

Speech by Carlos Arthur Nuzman, President of the Rio 2016 Organising Committee for the Olympic and Paralympic Games, to the UN General Assembly in New York on 26 October 2015, on the occasion of the adoption of the Olympic Truce resolution

Mr President, Secretary General, President of the International Olympic Committee, Distinguished delegates, IOC members, Members of the press.

It is a privilege as an Olympian and President of the Rio 2016 Organising Committee for the Olympic and Paralympic Games to address this distinguished General Assembly and introduce the resolution “Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal”.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I come to this “house of dialogue” to talk about truce, Olympic Truce. This is the greatest honour of all.

In this temple of consensus, the Olympic flag is raised with the goal to embrace diversity.

Our mission is to organise the Olympic Games and through this effort create a better world for the next generations.

Help them to see life through sport and to see sport as a way for all of us to build a fairer society on a healthier planet.

Sports brings a brighter future to athletes and to its wider family such as doctors, coaches, sponsors, teachers, journalists and supporters.

Six years ago, in Copenhagen, I asked my friends and colleagues in the IOC “Vote Rio and you open a gateway to 180 million passionate young people in South America... embracing a continent of 400 million people... Offering exciting, new opportunities for the Olympic Movement”.

South America is a new region for Olympic Movement.

We will host the Games for the first time. That is an inspiration. Doors are being opened to other regions of the world.

Sport could help solidarity, better education, social inclusion, understanding, peace and hope for the generations to come.

And I mean more... We are looking for a new dimension of opportunities, that will allow the young to build the future they deserve.

The International Olympic Committee supported our dream.

The frontiers of the Olympic Movement have expanded.

When we think about the true meaning of the IOC Agenda 2020 and we see Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and the IOC president, Thomas Bach, working together, we realise our future is in very good hands.

Rio is ready to deliver history. The city is being transformed. The legacy of the 2016 games will be tangible... perennial.

We are talking about sport as part of the city's education programme; a new urban mobility system; multiple job opportunities and a sustainable drive for the future.

C'est le pouvoir unique qu'a le Mouvement Olympique pour transformer des villes, des regions, des pays et la vie de millions de personnes....et pour changer L'Histoire.

C'est de cet objectif majeur que nous revons : que L'Humanite avance vers un monde plus juste, pacifique, avec multiples ouvertures pour la jeunesse.

La treve Olympique, cher president, ne doit pas etre seulement un reve. Nous sommes ici aujourd'hui pour promouvoir la transformation par le sport.

Nous souhaitons la paix.

Peace is the only fair future for humanity.

So our aim is to create a lasting legacy of peace for young people. A message of hope for the future, by reinforcing the rights of the boys and girls of this world. This message includes the right to education, access to sport, health care, accessibility as well as protection from abuse and neglect;

I point this out from the work we do at Rio 2016 with the help of 50 thousand volunteers and 11 million young students potentially involved in our education programme, which is called “transform”.

These boys and girls are also part of the “School Games” organised by the Brazilian Olympic Committee every year, with sport as a framework for a better life.

We have 284 days until the Olympic Flame arrives in the Maracanã Stadium for the opening ceremony of the 31st Olympiad.

Today is the perfect day for us all to contribute even more to a brighter future for the generations to come.

Distinguished delegates, on behalf of Brazil; the City of Rio de Janeiro and the Rio 2016 Organising Committee with its partners, I would like to give my thanks to this 70th General Assembly and ask for your support for this draft resolution.