

**Sub: Tribute to HRH Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein - Our Favourite
FEI President**

It is a sad moment for us all to be informed about the decision taken by Our favourite FEI President, HRH Princess Haya Al Hussein, to leave before a third-term of office. Under the reign of HRH Princess Haya Al Hussein for the last 8 years, the FEI has seen considerable development to offer equal support to all its member NFs. The FEI has become an ultra transparent organisation with a resonance to provide athletes from emerging countries not only with the opportunity to compete but with the opportunity to compete at international levels and by doing so they will be up against the leading athletes and horses in the world.

Since 2007, the FEI has amassed popularity as a friendly and democratic organization that serves the equestrian sport community and their representing nations regardless of their global status. Such was the change brought by HRH Princess Haya Al Hussein, President of the FEI towards establishing infrastructure, management, administration and technology. Today, with a few clicks within the proprietary FEI Entry System, NFs are able to submit entries to any FEI competition in the world visible within the FEI Calendar.

I hope history will repeat itself by providing us with yet another great leader similar to our current FEI President, HRH Princess Haya Al Hussein. Times have changed and exceptional candidates are hard to come by these days without any political agendas or personal interests, HRH Princess Haya Al Hussein has been serving at the helm of the FEI as its altruistic leader while engaging in voluntary work supporting all nations at par. We ourselves have witnessed the mighty support the FEI President had received at the 2013 FEI General Assembly in Montreux (SUI), where 100 National Federations signed a petition calling for an Extraordinary General Assembly (EGA) to change the FEI Statutes relating to the Presidential term. Subsequently, an EGA was held in Lausanne (SUI) in April of this year where NFs voted overwhelmingly in support of a change to the FEI Statutes increasing the maximum term in office of the FEI President to three four-year terms.

Within the FEI's Halls of Fame, HRH Princess Haya Al Hussein is an established presence and a symbol for modernising and rejuvenating the FEI at its core for rapid development of the equestrian sport worldwide. The FEI President built the new HQ for the FEI in Lausanne and brokered key sponsorships worth tens and millions of dollars for the FEI. Amongst them, and also one of the most important global sports partnerships in recent years, from the oldest Swiss watchmaker, Longines. It is a record multi-million Euro sponsorship for the next 10 years. The FEI-Longines partnership currently involves a number of major rights packages, including the FEI World Rider Rankings for Jumping, Official timekeeper of the Furusiyya FEI Nations Cup™ from 2013 onwards and of the FEI World Equestrian Games™ in 2018 and 2022; title sponsor of the FEI World Endurance Championships in 2016 and 2020; title sponsor of the FEI World Cup™ Jumping 2013/2014 season since October 2013. Another stunning and landmark multi-million deal of sponsorship given to the FEI is from the Saudi Equestrian Fund over the next four years for their historic series known as the Furusiyya FEI Nations Cup™.

Today the FEI, is governed and supported by a innovative and flexible team in Lausanne driving forward with one goal, which is to deliver the highest level of sport for both our athletes and our equestrian community in a context that sees the welfare of the horse as paramount. We must work harder to reach new heights in governance, development, welfare and administration and aim higher in global equestrian development. We should never forsake the current standards and vast developments achieved by the FEI in Solidarity, Clean Sport and remain indebted to the selfless service gifted to us by the tireless efforts of Our favourite FEI President, HRH Princess Haya Al Hussein, for achieving equal status for all NFs at the FEI.

I wish to thank the FEI President for bringing a homely atmosphere to the work environment at the FEI HQ in Lausanne, boosting productivity and quality of service. The effective management virtues of Our favourite FEI President has made a profound impact on the FEI's internal and external work environment such that it acted as a pillar of support to the hard working and illustrious employees, thus remodelling the FEI as a sport friendly organization. And so at the FEI, we are all deeply saddened and mourn your decision to depart from our close knit family that has offered ever-lasting support to all your endeavours at the FEI. We salute your command towards exceptional leadership with a soft heart and offer our gratitude for the 8-years of glory presented to the FEI and its equestrian sport disciplines worldwide.

Moreover, I offer my sincere support and commend the FEI Staff, the Committees, the Bureau Members, the Executive Board Members and most of all, Our Secretary General, Mr. Ingmar De Vos and, his team, for their hard work and unwavering excellence in providing worldwide service to ensure that FEI equestrian sport remains unchallenged. It is at this crucial hour that we must all offer our support to the FEI Secretary General, Mr. Ingmar De Vos and his selfless team to remain in good spirits and never feel let down during this momentary shock, owing to the decision of HRH Princess Haya Al Hussein to step down as our favourite FEI President. Please rest assured since everything will be fine !

Furthermore, it is our duty to preserve and protect the standards achieved by the FEI during the past 8 years towards sustaining unity, professionalism, transparency, and full accountability as a governing body to guarantee an equitable future for the equestrian sport. On behalf of the Worldwide NFs and members of all FEI Regional Groups including FEI Group VII, I offer my best wishes of success and goodwill to all future endeavours undertaken by HRH Princess Haya Al Hussein as a distinguished philanthropist and as a UN Messenger of Peace. I also offer my best wishes for happiness to HRH Princess Haya Al Hussein and to her family members.

Kind Regards,

Khalid Bin Abdulla Al Khalifa

FEI Regional Chairman for Group VII &

Bureau Member