



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

OLYMPIC HIGHLIGHTS

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IOC ACTIVITIES

IOC PRESIDENT

On Sunday 3 April, **IOC President Jacques Rogge** travelled to London (Great Britain) to attend the meetings held from 3 to 8 April as part of the SportAccord Convention, where the delegates included representatives of the International Sports Federations and organisations affiliated to SportAccord (General Association of International Sports Federations), ASOIF (Association of Summer Olympic International Federations) and AIOWF (Association of International Olympic Winter Federations).

On Monday evening, he attended the **SportAccord** opening ceremony, where he gave a speech.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, he took part in the meetings of the **Executive Board, which began with joint meetings with the summer and winter International Federations**. A press conference concluded the two days of discussions.

OTHER NEWS



On Tuesday 5 April, the Executive Board appointed **Christophe De Kepper** as the new IOC Director General. Christophe De Kepper replaces Urs Lacotte, who resigned last week for health reasons.

INTERNATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATIONS

SUMMER IFS

The **International Amateur Boxing Association (AIBA)** has announced that the Irish Amateur Boxing Association (IABA) will host the European Youth Championships in August 2011. IABA President Tommy Murphy recently confirmed that the tournament would be held in the Irish capital, Dublin, from 22 to 28 August. His comments can be seen at www.aiba.org.



The **International Gymnastics Federation (FIG)** and the gymnastics family worldwide are fully aware of the critical situation in Japan at the moment. They have expressed their sympathy and solidarity with the Japanese people. Today, the consequences of the nuclear catastrophe are still unknown and there is anxiety across the world. The Japanese Gymnastics Federation and its President, Hidenori Futagi, have nevertheless expressed their willingness to continue, as planned, the preparations for the World Championships, which are due to take place from 7 to 16 October 2011. More info at www.fig-gymnastics.com



The **International Rugby Board (IRB)** has welcomed the findings of a major new study which highlights strong growth in rugby participation since the 2007 Rugby World Cup, particularly in emerging countries. The report emphasises that, in comparison to 2007 figures, emerging nations have seen a steady increase in participant numbers, with growth increasing by 18 per cent in Asia alone. All the figures are at www.irb.com.



NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEES



Carlos Arthur Nuzman and Pierre-Olivier Beckers

On 24 March, Pierre-Olivier Beckers, President of the **Belgian NOC**, welcomed his Brazilian NOC counterpart, Carlos Arthur Nuzman, who was visiting Belgium in the context of the 2012 Olympic Games in London and the 2016 edition in Rio. The two NOCs signed a memorandum of understanding, agreeing in particular that Brazilian athletes would, in the short term, train in Belgium in preparation for the 2012 Games in London. More information at www.olympic.be



Carlos Arthur Nuzman & Leandro Negre, FIH President

In London on Tuesday, the **Brazilian NOC** signed two important sports cooperation agreements: the first with the International Hockey Federation (FIH) and the second with the British NOC (BOA). Under the agreement with the FIH, the latter will provide technical and administrative assistance for the creation of a professional hockey structure in Brazil. The agreement with the BOA is summarised below. Further info at www.cob.org.br



The **BOA** and the Brazilian NOC (COB) this week signed a memorandum of understanding identifying areas of mutual cooperation between the two NOCs for the next two editions of the Olympic Summer Games. As hosts of the 2012 and 2016 Olympic Games, the BOA and COB have decided to enter a partnership benefiting sports and athletes from both countries. To find out more, visit www.olympics.org.uk.



The **Guatemalan NOC** informs us that an Olympic Day Run was held in the city of Quetzaltenango on 27 March, with 700 participants running a 10km course. The city of Mazatenango also held an Olympic Day Run on Sunday 3 April, with 800 competitors. Further info at www.cog.org.gt



International Seminar on Talent at CONI headquarters

On Tuesday 5 April, the International Seminar on Talent was held at the headquarters of the **Italian NOC**. The event was organised by CONI's Sport and Olympic Preparation Department, the Institute of Sports Science and Medicine, and the Sports Academy, as part of the implementation of training programmes for the 2012 Olympic Games in London. The seminar, entitled *Talent Project: search, location and development*, was opened by CONI President Gianni Petrucci, who stressed the importance of the initiative in keeping Italy among the global sports elite. Rocco Crimi, Under-Secretary of State responsible for sport, welcomed the seminar, saying: "I am grateful to CONI for the way in which it manages sport in Italy." More info at www.coni.it



Arvydas Juozaitis and Arturas Poviliunas

On 29 March, the **Lithuanian NOC** headquarters hosted the 17th Fair Play Awards ceremony. Among the prizes awarded, which included one for the Lithuanian Sports Museum for its 20 years of service to the promotion of sports values among young people, the most prestigious was presented by NOC President Arturas Poviliunas to Arvydas Juozaitis, President of the Lithuanian Fair Play Committee, for his outstanding contribution to the Olympic Movement. Further details at www.ltok.lt



The exhibition *Our sporting pride in the language of medals* in Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia)

In collaboration with the Development Centre for Sports Communication (DCSC), the **Mongolian NOC** recently opened its inaugural exhibition at the Central Art Gallery in Ulaanbaatar, the country's capital. The main objective of the exhibition, entitled *Our sporting pride in the language of medals*, is to show visitors the original medals won in recent years by top Mongolian athletes at the Olympic and Asian Games, as well as continental and world championships. More info at www.olympic.mn



José Mújica, President of Uruguay, and Julio César Maglione, NOC President and IOC member, present a prize to Marcelo Chirico.

On 28 March, the **Uruguayan NOC** held the traditional "Athlete of the Year" presentation ceremony at the Solís theatre, where prizes were awarded to the athletes who produced the best sports performances of 2009 and 2010. The ceremony was attended by the President of the Republic, José Mújica, and the country's top sports leaders. The prize for the "Best Athlete of 2009" was presented to Olympic Solidarity scholarship-holder Andrés Silva, while the 2010 award went to Marcelo Chirico (equestrian sports), gold medallist at the inaugural Youth Olympic Games held in Singapore in 2010, and Diego Forlán (football), a member of the Uruguayan national team. More info at www.cou.org.uy

ORGANISING COMMITTEES FOR THE OLYMPIC GAMES

SOCHI 2014

 Representatives of the **Organising Committee for the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi**, led by the President and CEO, were in London this week to participate in the 9th SportAccord Convention. During the Convention, CEO Dmitry Chernyshenko attended numerous seminars and forums, including the forum on international opportunities. He also gave a presentation to the IOC Executive Board, during which he outlined the progress made so far in preparation for the 2014 Winter Games. More info at: www.sochi2014.com



RIO 2016



At the start of the week in London, the **Organising Committee for the Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2016 in Rio** presented an update on preparations for the 2016 Olympic Games at the General Assembly of the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF), chaired by IOC member Denis Oswald. Carlos Arthur Nuzman, Rio 2016 Organising Committee President, gave an overview of the relevant activities and projects, and highlighted the success of the Rio 2016 emblem. More info at www.rio2016.com

RECOGNISED ORGANISATIONS



The **International Paralympic Committee (IPC)** announced this week that the **Organising Committee for the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games in 2012 in London** would host International Paralympic Day on 8 September 2011. The event will be staged in Trafalgar Square the day before tickets for the Paralympic Games go on sale. The aim is to showcase Paralympic sports and give the public a chance to learn more about these sports and experience the enthusiasm and passion of Paralympic athletes. The IPC also informs us that it has received very positive responses from former Paralympians to its announcement that it plans to organise a meeting for them during the 2012 Olympic Games in London (see *Olympic Highlights* no. 941).

More info at www.paralympic.org

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