

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AND THE SUMMER IFs IN BARCELONA



Before the forty-third meeting with the representatives of the International Summer Olympic Sports Federations in Barcelona on 17th April 1991, the members of the IOC Executive Board met from 13th to 16th April for their second meeting of the year.

Among the major themes covered over these four days were developments in South Africa and, of course, preparation for the Games to be held next year in Barcelona.

TOWARDS THE RETURN OF SOUTH AFRICA

The political situation in South Africa and its developments were reported on in great

detail by the Chairman of the "Apartheid and Olympism" Commission, H.E. Mr Kéba Mbaye, IOC Vice-President and member in Senegal. He visited South Africa from 23rd to 28th March at the head of a delegation made up of Mr Kevan Gosper, IOC Vice-President, H.E. Mr Jean-Claude Ganga and Major-General Henry Adefope, IOC members in the Congo and Nigeria, Messrs François Carrard, IOC Director-General, Lamine Ba, Secretary-General of the SCSA, Edwin Moses, American Olympic champion, and Fékrou Kidane, IOC Adviser for developing countries.

Following this visit, the IOC decided to grant conditional recognition to an interim National Olympic Committee, INOCSA, of which Mr Sam Ramsamy is President and Mr Johan du Plessis Secretary-General. The official and final return cannot take place until South Africa has met the following five conditions :

- abolition of apartheid
- INOCSA must comply with the "Olympic Charter" in its structures and its acts
- INOCSA must develop towards the establishment of the permanent NOC and

encourage normalization of relations between the national federations affiliated to INOCSA and the International Federations concerned.

- pursuit of unification of sports on a non-racial basis
- normalization of relations between INOCSA and the sports organizations in Africa, particularly ANOCA.

Mr Mbaye repeated the assurance given by Mr De Klerk, President of the South African Republic, that the apartheid laws would be fully repealed by the end of June. Once this step has been taken, it would be possible to envisage the sending of an invitation to South African athletes to participate in the Games in 1992, provided the South African Federations have united on a non-racial basis and normalized their relations with their international counterparts. To encourage this development, the Executive Board also approved an important programme of assistance to South African athletes. The ball has therefore been firmly placed in the South Africans' court, as emphasized by IOC President, who added that it is now "their turn to play".



H.E. Mr Kéba Mbaye, optimistic after his visit to South Africa, seen here with (l. to r.) the IOC President and Messrs François Carrard and Richard Pound.

Prince Alexandre de Merode presented the report of the Medical Commission, which he chairs.

A meeting is to be held in July at Olympic House with representatives of the Interim National Olympic Committee of South Africa (INOCSA) to ascertain whether the progress made is sufficient and irreversible.

STEEP RATES

The Executive Board heard the reports of the Organizing Committees of Albertville, Barcelona, Lillehammer 94 and Atlanta 96.



ACOG (Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games), among them Mr A.D. Frazier, newly promoted to Chief Operating Officer.

WOMEN

For the 1996 Games, the Executive Board decided, in order to give women a bigger place, in the spirit of the Olympic Charter approved in Tokyo, to propose an increase to twelve in the number of teams participating in the women's basketball, handball and volleyball tournaments. A softball tournament with eight teams (maximum 120 participants) could also be added to the programme for Atlanta. In synchronized swimming, the solo and duet events will be replaced by a competition between teams of eight. As regards winter sports for the 1998 Games, short-track speedskating and freestyle skiing are to be reviewed and a women's ice hockey tournament is being considered. However, requests for luge and biathlon team medals by addition of the results of the existing events were not accepted. Finally, the Executive Board will recommend to the Session recognition of the International Triathlon Union and the International Amateur Golf Council.



The Organizing Committee of the Games in Atlanta made its first official appearance in Barcelona. Here, Mr Billy Payne giving the first report to the Executive Board, with the two IOC members in the USA, Miss Anita DeFrantz and Mr Bob Helmick.

The rates for accommodation and communications for the Games next year continue to cause the organizers, the Executive Board and the ASOIF serious concern. Although accommodation for athletes and officials in the Olympic villages is now free, this is not the case for journalists, IF representatives, referees and other officials. All the host cities are having the same problems in this area. For Atlanta, the Organizing Committee Chairman Mr Billy Payne, making his first official appearance in this capacity, gave an assurance that Atlanta would provide rooms at affordable prices. Mr Payne was accompanied in Barcelona by a number of members of the

BLOOD TESTS?

In the medical sphere, the Executive Board considered the issue of blood tests, as recommended by the Medical Commission. As its Chairman, Prince Alexandre de Merode, pointed out, in view of the development of doping methods which are no longer detectable by means of a urine test, this type of testing has become a necessity. Given the possibility of philosophical or religious objections to the procedure, Mr Kéba Mbaye has been asked to make a report. The number of accredited anti-doping laboratories (twenty-one at present) continues to grow and their services are increasingly in demand.

CENTENNIAL AND CONGRESS

The Executive Board approved the programme of the XII Olympic Congress to be

held in Paris in 1994 on the occasion of the IOC's centenary. The festivities will begin with a special ceremony on 23rd June to mark the hundredth anniversary of the first Congress organized by Pierre de Coubertin, which led to the creation of the IOC and the restoration of the Games. However, as the Football World Cup will be taking place during that month, it will not be possible to hold such a large-scale sports congress over the same period. The representatives of the world of sport will therefore be getting together in mid-summer, from 29th August to 3rd September. On 4th and 5th, the 102nd IOC Session will conclude this important meeting which will be addressing four main themes: the Olympic Movement and its contribution to modern society, the contemporary athlete, sport in its social context and sport and the media.



The IOC Executive Board and the ASOIF board together on the podium at the meeting on 17th April.