

Last year, the IOC distributed 11,264,480 dollars among 195 NOCs through its Olympic Solidarity programme, With 1,835,900 dollars, the continent of Africa was the principal beneficiary of this amount, two-thirds of which (7,414,000 dollars) was slated for the staging of courses for athletes and coaches, organized by the NOCs in cooperation with the IFs. This is what emerges from the 1993 Olympic Solidarity Report which has just been published.

11 million dollars for the NOCs in 1993

The technical sports courses, which are held every year following a precise plan established in advance, are intended to improve the technical education and sporting level of coaches and athletes. In 1993, a total of 404 took place, just under double the figure for the previous year (296 in 1992). They were divided up more or less evenly between the great sporting regions: 90 in Africa, 98 in America, 84 in Asia, 89 in Europe and 43 in Oceania. The largest number of these courses, for which the teachers and coaches are experts designated by the International Federations, were held in athletics (35), followed by volleyball (27), boxing (26), football and hockey (21).

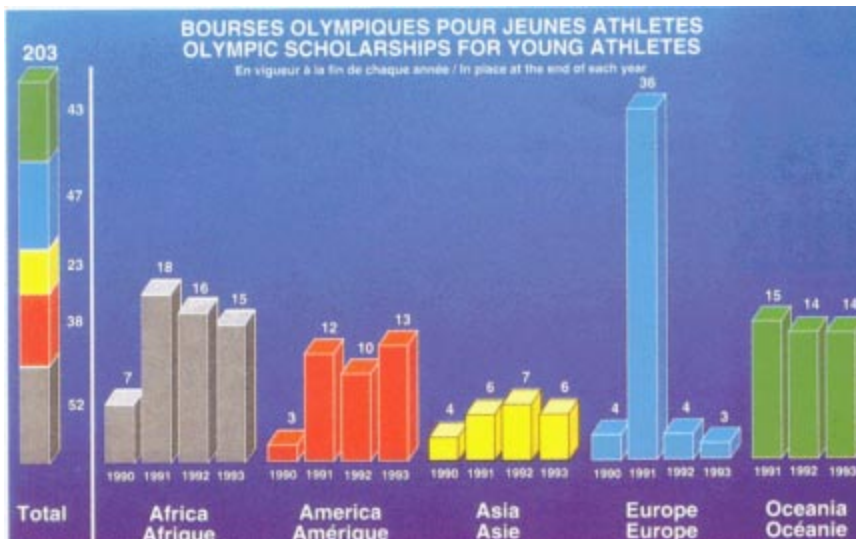
In 1993, the Itinerant School for sports leaders, composed of around 50 English-, French- and Spanish-speaking voluntary instructors, reached the end of its eighth

year of administrative training. A total of 492,445 dollars was spent on this last year, with 55 courses being staged. It is the follow-up which constitutes the chief quality of what is now a recognized institution. Two years after the courses, a follow-up report is made to evaluate the progress and situation of the former participants. Since 1993, it has been possible for some national courses to be led by national directors. Olympic Solidarity is seeking to empower NOC leaders, a majority of whom are now able to take responsibility for training their teams. As Mr Anselmo López stressed in his report *"We realized that the time had come to pass on the responsibility in order that they themselves may continue to spread the information directly to their compatriots"*. The national course directors are selected through their qualifications from previous courses with the itinerant school by an international director designated by Solidarity, in agreement with the NOC concerned.

FOLLOW-UP FOR MARKETING

The success of the marketing courses is another extremely encouraging area which again points to efficient organization. Marketing advisers, also volunteers, offer their services and experience in a field often vital to the survival of the sporting structure of





sion of the International Olympic Academy; support for sports medicine courses in cooperation with the IOC Medical Commission amounted to 207,177 dollars, and 160,500 dollars went on the organization of Sport for All events in the context of Olympic Day on 23rd June.

Solidarity also offers each NOC the chance to benefit from an annual budget to purchase sports equipment, and pays the travel costs for participation in international competitions and meetings.

less favoured countries or those which have recently introduced a market economy. Once the marketing programme has been set up in agreement with the NOC representatives, at their request they receive regular support from a Solidarity adviser assigned to them to launch their programme. Last year, eleven NOCs made use of this service, seven in Africa and four in Asia. In America, the last continent to receive training in this area, no NOC has yet contacted its adviser.

PROMOTING QUALITY TRAINING

The 800m gold-medal win by Maria de Lurdes Mutola of Mozambique - an Olympic scholarship holder since 1990 - at the world athletics championships in Stuttgart last year is a striking example of the success of the Solidarity scholarship programme. In 1993, 51 athletes and 105 coaches benefited from this programme in which a total of 419,565 dollars went to young athletes and 721,167 dollars to coaches.

Direct financial aid to the NOCs is also an important budget item. Solidarity allocated 1343,257 dollars in this way in 1993, with a further 279,406 dollars being spent on helping the NOCs to implement their own marketing programmes. Among the other subsidies, 226,963 dollars covered the costs of young participants at the annual ses-



MEDALS FOR SOLIDARITY SCHOLARS

Three Solidarity scholarship holders in weightlifting from **Cameroon**, training at Avalon in France with the French national coach Jean-Claude Collinot, are showing promising results. Matom Ndicko Samson of Cameroon has come fifth in the Junior World Weightlifting Championship in Cheb in the Czech Republic. He also won two gold medals and a silver of the 9th African Championships in Cape Town, South Africa in April. Alphonse Malam also won two golds and a bronze and Claude Kamden a silver and two bronzes.