

Nyon (SUI) 27.3.2020

TO: LEN Member Federations
LEN Registered Federations
LEN Technical and Special Committees
LEN Partners and Sponsors

COVID-19 UPDATE – EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 2020

Dear Friends,

Following the communications dated 20 March 2020 regarding the putting on hold, postponement, or cancellation of **all LEN sports and non-sports Events scheduled to take place before the end of June/beginning of July**, please allow me to provide a brief update in view the most recent news.

As you know the IOC has officially communicated that the Tokyo 2020 Olympics have been postponed to 2021. However, the official dates of the XXXII Olympic Games have not been communicated yet. The official statement reads: *In the present circumstances and based on the information provided by the WHO today, the IOC President and the Prime Minister of Japan have concluded that the Games of the XXXII Olympiad in Tokyo must be rescheduled to a date beyond 2020 but not later than summer 2021, to safeguard the health of the athletes, everybody involved in the Olympic Games and the international community.*

As communicated on 20 March 2020 we had provisionally foreseen the holding of the Budapest 2020 European Aquatics Championships on 17-30 August 2020. We clarified that these were only “tentative dates” to be reassessed in May/June in view of the evolution of the coronavirus pandemic and that LEN would have considered the possibility to move its Championships to an even later date, including up to Spring 2021, if needed.

Unfortunately, we are not in the position today of providing any significantly different information from last week. Once we have a clearer idea on the evolution of the pandemic, on when the Olympics will be in 2021 and on how the dates of the Olympics may impact the International calendar (including the 19th FINA World Championships, currently planned for 16 July-1 August 2021 in Fukuoka, JPN), we will also be able to make better planning for the LEN European Aquatics Championships.

I am in close contact with FINA and fully informed of any decision being considered. It is clear that our aim is to provide, as early as possible and hopefully well before May/June, the most precise info relatively to both the LEN European Aquatics Championships and the LEN calendar for all disciplines and events.

LEN will obviously continue monitoring the situation maintaining as its top priority the protection and safety of its athletes, coaches, team leaders and of the whole LEN Family.

I wish all of you and your close ones all the best in such complicated times.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paolo Barelli'.

Paolo Barelli - LEN President

Cc: LEN Bureau; LEN Operations Manager; LEN Press Officer