



INTERNATIONAL
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FACTSHEET

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Why an Olympic Congress?

Taking the pulse of the Olympic Movement, analyzing its strengths and weaknesses, evaluating the opportunities and the risks it faces: these are the challenges which IOC President Jacques Rogge laid down by convening the next Olympic Congress, which will be held in Copenhagen in October 2009.

President Rogge is setting a new trend: for the first time, parallel to the work of the Congress, there was a wide-ranging public consultation. "This is the first Congress of the millennium, and the first one since the start of the digital revolution. Even if the Olympic Congress is primarily for the Olympic Family, we needed to take the pulse using the modern methods available to us, and in particular open up to the public," the President explains.

Since the previous Congress, the Centennial Olympic Congress held in Paris in 1994, the world has changed. While the main concern at the previous Congress was to ensure the integration of all the constituents of the Olympic Movement, the challenge will be quite different in 2009.

A guiding concept links all five themes chosen for this Olympic gathering: the role of the Olympic Movement in society and in all regions of the world.

This concept is divided into specific themes, like the success of the Olympic Games, the Olympic values, the social and professional life of athletes during and after high-level sports participation, good governance and ethics of the world of sport, youth and communication in the digital age.

"Many people consider that sport plays an essential role in society, be it in education, integration, health, the environment or the economy. At the same time, we see that sport offers opportunities, but also poses problems. We therefore have to clarify certain points, and offer new and creative solutions to the challenges facing sport," the IOC President concludes.

The Virtual Olympic Congress

The biggest new feature of the 2009 Congress was the launch of a virtual congress on 1 October 2007.

The call for contributions was made during the 119th IOC Session in Guatemala City. Thanks to new technology, it was possible, through a virtual congress, to do the groundwork on the event and collect over 1'200 contributions from the general public and close to 400 contributions from the Olympic family.

The contributions are now read and analysed by the Congress Editorial Committee, which will identify the main thrust of the contributions with a view to drafting recommendations for the Congress.

All contributions of the Olympic family, 50 selected proposals from the general public and an indepth analysis of all these contributions will be published and made public in August 2009.

The meetings in Copenhagen will mark the culmination of this process. But even then, the work will not be finished, as the next task will be to implement the main Congress



recommendations that the Session has accepted.

The Congress Participants

The next Congress will be held from 3 to 5 October 2009 in Copenhagen. The Congress participants will be:

- IOC members;
- IOC honorary and honour members;
- representatives of the International Federations, National Olympic Committees and
- Organising Committees for the Olympic Games;
- athletes and athlete support staff (coaches, doctors and medical staff);
- referees, judges and technical officials;
- the IOC's Olympic partners; and
- the media

Previous Olympic Congresses

1894: Paris – Re-establishment of the Olympic Games

1897: Le Havre – Sports hygiene and pedagogy

1905: Brussels – Sport and physical education

1906: Paris – Art, literature and sport

1913: Lausanne – Sports psychology and physiology

1914: Paris – Olympic regulations

1921: Lausanne – Olympic regulations

1925: Prague – Sports pedagogy – Olympic regulations

1930: Berlin – Olympic regulations

1973: Varna – Sport for a world of peace – The Olympic Movement and its future

1981: Baden-Baden – United by and for sport

1994: Paris – Centennial Olympic Congress, Congress of Unity

2009: Copenhagen – The Olympic Movement in society

The five themes of the 2009 Congress

1. The Athletes

1.1 Relationship between the athletes, the clubs, federations and the NOCs

1.2 Health protection in training and competition

1.3 The social and professional life of athletes during and after elite competition

2. Olympic Games

2.1 How to keep the Games as a premier event?

2.2 Olympic values

2.3 Universality and developing countries

3. The Structure of the Olympic Movement

3.1 The autonomy of the Olympic Movement

3.2 Good governance and ethics

3.3 The relationships between the Olympic Movement and its stakeholders

4. Olympism and Youth

4.1 Moving towards an active society

4.2 Is competitive sport still appealing?

4.3 Youth sport events

5. The Digital Revolution

5.1 A new management of sports rights

5.2 How to increase the size of the sports audience?

5.3 Communication with stakeholders in the digital age

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