

SPORTS FESTIVAL 2018 BANGKOK



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MESSAGE from Dr. Thomas Bach

Dear Friends,

The 2018 Bangkok Sports Festival is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the joy of sport. It is also an opportunity to remind ourselves of the power of sport to always bring people together and make a difference in our lives. In sport, everyone is equal, no matter who you are or what your background is. This is why this festival, with its focus on promoting physical activity for people from all walks of life, sends the powerful message to all participants that sport can overcome all barriers.

Under the patronage of the International Olympic Committee, the 2018

Bangkok Sports Festival is a tangible example of how our vision of making the world a better place through sport can become reality. In particular, by closely involving displaced youth and young people in need in the festival, the organisers are sending an important message of solidarity in and through sport.

My sincere thanks and appreciation go to the organisers of the 2018 Bangkok Sports Festival, in particular the Ministry of Tourism and Sports of the Kingdom of Thailand, the National Olympic Committee of Thailand and the Alliance of Independent Recognised Members of Sport (AIMS).

With this festival, you are showing how sport can be a force for good in people's lives and in communities around the globe. It is through such cooperation that together, we can make the world a better place through sport. In this spirit, I wish everyone a successful 2018 Bangkok Sports Festival. To all the participants, friends and spectators, enjoy every moment and have a wonderful time in Bangkok.

Mr. Thomas Bach
IOC President



MESSAGE from **Mr. Patrick Baumann**

For the last 12 months, the World of Sport has been looking forward to the SportAccord Convention 2018 in Bangkok. We would like to congratulate The Royal Thai Government, the National Olympic Committee and the Thai Sport Authorities as well as everyone who has contributed to the idea and execution for this first of a kind Bangkok Sports Festival, which will be running parallel to the SportAccord Convention.

Sport is central to every culture and society, regardless to if we simply enjoy sport as a fan or if as an active sportsperson at amateur or the elite level: sport is core to an individual's health and happiness. It is vital that we work together to really develop sport and address the challenges we face and make a greater contribution to society.

We have seen it at the Rio Olympic Games with the successful IOC refugee team and now we are all here in Bangkok to witness sport as a universal language promoting peace, tolerance and understanding.

We believe in non-discrimination, our true nationality is mankind. The slogan of the festival is "United through Sports" and we, in GAISF and the whole sport family believe that equality is key to unity.

We also believe that cooperation and partnerships between public authorities, the sports movement and other NGOs are key to achieve success in uniting the world around and through sport.

I wish to pay my respect to all the organisers for their determination and courage and my appreciation to the participants. Let us be inspired by these displaced and disadvantaged youth walking proudly onto the field of play. Let us unite to celebrate the spirit and values of sport and let us make a difference.

Mr. Patrick Baumann
GAISF President



MESSAGE from General Prawit Wongsuwan

The National Olympic Committee of Thailand stands proudly to welcome many prestigious personalities from the Olympic family into the Kingdom of Thailand. The NOCT is a firm believer in sports universality, its power to drive social change and to do our part to promote cultural peace.

The Sports Festival 2018 is a unique opportunity to showcase Thailand's sporting youth, to introduce new sports and motivate the next generation to participate in a healthy lifestyle and the Olympic dream.

The NOCT is also a strong supporter of the "giving is winning" program under the IOC and UN HCR. We must emphasise global solidarity and we must raise awareness especially for the ones who are in need for humanity to reach out and this is what Olympic solidarity is all about.

This is why I truly applaud the IOC and the many organisations working together tonight. Just as history was made in Rio 2016 with the Olympic refugee team, I would like to congratulate those who worked together to bring over the displaced youth team who are present here today. Let us join in giving them a special welcome to this event.

I would like to applaud the athletes, especially our own Olympic champions who stand as role models. Tonight, they will be remembered as much more standing tall for Olympic humanity, which goes far beyond excellence.

Over the three days, we will see summer and winter Olympic sports, IOC recognized and non-IOC recognized sports, but above all the sporting world is united under the Olympic flag. A symbol of the coloured rings representing the world's different continents as one.

**General Prawit
Wongsuwan**
Thailand NOC

Under the Royal Patronage of
His Majesty the King

The National Olympic Committee of Thailand will continue to work towards a global community of mutual respect and understanding through the power of sport. Please enjoy unique Thai hospitality and let us welcome you once again into our beautiful Kingdom.



MESSAGE from His Excellency Weerasak Kowsurat

On behalf of the Royal Thai Government, it gives me the greatest pleasure to welcome all visitors and especially the participants to Bangkok, Thailand. I would like to express my sincerest appreciation to all those here present to this unique 2018 Bangkok Sports Festival “United Through Sport” in the heart of Thailand, Bangkok. Thailand is proud to have been awarded the SportAccord 2018 and equally proud that the International Olympic Committee (IOC) recognises Thailand as a sports hub in Southeast Asia. They have gracefully given patronage to this important event for which we are honoured.

Sports have the unique power to promote peace, sustainable goals and intercultural dialogue. We encourage sport for everyone in Thailand and this is why this festival has been a cooperation of many under Ministry of Tourism and Sports, by the Sports Authority of Thailand (SAT) in collaboration with the Department of Physical Education have organised the festival. We work closely together with the National Olympic Committee and the national federations to ensure that sport and physical activities are accessible to all regardless of gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion or social backgrounds.

We can only congratulate the partnership between so many here tonight focusing on youth development, youth civic engagement, and at achieving a culture of peace and non-violence through the power of sport. I offer my deepest respect to everyone played a part focusing on displaced youth issues as well as disadvantaged and challenged youth.

Tonight, we proudly see our Olympic heroes marching united with our youth demonstrating the important Olympic values and above all, the Olympic humanity.

Last but not least, I would like to thank the organising committee and everyone involved in making this festival possible. I wish all of you a safe journey back home and I hope that you are able to take your time to experience and enjoy Bangkok, the City of Angels.

**His Excellency
Weerasak Kowsurat**
Tourism and Sports
Minister Thailand



MESSAGE from Mr. Stephan Fox

It always seems impossible, until it is done. Let us all remember Nelson Mandela and the phenomenal legacy he left behind, reminding us that by playing together, we share the same dreams and hopes which serves as a great example of unifying power.

Sport is central to every culture and society, it is core to an individual's health and happiness. I truly believe that through sport we have the power to change lives, especially the ones in desperate need of hope and change.

The SportAccord Convention is a unique opportunity for all stakeholders within the Olympic family to come together for leading and knowledge sharing. It positively influences us to continue our responsibility and the mandate given to us to inspire others and enable people to harness the power of sport in their lives.

AIMS is one of the five IOC recognised umbrella bodies within the GAISF family made up of 21 individual sports each of them displaying beauty in themselves. The AIMS Conference has become an important part of the convention and now with the sports festival and additional events, AIMS would like to thank everyone for their work and contribution towards the same vision and missions.

We have all just witnessed the power of Sport by the joint march of the two teams from the National Olympic Committee from the Republic of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. This is the vision of the Olympic movement, to build a better world through sport. The Olympic spirit of unity, harmony and respect can be seen all over the world as sport brings people together. It is founded on universal values whereby we might speak different languages, have different viewpoints or customs, but when on the field of play we are all part of the same system.



Mr. Stephan Fox
AIMS President
GAISF Vice President

No sport alone can stop conflict or bring about peace, but it certainly is a peace-keeping tool that builds rather than destroys. Unity is key and this year will see a new addition to the convention, which will be the sport festival, along with a festival opening ceremony and we would like to thank the IOC for their patronage. The slogan of the festival is “United Through Sports” and united we are in the SportAccord family.

OPENING Conference United Through Sport

The 17th of April was a historical day in the world of sport with the official launch of the United Through Sports (UTS) initiative during the SportAccord Convention 2018 held in Bangkok.

The Bangkok Sports Festival and UTS were under the full patronage of the IOC and to show his support, IOC President Dr. Thomas Bach was keynote speaker at the United Through Sports Opening Conference of the festival. The President made a heartfelt speech congratulating the GAISF Vice President Mr. Stephan Fox for his initiative and thanks was also given to United Through Sports Chief Executive Officer Ms. Julia Govinden.

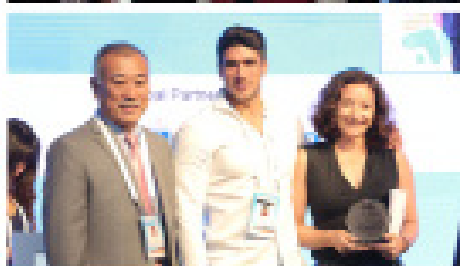
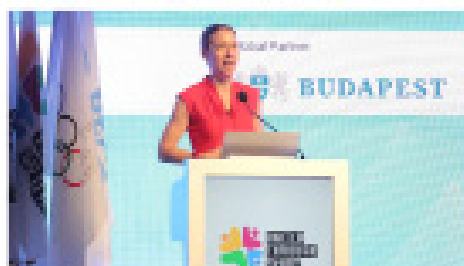
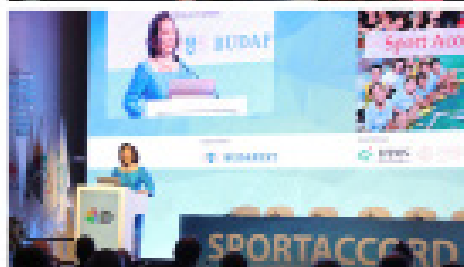
The President outlined the goal of the Olympic movement, with emphasis on the Olympic spirit which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play. He highlighted the importance of the opening ceremony in PyeongChang with the unified Korean team reminding us that sport does not build walls. Today more than ever we need the unifying power of sport.

There were many welcoming speakers, including the GAISF President Patrick Baumann, President of ASOIF Francesco Ricci Bitti and President of WADA Sir Craig Reedie. The event was opened by Thailand's Minister of Tourism and Sport His Excellency Weerasak Kowsurat followed by other prestigious speakers

including; Joel Bouzou, Anna-Karin Jattfors, Khunying Patama Leeswadtrakul, Giovanna Mondragon, Kevin Frey, Caroline Tresise, Nadin Dawani and Stanislas Frossard.

Julia Govinden delivered a highly emotional speech, showcasing the importance of forming alliances and that the conference itself is a clear example of what can be accomplished if organizations unify towards our most important asset, the youth of the world. Julia invited some of the children who were part of the United Through Sports Opening Festival to address the leaders of sport, which was not only touching but inspiring.

AIMS President and GAISF Vice President Stephan Fox stated that we do not need to be the same to be together. Sport has proven to have the ability to bring unity and peace to a divided world. With United Through Sports, we are united as one spirit, and we work to foster and promote Olympic values and Olympic humanity.



The Opening Conference United Through Sports Speakers list

H.E. Weerasak Kowsurat
Minister of thailand Tourism and Sport
Patrick Baumann
President SportAccord and GAISF, IOC member
Francesco Ricci Bitti
President ASOIF
Sir Craig Reedie
President WADA, IOC member
Julia Govinden
CEO United Through Sports
Joël Bouzou
President World Olympians Association
President and Founder Peace and Sport
Anna-karin Jattfors
UN Women Deputy Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific
Stephan Fox
President AIMS, GAISF Vice President
DR. Thomas Bach
IOC President
Khunying Patama Leeswadtrakul
IOC Member, President Badminton Thailand
Giovanna Mondragon
Executive Director Sport Is Your Gang
Kevin Frey
CEO Right to Play
CarolineTresise
Youth and Sport Task Force & Sport specialist : UNESCO
Nadin Dawani
IOC Athletes Commission
Stanislas Frossard
General Secretary EPAS

It was a historical turnout for the “Good Morning Muaythai” activity during this year’s 2018 SportAccord Convention in Bangkok. Kicking off bright and early on the terrace of Centara Grand, IFMA President Dr. Sakchye Tapsuan along with Stephan Fox along with led the eager delegates through a fun and gruelling muaythai workout together with an all-star team of muaythai masters from Thailand culminating in a special cultural experience and blessing by Thai Monks.

President of GAISF Patrick Baumann, President of ARISF Raffaele Chiulli and President of FISU Oleg Matysin were among the many convention delegates sweating up a storm and having their taste of muaythai.

An additional highlight of the morning to which all those present carried home with them was the participation of a team of displaced youths who travelled many miles from camps on the Thai border and welcomed to participate in the Bangkok “United Through Sports” Festival. They were accompanied by the passionate team from Right To Play with whom IFMA and UTS made an important collaboration towards this unique project. The youths were warmly welcomed by all those present and full sporting kits were donated.

After a traditional monk blessing ceremony, Peace & Sport Ambassador Pascal Gentil and Right to Play advocate Bismack Biyombo were ready to inspire the group with a workshop, important messages and their personal stories on the power of sport to transform lives.

Since 2010 the Good Morning Muaythai event has become an institution at the convention, but the 2018 edition in the motherland, was most memorable. Every participant regardless to whether being President, superstars, members of federations or delegates came together to enjoy the beauty of the Bangkok sunrise and muaythai, but also to welcome the beautiful youth of displaced and disadvantaged refugee regions from the Tak Province in Thailand. This moment touched every person present and made this day so special.

GOOD MORNING BANGKOK





CEO of SportAccord Convention hails the Success of United Through Sports festival

Nis Hatt needs no introduction as the driving force behind the success of the SportAccord Convention and has supported the Bangkok Sports Festival since its inception. Nis stated that the festival has brought unprecedented energy to the convention with the location of the festival placed just outside the convention centre, giving all delegates the chance to enjoy the various activities. At the same time the representatives of International Federations could show their own youth and sports in action. Nis Hatt further stated that the evening entertainment was breathtaking, at times with eight sports playing in tandem giving the audience a chance to hop from one sport to another giving the public as well as delegates a chance to experience novel sports.

Just as importantly, the sports festival was a great platform giving other sports the chance to promote and establish themselves in the region, where such sports may not be popular or have a National Federation. Nis relayed the importance of the many coordination trips to Bangkok which proved to have been fruitful along with the professionalism of Thailand's Sport Ministry and Sport Authority. Furthermore, the close cooperation with AIMS President Stephan Fox who is based in Bangkok played an important role to the success of the event.

With the closing of the convention and the UTS Festival, Mr Hatt relayed that everyone is very much looking forward to the next convention and to see what UTS and SportAccord have in mind to make it an even bigger success in the future.



ATHLETES

Contribute Towards

United Through Sports

Pascal Gentil

Delegates of the SportAccord 2018 Convention witnessed countless smiling faces for the Champion for Peace athlete, Pascal Gentil. Mr. Gentil needs no introduction in the world of sport, especially the world of combat sport as a double Olympic medalist and former Captain of the French Taekwondo team. As a dedicated martial artist, he was raised with the ancient traditions of martial arts in which respect and honour play an important role.

Pascal is the current Champion for Peace and Ambassador of Peace and Sport understanding that sport goes far beyond sporting performances and the important role sport and the athletes play towards society. Pascal was an asset during the UTS Festival and the SportAccord Convention. Not only did he prove that he still has skills, Pascal also showed an open heart by participating in the Good Morning Muaythai event. He then organised workshops for the disadvantaged and displaced youths from three camps (Mae Ia, Umpiem and Nu Po) in the Tak Province.

After 4 days of involving himself in the many activities, he gave an emotional speech at the United Through Sports Closing Conference highlighting that athletes of the world must continue to inspire and dedicate time. Pascal emphasized that the Bangkok Sport Festival was a great example of how alliances can be formed to not only create awareness but to directly tackle social issues in a variety of ways.

The children thanked Pascal but we must also give our thanks, Pascal you are a true inspiration.



Bismack Biyombo

Orlando Magic NBA superstar Bismack Biyombo is an admirable athlete. Many may not know that he dedicates a large amount of his time to give back to the ones in need and works closely with global organisation Right To Play. He not only came to be a part of the festival but travelled to the Tak Province camps (Mae Ia, Umpiem and Nu Po) to have a deeper understanding of the current situation and to return being able to inspire others to do the same.

Bismack was there for the entire festival engaging himself in workshops, spending time with the children, participating in the Goodmorning Muaythai event and was always there at the festival to inspire the children. Bismack is a dedicated ambassador for sports exemplifying the important role athletes have to use their stardom for altruistic reasons and working for something larger than themselves. Bismack is tall on the court but even taller in life. Thank you Bismack!



Christian Karembou

Christian Karembou is one of the most outstanding French football legends winning the Championships League with Real Madrid but since his retirement he has become one of the 54 athletes joining the Champions for Peace created by Peace and Sport. Karembou was one of the stars at the Bangkok Sports Festival and SportAccord Convention and a celebrity referee at the opening street football match between the displaced and disadvantaged children.

He tirelessly mingled with the children teaching them, inspiring them and serving as a positive role model. Christian stated that many children thanked him over the days, but he needs to thank the children as they too inspired him and were a reminder of all our responsibilities. He stated that UTS initiative festival is much more than a sporting event, it was a celebration of sport and the unique power sport has. The fact that so many sports came together under one united approach, having just become a father himself, made him feel proud that he was able to contribute.



Nadin Diwani

The IOC Athletes Commission contributed to the United Through Sports initiative represented by Nadin Diwani. Athletes are the heart and soul of the sporting movement and every sport has an Athletes Commission serving as a link between the athletes themselves and their federations. The IOC Athletes Commission has the leading role with athletes and with the Olympic movement. Athletes are role models for our youth and those who advocate for social change may never be more needed than today. Their most effective tool for speaking out for equality with their own authentic voices and personal stories is a powerful tool in sports. The IOC Athletes representative Nadin spoke on behalf of all sports members at the United Through Sports Opening Conference. The Chair of the IOC Athletes Commission and IOC member Kirsty Coventry was seated front row at the opening ceremony dancing and celebrating the spirit and joy of our youth.



United Through Sports Charity Raffle

United Through Sports and all its supporters have a strong belief in the power of sport, standing together as one and contributing towards social change in every corner of the world. United Through Sports is not just a slogan, it is an alliance of organizations and individuals with the belief that united we can make for a better tomorrow against discrimination, towards female empowerment, humanitarian assistance, gender equality, education and providing hope when hope is lost.

United Through Sports has no borders, it has no chains, together we try to build bridges with one universal language.

The SportAccord Convention has brought many exemplary organizations together including; Generation for Peace, UNESCO, Peace and Sport, Right To Play and UN Women. All these organisations united as well as contributions from countless sporting federations. During the SportAccord Convention, daily United Through Sports raffles took place for which we would especially like to thank Tissot for donating all the beautiful watches. The objective of the UTS raffle was to raise funds for displaced children from the Tak Province (Mae Ia, Umphiem and Nu Po camps). The fund raising aimed to provide sporting equipment for the disadvantaged children who face a challenging path in life and gives them access to sport and a chance to socialise. The funds raised were to enable youth to participate in a healthier lifestyle and give them a reason to smile.

We would like to congratulate the winners of the raffles and to thank all those who entered each day. You all contributed towards an important mission and have brought a smile to the faces of many children who did not have a fair start in life. The United Through Sports booth welcomed many delegates who kindly donated to the cause. We would like to thank everyone who came to the booth and enjoyed the photowall, of the various projects shared some ice cream and it was a pleasure to see so many friendly faces.

Thank you to all delegates and contributors under the United Through Sports campaign initiative



KIDS

Take Centre Stage at UTS Festival Opening

The city of Bangkok came alive to the sights and sounds of sport as the inaugural SportAccord Thailand Sports Festival entertained a packed Centara World Square.

It is the first time SportAccord has featured a Festival, taking the delegates onto the streets of Bangkok whilst at the same time engaging the local Thai people. The theme of the Festival was United Through Sports, and its mission is to make a tangible difference to the lives of children in displaced communities. UTS and the global IFMA campaign, Sport is Your Gang (which won the GAISF (SportAccord) Spirit of Sport Award in 2014 for outstanding social projects) joined forces with Right To Play to give displaced and disadvantaged youth a once in a lifetime opportunity to be a part of an IOC patronized event. Incorporating 64 different Olympic and non-Olympic federations, the festival was a celebration of sport as well as culture and most importantly the youth of the world. At the Opening Ceremony on the 17th April, children from all walks of life came to perform, including those from displaced families (Mae Ia, Umphiem and Nu Po camps). More than 100 children came together on one stage to showcase their unique abilities and participated in the opening ceremony. Performances included songs from an international children's choir, a candle-lit celebration, cheerleading, dance, music from talented youths with different abilities and gymnastics teams as well as a Thailand traditional muay boran presentation.

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Panida Ottesen the Executive Secretary of AIMS stated one of the key challenges was to coordinate all the different sports but it was impressive to see how well all sports worked together for the same goal. The driving force behind the SportAccord Thailand Sports Festival was AIMS President Stephan Fox, who believes that sport can and should be used to change lives. "Ultimately, my aim is to make this world a better place," Fox said. "To do this we must all be united in the sports movement to ensure that the base of the pyramid, the grassroots participants worldwide have equal opportunities to practice sports."

IFMA Sport Director Charissa Tynan stated "We want to contribute and joining forces with UTS give these children hope and a voice. That is what United Through Sports is all about. I hope that this Festival is just the start for SportAccord's involvement and that this initiative continues each and every year."







BANGKOK SPORTS FESTIVAL

and Leaving a Legacy Behind

One of the many charity initiatives IFMA governs is “Do good, Feel good” which was launched at the Bangkok festival. IFMA as one of the key driving forces towards supporting the Bangkok Sports Festival, which was put in motion with a program to include focus juvenile centres in Bangkok. A group of teenagers from the centres were invited to take part in the Festival where they spent the day training and learning from former Thai Olympic Champions and being inspired towards their future.

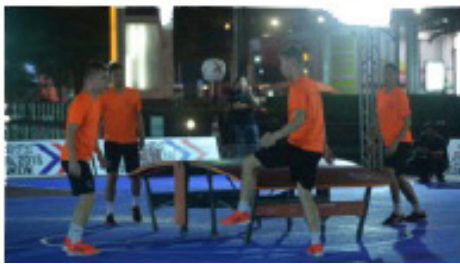
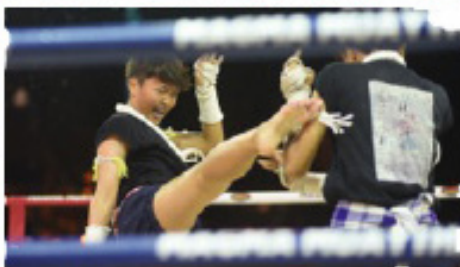
Dr. Sakchye Tapsuan President of IFMA stated “This has been a fantastic opportunity for these kids, giving them hope towards a better life and showcasing that sport stands united in addressing different issues of the world” Fox said of the programme. “It is my hope that they will go home feeling inspired and can serve as role models for the next generation.”

All donations made from SportAccord delegates to the United Through Sports initiative will go directly to the displaced communities, funding sporting equipment for children to socialise and learn vital life skills. AIMS has partnered with SportAbility for the United Through Sports initiative and where SportAbility’s Julia Govinden praised the willingness of GAISF, AIMS and SportAccord to use sport for worldwide development. “This festival is about using the platform that sport has, to highlight the issues in society and raise money to combat those issues,” Ms. Govinden said “It is important

that we work together using all opportunities and resources, so that we can make a real difference to displaced families in this region.” Ms. Govinden further stated “ After the convention ends, the legacy of the convention will live on by the donation of sports equipment to those without access, every child should have access to sports.”

The Thailand Sports Festival offers sports demonstrations and opportunities for all to try new activities throughout each day. Following the closure of SportAccord, sporting equipment will be driven to the displaced regions and enjoyed by communities of youth. AIMS values the ability of sport to contribute to positive change in communities. By working alongside likeminded individuals, AIMS is confident that the United Through Sports initiative can have a valuable and long-lasting impact, not just in Thailand but across the world. The event was patronised by the IOC and with the support of GAISF. Coordination was a collaboration of UTS, the Royal Thai Government, AIMS and IFMA and included over 70 representatives from embassies and consulates who came as VIPS to witness the opening of the festival demonstrating that our children unite us all.





BANGKOK

SPORTS FESTIVAL

Cocktail Reception

The SportAccord Convention 2018 was hosted in the beautiful Kingdom of Thailand and deemed one of the most successful to date.

The Bangkok Sports Festival under the United Through Sports initiative brought the children of the world to unite for peace and a better world. Over 2000 delegates from all five continents raised a sea of candles when Miss Imani Cintado O'Donovan performed Leonard Cohen's timeless "Hallelujah" and appealed to the leaders of the sporting world to continue using the unique power of sport towards a collaborative social change. With energetic and fun performances from the National Thai Cheerleading team and Gymnastics to the Hip Hop crew who brought the audience to their feet, the show was a youth-only affair. The host, 12 year old Stella Lawrence delivered a fantastic engaging personality and the international youth choir kept all delegates singing along in unison.

After the opening ceremony, a beautiful cocktail reception was hosted by Khunying Pattama Leeswadtrakul, Thailand's decorated IOC member. This event was co-hosted by the Foreign Ministry and IFMA in the ballroom of the Arnoma Hotel. The elaborate event was full of surprises, notably the 60 piece International Symphony Orchestra with Khunying herself performing for the guests. It was a night of glamour but also to remind everyone again that many of the disadvantaged and displaced children do not have a choice but we do and this was the message of the night, to be united as one. A special thank you must go to Khunying Pattama for this evening.





Exceptional Art Workshop

With Valentina Jarrett Where Kids Create

After four days of excitement, action and sports, the United Through Sports (UTS) and Bangkok Sport Festival came to an end. The closing conference was organised by the National Olympic Committee of Thailand, UTS team and AIMS. The expansive Ballroom at the Centara was filled with personalities where the keynote speaker was His Royal Highness Prince Faisal, IOC Member and President of the National Olympic Committee of Jordan. The conference was opened with Thailand's IOC member Khunying Patama Leewadtrakul an Executive Board Member of the National Olympic Committee of Thailand who welcomed all guests on their behalf.

The Deputy Minister for Tourism and Sport Mr. Ittiphol Khunpluem thanked everyone on behalf of the Royal Thai Government for making the United Through Sports initiative an important part of the SportAccord Convention leaving a legacy behind for youth in need. Raffaele Chiulli President of ARISF spoke on behalf of GAISF and over 100 International Federations and organisations, outlining the importance of sport and society as well as the responsibilities of every stakeholder within the Olympic family. President of FISU Oleg Matytsin congratulated each and every person who contributed to UTS and confirmed that FISU not only supports but contributed to the campaign, as we all have an obligation to work towards a better tomorrow.



The workshop came to a close over snacks and group photographs, with appreciation and thanks given to Mrs. Jarrett and most importantly, where the children left with a sense of accomplishment and the feeling of unity.

The children's artwork was accepted as gifts to some of their sports heroes and others were presented to delegates of National Federations. A special moment was marked when Mrs. Jarrett addressed the AIMS General Assembly and presented the youth's artwork to the AIMS President Mr. Stephan Fox which represented the 21 AIMS logos.

Mrs. Jarrett addressed the General Assembly thanking the AIMS leadership for this unique opportunity stating that she has been a part of the SportAccord family since the early days, but the United Through Sports conference, the Bangkok Sports Festival and above all the smiles of these children made the SportAccord Convention 2018 one, if not the most outstanding.





CLOSING

Conference

United Through Sports

After four days of excitement, action and sports, the United Through Sports (UTS) and Bangkok Sport Festival came to an end. The closing conference was organised by the National Olympic Committee of Thailand, UTS team and AIMS. The expansive Ballroom at the Centara was filled with

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The CEO of UTS Julia Govinden made a raw, highly emotional speech about the success of the campaign, the journey of the displaced children and she thanked everyone for their contribution to bring real smiles to so many faces. Ms. Govinden gave a detailed report on other activities that ran throughout the convention week, especially regarding youth with different abilities.

AIMS President Stephan Fox reflected with passion on the week reminding everyone about our responsibilities and that the United Through Sports initiative will continue to work with its mission and vision. Mr Fox thanked all organisations not only for their support but also for their input which serves to benefit all youth.

His Royal Highness Prince Feisal went off script detailing refugee issues around the world, highlighting the importance of Olympic humanity, whereby non-discrimination has no place in the sporting family as we are one. His Royal Highness then presented the AIMS President Mr. Stephan Fox with a special token of his appreciation and thanked him personally on behalf of Generation for Peace for all the work that had been done for the youth of the world. Ms. Julia Govinden also presented a United Through Sports plaque to His Royal Highness.





The Closing Conference

United Through Sports Speakers list

Khunying Patama Leeswadtrakul

IOC Member, President Badminton Thailand

Mr. Ittiphol Khunpluem

Assistant to Ministry of Tourism and Sport Thailand

Rafaelle Chiulli

President ARISF

Oleg Matytsin

President FISU

Julia Govinden

CEO United Through Sports

Stephan Fox

President AIMS, GAISF Vice President

HRH Prince Faisal Bin Hussein

President International Olympic Committee of Jordan

Kit McConnell

IOC Sports Director

Jochen Färber

The Olympic Channel

Julia Schipper

Right to Play

Pascal Gentil

Taekwondo Olympic Medalist, Champions for Peace

Professor Vijit Kanungsukkasem

Vice President University Sports Board Thailand,

Chulalongkorn University

After the successful United Through Sports initiative (UTS) and our Bangkok Sports Festival, it was time to officially thank the most important ingredient of the initiative and festival, the youth which made those four days so special. There was no better opportunity to give thanks, than to do so in conjunction with the Olympic day to bring children from all walks of life together in diversity, respect, friendship and unity to celebrate the Olympic values, and above all for a day of fun.

The organiser of the event was IFMA, the venue was the Ambassador Hotel in Bangkok which hosted the 2015 AIMS Conference and the upcoming 2018 Youth World Championship. Over 200 children came together including the performers of Cheerleading and Gymnastics, members of the UTS vocal choir together with the children from the Muaythai disadvantaged Sport Is Your Gang projects around Thailand. There were also Muaythai youths who came to support the event and children from various embassies including some of the ambassadors who came to show their support and to participate.

Many of the attendees trained for the first time and the Olympic day marked a great opportunity for people to try new sports.

United Through Sports Joins Olympic Day 2018 in Bangkok



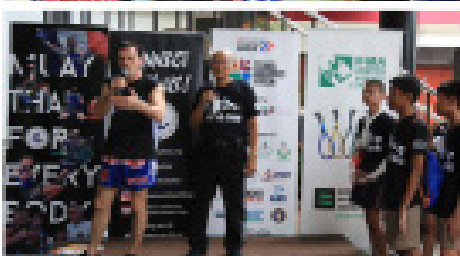
IFMA President Dr. Tapsuan, together with CEO of United Through Sports Julia Govinden and IFMA Sport Director Charissa Tynan welcomed the youth, before we got down to serious business with some of thailand's leading instructors of muaythai. GAISF Vice President, AIMS President and General Secretary of IFMA Mr. Stephan Fox led the fun and captivating class of muaythai for every body.

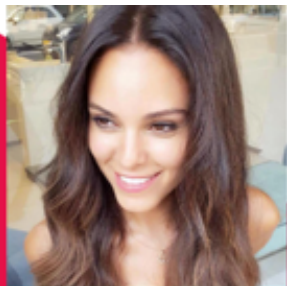
Some of the Thai children had prepared special performances for the visitors, performing the traditional elements of the sport and incorporating them into the modern world of muay aerobics. After the fun filled muaythai session, more fun began with Muay talay (water muaythai) where the children enjoyed themselves in the swimming pool.

A beautiful lunch was served and joined by IOC member Khunying Pattama. Each child then received an Olympic day participation certificate and United Through Sports medal presented by Khunying herself, IFMA President Dr. Tapsuan and CEO of UTS Julia Govinden.

All children at the event received a Sport Is Your Gang t shirt, and special awards were given to all instructors. Khunying stated “ I can only congratulate IFMA and United Through Sports for this wonderful initiative, not only promoting sport for all but especially for the ones who did not have the same fair start in life than others” Khunying went on to say “ With so many children present including high delegates from various embassies who brought their children to this event together with the youth from disadvantaged areas of Bangkok demonstrates clearly, the true meaning of the Olympic values.”

GAISF Vice President Stephan Fox announced that “The SportAccord Convention 2018 has been without doubt one of the most memorable ones, and the success lies within these children. With all of them coming together reuniting to celebrate the Olympic day reminds us all of the Olympic humanity and they are an inspiration. This surely is a memorable day for all the children, as it is for all of us.”





MESSAGE from **Ms. Julia Govinden**

United Through Sports (UTS) is not merely a slogan. These powerful words stand to represent the immense magnitude the sporting world holds to cultivate social change above and beyond political borders.

United Through Sports

SportAccord's 2018 Convention marked the first edition of incorporating our United Through Sports four day festival. We graciously give thanks to the IOC for their patronage and full support of our mission and our plight. To the Royal Kingdom of Thailand, we thank you for hosting us and assisting in the organisation of the event.

Through the vision of AIMS President Mr Stephan Fox, SportAbility was granted the opportunity to work closely with International Federations, GAISF and the IOC. UTS worked to establish closer cooperations between all stakeholders of the Olympic family and other prestigious organisations including UN Women, Generation For Peace, Peace and Sport, UNESCO and Right To Play who all unified under one umbrella for this important event.

The UTS festival and Bangkok Sports festival showcased an array of sports including non recognised sports as well as observers and those recognised. The SportAccord 2018 Convention was the perfect setting in the heart of Bangkok to demonstrate new sports before the sporting world delegates. The novel UTS Festival ran parallel to the convention week demonstrating the convention was not solely a sporting event, but fun, friendship and solidarity. Mr Stephan Fox stated in his opening speech that the festival was about all sports Olympic and non Olympic coming together to celebrate sport for all, the Olympic values and Olympic humanity.

To all of the influential speakers of the opening and closing conferences, we give our most respectful thanks for their contribution. Their expertise, vision and support has been an inspiration, demonstrating that regardless to where we are in the sporting pyramid, we stand united for the children of the world.

History was made for Thailand with a group of displaced children travelling the distance to experience and participate in the UTS Festival from the Mae Ia, Umpiem and Nu Po camps in the Tak Province. This experience was a dream come true for many. Over 100 children with mixed abilities participated in the opening ceremony and on this night there was a sea of candles which spread to an ocean of smiles. Many acclaimed Athletes gave their support whether by workshops, inspirational meetings or as referees.

One major goal of the Festival was to raise funds towards the displaced and disadvantaged children to raise awareness and funds. No one has ever become poor by giving. The IOC has pioneered the way with the Rio refugee team and as the IOC President stated, many of these children have no voice but we do. Many have come to give in different ways and the donations will go back to the camps and disadvantaged children by providing sports and educational goods. This clearly will leave a long lasting legacy of the festival and the convention behind.

United Through Sports would like to thank all those who supported, contributed, gave donations and offered their resources allowing us to go beyond the walls and bring hope and happiness to many children.

To every individual who played a part to bring the festival to life and predominantly to the AIMS family and IFMA team, for the endless hours spent to ensure the event was surely one to remember for so many reasons. For this occasion, we were truly united as one and will continue as this is the power of sport.



Julia Govinden
CEO of United Through
Sports

THANK YOU DONORS

Thank you for the contributions towards the United Through Sports Festival
and UTS Charity fundraiser

The International Olympic Committee (IOC)

Alliance of Recognised Members of Sport (AIMS)

SportAccord

Global Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF)

SportAbility

Ministry of Tourism and Sport (Thailand)

Department of Physical Education (Thailand)

Khunying Pattama Leeswadtrakul

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TOGETHER
WE CAN DO
**SO MUCH
MORE**

