



INTERNATIONAL  
OLYMPIC  
COMMITTEE

The President

To: IOC Honorary President  
IOC Members  
IOC Honorary Members  
IOC Honour Member  
National Olympic Committees  
International Federations

Lausanne, 9 February 2015  
Ref. No. THB/ctl  
By e-mail only

*Dear friends and colleagues,*

It is with great sadness that the International Olympic Committee (IOC) has learnt of the death of long-time IOC member and former President of the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC), Mr Mario Vázquez Raña, aged 82.

Mr Mario Vázquez Raña dedicated a great part of his life to Olympic sport. He served over decades with great commitment as President of PASO, even until his last moments. He had outstanding merit within the Olympic Movement and we will always remember him as a great Olympic leader.

A member of the IOC from 1991 to 2012, Mr Vázquez Raña played a central role in promoting sport and the Olympic Movement in his home nation of Mexico, the Americas and around the world.

His three decades of service to the IOC included appointments as Executive Board member, Chairman of Olympic Solidarity (2002-2012), and President of the Organising Committee for the 114th IOC Session in Mexico City (2002). He was also a member of the following Commissions: Olympic Movement (1990-1999); Preparation of the XII Olympic Congress (1990-1994); Apartheid and Olympism (1990-1992); IOC 2000 Executive Committee (1999); Marketing (2000); IOC 2000 Reform Follow-up (2002); and 2009 Congress (2009-2010).

Mr Vázquez Raña headed the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) from 1979 to 2012, and was Chairman of the Pan American Sports Organisation (PASO) from 1975 until his death.

His sport of choice was shooting, and Mr Vázquez Raña participated in shooting competitions at the national and international level. He went on to become President of the Mexican Shooting Federation (1969-1974) and President of the American Shooting Confederation (1973-1979). He was also Vice-President of the Mexican Sports Confederation (1973-1976) and President of the Mexican National Olympic Committee (1974-2001).

A successful businessman and publisher, Mr Vázquez Raña was President of the Board of Directors of the Hermanos Vázquez Company (1960-1980); President and Director General of the Organización Editorial Mexicana (1975-2015), the largest newspaper company in Latin America; President and Director General of Cartones Ponderosa (2001-2015); and owner of United Press International (1985-1988).

The IOC expresses its deepest sympathies to Mr Mario Vázquez Raña's family. I have ordered the Olympic Flag to fly half-mast for three days to honour Mr Vázquez Raña as a great Olympic personality.

Sincerely Yours,

Thomas Bach