



PRESS RELEASE

Russian Olympic city selected to host 2012 International Peace and Sport Forum

25 November, 2009, Monaco - The host city for Russia's first ever Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games in 2014, Sochi, will stage the 2012 Peace and Sport International Forum. The announcement - made today during the Opening Ceremony of the 2009 Peace and Sport Forum in Monaco - is further demonstration of the vast range of international events that are being staged in Sochi in the run-up to the Games.

A high-ranking Sochi 2014 delegation - led by Deputy Prime Minister of Russia, Dmitry Kozak - was in attendance at the event. Speaking in front of HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco, the Patron of Peace and Sport, Mr Kozak said:

"Today I am proud to confirm that the Russian Government has made an important decision to host the Peace and Sport Forum in Sochi in autumn 2012.

"Held in the Olympic host city, the event will reconfirm our commitment for supporting the ideals and values of the Olympic Movement and will result in an increased awareness of and cooperation for the ideals of the peace and sport.

"The Russian Federation accepted the proposal from His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco and the President of the organization Joel Bouzou to stage the Peace and Sport Forum in Sochi - the host city of the XXII Olympic and XI Paralympic Winter Games - with huge excitement.

"I am confident that holding such an important international event in the host city of the 2014 Games will promote Olympic and Paralympic values across political and business circles both in Russia and internationally."

Dmitry Chernyshenko, President and CEO of Sochi 2014, was part of the high-level official delegation from Russia participating in the 2009 Peace and Sport Forum. He said:

"We share the International Olympic Committee's view that sport can facilitate dialogue

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between different communities and be a catalyst for mutual understanding. For example, we are actively encouraging dialogue between cultures and nations through Sochi 2014's social media platforms, where we hope to help build greater understanding, friendship and respect across borders in line with the Olympic values and the ideal of peace."

Joel Bouzou, President and Founder of Peace and Sport, said:

"Peace and Sport is delighted to take the Forum to Sochi. Over recent years, sport has done a huge amount to bring people from East and the West together. Therefore taking the Forum to Russia is a natural decision for us to take."

Notes to Editors:

Peace and Sport (L'Organisation pour la Paix par le Sport) is a neutral and apolitical international initiative, supported by governments, world sport governing bodies, international organizations, major international private companies and international sports champions.

The Peace and Sport Forum is a unique platform to unite prominent people within peace and sport. This year's event was attended by more than 400 decision-makers from 80 countries, including 50 high-profile speakers such as Wilfried Lemke, Special Advisor to the UN Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace; Mr. Patrick McQuaid, President of the Union Cycliste Internationale; and Dr. Ralf-René Weingartner, Director of Youth and Sport at the Council of Europe.

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