

To the international Paralympic Committee (IPC) and

Laureus World Sports Academy

Subject: **2014 Laureus Sportsperson with a Disability Award – Nomination of José Carlos Macedo (Boccia)**

Dear Members,

José Carlos Macedo, boccia athlete since 1992, is one of the most outstanding players in disability sports, a reference for whom the sport is one of their almost unique way of high level human expression.

His continuous strength, motivation and joy in playing is inspiring for athletes with high support needs, especially for the youngest and their families who look up to him as the model they would like to follow, not only because of the way he is in sport but also the manner he shows and lives his human spirit and example in daily life.

Being totally dependent all day is not impeditive to having an enjoyable life. José shows there are no limits imposed by severe disabilities. Sports are one of the main keys for real inclusion, and that is what José demonstrates with his example.

His unique sports path is full of extraordinary international results (see appendix 1) which have settled him in the highlights for 20 years. It's impressive how he has managed to be in such a high level all this time. He confirms the ability to adapt to the new demands of the game and his opponents. His results in the beginning of this Paralympic cycle, in the European championships'2013 show the incredible fibre that has never left him, and the special person that he has become.

Adding his three Paralympic gold medals, 1 World Cup gold medal and 6 European Championships gold medals in a total of 24 medals, José deserves to be nominated to the 2014 Laureus Sportsperson Award, in particular for his European titles won in 2013, in boccia individual and pair divisions. Those are the visible results which are not often highlighted, even by the disability sports community, probably because of the difficulty in understanding the challenge imposed by sport to athletes with high support needs.

José Macedo must be a shout that should not be muffled but, instead, the support for the real reason that guides the spirit and principles of Paralympic sport.

RELEVANT BOCCIA CLASSIFICATIONS ACHIEVED BY *JOSÉ MACEDO* 1993 – 2013

EVENT	INDIVIDUAL BC3	PAIR BC3
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS ANTWERP '93	2º Macedo, José	2º PORTUGAL (Costa, Macedo)
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS SHEFFIELD '94	2º Macedo, José	4º PORTUGAL (Costa, Macedo)
WORLD CUP SYDNEY '95	2º Macedo, José	2º PORTUGAL (Costa, Macedo)
PARALYMPIC GAMES ATLANTA '96	1º Macedo, José	1º PORTUGAL (Costa, Macedo)
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS VITORIA '97	3º Macedo, José	1º PORTUGAL (Costa, Macedo, Peixoto)
WORLD CUP MAR DEL PLATA '99	5º Macedo, José	1º PORTUGAL (Costa, Macedo, Peixoto)
PARALYMPIC GAMES SYDNEY 2000	1º Macedo, José	4º PORTUGAL (Costa, Macedo)
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS TEPLICE '01	2º Macedo, José	1º PORTUGAL (Costa, Macedo, Peixoto)
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS PÓVOA DE VARZIM'02		2º PORTUGAL (Costa, Macedo, Peixoto)
WORLD CUP CHRISTCHURCH '03		2º PORTUGAL (Costa, Macedo, Peixoto)
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS PÓVOA DE VARZIM 2005	5º Macedo, José	1º PORTUGAL (Costa, Macedo, Peixoto)
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS RIO DE JANEIRO'06	6º Macedo, José	4º PORTUGAL (Costa, Macedo, Peixoto)
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS PÓVOA DE VARZIM 2009	5º Macedo, José	1º PORTUGAL (Silva, Macedo e Peixoto)
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS LISBOA 2010	2º Macedo, José	2º PORTUGAL (Silva, Macedo e Costa)
WORLD CUP BELFAST 2011		3º PORTUGAL (Silva, Macedo e Costa)
PARALYMPIC GAMES LONDON 2012	3º Macedo, José	2º PORTUGAL (Silva, Macedo e Costa)
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS GUIMARÃES 2013	1º Macedo, José	1º PORTUGAL (Macedo, Silva e Costa)

MEDALS

<i>JOSÉ CARLOS MACEDO</i>	GOLD MEDALS	SILVER MEDALS	BRONZE MEDALS
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS	6	3	1
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS & WORLD CUPS	1	7	1
PARALYMPIC GAMES	3	1	1