

108th

Session in Lausanne



The 108th IOC Session approved the creation of two Commissions, one in charge of ethical issues, and the other – called IOC 2000 – in charge of reform. These two Commissions will become operational in the next weeks.



THE 108TH IOC SESSION



Richard W. Pound, Pál Schmitt, the IOC President, and François Carrard.



João Navelange, doyen of the IOC members.

Convened by the IOC President, using the powers given to him by the Olympic Charter, the 108th IOC Session took place in Lausanne on 17 and 18 March.

The main reform proposed by the President, and approved by this Extraordinary Session, was the creation of the IOC 2000 Commission, which will have the job of studying the IOC and its structures and procedures, and then recommending any changes it deems necessary. Half of this commission will be made up of IOC members, and the other half by leading personalities with extensive knowledge of sport and the Olympic ideal. Its main tasks will be to look at the procedure for electing Olympic Games host cities after 2006, together with the composition of the IOC and the way it recruits its members, the length of their term of office, the structure and number of members of the Executive Board, and the new responsibilities given to Olympic athletes. The commission will also study how revenues are shared out within the Olympic Movement, and how the Games themselves ought to develop in the future. The commission is scheduled to present a preliminary report to the 109th Session in Seoul, in June, and a final report to an extraordinary IOC Session before the end of 1999.

In a secret ballot, an overwhelming majority of the International Olympic Committee members demonstrated

their confidence in President Juan Antonio Samaranch (86 votes to 2). In the same way, the expulsion of six IOC members for inappropriate conduct in relation to Salt Lake City's candidature was voted by the 90 IOC members voting. Each case was studied separately, and each member facing expulsion was given the chance to be heard by the Session. The members expelled were, by alphabetical and voting order : Agustín C. Arroyo, Ecuador (72 for, 16 against expulsion, 1 spoiled, 1 blank); Zein El Abdin Ahmed Abdel Gadir, Sudan (86-4-0-0); Jean-Claude Ganga, Congo (88-2-0-0); Lamine Keita, Mali (72-16-1-1); Sergio Santander Fantini, Chile (89 members present: 76-12-1 -0); and Paul Wallwork, Samoa (88 members present: 67-19-1 -1). On the same occasion, the 108th Session unanimously approved the proposal to create an ethics commission, whose job will be to advise and guide the IOC in the way it operates, ensuring compliance with the best practice of international companies and governments.

As for the method of choosing the host city for the XX Olympic Winter Games in 2006, the plan is to create a selection college composed as follows : the IOC President; the IOC doyen, João Navelange; eight other IOC members selected by the Session; the evaluation commission chairman, IOC member Chiharu Igaya; a representative of the Winter IFs appointed by the Association of International Winter Sports Federations



*The Executive Board and the Nagano OCOG.
In the front the IOC President and Makoto Kobayashi (on his right).*

(AIWF); an NOC representative appointed by the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC); and three athletes (elected by the athletes at the XVIII Olympic Winter Games in Nagano). The following will not be eligible for election : nationals of the countries involved in a candidature, and members of the Executive Board apart from the President and the evaluation commission chairman There will be a strict ban on visits by IOC members to candidate cities.

The college will have the task of selecting, from the six cities bidding, the two finalists which will go forward to a vote by the 109th IOC Session, taking place in Seoul (Korea) from 17 to 20 June. This reform will apply only to the election procedure for the 2006 host city; for the future, the IOC will wait to hear the recommendations made by the IOC 2000 Commission. The 108th Session concluded with the formal adoption of the Lausanne Declaration on Doping in Sport. It was agreed in principle to set up without delay, in cooperation with the IFs,

NOCs, athletes, intergovernmental organizations and governments, an anti-doping agency scheduled to be operational by the time of the Games of the XXVII Olympiad in Sydney, in 2000. The IOC also made public its interim report on the XXVII Olympiad (1997-2000), which was distributed during the 108th Session and posted on the IOC's website : <http://www.olympic.org>. Like the IOC's annual accounts, this interim report complies with international accounting standards, and was audited by Pricewaterhouse Coopers. The report is composed of five sections : the IOC activity report; the report of the auditors and financial statements for the IOC; the report of the auditors and financial statements for the Olympic Foundation; the report of the auditors and financial statements for the Olympic Museum; and statistics on the XVIII Olympic Winter Games in Nagano in 1998. The proceedings in Lausanne ended with the traditional joint meeting between the IOC Executive Board and the International Summer Olympic Sports Federations.

Executive Board

Meeting at Olympic House in March, the IOC Executive Board approved the recommendations by the Ad Hoc Commission chaired by Vice President Richard W. Pound, following its investigation into allegations of inappropriate conduct in connection with the bid by Salt Lake City to stage the XIX Olympic Winter Games in 2002.

The Executive Board also heard reports from : Makoto Kobayashi, director general of the organizing committee of the XVIII Olympic Winter Games in Nagano (NAOC); Mitt Romney, president of the organizing committee of the XIX Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City (SLOC); John Coates, vice president of the organizing committee of the Games of the XXVII Olympiad in Sydney (SOCOG); and Stratis Stratigis, president of the organizing committee of the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad in Athens (ATHOC).



Thierry Sprunger, director of the IOC department of control and coordination of operations.



F. Roth and J.B. Conne of Pricewaterhouse Coopers.