BEC BADMINTON FOR WOMEN AWARD – SPEECH 14 APRIL 2018

Dear President, Dear Badminton Friends, Dear all,

I am very pleased to be here tonight in representation of the Spanish Badminton Family and more specially the Women Members of this family, to receive BEC Badminton for Women Award. Our gratitude goes to BEC for recognizing the labor carried out, not only by Badminton Spain, but also by the Spanish government through the Spanish High Council for Sport and by our sponsor, IBERDROLA, and their being the driving force behind Women sport. It is a team work, public and private, of three large entities with the common aim of attaining genuine equality for Women in sport through Women, Health and Sport.

This award is for a holistic project that is transversal to all levels and ages for the practice of Badminton. This ongoing project, until 2020, has three main lines of action:

- It is aimed at society, as a whole, having reached, up to this date, over 5 thousand women of all ages who have had access to Badminton.
- It is aimed at national women players, giving visibility and relating their efforts and success in the different events and national championships ranging from under-eleven to super senior, that is to say, over seventy-five!
- And, it is also aimed at high level Badminton, with the direct support of Carolina Marín, Beatriz Corrales, Clara Azurmendi, Sara Peñalver and our women players in para-badminton such as Marcela Quinteros or Esther Torres, who have both been Ambassadors in Universe Women. This will enable them to continue, in parallel with Badminton Spain, developing all they need to maintain the success they have had until now, thus placing us in the highest sphere of European Badminton.

All of the above is giving us a momentum that is already showing with the increase of 10% in women licenses, for example. We are consolidated as a continental women reference and, what is more important: we are achieving a real equality in the world of sport.

So, thank you, and congratulations to each and all the women responsible of this success. This award belongs to all of you.