

and conferences organized by the International Federations and the National Olympic Committees;

Urges non-governmental organizations dealing with women and sport to establish working relations with concerned governmental institutions and the sports movement at local and national and international levels, in order to benefit from technical assistance programmes;

Recommends to all parties involved to work more closely with the media to ensure a larger and more accurate information to project the real image about women's sport and to develop special training programmes for women journalists:

Congratulates the International Olympic Committee and its Women and Sport Working Group for organizing this World

Conference on Women and Sport;

Expresses its sincere thanks to the French authorities and the National Olympic and Sports Committee of France for their cooperation and hospitality.

Paris, 8 March 2000

FIRST IOC WOMEN AND SPORT TROPHIES

In the framework of its policy to consistently promote the advancement of women in sport at all levels, the IOC decided to award annually a Women and Sport Trophy to a woman, a man and/or an institution, in recognition of their outstanding contribution to develop, encourage and strengthen the participation of women and girls in sport in the field of play, in the coaching sphere, as well as in administrative and leadership structures at national, regional and/or international level. One world trophy and five continental trophies will be awarded each year, whose winners will be chosen by the IOC Women and Sport Working Group upon nomination by the National Olympic Committees and International Sports Federations.

The first IOC Women and Sport Trophies were awarded for the year 2000 on the occasion of the 2nd

World Conference on Women and Sport in Paris, in the presence of the IOC President, Anita DeFrantz, IOC Vice President and Chairwoman of the Women and Sport Working Group, Marie-George Buffet, French Minister of Youth and Sports, and Henri Sérandour, President of the French National Olympic Committee.

These trophies have been awarded at the following levels:

WORLD: International Basketball Federation (FIBA)

The World Trophy was awarded to FIBA in recognition of its truly exceptional contribution to the development of women's sport and advancement of women in leadership. The first European Women's Championships were organized in 1938 and have been held at two-year intervals ever since. The first Women's World Championships were organized in 1953. In 1976 women's basketball events became

part of the Olympic programme and by 1996 twelve teams were registered, equalling the number of men's teams. Over the years, FIBA has organized numerous tournaments world-wide including competitions for young girls and disabled athletes. FIBA also made special efforts to include more women in leadership positions and decided to enlarge the number of its Central Board to include 5 women representatives of the 5 geographical zones.

AFRICA: Lesotho Women in Sport Committee

It launched a successful awareness-raising campaign in 1998 throughout the country's rural areas, in schools and in the communities, to promote physical activity and traditional sports for girls and women, and encourage women to take leadership positions in national sports organizations. As a result, women's football teams were created and girls' sports clubs gained exposure

and were able to take part in international competitions. Women were also coopted in the National Olympic Committee of Lesotho and in other organizations. The Committee is currently developing educational programmes for girls and women.

AMERICAS: The Women's Sports Foundation (USA)

A non-governmental American educational organization founded in 1974, it is considered the premier organization in the USA promoting all sports and serving girls and women of all ages and skill levels. It provides them increased carrier opportunities in sport and fitness through education, advocacy, recognition and grant programmes. Since its inception, the Foundation has been led by champion female athlete Presidents, many of whom have been Olympians.

ASIA: Chinese National Women's Football Team

It has won over 20 titles in national, regional and international championships since it was created in 1980. It was among the eight teams which took part in the first female football tournament in Olympic history at the Games of the XXVI Olympiad, the Centennial Olympic Games, in Atlanta in 1996 where it won the silver medal. It was also silver medallist in the first Women Football World Cup in the USA in 1999. Through its achievements, self-confidence and self-fulfilment, the Team has served as an outstanding example of sporting excellence to all Chinese women athletes.

EUROPE: Nucci Novi Ceppellini (Italy)

An active sailor in offshore racing and a long term supporter of

women's involvement in sport, Nucci Novi Ceppellini was the first woman to become a vice-president of the International Sailing Federation's Executive Committee and Council. Thanks to her relentless efforts, additional sailing events for women were included in the Olympic programme. She initiated the first ISAF Women's Seminar and organized the first ISAF Women's World Match Racing Championships in October 1999.

OCEANIA: Hillary Commission for Sport, Fitness and Leisure (New Zealand)

The Hillary Commission is the public funding agency that supports sport and active leisure in New Zealand.

Since 1988, it has take a significant leadership role in developing, encouraging and strengthening participation of women and girls in all areas of sport in New Zealand. The Hillary Commission's Winning Women strategy was launched in 1995, its public face being the Winning Women Charter which sets down the rights of New Zealand women in sport and active leisure. On the basis of this document numerous programmes, training opportunities, workshops and initiatives were launched on international, national, regional and community level. Key policy documents, such as a Harassment-Free Sport or a National Youth Sport policy were launched by this Commission.



*(on the front row) Kereyn Smith, Sun Wen and Nucci Novi Ceppellini.
(in the background, from l. to r.) Henri Sérandour, Donna de Varona, the IOC President,
Anita DeFrantz, Marie-George Buffet and Abdoulaye Seye Moreau.*