



International
Olympic
Committee

The President

Summit of the Future

United Nations, 22 September 2024

Mr President, your Excellencies,

Please accept my heartfelt congratulations on the adoption of the Pact for the Future. In particular, I would like to thank you for recognising the role of sport as an important enabler – and indeed, accelerator – to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The recent Olympic Games Paris 2024 illustrate in an excellent way, how the International Olympic Committee is contributing to the SDGs through sport.

The IOC considers peace as the most fundamental of the SDGs. This is why we are very happy and proud that despite all the geopolitical tensions, we were able to bring together the athletes from the territories of all 206 National Olympic Committees and the IOC Refugee Olympic Team. Before the Olympic Games, these athletes joined for a powerful call for peace. During the Olympic Games, they competed fiercely against each other. At the same time, they lived peacefully together under one roof in the Olympic Village. They shared their meals, their experiences and their emotions. They respected each other, with no incident or discrimination whatsoever – even if their countries are at war. With all this, the athletes created a culture of peace – showing us how our world would be, if we all were to live in the Olympic spirit of peaceful co-existence.

There were many other achievements with regard to the UN SDGs:

These Olympic Games were the first-ever Olympic Games with full gender parity.

The IOC Refugee Olympic Team, participated with a record number of 37 athletes and won its first-ever Olympic medal.

Paris 2024 reduced its carbon emissions by 50 per cent compared to previous Olympic Games.

These are just a few examples how we at the IOC are promoting the role of sport as an important enabler and accelerator for the SDGs.

We are ready to continue and strengthen this contribution of sport in the framework of the Pact for the Future – because this Pact perfectly reflects our Olympic motto: Faster, Higher, Stronger – Together.