A briefing by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Sport Department was the highlight of the second meeting of the UIPM Executive Board (EB) in 2023.

The IOC’s Sport Director, Kit McConnell, and Head of Summer Sports & IF Relations, Bram Schellekens, provided the UIPM EB with an extensive explanation of the IOC EB’s statement issued on 25 January in relation to solidarity with Ukraine, sanctions against Russia and Belarus and the status of athletes from these countries affected by the 2022 invasion of Ukraine.

A Q&A ensued, giving the UIPM EB a chance to ask questions around the conditions under which athletes from Russia and Belarus might return in a neutral capacity to UIPM competitions, the timing of any potential return and the implications for the Paris 2024 qualification pathway.

UIPM EB members also discussed a proposed list of distinguished individuals to be inducted to the UIPM Hall of Fame in 2023, as well as discussing a potential change of dates relating to the Paris 2024 Olympic qualification system for Africa and Oceania athletes.