











	<p>TRANSFER OF FIG HEAD OFFICE</p> <p>As a result of the FIG Executive's decision of January 26, 2008, the FIG Head Office is moving to the Olympic capital of Lausanne. For this reason, FIG offices will be closed as of June 27, 2008. Operations in Lausanne start on July 7. New address:</p> <p>Fédération Internationale de Gymnastique, Avenue de la Gare 12, 1003 Lausanne, Switzerland. Phone: + 41 21 321 55 10, Fax: + 41 21 321 55 19</p>
	<p>OFFICIAL NEWS - COUNCIL</p> <p>May 23 - 24, 2008, Cape Town (RSA)</p> <p>The FIG Council has accepted modifications and updates to the Technical Regulations as proposed by the Executive. Among these:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the new qualifying process for athlete qualification to the Olympic Games. In the future, two events will serve as qualifying events: the world championships organised the year preceding the Olympic Games and the test event for the Olympic Games. The number of gymnasts in a team will be reduced from 6 to 5. All medallists will be qualified for the Olympic Games; • the elimination of World Cup Finals as of January 1, 2009. From this time forward, Olympic FIG disciplines will benefit from a world championships annually, with the exception of OG years; • the addition of the Youth Olympic Games and regulations to the list of official FIG competitions, and the addition of the African Games; • codification of scorekeeping terminology. A refers to Artistic, E to Execution, D to Difficulty and S to Synchronisation in all FIG disciplines; • as of January 1, 2009, any senior or junior gymnast wishing to participate in an international competition will need a license to do so; • the minimum age for Aerobic junior gymnasts has been raised to 15 years; • there will no longer be a pool of judges for Rhythmic Gymnastics; • gymnasts refusing anthropometric measures in Acrobatic Gymnastics will be sanctioned in the future; <p>The 2007 accounts and the 2008 revised budget were accepted. The FIG's financial situation is healthy and stable.</p> <p>A new FIG Internet website will make its debut in July 2008.</p> <p>The Cook Islands has been excluded for economic reasons. The Comoros has been provisionally admitted, and Paraguay readmitted. 13 federations were suspended for financial reasons: ANG - BAN - BAR - BOT - CAM - CGO - CMR - CRC - HON - IRQ - LES - NEP - SEY. The case of Myanmar, recently devastated by natural disaster, will be evaluated separately.</p> <p>The premier edition of the Gym for Life Challenge in 2009 has been attributed to Austria and the City of Dornbirn.</p> <p>The transfer of the FIG Head Office from Moutier to Lausanne has been finalised for early July 2008.</p> <p>The 9th FIG Council will be held in the European zone, in Lillestrom (NOR), in the vicinity of Oslo.</p>

	<p>OFFICIAL NEWS - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE May 22, 23 and 26, 2008 - Cape Town (RSA).</p> <p>A number of significant updates have been made to the Technical Regulations; FIG Executive members will submit the updates for approval by the Council, under whose jurisdiction they fall.</p> <p>Primarily, they concern the new qualification process for the Olympic Games and the new regulations for the Youth Olympic Games, the first edition of which is set for 2010 in Singapore.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 23 doping controls carried out in Ulm (GER) at the occasion of the Aerobic World Championships all came up negative. • The FIG and the prestigious Cirque du Soleil based in Montreal (CAN) are about to sign a partnership agreement. • The impending transfer of the FIG head office to the Olympic capital of Lausanne will require a personnel overhaul of 50%. The move is set for early July 2008. The building currently accommodating the FIG in Moutier (SUI) is owned by the FIG and will be put up for sale. • Change in nationality approved for Ruslan Panteleymonov (ART - UKR), who is now a British citizen, and for Maria Pitsikalis (ART - BUL), currently holding a Greek passport. • Prof. Peter Jenoure (SUI) and Dr Neoklis Georgopoulos (GRE) have been nominated as additional members of the TUE Commission (Therapeutic Use Exemptions) joining Dr Michel Binder (FRA), Prof. Kostas Markou (GRE) and Dr Michel Légise (FRA), President of the FIG Medical Commission. • Construction of the new FIG Internet website has been entrusted to Sportcentric. A full-time position will be given to maintaining and animating the site. • Mr Thore Brodin (SWE), George Steward (CAN) and Jacques Rey (FRA) have been nominated as members of the FIG Appeal Tribunal in the case of Ms Irina Deriguina. • The Executive takes note of the re-election of Ana Macanita (POR) to the FIG Athletes' Commission, as the representative of Aerobics. <p>The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held in Beijing, at the Games of the XXIX Olympiad.</p>
	<p>The FIG just released to its affiliated federations the booklet "History of Men's Code of Points". Additional issues are available at mediafig@fig-gymnastics.org</p>
	<p>Singapore Gymnastics, the National Sports Association for Gymnastics in Singapore, is looking for a RG coach. For more details, please visit www.gymnastics.sg Application deadline: July 2, 2008.</p>
	<p>The first international competitive event for Gymnastics for All groups, the "Gym for Life Challenge", will take place July 15 - 19, 2009 in Dornbirn (AUT). Ms Margaret Sikkens-Ahlquist (SWE), President of the FIG Gymnastics for All Committee, declared at a press conference held in Dornbirn that this modernised "Sport Contest", open only to amateurs, will enthuse millions of gymnasts of all ages.</p>

	<p>The FIG Disciplinary Commission, chaired by Mr Rached Gharbi (TUN), met in Lausanne June 15-16, 2008 for the hearing of Ms Irina Viner (RUS), against whom a disciplinary procedure was opened on April 22, 2008. Based on the report of the Disciplinary Commission, the FIG Presidential Commission will take a decision in due time.</p>
	<p>The City of Albacete (ESP) will be hosting a World Cup event in Trampoline Gymnastics, June 26 - 29, 2008. This event will bring together the best athletes worldwide in the Individual, Synchro and Double Mini categories. Information on the event and live broadcast of the competitions can be found on the Internet at www.albaceteworldcup.es.</p>
	<p>On the occasion of the statutory General Assembly, members of the GAISF (General Association of International Sports Federations) honoured FIG ACRO Technical Committee President, Dr Patricia Wade (GBR), with the Spirit of Sport Award. This prestigious award pays tribute to Ms Wade's contribution and personal commitment to the development of sport, education and health concerns throughout gymnastics.</p>
	<p>Olympic All-around and World champion, Ukrainian Boris Chakline died of cardiac arrest on May 30, 2008 in Kiev. Born in Omsk in Siberia on January 27, 1932, this extraordinary gymnast was a pillar on the Soviet team during the 1960s. Nicknamed "Mask of Iron", Boris Chakline took home 14 Olympic medals.</p>
	<p>In the legal case FIG vs. Ms Irina Deriuguina (UKR), an appeal from Ms Deriuguina was received in due time, following the FIG Presidential Commission's decision of April 21, 2008 to suspend her from her function as RG Technical Committee member and from any other official function within the FIG. The hearing by the FIG Appeal Tribunal will take place in Geneva (SUI) on June 30, 2008.</p>
	<p>The accreditation desk for the following 2008 FIG events is now open on the FIG website. Journalists are invited to register at http://www.fedintgym.com/mediamanager/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 77th FIG Congress - Helsinki (FIN) - October 17 - 19; • 14th Artistic Gymnastics World Cup Final - Madrid (ESP) - Dec. 13 - 14; • 7th Rhythmic Gymnastics World Cup Final - Benidorm (ESP) - Oct. 03 - 05; • 9th Trampoline Gymnastics World Cup Final - Togliatti (RUS) - Sept. 19 - 20; • 21st Acrobatic Gymnastics World Championships - Glasgow (GBR) - Oct. 10 - 12
	<p>Victor Da Cruz Gomes (<i>Victor Chance Communication Co.</i>) and Gregory Alcan (FRA), well-known international Aerobic Gymnastics champion, discovered an underlying potential to develop and invest in Namibia and in the national Gymnastic Federation. Mr Victor Da Cruz Gomes has dedicated enough funds to build a National Training Centre, doubling the size of the existing training centre in Walvis Bay, to ensure the country's ability to host the International Championships, a 1st African Gymnaestrada, as well as the all African Championships to be hosted in Namibia in December 2010.</p>

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