



GENS UNA SUMUS

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES ÉCHECS

Recognized by the International Olympic Committee

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Annex 47

(Page 1/1)

Report of I. Gelfer on the Inspection of the 2008 Chess Olympiad Bid Dresden

1. The inspection was made during three days – 13 to 15 July 2004- and was excellently organised by the Organising Committee of the 2008 Olympiad and the city of Dresden.
2. In general, Dresden is a marvellous city, reconstructed during the last 20 years or so, with a spectacular view. The town and the whole area of Elba river is officially preserved by UNESCO.
3. The whole budget of the Olympiad and FIDE Congress is secured by the city and several sponsors and the event is supposed to be organised on a very high level in all aspects.
4. **Transportation** – There is a very good air connection either by Dresden itself or via Frankfurt. Lufthansa is going to be the official carrier of the event. The town is also quite close to Prague (160km), with a highway to be opened next year.
5. **Playing hall and Congress venue** – A brand new Congress hall, which is the most modern in Germany and one of the best in Europe. Ideal facilities, a huge space for players, arbiters, spectators, large offices and congress space and a spectacular view to the Elba river.
6. **Accommodation** – The organisers expressed their will to have equal and high standard of hotels for all teams. Consequently, all teams will be accommodated in 4-star hotels, 90% of which are situated within walking distance from the playing hall and very few in a 10 – 12 minute driving distance with a permanent shuttle service. FIDE people will be accommodated in excellent 5 stars deluxe hotels.
7. **Promoting Chess until 2008 and during the Olympiad** – The Organising Committee along with the town of Dresden have in their plans -and budget- to hold some promoting events until 2008 and also organise « Youth Olympiad » parallel to the Olympiad and to host 2-3 children from each federation.

On the whole, I am definitely convinced that the town is 100% ready and capable to host an excellent Olympiad and FIDE Congress.

Israel Gelfer