

June 10, 1988

**Letter from the DPRK's National Olympic Committee
to the President of the International Olympic
Committee requesting a Postponement of
Samaranch's Visit to North Korea.**

Citation:

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<https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/113515>

Summary:

A letter from the President of the DPRK's NOC, Kim Yu Sun, welcoming the President of the IOC, Juan Antonio Samaranch, to visit the DPRK in principle. However, because an agreement to co-host the 1988 Olympic Games had not yet been arranged, Kim requests that Samaranch delay his visit to the DPRK for the time being.

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Transcript - English

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ATTN: □MR. JUAN ANTONIO SAMARANCH, PRESIDENT OF IOC, LAUSANNE
FROM: □KIM YU SUN, PRESIDENT OF OLYMPIC COMMITTEE OF DPR KOREA, PYONGYANG

I acknowledge receipt of yr tlx dtd June 7.

We welcome yr intention of visiting our country expressed directly to us this time.

We appreciate every effort u r making for the co-hosting of the 24th Olympics.

It is our hope to see a fine fruition in yr visit to our country since it wld be the visit u pay all the way.

But present situation does not show such symptom. It is because the south Korean authorities stubbornly oppose the co-hosting while suppressing by the force the strong demand of the broad sections of south Korean people for the co-hosting of the Olympiad and the composition of the north-south single sports team. Therefore we doubt whether yr visit to our country wld be successful or not. If yr visit fails to bear a good fruition, it wld be nothing good for both of us.

Since the question of north-south dialogue is now controversial it wld be better, we think, to wait and see its results.

In view this circumstances, we request u to wait for a while until favourable conditions will be matured for the success in yr visit.

We hope Mr. President Samaranch wl fully understand it.

We wl endeavour to the last for the co-hosting of the Olympic games.

Yours sincerely,

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