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"All forms of discrimination with respect to any country or a person whether for reasons of race, religion, politics, sex or any other, are incompatible with the Olympic Movement."
(Olympic Charter)

Paris, June 3rd, 2008

Mr. Jacques Rogge,
President of the CIO

Objet: Request for an audience

Mr. President :

As you may know, our organisation is deeply concerned with the evolving place of women in the various delegations participating in the Olympic Games.

It is for this reason that we sent you a letter on April 15 of this year, drawing your attention to the non respect of the terms of the Olympic Charter with regard to female representation and the prohibition of all signs of political or religious significance at Olympic venues. We noted that, during the Olympic Games of 2004 in Athens:

- nine Olympic National Committees had no women at all in their delegations,
- certain ONC, among which we noted Iran and Egypt, have their women athletes participate in the Games or at the official ceremonies with Islamic headscarves or complete Islamic covering outfits.

On September 9, 2004, just after the Athens Games, we sent you a letter in the form of a balance sheet, to bring this to your attention. We asked you therein to set up a Committee to settle this problem.

On the eve of the Beijing Games, we learn that two Iranian athletes will participate in these Games either veiled or fully covered. They plan to participate in the taekwondo and kayak canoe disciplines, on condition that both their coach and their referee be women.

We would like to be able to talk with you about these issues and to know which measures you have decided to apply in order to ensure that the terms of the Olympic Charter be fully and effectively respected. We would also like to understand the meaning you attribute to the presence of OIC observers at the Solidarity Games

organised every four years specifically for Islamic women, but in which women from other countries also seem to participate.

For all these reasons, Mr. President, we ask you to grant us a meeting before the Beijing Olympic Games.

Thank you in advance.

Very sincerely yours,

Co-Founders

Annie Sugier

Linda Weil-Curiel

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