

Sports as a tool for peace and development

LEADER Ms. Lilamani de Soysa
SPEAKERS Dr. Lorna Read, Ms. Siri Aas Rustad
RECORDER Ms. Kumi Yoshiki

MAIN ISSUES IDENTIFIED/DISCUSSED

1. The need for building a “culture of peace” through sport and education, with a particular emphasis on the rights of girls and women in society.
2. The importance of creating a peace and sport network in order to educate young girls and boys to be peace activists at all times and to give them access to the necessary resources, information and skills.
3. The need to create more peace and sport programmes for youth, using the motto “sport -our common language”, with emphasis on the fun aspect of traditional as well as organised sport, together with all actors in society (community leaders, families, religious leaders etc).
4. The necessity to empower civil society through sport in order to create a sustainable “culture of peace”.
5. The need to work with other partners working in peace- building activities, to create long-term projects, involving role models from sport.

RECOMMENDATIONS / COMMITMENT FOR ACTION (WHO? WHAT? WHEN ? HOW ?)

The knowledge about peace and peace related activities are not inherent to human beings. These notions have to be inculcated in young people from an early age.

Therefore, we, the participants recommend to our national governments to introduce a peace and sport programme in all school curricula in order to encourage peace building activities in youth (awareness of peace issues, dialogue skills, tools for action)

We the participants commit to creating at least one peace and sport project, within our individual contexts and individual needs (e.g. International Motor Cycling Federation to create “Peace Ride”).

We commit to seeking and using the resources and networks available, including contacts made at this conference.