

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE IOC: PROGRAMME, DOPING AND APARTHEID ON THE AGENDA

The Executive Board of the IOC met for first time since Seoul in its new form, and Messrs. Gunnar Ericsson and Un Yong Kim were officially introduced. Three important subjects were on the agenda of this three-day meeting: the programme of the 1992 Olympic Games, the fight against doping and the problem of apartheid in sport.



First meeting of the IOC Executive Board since Seoul, with Messrs. Ericsson and Kim making their first appearance as members.

As we already announced in our November edition, No. 253, the number of sports in Barcelona in 1992 will increase from 23 to 25, since baseball and badminton have been included on the official programme. At the same time, judo for women as well as the following events will also feature: the 10 km walk for women and another women's event, the single handed dinghy. Exceptionally, it is possible that there will be four canoe slalom events to take advantage of the available facilities required.

There were 21 sports on the programme in Los Angeles in 1984. Four years

later in Seoul there were 23, and this will now increase to 25. The total number of events has also evolved, increasing from 221 in 1984 to 237 in 1988 and a planned 255 in Barcelona. The introduction of these new sports and events always raises the question of the growth of the Olympic programme. As far as the next Winter Games in Albertville are concerned, the Executive Board approved the introduction of the women's biathlon and short track speed skating for both men and women. Also accepted was the mogul event in acrobatic skiing. A modification in the cross-country ski events which would lead to a more even distribution between the free style

and traditional techniques was recommended. The commission will continue to examine the programme at its meeting with the International Federations governing winter sports in January. The final programme will be submitted for approval at the 95th IOC Session to be held in Puerto Rico this August.

The Albertville OCOG is delighted about the introduction of these new events and believes this will be a further asset in the attraction of the Games in general. Mr Michel Barnier, Co-President of the OCOG, noted that the biathlon would take place at Les Saisies, acrobatic skiing in Tignes as planned, and short track speed skating in Albertville. "The question of deleting weightlifting and boxing from the Olympic programme is not on the agenda" the IOC President stressed. The International Weightlifting Federation has taken a strong stance in the fight against doping, and as far as boxing was concerned, an international commission consisting of twelve experts from leading medical institutions would be undertaking a specific study on the dangers of practising this sport. Research made in this connection has, to date, produced contradictory conclusions.

The Athletes' Commission made strong anti-doping recommendations to the Executive Board.



MOBILE LABORATORY TO BE SET UP

Prince Alexandre de Mérode, Chairman of the IOC Medical Commission, has received the go-ahead from the Executive Board to create an international team of medical experts who will be in charge of unscheduled anti-doping controls. The principle was approved by the Sports Ministers who met in Moscow last November under the auspices of Unesco (OR No. 254). During the press conference which followed these meetings, the IOC President stressed that the mobile laboratory, financed by the IOC, would mainly be at the disposal of developing countries and those countries too far away from accredited laboratories. The President believed that the disqualification of the Canadian athlete Ben Johnson had made the public much more aware of the problem of doping, but nevertheless underlined that he had faith in the future, saying "I am convinced that we can win the battle against doping since after the tremendous success of the Games in Seoul, with 39,000 members of the Olympic family and including 10,000 sponsors, we are stronger, more respected and more united than ever."

During the joint meeting of ANOC and the IOC, the President of the NOC of the German Democratic Republic, Mr. Manfred Ewald gave yet more weight to the IOC President's convictions by announcing his country's wish to be included in the bilateral anti-doping plan whose basis was agreed upon by the Soviet Union and the United States of America last November (OR No. 254). This attitude was generally seen as highly positive, but each party was aware that the fight against doping would only be effective if everyone joined forces and above all if the countries with the best sports results showed an example in this area.

ATHLETES COMMISSION

In Vienna, the Athletes Commission also discussed the question of doping before presenting extremely firm recommendations to the Executive Board during their

joint meeting. Among these were, firstly, their renewed appeal for athletes and their trainers convicted of doping to be strictly punished. "We would like to see very clear, uniform sanctions" said Mrs Anita DeFrantz, IOC member in the USA and who is a member of this commission. She added "We said (to the EB) that we should like to designate a group of top-level athletes who would volunteer to undergo random doping tests in order to set an example to the others". The problem of being better informed regarding the problem is also a crucial one, as Mrs DeFrantz noted. "There are still a large number of doctors who do not really understand the danger in the drugs they prescribe". It is for this reason that the Commission proposed the publication of an explanatory brochure intended for all those concerned — athletes, doctors and trainers. Apart from doping, the Athletes Commission discussed the question of the judging of competitions which had raised a number of problems during the Games in Seoul, particularly in boxing. Mr. Peter Tallberg, IOC member in Finland and Chairman of the Commission, said "It is a bad thing for athletes who have trained hard for years to see victory escape them because of biased or poor judging. It is for this reason that we have requested that measures be taken which would improve the different systems of judging".

AGAINST APARTHEID

The "Apartheid and Olympism" Commission, which met for the first time in Vienna, drew up several recommendations adopted by the Executive Board. The International Sports Federations which still maintained relations with South Africa, notably the FIT and the FIG, would be asked what steps they intended to take in order to avoid having their athletes take part in competitions or exhibitions in this country. H.E. Mr. Kéba M'Baye, Chairman of the Commission, stated in his report presented at the joint NOC-IOC meeting: "We will contact the International Sports Federations in order that they warn their members that they cannot take part in the Olympic Games if they have competed in South



Africa". The NOCs should also see that participants at the Games did not enter into sports relations with South Africa.

The commission against apartheid, chaired by H.E. Mr. Kéba Mbaye, held its first meeting in Vienna.

The creation of this commission in June of last year after the conference on "Apartheid and Sport" (OR No. 249) demonstrated the IOC's intention to strengthen its fight against apartheid in sport. The measures taken are to make clear the firm position Olympism is taking against apartheid. Mr. Sam Ramsamy, the head of the SANROC, South Africa's non-racial Olympic Committee, stated that he was extremely pleased with these decisions. "We believe that this will strengthen our position."

The Co-ordination Commissions for the Olympic Games, chaired by Mr. Gunnar Ericsson for the Games in Barcelona and by Mr. Marc Hodler for those in Albertville, reported on all the questions discussed with the respective OCOGs. These reports allow the Executive Board to have a detailed view of the problems facing each OCOG before their visit to the sites scheduled in January for Albertville and in April for Barcelona.

DETAILS ON THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN SEOUL

The Executive Board approved the eighteenth report from the SLOOC which was presented by Mr. Yu Sun Kim, IOC member in Korea. This report gave a number of details on the number of participants: 39,332 accreditations were issued, and 9,421 athletes (6,983 men and 2,438 women) took part in the competitions. The athletes were accompanied by 3,887 officials and 1,529 "support staff". In addition, 16,030 members of the media were active at the sites, as were 26,000 volunteers. These figures, different from those published following the Games, will probably be those which are included in the official report which is to be presented in Puerto Rico.

Regarding the financial results, the Commission announced that the television rights for the Winter and Summer Games in 1988 amounted to 735 million US dollars. For the 1992 Games, the "TOP2" commercialisation programme will begin this year and the IOC will provide the ÖCOGs with the necessary help to issue and sell commemorative medals.

OTHER DECISIONS

Among the decisions taken by the Executive Board we should note the rehabilita-

tion of the Austrian skier Karl Schranz who was prohibited from taking part in competitions because he had earned money from ski manufacturers and other sponsors. The former world triple jump champion, who today is the head of the ski school in his native village of Kitzbühel, received a symbolic participant's medal for the 1972 Games in Sapporo. In addition, the Executive Board chose the Tarrasa site of, near Barcelona, for the Olympic hockey tournament. At the persistent request from FIFA for the Olympic football tournament only to be open to players under 23, the Executive Board will conduct an enquiry among all the NOCs in this connection.

CANDIDATURE

The city of Melbourne, organiser of the Games of the XVIth Olympiad, was once again chosen by the Australian Olympic Association last October as its candidate for the 1996 Games. A delegation headed by Mr. John Cain, Prime Minister of the State of Victoria of which Melbourne is the capital, came to present his project officially to the Executive Board. He was accompanied by Mr. Winsome McCaughey, mayor of the city. This is the sixth city to confirm its candidature for the centenary Games. The other candidates are Athens (GRE), Atlanta (USA), Manchester (GBR), Belgrade (YUG) and Toronto (CAN). The IOC will take its decision in Tokyo in 1990.

Karl Schranz shows his symbolic participant's medal, with (from l. to r.), Messrs. Marc Hodler, FIS President, Juan Antonio Samaranch, IOC President, and Kurt Heller, President of the Austrian NOC.

