

# Olympic Solidarity

## Olympic Solidarity Review of 1999



*The Olympic Solidarity Commission.*

During the last meeting of the Commission led by the IOC President, its Director Pere Miro presented his activity report for 1999. During this third year of the current four-year plan, the positive tendency which had already been announced in 1998, had continued to grow. The repetition of the programmes and procedures established had obviously been of great advantage to the NOCs. Other factors which had undoubtedly contributed to the progress made during 1999 were : the continued improvement of communication with the NOCs; a better coordination with the Continental Associations in order to consolidate the joint policy of increasing their role as Olympic Solidarity's most important collaborators in development, control and evaluation of the programmes in their respective continents. The report also highlights the efficient cooperation with Olympic

Solidarity's other important partners, notably the ANOC, International Federations, High Level Training Centres and Universities throughout the world, as well as with external experts. This positive result reflects the consolidation and strengthening of the internal structure according to the operational changes approved by the Commission at the end of 1998.

The complete activities for the year will appear in the Olympic Solidarity annual report, which will be available in April 2000.

The programme of Olympic Scholarships for Athletes "Sydney 2000", for which Pamela Vipond is responsible, Deputy Director of Olympic Solidarity concerns a total of 478 athletes among which 127 have already qualified for the Games. The objectives and programmes for the current year, the final year of the current quadrennial include the finalization of the pro-

grammes of the 1997-2000 quadrennial, an evaluation of the projects carried out and the preparation of the objectives, programmes and budget for 2001-2004.

The Commission approved the budget for 2000 for a total amount of US\$ 31 million. Furthermore, a special budget of US\$ 21.3 million was approved to favour the participation and success of the NOCs at the Games of the XXVII Olympiad in Sydney. These funds are fundamentally aimed at assisting a determined number of athletes and officials and so that NOCs could carry out development programmes.

The Olympic Solidarity Commission will meet in May in Rio de Janeiro, to coincide with the ANOC General Assembly, and then again in Sydney in order to examine the objectives, programmes and budget for the 2001 – 2004 quadrennial.