

AIPS CONGRESS IN NICOSIA

The members of the International Sports Press Association met from 14th to 20th April in Nicosia (CYP) for their 54th Congress. The resolution which follows was published at the end of the assembly. It has been given to us by Michéle Verdier, IOC Director of Information, who was present at this important meeting.



The AIPS flag travelled from Toronto, where last year congress was held, to Cyprus.

The participants of the 54th AIPS Congress have agreed to continue the AIPS policy to co-operate with the International Olympic Committee, the International Sport Federations and Organizing Committees in order to ensure that only professional journalists can receive full press accreditation at the Olympic Games and

major international sport events. The Congress stresses that the AIPS card is a guarantee of professional status in sports journalism.

The participants of the Congress express deep concern about some undesirable trends casting shadows on the Olympic Games in Albertville and Barcelona. The AIPS calls on the IOC and the Organizing Committees of the 1992 Summer and Winter Olympic Games to respect the engagements made during the bidding procedure and to reconsider the proposed accommodation prices, the reduced number of press accreditations as well as the unsolved problems of transportation in order to allow the press to carry out their important work under proper conditions in the best possible way.

Concerning the question of the ethics of journalism and the code of conduct for journalists, while admitting that no universal conduct is feasible, the delegates agree that the important basic need to make progress in this important field is proper training for young journalists.

The participants of the AIPS Congress proudly note that the world-wide interest in AIPS keeps growing. The Nicosia Congress represents a milestone in the history of the AIPS. Having admitted the National Sports Writers Associations of Burundi, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Swaziland and Thailand, the AIPS membership now numbers 100 countries.

■ Mr Boris Acquadro (SUI), head of sport for Television Suisse Romande (TSR) and a member of the IOC's Radio and Television Commission, has received France's medal for Youth and Sports, which was presented to him by the French consul in Geneva.

■ Mr Andrés Mercé Varela, the well-known Spanish journalist, and a member of the IOC's Press Commission, has been elected Spanish sports journalist of the year.