

## INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF SPORTS MUSEUM DIRECTORS

It was in the particularly pleasant and friendly setting of the Hotel School at Chalet-à-Gobet above Lausanne that the President of the International Olympic Committee, Juan Antonio Samaranch, officially opened this first International Meeting of Sports Museum Directors. The Lausanne authorities, represented by Mr. Michel Pitet, Municipal Councillor, and the Hotel School represented by Mr. Jean Chevallaz, Director, welcomed all the participants and wished them every success in their work.

The team from Olympic Museum, responsible for this important event, carried out its task to perfection, providing those taking part in the congress with excellent organisation and discussions which entirely came up to their expectations.

The programme, which was a full one, was based on three main themes:

- the problems specifically associated with the creation and operation of a sports museum;
- the technical aspects of conservation of certain items;
- the relationship between art and sport.

These themes were covered by 16 speakers from ten countries, who gave talks which were often very dense and gave rise to fascinating discussions.

After three days of working sessions, the participants adopted the following final resolutions:

### FINAL RESOLUTIONS

The first World Meeting of Sports Museum Directors, held in Lausanne from 27th to 29th November 1985, was attended by 84 participants from 35 countries covering all 5 continents. All of them unanimously welcomed the opportunity provided by the meeting to get to know each other better and to consider together their respective and common problems.

They expressed their satisfaction and warm gratitude to the International Olympic Committee, especially to its President H.E. Juan Antonio Samaranch, for the splendid initiative which, they felt, had served to affirm decisively the cultural value of Sport Museums.

After expressing deep appreciation of their hospitable welcome and the excellent working conditions provided, the participants adopted the following resolutions:

- This Meeting will only become truly meaningful if it is given lasting extension. The World Meeting of Sports Museum Directors must now hold meetings at regular intervals.
- Future Meetings must focus on precise themes prepared in advance and bearing on such subjects as training staff, financing, data processing, preparing and showing travelling exhibitions, etc.
- The Lausanne discussions highlighted a number of common concerns as well as specific problems, so it is desirable that a first practical publication be issued, containing advisory notes regarded as most likely to be of direct assistance in setting up and developing Sports Museums.
- The participants express the hope that the International Olympic Committee will in future encourage the Organising Committee of Summer and Winter Olympic Games to consider favourably any requests for material submitted by accredited Sports Museums.

— This meeting having demonstrated the prime importance of more continuous contacts, it is suggested that a working group be formed. It will be responsible for drawing up a draft constitution for the World Association of Sports Museum Directors, the principle of which is unanimously adopted. Such an Association can only be conceived as closely linked to the International Olympic Committee, and will be responsible for organising the next Meeting.

As part of the meeting, the participants were officially received by the City of Lausanne at the Mon Repos Villa, formerly the headquarters of the International Olympic Committee, the site of the Olympic Museum and the residence of Baron Pierre de Coubertin. They also had the opportunity to visit the temporary Olympic Museum.

On the final afternoon, an excursion took those who took part in the conference to Vevey where they were received at the Alimentation Museum.

Lastly, to close this important meeting, Mr. Raymond Gafner, Administrateur délégué, hosted an official dinner for all of the participants, on behalf of the International Olympic Committee and its President.

In the coming months, the Olympic Review will publish some of the papers. from this interesting conference.

