



2011 NYON DECLARATION



The formal establishment of the **World Players Association** on 5 December 2014 was the culmination of the historic players' summit held in Nyon, Switzerland on 14 and 15 November 2011, which brought together the global, regional and national player and athlete associations that now constitute the membership of the body. Expertly facilitated by Phil Jennings and Walter Palmer of UNI Global Union, the summit closed with the following declaration:



“We, the independent and democratically elected representatives of (thousands of) top athletes from around the world, today establish a federation of world player associations.

We take this action based on certain core principles and to address a crisis in governance at world sport organizations that have removed the athlete from the center of sport.

There is no sport without athletes. The societal role of sport is powerful, therefore it cannot be above the law and must respect principles of good governance.

We declare that world sport organizations, and governments, must respect national and international law as well as the fundamental rights of athletes as citizens and workers, including the right to organize collectively in player associations and unions.

Athletes and their collective representatives must play an integral role as stakeholders in all decision-making forums and structures that affect them.

We stand for the equal treatment of all athletes regardless of their ethnic background, religion, gender or sexual orientation.

For sport to thrive, it must be clean, fair, transparent and the unique nature of athletic careers must be taken into account.

We assert this mandate in the interest of sport and the athletes that play it.”