



One of the International Olympic Committee (IOC)'s main objectives has always been and is more than ever in our society of today, to promote physical activity and to educate young people on the importance of sport and its values.

This is why the IOC will always encourage and support sports events such as the International Children's Games, which are an ideal opportunity to demonstrate to the world the role that sport plays by bringing together thousands of young people representing 50 countries for a friendly competition in a spirit of fair play and cultural understanding.

If youngsters learn through sport to respect each other, they will be well equipped for their role in contributing to a better and peaceful society.

Furthermore, the significant development of these Games in the areas of education and the environment reflects the growing understanding that a balanced athlete is a better performing athlete and future world leader.

On behalf of the Olympic Movement, I should like to extend my congratulations and best wishes to the city of San Francisco and the organisers of the 42nd International Children's Games on this important undertaking to strengthen the values and ideals of sport among the future generations.

Yours sincerely,

Jacques Rogge