

Brussels, 14th of November 2017

Dear ECF Members,

During the last ECF AGM I informed your delegates that I had decided not to be a candidate for re-election as ECF President at the 2018 AGM, allowing me to retire from the post after more than 12 exceptional years.

I am sure you will understand my reasons, in particular more time for my family, for more research and publications, and also because I have the feeling that it's the right time. I am excited and satisfied to reflect on the positive development of the past years and the positive path for the future.

However, at the meeting of the ECF Board in Brussels, October 13th, I asked my colleagues to accept my resignation with effect from December 31st 2017, which they have accepted.

I feel that I should explain to you briefly my reasons for stepping down early.

It is practical. ECF's administrative year is the calendar year, with lots of consequences on budgeting, responsibilities etc., so I felt the administrative break would be cleaner.

It is a clear signal of change. With my resignation the Board and ECF's members know what has to be prepared for the next AGM. The ECF board, the election committee and all others willing to take part in this process are able to start addressing the key issues of continuity now.

It is a message of support for the Board. I am hugely impressed by the performance of the current Board, both longer standing members and new joiners this year. It is clear they are going to oversee development of the new ECF Vision 2030, the setting up of the newly independent World Cycling Alliance and to handle the governance of the presidential transition with great professionalism. In this regard I believe I should step aside now to give them the maximum space and time to develop our organisation in these and other directions.



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I like to thank all my colleagues for giving me this confidence, and also to take the opportunity to build profile and competences for the board and themselves.

Are there any fields and activities, where I will continue?

I have told the board that I remain at the service of ECF in the short term to smooth transition and in the medium term in any capacity where I can assist the Board or wider ECF as an individual. Because of my personal interest I hope to stay very engaged in the ECF Scientists for Cycling Network and topics such as global sustainability where I see a great future for cycling policy.

Some thoughts for the future of ECF and cycling I will communicate quite soon in my last "End of the Year" message. I am grateful to the Board for inviting me to the next AGM in Milan where I am prepared to hand over my thanks and good wished to ECF and all involved.

Thank you very much for your understanding. See you in Milan.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Manfred Neun', written in a cursive style.

Manfred Neun
President