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Brussels, 11 February 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the Belgian Paralympic Committee, it is with great enthusiasm that we recommend **Mr. Tijl Smitz** for the position of **President of the International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC)**.

Tijl has been a visionary leader and a passionate advocate for sport development at all levels. His 17 years of experience at national, European, and IFSC board levels have shaped a profound understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing the sport climbing community globally. His commitment to inclusivity, sustainable growth, and organizational transparency reflects the values that we, at the Belgian Paralympic Committee, deeply support.

Tijl's manifesto for the IFSC Presidency demonstrates a clear and comprehensive vision for the future. He advocates for a leadership style that balances operational stability with strategic foresight. His focus on **grassroots development**, alongside **elite-level progress**, ensures that climbing remains accessible and inspiring for athletes of all backgrounds. His recognition of the role of **continental councils** and **education programs** for coaches, athletes, and officials underscores his commitment to fostering growth across all regions and levels of the sport. Furthermore, Tijl's dedication to **financial sustainability**, **marketing growth**, and **environmental responsibility** aligns perfectly with the evolving demands of global sport governance. His proposed structural changes, including dedicated board roles for Development, Finances, Marketing, and Sustainability, reflect a strategic approach to managing IFSC's future.

As a leader, Tijl exemplifies **coordination, communication, representation and availability**. His ability to bring together diverse stakeholders, foster collaboration, and promote transparency makes him exceptionally well-suited to guide the IFSC to new heights.

His deep passion for climbing, combined with his extensive experience, ensures that he can effectively represent and advocate for the sport on the world stage. We are confident that Tijl Smitz's leadership will not only strengthen the IFSC's global presence but also uphold the values of inclusivity, integrity, and excellence. His vision for making the world a better place through climbing resonates deeply with our mission at the Belgian Paralympic Committee, and we are proud to endorse him for this important role.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Olek Kazimirowski
Managing Director
Belgian Paralympic Committee