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Sport for peace and development: building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal

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Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/75 of 11 December 2001, in which it decided to consider the item entitled “Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal” every two years in advance of each Summer and Winter Olympic Games,

Recalling also its resolution 58/6 of 3 November 2003, in which it decided to include in the provisional agenda of its sixtieth session the sub-item entitled “Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal” and to consider this sub-item before the XX Olympic Winter Games,

Bearing in mind its resolution 48/11 of 25 October 1993, which, inter alia, revived the ancient Greek tradition of *ekecheiria* or “Olympic Truce” calling for a truce during the Games that would encourage a peaceful environment and ensuring the safe passage and participation of athletes and others at the Games and, thereby, mobilizing the youth of the world to the cause of peace,

Taking into account the inclusion in the United Nations Millennium Declaration¹ of an appeal for the observance of the Olympic Truce now and in the future and support for the International Olympic Committee in its efforts to promote peace and human understanding through sport and the Olympic ideal,

Recalling its resolution 58/5 of 3 November 2003, in which it decided to proclaim 2005 the International Year for Sport and Physical Education, as a means to promote education, health, development and peace,

Recognizing that the goal of the Olympic Movement is to build a peaceful and better world by educating the youth of the world through sport, practised without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which is based on mutual understanding, friendship, solidarity and fair play,

Welcoming the joint endeavours of the International Olympic Committee and the United Nations system in fields such as human development and poverty alleviation, humanitarian assistance, health promotion and HIV/AIDS prevention, combating malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases, basic education, gender equality and environmental protection,

Recognizing the important role of sport in achieving internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and reaffirming the commitments undertaken in this regard by the Heads of State and Government gathered at the World Summit of the General Assembly, held in New York from 14 to 16 September 2005,

Noting with satisfaction the flying of the United Nations flag at the Olympic Games,

1. *Urges* Member States to observe, within the framework of the Charter of the United Nations, the Olympic Truce, individually or collectively, during the XX Olympic Winter Games, to be held in Turin, Italy, from 10 to 26 February 2006,

¹ See resolution 55/2.

and the following Paralympic Winter Games, to be held also in Turin from 10 to 19 March 2006, by ensuring the safe passage and participation of athletes at the Games;

2. *Welcomes* the decision of the International Olympic Committee to mobilize international sports organizations and the National Olympic Committees of the Member States to undertake concrete actions at the local, national, regional and world levels to promote and strengthen a culture of peace based on the spirit of the Olympic Truce and to cooperate with the national committees of the International Year for Sport and Physical Education;

3. *Requests* the Secretary General to promote the observance of the Olympic Truce among Member States, drawing the attention of world public opinion to the contribution such a truce would make to the promotion of international understanding, peace and goodwill, and to cooperate with the International Olympic Committee in the realization of this objective;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to cooperate with the International Olympic Committee and all concerned agencies and programmes of the United Nations in their efforts to use the Olympic Truce as an instrument to promote peace, during and beyond the Olympic Games period, and to implement projects using sport as a tool for development;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the sub-item entitled "Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal" and to consider this sub-item before the Games of the XXIX Olympiad, to be held in Beijing in 2008.
