MEXICO

DECLARATION

PREAMBLE

The National Olympic Committees gathered at the General Assembly held in Mexico City on 7 and 8 November 1984 under the aegis of the Association of National Olympic Committees.

– CONSIDERING the wide range of problems facing the Olympic Movement today which constitutes a dangerous threat to the ethics and goals of Olympism;
– TAKING into account the continuing problems facing the Olympic Movement and in particular considering in this regard the repeated cases of non-participation for various reasons.
– CONSIDERING the decisive role of the Olympic Games in safeguarding and preserving Olympism;
– HAVING acknowledged the decision of the IOC to devote a special session to these issues on 1 and 2 December 1984;
– DESIRING to make an important contribution to the search for lasting solutions to the aforementioned problems;
– CONVINCED of the need to strengthen unity and co-operation within the International Olympic Family.

After having analysed in depth this situation and following a lengthy debate during which representatives of the NOCs of the five continents expressed their viewpoints.

AGREED:
– to issue this declaration, entitled the MEXICO DECLARATION, expressing their viewpoints on:
  – the current situation of the Olympic Movement and
  – the future of the Olympic Games;
– to submit for the consideration of the IOC certain questions to be explored at its special session scheduled for December 1984 in Lausanne, devoted to the future of the Olympic Games.

In issuing this Declaration, the NOC’s express the hope that ANOC, as an instrument of dialogue and conciliation, may hold useful discussions with the IOC and the other members of the Olympic Family during which these recommendations and viewpoints will be taken fully into account.
THE NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEES

1. Emphatically proclaim their loyalty to the Olympic Charter and the Olympic ideals and confirm their intention to continue to respect the fundamental principles, the laws and by-laws contained therein.

2. REAFFIRM that the Olympic Games have always been the cornerstone of the Olympic Movement and as such merit special attention on the part of all members of the Olympic Family who, each in its sphere of competence, should encourage the celebration of the Games and protect them.

3. THEREFORE INVITE all members of ANOC to contribute to the success of, and participate in, the forthcoming Summer and Winter Games which are scheduled to be held in Seoul and Calgary in 1988, according to the decision taken by the IOC in September 1981 in Baden-Baden. This should apply also to all futures Games.

4. RECOMMEND to the Organizing Committees of the 1988 Games that, for their part, they adopt all measures necessary to guarantee the proper organisation of the 1988 Games, in compliance with the relevant provisions in the Olympic Charter and Protocol.

AWARDS
On the occasion of the meetings in Mexico, Messrs. Knolly Henderson (TRI), past President of the NOC of Trinidad and Tobago, Samuel Mbogo Kamau (KEN), President of the Kenya Olympic Association (NOC) and member of the Executive Committee of the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa, and Keith Evan Shervington (JAM), President of the Jamaican Weightlifting Federation, received, from the President of the IOC, the insignia of the Olympic Order, which was conferred upon them by the 88th Session in Los Angeles last summer.
5. DECLARE that the opportunity to compete in the Olympic Games is the fundamental RIGHT of the athletes and therefore to guarantee this right is the fundamental DUTY of the NOCs and the other members of the Olympic Family, who should take all necessary steps to guarantee and facilitate this participation in conformity with the Olympic Charter.

6. EXPRESS THE HOPE that the NOCs, which constitute the foundation of the Olympic structure, will be given the opportunity to participate in the endeavours of the Commission charged with revising the Olympic Charter.

7. BELIEVE that Article 26 and its bye-laws should be revised in order to remedy the prevailing confusing situation over the interpretation of the eligibility codes, taking into account the pressures of top level sport but without losing sight of the cardinal virtues of the Olympic ethics.

8. ASK the IOC and ANOC, together with the individual NOCs, to undertake a campaign designed to make governmental authorities increasingly aware of the Olympic Movement, in order to foster the development of a strategy of co-operation, flexible enough to enable the NOCs to perform their work freely and autonomously and achieve the objectives of the Olympic Movement.

9. MAKE A FURTHER APPEAL TO THE IOC, in the future when awarding the Olympic Games to a specific city, that in addition to the customary criteria, they take special account of such factors as the political, economic and geographical situation and even socio-cultural factors so as to ensure optimum conditions for the maximum participation by NOCs.

10. UNDERLINE, in this respect, the advantages of establishing a mechanism of consultation and of participation in the decision with the NOCs prior to awarding the Games.

11. EXPRESS the desire that an ongoing co-operation be consolidated between the NOCs and OCOGs, so as to allow the NOCs to follow carefully the progressive stages of preparation of the Games and provide the OCOGs with useful advice which will be mutually beneficial.

12. APPEAL FOR THE VIGILANCE OF THE IOC regarding the growing trend toward the commercialisation of the Olympic Games, which is, at times, detrimental to the Olympic Family, and to recommend the steps aimed at:

- the avoidance of abuses that are prejudicial to the Olympic ideals and spirit;
- ensuring that the resources generated by the Games, irrespective of their origin, be distributed rationally among the NOCs.

13. DRAW TO THE ATTENTION OF THE IOC the under-representation of certain parts of the world on this
body and urge them to take steps
to remedy this matter by redressing
the balance.
14. PROPOSE to the IOC that it
increase the frequency of the
Olympic Congresses, so as to
adapt to the rapid evolution taking
place in the world of sport.
15. REQUEST that ANOC make repre-
sentations to the relevant Interna-
tional Federations urging them to
exclude South Africa from mem-
bership, in line with the policy of
the IOC, until that country ren-
ounces its policy of apartheid
which is in contravention with the
Olympic Charter.
16. PROPOSE that Olympic Solidarity
define an emergency programme
aimed at bringing special assis-
tance to those developing coun-
tries in urgent need.
17. Based on the far-sighted and per-
tinent interventions made by the
delegates at the General Assembly
in Mexico, to entrust to the Execu-
tive Board, as a matter of urgency,
the following tasks :
– to define more precisely the
aims and objectives of ANOC in
the short and long term and also
develop a plan of action to
realise its aims and objectives ;
– to identify the steps needed to
ensure the proper status of
ANOC within the Olympic Family
and especially in its relations
with the IOC.
18. APPLAUD the good work of our
President Mario Vázquez Raña
which is reflected in the evident
progress made by ANOC in recent
years.
19. NOTE WITH SATISFACTION the
increased vitality of the Continental
Associations and the positive man-
er in which they are reinforcing
the effectiveness of their NOCs.
20. PAY TRIBUTE to the profound and
continuing interest which Presi-
dent JUAN ANTONIO SAMARANCH
takes in the National Olympic
Committees and the dedicated
manner in which he approaches
the work and problems of the
Olympic Movement.
21. DECLARE ourselves ready to spread
the OLYMPIC MESSAGE, an element
of peace, trusting that it will contri-
bute to mutual understanding and
better relationships between men.
22. CORDIALLLY THANK the President
and Members of the Mexican
Olympic Committee for the warm
welcome and hospitality given
delegates during their stay in Mex-
ico City.

The
National Olympic
Committees