

Comité International Olympique,

C.I.O.

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Transmis:

Répondre: d'adresser

Le Comité Olympique Finlandais a l'honneur d'adresser  
au Comité Olympique International le voeu très respectueux  
d'obtenir la célébration à Helsingfors (Finlande) des Jeux de  
1936 ou de 1940. ou de 1944

Chez les grandes nations de l'Europe on ne songe que rarement à entreprendre des excursions en Finlande. Par suite, ce pays et sa capitale Helsingfors semblent infiniment éloignés du reste de l'Europe. Mais en réalité cette capitale n'est située qu'à 24 heures de Stockholm, à moins de 48 heures de Copenhague, à 2 journées de Berlin, à 3 journées de Paris et de Londres. La route tout entière de Stockholm à Helsingfors passe à travers un archipel célèbre parmi les touristes pour ses sites pittoresques. Un voyage en Finlande n'est ni long, ni pénible, malgré la première idée qui pourrait s'en présenter.

On pourrait également révoquer en doute les ressources de la ville de Helsingfors quant au logement et l'approvisionnement d'une affluence aussi énorme de participants officiels de touristes etc. Mais tout récemment encore, notre capitale a prouvé à maintes reprises qu'elle est capable d'accorder l'hospitalité à des Congrès internationaux de plusieurs milliers de membres.

Il est d'ailleurs présumable qu'un grand nombre de groupements nationaux trouveraient opportun de se rendre à Helsingfors au moyen de bâtiments loués à cet effet et permettant aux participants de loger à bord pendant toute la durée des Jeux. A ce point de vue notre capitale présente le rare avantage de pouvoir mouiller l'ancre en rade à peu de distance des débarcadères aussi bien que des terrains sportifs.

Les autorités nationales et municipales étant éminemment sympathiques à notre projet et à notre présente requête, il est hors de doute que l'organisation des Jeux peut compter sur tout l'appui et toute l'assistance officiels et privés nécessaires. Notre Comité a eu une entrevue personnelle avec M. le



Président de la République qui l'a autorisé à exprimer sa cha-  
leureuse adhésion au voeu que nous venons de formuler.



The International Olympic Committee.

Dear Sirs,

The Olympic Committee of Finland have the honour herewith to approach the International Olympic Committee with a respectful request to be taken into consideration when the place where the Olympic Games are to be held in 1936 or 1940<sup>or 1944</sup> is to be decided, and venture to suggest that either of these Games be placed in Finland, i.e. in the capital of the country, Helsingfors.

In the large centres of civilization, where people seldom even think of extending their tourist and other excursions as far as to Finland, we believe people imagine that Finland lies very far away from the rest of Europe; but to illustrate that this is not as bad, we beg to mention that the trip from Stockholm to Helsingfors takes 24 hours - a journey which is made the whole time through a lovely archipelago and is known as one of the most charming sights of Europe; from Copenhagen to Helsingfors the journey lasts less than 48 hours, from Berlin to Helsingfors just 48, and from Paris and London 3 days and nights. This would tend to show that Finland does not lie so far away as people are apt to believe.

The facilities of the city of Helsingfors to accomodate the large numbers of competitors in the Games, officials, tourists etc. can of course be questioned, but it was proved recently that our city was able to accomodate many thousands of visitors at once, at various international congresses which met here. Further, it may be taken for granted that a good many nations will find it most convenient to make the trip in chartered steamers, on board of which the competitors would live during the Games, and in this respect we can assert that few towns can offer such suitable and comfortable anchoring and mooring facilities as Helsingfors, with short distances both for landing and to the sporting grounds.

Both the country's and the capital's authorities look



very favourably upon this proposal and request of ours, and it stands beyond question that the organisation of the Games can count upon all necessary support, both official and private. We have had a personal interview with the President of the Republic of Finland on the subject, and have been allowed to convey his warm adherence to the same.

Yours sincerely,





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OLYMPIC  
COMMITTEE

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