



ORIGINAL: FRENCH

**INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE
ETHICS COMMISSION**

DECISION CARRYING RECOMMENDATION N° D/3/04

CASE N° 3/04

**BBC One Panorama
London**

REFERRAL:

In a letter dated 28 July 2004, the IOC President seized the Ethics Commission in the following terms: "I wish officially to refer to the Ethics Commission a case, the details of which you will find in the attached documents. I should be grateful if you would inform me of the Ethics Commission's opinion on this matter."

This letter reveals that one or more people to whom the Code of Ethics applies may be concerned.

In a letter dated 4 August 2004, the Ethics Commission informed Mr Ivan Slavkov of this referral and that he had the possibility of immediately making observations on the statements made by the creators of the BBC News "Panorama" programme which was due to be shown on 4 August 2004 at 9 p.m. BST.

On 5 August, the Ethics Commission received Mr Slavkov's reply stating that he would take all the documents in his possession to Athens. The Commission has also taken cognisance of the written observations which Mr Ivan Slavkov made on 4 August 2004 to Ms Giselle Davies, IOC Communications Director.

FACTS:

The Ethics Commission has been informed of the following facts:

For several months, journalists from the British television channel BBC News (the BBC) investigated practices allegedly linked to the selection procedure of the host city for the 2012 Olympic Games. The results of this investigation were broadcast in the "Panorama" programme.

By posing as the representatives of a group of clients based in the East End of London with their own reasons for wanting to see the 2012 Olympic Games in London, the journalists recorded Mr Ivan Slavkov in the company of Mr Goran Takac by using a hidden camera. The words, which the persons concerned used, as seen in the broadcast, would seem to indicate that the IOC Code of Ethics and the implementing provisions concerning the Rules of conduct applicable to all cities wishing to organise the Olympic Games have not been respected.

In addition, the programme shows that various people likely to have an accreditation during the Olympic Games in Athens, including Messrs Goran Takac, Gabor Komyathy, Mahmood El Farnawani and Muttaleb Ahmad, also appear to make comments which would seem to indicate that the IOC Code of Ethics and the implementing provisions concerning the Rules of conduct applicable to all cities wishing to organise the Olympic Games have not been respected.

What is more, the BBC has had many exchanges of correspondence with IOC members, representatives of the Candidate Cities for 2012 and the other people involved in this Panorama programme.

In a letter dated 30 July 2004, the Ethics Commission asked the BBC to communicate all the written and audiovisual documents in its possession, and that this request be broadcast during the above-mentioned programme. The response to these requests was that the BBC would contact the Ethics Commission after the programme was broadcast.



The Panorama programme was shown on 4 August 2004 at 9 p.m. BST. A recording and transcript of their programme were made.

OPINION:

After having taken cognisance of all the written documents, as well as the content of the programme when it was broadcast, the Ethics Commission notes that some of the actions of Mr Ivan Slavkov, an IOC member, are of a nature to require the application of point 5 of part B of the IOC Code of Ethics: "The Olympic parties shall use due care and diligence in fulfilling their mission. They must not act in a manner likely to tarnish the reputation of the Olympic Movement", and has consequently decided to open an inquiry.

The Ethics Commission feels that the explanations Mr Ivan Slavkov has given to the IOC cannot be accepted as they stand, since he was acting in agreement with Mr Goran Takac, whose usual activity, known to everyone within the Olympic Movement, is to act as a contact person on behalf of the candidate cities, and also because Mr Ivan Slavkov has not received a mandate to "find the real roots of corruption".

The Ethics Commission further notes that:

- the seriousness of the alleged acts;
- the proximity to the start of the IOC's activities, that is to say the Executive Board meeting from 7 to 9 August, the Session from 10 to 12 August and the Olympic Games from 13 to 29 August 2004;
- the broadcast of these events by the international media and the public impact resulting from this; and
- the need to protect the interests of the Olympic Movement

justify the recommendation:

- of a provisional measure to deprive Mr Ivan Slavkov of all of the rights, prerogatives and functions deriving from his membership of the IOC throughout the inquiry;
- and the immediate withdrawal, if such accreditations exist, of the accreditations of Messrs Goran Takac, Gabor Komyathy, Mahmood El Farnawani and Muttaleb Ahmad, for the duration of the Olympic Games in Athens,.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Ethics Commission, after deliberating in conformity with point 9 of Part B of its Rules, recommends that the IOC Executive Board:

- 1) pursuant to paragraph 4 of Rule 25.2.1.1 of the Olympic Charter, provisionally deprive Mr Ivan Slavkov of all of the rights, prerogatives and functions deriving from his membership of the IOC throughout the inquiry;
- 2) pursuant to paragraph 4 of Rule 25.2.2.3 of the Olympic Charter, withdraw the accreditations, if such accreditations exist, immediately, and for the duration of the Olympic Games in Athens, of Messrs Goran Takac, Gabor Komyathy, Mahmood El Farnawani and Muttaleb Ahmad.

Done in Athens, 6 August 2004

For the Chairman,
Pâquerette Girard Zappelli
Special Representative