



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

HE Dr Mohammad Mohsen AL-AFASI,
Minister of Social Affairs and Labour
State of Kuwait

NOC Relations Department
Ref. No 2010/PMS/jpy

Lausanne, 11 January 2010

Suspension of the Kuwait Olympic Committee

Excellency,

This is in reference to your letter dated 31 December 2009 to the IOC President, for which we thank you.

As you know, the Kuwait Olympic Committee has been officially suspended by the IOC on 1 January 2010 as a protective measure for the Olympic Movement in Kuwait, on the grounds that the Kuwait sports legislation is not compatible with the principles and rules of the Olympic Movement and the agreements / commitments from the Kuwait authorities concerned to resolve the situation were not respected within the deadline agreed upon.

From your letter, we understand all efforts you are undertaking now to resolve the situation, which we very much appreciate. Nevertheless, the draft amendments to the existing laws which you sent us on 31 December are not in line with what was agreed on the occasion of our last meetings (in particular, the meeting which took place with PAYS on 23 October 2009 in Lausanne).

Consequently, we would like to summarise once again the necessary conditions (which we have already mentioned to you and PAYS on different occasions) and which must be met as a prior condition for the IOC to be able to consider lifting the suspension of the Kuwait Olympic Committee:

1. The new sports legislation shall be finalised, adopted and issued by the relevant Kuwait authorities.

This new sports legislation must be compatible and consistent with the principles and rules which govern the Olympic Movement (in particular the Olympic Charter and the statutes of the respective International Sports Federations). In addition, it must be clearly and expressly stated that this new sport legislation shall replace, repeal and supersede any other articles within other laws related to sport in Kuwait which would go contrary to the principles and rules of the Olympic Movement (including the principle of autonomy). In other words, any article in the currently existing laws related to sport in Kuwait (in particular laws No 42/1978, 43/1992 and 5/2007) which are contrary to the principles and rules of the Olympic Movement must no longer apply once the new sport legislation is in force. In addition, this means that PAYS shall not issue or impose on a mandatory manner standard / model Statutes for all sports organizations.

As you know, on the occasion of our meeting on 23 October 2009 with PAYS, a new draft sports legislation was discussed at length and finalized in agreement with PAYS. This new draft sports legislation was ready to be submitted to the relevant authorities in Kuwait, however, for reasons which we ignore, this was not done. Please refer to our letter to you on 28 October 2009 and the enclosed documents, i.e. a summary of our discussions with PAYS on 23 October and the



new draft sports legislation which had been discussed and agreed upon by the IOC and PAYS.

In order to make it simple, we therefore strongly recommend that the Kuwait authorities consider this new draft sports legislation which was prepared in agreement with PAYS and which is already in line with the principles and rules of the Olympic Movement and the IOC's expectations.

2. The principle of autonomy of the Olympic and sports Movement must also be respected in practice. Therefore, all legitimate office bearers of the sports clubs as duly elected on 23 October 2008 and who were dismissed by unilateral decision from PAYS dated 14 November 2009 (which violates this principle of autonomy), must also be reinstated.

Note: Until then, we recall, once again, that the IOC does not recognise any decision/action potentially taken by illegitimate "interim committees" on behalf of the Sports Clubs.

The IOC will be able to consider lifting the suspension of the Kuwait Olympic Committee, only once all steps mentioned above will be completed and formally notified to us.

We thank you for your kind attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Pere MIRÓ', written over a horizontal line.

Pere MIRÓ
Director
NOC Relations

- Cc: - Jacques Rogge, IOC President
- HH Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammed Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Prime Minister of Kuwait
- Major General (Ret.) Faisal Al-Jazzaf, Chairman of PAYS, State of Kuwait
- HE Dr Suhail Shuhaiber, Ambassador of the State of Kuwait in Switzerland
- Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF)
- Olympic Council of Asia