

Welcome speech by the President of the German Athletics Federation (DLV)

The German Athletics Federation (DLV) supports the staging of the WMRA International Youth Challenge in Hausen/Rhön. After the first three events of this kind have taken place in Susa/ Italy, 16-17-year old runners from all over the world are meeting in Germany's Rhön-area this year. I strongly believe that the event of the WMRA International Youth Challenge will attract additional young German runners to the event of mountain running. At the same time, I am convinced that mountain running in general will experience a further boom.

In addition to the athletic competition, we hope to set up an event which encourages young athletes from many different nations to share the same wonderful experience.

These championships are being held in the Rhön-area which is well-known for its attractive landscape. LLZ-Rhön-Grabfeld, the local athletic club which is hosting the event, has several years of experience in staging mountain races. Among those were trial races which gave the German runners the opportunity to qualify for the national mountain running team.

I would like to say thank you to all of the voluntary helpers for their effort and the willingness to contribute to the organization of this athletic event.

I hope that all the spectators will experience an interesting and exciting time when watching this mountain race. Please cheer on the runners and feel the fascination of this athletic event which is yet to be expanded further throughout the country.

Dr. Clemens Prokop

President of the German Athletics Federation (DLV)