



# ATHENS 2004

CANDIDATE CITY



ATHENS IS...

EAGER

ABLE

UNIQUE and

**GOOD FOR THE GAMES**





**ATHENS 2004**

CANDIDATE CITY



*Fact Sheets*

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ATHENS 2004  
BID COMMITTEE

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## **A NOTE FROM THE DESK OF GIANNA ANGELOPOULOS**

**Dear Friend,**

In the pages that follow, we present the essential facts that describe why we believe Athens is eager, able and uniquely suited to host the 2004 Summer Olympic Games.

This information expresses what we believe is the logic behind our bid. It is the reasoning in our minds. But let us also tell you, briefly, what is in our hearts.

Every four years, the world rests its economic engine, people turn their backs from division and war, and look to a city that becomes - if only for a fortnight - the athletic capital of the world, and a powerful global symbol of unity, excellence and peace.

From every practical and technical dimension, we believe that our city, the City of Athens, can organize an exceptional - indeed an unforgettable - Olympics. We believe Athens is the best city to demonstrate this miracle of the Olympics, and the transforming power of the Olympic Games.

The people of Athens are eager to welcome the Games. Our city is able to host the 2004 Summer Olympics; we have the sports facilities, the infrastructure, the hotels and the heritage to bring the world a successful and hopeful Olympic Games. And, because Athens can be a forum for the renewal of the Olympic Movement in the new millennium, we believe our city has the ability and the commitment to be Good for the Games, should the IOC honor us with this opportunity.

When the greatest athletes on Earth gather again in 2004, let them come to a place that will welcome them with pride. let them come to Athens.

**Sincerely,**

**Gianna Angelopoulos**

## **ATHENS IS EAGER:**

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### ***PUBLIC SUPPORT FACT SHEET***

The Athens bid for the 2004 Olympic Games enjoys the full support of :

- 96% of the population of Athens (Public Opinion Poll, by M.R.B. Hellas S.A. and P.R.C.),
- the government, that guarantees the total financial backing of the Games,
- all political parties,
- the municipality of Athens,
- the Hellenic Olympic Committee, and
- the members of the International Olympic Committee in Greece.

## **ATHENS IS ABLE:**

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### ***PROFILE ON GREECE FACT SHEET***

**Athens' candidature stands on the foundation of a strong and stable democracy:**

#### ***Greece - Political Environment***

- Greece has Parliamentary Democracy. It has a President, who serves as head of state, and a Parliament of 300 members representing the Greek people.
- Greece has been a full member of the European Union since 1981.
- The country enjoys friendly relations with countries around the world.
- In Greece, the political parties operate on a national level. There are no local political parties and no banned political parties in Greece.
- Two major parties - New Democracy and PASOK - have been the major parties in the political life of Greece over the past twenty years.
- On January 19, 1996, following the resignation of Andreas Papandreou, Prime Minister Costas Simitis came to power.
- On September 22, 1996, an absolute majority (162 members) expressed PASOK's power in the Parliament. The next national elections are planned for the year 2000.
- The newly elected government guarantees continuation of the developmental programmes of the country and the economic policies that bring Greece closer to the European Union conditions for the monetary union by 2000.
- The primary local government organization in Athens is the Municipality. The area covered by the Municipality of Athens is the economic and administrative heart of the country.



## **ATHENS IS ABLE:**

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### ***PUBLIC WORKS FACT SHEET***

The City of Athens is preparing for the next millennium and changing fast. Three massive infrastructure projects - for air and land transportation - will dramatically upgrade transportation and environmental conditions in the capital. These projects are under construction, and they will be completed long before 2004, no matter whether Athens is awarded the Summer Olympics by the IOC.

**New Athens Metro.....ready by 1999**

**New Athens International Airport.....ready by 2000**

**New Athens Highways and Ring Road.....ready by 2001**

#### ***The Athens Metro***

- The existing Athens metro line is 27 km in length, has 23 stations and carries 330,000 passengers per day.
- The new Athens Metro will improve dramatically the existing subway system. Two new lines and 21 new stations will serve 450,000 passengers a day.
- The total budget amounts to \$2.6 billion.
- Fifty five per cent (55%) of this project, which will be ready by the year 2000 has already been completed.
- Fifty percent (50%) of the cost of constructing the Metro is being covered by the European Union, and the remaining 50 percent is being covered by loans from the European Investment Bank and national funding.

### ***The New Athens International Airport***

- In its first phase of development, due for completion in the year 2000, it will have a capacity of 16 million passengers a year.
- Once the airport is fully developed, it will be capable of serving 53 million passengers per year.
- The airport will be linked with a new freeway (Elefsina-Stavros-Spata), the suburban railway and the road network of the Mesogeia region. The airport lies at a distance of 23 km from the centre of Athens and 12 km from the Athens Olympic Sports Complex.
- Twenty percent (20%) of the earthworks have already been completed and construction has started on the Main Terminal Building.

### ***The Elefsina-Stavros-Spata Highway and the Hymettus Ring Road***

- The project will be completed by 2001.
- The overall project will include 32 interchanges to link the two new motorways with the existing road network of Athens.
- The highway will help to reduce pollution from exhaust emissions and save time and energy consumption.

## **ATHENS IS ABLE:**

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### ***ATHLETIC FACILITIES FACT SHEET***

The new reality of Athens positions the city as a dynamic, modern metropolis, fully capable of meeting the demands of a modern Olympiad. Athens possesses one of the largest and highest-quality athletics infrastructures in the world, embodying the very latest developments in sporting, training and medical facilities. The primary hub of the Games, the Athens Olympic Sports Complex, is one of the most up-to-date complexes in the world, consisting of stadia and sports complexes.

### ***Athletic Facilities - Background***

- The majority (72%) of the installations required for the hosting of the 2004 Olympic Games are already in place and conform with the high standards and specifications of the International Sports Federation.
- There are two athletic hubs in Athens; the primary one is the Athens Olympic Sports Complex (AOSC) located in the northern suburbs of Athens.
- The secondary hub - Faliron Coastal Zone - is located in the southern suburbs of Athens and includes such facilities as the Peace and Friendship Stadium, the Karaiskaki Stadium, a Swimming Centre and an Olympic Yachting Centre.
- Both hubs are connected by the Metro.
- All the sports facilities are located within a radius of 30 minutes travelling time (maximum) from the Olympic Village, which is located at the end of the eastern branch of the ring road of the capital.
- Most of the city's medical services lie along the length of the inner- Olympic ring road of the capital.

### ***Athens Olympic Sports Complex (AOSC)***

- The Primary Hub of the Games.
- The AOSC has six modern facilities: Olympic Stadium, Olympic Tennis Centre, Indoor Sports Hall, Swimming Complex, Diving Pool and Velodrome.
- In the AOSC area are the stadia, training facilities and all the required installations which are functionally connected with each other.
- All of the installations fully satisfy the requirements of the standards set by the International Olympic Sports Federation.
- The AOSC lies at the mid-point of the northern branch of the city's outer traffic ring, which is also the northern branch of the inner ring.
- Inner and outer ring roads connect the AOSC directly with both the new Spata Airport and the Port of Piraeus.

### ***Olympic Stadium***

- With a seating capacity of 80,000 spectators, the Olympic Stadium would host primarily Athletics, the official Opening and Closing Ceremonies and other sporting events.

### ***Olympic Tennis Centre***

- The Olympic Tennis Centre at the AOSC has three main courts with seating for 10,000 (under construction) at one and 5,000 (in place) at the others. Within its perimeter, there are fourteen practice courts.

### ***Indoor Sports Hall***

- The new Indoor Sports Hall at AOSC, with a seating capacity of 18,000-20,000 spectators, has facilities for warming up with direct access to the areas where events are held.
- The Indoor Sports Hall would be the venue for sports such as Gymnastics and the finals of Basketball.

### ***Indoor and Outdoor Swimming Centre***

- The AOSC's Swimming Centre is comprised of the Outdoor Swimming Centre and the Indoor Swimming Centre.
- The Outdoor Swimming Centre, seating 10,000 spectators, would host the Swimming and Synchronised Swimming events.
- The Indoor Swimming Centre, seating 4,000 spectators, would host such events as Water Polo and Diving.

### ***Olympic Velodrome***

- The Olympic Velodrome, which would host the Cycling events, is one of the most modern facilities available.



### ***Anti-doping Centre***

- The AOSC has one of the most modern anti-doping control centres, as well as an ergometric centre.

### ***Secondary Athletic Hub - Faliron Coastal Zone***

- The complex of playing fields at the Karaiskaki Stadium, which is capable of hosting the Hockey events, has a seating capacity of 37,000 on the main grounds and 5,000 on the auxiliary grounds.
- The Peace and Friendship Indoor Stadium, with 16,000 seats, is intended to host Volleyball, Handball, Wrestling, Judo, etc.
- At the eastern extremity of Faliron Bay, there is a Swimming Pool Complex.
- An Olympic Yachting Centre, Indoor Sports Halls for Weightlifting, Badminton and Table Tennis and an Olympic Shooting Range are scheduled along the outer and inner ring roads of the capital.

### ***The Olympic Village***

A single Olympic Village, selected especially to host all the athletes participating in the Games, will be built at the foot of mount Parnitha - only 11 minutes drive from the Athens Olympic Sports Complex. It will thus provide a unique opportunity for people from all over the world to experience, together, the Spirit of a truly Olympic environment.

## **ATHENS IS ABLE:**

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### ***MAJOR ATHLETIC EVENTS HELD IN ATHENS***

Athens has hosted, over the last years, major international sporting events, with complete safety and organizational success, such as:

- European Athletics Championship, 1982
- European Football Cup Final, 1983
- European Indoor Athletics Championship, 1985
- European Basketball Cup Final, 1985
- European Football Cupholders Cup Final, 1987
- European Basketball Championship, 1987
- World Weight Lifting Cup, 1988
- World Wrestling Cup, 1988
- European Champions Volleyball Cup Final, 1989
- European Boxing Championship, 1989
- World Weight Lifting Championship, Men, 1989
- European Gymnastics Championship, Women, 1990
- Grand Prix Athletics Finals, 1990
- Mediterranean Games (25 events), 1991
- European Swimming Championship, 1991
- World Rhythmic Gymnastics Championship, 1991
- Final Four, European Basketball Champions Cup, Men, 1993
- European Judo Championship, 1993
- World Soling Championship, 1993
- European Greco-Roman Championship, 1994
- World Fencing Championship, 1994
- World Weight Lifting Cup, 1994
- European Basketball Championship, Men, 1995
- European Volleyball Championships, Men, 1995
- World Equestrian Cup, 1996

Based on this experience, Athens has been selected to host the 1997 World Athletics Championship and the 1998 World Basketball Championship. Moreover, it is this experience that guarantees the organizational success of the 2004 Olympic Games.



## **ATHENS IS ABLE:**

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### **ENVIRONMENT FACT SHEET**

*"Ecology is very, very important to us."*

**Mrs. Gianna Angelopoulos**

The city's way towards the new millennium is based on a wide environmental program. A series of long and short term programmes, already in progress, are already changing the city.

- The three large scale infrastructure projects (the new Athens International Airport, the Elefsina-Stavros-Spata Highway and the Hymettus Ring Road, and the new Athens Metro) will reduce the number of cars in the city center by 250,000 per day and atmospheric pollution by 35%.
- The Biological Treatment Program for the wastewater of the Greater Athens area, is already in progress and, by completion, it will have improved the maritime environment by 90%.
- The extensive Mountain Protection Program will result in an important increase (from 19% to 51%) of the green areas around Athens.
- The center of Athens is becoming an Archaeological Park, thus increasing green areas within the city as well. Roads will be turned into green walkways that will connect all historical monuments and museums of the city.

## **ATHENS IS ABLE:**

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### **SAFETY ASSESSMENT FACT SHEET**

Security is vital for any Olympic host and Athens has already received a favorable international risk assessment from an independent, international risk assessment agency, Kroll Associates, which has provided the following information:

- The Athens metropolitan area and the north-eastern border of Greece receive a risk assessment of 3 (on a scale of 1 to 10, where a ranking of 1 indicates unusually low risks and a ranking of 10 indicates an advisory instruction against traveling to that area). The remainder of mainland Greece and the islands receive a ranking of 2.
- Crime rates are very low in Greece and violent crime is rare.
- No incident has ever occurred in Athens, during the hosting of the prementioned sports events.
- The rate of residential break-ins in Athens is also relatively low. Again, awareness and basic safety measures generally negate any potential problems.
- Greece has been spared Middle Eastern attacks since the end of terrorist fallout from the Persian Gulf War.

## **ATHENS IS ABLE:**

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### ***ACCOMMODATION FACT SHEET***

Athens is a major European capital, easily accessible from all over the world. A city with Mediterranean sunshine, unique monuments of civilization, beautiful beaches and vibrant nightlife; a city alive day and night. Athens is a popular tourist destination for business and leisure that provides a wide range of accommodations and offers a pleasant stay to all of its visitors.

- Greece welcomes more than ten million visitors each year.
- Accommodation requirements for the 2004 Olympic Games will not necessitate the construction of new tourist and hotel units. The existing capacity of Athenian hotels is more than sufficient, in terms of both quality and quantity, to provide accommodation for the Olympic Family and for the expected number of visitors.
- Within the greater area of the Attica basin, there are 240,000 beds in 110,000 rooms and 40,000 beds on laid-out camping sites.
- Sixty-five percent of the total capacity of Athenian hotels catering to a high-class tourist clientele, lies along the length of the inner ring road of the capital, giving direct access to the sports facilities.



## **ATHENS IS ABLE:**

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### **TECHNOLOGY AND MEDIA FACT SHEET**

#### ***Technology - Telecommunications***

The telecommunications infrastructure of the country is progressing fast. The realization of an investment program in telecommunications and information technology is creating the necessary conditions for the successful organization of the Games.

- The European Community Support Framework II (ECSF II) provides for the investment of 1.06 billion on the development of the information technology infrastructure of the Greek Public Sector in the period 1995-1998.
- Governmental budget provisions for the telecommunications infrastructure until the year 2000 amount to \$5 billion.
- OTE, the state-owned telephone company, is in the process of digitalising its entire network, a project which will be completed by the year 2000.
- The locations at which the Games will be held are already linked via digital networks over fibre-optic cables.
- Two privately-owned companies provide mobile communications and service to over 300,000 subscribers.
- Two satellite centres are in operation and provide high capacity telecommunications.
- ISDN facilities are currently in operation and OTE is in the process of introducing full Euro-ISDN facilities during 1996.
- There was a significant expansion of the audio-visual mass media in the 1990s.
- Eleven television nation-wide channels (3 public, 7 private and 1 subscriber) operate on a 24-hour basis in Greece today.
- There are over one hundred local television channels in the Greek provinces.
- There are twenty national radio stations and two hundred local ones.
- The forty-nine television production studios employ over 5,000 technicians.

#### ***Mass Media***

Particular attention will be given to the needs of the media (transport, accommodation, technological equipment) so as to enable them to carry out their demanding duty in the best possible conditions.

### M.P.C. and I.B.C. Facilities

- The International Broadcasting Center (I.B.C.) and the Main Press Center (M.P.C.) will be situated in two separate building complexes in close proximity to each other (400 meters).
- The two buildings are at a distance of approximately 300 meters from the Olympic Stadium and very close to all other modern sports installations of the AOSC and other sports halls and fields of the wider zone of the Olympic center.
- The M.P.C. and I.B.C. facilities will be in a position to meet all media needs as foreseen for 2004: quality of working conditions, fast transportation and all necessary services.
- The M.P.C. extends to 40,000 square meters of space and the I.B.C. will cover floor space of 55,000 square meters. There will be free reserved parking space for at least 2,500 vehicles belonging to the media.

### M.P.C.

- It covers an area of 13,000 square meters, with seating capacity of up to 700 - 800 journalists, and raw space for private offices.
- An area for the International Press agencies and the photographic Press is foreseen.
- It will include a press conference theater for 400 - 500 people with full TV coverage.
- A number of facilities such as pigeon holes, storage lockers, library, restaurants, bars, shops, banks and medical services will be provided.

### I.B.C.

- Termination of all incoming video, audio and communications circuits, monitoring of incoming signals, correction, synchronization and distribution of all ITVR signals to the users.
- Central Technical Facilities.
- Radio and TV studios, editing suites, post-production units, graphics, off-tube commentary positions and a central memory bank, accessible to all broadcasters.
- Booking office, Telecommunications Co-ordination office, restaurant, meeting and viewing rooms.



## **ATHENS IS UNIQUE:**

### ***A CULTURAL CONTRIBUTION TO OLYMPISM***

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The Olympic Spirit is firmly ingrained in Greek culture, passed from generation to generation, for over thirty centuries. The goal of Athens for the 2004 Olympics is to reawaken and express again all forms of Olympism, in an effort to make the Olympic Ideal a reality.

- A revival of a four year Olympiad, as in the ancient times, is proposed. A multi-cultural program will begin at 2001 and culminate with the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad in 2004. A celebration of noble human endeavor, revolving around themes that link Man with space, the earth, the spirit and, lastly, Man with Man.
- A wide cultural program will be held in places with major symbolic significance, such as the Delphi, Epidaurus, Ancient Olympia, the Herodes Atticus theater and the Panathenaic stadium.
- The Opening Ceremony of the IOC Session will take place at the main concert hall of the ultra modern Athens Music Megaron.
- The Marathon race will start from the Tomb of Marathon, and through its original route, first run in 490 B.C., will finish at the marble Panathenaic stadium, the same place, where the modern Olympics were revived.
- The Olympic Flame relay will have a rare grandeur. After the lighting ceremony at the stadium in Ancient Olympia, the Olympic Flame will be carried all around the world, in a symbolic way, to unite the five continents.

*The ultimate purpose: To empower the meaning of the Olympic Truce;  
the cessation of warfare during the Olympic Games.  
The dream of world peace.*

- The Olympic Ideal will be cultivated and further promoted through an extensive educational program, in collaboration with the IOC and the International Olympic Academy in Ancient Olympia. Special emphasis will be placed on the provision for the presence of all the International Federations' and the National Olympic Committees' representatives, eminent academics and experts from all over the world. An endeavor that is planned at broadening and empowering the contribution of Olympism to humanity.

## **ATHENS IS GOOD FOR THE GAMES:**

### ***THE OLYMPIC EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME***

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The celebration of the 2004 Games in Athens will be a unique Olympic experience. All Greek people are eager to share - with the athletes, the members of the Olympic Family and guests from all over the world - their deep feelings of respect for Olympism and Olympic values. With the same enthusiasm with which they honored Olympic winners in ancient times, they will make Athens 2004 Summer Olympics a glorious meeting of peace and friendship for the people of the world.

Athens is loyal to the Olympic Games. The uniqueness of its candidacy harmonizes the heritage of the Olympics and the best of modern infrastructure and technology. Athens, a city in eternal motion, is eager and able to offer and realize a vision for the Olympic Games in the next millennium.

*A perspective in Motion towards the Ideal*