International Association of Athletics Federations



The President

Mr Kostas Panagopoulos President Hellenic Amateur Athletics Federation 137 Sungrou Ave. 17121 Nea Smyrni Athens GREECE

Monaco, 30 October 2019

Dear President,

I acknowledge receipt of your letter and would like to thank you for your congratulations upon my re-election as President of World Athletics.

As you will be aware, I spoke to both Vasileios Sevastis and Panagiotis Dimakos at the European Athletics Convention in Tallinn, so was provided with further information and took the opportunity to discuss the situation in more detail from a World Athletics perspective.

The World Athletics Constitution (at Article 44 and Article 53) sets out maximum term limits for the positions of both Council Members and the President to be three terms. The detail is outlined in Article 53, but with regards to the maximum of three terms of office in the position as President, there is an allowance for two further terms prior to the position of President as a Council Member or Vice President (ie a President can serve a total maximum of five terms).

Maximum term limits, rather than an age limit, were introduced as part of the governance reforms and approved by the Special Congress in December 2016. There is therefore no age limitation included in the Constitution.

In the Constitution, any Council Member that was a previous Council Member for a term or terms prior to the 2019 Congress are entitled to a maximum of two further terms of office on Council regardless of the number of terms of office previously served (Article 44.3 and Article 53.3).

I trust this clarifies the position on term limits as set out in the World Athletics Constitution and as agreed by the World Athletics Congress, and helps you to engage in a constructive dialogue with your Minister of Culture & Sports, in order to establish a consistent sports policy and legislative framework which are compatible to both the general principles of the law in your country and the rules of international sports organisations.

Yours sincerely,

Sebastian Coe, CH, KBE