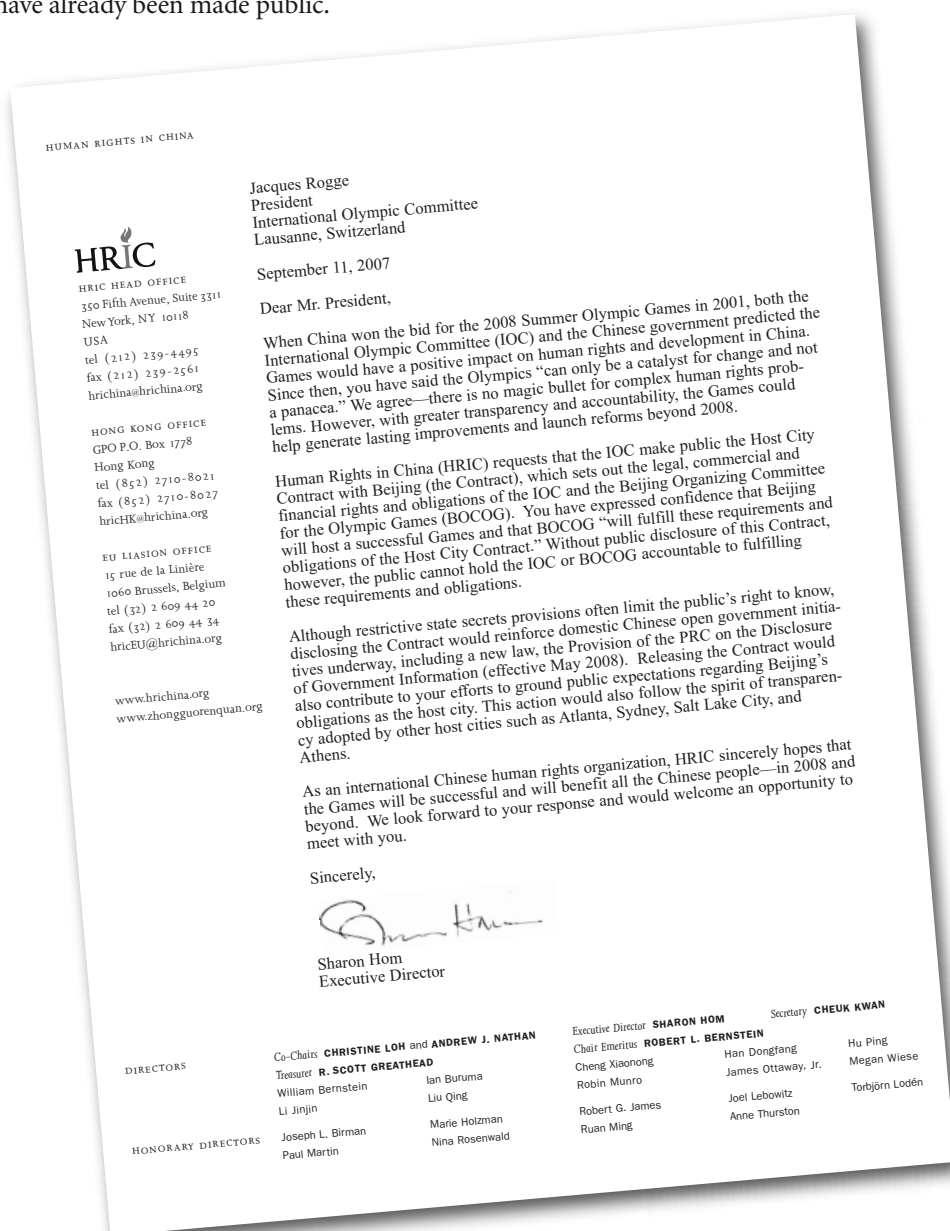


IN THE INTEREST OF TRANSPARENCY . . .

On September 11, 2007, Human Rights in China issued an open letter to Jacques Rogge and the International Olympic Committee (IOC), calling for the disclosure of Beijing's host city contract in the spirit of "greater transparency and accountability . . . to help generate lasting improvements and launch reforms beyond 2008." The host city contract describes the legal, commercial, and financial rights and obligations of the IOC and the host city. The host city contracts of other recent past and future Olympic host cities have already been made public.

On October 22, 2007, HRIC received a faxed response from the International Olympic Committee which addressed the IOC's hope that "organized sport can help bring positive developments from within Olympic Games host countries." The IOC neglected to mention any mention of Beijing's host city contract or react to HRIC's request that it be publicly released. It carefully avoids even the use of the term "human rights." Both letters are reproduced here.



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INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

Human Rights in China (HRIC)
Mrs Sharon Hom
Executive Director
By Fax: 001 212 239 2561

Lausanne, 22 October 2007

Dear Mrs Hom,

Thank you for your letter received at 11 September 2007. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) appreciates being made aware of your organisation's focus on China and your concerns regarding issues of international interest.

It appears that the IOC and HRIC have many shared hopes for a world that continues to undergo great transformation.

The IOC believes that organised sport can help bring positive developments from within Olympic Games host countries. We take a patient and quiet approach based on our Olympic values, in partnership with Olympic Games Organising Committees. We are proud of what this achieves, knowing from our past experiences that this approach brings results.

Consistent with any Olympic bid process, the Beijing 2008 bid process covered obligations that specifically concern the organisation and management of successful Games. Those obligations did not cover commitments on broader national social or political issues. Those are the concern of the Chinese government, not the Beijing 2008 Organising Committee or the IOC. Therefore the IOC will measure China's success or failure by the Organising Committee's ability to organise and host operationally successful Games which allow the world's best athletes to compete at the top of their sport. If the benefits in Beijing have an effect beyond sport arenas, then everyone will win.

We understand that you would like to see further progress in China more quickly. We believe, however, that the Beijing Olympic Games are an opportunity to open a new door to China to benefit its citizens and its relationships with other nations. An open-door approach in principle is something that the IOC trusts will have benefits to future Olympic Games long after closing ceremonies.

Sincerely,

International Olympic Committee

INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE
Château de Vidy, 1007 Lausanne, Switzerland, Tel. +41 21 821 8111 / Fax +41 21 821 8216 / www.olympic.org