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<b>Date:</b>	16.02.2025	<b>Time:</b>	18:45 hrs
<b>Subject:</b>	STEWARDS DECISION No. 3	<b>Document No:</b>	2.5

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**From:** The Stewards  
**To:** The Competitor HYUNDAI SHELL MOBIS WORLD RALLY TEAM of car No. 16  
Crew ADRIEN FOURMAUX / ALEXANDRE CORIA

All Competitors / crew members

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The Stewards, having viewed the live coverage of SS18 Umeå (Power Stage) on Rally.TV, summoned the above Driver as well as the Competitor's Representative, have considered the following matter and determine the following:

**Facts** The Driver of Car No. 16 used inappropriate language during the post-stage interview following SS18 Umeå (Power Stage).

**Offence** Breach of Article 12.2.1.I of the 2025 FIA International Sporting Code.

**Decision**

- A fine of €10,000 is imposed on the Driver ADRIEN FOURMAUX.
- An additional fine of €20,000 is imposed on the Driver ADRIEN FOURMAUX, which is applied with suspension of sentence for 12 months (expiring on February 16, 2026) on condition that the Driver commits no further breach of Article 12.2.1.I of the 2025 FIA International Sporting Code.

In accordance with Art. 12.8 of the 2025 FIA International Sporting Code, fines shall be paid within 48 hours of their notification. Any delay in making payment may entail Suspension during the period a fine remains unpaid.

**Reason** The Stewards reviewed TV footage from Rally.TV and heard from the Driver ADRIEN FOURMAUX and from the Competitor's Representative PABLO MARCOS.

Following the completion of the Power Stage of Rally Sweden 2025, the Driver conducted a post-stage interview and concluded the interview with the words "... we f\*\*\*ed up yesterday". The Rally.TV commentator then proceeded to respond to the Driver's comment with "*Apologies for the language there.*"

The Driver explained that he was referring to the mistake(s) he had made on the previous day (Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025) and that he used the words in a colloquial and descriptive way, in the sense that he had made a mistake. He apologised as he did not mean to offend or insult anyone by using those words.

The Stewards reminded the Driver and the Team Representative of the stance of the FIA regarding not only inappropriate language but also verbal/physical abuse, and making/displaying political, religious and personal statements or comments notably in violation of the general principle of neutrality promoted by the FIA under its Statutes.

The Stewards and the FIA acknowledge that the words in question have unfortunately become common colloquialisms. However, it is essential to emphasize that this does not diminish the fact that such language is widely regarded as profanity and is inappropriate in public discourse, including live television broadcasts. Public platforms are not solely intended for audiences familiar with these colloquialisms but also reach diverse cultures and individuals, who may find such words offensive. Motorsport is a global sport, engaging people of various age groups and cultural backgrounds, some of whom may misinterpret or take offense to these expressions. Given this, the FIA

remains committed to ensuring that inappropriate language is not used in public forums, including visual and audible media, press conferences, and social media. Furthermore, as public figures and role models for future generations of athletes and fans, sportspersons are expected to uphold a standard of professionalism and respect in their communication.

Within this context, the 2025 FIA International Sporting Code (FIA ISC) defines the breach in this case as “... *the general use of language (written or verbal), gesture and/or sign that is offensive, insulting, coarse, rude or abusive and might reasonably be expected or be perceived to be coarse or rude or to cause offense, humiliation or to be inappropriate ...*” The FIA has introduced, in its International Sporting Code, Appendix B (published on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025), which serves as Steward penalty guidelines to penalise violations of certain articles of its International Sporting Code, including the breach stated above.

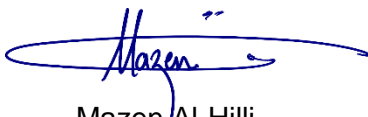

In determining the appropriate penalty for this breach, the Stewards have considered the following mitigating circumstances:

- This is his first instance of the Driver being summoned before the Stewards for such an infringement.
- English is not the Driver’s native language. The expression used is a rather colloquial term in certain cultures and was not intended to be offensive. The driver has acknowledged that it was a lapse in judgment, expressed in the heat of the moment immediately after finishing SS18 Umeå (Power Stage).
- The remark was self-referential, directed solely at the driver’s own performance, and was not aimed at any other individual or entity. There is no evidence to suggest that it meant to cause offense to any other party.
- The driver immediately recognised the inappropriate nature of the comment and issued an unprompted apology to the Stewards and the FIA. Furthermore, he voluntarily committed to posting a public apology on his social media account, which has since been published.
- The driver has assured the Stewards that he shall exercise greater caution in the future.

Taking the above mitigating factors into account, the Stewards have determined that the aforementioned penalty, as well as the suspended penalty, is proportional to the guidelines stated in Appendix B of the FIA ISC.

The Stewards wish to remind all competitors and crews (across the different disciplines under the FIA umbrella) of the importance of maintaining professionalism in public communications – respecting all cultures and beliefs. Upholding the integrity and standards of motorsport is a collective responsibility, and drivers are expected to exercise caution in their conduct to ensure a respectful and sportsmanlike environment.

Competitors are reminded that they have the right to appeal certain decisions of the Stewards, in accordance with Article 15 of the 2025 FIA International Sporting Code and Chapter 4 of the FIA Judicial and Disciplinary Rules.

  
Mazen Al-Hilli  
The Stewards  
Mathieu Remmerie  
Janne Rydh

**STEWARDS DECISION No. 3 – RALLY SWEDEN 2025**

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

<i>Name (in block letters):</i>	<b>PABLO MARCOS</b>	<i>Date:</i>	<b>16.2.2025</b>
<i>Position within the team:</i>	<b>TEAM MANAGER</b>	<i>Time:</i>	<b>18:48</b>

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