

## A SYMBOLIC DECLARATION

A meeting with the presidents of the National Olympic Committees of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Mr Stjepan Kljuic), Croatia (Mr Antun Vrdoljak), the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (Dr. Vasil Tupurkovski), Slovenia (Mr Janez Kocijancic), and Yugoslavia (Mr Aleksandar Bakocevic), took place in Lausanne (SUI) on 19 January 1996, for the purpose of bringing together youth in the region through

sport. Following the debates which were chaired by the IOC, the five delegations signed a symbolic declaration in which they agreed to intensify their cooperation with each other and with all of the other members of the Olympic Movement, for the purpose of developing and strengthening the promotion of Olympism with a view to contributing to building a peaceful and better world pursuant to the Olympic

Charter. As members of the Olympic Movement recognized by the IOC, they reconfirmed their mutual recognition as entirely independent and autonomous organizations. The delegations also welcomed the IOC's invitation to take part in a symbolic basketball Olympic Peace tournament for juniors from 24 to 27 May 1996 in Lausanne, the Olympic Capital, with the participation of a Swiss

team, in order to foster long-standing sport relations for future generations. The delegates also fully supported the IOC's decision to provide substantial economic assistance for the reconstruction of certain Olympic sport facilities in Sarajevo, host of the XIV Olympic Winter Games in 1984, under the coordination of the National Olympic Committee of Bosnia and Herzegovina.



*The IOC decided to attribute to the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) the exclusive European broadcasting rights for the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad in 2000 in Sydney (AUS) for the amount of US \$350 million, and for the Olympic Winter Games in 2002 in Salt Lake City (USA) for the amount of US \$120. It also decided to attribute to the EBU the European broadcasting rights for the Games of the Olympiad in 2004 (US \$394 million), the Olympic Winter Games in 2006 (US \$135 million) and the Games of the Olympiad in 2008 (US \$443 million). After careful study of financially higher offers, the IOC chose to make these agreements with the EBU, its partner since the Games of the Olympiad in Rome in 1960. These decisions were taken based on the EBU's experience and expertise, and on the interest of the Olympic Movement and all viewers in Europe (including Eastern Europe), North Africa and the Middle East. In addition to the extensive free coverage provided, EBU broadcasts are of high quality, especially in terms of production. Furthermore, the EBU has demonstrated an important contribution and commitment to the continued promotion of the Olympic Movement and all Olympic sports. From left to right, Albert Scharf, President of the EBU, the IOC President and Marc Hodler, vice-president of the IOC responsible for television rights negotiations for Europe, during the signing of the contract on 31 January 1996 in Lausanne.*