

## **ADDRESS BY PROF. DR. HEINZ ZIELINSKI**

### ***HESSIAN MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AND FOR SPORTS, GERMANY***

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dear sportswomen and sportsmen,

Dear friends in European Sport,

I am delighted to welcome you on behalf of the Hessian Minister of Interior and for Sports, Mr. Boris RHEIN who is unfortunately not able to be here today because of other obligations, planned some time before. A warm welcome particularly to

- the President of ISCA, Mr. Kirkeby,
- the Secretary General of TAFISA, Mr. Baumann,
- the Vice-President of the German Gymnastic Federation, Mr. Prof Brehm,
- the German Olympic Sports Federation, Mr. Schneeloch,
- and to the President of ESFAN, Mrs. Suska.

It is a great pleasure for me, as the head of the department for sports in the Hessian Ministry of Interior and for Sports, to be here with you in the Congress MOVE 2010: sport for all and health.

In this context, I would like to thank the Lord Mayor of the city of Frankfurt am Main, Mrs. Dr. h. c. Petra Roth, for supporting the Congress. Frankfurt am Main has always been regarded as a European sports city, steeped in tradition. Its habitants are on the one hand enthusiastic spectators at mayor sport events and on the other hand, they are regarded to be highly active participants in popular sport. The repertoire arches from everyday sport to great events, such as for example the Women's Football World Cup in the upcoming year.

In this regard, we are pleased to start welcoming people from Europe and all over the world to Frankfurt already now.

After the "MOVE 2009" World Congress on active cities, in Copenhagen, Frankfurt is now hosting the "MOVE 2010" Congress.

The objectives are formulated:

- provide a platform for debate for all stakeholders related to sport for all and health,
- initiate cross-sectoral cooperation and partnerships between different institutions and

- lay the foundation for international networks.

Networking, in particular, remains one of the biggest challenges.

I am very pleased about this fact, since it reflects confidence in our sport enthusiasm, our support and our hospitality. Our Ministry in Wiesbaden is proud to be one of the main sponsors for this event. Let me remind you that as far as sport is concerned, we do have a federal system in Germany. The federal government supports competitive sport, the local authorities popular sport whereas the federal states promote both, competitive and popular sport. In the year 2010, the state government of Hesse is providing 50 million Euro for sport. Despite the difficult financial situation, the state government of Hesse is going to continue doing so also in the upcoming year. We are very much in favour of promoting such events like "Move 2010".

We appreciate the presence and the cooperation between different networks, more precisely that one between the partners of this congress:

- ISCA (International Sport and Culture Association),
- ESFAN (European Sport for All Network, regional body of TAFISA),
- CESS (Confédération Européenne Sport et Santé),
- DOSB (German Federation for Olympic Sport)

including the Congress host, DTB (German Gymnastic Federation). I am very pleased with the good relations that exist with the DTB in Hesse which, as is well known, has its central office in Frankfurt. The German Gymnastic Federation is a powerful Association, indeed.

I would already like to heartily thank all involved for the great work they have done in bringing together people from all over Europe in Frankfurt. In this context, I would in particular like to thank TAFISA. I hope this congress will be a strong consortium, composed of national and European organizations as well as stakeholders.

With the kind support of the regional, national and European institutions, you are aiming for an active and healthy world. Europe and the other continents as well demonstrate perfectly that the tremendous importance deriving from sport is being more and more recognized. The incorporation of sport in Article 165 of the European Constitution of December 2009 emphasizes this development very clearly. The European idea's main focus remains the European citizen.

Enhancing physical active lifestyle among citizens, means improving their well-being and health. The European Union, the World Health Organization, the national Ministries of Sport, the national

Ministries of Health are focusing more and more on promoting healthier lifestyles through physical activities. The EU “Health Strategy White Paper” is pointing to health enhancing physical activity, aiming at achieving healthier societies.

We have to remain focused on intensifying the cooperation between sport NGOs (Non Governmental Organizations), municipalities and other sectors. By doing so, we can improve health for urban citizens.

In this context, let me mention the national action plan “IN FORM – Germany’s Initiative for healthy nutrition and more physical activity” which has been set up by the federal government. Thanks to this action plan, a national strategy as well as a program for the strengthening and the establishing of healthy everyday structures in the food and physical activity area have been initiated. The State of Hesse also aims at promoting physical activity and contributing to healthier nutrition and more relaxation. Therefore, the action plan “Hessen IN FORM” has been initiated. A variety of institutions offer a great diversity of programs and projects, enabling more physical activity and contributing positively to the eating habits and the relaxation in Hesse.

We all know from our experience: with each one having a life of its own, cooperation between institutions is not always easy. However, there is no true alternative to wide-ranging cooperation. You have a powerful network of individuals, groups, organizations all working towards a common goal. You can achieve this goal. Yes, you can do it and we will support you within the scope of our possibilities.

By mentioning the famous sentence of Pierre de Coubertin: **“Sport is part of every man and woman’s heritage and its absence can never be compensated for”**, I would like to encourage all of you to carry on developing and supporting sport and health initiatives. Your body and mind will thank you!

Once again, I would like to welcome you to Frankfurt, in the heart of Europe. Enjoy your stay with us! Finally, let me wish all of you a successful Congress and an unforgettable stay in our country. Thank you for your attention.