
34th CONFERENCE OF THE SPORTS MINISTERS OF SOCIALIST COUNTRIES

On the occasion of the annual meeting of sports ministers and officials of the socialist countries which took place in Hanoi from 12 to 15 November 1985, the President of the IOC, H.E. Mr. Juan Antonio Samaranch paid an official visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam from 14 to 16 November.

Addressing the Ministers of the thirteen countries represented (BUL, Cambodia, CUB, GDR, HUN, LAO, MGL, POL, ROM, PRK, TCH, URS, VIE), the President said : *"The sports movement of the socialist countries is an important component of the Olympic Movement. It greatly contributes to the foundation of stronger peace, friendship and mutual understanding between the nations"*. He further pointed out how the remarkable achievements of these countries in the sports field are to a large extent the effect of close relations in regard to collaboration and mutual assistance which unite them.

President Samaranch also talked with each of the delegates and they assured him that the training of the sports teams in preparation for the next Games was already well in hand. The President therefore had every reason to have positive impressions at the end of this conference. Nevertheless, some questions still remain to be dealt with, such as those involving the position of the Popular Republic of Korea. The President clearly

reiterated the firmness of the IOC's commitments with regard to Seoul and pointed out that the IOC sought conditions that would enable this country to participate in the Games of the XXIVth Olympiad which must be the Games of Unity.

This visit to Hanoi also enabled President Samaranch to meet a number of important people in Vietnam, among them Mr. Pham Van Dong, President of the Council of Ministers, as well as Mr. Ta Quang Chien, President of the NOC, and Mr. Mai Van Muon, Vice-President and Secretary General.



The President of the IOC is received in audience by Mr. Pham Van Dong, President of the Council of Ministers of Vietnam ; he is accompanied by Mr. Ta Quang Chien, President of the NOC.