





three centres available. Unfortunately, I have to admit, that the situation concerning the Nagano and PyeongChang heritage and sustainability is not perfect. Last year we had several meetings between President Fendt, myself and our Japanese colleague - president Kitano, regarding reopening of the track in nearest future. We have received a positive feedback from Korea, too. I am convinced that these three tracks are very essential not only for the regions of Asia, but also for Oceania.

By the way, in the entire China, which has been delivering very intensive backing to winter sports there are involved around 300 000 000 people in this programme!

From this viewpoint, the natural track luge is a distinctive strategic issue within the FIL activity framework. I think that we need to convene a special session to address this issue. In comparison with the past period, the FIL support has increased twice (6 Mio Eur), but we have not yet fulfilled all the IOC criteria to achieve the Olympic discipline status. As it was in the case of the artificial track doubles, we have to think about making this fascinating and interesting discipline simpler, easier to manage and financially more accessible.

I would like to extend my gratitude to all member federations for your contribution in our sport of luge development.

I would like to particularly acknowledge the input of competition organizers during the last season, having provided excellent event quality and luge sport presentation at the highest level.

Certainly I would like to thank my colleagues who ensured an increased quality of cooperation with WADA and ITA.

In conclusion I would like to wish all the athletes, coaches and the whole FIL family to reach new goals and to meet new challenges!

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Einars Fogelis', with a large loop at the top.

Einars Fogelis