

REMARKS BY  
STEVE STOUTE, SCM  
PRESIDENT, BARBADOS OLYMPIC ASSOCIATION, INC.  
AT THE EASTER SPORTS DAY,  
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT  
AND PEACE  
MONDAY, APRIL 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2015 AT THE  
PARKINSON PLAYING FIELD

Thank Mr. Rodney Grant, CEO of the Pinelands Creative Workshop. Ms. Santia Bradshaw, Parliamentary Representative for St. Michael South East, Mr. Erskine Simmons, Secretary General of the BOA, Mr. David Farmer, Director of the Barbados Olympic Academy, competitors, players, organizers, ladies and gentlemen, I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to be part of this ceremony, highlighting the opening of this event as part of the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace.

The International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (IDSPD) is an annual celebration that highlights and promotes the power of sport as a catalyst for social change in all corners of the world.

Since 2014, following the decision by the United Nations General Assembly, IDSPD has been celebrated each year on April 6<sup>th</sup>, creating a historical link to the first modern

Olympic Games in 1896. The International Olympic Committee, in its capacity as permanent observer to the U.S., has been supportive of this initiative as it values its potential to recognize sports organizations role in the contribution for special change and human development.

As a member of the International Olympic Committee, the BOA is mandated to organize events to highlight this Day of Sport for Development and Peace and thus, we are deeply appreciative of the Pinelands Creative Workshop and the Pinelands Football Academy for partnering with us to make this celebration a reality.

On behalf of the International Olympic Committee and indeed the Barbados Olympic Movement, I extend a sincere and hearty welcome to all participants and spectators in this exercise to promote sport and social harmony. I trust it will be a day of enjoyable activities and the competitions will proceed in the true Olympic spirit of solidarity, friendship and fairplay.