



15 March 2011

Dr. Jacques Rogge
President
International Olympic Committee
Lausanne, Switzerland

Dear President and Friend;

During the recent XLIII General Ordinary Assembly of the Central American and Caribbean Sports Organization (CACSO), taken place in the city of Veracruz in Mexico with the participation of all 32 member countries, the case of the Netherlands Antilles' NOC was raised and discussed.

We are deeply concerned by the fact that a NOC who has received the IOC's recognition in 1950 and that is affiliated to our organization since 1946 may lose its recognition due to an alteration in political status, as is stated in a letter signed by Mr. Pere Miro, subject to a final decision in the next IOC session in Durban, South Africa.

We wish to inform you, Mr. President, that the CACSO Assembly unanimously endorses the continuity of the NOC of the Netherlands Antilles as a permanent member of the Olympic family and we urge the IOC to find solutions in order to avoid the definitive suspension of our affiliate.

We take into account similar existent cases around the world, such as Hong Kong, who underwent a political dissolution and, under the direct management of the People's Republic of China, maintained the independence and autonomy of its Olympic Committee.

After all, the athletes will be the most harmed by the situation, as the small islands have shown great efforts and investments in order to boost its sports development, yet will now be forced to see these goals shattered.

We leave this serious matter of the NOC Netherlands Antilles in your hands, Mr. President, and believe that you, along with the IOC Executive Board, will find a wise solution to the issue, and thus avoid the collapse of so many efforts and dreams, harming the youth of the Antilles.

I would like to express again my gratitude for all the support that you and the International Olympic Committee have always shown to the zone of Central America and the Caribbean.

With all my consideration and appreciation,

Héctor Cardona
Presidente
ODECABE-CACSO