



PRESS RELEASE n° 18/2017

UIC attends second sports challenge (badminton championship) as part of the UIC-USIC-Médecins du Monde charity fundraising campaign

The Alumni association of Paris' Ecole Centrale agrees to be a partner of this campaign!

(Bern, 6 July 2017) The International Union of Railways (UIC) and the International Railway Sports Association (USIC) are holding their second sports challenge in Bern, Switzerland as part of the UIC-USIC-Médecins du Monde charity fundraising campaign. This event, dedicated to badminton, is being attended by around 120 participants and will take place from 5 to 9 July 2017, with the opening ceremony taking place in front of the headquarters of SBB, the Swiss Federal Railways.

Following the agreement signed between UIC and USIC at the UIC General Assembly in Rome in July 2016, a charity action has been jointly decided this year between UIC and USIC, to better reflect the values of solidarity that the railway community wishes to develop through sporting events.

During 2017, both organisations will be pooling their strengths to organise four sports challenges across Europe. The first event this year took place at the end of May in Varna, Bulgaria, where 100 participants took part in the USIC men and women's Ten-Pin Bowling Championship.

The next events after Switzerland will be indoor football from 11 – 15 September in Brno, Czech Republic, and a World Chess Challenge on 20 November 2017 at UIC Headquarters in Paris, France. All the money collected during the USIC challenges will go directly to Médecins du Monde (Doctors of the World).

Call for corporate sponsorship

UIC has already launched a call for corporate sponsorship to raise funds for Médecins du Monde and is continuing its search for other sponsorships to support the forthcoming sports events. Sponsoring one of USIC's sports challenges will raise sponsors' public profile while also benefiting a charitable cause.

UIC, USIC and Médecins du Monde have the pleasure to announce that the Alumni association of Paris' Ecole Centrale has already joined this cause.

Donate today!

In parallel, the general public is invited to participate in this action for charity. Show your support for Médecins du Monde and make an impact on the world by making a gift – each and every donation helps!

To make a financial donation please follow this link:

<https://dons.medecinsdumonde.org/b/mon-don>

NOTES TO EDITORS

The International Railway Sports Union (USIC) is an international, politically-neutral, non-profit organisation. USIC encourages the practice of sport at amateur level amongst railway employees in an atmosphere of camaraderie, in line with the Olympian ideal, and strives to foster a spirit of loyalty, tolerance and democracy. USIC is also the international umbrella body for national railway sporting associations.

USIC organises international railway sporting events, which take place in accordance with the provisions of the relevant sporting rules and laws. USIC actively supports fair, drug-free sport, and recognises national and international anti-doping rules, specifically the World Anti-Doping Code (WADA).

The International Union of Railways (UIC) brings together 200 Members from five continents. Though UIC's founding remit was to harmonise operating conditions amongst railways at international level, its scope of action has progressively broadened and currently focuses on promoting railways as the most sustainable mode of transport. UIC aims to further international cooperation between its Members, helping to build a joined-up rail system through technical solutions which are harmonised at global level.

UIC supports its Members' efforts to boost the efficiency, sustainability and cost-effectiveness of rail transport for the benefit of rail customers and society as a whole.

The values guiding UIC in its work are "Unity, Universality, and Solidarity".

Médecins du Monde: Working in France and 81 countries worldwide, Doctors of the World - Médecins du Monde is an independent international movement of campaigning activists who provide care, bear witness and support social change. Through our 388 innovative medical programmes and evidence-based advocacy initiatives, we enable excluded individuals and their communities to access health and fight for universal access to healthcare.

Founded in 1980, the organisation has continued to increase its fields of intervention, adopt more complex ways of taking action and reaffirm its campaigning and independent stance.

The "Association des Centraliens" gathers together all the students and alumni of the École Centrale Paris and CentraleSupélec, who are studying for or have obtained an engineering degree or another degree awarded by the Ecole Centrale Paris and CentraleSupélec. It was founded in 1862 and recognised as an organisation of public benefit in 1867. It functions on a not-for-profit basis. Through a variety of activities, the Association pursues its objectives of supporting the activity of the École, protecting and promoting the "Centralien" brand, and providing its members with useful services (visits, workshops, conferences, seminars, meetings, etc.). It has 10 000 members.

For further information please watch these films:

UIC: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cqxBTS1eN3A>

USIC: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mxEL2AkOteY&t=698s>

Médecins du Monde: <https://youtu.be/mObDGkJnzTg>

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