

55th FAI/IPC PLENARY MEETING 2004

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World Games/ Olympic Project

During the IPC Annual Conference in Fortaleza, Brazil last year, delegate for Norway Pal Bergan has resigned from his position of WG /WAG liaison officer. Following this departure of a very able representative the position has been reorganised. The President took the place until the next plenary.

However, all the important decisions have been already made at the 2003 plenary. World Games are on track. The Olympic project is on a complete standby. These two items are completely connected and need to be discussed again before the next cycle, starting with the Games in Duisburg.

IPC involvement implicate a budget expenses to join these big concepts ; IPC needs also to spend money on other areas ; so a choice needs to be made in a close future.

Whatever will be the choice or orientation made by IPC, it is still very important that all Nac's are NOC affiliated which is not the case right now : it is absolutely the first step to discuss seriously about sport and political impact of parachuting around the world.

Following the extracts of the report made during the general conference :

Olympic Project

The whole parachuting community was extremely disappointed by the failure of the project to integrate parachuting into the Olympic programme. Even if the result initially appears as negative for parachuting, the efforts to create a high quality organisation and give marketing value to the selected disciplines have been very positive. Competitions are now organised taking all of this into consideration and one can well imagine them within the Olympics. It is useful to remember that the Olympic quest, even though not yet successful, has brought a lot to the parachuting community.

World Games

In 2003, the IPC validated the project to include new disciplines in the programme for the games to be held in Duisburg. This was not an easy achievement as the representatives of the disciplines not retained demonstrated their strong disapproval. In spite of this, the working group is maintained until 2005.

Patrice Girardin