

## How do we stand with the Project of the International Convention for the Protection of the Olympic Games, their name and their Emblems ?

Me Antoine Hafner, advocate in Geneva, and member of the Swiss Olympic Committee, is busily engaged with the setting on foot of this Convention, the International Olympic Committee is most grateful to him for doing so. Unfortunately, the negotiations progress very slowly and some countries are delaying in sending their replies. Out of 90 countries possessing National Olympic Committees recognized by the International Olympic Committee, only 19 have sent replies of which four have been negative... One of these four countries happens to be precisely Australia where the next Olympics are to be held. It is unconceivable that in Australia, no interest is taken in the protection of the Olympic Games, nor of their emblems. We are of course astonished to hear this, and this reticence will also cause surprise elsewhere.

Herewith is the list of replies received up to May 23rd 1956 :

1. *Countries having given a favourable reply to the Swiss Government* Italy, China (Pekin), Bulgaria, Iran, Chili, Austria, Portugal, Poland, Brazil, Czecho-Slovakia, Danemark, Pakistan, Switzerland.

2. *Countries having replied favourably, agreeing on principle, but not on all points:*

Turkey, Holland. (Further negotiations are on the way.)

3. *Countries having given an unfavourable reply:*

South Africa, New Zealand, Australia and Sweden.

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The negotiations are going on and as our readers can foresee, the road leading to success remains still long and arduous... The aim in view can only be realized in the measure that the members of the International Olympic Committee and those of the National Olympic Committees are going to collaborate... in a *favourable* way!

Should there be any doubt left with regard to the advantages derived by a Convention for the protection of Olympic emblems, the countless abuses — be they commercial or otherwise — which are happening in the world, should suffice to dissipate these doubts.