



FOREWORD

CHAPTER ONE



This final report details the work of the International Olympic Committee during the last four years. It is a testament to the efforts made by IOC Members in their endeavours to bring Olympism to all corners of the globe, and a demonstration of the support given by the staff at the IOC administration. I would like to give each and every person my heartfelt thanks for the role each one has played in this Olympic journey.

Without question, our efforts have produced rewards for us all to be proud. The results can be measured by the ever-growing level of interest in, and esteem for, the Olympic Games among athletes, the media and the general public. The success of the Olympic Games of Salt Lake City and Athens has made a significant positive contribution to the image of the Olympic Games. This success could only be achieved through the excellent collaboration of all members of the Olympic Family, particularly the Organising Committees, the National Olympic Committees, the International Sports Federations and the athletes, as well as our sponsors and broadcast partners. I thank them for their commitment.

The Olympic Games and the IOC are not, however, living in a world of splendid isolation. They are living in a world that has changed over the last four years. Global events and issues – both human and man-made, have affected all of us. The sports movement has shown its solidarity with the victims of the many tragedies faced in the past years, expressing its social responsibility through specific action.

As a consequence of all the major changes the world has seen, it can be argued that the universality and the responsibility of our Movement have more relevance today than ever. With two new NOCs – Timor-Leste and Kiribati – and the reintegration of Afghanistan and Iraq, we have reached a new record number of 202 National Olympic Committees.

The world has also changed significantly and has become more demanding for the respect of ethical standards and good governance. The IOC can, and must, play a real role in this regard. The promotion of our fundamental principles and of Olympic values is more important than ever. The work of the IOC commissions in so many fields – such as respect for the environment, the promotion of women in sport, support for athletes and the protection of their health, culture, sport for all, the fight against doping, respect for ethics, the Olympic Truce – plays an important role in allowing our movement to bring positive benefits to society. The IOC commissions have worked extremely hard to achieve these goals and I would like to express my gratitude to them. In addition, the IOC can be proud of its associations with a number of organisations in the fields of development and humanitarian assistance, including the Red Cross Movement and a number of United Nations Special Agencies. Through sport, the IOC can and does play its role in society with the help of these accords.

A reflective look back at the past four years is the aim of this report, but I believe we would be wise also to look forward to the future. In the Olympiad which lies ahead, the Olympic Games in Turin and Beijing will be excellent occasions to promote sport and Olympism. We must continue to work hard to protect the credibility of sport, and the position of the Olympic Games, the Olympic Movement and the IOC. I know I can count on the members of the International Olympic Committee and all those who support us in the wider Olympic Movement to defend our values and maintain the reputation of our organisation.



Right IOC President Jacques Rogge addresses the Olympic Family at the Athens 2004 Closing Ceremony.





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