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Mr Morinari Watanabe

President

**International Gymnastics Federation** 

Dear Mr President,

Herewith we have a pleasure to appreciate your untiring efforts in gymnastics development worldwide.

Oksana Chusovitina, our artistic gymnast - Olympic gold winner (Barcelona 1992) and silver medalist (Beijing 2008) participating in eight Olympic Games in row has been training since last three years for the qualification to the Paris Olympic Games that could be her 9<sup>th</sup> Olympics. She has competed at recent qualification year and achieved:

Cairo, Egypt (15-18 February 2024) ranked 9

Cottbus (22-25 February 2024) ranked 6

Baku (7-10 March 2024) ranked 14

Doha (17-20 April 2024) ranked 4

and could not qualify to the Olympics from these qualifying tournaments.

Uzbekistan Gymnastics Federation has recently hosted the qualifying Asian Artistic Gymnastics Championships held from 24 to 26 May in city of Tashkent. The qualifications were drawn among 18 Asian NFs. Oksana Chusovitina, participated in training camps in China for last two weeks and after coming back home she got minor injury (calf muscle strain) at podium being prepared for all four-round and unfortunately could not take part at very last qualification tournament.

At the moment Oksana is getting recovered and already start training for unique passion to gymnastics and dream of millions of fans worldwide to come true again.

After the Tokyo Games she decided to end her career, but a couple of months later Oksana returned to the podium saying:

'Gymnastics brings me great pleasure. Every evening I wait for the morning to come so that I can run to the gym to train again. I can't do without gymnastics, I love its competitive excitement, the feeling of overcoming myself, proving to myself every day that you can do more despite your age'.

Take into consideration the above and exceptional case of one of the greatest athlete with over 30 years of being professional athlete (!) and devotion to our beautiful sport of artistic gymnastics and, of course, dream of millions of fans to welcome Oksana at Paris 2024 podium once again, we are looking forward to the FIG Executive Board's support to give a personal Olympic quota for Oksana Chusovitina to take part at the Paris Olympic Games.

Timur Abduvaliev

Secretary General

Uzbekistan Gymnastics Federation