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UIPM 2017 WORLD CUP II: CAIRO HOSTS SECOND WORLD CUP OF TOKYO 2020 CYCLE



- World Cup II welcomes athletes from 22 countries
- First of three major UIPM events in Africa in 2017
- UIPM President Schormann salutes experienced organisers

The global Modern Pentathlon community makes the first of three visits to Africa in 2017 this week as athletes from 22 nations take part in UIPM 2017 World Cup II (March 24-26).

Top performers in the Men's and Women's Individual and Mixed Relay events will be eager to build on their season-opening exploits at World Cup I in Los Angeles (USA), where the gold medals went to Bence Demeter (HUN), Lena Schoeneborn (GER) and Korea respectively.

World Cups in Cairo have become a regular fixture of the calendar but this year the world's leading pentathletes will make another trip to the Egyptian calendar for the UIPM 2017 Senior World Championships in August. Two months later, in October, Cape Town in South Africa will host the Laser-Run World Championships.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: "World Cup II in Cairo is especially important for UIPM given that the city will in stage the World Championships in August 2017.

"As UIPM President I trust the national federation, after so many years of experience of organizing flagship UIPM competitions, to deliver a perfect World Cup in the spirit of our movement and befitting the legacy of Pierre de Coubertin.

"I am sure that the Egyptian Government, the Egyptian Olympic Committee and the whole Olympic Movement of Egypt will support our historical sport and we will be able to count on the media coverage that has been a consistent feature of previous competitions here in Cairo."

World Cup II will take place at the Cairo International Stadium under the auspices of the Egyptian Minister of Youth and Sports, Khaled Abdel Aziz, and the Egyptian Tourism Authority.

A training camp hosted earlier this month by the Egyptian Modern Pentathlon Federation was attended by visiting athletes from Belarus, Ireland, Guatemala and Switzerland.

Qualifying for the Men's Individual Final (March 24) takes place on March 22, and qualifying for the Women's Individual Final (March 25) takes place on March 23. The Mixed Relay concludes World Cup II on March 26.

During the press conference in Cairo, the President of the Egyptian Olympic Committee, Mr Eng. Hesham Hatab, said: "Modern Pentathlon is one of the major sports in Egypt and the Egyptian Modern Pentathlon Federation and its President, Mr Sharif Elerian, are very active."

"Five disciplines in one sport is a great challenge and that is why the organisation must be at the same level during this World Cup and the World Championships in Cairo later in 2017."

"The Egyptian Government is also supporting the development of Modern Pentathlon."