W2RC DAKAR RALLY 2025

01 – 17 January

Date:	**Friday, 10th January 2025**	Time:	**15.15 hrs**
Subject:	**STEWARDS DECISION N° 16**	Document No:	**2.18**

From: The Stewards

To: Competitor **No 215** Name: **HI-TIGER RACING TEAM**
Crew **GUOYU ZHANG / YICHENG WANG**

Number of pages: 1 *Attachments: -*

The Stewards, having received a report from the Clerk of the Course (Doc 3.31), having heard the crew members, the Team Manager (Mr. Uwe Schmidt) and with the presence of Mrs. Che Xing as interpreter, have considered the following matter, and after due deliberation determine the following:

Fact: Crew members of the Competitor Car #215 (the driver is a priority driver) did not place their mobile phones in a pouch provided by the organiser at the TC proceeding SS4.

Offence: Breach of Art. 9.1.7 / V1 of FIA 2025 CCRSR.

Decision:

- **Disqualification Competitor Car No 215 from Dakar Rally 2025,** which is **suspended until the end of Dakar 2025** subject to no further breach of similar nature committed by the competitor during this period.

- **To impose 30 minutes time penalty on the Competitor Car No 215 on Stage 4.**

Reason: During the hearing, crew members declared that they did not receive any pouch from the Marshal at the TC preceding SS4. They stated that as their starting position was very far behind, the Marshall may have missed them when giving the pouches to competitors concerned.

The Stewards reminded the competitor about having to comply with the regulations, therefore crew members should have requested the Marshall at the TC to provide them with the pouch.

Driver declared that during the previous stages, and also Stage 5, a Marshal approached them to give them the pouch without having to request for it.

Stewards point out that it is the responsibility of the competitor and the crew to comply with the regulations.

The Team Manager stated that as the crew members do not speak English, therefore experiencing some difficulties when trying to communicate with the Marshalls.

It should be noted that the failure of competitors to comply with their obligations cannot be justified by a lack of language proficiency, as this would deny all crews equal treatment.

The Stewards conclude there is a breach of Art. 9.1.7 / V1 of FIA 2025 CCRSR.

The decision is based on the FIA 2025 International Sporting Code Art. 11.9.1, Art. 11.9.2.a, Art. 11.9.3. a, Art. 11.9.3.f, Art. 12.3.1, Art. 12.4.1.h., Art. 12.4.1.m, Art. 12.9.1 and Art. 12.4.6.

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Competitors are reminded that they have the right to appeal certain decisions of the Stewards, in accordance with Article 15 of the FIA International Sporting Code and Chapter 4 of the FIA Judicial and Disciplinary Rules, within the applicable time limits.

Arnas PALIUKENAS	**Omar ZAROUR**	**Saleh ALEM**
Chair of the Panel of Stewards	FIA Steward	ASN Steward

This decision was notified to the Competitor's officially nominated representative as below:

Name (in block letters):	**UWE SCHMIDT**	*Date:*	**10.01.2025**
Position within the team:	**TEAM MANAGER**	*Time:*	**15:40 hrs**

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