



THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY SPORTS COUNCIL (CISM)

ORIGINS

The International Military Sports Council (CISM) was founded on the 18th February 1948, with the ambitious aim of concluding permanent relationships among all the Armed Forces of the world, in the sport and physical education fields. The motto "Friendship through Sport" explains the purposes: to confer, through sport, a sole competitive rivalry to the Armed Forces. At the moment the CISM is the only international military multi-sports organization, with 131 member countries, and with about 40 millions of people from Europe, America, Africa and Asia, who identify with it. As declared into its statute, it is an apolitical and no-profits organization, unique of its kind, where military sport is considered a fundamental pillar of international sport and universal peace, based on high morals and ethics.

CISM AND SPORT

At the moment, there are 24 sports into the CISM. They are organized into World Championships and, about twenty of them are organized yearly; they are also practised at a regional level, and some of them are into the programme of the Military World Games. This last event is organized every four years and the former four editions of the Military World Games took place respectively in 1995 in Rome, in 1999 in Zagabria, in 2003 in Catania and in 2007 in Hyderabad (India). The fifth edition will take place in Rio de Janeiro in 2011.

The CISM President is Gen. Gianni Gola, Officer of the Guardia di Finanza: he was elected in 1998 and he is at his third four-year mandate.

CISM AND SOLIDARITY

Solidarity is one of the two main activities of the CISM. The developed plans go from the organization of technical work experiences into the less progressed nations, to transport of the athletes to the championships by common military flights. They often have to send packages and equipments to the most disadvantaged lands. Furthermore, there are specific actions organized with the partners, in order to create synergies optimizing resources and means of each one.

CISM AND THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The CISM is now the authority the international sport world prefers to deal with. It has become an essential means for giving everybody and all young people in the world the chance of practicing physical education and sport. Last but not least, CISM plays a leading role in training the sport "élite" all over the world. It has far-back started a strict and useful cooperation with the biggest international organizations, such as the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the United Nations (UNO), from which it has been officially recognized. It also has close relations with the National Olympic Committees, the World Sport Federations, the UNESCO and other institutions, like the European Union. Moreover, the President of CISM is a member of the Olympic Truce International Foundation, created by the IOC for promoting peace and human understanding through a new Olympic idea.

CISM AND THE CHALLENGE OF THE GAMES OF AOSTA VALLEY 2010

Since 1995, thanks to the high level of its athletes, the CISM (International Military Sports Council) has decided to organize **every four years the World Military Games**: real "Olympics with stars". The great success of this event of sport and friendship among the Armies has drove **to organize, after the Summer, even the Winter Games dedicated to the mountain sports**. The Aosta Valley, with its remarkable sport organization abilities and a big tradition of hospitality, story and culture, has accepted the challenge by applying for the event.

THE UNO INTERNATIONAL FORUM "SPORT AND PEACE" OPENS THE GAMES ON 20TH MARCH

Among the many events promoted during the Military Games, there will be an **international Forum**, highly supported also by the I.O.C., concerning the role of military sport in the service of peace. Famous speakers and the Chiefs of Mission of the participating Countries will debate on the matter and present their own experiences. The forum will take place **at the Regional Palace in Aosta, seats of the Regional Government, in the morning of 20th March 2010**.

The main point will be a message of peace, as already happened in 2007 during the Military World Games of Hiderabad (India), which will be consecrated in a special declaration **addressed to the highest political authorities of the 131 CISM Member Nations, and to the most important International Organizations**.