



FEDERAZIONE ITALIANA DI ATLETICA LEGGERA

**President**

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Mountain running has grown fast in the last decade. One of the driving forces behind this discipline is located in the Alta Val di Susa. Here the local authorities have realized since long the great potentialities of this event that draw the attention of people and media. Thanks to the commitment of the Atletica Susa club the mountain running has turned from a niche event to a point of reference for any initiative aimed to promote the tourism, the culture and the economy of this wonderful corner of our peninsula. The success of the World Mountain Running Trophy 2004 held in Sauze d'Oulx, on the wave of the Winter Olympics, has represented a leap in quality. However the way has been paved through the years by events such as the Memorial Germanetto, which was born from the "memory" and the "friendship", with the aim of spreading love for athletics. This event gave origin, together with the WMRA Youth Challenge, to the first international mountain running circuit entirely dedicated to the youngsters. The number of participating countries keeps increasing as well as the side initiatives; the relations and the cultural exchanges have also intensified. This way, on behalf and in memory of Marco, the mountain running opens new horizons and flies towards the future.

Francesco Arese