Dear Presidents,

In one month we will have the opportunity to meet again in Kitzbühel at our yearly congress and the European Championships. The Congress will take place on the 19th June only in the afternoon and I hope you will all be able to attend.

Here is a brief update on the major topics:-

- **Races**
  
  The season has begun and we have proudly hosted in Europe, Cogne (IT) the World Winter Triathlon Championships. It has been a great success a many NFs were present with their teams: unfortunately no non-European teams.

  Starting this season, the ETU EB has decided, to offer 10,000 euro prize money to the first 3 NFs at the top of the ETU Nation ranking. The criteria for this are on our website and the main goal is to promote our Junior ETU Cups.

  The EB also decided to maintain the 25K euro prize money for our Top Male and Female athletes that will compete in 2014 in our ETU European Cups. This season we have 15 ETU cups including the Grand Final in Madrid where we will award, according to the European Ranking, our best athletes. We also have 10 Junior Cups, 5 of which are taking place with the ETU –ITU cup races.

  The European Elite and Junior Championships are in Kitzbühel and we expect a stunning event. There are also a great number of Age Groupers ,1600 , one of the biggest field for an European Championships, who will help make it a memorable occasion.

  In Penza, after one week, the best U23 and Youth athletes will compete for the European Titles.

  The EB has decided to begin this season to allocate and EB member to every Event, also to Junior Cups . This is to provide support to the LOCS and the TDs and to collect firsthand information about the races in order to work on the weakest areas and improve the quality levels.

  In Horst, together with IPA, we hosted the ETU Duathlon Championships over long and sprint distances. On the last weekend of May we will have the first stage of the TNatura circuit and our European Cross Triathlon Championships in Sardinia.

  In September and October, together with Challenge, we have the full and half European Long Distance Championships in Almere and Mallorca .

  With the support of the Technical Committee, these races are being monitored in order to be sure our rules and regulations are respected. It is a learning curve and it is for this reason that we have decided to have a medium term agreement with IPA, Challenge and TNatura.
We are satisfied with our 2014 ETU Race Calendar and I would like to thank the NFs and the LOCs for their enthusiasm and dedication in organizing these events.

The EB has also decided to allocate ETU points, valid for the European Ranking, to the Regional Races such as the Balkan Games final, the Mediterranean Games final and the Baltic.

- Finance

Our economic situation is in hand. We have closed 2013 with positive results and the EB has decided to reinvest almost all the earnings in our Development activities in 2013. In 2015 we will benefit from the Baku European Games income. With regard to these Games we are running to schedule. The two TD’s have been assigned Jorge Garcia and Bela Varga and the BEGOC (Organizing Committee) has recruited Alpar Nagi as Deputy race Director. I remind you that this race will assign direct spots for the Olympics and due to our involvement we will receive a good economical compensation.

We are running after the opportunity given by the EU to have financed, through the Erasmus+, several projects that, if approved, will provide us with precious resources for our Development activities in 2015 and 2016.

On Development we are on track and you will be fully updated during the Congress. As mentioned before, the resources available this year will be the amount given by ITU and the savings from 2013.

I am really looking forward seen you all in Kitzbühel and having the possibility to share ideas with you.

Best wishes,

Renato Bertrandi
ETU President