



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

Historical Archives
Olympic Studies Centre

Olympic Solidarity (OS) Department

Fonds list

Overview of the content of the archives concerning the history, missions and activities of the Department from 1971 to 1988

14 April 2011



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Reference: CH CIO-AH F-A02-SO

Dates: 1971-1988

Level of description: Sub-series

Extent and medium: 2.15 l.m. Text documents.

Name of creator

International Olympic Committee (IOC).

Administrative history / Biographical history

The history of Olympic Solidarity goes back to the 1960s and 70s, during which time various initiatives were launched with a view to developing the Olympic Movement and strengthening the ties with the National Olympic Committees (NOCs) through an aid commission and the first technical and sports assistance projects. Thus it was that, between 1961 and 1973, at the various Sessions, IOC Executive Board (EB) meetings and meetings with NOC representatives, a joint action project took shape. This project led to the creation, based on the EB decision of 4 February 1973, of an IOC Mixed Commission for Olympic Solidarity¹ and a special IOC department² responsible for Olympic Solidarity.

The Department's first tasks are described as follows:

- It is to look after relations between the IOC and NOCs and will serve as a link between the various NOCs themselves.
- By sending a questionnaire, it is immediately to obtain the NOCs' requests and offers of assistance in order to study and implement the Solidarity programme.
- A plan is to be drafted on creating an IOC Olympic Foundation, which will provide the funds needed for the Olympic Solidarity programme. A separate bank account has been opened.

The Olympic Solidarity office, responsible for the running and actual implementation of operations, was opened in Rome (in the framework of the IOC General Secretariat in Vidy). It looked after planning, information, devising and carrying out assistance schemes and producing reports and financial accounts.³ The office worked closely with the Olympic Solidarity Commission, whose meetings it prepared (although it did not take the minutes).

As the scale of the various programmes grew over the first few years, all Olympic Solidarity activities were regrouped in Lausanne at the end of 1979.

Today, Olympic Solidarity's mission is still to organise financial, technical and administrative assistance to all NOCs, especially those in greatest need of it. To this end, Olympic Solidarity offers world and continental programmes, financial support and in particular subsidies for participation in the Olympic Games.

Archival history

The documents of the Olympic Solidarity Department were mixed in with those of the Olympic Solidarity Commission. The two sub-series have been processed and separated, but their content is related.

Immediate source of acquisition or transfer

The sub-series reached the IOC Historical Archives in 1993, after the new Olympic Museum was built in Ouchy.

Scope and content

The sub-series records the constitution, functioning and activities of the Olympic Solidarity Department since its creation.

¹ For the history of this Commission, refer to the fonds sheet on the "Olympic Solidarity Commission".

² Also called a "Section" or "Office" in various documents.

³ Olympic Solidarity, *Activity Report of 10 May 1975*, 1975.



It details more specifically the Olympic Solidarity budgets and subsidies, administrative staff and emblem. It also covers the meetings of the Department and the meetings held in the presence of the Director of Olympic Solidarity. It describes the various training sessions, courses and seminars organised or supported by the Department. It likewise covers the work of the Olympic Solidarity Commission.

The sub-series contains financial documents (budget, accounts, etc.), correspondence, publications, programmes and activity forecasts, activity reports, mission reports, lists of candidates for scholarships and courses, plus meeting minutes, reports and working documents.

Accruals

Yes

System of arrangement

The files are classified by subject, by document type or by activities in alphabetical order. The documents in the files are classified chronologically, from latest to earliest.

Conditions governing access

The documents are freely accessible, subject to the IOC's access rules.

Language / scripts of material

The documents are in French and English.

Related units of descriptionInternal sources

- Olympic Solidarity Commission – 1961-1989 : B-ID04-SO
- Working group on aid to NOCs for attending the Games – 1982-1984 : B-ID04-GTCNO

Notes

The content of this fonds, including the Olympic identifications, is the property of the IOC.

Rules or conventions

Description complies with ISAD(G).

Date(s) of descriptions

24 February 2010