
CLOSING SPEECH BY H.R.H. THE GRAND DUKE OF LUXEMBOURG, DOYEN OF THE IOC

In accordance with tradition, it is my duty as doyen of this assembly, to make the closing speech at the end of our work here.

Today, the Olympic Movement has seen a world-wide expansion unequalled by any other international organization. There is no country in the world which does not know about Olympism or the symbol of the five interlinked rings.

Of all the numerous problems which President Samaranch has tackled with courage and determination since his election to the Presidency, I shall limit myself to mentioning only three, but three which are, for us, of paramount importance.

I should first of all like to pay tribute to the Medical Commission, which since its inception, has, under the leadership of Prince Alexandre de Merode, with the assistance of a group of

renowned experts, achieved a remarkable amount of work in fighting the scourge of doping which has for many years been putting our young athletes at risk. We ask all the members of this important commission to employ all possible scientific means to win a definitive victory against this formidable enemy of the whole of mankind.

During my last visit to Lausanne, to our headquarters at Vidy and the Olympic Villa, I was impressed by the ambitious plans for the future Olympic Museum which will be built in the marvellous park in Ouchy. I should like to congratulate the developers and architects who will enable us to house there our rich stores of historical documents and information, our archives, a specialist library and an audiovisual department. Future generations will be grateful to us for it.

Concerning the thorny problem of admission, since the Session in Istanbul the IOC has passed a major turning point in the history of Olympism. Our colleague, Alexandru Siperco, reminded us with quotations from Pierre de Coubertin that the founder of the Olympic Movement was well aware of the ambiguity in the notion of amateurism. As I stated in my closing remarks of the 91st Session in Lausanne, we must increasingly get back to the fundamental values of Olympism, namely non-discrimination, non-violence and a spirit of gallantry.

My dear Colleagues, before I finish and hand over to sport, I should like once again on behalf of everyone to congratulate President Samaranch for having conducted the debates of this Session with the authority and tact we have come to expect, and to thank the Executive Board and our Canadian friends on the Organizing Committee for the vast amount of work that went into preparing for this important Session here in Calgary.

H.R.H. the Grand Duke Jean de Luxembourg in conversation with H.M. King Constantine and the Lord Killanin, Honorary Life President of the IOC.



Grand Duke of Luxembourg



First row, from left to right : Messrs. Jan Staubo, Francisco Elizalde, Anthony Bridge, Mrs. Flor Isava Fonseca, Messrs. Mohamed Zerguini, Masaji Kiyokawa, Wajid Ali, General Pereira de Castro, Hadj Mohammed Benjelloun, Messrs. Wlodzimierz Reczek, Maurice Herzog, Pedro Ramirez Vázquez, Lord Luke, Dr. Eduardo Hay, Messrs. Alexandru Siperco, James Worrall, Lamine Keita, João Havelange, Mohamed Mzali, Matts Carlgren, Louis Guirandou N'Diaye, Phillip Coles, Sir Lance Cross, Virgilio de Leon.

Second row, seated : Messrs. Vitaly Smirnov, Zhenliang He, Richard Pound, Berthold Beitz, the Lord Killanin, President Juan Antonio Samaranch, H.R.H. Jean de Luxembourg, Mr. Raymond Gafner, Prince Alexandre de Merode, Judge Keba Mbaye, Messrs. Marc Hodler, Kevan Gosper, Chiharu Igaya, Mrs. Françoise Zweifel.

Third row, from left to right : Messrs. Seiuli Paul Wallwork, Philip von Schoeller, Gunnar Ericsson, Peter Tallberg, Princess Nora de Liechtenstein, H.S.H. Prince Albert of Monaco, Mrs. Pirjo Haggman, Messrs. Pal Schmitt, Vladimir Cernusak, Mrs. Anita Defrantz, Messrs. Ashwini Kumar, Lambis Nikolaou Anton Geesink, Bashir Attarabulsi, Jean-Claude Ganga, General Henry Adefope, Messrs. Roberto Peper, Un Yong Kim, Henry Hsu, German Rieckehoff, Shagdarjav Magvan, Ivan Dibos, H.M. King Constantine, Anani Matthia, Prof. René Essomba, Messrs. José Vallarino Veracierto, Ivan Slavkov, Yu Sun Kim, Nikos Filaretos, Robert Helmick, Dr. Kevin O'Flanagan Messrs. Manuel Gonzalez Guerra, Gunther Heinze, Roque Napoleon Muñoz Peña, David Sibandze, Willi Daume, Reginald Alexander, General Niels Holst-Sorensen, Mrs. Mary-Alison Glen-Haig, Mr. Giorgio de Stefani.

Not appearing in the photograph : Major Sylvio de Magalhaes Padilha, Messrs. Turgut Atakol and Slobodan Filipovic. Absent : Raja Bhalendra Singh, Count Jean de Beaumont, Messrs. Ahmed Touny, Augustin Carlos Arroyo, Air Chief Marshal Dawee Chullasapya, Lieutenant-General Dadang Suprayogi, Datuk Seri Hamzah, Sheikh Fahad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Mr. Franco Carraro, Prince Faisal Fahd Abdul Aziz.