TRANSFER OF ALLEGIANCE REGULATIONS

(Approved by Council on 21 July 2026

effective 03 August 2026)

Specific Definitions

The words and phrases used in these Rules that are defined terms (denoted by initial capital letters) shall have the meanings specified in the Constitution and the General Definitions, or (in respect of the following words and phrases) the following meanings:

"Applicable Persons" has the meaning given to it in the Integrity Code of Conduct.

"Area Official" has the meaning given to it in the Constitution.

"Chairperson" has the meaning given to it in Regulation 2.3.

"Competition Rules" means the rules of World Athletics known as the Competition Rules.

"**Eligibility Rules**" means the rules of World Athletics governing an Athletes eligibility to compete.

"First Member" has the meaning given to it in Rule 4.4 of the Eligibility Rules.

"Member Federation Official" has the meaning given to it in the Constitution.

"National Representative Competitions" has the meaning given to it in the Eligibility Rules.

"Nationality Review Panel" has the meaning given to it in Regulation 2.1.

"Other Relevant Competition" has the meaning given to it in the Eligibility Rules.

"Residence" has the meaning given to it in the Eligibility Rules.

"Second Member" has the meaning given to it in Rule 4.4 of the Eligibility Rules.

"**Transfer of Allegiance Regulations**" "**these Regulations**" means these World Athletics Transfer of Allegiance Regulations as amended from time to time.

1. Overview

1.1 National Representative Competitions and Other Relevant Competitions play a vital role in developing interest and participation in the sport of Athletics, and so in broadening the competitive playing base and encouraging the public interest that are vital to its long-term health and success. They incentivise Members to identify and develop athletic talent within their respective national jurisdictions, incentivise those Athletes to aspire to excel at the highest levels of the sport, provide a showcase for the sport to a wide international audience, and generate commercial revenues that can be invested in development work at every level throughout the sport.

1.2 The Council therefore regards it as imperative:

1.2.1 to protect the credibility and regularity of National Representative Competitions and Other Relevant Competitions, by ensuring that Athletes on a national representative team have a genuine connection with the Country or Territory represented, and do not switch either abruptly or frequently to other national representative teams for purely mercenary reasons;

1.2.2 to encourage Members to invest in programmes that identify and develop athletic talent within their respective Countries/Territories to compete in National Representative Competitions and Other Relevant Competitions (thereby contributing to the strength and the credibility of those competitions) without fear of losing such athletes to other Members before they have reaped the benefit of that investment;

1.2.3 to encourage young athletes to join a Member's development programmes, and to make the effort and sacrifices required to excel in the sport, without fear of the Member preferring to fill the national representative team with athletes recruited from other Countries/Territories; and

1.2.4 to ensure that the welfare of an athlete who transfers allegiance from one Member to another is adequately protected at all stages, including:

a. ensuring that the Member to which the athlete transfers fulfils any promises, offers or incentives (i.e. payments, other consideration or value in kind or other benefits) that it made to the athlete to induce them to choose the Member or transfer their allegiance to the Member;

b. the Athlete’s rights, privileges and benefits associated with their Citizenship or official legal status (i.e. if an Athlete has refugee or asylum status) are provided, met, upheld and respected;

c. principles of human rights associated with the Athlete’s Citizenship or other legal status are provided, met, upheld and respected (e.g. freedom of movement, freedom of opinion and expression, right to equal treatment and protection etc.).

1.3 World Athletics fully respects national laws conferring refugee/asylum status or Citizenship, and also recognises that Athletes may legitimately wish to take advantage of those laws in respect of their specific status to acquire a new Citizenship for a variety

of personal and/or professional reasons (including, in some cases, in order to secure better opportunities to compete at international level in the sport). However, an Athlete's eligibility to compete on behalf of a Member in National Representative Competitions and Other Relevant Competitions cannot be determined solely by reference to Citizenship, because:

1.3.1 Members that represent Territories rather than Countries cannot grant Citizenship to their Athletes;

1.3.2 some Countries permit dual Citizenship, whereas an Athlete may only represent one Country or Territory in National Representative Competitions or Other Relevant Competitions; and

1.3.3 some Countries have accelerated naturalisation processes enabling rapid acquisition of Citizenship in certain circumstances, where that is considered to be in the best national interests of the Country in question, but without taking into account any of the sporting imperatives identified above.

1.4 Therefore, the Council has issued Eligibility Rules to determine (a) an Athlete's eligibility to compete on behalf of a Member in National Representative Competitions and Other Relevant Competitions; and (b) the circumstances in which an Athlete who has represented one Member in National Representative Competition and Other Relevant Competitions may then transfer allegiance to another Member. Eligibility Rules use Citizenship as the starting-point in each case, and add further conditions only to the extent necessary to protect/advance the sporting imperatives identified above.

1.5 These Regulations:

1.5.1 address the practical implementation of the Eligibility Rules. They create a process for the monitoring and approval of declarations of eligibility and transfers of allegiance that is designed to ensure the orderly enforcement of the Eligibility Rules in accordance with the objectives stated above, and to prevent manipulation and abuse;

1.5.2 are binding on and must be complied with by all Members, Area Associations, Athletes, Athlete Representatives, Member Federation Officials, Area Officials and other Applicable Persons;

1.5.3 first came into effect on 27 July 2018 (the '**First Effective Date**'), replacing and superseding the rules in force on this topic before that date. Any eligibility that was established or any transfer of allegiance that was completed under the rules in force before the First Effective Date are unaffected by these Regulations;

1.5.4 apply globally, regulating the conditions for Athletes to compete on behalf of Members in any National Representative Competitions or Other Relevant Competitions, wherever they are held. As such, in order to ensure consistency, these Regulations are to be interpreted and applied not by reference to laws peculiar to particular nations or regions, but rather as an independent and autonomous text, based on laws of general application, and in a manner that protects and advances the imperatives identified above.

1.6 For the avoidance of doubt, these regulations do not govern an Athlete's nomination and selection to be entered by a National Olympic Committee or other relevant body to compete in the Olympic Games or Youth Olympic Games or any Other Relevant

Competition. Instead, such nomination and selection will continue to be determined in accordance with the rules applicable to those competitions, such as the Olympic Charter, as amended by the IOC from time to time. The version of the relevant part of the Olympic Charter in force as of the date of issue of these Regulations (Rule 41 and its byelaw) is set out at Appendix 1.

2. Nationality Review Panel

Authority

2.1 The Council delegates the powers and authority of World Athletics under these Regulations to a special panel (the '**Nationality Review Panel**'), including the power and authority:

2.1.1 to determine the eligibility of a particular Athlete further to Rule 4.2 of the Eligibility Rules to compete on behalf of a Member in National Representative Competitions or Other Relevant Competitions, in case of any question or issue or dispute;

2.1.2 to determine applications for World Athletics approval for an Athlete to represent a Member made further to Rule 4.2.3 of the Eligibility Rules;

2.1.3 to determine applications for World Athletics approval of a transfer of allegiance made further to Rule 4.4.2 of the Eligibility Rules;

2.1.4 to determine whether to waive or vary any of the requirements of these Regulations in a particular case, further to Rule 4.6 of the Eligibility to Rules;

2.1.5 to resolve any issue that arises in relation to eligibility to compete on behalf of a Member in National Representative Competitions or Other Relevant Competitions that is not already addressed in these Regulations, further to Rule 4.9 of the Eligibility Rules; and

2.1.6 to resolve any other issue arising under or in connection with these Regulations that requires decision;

although in cases falling within either Regulations 2.1.5 or 2.1.6, the Council may decide (whether at the request of the Chief Executive Officer or their nominee, or at the request of the Chairperson of the Nationality Review Panel or otherwise) to consider and decide the issue itself.

2.2 The Nationality Review Panel may exercise its delegated powers and authority:

2.2.1 on application by a Member pursuant to this Regulation 2;

2.2.2 on referral of a matter to it by the Council or the Chief Executive Officer or their nominee; and/or

2.2.3 in such other circumstances as the Council or the Chairperson of the Nationality Review Panel sees fit.

Composition

2.3 The Council will appoint a pool of suitably qualified and experienced persons, and will designate one of them to act as the Chairperson (the '**Chairperson**'). When an

application or other matter arises under these Regulations that requires consideration by the Nationality Review Panel, the Chief Executive Officer or their nominee will inform the Chairperson, who will designate three persons from the pool (one of whom may be the Chairperson, if they sees fit) to sit as the Nationality Review Panel for that matter.

2.4 No one with an interest in (including any allegiance to or the same nationality as the Members involved in) a particular application or other matter will be appointed to the Nationality Review Panel for that application or matter.

2.5 If the Chairperson is not on the Nationality Review Panel for a particular application or other matter, they will designate one of the three chosen members to act as the Chairperson of the Nationality Review Panel for the application or matter.

Member Applications

2.6 Pursuant to Rule 4.5 of the Eligibility Rules Member applications to the Nationality Review Panel are subject to the following limitations and requirements:

2.6.1 the total maximum number of applications that a Member may submit pursuant to Rules 4.2.3 and 4.4.2 to the Nationality Review Panel is ten (10) applications over each summer Olympic four year cycle; and

2.6.2 within the total within the limit of ten (10) applications over the summer Olympic four year cycle a Member cannot submit applications to transfer more than two Athletes from any other Member. Such applications must be split into one application to transfer an Athlete in the male category and one application to transfer an Athlete in the female category from the same Member (i.e. two applications from any other Member Federation over the summer Olympic four year cycle); and

2.6.3 all applications must be submitted within one of the two transfer application periods in each calendar year notified by circular to Members from World Athletics from time to time; and

2.6.4 Athletes cannot directly submit an application to the Nationality Review Panel.

2.7 A Member may by written application ask the Nationality Review Panel:

2.7.1 to determine the eligibility of a particular Athlete to compete on behalf of a Member in National Representative Competitions, further to Rule 4.2 of the Eligibility Rules;

2.7.2 to approve an Athlete's representation of a Member further to Rule 4.2.3 of the Eligibility Rules;

2.7.3 to approve a transfer of allegiance further to Rule 4.4.2 of the Eligibility Rules;

2.7.4 for a waiver or variation of some or all of the requirements of these Regulations in a particular case, further to either Rule 4.7 or 4.9 of the Eligibility Rules;

2.7.5 to resolve an issue that has arisen in relation to eligibility to compete on behalf of a Member in National Representative Competitions that is not already

addressed in these Regulations, further to Rule 4.12 of the Eligibility Rules; and/or

2.7.6 to resolve any other issue that arises under or in connection with these Regulations that requires decision, further to Regulation 2.1.6.

2.8 A Member must make an application in accordance with Regulation 2.7 in accordance with the procedure and within one of the two transfer application periods identified in each calendar year as notified by circular to Members from World Athletics from time to time. Any delay in making an application or missing a relevant transfer application period, or in particular any consequent inability to satisfy the Nationality Review Panel that all of the requirements set out in these Regulations have been met, shall be at the risk of the Member concerned.

2.9 World Athletics may specify an administration fee to be paid by the Member to cover World Athletics' costs of dealing with the Member's application. The commencement of the waiting period referred to in Regulation 2.12.1 is not conditional on payment of the administration fee.

2.10 Each such application must be filed with the secretariat to the Nationality Review Panel and must:

2.10.1 be in the form, within the transfer application period prescribed and notified by circular to the Member from World Athletics from time to time and be complete;

2.10.2 not exceed the limits on the number transfer applications and meet the requirements stated in Regulation 2.6;

2.10.3 be in English or French, with any supporting documents that are in another language being accompanied by a certified translation into English or French;

2.10.4 set out the grounds for the decision requested, e.g. the basis:

a. on which it is claimed that an Athlete should be ruled eligible under these Regulations to compete on behalf of the Member in National Representative Competitions under Rule 4.2 of the Eligibility Rules; or

b. on which it is claimed that the requirements of either Rule 4.2.3 or Rule 4.4.2 of the Eligibility Rules are met; or

c. for any requested waiver or variance of the requirements of Rule 4 of the Eligibility Rules; and/or

d. for any ruling requested on an issue that has arisen that is not already addressed in the Regulations;

2.10.5 be accompanied by valid, authentic, accurate and complete documentation in accordance with Regulation 3.3 and/or other reliable evidence required to establish the facts relied on in the application, including proof of relevant refugee/asylum status or Citizenship, evidenced by a valid passport and/or other official document(s) issued by the relevant authorities of the Country or

Territory in question and where required have them certified and/or provide certified translations in English;

2.10.6 where Eligibility Rule 4.2.3 or 4.4.2 applies, confirm the Second Member has notified the First Member in writing of the transfer and application (including providing a copy of the application form) and disclose all correspondence between the Second Member and First Member;

2.10.7 where Eligibility Rule 4.2.3 or 4.4.2 applies, disclose what payments, other financial consideration or value in kind (if any) the Second Member has offered to the First Member to induce it to agree to the transfer or that in return for its agreement the First Member has requested as compensation for the Athlete benefitting from the First Member's development programme prior to their transfer application;

2.10.8 where Eligibility Rule 4.2.3 or 4.4.2 applies, disclose what payments, other consideration or value in kind or other benefits (if any) the Second Member has offered to the Athlete to induce them to agree to the transfer;

2.10.9 where Eligibility Rule 4.2.3 or 4.4.2 applies, disclose the rights, privileges and benefits and principles of human rights associated with the Athlete's Citizenship or refugee/asylum or other legal status in the Second Member's Country or Territory;

2.10.10 where Eligibility Rule 4.2.3 or 4.4.2 applies, disclose the names and contact details of any Athlete Representative and/or any other agent involved in any transfer. Where an Athlete Representative and/or agent is involved the Second Member must disclose in writing from the Athlete Representative and/or agent the exact nature and role of their involvement and if they received any fees, bonuses or other payment (whether paid in money or in kind) and, if so, how much and from whom they received the payment;

2.10.11 be accompanied by a statement sworn by the Athlete (e.g., an affidavit or an affirmation) setting out the basis for their claim to be eligible to compete on behalf of a particular Member in National Representative Competitions or Other Relevant Competition and/or (if applicable) the reasons for their proposed representation of a Member based on their refugee/asylum status or Citizenship acquired after birth, or for their proposed transfer of allegiance to a Second Member, including a description of the Athlete's ties to the Country or Territory represented by the Member;

2.10.12 include confirmation and, where requested by the secretariat to the Nationality Review Panel, provide a copy of the Member's safeguarding policy and procedures contact details of the Member's designated person responsible for safeguarding matters;

2.10.13 be signed by a duly authorised officer of the Member, attesting to the validity, authenticity, accuracy and the completeness of the information provided (including any documentation) in support of the application. Where the signatory is not the President and/or General Secretary/Chief Executive (or equivalent) of a Member then the duly authorised officer shall confirm that the

President and General Secretary/Chief Executive Officer (or equivalent) has approved submission of the application; and

2.10.14 be accompanied by proof of payment of the administration fee specified by the Chief Executive Officer or their nominee.

2.11 Upon receipt, the Nationality Review Panel Secretariat on behalf of the Chief Executive Officer and the Nationality Review Panel and the Athletics Integrity Unit will review the application and supporting documentation to check their validity, authenticity, accuracy, and completeness. Applications which require further clarification concerning their validity, authenticity, accuracy, and completeness will be sent back to the Member to be clarified and/or re-submitted.

2.12 Once an application that has been submitted is confirmed as complete by the Nationality Review Panel Secretariat:

2.12.1 The waiting period specified in Rules 4.2.3 or 4.4.2 of the Eligibility Rules will start running. Accordingly, the Athlete's profile on the website will reflect that they are subject to a decision from the Nationality Review Panel and the flag of neither Country/Territory of the First Member nor Second Member (or any other Member Federation) will be shown on that profile and, if applicable, throughout the waiting period.

2.12.2 The Nationality Review Panel Secretariat will send the application to the Chairperson of the Nationality Review Panel, and thereafter to the members of the Nationality Review Panel appointed by the Chairperson to consider the application, along with any recommendations that the Nationality Review Panel Secretariat deems appropriate.

2.12.3 The Athlete who is the subject of the application may not compete on behalf of any Member in any National Representative Competition or Other Relevant Competition while the application is under consideration by the Nationality Review Panel and until a final and binding decision has been issued on the application, but they may continue to participate in all other competitions. If an Athlete competes whilst their application is under consideration by the Nationality Review or, after issuance of final and binding decision of the Nationality Review Pane, before the waiting period has ended then the waiting period will be reset to the date of this prohibited participation in such National Representative or Other Relevant Competition and the Athlete must wait until the end of the waiting period.

2.13 The Athlete may withdraw their support for an application submitted by a Member under Regulation 2.7 at any time prior to the grant of the application, by written notification to the Nationality Review Panel Secretariat, copying any other Member(s) and Area Association(s) with a direct interest in the application. In this case the application will be deemed withdrawn without having been approved, and the Athlete may compete again for the First Member in National Representative Competitions.

2.14 The Member that submitted an application in accordance with Regulation 2.7 may withdraw the application at any time prior to the grant of the application, by written notification to the Nationality Review Panel Secretariat, copying any other Member(s) and Area Association(s) with a direct interest in the application. The notification of withdrawal from the Member must also include written notification from the Athlete confirming their agreement to the withdrawal. In this case the application will be deemed withdrawn without having been approved, and the Athlete may compete again for the

First Member in National Representative Competitions.

Consideration of an Application

2.15 Where it considers that doing so may be necessary or helpful, and/or to ensure fairness in relation to a particular matter (whether brought before it on application by a Member, as part of a decision or otherwise), the Nationality Review Panel may at any time (without limitation):

2.15.1 request the assistance of or refer the application to the Athletics Integrity Unit;

2.15.2 appoint an independent ombudsman to assist the Athlete in question to understand and address the requirements of the Eligibility Rules, the Regulations and/or a decision of the Nationality Review Panel or any other relevant Rule or Regulations;

2.15.3 request additional information from the applicant Member and/or the Athlete (e.g., further proof of refugee/asylum status or Citizenship and/or of Residence, where applicable);

2.15.4 require the Athlete and/or appropriate representatives of the applicant Member to attend for interview to answer questions arising;

2.15.5 invite any other Member or Area Association concerned to make submissions and/or provide the Nationality Review Panel with specific information;

2.15.6 commission an investigation into a matter and/or to monitor/confirm the facts on which an application is based; and/or

2.15.7 obtain further information or legal or other advice from third parties (e.g., on the refugee/asylum or Citizenship requirements of a particular Country).

2.16 The Member(s), the Area Association(s) and the Athlete concerned must cooperate fully with the Nationality Review Panel's investigations and enquiries, and satisfy in full all of the Nationality Review Panel's requirements.

2.17 The Nationality Review Panel will conduct its review fairly and impartially, and base its decision solely on its assessment of the evidence before it.

2.18 The burden will be on the applicant Member to satisfy the Nationality Review Panel, on the balance of probabilities, that the facts on which the application is based are true, and that the application should be granted.

Decision

2.19 The Nationality Review Panel will issue its decision as soon as reasonably practicable within the relevant transfer application period. However, it does not guarantee that it will issue its decision by any particular date. It is up to the Member and the Athlete to make any application within the relevant transfer application period as far in advance as possible of the first National Representative Competition or Other Relevant Competition in which they want the Athlete to represent the Member.

2.20 The Nationality Review Panel will issue its decision in writing, with reasons. The Nationality Review Panel Secretariat will notify the decision to the Member(s), Area Association(s), and Athlete concerned, and may also publish the decision (or a summary

thereof) on World Athletics' 's official website and/or in World Athletics' official newsletter and other official publications.

2.21 The Nationality Review Panel may reconsider a final decision:

2.21.1 after it has been issued where it deems it appropriate to do so, e.g., if new facts or new evidence emerge or are presented by a Member and/or Athlete following a request for reconsideration pursuant to Regulation 2.23;

2.21.2 where an Athlete who is subject to the decision of the Nationality Review Panel complains to it and /or the Athletics Integrity Unit there has been a breach of these Regulations particularly Regulations 1.2.4 and/or 3.5.6;

2.21.3 where either on the Nationality Review Panel's own volition or following investigation by Athletics Integrity Unit that there has been a breach of these Regulations particularly Regulations 1.2.4 and/or 3.5.6**.**

Finality

2.22 Unless otherwise specified, the decision issued by the Nationality Review Panel (a) will come into effect on the date it is issued; and (b) subject always to Regulation 2.20, will be the full and final disposition of the matter in question on behalf of World Athletics.

2.23 A Member and/or Athlete aggrieved by a final decision issued by the Nationality Review Panel under these Regulations must request reconsideration of the decision pursuant to this Regulation 2.23 prior to appealing that decision to the Appeals Panel in accordance with Regulation 4.2 below. No other challenge to the decision may be issued, in any forum. Where a Member and/or Athlete requests reconsideration then it must be requested in writing and signed by the Member's President and/or General Secretary/Chief Executive Officer or equivalent and the time limit to file an appeal to the Appeals Panel stated in Regulation 4.2 shall not begin until such time as the Nationality Review Panel has communicated its written reasons for its reconsideration decision.

3. Compliance

3.1 No Athlete, Member Federation Official, Area Association Official, Athlete Support Personnel, Athletes' Representatives, Applicable Persons or any other accredited person during the stated official event period of the World Athletics Series Event or any other World Athletics championship event or events must not approach, induce, coerce, encourage, introduce offer, meet, or correspond (through any means) with an Athlete to sign for a club or team for the purposes of influencing, soliciting, or facilitating a change or to transfer from their current Member Federation to any other Member Federation and represent them in National Representative Competitions or Other Relevant Competitions.

3.2 As per Regulation 1.5.2, these Regulations are binding on and must be complied with by all Members, Area Associations, Athletes, Athlete Representatives, Member Federation Officials, and other Applicable Persons.

3.3 Any breach of these Regulations amounts to a breach of the Integrity Code of Conduct and will accordingly be subject to investigation and prosecution by the Athletics Integrity Unit under the Athletics Integrity Unit Reporting, Investigation and Prosecution Rules (Non-Doping) and possible enforcement proceedings under the Disciplinary Tribunal Rules.

3.4 In accordance with Eligibility Rule 3.2, the eligibility of an Athlete under these Regulations to compete on behalf of a Member in National Representative Competitions or Other Relevant Competition shall at all times be guaranteed by the Member in question. Accordingly, a Member must always be ready to produce valid, authentic, accurate and complete documentary proof of such eligibility to World Athletics or an Area Association (as applicable) in respect of each/any Athlete in any squad or on any team entered by the Member in a National Representative Competition or nominated by the Member for selection in Other Relevant Competitions.

3.5 Without limitation, it shall be a breach of these Regulations:

3.5.1 for an Athlete to represent a Member in a National Representative Competition who is not eligible to do so under these Regulations;

3.5.2 for a Member to be unable to provide, upon demand, appropriate documentation demonstrating definitively that an Athlete that has been selected to represent that Member in a National Representative Competition is eligible to do so under these Regulations;

3.5.3 to enter into a sham arrangement in order to contrive an Athlete's eligibility to represent a Member in a National Representative Competition;

3.5.4 for a Member Federation Official to accept money or other consideration in exchange for encouraging or facilitating a transfer of allegiance;

3.5.5 to submit an application, supporting documentation or provide information to World Athletics under these Regulations that is (a) false; (b) fake; (c) inaccurate; and/or (b) misleadingly incomplete;

3.5.6 for a Member to fail to provide to an Athlete all of the benefits and support and/or other consideration promised to the Athlete to induce them to transfer their allegiance to the Member, or otherwise to act in an abusive manner towards the Athlete;

3.5.7 the promises, offers, incentives, (i.e. payments, other consideration or value in kind or other benefits) to induce the Athlete to transfer, or other rights, privileges or benefits or principles of human rights associated with the Athlete’s Citizenship or other legal status referred to in the Second Member’s application are not being provided, met, upheld or respected; and/or

3.5.8 to fail to comply, in letter and/or in spirit, with any other aspect of these Regulations. Liability for such breaches is strict, i.e., it is not necessary to show that the breach was due to fault or negligence of the person, body or organisation (as referred to at Regulation 3.1) concerned; and nor is a lack of fault or negligence a defence to a charge of breach. Instead, the degree of fault or negligence will be relevant to only the sanctions to be applied for such breach. Where appropriate, such persons, bodies or organisations (as referred to at Regulation 3.1) may be considered jointly and severally liable for a breach.

3.6 The Council, the Chief Executive Officer or their nominee, and/or the Chairperson of the Nationality Review Panel may refer any potential breach of these Regulations for investigation by the Athletics Integrity Unit under the Athletics Integrity Unit Reporting, Investigation and Prosecution Rules (Non-Doping) and possible proceedings for breach pursuant to the Disciplinary Tribunal Rules (or, in relation to Members, pursuant to the relevant provisions of the Eligibility Rules and/or Constitution).

3.7 All persons, bodies or organisations (as referred to at Regulation 3.1) must cooperate

fully with investigations conducted by the Athletics Integrity Unit (and any investigator appointed by the Athletics Integrity Unit). The following will constitute a violation of the Integrity Code of Conduct:

3.7.1 Refusing or failing, in either case without compelling justification, to cooperate with an investigation conducted by the Athletics Integrity Unit, including refusing or failing to provide accurately, completely and without undue delay any information and/or documentation and/or access or assistance as may be requested by the Athletics Integrity Unit (or its designee); and

3.7.2 Obstructing or delaying an investigation conducted by the Athletics Integrity Unit, including concealing, tampering with or destroying any documentation or other information that may be relevant to the investigation.

3.8 All Members must cooperate fully with investigations conducted by the Athletics Integrity Unit (and any investigator appointed by the Athletics Integrity Unit). If a Member refuses or fails (in either case without compelling justification) to cooperate with an investigation conducted by the Athletics Integrity Unit, or obstructs or delays such an investigation, it shall constitute a serious breach of the Rules which shall be reported to the Chief Executive Officer (or their nominee) to sanction under World Athletics Rules and Regulations or Council and in respect of which Council may exercise its respective suspensive powers and other powers under the Constitution to sanction the Member involved.

3.9 Without prejudice to its other sanctioning powers under the Disciplinary Tribunal Rules, if an Athlete competes on behalf of a Member in a National Representative Competition or Other Relevant Competition when they are not eligible to do so under these Regulations, the Disciplinary Tribunal shall disqualify the Athlete from the competition, with all resulting consequences, including forfeiture of all titles, awards, medals, points and prize and appearance money, and, where an Athlete competed as a member of a relay team, the Disciplinary Tribunal shall disqualify that relay team from the competition, with all resulting consequences for the relay team, including the forfeiture of all titles, awards, medals, points and prize and appearance money.

3.10 Any Athlete who wishes to compete on behalf of a Member in National Representative Competitions or Other Relevant Competition agrees (and upon request by World Athletics they will confirm pursuant to Regulation 2.10.11, that they agree):

3.10.1 to comply in full with the Eligibility Rules and these Regulations;

3.10.2 to cooperate promptly and in good faith with the Chief Executive Officer or their nominee, the Nationality Review Panel and the Athletics Integrity Unit in the discharge of their respective responsibilities under these Regulations, including providing them with all of the information and evidence they request (and/or the consents and/or waivers they need to obtain such information and evidence) in order to determine their eligibility under these Regulations, and to monitor their continuing compliance with the eligibility conditions; and

3.10.3 to follow solely and exclusively the procedures set out in Regulation 2 to resolve any disputes arising in connection with these Regulations and/or to challenge these Regulations or to appeal or challenge decisions made under these Regulations, and not to bring any proceedings in any court or other forum that are inconsistent with the requirements of Regulation 4.

3.11 All personal data submitted by Members and Athletes will be processed in accordance

with applicable data protection laws. It is acknowledged and agreed that personal data is processed by World Athletics for the purposes of administering its competitions, enforcing the Regulations and its Rules and maintaining the integrity of the sport.

4. Dispute Resolution

4.1 Any dispute arising between World Athletics and a Member or Athlete or Athlete Representative, Member Federation Official, or other Applicable Person(s) in connection with these Regulations will be submitted to arbitration before the Appeals Panel, to the exclusion of any other court or forum. In particular, the validity, legality and/or proper interpretation or application of the Regulations may only be challenged by way of an appeal to the Appeals Panel made pursuant to Regulation 4.2. Appeals against a decision arising from a request for reconsideration made pursuant to Regulation 4.2 and prior to 03 August 2026 will be dealt with under the Transfer of Allegiance Regulations in force at that time the decision in respect of the request for reconsideration was made.

4.2 Final decisions made pursuant to Regulation 2.22 must be subject to a request for reconsideration in accordance with Regulation 2.23. A Member or an Athlete may appeal a reconsideration made by the Nationality Review Panel under Regulations 2.21 and 2.23 to the Appeals Panel, by filing a Statement of Appeal with the Appeals Panel and with World Athletics within thirty days of the date of communication of the written reasons for the reconsideration decision. World Athletics will be the respondent to the appeal.

4.3 The Appeals Panel will hear and determine the dispute or appeal definitively in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Disputes and Disciplinary Proceedings Rules and the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal Rules, provided that in any appeal the Athlete will have fifteen days from the filing of the Statement of Appeal to file their Appeal Brief, and World Athletics will have thirty days from its receipt of the Appeal Brief to file its Answer. The proceedings before the Appeals Panel will be conducted in English, unless the parties agree otherwise. Pending determination of the dispute or appeal by the Appeals Panel, the Regulations under challenge and/or the decision under appeal (as applicable) will remain in full force and effect unless the Appeals Panel orders otherwise.

4.4 The decision of the Appeals Panel determining the dispute or appeal will be final and binding on all parties. All parties waive irrevocably any right to any form of appeal, review or recourse by or in any court or judicial authority in respect of such decision, insofar as such waiver may be validly made.

5. Costs

5.1 A Member, Area Association, Athlete, Athlete Representative, Member Federation Official, Area Official and any other Applicable Person shall be responsible for any costs they incur in complying with these Regulations, in making/commenting on any application and in cooperating with the Nationality Review Panel in its consideration of any matter, in implementing any decision, and (subject to any Appeals Panel costs-shifting rules) in relation to any proceedings before the Appeals Panel.

5.2 In addition to the processing fee referred to at Regulation 2.9, the Member making an application shall pay any costs incurred by the Nationality Review Panel and/or the Council in obtaining information or advice from third parties further to Clause 2.15 of these Regulations.

5.3 Unless stated otherwise in a decision issued by the Nationality Review Panel, World Athletics will pay the costs of any ombudsman appointed in accordance with Regulation

Appendix 1

Extract from the Olympic Charter

(in force from 03 February 2026)

Rule 41 Nationality of competitors

1. Any competitor in the Olympic Games must be a national of the country of the NOC which is entering such competitor.

2. All matters relating to the determination of the country which a competitor may represent in the Olympic Games shall be resolved by the IOC Executive Board.

Bye-law to Rule 41

1. A competitor who is a national of two or more countries at the same time may represent either one of them, as he may elect. However, after having represented one country in the Olympic Games, in continental or regional games or in world or regional championships recognised by the relevant IF, he may not represent another country unless he meets the conditions set forth in paragraph 2 below that apply to persons who have changed their nationality or acquired a new nationality.

2. A competitor who has represented one country in the Olympic Games, in continental or regional games or in world or regional championships recognised by the relevant IF, and who has changed his nationality or acquired a new nationality, may participate in the Olympic Games to represent his new country provided that at least three years have passed since the competitor last represented his former country. This period may be reduced or even cancelled, with the agreement of the NOCs and IF concerned, by the IOC Executive Board, which takes into account the circumstances of each case.

3. If an associated State, province or overseas department, a country or colony acquires independence, if a country becomes incorporated within another country by reason of a change of border, if a country merges with another country, or if a new NOC is recognised by the IOC, a competitor may continue to represent the country to which he belongs or belonged. However, he may, if he prefers, elect to represent his country or be entered in the Olympic Games by his new NOC if one exists. This particular choice may be made only once.

4. Furthermore, in all cases in which a competitor would be eligible to participate in the Olympic Games, either by representing another country than his or by having the choice as to the country which such competitor intends to represent, the IOC Executive Board may take all decisions of a general or individual nature with regard to issues resulting from nationality, citizenship, domicile or residence of any competitor, including the duration of any waiting period.