TAFISA/UNESCO BUSAN APPEAL
on the Promotion and Preservation of Traditional Sports and Games

Signed 28.09.2008
TAFISA, UNESCO, BUSAN
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4th Busan TAFISA World Sport for All Games 2008

This resolution, in accordance with the International Charters of UNESCO and TAFISA, confirms and reinforces the importance of traditional games and sports as a vehicle for tolerance, integration, cultural awareness, solidarity, diversity and world peace.

Many traditional games and sports have disappeared or are under threat. In order to assure cultural diversity and peace, as well as the participation of all, regardless of gender, religion, ability or social background in sports and traditional games, we resolve to promote the balance of the existing diversity of top sport, Sport for All and physical activity with traditional sports and games. This resolution urges the creation balance between national interest with global elite, professional, for-profit top sport and an equivalent commitment to the vast array of traditional sports and games, in both their non-competitive forms and competitive forms.

This resolution acknowledges the need for action at the international, national, regional and local level required to develop plans, strategies and investments to align traditional games and sports to the future. It is agreed that this plan should include support networks and cooperate with local, regional, national and international groups; work with academic partners and institutions to document and evaluate the role of traditional sports and games; work toward capacity building and dissemination of programs and events at the local, regional and national level.

The supporters of the resolution proclaim their commitment to:

- preserve the cultural heritage of traditional sports and games, in partnership with cultural, educational, health, environmental and social institutions;
- transmit traditions in sport to new generations, disseminating material and cultural artefacts and experiences;
- commit to the coordination of global partnership to restore, enhance and celebrate traditional sports and games at local, regional, national and international levels;
- support the restoration of balance between modern sports and traditional sports and games;
- seek government and international organization endorsement and investment in the extension of traditional sports and games;
- sponsor, whenever possible, events that showcase the exciting world of traditional sports and games;
- promote traditional games and sports as an important mechanism for tolerance, fair play and peace.

It is understood that the 4th Busan TAFISA World Sport for All Games 2008 in an exemplary way reflects and illustrates the underlying strategy and concept of this Resolution. Moreover, the Games document the necessity for the regular organization of events for the promotion and development of traditional sports and games.

For the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Mr Wataru Iwamoto
Director of the Division of social Sciences, Research and Policy

For the Trim & Fitness International Sport for All Association (TAFISA)

Dr Shang-Hi Rhee
President

For the City of Busan, Korea

Nam-sik Hur
Chairman, Mayor