



## **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**between**

**The Ligue Européenne de Natation (LEN)**

**and**

**The International Life Saving Federation of Europe (ILSE)**

This Memorandum of Understanding is signed by both the Ligue Européenne de Natation (LEN) and the International Life Saving Federation (ILS); (the 'Parties').

### **PREAMBLE**

Worldwide, drowning is a major public health issue that claims and impacts millions of lives every year. It is a complex problem which, in many areas, goes without adequate recognition or attention. This fact is verified by the statistics issued by the World Health Organisation and in its 2014 Global Report on Drowning – Preventing a Leading Killer.

A basic goal of both International Organisations is preventing drowning in all waters of Europe. With this common purpose in mind both the LEN and the ILSE can benefit by close collaboration to ensure that available resources are applied in a productive and resourceful manner to drowning prevention.

There are more nations and at-risk populations in Europe needing drowning prevention assistance than there are lead organisations to provide it. Both the LEN and the ILSE have unique and valuable assistance to offer. The world of drowning prevention would be less effective without these International Organisations. The global drowning prevention mission needs collaboration from all national, regional and international organisations and governments, to be most effective.

Through this Memorandum of Understanding the LEN and the ILSE agree to cooperate in the interests of preservation of life from drowning.

### **THE LIGUE EUROPEENNE DE NATATION**

Ligue Européenne de Natation or LEN is the European governing body for aquatic sports affiliated to the International Swimming Federation (FINA). It is the Continental Association for Europe. It was formally founded in 1926 in Budapest - Hungary, and since 2015 is headquartered in Nyon – Switzerland.

### **THE INTERNATIONAL LIFE SAVING FEDERATION OF EUROPE**

The International Life Saving Federation (ILS) is the world authority for drowning prevention, lifesaving and lifesaving sport. The ILS was created after the merging of the former Fédération Internationale de Sauvetage Aquatique (FIS), which was founded on 28 March 1910 in Saint-Ouen near Paris and the other international organisation World Life Saving (WLS). ILS counts nowadays

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over 145 Member Organisations worldwide. ILS leads, supports and collaborates with national and international organisations engaged in drowning prevention, water safety, water rescue, lifesaving, lifeguarding and lifesaving sport.

The International Life Saving Federation (ILSE) was created in 1993 as the European Branch of the ILS. ILSE is an umbrella organisation, representing federations working in the field of Water Safety in Europe.

## AGREEMENT

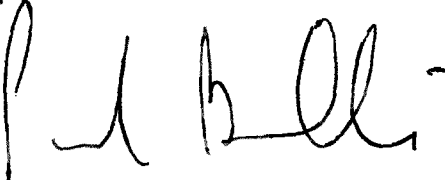
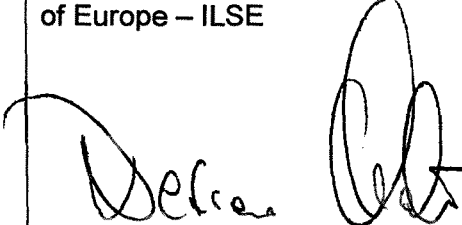
The LEN and the ILSE ('the parties') have agreed on the following

- Article 1. The LEN recognises that the ILSE is the European governing authority for Drowning Prevention, Lifesaving and Lifeguarding, Rescue and Lifesaving Sport.
- Article 2. The ILSE recognises that the LEN is the European governing authority for swimming, diving, synchronised swimming, waterpolo and open water swimming.
- Article 3. Through this Memorandum of Understanding both the LEN and ILSE agree to cooperate fully for the benefit of all people in Europe, so as to impact on the global drowning problem. This cooperation can be achieved through:
- Mutual respect and recognition of each other's contribution and unique status.
  - Supporting common activities on national and international level (including congresses, symposia, exhibitions, etc.).
  - Alignment of public messages.
  - Preservation of organisational identities.
  - Enhanced communication.
  - Sharing of good practice.
  - Elimination of duplication and conflict.
  - Recognition of the important role of volunteers
- Article 4. The parties will:
- Seek to have participation representatives on the committees within each organisation on issues of shared interest and mutual benefit.
  - Invite representatives to events, meetings and decision-making processes when there is shared interest and mutual benefit.
  - Explore options to have inclusive committees for an interest area that have "generic" shared interest and mutual benefit.
  - Explore options to reduce member burden with attention to events, member-ship management, standards, certifications, educational materials and other issues of shared interest and mutual benefit.
  - Encourage eligible members to become/remain members of the other.
  - Consider sharing relevant information with members in the two organisations.
  - Work together to achieve the recommendations of the WHO, IMO, UN, IOC, IWGA and other organisations, to ensure furtherance and elevation of the work of both the LEN and the ILSE.
  - Liaise with each other in planning its work;
- Article 5. Representatives of LEN and the ILSE will meet periodically to share experiences and review the progress of collaboration and to discuss specific opportunities for future collaboration in the interest of reducing the global drowning burden. In so doing, both parties acknowledge the importance of candour, openness, cooperation, networking, establishing best practices, and friendships that flow from such meetings and recognise the importance of confidentiality and preserving confidences.

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Article 6. This Memorandum of Understanding between the LEN and the ILSE shall take effect as of the date of its signature and is concluded for an unspecified period of time. Nevertheless, either of the two parties may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding subject to a six-month period of notice. In that event, the LEN and the ILS shall agree on the action to be taken concerning cooperation with regard to work in progress.

This Memorandum of Understanding was signed on (date). 2019-02-26

For the Ligue Européenne de Natation – LEN  ..... Dott Paolo Barelli President	For the International Life Saving Federation of Europe – ILSE  ..... Dr. Detlev Mohr PhD President
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