



Special Olympics

Rodos 2004  
Education  
through sports  
World Festival

GREECE



Special Olympics

# DECLARATION

## BETWEEN The International Olympic Academy AND Special Olympics

**WHEREAS**, the International Olympic Academy is an organization whose mission is to serve as an international academic center aimed at preserving and spreading the Olympic Spirit, act as an international forum for free expression and exchange of ideas among the Olympic family, bring together people from all over the world in a spirit of friendship and cooperation, serve and promote the ideals and principles of the Olympic Movement, and enhance the contribution of Olympism to humanity; and

**WHEREAS**, peace is a fundamental human right to which all humanity is entitled; and

**WHEREAS**, the Olympic Truce is an effective instrument for the establishment of peace.

**WHEREAS**, the Olympic Spirit and the Arcadian ideal should become components of education for all young people of the world; and

**NOW**, therefore, the *INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC ACADEMY* pledges its unanimous support and affinity for *SPECIAL OLYMPICS* and all its athletes whose extraordinary endeavors exemplify the values and ideals of the Olympic Truce – reconciliation, understanding, solidarity and peace.

**WHEREAS**, the mission of Special Olympics is to provide year-round sports training and competition in a variety of Olympic-style sports for children and adults with mental handicaps; and

**WHEREAS**, in countries throughout the world, Special Olympics athletes train and compete in Olympic-style sports, striving for unprecedented merit; and

**WHEREAS**, Special Olympics athletes offer inspiration to all citizens through their accomplishments and dedication; and

**WHEREAS**, the spirit of Special Olympics – skill, courage, acceptance and joy – transcends boundaries of geography, nationality, political philosophy, gender, age, race or religion;

**NOW**, therefore, *SPECIAL OLYMPICS* obtains the unanimous support of the *INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC ACADEMY* and convey this to all our athletes and supporters throughout the world with the purpose of enhancing the values and ideals embodied by the Olympic Spirit, the Olympic Truce and its indelible principles of peace for all humanity.

*“LET ME WIN. BUT IF I CANNOT WIN, LET ME BE BRAVE IN THE ATTEMPT.”*

*SPECIAL OLYMPICS OATH*

The International  
Olympic Academy

Dr. Nikos Filaretos  
President

RODOS 2004 FOC

Joanna Despotopoulou  
President

Special Olympics

Dr. John Dow  
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