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# NEW YEAR GREETINGS OF PRESIDENT SAMARANCH

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**H**ere we are once more at the start of these four years of intense preparation without which the tremendous Olympic meering would never achieve the great qualities for which it is renowned. The high level of the performances and the excellent organisation of the XIVth Winter Games and of the Games of the XXIIIrd Olympiad bear witness to this indispensable work of preparation.

It is above all to the athletes that I extend this message of good will. At the moment when they are embarking on their long obstacle course, they may be sure that their perseverance will be rewarded. We shall do all we can to ensure that every one of you can compete in Seoul and in Calgary in 1988.

With the support of our natural partners, the International Sports Federations and the National Olympic Committees, we shall succeed in setting up this new dialogue, which will enable the whole world to experience in unison this prestigious friendly gathering of nations.

The Olympic concept of sport, this ideal of training, of controlled energies and mutual respect in competition, is not confined to the Olympic Games. In recent years, I have observed the dynamic way in which the NOCs have been trying, in spite of social and economic problems of sometimes drastic proportions, to develop sport not only at the élite level, but also sport for all, sport and art, sport and the cinema, sport for the handicapped, sport and science, sport and education. We shall give our support to these initiatives, because they serve the aims of the Olympic Movement.

Do not let us be cowed by the disturbing aspects of our troubled world. Let us, on the contrary, persevere in our intention to join together all men and women in the brotherly spirit of the five rings. This is our mission for the future !

