

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 30 November 2015



CTBF President Supports CGF Vision to Engage and Inspire the Next Generation

***In the environment of social networking, the
bowling fraternity thrives.***

President of the Malta Olympic Committee, Julian Pace-Bonello was amongst senior dignitaries welcomed by the Prime Minister of Malta, the Honourable Joseph Muscat, to a leaders' Sports Breakfast at the biennial Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Valletta on Sunday.

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Co-host of the function, recently-elected Commonwealth Games Federation President, Louise Martin, CBE addressed the gathering and spoke of the CGF's ambitions for transformational change – and an impact that reaches far beyond the Commonwealth Games spectacle.

"The Commonwealth sporting movement will play a key role in engaging and inspiring the next generation of Commonwealth citizens," she stated, urging Commonwealth leaders to support their Games Associations, sports leaders and athletes and to put them at the vanguard of making Commonwealth goals a reality for citizens and communities.

Ahead of confirmation at a CGF Executive Board meeting in January, the CGF President also announced that the Bahamas has formally expressed interest to host the 2017 Commonwealth Youth Games, with Northern Ireland poised to host the 2021 edition. Established in 2000 in Scotland, the Youth Games has become an increasingly important and relevant part of the Commonwealth sporting movement's strategic engagement with young athletes emerging onto the global sport scene.

The leaders' Sports Breakfast was attended by a packed audience of senior government and civic leaders from across the Commonwealth, including the Commonwealth Secretary General, His Excellency Kamallesh Sharma.

"Sport is one of our most cherished and visible Commonwealth traditions...more than that, sport can make vital contributions to inclusive social progress, he said. "Innovative approaches such as this to inspire our youth are needed more than ever," he added.

more follows

In his role as President of the Commonwealth Tenpin Bowling Federation, Julian Pace-Bonello echoed their sentiments in recognising the value and benefits of supporting youth participation in sport. “Tenpin bowling is renowned as a gender-equal sport that is popular with people of all ages and abilities and has an enormous following worldwide. “The sport has previously been featured on Commonwealth Games and Commonwealth Youth Games programs and a new generation of bowlers share the dream of participating in future events,” he said.

“In the environment of social networking, the bowling fraternity thrives. “With several million bowlers affiliated to registered Associations in almost half of the 70 Commonwealth nations and territories, this represents incredible strength and persuasive potential in support of the CGF’s wider focus of delivering sports leadership within the Commonwealth, based on partnership and engagement,” Mr. Pace-Bonello explained.

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For further information or high res. photos, please contact CTBF Media Director, Lynne Clay at lynne.clay@outlook.com



CGF PRESIDENT, LOUISE MARTIN, CBE (Pic: Getty Images)



CTBF PRESIDENT, JULIAN PACE-BONELLO FROM MALTA