



By email

To: **IBA National Federations** Presidents and Secretaries General

Lausanne, 7 October 2024

**Ref. Protection of the National Federations from abusive behaviour of the International Olympic Committee**

Dear National Federations,

Following the letter of the International Boxing Association (IBA) of 3 October 2024, we would like to provide you with further information regarding protection of the National Federations from abusive behaviour of the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

On 26 August 2024, IBA applied to the Swiss Competition Commission with a complaint against the IOC stating that the IOC occupies a dominant position in the world market for the organization and marketing of the Olympic Games and the exploitation of the various rights related thereto. The IOC takes advantage of this position by excluding from the Olympic Games boxers whose National Federation is a member of the IBA. Insofar as it cannot be justified on objective grounds, this behavior is unlawful within the meaning of art. 7 para. 1 of the Swiss of the Federal Act on Cartels and Other Restraints of Competition (LCart).

This case is currently being processed by the Swiss Competition Commission.

Recently the IOC demonstrated another example of their breach of the Swiss anti-trust laws by forcing the National Olympic Committees (NOC) to exclude the National Federations affiliated with IBA from the NOC membership and prohibiting any institutional relations of the NOCs with IBA National Federations. This IOC behavior will be duly reported and added to the various legal arguments previously raised by IBA before the Competition Commission.

Our National Federations have faced unprecedented direct pressure from the side of their NOCs and ministries of sports due to the recent statements of the IOC. Hereby we invite our National Federations to join IBA in its legal actions against the IOC in the competent Swiss bodies. Together we will have more chances to stop the IOC and the pressure from the NOCs. We ask those who wish to join IBA in the legal proceedings to please contact IBA immediately.

In addition, should you wish to protect your rights from illegal actions and to initiate the cases against the IOC and NOCs at a national level, the IBA will provide you with advisory, administrative and finance support. We recommend you find the best legal experts in your country, whereas IBA is going to provide financing for appropriate legal actions in accordance with IBA internal policies.

Those who have faced any pressure from the NOCs and local ministries of sports, are invited to contact IBA International Relations Department by email at [International@iba.sport](mailto:International@iba.sport). In the relevant communication to IBA, please describe in detail your current situation, let us know if you are ready to join current IBA proceedings in Switzerland against the IOC and inform us what kind of support you would expect from IBA.

We stand ready to support you at every turn. Please do not hesitate to reach out, we are stronger when united.

Yours sincerely,



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**Chris Roberts OBE**  
Secretary General & CEO  
International Boxing Association (IBA)

Cc: IBA Continental Confederations

