Dear friends,
the membership of the VISUAL COMMISSION to the CMAS Sports Committee has not only to be regarded as an advantage. Because of the integration of the Commission into the organization of sports under the presidency of Xavier Duran the administrative procedures simplified, but also considerable problems came up by being integrated into the rules of the World Olympic Committee.

1. To be able to carry out CMAS world championships and international competitions in general, the membership to the Sports Committee is obligatory.
2. By this affiliation the VISUAL COMMISSION submits to the rules of sports, as doping controls and licensing as a competitor.
3. During the meetings of the Commission and other public discussions it turned out that these restrictions are accepted neither by the Commission nor by the participants in competitions. It has to be assumed that in future this kind of championships can not be performed because of a lack of participants.
   The reason:
The athletes of the photo and video contests dispute the sense of supervision because by doping neither an improvement in athletic competition nor an effect on athletic performance can be achieved. Athletes neither take part in training programs at home nor train their body beyond the level of health. The true competition takes place on an artistic level, but requires a lot of experience as a diver. For this reason, photographers are specially trained to CMAS standards. This training provides technical knowledge, diving behavior underwater and special medical knowledge for photo- and videographers.
4. Therefore, the CMAS VISUAL COMMISSION requests either for an modified regulation of the anti-doping program by Dr. Michel Léglise or for adequate regulation beyond the Sports Committee.
2. Events and Meetings 2011

22nd to 30th of January 2011 Boats fair in Düsseldorf / Germany. Numerous bilateral meetings with members of the Commission and international visitors. Presentation of the CMAS at the exhibition stand of the VDST / Germany.

26th of May 2011 Commission Meeting in Bodrum / Turkey.
Discussion and modification of the training standards for photographers and instructors.
Final version of the CMAS International Rules World Championships Underwater Photography.
The proposals were presented to the BOD for approval.

26th May to 02nd of June 2011 CMAS World Championships Underwater Photography in Bodrum / Turkey

23th of September 2011 Meeting of the Presidents of Sports Commission in Rome

26th to 30th of November 2011 / 1st Asian Underwater Championships Underwater Photography in Cebu / Philippines

34 nations are now members of the CMAS VISUAL COMMISSION

3. Events and Competitions in 2012

18th of February 2012 Meeting of the Organizing Committee for the 2. CMAS Video Championships in Alghero / Italy takes place in Milano.

20th to 24th of May 2012 Preparations of the 14th CMAS World Championships in Cayo Largo del Sur / Cuba on the occasion of the national Photosub.

25th to 30th of September 2012 / 2. CMAS World Championships Video in Alghero / Italy

4. Further Events

10th to 18th of May 2013 / 14. CMAS World Championships Cayo Largo Sur / Kuba
21th to 25th of May 2015 / 15. CMAS World Championships Zeeland North Sea / Netherlands

Juergen Warnecke
CMAS VISUAL COMMISSION
President