

Meeting of the Executive Board in Los Angeles



At the Executive Board meeting in Los Angeles. Clockwise from left: Mr. Virgilio de León, Mr. C. Lance S. Cross, Mr. Vitaly Smirnov, President Juan Antonio Samaranch, M^{me} Monique Berlioux, Mr. Masaji Kiyokawa, Mr. Alexandru Siperco, Mr. Ashwini Kumar and Prince Alexandre de Mérode.-

On 23rd and 24th February, the Executive Board of the IOC met in Los Angeles for the first time during this period of preparation for the Games of the XXIIIrd Olympiad.

The meeting proved to be an excellent opportunity not only for the establishment of personal contacts between Executive Board members and LAOC executives, but also to gain first-hand knowledge of the city, the various sites, and the problems and questions facing the Organising Committee.

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A tour of some of the sites was the first step towards an acquaintance with Los Angeles.

Visit to Olympic sites

The members visited the residence halls of the University of Southern California and the University of California Los Angeles, which will serve as Olympic villages in 1984. The visit also included the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, where the opening and closing ceremonies for the Games of the Xth Olympiad were held, and which will also be the venue for these ceremonies for the forthcoming Games of the Olympiad.

Pauley Pavilion, the site for the gymnastics events in 1984, was also included on the tour. This pavilion seats up to 12,500 people, and has hosted many international events.

Following discussions regarding facilities at the Olympic villages, Prince de Mérode and

Mr. Lance Cross were requested to make a further visit to gain additional knowledge of the accommodation available at the two universities. The two members will report back to the Executive Board on this visit, which took place following the meetings on 25th February.

Talks with officials

Prior to the meetings, the President and Director of the IOC met with Mr. Peter Ueberroth, President and Managing Director of LAOOC, on 20th February with Colonel Don Miller, Executive Director of the United States Olympic Committee, on 21st February, and with the Vice-Presidents of the IOC in the afternoon of 22nd February. Unfortunately, Mr. Louis Guirandou N'Diaye, third Vice-President of the IOC, was unable to be present in Los Angeles because of the death in a traffic accident of his brother-in-law. Mr. Jean-Baptiste Mockey, a leading political figure in the Ivory Coast. The IOC offers its most sincere condolences to Mr. Guirandou N'Diaye in this difficult time.

The meetings were attended for the first time by Mr. Cornelius Kerdel, IOC Chief of Protocol, and Mr. Arpad Csanadi, the IOC's sports adviser and Chairman of the Programme Commission.

On the evening before the opening of the meeting, Mr. Samaranch gave a dinner for the members of the Executive Board and for the IOC members in the United States. Unfortunately, Mr. Julian K. Roosevelt was unable to attend, owing to reasons of health.

Opening of the meetings

At 9.00 hours on 23rd February, the Executive Board meeting opened in the "Century Plaza" hotel in Los Angeles. Almost all of the first day was, in fact, devoted to the next Games of the Olympiad.

A delegation from the LAOOC presented its second official report, which was followed by an intensive period of constructive and frank discussion. The topics raised in this connec-

tion were wide-ranging, and culminated in various decisions, one of which was to hold a meeting of the Executive Board with the International Federations in the spring of 1982 in order for the Executive Board and the IFs to observe the further progress made by the LAOOC.

The President, on behalf of all the members, declared himself highly satisfied with all that had been achieved by the Organising Committee, and looked forward to further close collaboration between their two organisations.

Presentations before the Executive Board

In the course of the meetings, representatives of various bodies came before the Executive Board. Among them were Mr. Andras Toro of the USOC's Athletes Advisory Board, who tendered a proposal to establish an International Athletics Board, Dr. Henri Courtine and Mr. Heinz Kempa of the International Judo Federation, who submitted an appeal for the reinstatement of the open category in their sport, as well as the Reverend J. Bernard Fell and Mr. William Kissel of the Lake Placid OCOG, who reported on financial matters associated with 'the organisation of the XIIIth Olympic Winter Games.

At the close of the meetings, on 24th February, a dinner was given for the Executive Board by the LAOOC, at which Mr. Paul Ziffren, Chairman of the Organising Committee, Mayor Bradley of Los Angeles (a close friend of the Olympic movement ever since his first involvement with Los Angeles' bid for the Games) and former Olympic champions were present.

Press conference

The press conference scheduled for the following day was well attended by representatives of the local and international press. During the press conference, the President and Director expressed their appreciation of the efforts of the Los Angeles Organising Committee and their support for the actions

and endeavours of all those involved with the next Games of the Olympiad.

The meetings were held in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and all involved left with a conviction that having held such a meeting actually on the site of the Games was of great assistance in assessing the problems and questions arising from the LAOOC's preparations. Special thanks are to be extended to Mayor Tom Bradley of Los Angeles and to all members of the Los Angeles OCOG, particularly Mr. Peter Ueberroth, President, and Mr. Harry Usher, Executive Vice-President. The next meeting of the IOC Executive Board is scheduled for Lausanne on 9th April, to be followed the next day by the Board's meeting with the International Federations.

- Regulations and programme for the XIth Olympic Congress in Baden-Baden approved. (NB: published in the "Olympic Review" No. 159.)
- The Greek proposal to be studied further before any action is taken. To be put on the agenda of the Baden-Baden Session.
- NOCs to be asked to support the IOC in its endeavours to obtain the protection of the Olympic symbol at a World Conference to be held in Nairobi, Kenya, in 1981.
- An overall study on obtaining funds from commercialisation to be made.
- The Executive Board to study the proposal from the Athletes Advisory Council further.
- 85th IOC Session in 1982 to be held in Rome.

Decisions taken

Some of the major decisions taken by the Executive Board in Los Angeles :

- Payment of IFs' expenses for additional visits to the host city to be decided upon by the IOC (two visits are paid by the OCOG).
- Women's marathon to be included on the Olympic programme for the Games of the XXIIIrd Olympiad in Los Angeles, but not at the same time as the men's event.
- Question of demonstration sports to be studied further by the Executive Board.
- Next LAOOC report to be given at the meeting of the Executive Board with the IFs on 10th April in Lausanne.
- Meeting of the Executive Board with the IFs to be held in Los Angeles in February 1982.
- All teams, without exception, to be housed in the Olympic villages in Los Angeles, in conformity with the contract signed in 1978.
- Budget for the 1981 Olympic Solidarity programme approved.
- IOC budget for 1981 approved.



The composition of the delegations charged with visiting the candidate cities for the Games of the XXIVth Olympiad and the XVth Winter Games in 1988 is to be as follows :

Games of the XXIVth Olympiad

For the IOC: Mr. Maurice Herzog ; Mr. Cornelius Kerdel.

For the NOCs : Mr. Janusz Piewciewicz ; Mr. Peter Pils.

XVth Winter Games

For the IOC: Mr. Giulio Onesti; Mr. James Worrall ; Mr. Pedro Ramirez Vasquez.

For the NOCs : Mr. Don Miller ; Mr. Dick Palmer.