



## **REGIONAL SEMINAR ON SPORT AND THE ENVIRONMENT “From Plan to Action in Asia”**

**28 - 29 March 2008, Incheon, Korea**

### **Commitments**

The seminar was officially opened by Mr LEE Byung-Wook, Vice Minister, Ministry of Environment.

The delegates from 26 National Olympic Committees: Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Sri Lanka, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Chinese Tapei and Vietnam with IOC Sport and Environment Commission Chairman, Dr Pal Schmitt, Mr Masato Mizuno, Member of the IOC Sport and Environment Commission, Mr Mahesh Pradhan, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Regional Affairs Officer, gathered to encourage in Asia, the development of actions for sustainable development in and through sport.

The seminar heard presentations from the IOC Sport and Environment Chairman as well as the Commission member, the UNEP representative, Japanese Wrestling Federation, Inha University Hospital, all the NOC delegates present as well as the Department of International Cooperation and Development on the IOC Guide to Sport, Environment and Sustainable development.

The participants acknowledged that environment is the third pillar of the Olympic Movement alongside sport and culture and that the Olympic Movement's Agenda 21 forms the basis of this dimension.

The seminar delegates agreed to set up national working groups/sport and environment commissions when appropriate. They committed to return home and make recommendations for their NOC to promote sport and environment through education, clean and green sport events, awareness raising campaigns, seminars, tree planting, clean up campaigns, posters, competitions, Olympic day runs and eco tours with partners in the sport community and beyond.

The key target groups will be NOCs and associated sports organisations, national federations and sports clubs, Government Ministries, the media, NGOs, sport leaders, physical education teachers, coaches, community leaders, volunteers and sponsors.

They agreed to involve athletes, with their popularity, to educate children and youth and raise community awareness through media about the importance of environmental sustainability and its links to achieving peace and human well being.

The many major world/regional sport events to be held in Asia (Olympic Games, Torch Relay, Youth Games, Asian Games & Sport for All Conference) were highlighted as prime opportunities to showcase “green” events and to disseminate strong sport and environment messages.

The seminar recognized both the similarity and diversity of the countries present, the importance of remaining in contact and exchanging information and experiences on a regional basis.

The participants expressed their thanks to the host of the seminar the Korean Olympic Committee and its President, Dr KIM Jung-Kil and the Mayor of Incheon, Mr AHN Sang-Soo for their exceptional hospitality.

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*“You must be the change you wish to see in the world” - Mahatma Gandhi*