



FAO: CPISRA – All National Members

Dear Colleague

**Re: President and Secretary General CPISRA**

I am writing to inform you that at the most recent Executive Committee meeting of CPISRA held in Lisbon, Portugal, on the weekend of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> June 2010, both I as President and Margret Kellner as Secretary General of CPISRA informed our colleagues on the Executive Committee of our intention to stand down from our roles with immediate effect.

I have been involved as a member of the Executive Committee of CPISRA for 18 years and Margret has been involved with the organization for some 25 years, both in the early development and continuing development of CPISRA. Margret has served in a variety of roles culminating in holding the position of Secretary General since 1998.

In recent years we have seen the changing nature of the role of the IOSDs in the Paralympic movement. We both now feel that the organization is at a particular point where serious issues regarding its future role and the position of the two sports that we govern, namely Boccia and Football 7-a-side, must be considered. We feel that these challenges should be taken forward by others at this time.

In addition, I will be retiring as Chief Executive of Capability Scotland in some 18 months time and therefore need to determine my workload priorities both in light of the recent economic climate and my forthcoming departure. I feel that due to these and other circumstances it is now necessary to step aside. Margret has also had to consider her workload priorities given the needs of her school and the educational work she's committed to. In addition she will be maintaining her active involvement in disability sport in Germany and will be looking at other international opportunities. Accordingly she also feels in the light of the circumstances that the time has come to move on to new challenges and opportunities. We therefore believe, that by standing down from our respective roles others will be allowed to focus on the way forward in the knowledge that they have the responsibility to the members of the organization for the ongoing delivery of any agreed direction.

We believe that our current colleagues on the Executive Committee can carry things forward in the interim and we will of course assist through the transition period. At this time Koos Engelbrecht, currently Vice President, will assume the role of acting President. Sharon Martin, currently Head of Development, will assume the role of acting Secretary General and Cornelis van Eldik will remain as Treasurer. I am sure that the acting President will be in touch with you all very shortly, but in the meantime any issues concerning CPISRA, which would have previously been addressed to either myself or Margret, should now go to Koos or Sharon.

I will be continuing in my role as a member of the Governing Board of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), where I also Chair the Legal and Ethics Committee and the Remuneration Committee. This work remains most important to me as we seek to further develop the Paralympic movement.

We know that we will continue to come into close contact with many of you over the next few years and we look forward to working to expand disability sport throughout the world.

We would like to take this opportunity to highlight how much we have both enjoyed our time spent in CPISRA. The most enjoyable aspect of working within CPISRA has been meeting the athletes who produce such outstanding performances and in working with people from so many cultures and countries. The knowledge that we have made good friends will always remain with us as will our commitment to athletes with Cerebral Palsy.

We hope we will have the opportunity to meet with you all again soon but in the meantime we would both like to express our thanks to our colleagues on the Executive Committee, the Chairs and the members of the Sports Committees, all the Classifiers, Officials and all the others who over the years have worked tirelessly with the organization. It is impossible to name everyone in such a letter but we are sure they all know who they are.

We wish every single one of you all the very best for the future and hope that you will pass on this information to those within your organization and others as appropriate.

With best wishes.



**Alan Dickson**  
President



**Margret Kellner**  
Secretary General