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## National Committees

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### AFGHANISTAN

Mr. Nematullah Mangal, recently elected NOC Secretary General, is a Master of Sport, a graduate of the Institute of Physical Education of Moscow. He is a seasoned handballer, with fourteen years' experience of the sport.



### AUSTRIA

Erich Kamper, the sports historian, received the Olympic Order on 27th November in recognition of his services to the Olympic Movement over the last sixty years. Mr. Philipp von Schoeller, IOC Member in Austria, presented him with the award at the NOC's annual general meeting, warmly praising the dedicated scholarship of Mr. Kamper, whose works include a remarkable trilogy of Olympism : "Lexikon der Olympischen Winterspiele" (Dictionary of Olympic Winter Sports), its companion for the Summer Sports "Enzyklopädie der Olympischen Somerspiele" and a "Who's Who" of Olympic medallists already in its second edition, "Lexikon der 14,000 Olympioniken", all of which have received widespread critical acclaim.

*Mr. Philipp von Schoeller, on the left, presents Mr. Erich Kamper with the Olympic Order.*



□ Sixty-seven Austrian Olympic medallists assembled in Vienna for a special ceremony following the meeting in the Old Town Hall : the presentation of the very first IOC Olympic Pins. These have been distributed by the IOC to all the NOCs who have sent in the names of their Olympians.



### COSTA RICA

The NOC inaugurated its new headquarters on 17th October. The address is now San Rafael de Escazú, Urbanización Palermo, P.O. Box 5388, 1000, San Jose. Telex : 1050 RACSA CON and telephone : 28 97 12 or 28 97 12. The new spacious premises, ceded by the Ministry of Public Works, following an agreement with the NOC, are well-equipped with a computer room, specialist sports library, conference room and offices for the medical commission and administrative staff.

Opening celebrations included a run by medal-winning athletes from the Vth Central American Games, the XVth Central American and Caribbean Games and the Xth Panamerican Games. President were the NOC President, Mr. Jorge Nery Carvajal ; the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport, Mr. Carlos Francisco Echeverría ; the head of the Ministry of Public Works, Mr. Guillermo Constenla; the Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Livestock, Mr. Oswaldo Pandolfo



*The new home of the Costa Rican NOC.*

and the President of the NOC of Guatemala and of the Central American Sports Organization (ORDECA), Mr. Willi Kaltschmitt.

The move to the new location came shortly after the passing of a law granting the NOC legal status and the right to protect the Olympic symbol. It also enables individuals and groups, both public and private, to make tax deductible donations to the committee.

All in all, an excellent end to the year. Indeed, the NOC calls it "a rebirth thirty-four years after its foundation" !



## DJIBOUTI

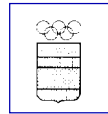
In memory of Ydnekatcheou Tessema, the late IOC Member in Ethiopia and President of the African Confederation of Football, a special commemorative sports event was held on 4th December in Djibouti. Many football teams had come to pay their respects to the man who had done so much for the sport in Africa. A minute's



*The Minister of Youth and Sports, Mr. Omar Chirdon Abass, meeting the teams.*

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silence was observed and then the tribute assumed the form he would have appreciated best : a friendly football match. The new Minister of Youth, Sport and Cultural Affairs, Mr. Omar Chirdon Abass, was present.



## SPAIN



*Above, the Prince of Asturias presents one of the annual awards named after him in the British athlete Sebastian Coe, the first time that sport has been included as a prize winning category (OR 242), King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia of Spain, on the right, applaud the winner.*

The IOC President posthumously awarded the Olympic Order to Juan de la Llera Trens in Barcelona on 13th December 1987. The former member of COOB'92, who was President and Vice-President respectively of the Catalan and the Spanish gymnastics federations, had died in a car accident several days previously. Messrs. Pasquall Maragall, Mayor of Barcelona and Carlos Ferrer Salat, NOC President, were amongst the large number of sports personalities who gathered to pay their last respects.



## ETHIOPIA

Mr. Tsegaw Ayele, NOC President, Senior Vice-President of the Association of African National Olympic Committee and Minister of Regional Affairs in Ethiopia, was presented with a gold medal by the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa at its General Meeting in Abuja (NGR) from 27th to 29th November 1987. He was also made a life member in recognition of his outstanding services to sport in Africa.



## FINLAND

The 1st and 2nd December 1987 saw a double celebration : the opening session of the Finnish Olympic Academy and the eightieth anniversary of the NOC.

Mr. Carl-Olaf Homen, NOC President, welcomed forty people involved in physical education and a hundred representatives of national sports organizations and the mass media to the Finlandia Hall in Helsinki. Mr. Kosti Raspinera, Secretary General, noted in a brief address that the NOC had been inspired by the International Olympic Academy in Olympia (GRE) and intended this national model to play a full part in the educational role of the Olympic Movement, which "strives to strengthen the friendship and mutual understanding of people representing different cultures, races, religions and religious systems".

The past, present and future of Olympism were treated during the day : Professor Norbert Müller (FRG) gave a lecture on "Pierre de Coubertin, Reformer of the Olympic Games", Mr. Peter Spear of OCO'88 on "Olympic Opportunities for Youth in Calgary" and Mrs. Irina Smirnov of the USSR State Sports Council on "Educational Values of Olympic Principles". A specifically national flavour was added by Prof. Helge

Nygren (FIN) in her "Olympic Movement and Finnish Identity", which was continued on the following day with Prof. Pauli Vuolle's (FIN) "Finnish Point of View on the International Olympic Movement".

A ceremony to mark the NOC's eightieth anniversary took place on the following day. After the president's review of "The Finnish Olympic Committee Yesterday and Today" and musical and dramatic performances which included "The Laurel of Hellas" by the Finnish National Theatre, the Archbishop of the Church of Finland, John Vikström, spoke on "The Identity of Sports".



## FRANCE

We have learned of the nomination of Messrs. Fernand Sastre and Rene David, NOC Vice-Presidents, to the grades of Officer and Chevalier respectively of the French Legion of Honour, announced in the New Year's Honours List. We send them our warmest congratulations.



## GREAT BRITAIN

Fatima Whitbread, the world javelin title-holder, has been named Sportswoman of the Year for the second year running in a poll carried out by the Sportswriters Association of Great Britain. Laura Davies, the golfer, came second in the voting, with Priscilla Welch, the marathon runner, third. Nick Faldo won the Sportsman of the Year award, with fellow golfer Ian Woosnam second and Terry Marsh, boxer, third.

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### INDIA

Mr. B. S. Adityan and Mr. Randhir Singh were elected NOC President and Secretary General respectively at a special general assembly held on 27th October.

The 11nd National Games were inaugurated by the President of India on 20th December in Trivandrum in the Kerala province. Approximately seven thousand people took part in this, the biggest sports event of the year in India, comprising the twenty-five disciplines recognized by the NOC. This is also the largest participation in the history of these games, one indication of the fact that people are becoming more and more enthusiastic about sport in India.

"Raju", the games' mascot, a smiling tiger with its hands folded, has proved very popular with schoolchildren. The Indian Prime Minister was present at the closing ceremony on 28th December 1987.



### ITALY

The sports documentary "Il custode" (The Keeper), produced by the Italian Rowing Federation and directed by Anna Gasco, won two awards at the International Festival of Sports Cinematography which took place in Heviz (HUN) from 19th to 24th October : the CIDALC prize (a European organisation involved in the cinema broadcast of the arts and literature) and also the prize of the National Federation of Hungarian Journalists. Another Italian director, Piergentino Marini, won the prize of the town of Zalaegerszeg for a film he made for FISA called "Il Tempo degli Eroi" (The Time of the Heroes). Both films had already been successful at the recent Turin Sports Cinema Festival. One hundred and twenty films in all, from thirty or so countries, were pre-

sented at the festival in Heviz, whose panel of judges was presided over by the highly respected Hungarian director Miklos Jancso.



### LAOS

The second National Games took place in the central province of Savannakhet from 22nd November to 2nd December 1987. The NOC was actively involved in their organization, with the President, Mr. Singkapo Sikhotchounamaly, as an advisor on the organizing committee. Nearly 1300 athletes from all five regional groups and representing every province in the country, competed in athletics, badminton, basketball, boxing, canoeing, cycling, shooting, football, table tennis, volleyball and kato, a game played with a cane. Several records from the previous games held in the capital of Vientiane in 1985 were broken, mostly in athletics.

The third games will take place in Pakse in the southern province of Champassak in 1990.

The NOC is also planning a ten kilometre Olympic Day Run for 1988.



### LEBANON

The President of the Republic of Lebanon, Mr. Amine Gemayel and his wife attended the funeral of their uncle, the late Sheikh Gabriel Gemayel, IOC Member in Lebanon, in his native town of Bicfaya. Numerous representatives of government and the world of sport were present.

Mr. Hussein Sejaan, the former NOC Vice-President, has now replaced Sheikh Gemayel as the President of the NOC. Mr. Toni Khouri, Executive Member becomes Vice-President and will lead the delegation to the Winter Games in Calgary.



## LIECHTENSTEIN



Mr. Louis Oehri is the new Secretary General of the NOC. Born in 1941, he has always been keen on football and cycling, becoming President of the local football club at the age of seventeen. Also member of a cycling club since 1958, he has headed

the organising committee of various international road races. He was President of the Liechtenstein Cycling Association for six years from 1973 to 1979 and sat on the board for the following three years. As a member of the NOC since 1973, he had special responsibilities for the cycling federation and was also treasurer for eleven years. Mr. Oehri has been involved in the Liechtenstein "Sports Aid Organisation" and the Lake Constance International Cycling and Motor-Cycling Association. His present job is as Vice-Director of a trust company.



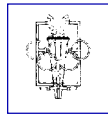
## NIGER



Mr. Sidi Koutoubi, who took up the functions of President of the NOC at the General Assembly on 23rd May (see Olympic Review N° 238), has had a long career in military service and has also worked in the Ministry of Information and Prefect of the town of Niamey.

His holds the honorary title of Commander of the National Order of Niger.

Mr. Tahoua Aboubacar Agalheir, the new Secretary General, worked as National Basketball Technical Director and Assistant to the Head of Physical Education and Sports from 1974 to 1976. He took over as Head of School and University Sport from 1978 to 1979, when he became Director of Physical Education and Sport. In 1982, he became Director of the National Institute at Niamey. Five years later, he became Secretary General of the Niger Basketball Federation until he took over his present position. He is a Knight of the Order of Merit.



## POLAND

Mr. Alexander Kwasniewski has been appointed President of the newly-created Central Office of Youth and Physical Culture. A thirty-two-year-old graduate of Gdansk University, he was previously Minister for Youth and before that editor in chief of a publication called "Sztandard Młodych" (Flag of Youth). Several months ago, he gave an interview given to a sports magazine in which he expressed his views on sport.



*Robert Gadocha, footballer, Olympic gold medallist in 1972, encouraging young Polish sportsmen.*

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He feels it is essential that young people in Poland are interested in and practise sport in order to use their free time intelligently. To encourage this, the club network must develop and the range of activities on offer become more varied. Sport and physical activity are an important part of the fight against alcoholism and drug abuse and so facilities must be made available in both new towns and small villages. A survey has calculated that fifty one per cent of young people believe they do not have enough time for sport. This is due mainly to the lack of centres and equipment — it is hoped that in the near future sufficient balls, skis, sports clothes, etc. will be available for all standards of players. Young people need to be encouraged to make sport a habit.



### PORTUGAL

The Portuguese NOC is taking a strong line on problems affecting modern youth, often particularly vulnerable and easy to influence. Youth support initiatives are a vital part of the NOC's work, concerned not only with talent-spotting, but with integrating sports into the school curriculum, and with activities such as youth camps, recommended for the Games in Article 71 of the Olympic Charter. Events such as the "Jeux de l'Avenir" (FRA), the Giochi de la Gioventù (ITA), the



*Getting the young side of sport.*

"Spartakiades" (GDR) and its own "Operation Jeunesse" have received encouraging responses. Youth awards are another means of setting a good example to youngsters, giving them something positive for which to aim. The NOC has made a proposal to the ENOC that a Youth Commission be set up in similar fashion to the other five commissions in the continental association, recommending its active participation in the youth camp in Seoul and a youth campaign for the 1989 to 1992 Olympic cycle.



### GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

The evening of 19th December 1987 saw the presentation of the GDR's "Junge Welt" newspaper's 35th annual sporting awards at the Berlin sports and recreation centre. Television cameras and reporters from 11 countries were at the ceremony which was spectacularly opened by a display of abseiling by members of the GDR's alpine climbing team. Two of the three top awards went to track and field athletics ; Torsten Voss, world decathlon champion, was voted "Sportsman of the Year", and the accolade of "Sportswoman of the Year" went to Silke Möller-Gladisch, the fastest woman in the world in 1987. The award for the "Team of the Year" went to the women's national volleyball team, captained by 21 year old Grit Jensen.

Many famous names were to be seen at this gala evening which was also a celebration of the GDR's many successes in the field of sport in 1987, notably where athletics are concerned. One of the evening's special guests was living legend Bob Beamon from the USA, holder of the world long jump record for the past 19 years, accompanied by his wife Robin. It was a fine occasion, too, for the many young sports fans who had come to see their heroes and collect their autographs.



*Sports retrospective in Ploiesti.*



## RUMANIA

The NOC has adopted a policy of helping and encouraging sports institutions in various areas of the country to show collections of the history of sport in Rumania. Ploiesti, administrative centre of the Prahova department, was the latest city, after Brasov and Focsani, to take the initiative by putting on a large exhibition at the end of 1987 chronicling sport in the region through the years. It began with souvenirs of a local football team which became one of the first national champions back in 1912, going right up to present day stars such as the world record holder in 50 m freestyle, swimmer Tamara Costache and world gymnastic champion, Celestina Popa, both of whom attend school in Ploiesti. More than 20,000 visitors in two weeks went to see the sports trophies, cups, medals, diplomas, statuettes, pennants, insignia and stamps on display.



## EL SALVADOR

The new President of the NOC, Mr. **Melecio Eduardo Rivero**, played table tennis for the national team from 1954 to 1957 and 1965 to 1967, during which period he took part in all the Central American championships. He was involved in swimming administration from 1975 to 1978 before becoming President of the national table tennis federation in 1983. In this capacity, he headed the Organizing Committee of the 12th Central American Table Tennis Cham-

pionships and was San Salvador's delegate at many international congresses. Mr. Rivera sits on the equipment committee of the International Table Tennis Federation and is Vice-President of the Ibero-American Table Tennis Confederation. Aged 49, he is a civil engi-



neer and company director who has held various technical posts in the Ministry of Public Works.

Mr. **José Antonio Guandique**, recently elected Secretary General, is a forty-four year old agronomist and company director who was a keen basketball player while at university. He played in the national student basketball championships in 1959 and 1960 and was



President of the Association of Central American and Panamanian Students and of the committee that organized its first matches. Since 1984, Mr. Guandique has devoted much of his time to bowls, and at present is president of both the national and central American federations.



## SIERRA LEONE

Mr. Alfred Reginald Sankoh, NOC Secretary General, born in 1941, began his career as a primary school sports teacher in Sierra Leone. After spending a year at Leeds University (GBR) in 1966 studying for his diploma in physical education, he returned to lecture at a teacher train-

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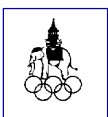
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ing college in Magburaka. Appointed as a P.E. supervisor in the Civil Service in 1971 and then acting administrative head of the Ministry of Education's P.E. Unit in 1974, one of his tasks was to draw up the sports syllabus for schools and teacher training colleges. In

1978, he went to Canada to begin a three year Bachelor of Arts degree in sports administration and sociology at Laurentian University (CAN). He came back to Sierra Leone in 1980 to become increasingly involved in the administration of the NOC and of the national football and basketball associations, working on various committees and attending many national and international sports conferences before being elected to his present position.



### THAILAND

King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand received the Golden Olympic Order from IOC Member Dawee Chullasapya in a ceremony at the Chitralada Palace in Bangkok on 14th December 1987. Over five hundred people were present at the televised ceremony, a tribute to a great patron of Thai sport, who has done much to raise sports consciousness in the country. In his speech of acceptance, King Bhumibol emphasized the importance of sport for physical and mental well-being and the progress made nationally over the last twenty to thirty years. He praised the large-scale efforts being made for further development, and the initiatives of both government and private sector.



### USSR

The first session of the Soviet Olympic Academy was held at the end of 1987. Amongst over three hundred participants, were the two IOC Members in the USSR, Mr. Vitaly Smirnov and Mr. Constantin Andrianov, as well as top athletes and coaches, teachers and scientists, all working in the field of international sport and Olympism. Over a hundred foreign athletes and coaches also attended.

The main reports, on "Tasks and Prospects in the Work of the Soviet Olympic Academy", were presented by Mr. Smirnov, member of the IOC Executive Board and Mr. Victor Igumenov, President of the Academy and former world champion in Graeco-Roman wrestling. At present, the latter works as Rector of the State Central Institute for Physical Education in Moscow. Amongst the other lecturers were Mr. Yuri Titov, NOC Secretary General and President of the International Gymnastic Federation and Mr. Vladimir Salnikov, triple swimming Olympic gold medallist at the Games in Moscow in 1980.

The Academy Charter was approved, along with the 1988 working plan and its executive committee, which numbers eleven and includes Mr. Smirnov, Mr. V. Zatsiorsky and Mr. A. Kislov as Vice-Presidents and Mr. V. Stolbov as academic secretary.



### URUGUAY

Mr. Julio César Maglione succeeds Mr. Jose D. Vallarino Veracierto in the post of President of the Uruguayan NOC. Mr. Vallarino Veracierto, IOC Member in Uruguay, was NOC President from 1976.

Mr. Maglione is Director of the Uruguayan Commission for Physical Education and Member of the International Amateur Swimming Federation (FINA).