



## The Peace and Sport Awards Reward the Best Initiatives for Reconciliation through Sport

**Monaco, 26 November 2009** – Emotion and respect were on the menu this evening during the Prize-giving ceremony of the Peace and Sport Awards 2009, which recompense initiatives and individuals in sport to have made a particular contribution to social stability in the world in the previous year.

In front of an audience of over 400 high-profile personalities from sport, politics, business and civil life assembled for the International Peace and Sport Forum, **H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco** and **Joel Bouzou, President and Founder of the organisation**, presented awards for **five projects and symbolic moments that illustrate to extent sport is capable of helping to rebuild bridges between divided or opposed communities.**

Winners of the Peace and Sport Awards were chosen by a jury of eminent personalities, deeply invested in peace-promotion or the consolidation of peace through sport. The jury members were:

- **Joel Bouzou**, President and Founder of Peace and Sport, Modern Pentathlon Olympic Champion
- **Wilfried Lemke**, Special Advisor to the UN Secretary General of the Office on Sport for Development and Peace.
- **Hellen Sambili MP**, Minister of Youth and Sport for Kenya
- **Wilson Kipketer**, triple World Champion in Athletics (800m)
- **Pernilla Wiberg**, Ski Olympic Champion and member of the International Olympic Committee
- **Johann Koss**, President of Right To Play, Speed Skating Olympic Champion
- **Matvey Shparo**, Arctic explorer
- **Erik Monjalous**, Director of Sales and Marketing for Agence France-Presse

### Award for the Best Peace Project from an International Sports Federation

This prize recognizes excellence from an International Federation which has put its sport at the service of social action, whilst also contributing to the sport's national development.

The winner in this category was named as:

**The International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF)** for its development programmes which use the values of table tennis as an instrument of integration and social stability in severely disadvantaged urban areas in Afghanistan, Yemen, Jordan and Colombia.

The Award was presented to Leandro OLVECH, coordinator of development programmes, and Thomas WEIKERT, Vice-president of the International Table Tennis Federation.



### **Award for the Sports Event for Peace of the Year**

This prize was awarded to an event that has demonstrated its ability to effectively promote a message of peace within identified communities. The winning event is the **Laikipia Highlands Games** in Kenya, jointly organized by the Gallmann Memorial Foundation and the Great Rift Valley Trust. The Games aim to ease ethnic tension in this region and encourage young athletes in Kenya.

The Award was presented to Kuki GALLMANN, President of the Gallmann Memorial Foundation.

### **Award for the Sports Non-Governmental Organization for Peace of the Year**

This award is for NGOs which have demonstrated real expertise in its use of sport as a tool for peace education. Two winners were chosen in this category:

- **Skateistan**, an Afghan skate school focusing on education, sexual equality and cross-cultural understanding in Afghanistan.
- **Play Soccer**, which uses football to promote tolerance, sharing, loyalty and respect in Cameroon, Ghana, Malawi, Senegal, South Africa and Zambia.

The Awards were presented to Oliver Percovich, Director of Skateistan and Nina McPherson, Communications Strategy Consultant for Play Soccer.

### **Award for the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Initiative of the Year**

This new Award category was created to reward an international corporation which has particularly demonstrated its involvement in citizenship by using sport as a tool for peace education.

The winner is **Barclays**, for its sponsorship program "*Spaces for Sport*" which aims to revitalize sports sites in disadvantaged communities in the United Kingdom, South Africa, Spain, the United States and Zambia.

The Award was presented to Hannah Willis, Associate Director Global community Investment for Barclays.

### **The "Grand Prix" Peace and Sport Image of the Year Award**

During the Awards Ceremony, the prestigious Peace and Sport Image of the Year was presented to Lamine Diack, IAAF President for his initiative to unite the granddaughter of the German athlete Luz Long and the granddaughter of American champion Jesse Owens at the 2009 Athletics World Championships in Berlin, during the medal-giving for the long jump. This image perpetuates the courageous and unforgettable friendship between their grandfathers that began during the 1936 Olympics. It bears testimony to the immense power of sport to be stronger than hatred and extremism. The prize was awarded in partnership with SPORTEL Monaco and Agence France-Presse.

The Peace and Sport Awards were inaugurated in 2008.

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