



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

OLYMPIC HIGHLIGHTS

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IOC ACTIVITIES

IOC PRESIDENT

This week, **IOC President Jacques Rogge** was in Beijing for the first IOC Executive Board (EB) meeting of the year, with only a few months to go until the Olympic Games. On this occasion, President Rogge met Chinese Premier Wen Jiabo with whom he addressed the latest issues surrounding the Games preparations, and underlined the excellent work accomplished by the Games Organising Committee (BOCOG).

Taking advantage of his presence in Beijing, **President Rogge also met** numerous IOC members and NOC representatives.

President Rogge's Olympic week began with the **opening ceremony of the XVI General Assembly of the Association of National Olympic Committees** (ANOC), whose President is Mario Vázquez Raña (see International Organisations section).



During the traditional joint meeting between the **EB and the NOCs** (photo above), **President Rogge spoke about athletes' freedom of expression** - see www.olympic.org, Olympic News section.

During its meeting on 10 and 11 April, the **EB took a number of important decisions** for the Olympic Movement. To strengthen its armoury in the fight against doping, the EB approved the Anti-Doping Rules for the Olympic Games in Beijing this summer. Outlined in a 41-page

document, which will be sent to all participants, the Rules describe the anti-doping regulations and procedures that will be in force from 27 July (day of the opening of the Olympic Village) to 24 August (day of the Closing Ceremony). In another doping-related decision, the EB disqualified the team mates of Marion Jones (previously disqualified from the Sydney 2000 Games) in the US women's relay team from the 4x100m race in which the team placed third, and the 4x400m race in which the team placed first. The issue of reallocating the medals and diplomas – including those of Marion Jones – will be addressed by the EB in due course pending further information in the BALCO affair.

The EB also decided to lift the suspension of the NOC of Panama, and to send a delegation composed of representatives from the IOC, ASOIF and the OCA to meet with the Sports Ministry in Kuwait to discuss the recent difficulties experienced by the NOC as regards the government's role. As regards the Olympic Games, the EB approved the Look of the Vancouver 2010 Games. A full report on the IOC EB decisions can be found at www.olympic.org (News section).

COMMISSIONS

Still in Beijing, President Rogge also chaired the discussions of the **IOC TV Rights and New Media Commission**.

At the end of March in Incheon (Korea), the **IOC Sport and Environment Commission** organised a regional seminar, in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Korean NOC. This seminar, chaired by Commission Chairman Pál Schmitt, brought together representatives from 26 NOCs to discuss subjects such as awareness-raising among NOCs on the use of sport as a tool for sustainable development, the application of the IOC Guide to Sport, Environment and Sustainable Development, and the development of national action plans. The participants undertook to disseminate the link



between sport and the environment, propose measures in their countries for organising sports events that respect the environment, and launch campaigns to promote sport and the environment. The Seminar was officially opened by the Korean Vice-Minister of the Ministry of Environment, Byung-Wook Lee.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATIONS

SUMMER OLYMPIC IFS



The **International Cycling Union** (UCI)'s Anti-Doping Inspectors Seminar took place recently in Geneva (Switzerland). Among the 89 participants, 32 applied to become inspectors for the first time. The Seminar serves to train new candidates; make an assessment of 2007; and broach themes such as the biological passport, the establishment of riders' whereabouts using the Anti-Doping Administration & Management (ADAMS) System developed by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), out-of-competition tests, and blood tests. Detailed info at www.uci.ch (News section).



The **Fédération Internationale de Football Association** (FIFA) has appointed Hans Klaus as Director of Communications & Public Affairs. He will take up this position on 20 May 2008. Until then, FIFA Head of Media Andreas Herren will continue acting in this role. A Swiss national, Hans Klaus spent eight years as media spokesperson with Swissair before heading the information section of the Swiss Federal Department of Justice and Police. He is currently Director of Global Corporate Communications and Corporate Social Responsibility at an international company. More info at www.fifa.com.



Meeting on 5 April in Acireale (Italy) where the Junior & Cadet World Championships are taking place until 14 April, the General Assembly of the **International Fencing Federation** (FIE) decided, among other things, to award the 2009 Junior & Cadet World Championships to Belfast (Great Britain), that of the seniors to Antalya (Turkey) and that

of the veterans to Moscow (Russian Federation). The organisation of the 2009 edition of the Congress has been awarded to Palermo (Italy). The cities of Sintra (Portugal) and Bonn (Germany) are candidates for the 2011 Congress.



In a press release, the **International Swimming Federation** (FINA) has announced that it has become the first International Sports Federation to incorporate the new version of the WADA World Anti-Doping Code into its own rules, after a unanimous vote of its delegates at its Extraordinary Congress in Manchester (Great Britain) on 8 April. The FINA Doping Control Rules will come into force on 1 January 2009. Also approved at the Congress was a new set of Medical and Ethic Rules concerning the security and protection of athletes' health. More info at www.fina.org.



International Softball Federation (ISF) President Don Porter and Italian Federation Softball President Riccardo Fraccari recently signed an agreement to establish the ISF Regional Training Centre for Western Europe in Rome. This new Centre complements the Eastern Europe facility in the Russian Federation and the Latin American one in Santo Domingo. More info at www.internationalsoftball.com

NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEES



Active participation of the public during the launch of the 51st Festival of Sport in Hong Kong

To mark the launch of the Bank of China 51st Festival of Sport, the **NOC of Hong Kong, China**, set up a programme inviting the public to



take part in several sports (cycling, golf, rowing and sailing), and offered sports demonstrations (artistic cycling, gymnastics, wushu, rope skipping, and muaythai, a martial art). Many personalities attended this event, including NOC President and IOC member Timothy Tsun Ting Fok and Carrie Yau, Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs of the government of the Special Administrative Region of Hong Kong. Taking place from March to June, this Festival will see the organisation of over 80 sports events by 64 associations in 18 districts of Hong Kong.



Participants in the Mongolian NOC ceremony

At a ceremony organised at Olympic House, the **Mongolian NOC** paid tribute to all the Olympic medallists and offered them competition tickets for the Games in Beijing. Present on this occasion were NOC President Demchigjav Zagdsuren, IOC honorary member Shagdarjav Magvan, Chef de Mission of the Beijing Olympic team Danzandorj Bayasgalan, as well as CEO of NOC partner Golomt Bank John Patrick Fenegan. The Mongolian NOC has taken part in the Games of the Olympiad since 1964 (Tokyo), and to date its athletes have won 15 medals (in wrestling, boxing, shooting and judo). We have also learned that at the beginning of March, the Mongolian NOC received a visit from a delegation of the Laa NOC, led by its President, Phoutong Seng-Akhom.



At the General Assembly of the **Yemeni NOC**, the 2007 IOC "Sport and Promotion of Olympism" trophy was awarded to Abdul Hameed Al Saeedi, in recognition of his major role in the development and promotion of the Olympic Movement in the Yemen. This ceremony took place in the presence of the Minister for Youth and Sports, Hamood Obad, and NOC President Abdul Rahman Al Akwaa.

OLYMPIC GAMES ORGANISING COMMITTEES

LONDON 2012



This week, the Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA) announced that contracts had been signed with two British companies to construct two of the **flagship venues of the 2012 Games – the Olympic Stadium and the Aquatics Centre**.

"Team Stadium" (Sir Robert McAlpine, HOK Sport and Buro Happold) will build the Olympic Stadium and "Balfour Beatty" the Aquatics Centre. The Olympic Stadium, with a capacity of 80,000, will host the athletics events as well as the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. After the Games, it will be converted into a 25,000-seat athletics stadium, suitable for other sporting, community and educational uses. The Aquatics Centre will be able to seat 17,500 spectators, reducing to 2,500 after the Games with the ability to increase this for major events. More info at www.london2102.com (News section).

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS



From 5 to 10 April, the **Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC)** held a week of meetings in the Chinese capital. Besides the XVI General Assembly, attended by the 205 recognised NOCs, (photo above), the ANOC Executive Council and the Regional Associations also met. On the agenda of these meetings were mainly the upcoming Olympic Games. Full report at www.acnolympic.org.



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