

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE
AND
THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE RED CROSS
AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES**

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation) share the view that all human beings have the right to aspire to harmonious development, both physically and intellectually, and to live in decent and peaceful conditions, in respect of the universal fundamental ethical principles.

The goal of the IOC and the Olympic Movement as a whole is to contribute to building a peaceful and better world by educating youth through sport practised without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fairplay. To this end it engages, in cooperation with other organizations and within the limits of its means, in actions to promote peace and provide relief.

The International Federation works on the basis of the Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement to inspire, facilitate and promote humanitarian activities carried out by its member National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (National Societies) to improve the situation of the most vulnerable people. It promotes cooperation between National Societies, and works to strengthen their capacity to carry out effective disaster management, health and social programmes.

The IOC and the International Federation have decided to cooperate in promoting international solidarity and make their special contribution to human development and sustainable development in accordance with their respective mandates and principles. The IOC and the International Federation undertake to encourage activities in pursuit of these objectives among the National Olympic Committees and National Societies respectively, in particular in the field of volunteering and assistance to disadvantaged and vulnerable communities. To this end, the Parties have agreed to establish a joint working group that will meet at least annually to develop and maintain a programme of cooperation and national-level partnership opportunities.

This agreement shall remain in force until such time as one party informs the other in writing that it wishes to terminate the agreement.

Done in Madrid, Spain, on 16 May 2003, in two originals in the English and French languages.

Juan Manuel Suarez del Toro Rivero
President
International Federation of
Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Dr. Jacques ROGGE
President
International Olympic Committee