

## **THE INTERFAITH COMMITTEE**

The IOC Host City Contract, specifically in Appendix D – “IOC Olympic Villages Guidelines”, instructs that the Host City should undertake to provide facilities and spaces dedicated to meditation and worship and centres for the different religious denominations.

In order to organise and offer an effective service of spiritual assistance inside the Olympic Villages of Torino, Sestriere and Bardonecchia, the TOROC following the IOC indications has set up an “Interfaith Committee” (Comitato Interreligioso) that will group the representatives of the major world religions: Christian, Jewish, Hindu, Moslem and Buddhist.

The representatives who make up the Committee are asked to collaborate in a spirit of parity and reciprocity in the Olympic areas, respecting the religious and moral convictions of the single members.

The Committee is made up of 8 members; of these seven represent the major religions (three Christian: Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox; one Moslem, one Buddhist, one Hindu, and one Jewish.) and a representative of the TOROC.

The Committee is chaired by the TOROC through its president.

The number of the members of the Committee was decided considering the influence of the different religious denominations on the Olympic territory and the relative weight of the faiths professed by the athletes and by the members of the Olympic Family who will be present at the Olympic Winter Games of Torino 2006.

The representatives of the great religions are appointed directly by the highest levels of the national religious institutions.

The operation of the Committee will be disciplined by regulations that will be approved by the parties.

To enable all religions to take part in the activities of the Committee, an Assembly of Religions is implemented; it has a consultancy function, and includes representatives of other religions, based on special regulations drawn up by the Interfaith Committee.

The Committee is set up to handle the following activities:

### **Spiritual aid inside the Olympic Villages**

- Ensure a service of spiritual support to athletes and members of the Olympic family in collaboration with the religious representatives of the participating national teams. The Committee will define the modalities for providing the services and will select the ministers of faith for the different religions.
- Collaborate to define, during the planning phases, the criteria for the realization and furnishing of the spaces to be set aside for worship and meditation.

### **Events and manifestations outside the Olympic Villages**

- Promote the organization of manifestations, conferences, cultural events aimed at building up relationships of reciprocal understanding among the faiths, to foster dialogue between these and make known their cultural and historical legacy, in the period preceding and during the Games.
- Set up a plan of communication and information.