

Declaration by the mayors of the Olympic Winter Games host cities

On the occasion of the XVIII Olympic Winter Games in Nagano, the mayors of five Olympic Winter Games host cities - Nobuo Katsura of Sapporo, Al Duerr of Calgary, Michel Bailly representing Jean-Albert Corrand of Albertville, Audun Tron of Lillehammer, and Deedee Corradini of Salt Lake City - as well as the mayor of the city of Olympia in Greece, George Devves, met together on 8 February on the initiative of Tasuku Tsukada, mayor of Nagano. They made the following joint declaration:



Tasuku Tsukada.

“Over one century has passed since the first modern Olympic Games in Athens, Greece, in 1896, instituted by Baron Pierre de Coubertin. In 1924, the first Olympic Winter Games were held, and, as a festival of peace and friendship, the Olympic Games, the largest festival of sport and culture in the world, have been working for the realization of world peace ever since.

“We, Sapporo, Calgary, Lillehammer, Nagano and Salt Lake City, past and future hosts of the Olympic Winter Games, hope to further promote the Olympic Movement and world peace. In this context, we underline the importance of the Olympic Truce.

“On the occasion of the last Olympic Winter Games of the twentieth century, we reaffirm the over one hundred year-old Olympic Movement, and search for ways to continue this Movement into the next century.

“In order to further the Olympic Movement, the Nagano Olympic Games have

been based on the message ‘Games from the heart, Together with Love’, and aim of achieving three goals: promoting the participation of children, paying homage to the beauty and bounty of nature, and hosting a festival of peace and friendship. Through hosting the Olympic Winter Games, Sapporo, Calgary and Albertville have contributed to the promotion of the Olympic Movement. During the Lillehammer Games, the Olympic Aid campaign was founded in order to help the children of Sarajevo. School children of Nagano have had the opportunity to deepen their international perspective through the One School, One Country Programme. The Nagano Olympic Harmony Fund supports children in unprivileged countries by providing educational materials and sports equipment. We hope that future Olympic Winter host cities will take their own specific actions in order to work toward the realization of peace and the support of children throughout the world. Recently, environmental concerns have

become a theme of serious discussion around the world. The depletion of the ozone layer and global warming are two examples of issues affecting our natural ecosystem on a world-wide scale. Therefore, striving to host the Olympic Winter Games in harmony with nature is especially important, and we ask the IOC and the future Olympic Winter Games host cities to pay close attention to the environment. Existing facilities should be used as much as possible in order to lessen the impact on the environment, and the construction of new facilities should be minimized.

“We, the mayors of seen cities that have come together here in Nagano, have achieved meaningful discussion. We propose that future Host Cities continue to hold the Olympic Winter Games Host City Conference.

“Finally, as members of the Olympic family, we offer our best wishes for the success of the final Olympic Winter Games of this century, that it may serve as a bridge of peace to the next century.”