

## The General Assembly of NOCs\*

by *Giulio Onesti*

Firstly, on behalf of the General Assembly of National Olympic Committees, I wish to thank the IOC for having given us space in the "*Olympic Review*", and to accept this offer gratefully for it will allow us regularly to publish information on the activities of the Assembly between sessions.

*G. Onesti, President*

A meeting of the Executive Council of the General Assembly of NOCs was held on 16th October 1977 at the Château de Vidy in Lausanne, thanks to the kind offices of the IOC.

Firstly the minutes of the previous meeting, held in Abidjan in March 1977, were approved.

The next item on the agenda concerned the proposal for a new constitution of the Assembly put forward in Abidjan. The Chairman of the Statutes Commission, Mr. McKenzie, presented a draft constitution. It was decided to ask the Commission to continue its study of this draft for presentation and if possible approval by the General Assembly of NOCs at its next meeting in Puerto Rico in 1979.

The Council then passed a number of proposals regarding Olympic Solidarity. These decisions were to be presented as suggestions at the meeting of the Solidarity Commission held in Lausanne the following day.

\* Here we publish a new column on the activities of international sports associations or unions.

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It was unanimously agreed to support the proposal to offer direct financial assistance to the NOCs. taking into account that the one-third share of The television rights for the NOCs is administered through Olympic Solidarity. The Council also adopted the proposal to part-finance the living expenses of athletes in the Olympic villages.

The meetings of the IOC Commission for Olympic Solidarity, as well as an Inner Commission made up of representatives from the five continents, the latter chaired by the Coordinator, Mr. Onesti, were held on 17th and 18th October.

Various proposals for direct assistance to the NOCs were examined and approved on this occasion. These will be submitted to the meetings of the Executive Council of the General Assembly and then of the IOC Commission for Olympic Solidarity scheduled in Mexico in April 1978.

Still concerning Olympic Solidarity it was decided to propose to the Solidarity Commission the establishment of new criteria governing the courses and classes which it organises. These new criteria mean that the place where a course is held will be chosen according to its level : elementary courses should be held locally so that travelling expenses borne by the NOCs can be kept to a minimum ; intermediate courses should be organised on a regional basis comprising several countries in the same geographical area ; while advanced courses intended only for specialists of an international class should be organised in one or two places in the world as the quality of the courses justifies the expenses that the NOCs will have to meet.

Finally, the Council noted with satisfaction the efforts to promote Solidarity on the part of several NOCs. The Japanese Olympic Committee was congratulated particularly on the body which it is creating at the present time to develop sport in its region. Other Committees, such as those of the two Germanies, the USSR and the USA among others, were encouraged to continue their efforts towards mutual aid between NOCs.

Whilst awaiting a final decision on the subject of the GA Secretary General, Mr. Marcello Garroni was unanimously appointed Special Assistant to the President.

G.O.