



***SPEECH OF MRS GRO HARLEM
BRUNDTLAND, PRIME MINISTER***

Five and a half years ago, I had the privilege of addressing you during your session in Seoul. There, the city of Lillehammer and the whole of

Norway were greatly honoured by being chosen to host the 1994 Olympic Winter Games. Since then, the ties between the International Olympic Committee and Norway have grown stronger. We believe we are well prepared to welcome the youth of the world and the entire Olympic Family to the Games in Lillehammer starting less than a week from now. Arrayed in the robes of winter, and passionate to perform the very best, Lillehammer is well prepared. We have done everything in our power to show that we are equal to the task, and will be presenting the Olympic Winter Games in a spirit of genuine hospitality and with all the enthusiasm and respect befitting the Olympic ideals. We wish to reaffirm and renew the purposes of the Olympic Movement in the year of the Centennial Congress of the IOC, making 1994 truly a year of sport and Olympic achievements.

The Government has assumed wide responsibilities for the financial solidity of the Games, and for new infrastructure, transport facilities, communications and environmental

excellence. The organizing committee has set out to integrate environmental concerns fully into the Games. It has defined clear environmental targets and developed expertise which we hope will be of use to future organizers of Olympic Games or major international championships.

The tasks have been considerable. We were well aware of this in advance and have spared no effort. It is my hope that the Olympic Winter Games of 1994 will go down in history as a solid example that smaller countries and communities too can rise to the challenge of hosting Olympic Games when given the opportunity. Ten years ago, we hoped that the 14th Olympic Winter Games would bring lasting prosperity and progress to the city of Sarajevo, that the ideals that unite the Olympic Movement would contribute to the development of that region, which for centuries had been torn by war and contention between civilisations, empires and religions, and which had only partially been able to enjoy the fruits of tranquillity

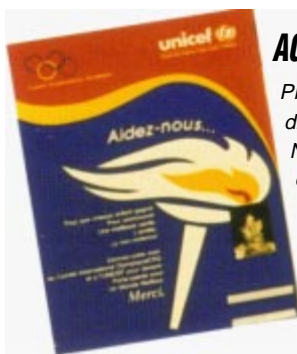
during the lifetime of the Yugoslav state and in the non-aligned movement.

Today, our thoughts go to the people of Sarajevo on whom so much pain and suffering has been inflicted. The Norwegian Government shares with you the hope that, as a first step, the proposition of an Olympic Truce will be respected by all parties concerned. The strangulation of Sarajevo is an affront to the world community and an insult to the Olympic ideal. The Games in Lillehammer cannot force peace upon the troubled regions of the world. They cannot force the Olympic ideal on aggressors or oppressors. But they can be a forceful means of persuading countries and people to use their capabilities in the service of friendly competition, and to aspire beyond perceived limits of human accomplishment.

As we await the arrival of the torch from Olympia, the people of Norway are ready to turn out in vast numbers in support of the Games of which we believe we will have reason to be proud. We expect hundreds of thousands of sports enthusiasts to provide a joyous, spontaneous frame for these Games. We have retained warm memories of the 1952 Games in Oslo for more than 40 years and expect to have equally warm memories of Lillehammer far into the next century. Many of the Olympic winter sports were born in Norway and are part of our national identity. In this spirit we hope that the billions of people following the Games around the world will share the pleasure and excitement on this momentous occasion.

We are grateful to the International Olympic Committee for giving us this opportunity. I wish you all a warm welcome as our guests here in Norway and a most memorable stay in our country.

With this wish, I hereby declare the 102nd Session of the International Olympic Committee open.



AGREEMENT WITH UNICEF

Promoting peace in the world and preserving respect of children's rights are objectives common to the IOC and the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF). In order to make them better known and respected in the world, the two organizations signed a cooperation agreement on 28th January in Lausanne. The Olympic ideal, specially commemorated this year by the UN, aims at promoting peace, noted the IOC, with Mr James P. Grant director.

"[The IOC] has decided to reinforce its collaboration with UNICEF. UNICEF, for its part, supports the efforts of the IOC for the Olympic Truce"; declared Mr François Carrard, IOC Director General, as he outlined this agreement in Lillehammer with Liv Ullmann. the Norwegian actress (right) stressed the suffering of children in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

