

Ukraine

Success of Ukrainian National Paralympic Team as an Example of National Proud

Dear colleagues, dear participants!

Today I would like to share with you the experience of Ukraine in area of rights of the disabled on example of Ukrainian National Paralympic Team and our way to achieve success.

History

Sport movement of the disabled in Ukraine dates back to 1989. That was the time when physical culture, sport and rehabilitation clubs for the disabled started to form; later on they became the basis for formation of national federations of sport for the persons with different types of disability: troubles of locomotor apparatus, vision, hearing and mental disabilities. In 1992, these four federations united in National Sports Committee for the Disabled of Ukraine. At the moment this Committee represents Ukraine in the International Paralympic movement; it plays the role of National Paralympic Committee and contributes to the participation of Ukrainian sportsmen in Deaflympics.

In 1993, by resolution of the Government of Ukraine the specialized institution, Invasport, Ukrainian centre for physical culture and sport for the disabled was formed. Activities of this Centre in close cooperation with National Sports Committee for the Disabled of Ukraine ensure appropriate environment for implementation of national policy in area of physical culture and sport for the disabled, their physical culture, sport and other types of rehabilitation.

About the System, Sport Schools for Children and Youth

Regulation of the Government provides for implementation of measures aimed at improvement of operation of Invasport system of institutions of physical culture and sport for the disabled, determines the mechanism of their interaction with local structures of state power, and fixes the tasks concerning creation in the

regions of the new Invasport municipal centres of physical culture and sport for the disabled taking in consideration the needs and possibilities of the region.

At the moment Invasport system of institutions of physical culture and sport for the disabled unites: 25 regional Invasport centres of physical culture and sport for the disabled, 3 municipal Invasport centres of physical culture and sport for the disabled, 2 district Invasport centres of physical culture and sport for the disabled, 112 clubs working in area of physical culture, rehabilitation and sport for the disabled, 23 sport schools for disabled children and youth, 3 specialized schools for disabled children and youth of Paralympic and Deaflympic reserve. In line with that 4 departments dedicated for sports for the disabled are opened under the roof of sport schools for children and youth; the disabled children have a possibility of physical culture and sport training here together with healthy children of their age.

All this contributes to the development of physical culture and sports among the people with disability, their overall rehabilitation in society and promotion of healthy lifestyle.

4 All-Ukrainian Nosologic Federations for the disabled are established and operate in Ukraine: Ukrainian Sport Federation for people with locomotor disability, Sport Federation of the Blind of Ukraine, Sport Federation of the Deaf of Ukraine and Ukrainian Sport Federation for the people with troubles of mental and physical development.

About 40 thousand of the disabled persons are involved in different forms of physical culture, rehabilitation and sport activities in Ukraine; almost 40 kinds of sports are developing, including 27 kinds of sports for the persons with hearing troubles, 14 kinds of sports for the persons with troubles of vision, 28 kinds of sports for the persons with locomotor troubles, and 3 kinds of sports for the persons with troubles of mental and physical development.

Over 5 thousand children with disability are involved in Ukraine in physical culture and sport activities in sport schools for the disabled children and youth, in

the departments of sport for the disabled working in the sport schools for children and youth.

Twenty three years Ukrainian Centre Invasport together with National Sports Committee for the Disabled of Ukraine, Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine and Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine holds All-Ukrainian Sports Contest among disabled children “Believe in Yourself”.

862 disabled children participated in final competitions in 13 kinds of sports during the All-Ukrainian Sports Contest “Believe in Yourself” in 2016.

Rehabilitation. West Rehabilitation and Sport Centre

The objective of measures aimed at physical culture and sport rehabilitation of the disabled is to optimize the efforts on the way to integrate disabled persons in active life in society, to improve their physical and functional condition, to restore their labour capacity through the sports and physical culture.

For information: Measures for physical culture and sport rehabilitation of the disabled are held in Ukraine in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On the bases of social protection of the disabled in Ukraine”, the Law of Ukraine “On rehabilitation of the disabled”, the Law of Ukraine “On physical culture and sport”, Decree of President of Ukraine dd. 06.04.2006 No. 290 “On the measures related to physical culture and sport rehabilitation of the disabled and support of Paralympic and Deaflympic movement in Ukraine”, Decree of President of Ukraine dd. 13.12.2016 No. 553 “On the measures aimed at ensuring respect of rights of the disabled”, Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dd. 08.12.2006 No. 1686 “On approval of State typical rehabilitation program for the disabled”, Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dd. 20.07.2011 No. 766 “The certain issues of Invasport centres of physical culture and sport for the disabled”, other legal acts and regulations.

Since 2007, due to the joint initiative of the Government, National Sports Committee for the Disabled of Ukraine and Invasport, Ukrainian centre for physical culture and sport for the disabled, the practice sessions for rehabilitation and sports are held.

From the beginning of 2010 the events aimed at physical culture and sport rehabilitation with participation of the disabled persons from all regions of Ukraine

are regularly held in the West Rehabilitation and Sport Centre of National Sports Committee for the Disabled of Ukraine (hereinafter referred to as the West Centre).

West Centre is a unique rehabilitation and sport institution located in Yavoriv village of Turkivskii district, the region of Lviv. According to the opinion of international community it is one of the best sport and rehabilitation sites in Europe.

Activities of West Centre are connected with measures of physical culture and sport rehabilitation of the disabled which are among the most efficient measures to adapt disabled persons to social life, including sport competitions and preparation of the disabled sportsmen for participation in international sport competitions of the highest level.

ATO

Starting from March of 2015 the Government of Ukraine together with National Sports Committee for the Disabled of Ukraine and Invasport, Ukrainian centre for physical culture and sport for the disabled launched rehabilitation and sport practice sessions with participation of ATO soldiers who received wounds or disability as a result of participation in military actions at the East of Ukraine.

It should be noted that the experts in rehabilitation involved in events held with participation of ATO soldiers had passed a special training in psychological support of military men basing on French experience. Two seminars for Ukrainian experts dedicated to this topic were held in Kyiv by NSPA in Ukraine.

In addition, from July of 2016 All-Ukrainian Public Association “National Assembly of the Disabled of Ukraine” and NSPA Office in Ukraine with support of Ministry of social policy of Ukraine, Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine started implementation of the “Return to Life” Active Rehabilitation Program (hereinafter referred to as the Program).

The objective of this Program is rehabilitation of acting and dismissed military men and the staff of security and defence sector of Ukraine who became the victims of anti-terrorist operation at the East of Ukraine, and their return to the

active life in society. In line with that the Program is held on peer-to-peer basis, i.e. some of coaches who conduct active rehabilitation training are the people with different categories of disability, those who passed military service during ATO, and the leading Paralympic sportsmen. They use their own experience as an example of adaptation to the full-fledged social life.

Participants of military actions who received disability as a result of military actions at the East of Ukraine also have a possibility to participate in physical culture and rehabilitation camps; such groups are formed by regional Invasport centres for physical culture and sport for the disabled.

World Ski Race and Biathlon Cup - 2017

Holding in January of 2017 of competitions of the World Ski Race and Biathlon Cup became an important step in implementation of national policy in area of resolution of problems of persons with disability and guarantying of their rights for physical culture and sport training and rehabilitation on the international level. This competition was held on the territory of Ukraine for the first time under the auspices of International Paralympic Committee by National Paralympic Committee of Ukraine on the basis of West Rehabilitation and Sport Centre. International Paralympic Committee granted the right and sanction for holding of this World Cup in Ukraine because this Centre is one of the best in Europe and globally according to the international standards for rehabilitation of persons with disability and due to the highly-developed sport infrastructure; in addition, Paralympic movement in Ukraine has the leading position and undisputable respect in the world.

Almost 220 participants (including 120 sportsmen) from 18 States of the world (Ukraine, UK, Brazil, Italy, Japan, France, Croatia, China, Germany, Belarus, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Finland, Austria and Hungary) participated in these competitions of the high level in Ukraine – it is a very high rate for the State which held international competitions in winter Paralympic games of the World Cup level for the first time. This debut of National Paralympic Committee of Ukraine in holding of the World Ski Race and Biathlon Cup became

the bright event for the whole global sport community: 10 of 18 participating States of the world received awards of the global level.

Pavel Rozenko, Vice Prime Minister of Ukraine, Andrii Reva, the Minister of Social Policy, and administration of the region of Lviv were present among the honoured guests at the solemn opening of the competition. Paralympic sportsmen from 18 participating States and their coaches, technical representatives of International Paralympic Committee: Gere Holborsen (ski race), Russ Meyer (biathlon), and Valeriy Sushkevych, President of National Paralympic Committee of Ukraine participated in opening ceremony of the World Ski Race and Biathlon Cup.

Paralympic Movement

One of the top priorities in work of the State is to ensure activities of national teams of the disabled of Ukraine, their preparation and participation in All-Ukrainian and international competitions and State support of development of Paralympic and Deaflympic movement in Ukraine.

Paralympic movement is represented in Ukraine by more than 7,000 sportsmen with troubles of locomotor apparatus, vision and intellectual disorders. 33 kinds of sports for the disabled are developing in Ukraine, and 19 of them are included in Paralympic program.

Invasport Ukrainian Centre ensures activities of the scheduled national team of Ukraine in sports for the disabled. In 2017, this team united in total 2,123 disabled sportsmen, including 955 sportsmen of main structure; 596 sportsmen - candidates and 572 sportsmen of reserve. As of 1 January 2017 the total number of scheduled trainers and coaches was 315 sportsmen – coaches and 95 trainers, but actually there were 529 sportsmen – coaches and 155 trainers.

During the last 25 years, i.e. the years of independence of our State, Ukrainian disabled sportsmen developed **from the beginners to the respected**

leaders of international sport community of global Paralympic and Deaflympic movements (see the table).

In 2006, during Paralympics in Turin the global sport community recognised that Ukraine achieved enormous success in Paralympic sports. Resolution of Organizational Committee of Paralympic-2006 on recognition of Ukrainian Paralympic Olena Yurkovska as the best sportswoman of IXth Paralympics and awarding of special golden medal to her became the bright evidence of that. Olena Yurkovska already won four gold medals, one silver and one bronze medal. In addition, Olena Yurkovska also received another special award, the Sport Star, initiated by International Olympic Committee, as the best woman athlete of the world who implemented the high Olympic and Paralympic values all over the world. This award was granted at Lausanne (Switzerland) upon the closure of Paralympics in Turin in April of 2006. The State of Ukraine and President of Ukraine granted to Olena Yurkovska a special honorary award – she received the title of Hero of Ukraine and the Order of State.

The Last Overwhelming Performance in Rio de Janeiro - 2016. For the first time in history of Paralympic movement Ukrainians participated in 15 kinds of sport included in the program of the XVth summer Paralympics, in particular, in boat racing, sitting volley-ball (men and women), judo, track and field athletics, table tennis, power lifting, swimming, shooting, archery, wheelchair fencing, soccer for ICP sportsmen, cycling (track, road), para canoe, goalball, para triathlon, etc.

Ukrainian team won 117 medals, including 41 gold medals, 37 silver and 39 bronze medals, and the sensational third place in Paralympics - 2016. In line with that almost every day of the competition, attracting attention of the whole world, our team held its third position, being closely to such leading States as China and the United Kingdom.

Ukrainian Paralympic sportsmen got the exciting results: 85 sportsmen (taking into account team playing and sport games) of total number of 170

sportsmen participating in the XVth summer Paralympics won the high awards of different levels. In addition, Ukrainians set up 109 records (22 world records, 33 Paralympic records and 54 European records).

Results of 2016 and Fellowship

Activities supporting development of the system of sports for the disabled in institutional, organisational, social and other areas were continued in 2016.

For information: For the purpose to implement the standards determined by Convention on the rights of the disabled, other draft laws, legal acts and regulations related to the rights of the disabled, in 2016 Invasport Ukrainian Centre together with National Sports Committee for the Disabled of Ukraine and Ministry of the Youth and Sports developed and approved according to the actual procedure a number of legal acts and regulations:

The Decree of President of Ukraine dd. December 13, 2016 No. 553 “On the measures aimed at ensuring respect of rights of the disabled” providing for implementation according to the actual procedure of measures related to construction of the sites of All-Ukrainian rehabilitation and restoration sport centre of National Sports Committee for the Disabled of Ukraine;

Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dd. June 08, 2016 No. 367 “The certain issues of stimulation of the disabled sportsmen of Ukraine - the champions and winners of Paralympic and Deaflympic awards and their coaches, and amendments to the Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dd. August 6, 2008 No. 704” providing for step-by-step increase of amounts of remuneration to the disabled sportsmen and their coaches up to the amounts of remuneration to the sportsmen of Ukraine – champions and winners of Olympic games and other international sport competitions;

Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dd. November 16, 2016 No. 820 “The certain issues of labour remuneration of specialists working in area of physical culture and sports for the disabled”, which fixed bonuses for the years of experience of work for employees of institutions (organizations) of physical culture and sports for the disabled (Invasport centres for physical culture and sport for the disabled, National Sports Committee for the Disabled of Ukraine, West Rehabilitation and Sport Centre);

Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dd. November 30, 2016 No. 943 “The certain issues to ensure further development of sport for the disabled in Ukraine, their physical

culture and sport rehabilitation” providing for increase of the number of members in scheduled team of Ukrainian National team of sports for the disabled, Invasport, Ukrainian centre for physical culture and sport for the disabled, West Rehabilitation and Sport Centre;

Directive of Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dd. July 06, 2016 No. 471-2 “The issues of social protection of the disabled” according to which the special fund of State budget of Ukraine for the year 2016 financed purchase of minibus with special equipment for transportation of participants of anti-terrorist operation with wounds and disability, Paralympic sportsmen and other categories of the disabled being in need of participation in programs of rehabilitation, physical culture and sport training.

67 all-Ukrainian competitions, 246 educational and training practice sessions in Ukraine and 18 educational and training practice sessions abroad were held in 2016. The disabled sportsmen participated in 73 international competitions, including 13 European Championships, 16 World Championships, 13 World Cups, 30 international competitions, 1 Global chess Olympic game, and won 525 medals (227 golden, 153 silver and 145 bronze medals).

In 2016, Ukrainian disabled sportsmen and their coaches were awarded the following sport titles: 15 persons - “The Honoured Coach of Ukraine”; 18 persons - “The Honoured Master of Sports of Ukraine”; 60 persons – “Master of Sports of Ukraine of the International Class”; 67 persons - “Master of Sports of Ukraine”.

In 2016, the champions and winners of awards of Paralympics and Deaflympics, the prominent sportsmen in Paralympic and Deaflympic sports and their coaches, the talented and promising disabled sportsmen of Ukraine were paid the State fellowship.

For the purpose to improve residential and householding conditions for the disabled sportsmen – members of national teams, champions and winners of Paralympic awards in 2016 the structures of local State power realized the measures related to the receipt of apartment by leading sportsmen. According to the resolutions of structures of local self-government the land lots in the towns of Ukraine were allocated for individual construction for the leading sportsmen and their coaches.