

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE.**

Nothing is more frustrating or discouraging than to be prevented from taking part in sport or recreation because of injury or some medical condition. All sports inevitably carry a risk of physical injury and for sportsmen the quick, complete and lasting repair of injury is desperately important.

Everyone involved in sport and particularly those who have suffered injuries deeply appreciates the efforts of the International Federation of Sports Medicine on their behalf. As their numbers increase every year throughout the world so the work of the Federation becomes more urgent and more valuable.

I extend a warm welcome to all delegates to the XVIII World Congress and their families. I am sure the meetings will be extremely interesting and I hope all the other arrangements will prove happy and successful. In particular I hope all delegates will return home invigorated and with a new enthusiasm for their work.