17th April 2015

**FIA WTCC RESUMES IN MARRAKECH**

The FIA World Touring Car Championship which has YOKOHAMA as the official tyre supplier, resumes this weekend in Morocco after the season opener in Argentina.

With only five points currently separating Citroen Racing Jose Maria “Pechito” Lopez and the legendary Rally driver Sebastien Loeb whatever happens at the unique street circuit could set the direction and destiny of the Championship even at these initial stages. With Team mate and four times World Champion Yvan Muller currently in fourth place, it will have to be catch up time for the Frenchman to make a strong statement and aim to challenge his colleagues and the gauntlet already thrown by Honda’s Thiago Monteiro who is already on third place in the Championship.

For his part, Honda’s veteran Gabrielle Tarquini also hopes to change last season’s unlucky experience at Marrakech when following the qualifying session his car suffered hefty damages which did not allow him to take part in race day. A former winner in the street circuit, the experienced Tarquini could be the man to beat if he manages a good position in the grid on Sunday. The popular event, which is always well attended by thousands, will also surely offer some warm support to Mehdi Bennani, on home soil.

All drivers seem to agree with the fact that the Marrakech street circuit is a special one due to its long straights and only two corners. So braking and traction are seen as absolutely vital. Concentration is also a must since there are no escape routes and the price to pay could be severe.

Good luck to all!