

# HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

The Nagano Olympic Peace Appeal is part of the XVIII Olympic Winter Games' effort to stage a festival of peace and friendship and to further the international cause of world peace. A number of programmes have been launched in the humanitarian field as part of the Appeal, including the Nagano Olympic Harmony Fund, the proceeds of which will be used to provide children in war-affected regions with school materials and sport equipment.

A call to remove the estimated 110 million antipersonnel landmines which continue to claim thousands of victims every month, will be launched with the participation of Chris Moon as one of the final torchbearers in the Nagano Olympic Winter Games Torch Relay. An expert in demining, Moon was injured while deactivating a landmine in Mozambique for the British non-governmental organization Halo Trust.

Seven main projects comprise the many and varied activities taking place in Nagano to promote peace and raise awareness of humanitarian concerns. They are:

### **Nagano Olympic Peace Appeal posters**

Three posters, designed by art director Masuteru Aoba and illustrator Zenji

Funabashi, will be on display at Olympic venues at peace appeal locations.

### **Olympic Charity Walk in Nagano**

With representatives of the IOC and NAOC joining the general public, this 2km-5km walk aims to collect funds for charitable use. Broadly supported by the Japanese government, the United Nations Information Centre, and various Japanese associations, this walk-a-thon will also be joined by the Snowlets and elementary school pupils participating in Nagano's One School, One Country programme.

### **Olympic Charity Walk in Tokyo**

This event will set out on a 2km-10km course starting in front of the Yuhinoto ("Sunset tower") monument in Shiokaze Park on the Tokyo Waterfront.

### **Nagano Olympic Peace Appeal exhibition**

Two exhibitions to promote the removal and eradication of landmines will be held at different locations in Nagano.

### **Nagano Olympic Peace Appeal auction**

On each of the sixteen days the XVIII Olympic Winter Games will run in Nagano, one Peace Appeal T-shirt will

be auctioned, with proceeds to benefit the victims of landmines, disadvantaged groups, and children without access to education. The venue is the victory ceremony site in the central square of Nagano City, and the auctions will be held to coincide with the victory ceremonies

### **Nagano Olympic Peace Appeal concert**

Singer Ryoko Moriyama, whose hit song *Kono Hiroi Nobara Ippai* has sold over a million copies, will perform an evening of song, including her rendition of *Asbita koso Kodomotachi ga* ("Our children's tomorrow"), the theme song for the opening ceremony of the Games in Nagano, in Nagano Prefectural Culture Hall. Part of the proceeds will benefit the victims of landmines and the disadvantaged.

### **Nagano Olympic patchwork blanket campaign**

As a gesture of peace and support for the citizens of the city of Sarajevo, host of the XIV Olympic Winter Games in 1984, Nagano will be sending hand-knitted blankets to the elderly, the sick and victims of landmines. Piecework will be collected from around Japan and crafted into blankets at a handicraft school in Nagano.



*The Nagano Olympic Peace Appeal posters.*