



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

Mr. Mark Maestroni
President
Sports Philatelists International
2824 Curie Place
San Diego CA 921122
USA

Lausanne, 15 March 2013
CCDK/cjbd

Dear Mr. Maestroni,

I am writing to inform you that the *Fédération Internationale de Philatélie Olympique* (FIPO) has ceased to operate.

FIPO was established in 1982 to serve the particular needs of that time and assisted in the development of Olympic philately.

FIPO has done an outstanding work and it is now time to start a reflection on the future.

In line with this, the decision whether there should be an organisation to replace FIPO, and the form of such organisation, is one for the potential members of the organisation. To assist with such consideration, the IOC has invited a Working Group of senior officials of a number of major Olympic collecting clubs to examine whether there is a need for an international organisation to represent the interests of Olympic collectors and, if so, the form such an organisation might take.

The Working Group has recommended that a new organisation – the *Association Internationale des Collectionneurs Olympiques* (AICO) - be established with Olympic collecting clubs, such as yours, as members. Your club will receive correspondence within the next few months regarding the process to establish AICO and your role in that process, should you wish to participate.

The dissolution of FIPO does not imply any diminution in the IOC's view that Olympic collecting has an important role to play in developing and communicating knowledge and understanding of the Olympic Movement and the Olympic spirit.

The dissolution of FIPO means that your club should immediately cease to use the words *Fédération Internationale de Philatélie Olympique*, or the abbreviation FIPO, and should not use the FIPO logo in any way. Your written confirmation of your understanding and acceptance of this is requested.

In closing, I would like to thank your club for its cooperation as a member of FIPO and for its contribution to Olympic collecting. Hopefully, the establishment of a new, member-controlled organisation will add new stimulus to your activities.

Yours sincerely,

Christophe De Kepper
Director General