**THE ELITE RACE: AFRICA, EST EUROPE AND ITALY RACE FOR THE PODIUM**

**WOMEN. LIVE BROADCASTING IN 90 COUTRIES.**

20th Acea Maratona di Roma will be broadcast live in Italy on **RAI Sport 1**, from 8.35 am to 11.45 noon CET. Live broadcast will be provided also at www.raisport.rai.it. Swedish TV rights distribution company **IEC** guarantees live coverage of 3 hours in 90 countries (coverage: Europe, Africa, Australia, Latin America and Asia). Tv producers company **Exora** will make available all its resources and its cutting edge technology to ensure the best image quality to the race.

In the elite race, great attention to **Emma Quaglia**. The 33-years old Genoese athlete - three times Italian champion of the 3,000 metres steeplechase, 9 appearances in the national team last year - has achieved the 6th place at the World Championships in Moscow, last year, finishing in 2:34:16. Her best performance has been at the Turin Marathon in November 18th, 2012 (2:28:15). On March 23rd, she will be assigned the task of bringing an Italian woman on the Maratona di Roma podium at a distance of 9 years from the last time (Tiziana Alagia in 2005, arriving in second place whereas the last victory was centered by Ornella Ferrara in 2004). Veteran marathon runner Marcella Mancini. The 42-year old from Ascoli Piceno (P.B. 2:33:17 in 2005) has won Italian Marathon Championships twice, in 2006 and 2010, and the 2006 European Team Championships in Gothenburg. One Ethiopians will also take place to the race: **Ayelu Lemma**, 26, whose personal best is 2:32:10, set in the Mumbai Marathon in 2012. Among the Europeans: **Ukraine Olena Shurkhno**, 36 years old – P.B. 2:23:32, set the 2012 Berlin Marathon where she achieved the third place) and the Russian **Albina Mayorova**, (36 years old – P.B. 2:23:52, set in the 2012 Nagoya Marathon - winner of 5 marathons – participant in two Olympic Games, Athens in 2004 and London in 2012.

In the mes’s race Ethiopia show up at the start line with a large group of young athletes. The leading figure is **Sisay Jisa**, 31, with his personal best of 2:06:27, set at the Paris Marathon in 2012; **Shumi Hailu** (26, P.B. 2:09:06, set at the 2011 Nice-Cannes Marathon), **Beyene Seboka Effa**, (27 years old - P.B. 2:12:57, set at the 2013 Košice Marathon), Solomon Deksisa Gonfa (at his first marathon, with a personal best of 1:02:16 set on the 2010 Zhuahi half- marathon), Beyene Demeke Mosisa ((at his first marathon, with a personal best of 1:04:12 set in 2013). Four kenians at the start line: Jackson Kotut, (26, P.B. - 2:07:30, set the 2010 Barcelona Marathon), Walter Koloria, (23, P.B. - 2:16:06, set the 2013 Firenze Marathon), and two debutants: Leonard Langat, 23 (P.B. 59:52 in the half marathon distance, who chose the Maratona di Roma over the World Cross Country Championships) and Korir Weldon (P.B. 1:03:12 in the half marathon distance). Among the Europenas: Ukraine Oleksander **Sitkoskyy**, 36 years old - P.B. 2:09:14, set the 2013 Firenze Marathon) and the Italians Domenico Ricatti, the 34 years old athlete from Barletta (P.B. 2:15:16, set in 2006 in Padua) running for the Aeronautica Militare, 12th, and first European, at the 2011 Berlin Marathon and Denis Curzi (Carabinieri) who has a personal best of 2:11:17, set in 2006 in Treviso. Curzi, born in Dernbach (Germany), 39 years ago, hailing from Marche, scored at 2002 Maratona di Roma one of his best performances of his career (2:12:28).