ASSOCIATION SANS BUT LUCRATIF
F.I.N.A – L.E.N ET C.O.I.B.
VERENIGING ZONDER WINSTOOGMERK
F.I.N.A – L.E.N ET B.O.I.C.
FONDEE EN 1902 – GESTICHT IN 1902
409.395.428 N°D'ENTREPRISE

AFFILIEE A LA
AANGESLOTEN BIJ DE
ONDERNEMINGSNR.

To all our members,
To FINA,
To LEN,

Brussels, March 3, 2022

STATEMENT OF THE BELGIAN SWIMMING FEDERATION REGARDING THE INVASION OF UKRAINE

The Royal Belgian Swimming Federation condemn to the invasion of Ukraine by the Russion government, supported by the government of Belarus. We call on the international aquatics community, and especially FINA and LEN, in addition to the rescheduling of their events., to immediately suspend Russia and Belarus, and their athletes, from all aquatic events and competitions until a peaceful resolution of this conflict. It would be wrong to allow Russian and Belarussian athletes to compete, while the Ukranian people and athletes, fight for their freedom, country and lives.

We fully support the relocation or cancellation of all events currently planned in Russia or Belarus, as requested by the International Olympic Committee and the exclusion of all representatives and athletes from Russia and Belarus from all recognized aquatic events and governing bodies. The Ukranian people and athletes have to fear for their and are forced to defend their freedom, homes and families, and are unable to train or compete or if able not in a fair way.

The Royal Belgian Swimming Federation will not send delegations to aquatic events held in Russia and Belarus, including the FINA Short Course World Swimming Championships scheduled to take place later this year, as long as no peaceful solution has been found.

We feel with the Ukranian people, suffering under this unimaginable act of barbarism and offer our support to the Ukranian Swimming Federations. Ukranian swimmers in need of training accomodation are welcome to train in our centers in Antwerp or Liege.

Sincerely,

Bernard Parez
Co-President

Pieterjan Vangerven
Co-President