



THE 6th World Forum on Sport, Education and Culture was organised in Busan, Korea, by the International Olympic Committee, Korean Olympic Committee and Metropolitan City of Busan, in partnership with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation from 25-27 September, in which more than 600 delegates from National Olympic Committees, International Federations, Organising Committees for the Olympic Games, educational and cultural institutions, UN-specialised organisations, governmental and non-governmental organisations participated.

Under the theme “Sport and Education for the Now Generation”, panel discussions were held and presentations made in plenary and specialised break-out sessions. All discussions took place in an atmosphere of friendship and informed debate.

The participants resolved to:

1. Adopt the Busan Action Plan, which requires the support and active involvement of all for it to be implemented;
2. Express their gratitude to the Mayor of the Metropolitan City of Busan, Mr Nam-Sik Hur, Korean Olympic Committee President Mr Yun-Taek Lee and the Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism Korea, Mr In-Chong Yu, for their exceptional hospitality and excellent forum facilities, which contributed to the success of the Forum;
3. Thank the Organising Committee of the 4th Busan TAFISA World Sport for All Games for the invitation to attend their Games.

27 September 2008
Busan, Republic of Korea

The Busan Action Plan

The Forum recognised youth as the future of sport, and noted the need to use every opportunity and all means available to advance the combination of sport, culture and Olympic education. To this end, seven opportunities were recognised. These were:

1. Youth

After a session addressed solely by young people from around the world, speaking about their educational and sports needs, the conflict between academic studies and participation in sport and the painful choices they are sometimes required to make in their lives in order to fulfil both or either of the two important aspects in their lives, the Forum:

- a. Resolves that the IOC, the Olympic Movement and UNESCO should work together to ensure that governments require physical education as a normal part of the curriculum;
- b. Accepts the concept of involving young people in decision-making in areas and activities that concern them - as practised by the IOC since the introduction of the Athletes' Commission - and resolves that this should be extended to the organisation of conferences like this one;
- c. Appeals to the IOC to issue a standing invitation to young people to fully participate in subsequent conferences so that they can add their voices, contribute their ideas, and relate their own personal experiences;
- d. Appeals for the identification and better and greater use of young role models;
- e. Cautions against wholesale blaming of "modern youth culture" for declining youth interest in sport when in many countries, and particularly in urban areas, a decline in opportunities for sports participation is the real culprit. Loss of sports grounds, fiscal budgets, trained coaches, and community, school and club programmes has reached a crisis point in many of the world's cities, even in developed countries.

2. Youth Olympic Games

Recognising the fact that the Youth Olympic Games provides an excellent opportunity for an organised approach for the IOC and the Olympic Movement to directly affect the lives of young people around the world, and noting with satisfaction the involvement of international organisations such as UNESCO in the development of the educational and cultural programme of the YOG, the Forum:

- a. Congratulates the President of the IOC and the Olympic Movement for establishing the Youth Olympic Games;
- b. Takes note of the fact that the programme will have strong Olympic-values content and will also be an educational experience for the participants;
- c. Endorses the resolve to give sport, intercultural and values education equal emphasis with sports performance in the YOG programme;
- d. Appeals to the IOC, the IFs and all concerned to ensure that the benefits of the programme are not confined only to the direct participants of the Games;
- e. Requests that the educational programmes of the YOG be ongoing between editions of the Games;

- f. Takes note that a festive and celebratory atmosphere is especially conducive to learning for young people, and encourages the YOG to maintain such an atmosphere and encourages other sports bodies to follow.

3. Universality

Recognising the need to interpret the term “universality” in its widest form, and noting the concerns that the disparity between developed and developing countries is as much a deterrent to sharing Olympic education as the problems caused by gender disparities, the Forum:

- a. Insists that all educational and intercultural opportunities associated with sport be marked by respect for cultural identity and diversity, real gender equality, and accessibility to persons with disabilities;
- b. Requests the IOC and its partner organisations to consider the fact that Olympic education is, in some cases, the only opportunity for education available to youths in some developing communities and therefore should develop closer ties with NOCs and authorities to ensure that the young people derive maximum benefit from such programmes.

4. Post-athletic life

Having listened to impassioned pleas from former athletes for the sporting movement as a whole to ensure that necessary steps are taken to guarantee continued better life post-high performance sport; and noting that many athletes have fallen on hard times at the end of their athletic careers, the Forum:

- a. Congratulates the IOC and its Athletes’ Commission for instituting special programmes that aim to provide career training and certification;
- b. Urges NOCs, NFs and IFs to consider establishing new assistance programmes for athletes seeking to obtain their first academic degrees (high school, university, etc.);
- c. Requests that these opportunities be widely publicised to all member countries.

5. OCOG and NOC education and culture programmes

Noting that all the organising committees for the Olympic Games now develop extensive educational programmes as part of the organisation of the Games - the recent Beijing programme having been the biggest of all time with 400 million young people participating across the country - and that NOC investments in these areas are highly uneven;

Noting too that every city that organises the Games also undertakes to organise the “Cultural Olympiad”, which often lacks in publicity and funding and therefore suffers the consequence of inattention, the Forum:

- a. Requests that such programmes be publicised to all countries, particularly those which do not have the capacity to develop their own parallel programmes;
- b. Strongly proposes that such programmes be ongoing as processes rather than events related only to particular Games;
- c. Appeals for greater visibility of the “Cultural Olympiads” and that they be given as much publicity as possible during the Games and encourage Games participants to attend them;

- d. Proposes that both the educational programme and the Cultural Olympiads be part of the legacy and knowledge transfer system.

6. Partnerships

The Olympic Movement has always prided itself on collaborating with like-minded organisations, particularly in leveraging sport for societal development, youth and community education and peace. The invitation to non-sports organisations by the President of the IOC and the wonderful collaboration of the sporting movement and UNESCO is ensuring that the International Convention Against Doping in Sport is being ratified by the world's nations. Therefore, the Forum;

- a. Appreciates the collaboration with the UN, governmental and non-governmental organisations in applying sport to development, youth mobilisation and education;
- b. Encourages the World Anti-Doping Agency and its collaborating organisations to expand education and preventive approaches by carefully evaluating existing campaigns in other areas of occupational health and safety.

7. Olympic Congress

The Olympic Congress in Copenhagen in 2009 will provide an opportunity for the sporting community as a whole to influence the future direction of sport and intercultural education. The Forum:

- a. Appeals to educationists, academics, young people and the public at large to seize this opportunity to contribute proposals to the Congress agenda;
- b. Requests all parties to participate in the virtual Olympic Congress, which has already been launched online by the IOC;
- c. Urges the IOC to also invite young people to the Congress in order to contribute to the discussions and debates about youth and Olympism.

**Busan
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