

# Olympism

## The Salt Lake City

crisis

Since its creation in 1894, the International Olympic Committee has never stopped fighting, together with the other components of the Olympic Movement - the International Federations and the National Olympic Committees - for the triumph of the Olympic ideal, which is defined as the joy found in effort, and mutual respect and understanding among peoples.

Giving due consideration to political, social, scientific and technological developments, the IOC has never hesitated to adapt its outlook to meet the demands of the modern times.

The allegations concerning the selection of Salt Lake City have led the IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch, to appoint an ad hoc inquiry commission chaired by Richard W. Pound (Canada) and composed of Pal Schmitt (Hungary), Kéba Mbaye (Senegal), three of whom are IOC vice presidents, Thomas Bach (Germany) and Jacques Rogge (Belgium), who are both members of the IOC Executive Board, and as the

commission coordinator François Carrard, the Director General.

The problem the IOC is facing is linked to the election process of cities bidding to organize the Olympic Games. It is obvious that the current system needs reflexion.

The IOC members will debate on the matter at the Extraordinary Session held on 17 and 18 next March, and accept the necessary measures, which will spare the IOC in the future from such conflictual situations which are at the root of irregularities committed by some members. certain of which have already resigned whilst others await the verdict of their peers.

However, the IOC confirms its unflagging support to the Olympic Games Organizing Committees for Sydney in 2000, Salt Lake City in 2002, and Athens in 2004. The Olympic Movement is convinced that the Australians, the Americans and the Greeks will leave nothing to chance in ensuring the success of these Olympic Games of the third millennium.



*Olympic House*