in relation to budgetary matters;
- g. to carry out such other financial duties as the Executive Committee shall determine.

18.2 The Audit Committee shall be accountable to the Executive Committee and shall meet with such frequency as it may consider appropriate, but in any event not less than twice a year.

18.3 The Audit Committee may invite any member of the Executive Committee, the External Auditors, or any other person to attend any of its meetings if it shall consider that their presence would assist in the performance of the Audit Committee's duties.

18.4 Individual Members of the Audit Committee may be re-appointed.

Article 19 Finance

THE TREASURER

1. The Treasurer is responsible for the Treasury of the EOC and for the protection of its financial assets. The Treasurer must be consulted on all financial matters and shall assist in all financial negotiations. His duties are:

- a. to supervise the bookkeeping operations of the EOC, so as to ensure that proper books of account are kept;
 - b. to ensure that an adequate system of internal control is in operation, to prevent fraud and to detect errors;
 - c. to ensure that all taxes, properly due, are paid promptly to the relevant authorities;
 - d. to present at each meeting of the Executive Committee an up-to-date report of the financial situation of the EOC;
 - e. to supervise the production, in a timely manner, of year-end financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the EOC and of its annual results;
 - f. to liaise with the Audit Committee and the External Auditors in the carrying out of their duties;
 - g. to supervise the preparation of an annual budget for presentation to the Executive Committee for its approval and to ensure that the EOC finances are maintained within budget. Any expenses not included in the budget require prior authorisation by the President and the Executive Committee;
 - h. to carry out such other financial duties as the Executive Committee shall determine;
 - i. to send out the annual draft budgets and balance sheets to be approved by the Executive Committee and the General Assembly well in advance of the date when they need to be approved;
 - j. to represent the EOC before third parties on financial matters, as directed by the President or the Executive Committee;
 - k. to make a report to the General Assembly each year on the EOC's financial activities.
2. The finances of the EOC shall be derived from, among others:
- a. Membership subscriptions;
 - b. subsidies from the IOC, Olympic Solidarity, public bodies, or other organisations;
 - c. gifts and bequests;
 - d. proceeds from events like Olympic Day, from stamp issues, the sale of EOC emblems approved by the IOC for use on a commercial basis, publications and sale of printed material, the granting of licences to third parties for the use of the EOC Properties;
 - e. fees for services rendered; rights received from entities that support the initiatives related to the objects of the EOC;
 - f. any other source which the General Assembly of the EOC or its Executive Committee shall approve, including sponsorships exclusively for the objects and mission foreseen by these Articles;
 - g. Revenues, rights and whatever else connected to the activities indicated in Articles 2.j and 2.k in so far as they are instrumental and of use for the objects of the Association.

3. No financial assistance from any of the various public and private bodies referred to herein may interfere with the independence of the EOC, which is to remain a completely autonomous and independent body, resisting all political, religious or commercial pressures;
4. The General Assembly approves each year a budget and the annual accounts (balance sheet and financial accounts) for the financial year. The financial year begins on 1st January and ends on 31st December, in each year unless otherwise changed by the General Assembly.

BYE LAW TO ARTICLE 19

1. *In compliance with Italian law and tax regulations, the income and property of the EOC whencesoever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the EOC as set forth in these Articles of Association and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to the members of the EOC. Provided that nothing herein shall prevent the payment in good faith of reasonable and proper remuneration to any officer or servant of the EOC or to any Member of the EOC in return for any services actually rendered to the EOC nor prevent the payment of interest at a rate not exceeding 5% per annum on money lent or reasonable and proper rent for premises demised or let by any Member to the EOC but that no member of the Executive Committee of the EOC shall be appointed to any salaried office of the EOC or any office of the EOC paid by fees and that no remuneration or other benefit in money or moneys worth shall be given by the EOC to any member of such Executive Committee except repayment of out-of-pocket expenses and interest at the rate aforesaid on money lent or reasonable and proper rent from the premises demised or let to the EOC. Any forfeit daily amounts paid to any persons who may be asked to perform functions for and on behalf of the EOC, by way of reimbursements for their absence from their place of work whilst on EOC business shall not be considered to be remunerations. Provided that the provision last aforesaid shall not apply to any payment to any company of which a member of the Executive Committee may be a member and in which such member shall not hold more than one-hundredth part of the capital and such member shall not be bound to account for any share of profits he may receive in respect of any such payment.*
2. *The budget and annual accounts to be approved by the General Assembly must be sent to the NOCs not less than 30 days in advance of that General Assembly.*

Article 20 Accounts

1. The Executive Committee shall cause proper books of account to be kept relating to:
 - a. All sums of money received and expended by the EOC and the matters in respect of which the receipt and expenditure takes place;
 - b. all sales and purchases of goods by the EOC;
 - c. the assets and liabilities of the EOC.
2. Proper books shall not be deemed to be kept if there are not kept such books of account as are necessary to give a true and fair view of the state of the EOC's affairs and to explain its transactions.
3. The books of account shall be kept at the Office or at such other place as the Executive Committee think fit, and shall at all reasonable times be open to the inspection of the Executive Committee.
4. The Executive Committee shall from time to time determine whether and to what extent and at what times and places and under what conditions or regulations the accounts and books of the EOC or any of them shall be open to the inspection of Members not having a representative being a member of the Executive Committee, and no Member (not having a representative being a member of the Executive Committee) shall have any right of inspecting any account or book or document of the EOC except as conferred by statute or authorised by the Executive Committee or by the EOC in General Assembly.

5. The Executive Committee shall from time to time, cause to be prepared and to be laid before the annual General Assembly of the EOC such income and expenditure accounts, balance sheets, group accounts (if any) and reports as are required to be prepared and laid before the annual General Assembly of the EOC. Said balance sheets shall be audited by the External Auditors.
6. A copy of every balance sheet (including every document required by law to be annexed thereto) which is to be laid before the annual General Assembly of the EOC, together with a copy of the Executive Committee's report shall, not less than thirty days before the date of the annual General Assembly, be sent to the External Auditors and to every person entitled under the provisions of these Articles to receive them.
7. The Executive Committee may exercise all the powers of the EOC to borrow money and to mortgage and charge its undertaking and property or any part thereof, whether outright or as security for any debt, liability or obligation of the EOC.

Article 21 Ethics Commission

1. The elective General Assembly, as defined in Article 12.1.e, shall appoint an independent and impartial Ethics Commission composed of 3 members who are legally qualified persons and who shall serve for the quadrennium.
2. The Ethics Commission shall be empowered to hear any complaint against any officer or Member whether made by another officer, Member, or a member of the public. Upon receiving a written request from the Ethics Commission, the officer or Member concerned against whom a complaint has been made shall provide such further information or documentation within such a period as may be reasonably required. The Ethics Commission will give the said officer or Member a reasonable opportunity to make representations (in writing, in person or through the use of any duly appointed counsel or representative) in connection with the said complaint before making any final decision thereon.
3. The Ethics Commission shall, in relation to an officer or Member against whom a complaint as aforesaid shall have been made, have the following Ethics powers:
 - a. reprimand;
 - b. fine;
 - c. suspension for whatever period of time the Ethics Commission shall decide; and
 - d. termination of Membership.
4. Any officer or Member against whom the disciplinary action referred to in this Article shall have been taken shall have a right of appeal to an Extraordinary General Assembly of the EOC called for that purpose.
5. Notice of such appeal must be served in writing to the Secretary General not more than 14 days after the date upon which any decision of an Ethics Commission shall have been communicated to the said officer or Member concerned. Any decision of the Ethics Commission or (on appeal) of the EOC taken at the aforesaid Extraordinary General Assembly shall be by not less than a two thirds majority.
6. Any decision made by the Extraordinary General Assembly referred to in this Article may be submitted exclusively by way of appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland, which will resolve the dispute definitively in accordance with the Code of Sports-Related Arbitration. The decision of the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne shall be final and binding on the parties. The time limit for appeal is twenty-one-days after the receipt by the appellant of the decision to be appealed.

Article 22 Dissolution

1. The dissolution of the EOC may only be effected by a General Assembly comprising three quarters of the voting Members and requires a secret ballot with a majority of 3/4 of the votes cast.
2. If upon the winding up or dissolution of the EOC there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the EOC but shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the EOC, and which shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the EOC under or by virtue of Article 19.2, such institution or institutions to be determined by the Members of the EOC at or before the time of dissolution, and if and so far as effect cannot be given to such provision, then to some charitable object.

Article 23 Official Languages

The official languages of the Association are French and English. The working languages are French and English; in the case of divergence between the French and English texts of these Articles and any other EOC document the English text shall prevail unless expressly provided otherwise in writing. The Italian language is adopted for the documents needed for the execution of administrative and tax obligations as required by Italian law and tax regulations.

Article 24 Dispute Resolution

1. Any dispute relating to the Articles, resolutions of the General Assembly, the EOC Executive Committee or the European Games and EYOF shall in the first instance be submitted to the EOC Executive Committee for an amicable resolution in good faith.
2. If, within a maximum period of 4 months after the receipt of a claim, the EOC Executive Committee is unable to agree on a solution that satisfies the parties, the Parties may submit the dispute to the CAS in Lausanne.

Article 25 Miscellaneous

1. REGULATIONS. The Executive Committee shall have power to make regulations on all matters not provided for in these Articles and to do all such things which it may deem necessary for attaining the objects of the EOC.
2. BYE-LAWS. The Executive Committee shall have the power to add Bye-Laws to the present Articles. Said Bye-Laws are subject to approval by the General Assembly at its first meeting convened after the introduction of each new Bye-Law.
3. NOTICES. A notice may be given by the EOC to any Member either personally or by sending it by post or e-mail or any other equivalent means to him to his registered address. Where a notice is sent by post, service of the notice shall be deemed to be effected by properly addressing, prepaying and posting a letter containing the notice, and to have been effected in the case of a notice of a meeting at the expiration of twenty four hours after the letter containing the same is posted and in any other case at the time at which the letter would be delivered in the ordinary course of post. Notice of every General Assembly shall be given in any manner hereinbefore authorised to:
 - a. every Member;
 - b. the Officers, the Executive Committee, the Audit Committee and the External Auditors for the time being of the EOC.

No other person shall be entitled to receive notices of General Assembly meetings.

4. CONFIDENTIALITY. Without prejudice to its rights or duties at law, each Member shall treat all information relating to any other Member, the EOC or the Executive Committee as strictly confidential and shall not communicate such information or any part thereof to any other person authority or organisation whatsoever.
5. INDEMNITY. No Executive Committee member or other officer of the EOC shall be liable for the acts, receipts, neglects or defaults of any other Executive Committee member or officer, or for joining in any receipt or other act for conformity, or for any loss or expense happening to the EOC through the insufficiency or deficiency of title to any property acquired by order of the Executive Committee for or on behalf of the EOC or for the insufficiency or deficiency of any security in or upon which any of the moneys of the EOC shall be invested, or for any loss or damage arising from the bankruptcy, insolvency or tortuous act of any person with whom any moneys, securities or effects shall be deposited, or for any loss occasioned by any error of judgment or oversight on his part, or for any other loss, damage or misfortune whatever which shall happen in the execution of the duties of his office or in relation thereto, unless the same happens through his own dishonesty.
6. INTERPRETATION. In these Articles, unless the context requires another interpretation:
 - a. words importing the singular number only shall include the plural number and vice versa;
 - b. words importing the masculine gender only or neuter shall include the feminine gender;
 - c. words importing persons shall include corporations.
7. ARTICLES. These Articles shall at all times be in accordance with the Olympic Charter. If there is any doubt as to the implication or interpretation of these Articles or if there is a contradiction between these Articles and the Olympic Charter the latter shall take precedence.
8. AMENDMENTS OR ADDITIONS. Subject to compliance with these Articles, any amendment of or addition to these Articles may be proposed by The Executive Committee or by any NOC which is a voting Member through its Secretary General. Such proposed amendment or addition must be notified, in writing, to the Secretary General at least forty-five days before a General Assembly of the EOC which will consider it. The Secretary General shall give notice of such proposed amendment or addition to each Officer of the EOC, each member of the Executive Committee and to the Secretary General or equivalent officer of each National Olympic Committee which is a Member not later than thirty days prior to the meeting of the EOC which will consider same. A two-thirds majority of those present and voting at the meeting of the EOC considering any amendment or addition shall be necessary to carry same. Any amendment of or addition to these Articles, proposed to be made shall be notified by the Secretary General to the IOC with a request for approval. Subject to the provisions of Articles 25.1 and 25.7, the sole authority for the interpretation of these Articles and any regulations or Bye-Laws made thereunder from time to time shall be vested in the Executive Committee. They replace the foregoing Articles on the date they are voted by a General Assembly.

CHAPTER 3

The EOC Sport Events and the GSSE

Article 26 The European Games

1. The European Games are the EOC's premier sports event, and shall be celebrated every four (4) years in the year preceding the Games of the Olympiad, unless otherwise determined by the General Assembly of the EOC, and shall be organized in accordance with these Articles of Association and the relevant regulations of the EOC.
2. The European Games are competitions between athletes in individual or team events and not between countries.
3. The European Games are the exclusive property of the EOC, which owns all rights and data relating thereto. The EOC Executive Committee shall have the exclusive right to transfer, sell and/or cede totally or partially any of the EOC's marketing and TV rights regarding for the European Games.
4. The European Games are regulated by the EOC Articles of Association as well as any regulations as approved by the EOC Executive Committee and the General Assembly in coordination with the European Sport Federations and /or the International Federations.
5. The NOC Member of the country of the Host City that has been granted the right to organize the European Games has to ensure that said Host City complies with the obligations laid down by the EOC Articles of Association and EOC Regulations, as well as those deriving from the Host City Contract.
6. The hosting National Olympic Committee shall appoint in consultation with the EOC Executive Committee an Organizing Committee which will take the responsibility for the organization of the European Games.
7. The Organizing Committee, which must have the status of a legal person in its country, shall take the responsibility to organize the European Games. It shall function by virtue of the powers assigned to it by the NOC of the host country, the Host City, the EOC, and by its assumption of the Host City Contract, guaranteeing the fulfilment of the responsibilities conferred upon it by the Host City Contract it underwrites.
8. The Organizing Committee shall have amongst others the following obligations: to plan, organize, finance, promote and stage the European Games.
9. The EOC Executive Committee shall approve the design of the Organizing Committee's emblem provided that there is no risk of confusing such emblem with the EOC emblem, the emblem of any of the Members of EOC or any other emblem created by the host National Olympic Committee in relation to the celebration of the European Games.
10. The authority of last resort concerning the European Games rests with the EOC Executive Committee.

Article 27 The European Youth Olympic Festival

1. The European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF) belongs to the European Olympic Committees (EOC), and is organised on behalf of the EOC, which has the exclusive rights to the event.
2. The EYOF are held under the patronage of the IOC.
3. The EYOF winter and summer events shall be organised on a bi-annual basis, and take place during odd years.

4. The EYOF is regulated by the EOC Articles of Association as well as the regulations of the EYOF Charter as approved by the EOC. These govern, among other aspects, all that which concerns the duration, the candidature procedure, the sports on the programme, the ceremonies and the election of the Host City together with the general organisation of the EYOF.
5. The authority of last resort concerning the EYOF rests with the EOC Executive Committee.
6. The EYOF Motto is “Ready to Shine”.



The Motto of the EYOF is the sole property of the EOC and a registered trademark. It cannot be used without the prior consent of the EOC.

Article 28 The Games of the Small States of Europe

1. The Games of the Small States of Europe (GSSE), which are owned and managed by the National Olympic Committees of the small states of Europe recognised by the IOC that all had a population of less than one million people in the year the GSSE was founded or when the State became a member.
2. The Games of the Small States of Europe (GSSE) is a biennial multisport event celebrated in the years preceding the Games of the Olympiad and the years following the Games of the Olympiad.
3. The GSSE are organized by and feature the National Olympic Committees of the small states of Europe that all had a population of less than one million people in the year the GSSE was founded or when the State became a member.
4. These GSSE are held under the aegis of the EOC and IOC in accordance with the GSSE statutes.
5. The official symbol of the GSSE consists of a torch surrounded by eight rings symbolically representing the eight founder countries of the GSSE.