

March 1998

Dear Sirs

We would like to express our sincere appreciation for your wonderful contributions to the organization and running of the recent 18th Olympic Winter Games. Your support and cooperation helped to make the event a great success. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Under the ideals of love and participation, the Nagano Olympic Winter Games were held with the aims of the participation of children, who will lead us into the 21st Century, co-existence with the beauty and richness of nature, and the realization of a celebration of peace and friendship.

Thanks to the committed efforts of the volunteers, sporting organizations and everyone else involved, the athletes achieved wonderful results in their respective events and provided an exciting spectacle for the people of Japan.

Mr Juan Antonio Samaranch, President of the IOC, gave our games his highest praise, describing them as having "the best organization in the history of the Olympic Winter Games". The games were also highly commended by other members of the IOC and the various international sporting federations.

The excitement of the Games was broadcast to the rest of the world through the media, allowing people throughout the world to share in the excitement of the Games. Through this, we were also able to deepen understanding of the importance of peace and of Japanese culture. In this respect, we truly believe that the Nagano Olympic Winter Games have written a new page in Japan's contribution to world peace.

The Organizing Committee for the XVII Olympic Winter Games, Nagano 1998

President	Eishiro Saito
Vice President	Goro Yoshimura
Vice President	Hironoshin Furuhashi
Vice President	Yoshiaki Tsutsumi
Vice President	Tasuku Tsukada
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