Dear friends,

in order to introduce the CSIT Annual Report 2018, I would highlight that this was a year of huge development in our Confederation. In 2018 we had the opportunity to present our Confederation and World Sports Games model at a special stage: the SportAccord Convention, held in Bangkok. There we had the chance to present CSIT into 2 frameworks, one in front of all the International Federations, at the General Assembly of GAISF and one at the Official Convention, into a panel dedicated to multi sport events. Our participation gave us the opportunity to increase the visibility and awareness about our organisation, worldwide. The main topic we discussed is the legacy of WSG, that is the huge economic and cultural impact for the Countries and territories who host WSG.

In 2018 we were informed by the European Commission that 2 of our applications were selected for Eu co-funding, therefore we started up the administrative procedures to be ready to run the 2 projects from 2019. We were then very glad to know that some of our strategic objectives were evaluated as relevant at European level and that we could actually develop them in a proper way and with the support of the European Union (the young leaders platform and the promotion of social cohesion through sport).

In 2018 we have also been working to organise the VI Edition of the WSG, in coordination with UCEC President Mr Jaume Domingo and his staff and in partnership with the Municipality of Tortosa. One of the main topic we had was to enlarge our engagement with new cooperation partners so to develop the visibility at international level of CSIT as a platform where international federations can stage their championships or festivals. That represents a step forward toward the permanent growth of our core business.

During 2018 the CSIT Executive Committee members fully agreed with me to do a step forward towards the enlargement of WSG platform to all: from workers and amateurs to families, kids and people with disabilities. The driver of the implementation of WSG is the design of an up-to-date model, enabling us to engage all. Therefore we started to carry out the initial program during the preparation of the WSG2019: from the establishment of a CSIT Para-Sport sector to the search of sport disciplines attractive for kids and families.

My special thanks and appreciation goes to our Member Union UCEC that, under the leadership of the President, Mr Jaume Domingo, hosted our Congress in Tortosa in October 2018. My gratitude for the warm and efficient management of the stay addressed to all our delegates.

Finally, I would like to highlight the need of implementing our effective contribution into the sport sector at international level, mostly working with the International, National institutions and Governments which can benefit from hosting WSG event. Thus, because of the expertise we can provide to all athletes and families, who would like to experience a week of sport, friendship and tourism, and to host cities, too, which can see our Brand as an economic and cultural driver for their territories.

Cordial thanks to the Austrian Sports Ministry and IOC for permanent financial support.

Kind Regards,

Bruno Molea
President
The Executive Committee Meetings 2018

Under the chairmanship of President Bruno Molea, the 7th CSIT ExCom Meeting took place in his hometown of Forli / Italy, March 8th – 11th. A big topic was the upcoming CSIT World Sports Games 2019 in Tortosa (Spain). For this purpose, a Catalan delegation travelled to Forli to present the current state of affairs and to discuss the next necessary steps. There was also the annual accounts and the annual report of CSIT sports director Henk Bouchoms. Presented was the developed CSIT Solidarity Fund app, based on a fundraising system to support the poorer CSIT member unions, to give them the opportunity to participate in the CSIT WSG 2019. As a special service to be even more connected with CSIT, the new e-commerce platform was also presented, where all fans, stakeholders and member unions can put together their own creations of CSIT sportswear.

The program included meetings with the mayors of Forli (Mr. Davide Drei) and Cesena (Mr. Paolo Lucchil), the sports capitals of the region. Molea’s hometown Forli was 2018 European City of Sports.

From August 30th to September 2nd, the 8th CSIT ExCom Meeting took place in Berne / Switzerland. The host was the CSIT member organization SATUS. Main topics were the constitution of the Court of Arbitration, cooperation with Universities, the new CSIT vision and values, new Administrative Secretary engagement in Vienna (professionalism), the CSIT Beachvolleyball Championships in Albena/Bulgaria (June 5th – 10th) and besides the general status report by TORTOC it could be presented that more than ten international confederations with new sports will attend the WSG 2019 as partners. But not only international sports federations strive to cooperate with the CSIT, also the interest of the sport industry was awakened. There was a meeting with WFSGI – World Federation of the Sporting Goods Industry, which is based in Bern and GAISF member. The ExCom used the opportunity to visit the Swiss Parliament thanks to distinguished connections of SATUS President Christian Vifian to gain a deeper insight into this specific Swiss form of “Direct” Democracy.

The 9th meeting was organized in Tortosa on October 25th just prior to the Congress. Main points of this meeting were the preparation of the Congress and the discussion how to coordinate the collaboration between the CSIT Technical Commission members and the TORTOC specialists of the specific sports disciplines for the WSG 2019 at the best; The same to Para-Sport-Activities and WSG-Partners. Also, the actual candidatures as well as the potential hosts of future WSG editions were analysed. Sports Director informed about the CSIT Swimming Championships in Lignano/Italy (September 11th – 16th). Furthermore, two of CSIT project proposals got the grant from the European Commission and it had been decided to recommend to the Congress to accept one full member and three new candidate members.
40th Ordinary Congress

In the interim year of the CSIT World Sports Games, the highlight 2018 was the Ordinary Congress on October 21st in Hotel Corona in Tortosa. The Congress was opened by CSIT President Bruno Molea, Jaume Domingo President of the host UCEC and mayorress of Tortosa Meritxell Roigé. On the occasion of the WSG 2019, a number of high-ranking politicians were present with the Catalan General Secretary of Sports Gerard Figueiras, Ferran Bel (member of Spain Parliament) and other political decision makers of the Terres de l’Ebre.

The present Advocate Guarino and Prof. Kasper were introducing themselves and informing about their ideas and proposal of a code of conduct to be signed from all athletes and trainers prior to the WSG in Tortosa.

President Molea underlines that all four members will be present at the WSG2019, whereas the respectively involved specialist will leave this body and if this is not the case, then there are four members and chairman’s vote counts double.

/ STATUS QUO OF CSIT WORLD SPORTS GAMES PREPARATIONS /

At the beginning of the Congress all new WSG 2019 Partners (15) had the opportunity to present themselves with a short promotion movie to the Congress. The preparation status of the CSIT World Sports Games 2019 in Tortosa (WSG) has been considered satisfactory by CSIT’s specialists. All members of the Technical Sports Commissions, WSG-Partners and the international delegations visited the WSG sports venues and had fruitful discussions and coordination meetings with the sports-specialists of the Tortosa Organizing Committee TORTOC.

All participants were informed about the online-registration-platform and the “WSG2019-APP”, which will be very important communication platform of the upcoming games.

/ FORMATION COURT OF ARBITRATION /

President Molea underlined the importance of this independent body (CSIT Statutes Art. 16) and presented following four members with long-term competences focused on legal and sports:

- Chairman: Advocate Giancarlo Guarino / ITA
- Member: Ass. Prof. Robert Kasper / AUT
- Member: Willy Hofer / CH
- Member: Advocate Gavriel Kraus / ISR

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/ PANATHLON INTERNATIONAL (PI) & EUROPEAN FAIR PLAY MOVEMENT (EFPM) /

Vice President Katarina Raczova of long-term partner EFPM presented the Green Card project of the WSG-2019.

PI President Pierre Zappelli presented the new “Panathlon – CSIT World Sports Games Award” for all member unions. The Award gave all CSIT Member Unions from the various Countries a chance to nominate candidates, who have distinguished themselves in upholding the ethical and cultural values of sport. A special Panathlon International Commission has been constituted for this scope and the winner will be invited to be awarded within the frame of the WSG-2019 in Tortosa (all expenses about travel and accommodation will be sustained by Panathlon International).

/ PARA-SPORT COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (DISABLED ATHLETES) /

President Molea introduced Claudia Borzacchini as new CSIT Para-Sport-Coordinator. She is member of “FISDIR – Federazione sportive per le persone con disabilità intellettiva e relazionale” in Italy.

Coordinator Borzacchini introduced herself, presented the plans for the WSG2019 in Tortosa, in concrete terms championships for disabled persons with Down Syndrome in Futsal, Handball, Volleyball, Basketball, Table Tennis, Swimming. The overarching goal is that the whole CSIT community is celebrating together!
After extensive preliminary talks with interested organisations and institutions, finally two candidates submitted their official application for the CSIT World Sports Games 2021. On the one hand the city of Rome on the initiative of Mayoress Virginia Raggi and on the other hand the capital city of Croatia Zagreb (mayor Milan Bandić) together with the new CSIT member union “Health Life Academy”. The award decision will be made at the ExCom meeting in March 2019. Prior to this, the working group World Sports Games with CSIT Sports Director Henk Bouchums and Vice President Desislava Yagodin will evaluate the two candidate cities and draw up a report that serves an objective basis for the awarding decision.

The Catalan UCEC was admitted to the CSIT as a full member by the Congress, as candidate members confirmed were the Flemish Association “Vlaamse Vechtsport Associatie” [represented by President Ludo Bellemans], the Tunisian Federation “Tunisien Sport et Travail” [with head of international affairs Sarra Zarrouk] and the Croatian Association “Health Life Academy” [with Secretary General Dario Jagic].

The Congress decided to exclude member union UNTA (Angola), Electra (Romania), BAWS (Balkan Continental) and to reject the membership application of MSFA (Mongolia), WSFI (India) due to non-communication, non-contribution as well as non-commitment after several times of warning.
Vice President Strategy Christian Vifian, who is consultant in strategy development, stated that strategy is to do the right thing at the right time and a vision is the basis to create a great strategy. He presented the development of the strategy planning since the Congress 2017 with the new vision and values statement and thanked at the same time the members of the working group strategy, the Executive Committee and all actively participating member unions like FSGT, ASKÖ, HAPOEL and others for their contribution. The new vision and values statement was finally approved with a large majority (4 abstentions).

President Molea asked for trust for changing the articles of CSIT acc. to the ExCom proposal, in order to grow and to increase the quality of service for CSIT stakeholders with the result to be more competitive in the world of organized sports. The Congress agreed unanimously the article changing proposals of the ExCom to open the CSIT to all kinds of sport as well as with majority an article about a new cooperation between the Executive Committee as well as the Sports Department with the Technical Commission with the aim at developing a management structure enabling effectiveness and efficiency.

The CSIT has been working hard for years to come up with innovative ideas and new projects. For the development of Young Leaders and their partners in CSIT and for inclusion of socially disadvantaged groups, the European Union has awarded CSIT funding finally. Both projects (Bridges & YOUAca) were already in planning and implementation and other partners in discussion.

All international delegations have been informed that member union AICS will host the next Ordinary Congress edition in Rome, October 14th to 20th, 2019. All delegates have been informed that this edition will be an Election-Congress. Candidates for Executive Committee positions – from CSIT full member unions only – have to send a written candidature to the CSIT Office with official stamp and signature of the specific member union until August 16th, 2019.
General Secretary Wolfgang Burghardt and Head of Presidents’ Office Valeria Gherardini represented President Molea in Milan / Italy February 3rd – 4th. Representatives of CSIT member union FederSwiss have initiated this meeting with INAS (International Federation for intellectual impairment sport) and SU-DS (Sports Union for athletes with Down Syndrome) for better mutual understanding and future cooperation.

President Bruno Molea, General Secretary Burghardt and Head of Presidents’ Office Gherardini attended this world’s premier and most exclusive annual event at the service of sport in Bangkok / Thailand from April 2nd – 7th, where around 2,000 key decision-makers as Presidents and General Secretaries of the global sport were present. Within this frame the CSIT delegation was invited on the one hand to the General Assembly of the Alliance of Independent Recognized Members of Sport (AIMS) to present the CSIT movement to this important community and on the other hand President Molea and Mrs. Gherardini were taking part in a discussion panel about working with International Federations (IFs) how to promote grass roots sport and encourage sporting activity within own community. The CSIT leaders had many fruitful meetings with potential partners of CSIT and the WSG. CSIT is member of SportAccord / GAIFS since the very first beginning (1973).

Upon invitation of cooperation partner Pi President Pierre Zappelli, the CSIT was represented at the 21st International Congress on the topic “Education in and through sport – Connecting values, physical literacy and wellbeing” on June 15th in Florence / Italy. Future common projects like the “Panathlon – CSIT World Sports Games Award” have been discussed.
**/ BILATERAL MEETINGS IN VIENNA /**

Within the frame of a strategic working group meeting at the end of June in Vienna / Austria, President Molea had fruitful bilateral meetings with the President Gerhard Hauer of cooperation partner FICEP (Fédération Internationale Catholique Education Physique et Sportive), CSIT member union ASKÖ and its President Hermann Krist, IFA – International Fistball Association President Karl Weiß and high representatives of the WSF – World Snowboard Federation.

**/ WFSGI-WORLD FEDERATION OF THE SPORTING GOODS INDUSTRY /**

Within the frame of the ExCom Meeting in Berne at the end of August the CSIT leaders had the opportunity to meet WFSGI-President Robbert de Kock, based in Switzerland. WFSGI recently became member of GAISF and represents more than 70% of all global sports brands like Nike, Adidas. WFSGI expressed its interest to find partners in the Sports-For-All Sector. More info about WFSGI find here: [https://www.wfsgi.org/](https://www.wfsgi.org/)

**/ SCIENTIFIC ALLIANCE AND CHINA /**

In September President Molea had two important meetings in Rome on the one hand with the Universita’ La Sapienza concerning the plans of a scientific alliance for CSIT and sports for amateurs and on the other hand with the Chinese Embassy, in order to evaluate the “Chinese market” what is essential as world sports confederation.

**/ SMART CITIES & SPORT SUMMIT /**

Invited by the IOC President Molea attended this summit in Lausanne October 29th – 31st. As organizer of a major event like the CSIT World Sports Games President Molea had the opportunity to share experiences and best practices and to learn from world class experts from the wider sports industry. This conference, focused on smart strategies that effectively connect sport and cities, attracted representatives of cities, regions and countries of all sizes from around the world.

**/ SPORTACCORD IF – FORUM 2018 AND IOC PRESIDENT BACH /**

CSIT President Bruno Molea attended the SportAccord International Federations (IF) Forum from November 5th – 7th in Lausanne / Switzerland. At this platform he had the possibility to meet and talk to IOC President Thomas Bach and high functionaries of GAISF, SportAccord and other world sports confederations. This year’s IF Forum theme was “Open Doors and Open Minds – New Tools for Ifs”.
In Memoriam

CSIT Honorary Member Rudi Spiola (ASKÖ) died aged 88 in Vienna. Rudolf “Rudi” Spiola was a long-term sports-functionary for many decades in ASKÖ Austria as General Secretary (since 1962), but also a great supporter of the International movement of CSIT (photo with former President Harald Bauer celebrating his 80th birthday). Besides the CSIT Rudi Spiola was Honorary Member of ASKÖ as well as of the Austrian Sports Association.

While attending the Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires, Argentina GAISF President Patrick Baumann died aged 51 following a suspected heart attack. Patrick was an inspirational leader whose vision, drive and matchless enthusiasm characterized his work on behalf of sport worldwide as GAISF President, Secretary General of FIBA (the International Basketball Federation) and an IOC Member.

He was the driving force behind the transformation of GAISF, following his election to the presidency in 2016. Under his guidance, the organisation re-branded and found a new direction and fresh purpose within the Olympic family. He engineered GAISF’s pivotal Memorandum of Understanding with the International Olympic Committee, and put in place systems and procedures to ensure GAISF’s unity and assure its future as a key service provider for members in the fast-changing world of sport. Patrick had thorough knowledge also in the grassroots sport – segment and was a linking personality between the sport for all – and the top-level sports – community.

Wolfgang BURGHAARDT
CSIT General Secretary