IOC Circular Letter No. 2247
(Also available in French, Russian and Spanish)

IOCP/B/A/pbo
Paris, 21 November 2007

To: Official National Coordinating Body for liaison with the IOC Member States
Permanent Delegates/Observer Missions to UNESCO of IOC Member States

cc: IOC Chair and Vice-Chairs
National Commissions for UNESCO of IOC Member States

Subject: "Working Group on the Future of IOC": Questionnaire Launch on 22 November 2007 and Working Group meeting on 19-20 February 2008, UNESCO HQs, Paris, France

At the 24th IOC Assembly (19-27 June 2007, Paris, France), Member States decided to establish an intersessional "Working Group on the Future of the IOC", "with the specific mandate of identifying emerging challenges and opportunities for the reinforcement of the roles, capabilities and status of the IOC and proposing options in accordance with the terms of reference contained in Annex 1 to [Resolution XXIV-1]". As you know the election process for the core members of this Working Group is open till November 30, 2007.

Through this Circular Letter please be informed that the First meeting of this group is scheduled in Room IV, Fontenoy Building, UNESCO Headquarters, on 19 and 20 February 2008. This meeting of the Working Group is open to the participation of all Member States of IOC as established in Resolution XXIV.1.

In preparation of this meeting, inputs from IOC Member States will be sought through a questionnaire, as agreed during the sessional group meeting on the Future of IOC at the IOC Assembly. This questionnaire has now been prepared in consultation with many of the delegates to the last IOC Assembly, including the participants who were present at the sessional group meeting. The Questionnaire will be distributed to IOC Member States, through official designated national coordinating bodies specified for liaison with the Commission and through Permanent Delegations. The same Questionnaire will be distributed to main Partners of IOC. The "Questionnaire on the Future of IOC" will have online restrictive access as of 22 November 2007.

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Responses to the questionnaire should be sent to the Secretariat not later than 11th January 2008 and should be a comprehensive nationally coordinated response, to the extent possible. This deadline also takes into account time necessary for analysing the results and preparing the report prior to the Working Group meeting. Responses received after 11 January 2008 will only be considered during the WG meeting.

On behalf of Dr Savi Narayanan (Canada) and Dr Haiqing Li (China), co-chairs of the "Working Group on the Future of IOC", I look forward to your valuable input through the survey process and during our meeting in February 2008, and remain,

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Patricio Bernal
Assistant Director-General, UNESCO
Executive Secretary, IOC