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## LIVE TELEVISION COVERAGE FOR CLIMAX TO THE IRC SEASON IN CYPRUS

- **Four stages to be shown live on Eurosport**
- **Major networks to screen the event throughout the world**

**The climax to another thrilling Intercontinental Rally Challenge season, the FxPro Cyprus Rally, will receive extensive live television coverage when it runs from 4-6 November Eurosport Events, the IRC's promoter, confirmed at a press conference in Nicosia today (Thursday).**

Four stages will be produced for live coverage, which will be determined shortly following the preliminary inspection of the route this week by Xavier Gavory, General Co-ordinator of the IRC, Gilbert Roy, Director of Editorial Development and Programme Content of Eurosport Events, and Jean-Pierre Nicolas, the IRC's Motorsport Development Manager.

On top of the extensive live coverage on Eurosport, several major broadcasters have confirmed they will devote significant airtime to the rally. In addition to the national Cypriot broadcaster ALFA, they include: Abu Dhabi Sports Channel (Middle East), ESPN STAR Sports (Pan Asia), Speed Channel 2 (Pan America), Auto Plus (Russia), GAORA Sports (Japan), FOX Sports (Australia), ORF (Austria), RTBF (Belgium), RTP (Portugal) and MEGA Channel (Greece).

Although Cyprus has never hosted a round of the IRC before, series organisers had no hesitation in selecting the event to be broadcast live on TV. Not only is it the deciding round of the 12-event series, Cyprus also possesses spectacular countryside and breathtaking views, making it ideal for live television. Furthermore, the demanding nature of the mixed-surface stage format will increase the task facing the crews as they battle for glory.

"We are very pleased to be visiting Cyprus for the first time for the deciding round of the season. The close competition in the IRC this season, the talented drivers and the participation of several leading teams are set to combine to make what we hope will be a thrilling climax to the year in front of live television cameras and enthusiastic spectators," said Xavier Gavory.

The event, organised by the Cyprus Automobile Association (CAA), will be based in the island's largest seaside resort, Limassol, with the mixture of asphalt and gravel stages taking place in the surrounding countryside, which is famed for its stunning scenery.

CAA Chairman Antonis Michaelides added: "We are all dedicated to making the FxPro Cyprus Rally successful, innovative and memorable. Our rally is already regarded as one of the most photogenic sports events on the international rallying scene and the route will take competitors inland from Limassol to the island's beautiful countryside. It's a pleasure to be part of the IRC and we predict a strong field of entries."

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