

It is with a sense of building excitement that the International Olympic Committee gathers for its 92nd Session in Istanbul. The important task ahead of us will be done in the spirit of cordial fraternity to which we have grown accustomed.

Let us look towards our immediate objective: the next Olympic Games. A momentous step nearer this goal was made in early February, when the invitations were sent out to the XVth Winter Games in Calgary. The list of replies from countries keen to participate is constantly growing.

In September, the invitations to the Games of the XXIVth Olympiad will be sent out to an equally promising reception. We will hear confirmation that Seoul is confident of its readiness as host.

We have also been welcomed most handsomely in Istanbul, at a crossroads of continents, in this country which became involved so quickly with the early modern Olympic Movement.

We owe a debt of thanks to the Turkish Olympic Committee for arranging the Session with such efficiency and concern for detail. Coordinating and dealing so successfully with all the technical and organizational demands that a session makes is no mean feat of achievement. I hope that our esteemed colleague, Mr. Turgut Atakol, President of the Turkish Olympic Committee, will accept these thanks on our behalf and duly extend them to all those who have played a role in the preparations for this Session.

*Juan Antonio Samaranch
President of the IOC*

