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Aquatic Family gathered at the FINA Gala Dinner

FINA Communication Department

The Prince of Spain Felipe honoured FINA with his presence on July 27, 2013 at the FINA Gala Dinner, organised in the National Art Museum of Catalunya (MNAC) in Barcelona (ESP). Gathering around 1000 attendees, this convivial occasion was also highlighted by the presence of the best Olympian in history (22 medals including 18 titles), US swimmer Michael Phelps, as well as several IOC members and many Spanish and Catalan authorities. Representatives of the FINA National Federations present in Barcelona for the 15th FINA World Championships, as well as members of the FINA Technical Committees and Commissions were also in attendance. Finally, the sponsors and suppliers of the championships were obviously invited to this Gala Dinner.

In his speech to such a distinguished audience, FINA President Dr. Julio C. Maglione considered:

“I start by thanking all the Spanish and Catalan authorities for their support and the Organising Committee for its devoted work. The participating athletes and officials are enjoying the Championships and we have also been informed that a growing number of fans around the world are attentively following our Sport throughout the various available platforms”.

Dr. Maglione then warmly thanked the Host Broadcaster of the Championships in Barcelona: “Our gratitude also goes to TVE, which is providing a TV production in High Definition for all our events and reaching over 211 territories in the five continents”.

The FINA Gala Dinner was also the ideal opportunity to express FINA’s appreciation to all the entities behind the success and organisation of the 15th FINA World Championships. Some recognition plaques were therefore given by the FINA President to those who are helping to make this competition a true Aquatic Festival.



FINA President Dr. Julio Maglione, Michael Phelps and Prince of Spain Felipe - *credit: Jorge Andreu/RFEN*
