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INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

OLYMPIC COLLECTORS COMMISSION

Sports Philatelists international
President
Mark Maestrone
2824 Curie Place
San Diego, CA 92122
ETATS UNIS D'AMERIQUE

Lausanne, the 26th October 2010

Constitution and Rules of F.I.P.O.

Dear Mr Maestrone,

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) wishes to encourage Olympic collecting, including Olympic philately, as a means of increasing knowledge of the Olympic Games and, through that, spreading the Olympic spirit. Organisations of Olympic collectors, national and international, have the potential to assist the development of Olympic collecting.

In 1982 the Federation Internationale de Philatelie Olympique (FIPO) was established, and subsequently also organisations representing numismatic collectors (FINO) and memorabilia collectors (FIMO). The latter two organisations have, unfortunately, ceased to operate and more recently questions have been raised about the constitution and rules of FIPO, particularly as they relate to the roles and responsibilities of affiliates.

Following discussion at the June 2010 meeting of the IOC Philately, Numismatic and Memorabilia Commission, the IOC has therefore decided to establish a Working Group of senior representatives of FIPO affiliates with the objective of assessing whether there is a need for an international organisation of collectors and, if so, to draft a model constitution and rules for an organisation which might replace FIPO.

The members of the Working Group are:

Mr. Jean- Pierre Piquot, AFCOS

Mr. Robert Farley, Chairman Society of Olympic Collectors

Mr. Roman Babut

Mr. Mark Maestrone, President Sports Philatelists International

Mr. Thomas Lippert, Acting President IMOS.

The Working Group will have the assistance of Mr. James Whitburn (IOC TMS Licensing) who will provide technical drafting support.

The IOC will fund a two day meeting of the Working Group in Lausanne.



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Once the Working Group has produced a draft report, it will be sent to all FIPO affiliates for comment. If there is an appropriate opportunity, such as an international philatelic exhibition, Olympic Collectors Fair, a forum to discuss the report will be held.

Depending on the response of collectors to the report of the Working Group, a new organisation may be established to replace FIPO, or alternatively there may be no agreement and FIPO will cease to exist and there will be no international Olympic collecting organisation with a relationship with the IOC.

The IOC would much prefer the establishment of a revitalised organisation with a new constitution and rules. However, it should be stressed that a decision on whether there should be an international organisation of Olympic collectors, and the structure, constitution and rules of any such organisation is a matter for collectors themselves, not the IOC.

Pending the outcome of the Working Group and the consultative process with FIPO affiliates, FIPO will continue to operate under current arrangements. You will be kept informed of progress of the review.

Yours sincerely,

Timo Lumme

IOC TMS

Co-ordinator IOC Philately, Numismatics and Memorabilia Commission

CC: Members of the IOC Collectors Commission.

M. G. Heiberg
M. A. Beck
M. M. Bergman
M. M. Tecardi
M. J. Varga
M. F. Wicht
M. C.-K. Wu
M. E. Dayan