

## **Group G (Nordic and Baltic countries) statement on World Sailing situation**

Nordic Sailing Federation has at its meeting in Reykjavik discussed the present campaign against the World Sailing. We would like to express that:

We find the campaign against World Sailing is seriously harming to the interest of our sport.

The support of the public, the IOC and possible sponsors is in danger if we don't walk together and support the decisions taken in the recent years. We encourage the Council members and MNAs to focus on development of Sailing.

We recommend an end to the discussion about antitrust and monopoly. The model we have decided, inviting and testing new equipment in an 8 years circle should be sufficient to secure competition between suppliers.

We are confident that the Governance Committee will come up with good proposals for making decision making more efficient than today.

We encourage the Board to present at the Sarasota meeting a proposal for equipment taking into consideration the previous decisions regarding gender equality, physics, mixed events and universality. In addition to this we need to keep focus on cost efficiency.

Regarding the financial situation of WS we ask the sailing community to remember that the budget is for a four years period with a normal circle of a surplus in the Olympic year and deficits in the three following years. The deficit itself is not a problem. The interest of WS has been to reduce the dependence on Olympic funding and to get new sponsors. This requires investment in a commercial platform and media activities. We support this development and have confidence that it will pay off and that new sponsors will soon be announced.

We encourage other council members to express support to World Sailing in line with this statement.

*Present at meeting in Reykjavik 5 October 2018: Representatives from Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Estonia, Lithuania and Denmark*