Final resolutions of the Panathlon International Congress  
Antwerp 22. 23 November 2007

1. Panathlon International wishes to acknowledge existing good practice and to recognise the majority of workers who do a wonderful job in youth sport.

2. Panathlon International also acknowledges negative trends and aberrations in youth sport; but resists defeatism and urges those who in recent years have been confronted with the excesses of sport, to identify the underlying mechanisms and to think and work together on viable solutions.

3. Panathlon International is concerned with the Youth Olympic Games. Panathlon International does not want to miss the opportunity for the facilitation of positive outcomes but fears at the same time that this event may unwittingly become a potential catalyst that aggravates existing problems. Panathlon International offers the IOC its services to maximise the potential for positive effects and to reduce or prevent the potential risks.

4. Panathlon International wants to stress the important position and role of sport managers. Their responsibility includes not only administrative tasks but also cultural, moral, educational and social issues. A specific continuing education for managers including these issues is recommended.

5. Panathlon International is well aware that the problems in youth sport are so broad and fundamental that local action alone will no longer have sufficient effect. The International level must be addressed to guarantee the effectiveness of any action.

6. Panathlon International dares to hope that the sport world is now open to a broad debate, towards which the recommendations in our Declaration on Ethics in Youth Sport are basic steps.

7. Panathlon International intends to be active in the implementation of these recommendations. The first action is to inform both Panathlon Members and all stakeholders in the sport sector, and to ask them to endorse the declaration.

The second action is to stimulate, facilitate and monitor, with sustained effort and good planning, the implementation of the various elements within the organisations that endorsed the declaration. Because the managers should take the lead in this, Panathlon International wishes to give priority to the establishment of an active ‘Integrity’ policy in each International and National Sport Organisation.

The third action is to create a Panathlon Observatory on Youth Sports Activities aimed at spreading and implementing our recommendations, to notify all initiatives supporting the Rights of the Child in Sport, to inform all educational approaches aimed at preventing excesses in youth sport, such as intensive training, doping, violence, abuse, etc., and to collect and promote publications, articles, conferences in all schools of any level, Universities, websites of associations, sports centres, working in favour of our recommendations.

The fourth action is to involve the mass media in giving priority to the cultural, ethical and fair play values of sport. All initiatives taken by Panathlon International and those of other similar organisations in this sector should be spread and discussed.
8. Panathlon International would like to see an open and unprejudiced discussion on the impact of new and future developments in medical technologies in sport. We must consider how to relate to core ethical issues – such as for instance fairness, autonomy, distributive justice and gender equity – in a future scenario in which a large part of the population might be genetically enhanced.