



Facilities & Public Space for Sport & Physical Activity

Resolution of the General Assembly of TAFISA

Warsaw, September 20, 2005

TAFISA:

- underscores the fact that adequate sports facilities are the absolutely essential precondition for the practice of Sport for All. The facilities need to be designed and constructed so as to accommodate a broad spectrum of activities, which is the prime characteristic of mass sports. Sports facilities have to be functional as well as attractive in a way that both encourages people to do sports and boosts their feeling of well-being.
- points out that sports facilities that are designed primarily for competitive sports and therefore are subject to standardization, e.g. sports grounds, sports halls, outdoor and indoor swimming pools, are also indispensable in the case of mass sports.
- emphasizes that nevertheless in the case of plenty of mass sports activities less space and equipment is required and thus state-of-the-art facilities are not vitally important. Smaller sports centres can easily be integrated into residential areas where they foster physical activity. They are considerably cheaper in construction and maintenance, which in turn makes them more attractive to potential users. Vacant buildings can also be frequently rebuilt and converted so as to serve sports purposes.
- draws attention to the fact that such publicly accessible areas as parks, meadows, schoolyards, public roads, etc. and their immediate surroundings should be made available for mass sports purposes.

Having regard to the above arguments, TAFISA strongly believes:

- that especially at weekends many public roads of minor importance, e.g. in inner city areas of big cities, should be closed to cars and made available for sports activities. Good examples to follow are the Seine Riverside Road in Paris and the Ciclovía programme in Bogotá.
- that because of a considerable number of physically active citizens planning, construction and maintenance of sports facilities should be deemed a matter of public concern. TAFISA will actively support the development and dissemination of adequate schemes and cost-efficient building projects of sports facilities.
- that awareness should be raised of the fact that primarily in the developing countries there is a huge backlog demand for sports facilities. The scant means available cannot be put into prestigious construction projects that will please only few people. Instead, the concept of sports opportunities makes it possible to make huge strides even with scant means.
- that a report should be presented at the upcoming plenary meeting of TAFISA on the status and progress of the facilities and the preconditions for further development.
- will use our influence in the areas of city planning, transport systems, sport facilities, schools, cultural events etc. and raise their voice for a strong role of physical activity and sport in public life.
- will integrate the physical activity and health aspect into the new education programs for professional leaders and volunteers in Sport for All management
- will report on the status of implementing the before mentioned tasks to the future congresses of TAFISA.