



SPECIAL ADVISER
TO THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL
ON SPORT FOR
DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

Foreword by Mr. Wilfried Lemke

Special Adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General
on Sport for Development and Peace

World Summit on Ethics in Sports



© Keystone

It is an honor for me to have the opportunity to present the 1st World Summit on Ethics in Sport. This first meeting to discuss the role of sport in solving societal problems highlights sports' incredible power to focus energy for solving global issues.

Sport is not only a fundamental human right, but also a powerful tool to advance economic, social and human development around the world. Access to sport and physical activity are of crucial importance for both human health and the prevention of disease worldwide.

The field of Sport for Development and Peace (SDP) utilizes this potential inherent in the intentional use of sport and physical activity, in order to achieve specific development and peace objectives, in particular with regard to the eight UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

As the Special Adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, my mandate is to advocate, facilitate and represent the UN on matters related to sport for development and peace. Over my tenure I have set out five priorities areas that I believe need the world's foremost attention in order to truly make sport available for all. These priorities are the development of Sub-Saharan Africa; encouraging dialogue in conflict areas; advancing gender equality; fostering the inclusion of persons with disabilities; and promoting youth development and supporting community role models.

Especially within the sphere of international humanitarian and social work, the potential of sport as a tool for peace and development has captured increasing attention during the past decade. As such, sport can be a powerful tool to provide employment, reduce poverty and facilitate sustainable development. It can also support reconciliation efforts in societies divided by war and contribute to long-lasting peace.

In closing, I wish you a successful and inspiring summit and I look forward to the many positive outcomes.

Geneva, 18 September 2014

Wilfried Lemke

Under-Secretary-General

Special Adviser to the Secretary-General
on Sport for Development and Peace

