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WORLD KARATE CONFEDERATION

To all
WKC member federations

11th December 2008

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Dear Mr. President,

The year 2008 is nearly gone and we all think about the passed months and events. The WKC has done very well this year with two major events: the *6th European Championships in Banja Luka, Republika Srpska* and the *6th Junior & Cadet World Championships and World Cup for Children in Novo Mesto, Slovenia*.

With your strong support and loyalty you have helped the local organisers and the WKC leadership to make this year an exceptional successful one. We thank you very much for your friendship and cooperation.

We are going to improve our competition system and reorganising the Referee Commission in order to run our championships more smoothly in the future. Also we will settle some technical disputes within the different styles concerning the kata matches.

The coming year will have a special highlight with the *7th World Championships 10th -13th June 2009 in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, USA* and the *Open Pan American Championships 14th and 15th June*, right after our tournament. This tournament is open for all your federation members, not only for the national squad members. It will be a great opportunity for your athletes to compete with karate-ka from around the world. And there will be even one more opportunity for your members - they may also participate in the AAU national championships 17th to 20th June.

In order to avoid problems with the visa applications, all federations willing to go to Florida, USA in June 2009, should apply early in advance for their required immigration papers. Please check with your nearest US embassy or consulate about the requirements for an entry visa not later than March 2009. It might take time to get all necessary papers.

The *WKC Executive Committee* wishes you and your members all the best for the coming festive season and we wish you all the best, health and happiness for the year 2009.

Marko Nicović
President
World Karate Confederation

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