

## **1914: Foundation of the *Comité Olympico Nacional***

### **Brazil at the Dusk of the first Olympics**

In 1894, the IOC and hence the Olympic Movement were founded at the Sorbonne in Paris. At the same time, Brazil had abolished the monarchy and was the last country in America to abolish slavery.<sup>1</sup> In the steppes of Bahia in the hinterland of the first Brazilian capital Salvador (until 1763), the government attempted to suppress the *Canudos* movement between 1893 and 1897. Its extremely popular leader, Antônio CONSELHEIRO, campaigned for more rights for the populace in a religious environment. The Brazilian government together with the major landowners crushed the *Canudos* movement, leaving behind one of the most severe economic crises in the history of Brazil.

The desperate economic situation and massive international pressure led to the abolition of slavery in 1888. This extreme tardiness compared with international standards is a testament to the backwardness of Brazilian society in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The nation was morally isolated within the global community. The government and the economic elite could only regain recognition with appropriate concessions to modernisation and try to catch up with the states of the northern hemisphere.<sup>2</sup>

A wave of immigration was linked with the banning of slavery since now workers were needed on a wage basis. Thousands of people from Italy, Portugal, Spain, Germany, Poland and other countries moved to Brazil to cover the acute shortage of skilled workers. With the immigrants, new sporting traditions, such as German gymnastics, were brought to Brazil, which had a lasting influence on national sports developments. The new societies and in particular the German communities retained their language, customs, festivals, music, dances, games and also their sporting traditions, they founded sports clubs and gymnastic associations.<sup>3</sup> Unlike the former slaves, the immigrants were highly rated as workers; they were regarded as strong, physically stable and morally prepared to carry out their work as free people. The universally held view of workers subjected to decades of suppression and slavery was entirely negative. They were regarded as "... vagabundos e ociosos, desorganizados social e moralmente ...", not competent to perform systematic labour.<sup>4</sup> The cultural characteristics of the immigrants, on the other hand, were regarded as enrichment for Brazil.<sup>5</sup>

On 15<sup>th</sup> November 1889, a military putsch put an end to the monarchy in Brazil. Although General Deodoro da FONSECA managed to force the emperor to abdicate his throne without bloodshed, the republic was nevertheless founded by a putsch and not by a social revolution, which of course had to have consequences.<sup>6</sup> The monarchy had already been enormously weakened, after the last emperor DOM PEDRO II had led the country into economic ruin by



Proclamation of the Republic 1889 by the Public Schools in São Paulo  
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waging war against Paraguay and had named his daughter Isabel as heir of the throne. This displeased both the military elite as well as the traditionally male dominated bourgeoisie, which had long since favoured republicanism. It was precisely this section of society that longed for modernisation and pressed to implement industrialisation in the country. This first republic lasted until 1920 and was determined by the Brazilian *Belle Époque*, which was most evident in the big cities such as Rio de Janeiro. The modernisation elites, which had also spread across Europe, were sought after and innumerable intellectuals, artists and scientists were lured to Brazil. In this way, the country's international recognition, which had been lost in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, should be regained.<sup>7</sup>

The majority of the Brazilian population contrasted sharply with the elites of the *Belle Époque*. Many former slave families moved to towns like Rio de Janeiro in the hope of finding work and occupied the old dilapidated houses in the centre, which the elites had forsaken in favour of the new districts close to the beach, such as Copacabana, Leblan and Botafogo. Hygienic conditions were disastrous, thus, the slum areas were regularly hit by epidemics and sickness. Solutions had to be found! Therefore, the municipal authorities addressed the three main urban problems: the modernisation of the harbour, a sewage system and an urban planning reform. The engineer Lauro MUELLER, doctor Oswaldo CRUZ and city planner Pereira PASSOS were appointed to translate these plans into action. Jointly, the objective was defined to 'civilize' Rio de Janeiro, to give the city a 'European flavour'. Apart from the essential sewage system, from 1903, public squares and a road network were built. People hoped that this would all herald social and cultural changes, which would open the way to the modern world of capitalism.<sup>8</sup>

Also for the simple folk in the hinterland general living conditions were precarious. In his famous 1902 work "Os Sertões", Euclides da CUNHA reviews the *Canudos* movement and highlights the contrasts between the residents of the coastal regions and those of the wide steppes, which as a rule were completely cut off from any political or economic development. Just before the government armed forces crushed the *Canudos* movement, the first Olympic Games of the modern times were staged in Athens. In crisis-stricken Brazil, people only casually took note of the games, however, in 1896 no less a personage than the national writer Machado de ASSIS reported this event with the following lines:

„Vamos ter...Leitor amigo, prepara-te para lamber os beiços. Vamos ter Jogos Olímpicos, corridas de biga e quadrigas, ao modo romano e grego, torneios da idade média, conquista de diademas e cortejo às damas, corridas atléticas, caça ao veado (...) É quase um sonho esta renascença dos séculos, esta mistura de tempos gregos, romanos, medievais e modernos, que formarão assim uma imagem cabal da civilização esportiva.”<sup>9</sup>

With the outbreak of the First World War, Europe descended into chaos and Brazil's hopes for renewal and modernisation faded, especially since the most essential partners, England as investor and France as a cultural example, were particularly badly affected by the outbreak of the war. For three years, Brazil remained neutral in fear of a threatened offensive by the German Reich in the Atlantic and it was not until towards the end of the war that they joined the Allies. However, the hope of attaining international recognition in this way was not fulfilled!



Regatta at Botafogo  
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## Early Sports in Brazil

In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, Brazil also started to adopt the rules and procedures of sport generally used in Europe. Only a few sport disciplines, such as for example rowing, which had been practiced in Rio de Janeiro since 1851, were already institutionalised previously.<sup>10</sup> Roberto TROMPOWSKY junior, a member of the *Comitê Brasileiro de Desportos CBD*, described the situation in Brazilian sports in 1922 as follows:

„O desporto vencia, e com esta victoria modificava-se radicalmente os habitos, a educaçãõ da mocidade que, tambem, a pouco e pouco, ia perdendo o aspecto macilento, a pallidez e a movimentaçãõ tarda de outr'ora, ganhando em alacridade, vigor e saude. E foi toda uma floraçãõ maravilhosa e intensa de desportividade de tal sorte que o Brasil, em poucos annos, recuperou o que perdera em decades de inactividade.”<sup>11</sup>



Pavilion of the Regatta at Botafogo, 1931  
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The development of sport in Brazil went hand in hand with the country's political development. In the search for modernisation and a nationalism following the fall of the monarchy, products, know-how and culture were imported from Europe. Sport, and in particular English sport, could also be regarded as such an imported product.<sup>12</sup> The CBD defined its tasks in the protocols of July 8<sup>th</sup>, 1914 to December 5<sup>th</sup>, 1916 as follows on page 6:

„O desporto moderno não é mais simples diversãõ de gente sem trabalho e rica, que precisava de um meio para matar o *spleen*; hoje é inspirado por outras ideas, que, de tão elevadas, o transformaram em grande ideal

social...Saude, caracter e instrucção são os três termos que synthetizam o fim do desporto...Formar homens com saude, caracter e instrucção e offerecel-os á Pátria, eis a aspiração ultima do desporto."<sup>13</sup>



Brazilian Football Team as South-American Champion 1919

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Although the CBD pointed out that modern sport should not be just the preserve of the 'idle rich', illiterates were not accepted as amateurs. However, they constituted the majority of the Brazilian population.

At the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Brazilian nation, though no longer in its infancy but still structurally extremely weak, had neither a national sports association nor a federation of Brazilian sports clubs such as *L'Union des Sociétés Françaises des Sports Athlétiques USFSA*, which had existed in France since 1887. Thus, it should not be surprising, that the anecdotes about Brazilian individuals Christiano Adolpho KLINGELHOEFER, Santos DUMONT and Raul do RIO BRANCO, who more or less by

chance became involved with the Olympic Games or the Olympic Movement, do not represent organized Brazilian Olympic politics. Those three protagonists share the distinction of having spent most of their lives in Europe and can hardly be regarded, therefore, as representatives of an Olympic Movement in Brazil.

### Early Brazilian Olympic Sports Politics

At the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Brazilian sports scene had no knowledge of umbrella organisations and was characterised by autonomous behaviour and, of course, the inevitable related conflicts. The ethics applied were ambivalent, since, although there were official rules governing sporting practice, the clubs seldom adopted them. Therefore, government and sports officials rarely got under each other's feet, particularly since the government made no financial contribution to sport. The clubs' overheads for sports facilities and equipment were born by prosperous sponsors.<sup>14</sup>

Due to its very early popularity, Brazilian football is a very good example of the effects of this duality. The intense rivalry between teams resulted in escalating costs. Good players had to be supported to retain their club membership. Therefore, the football clubs in Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo started selling tickets to spectators in 1917, to pay for equipment and maintain the stadia. Recruitment of new players became the clubs' top priority. The players either came from prosperous families, who could afford to allow their sons to play football rather than pursue a professional career, thus making them true amateurs as was demanded at that time. Or they were so-called *Amadores marrons* (brown amateurs) coming from the lower social classes, who were unable to devote their time exclusively to football and therefore had to earn a living in a part-time job.<sup>15</sup>

Other sporting disciplines were increasingly faced with similar problems, since fewer and fewer athletes were able either to afford their own keep or pay for equipment and the maintenance of facilities. To find a solution for these problems, in 1914, the *Federação Brasileira de Sports* and the *Comité Olympico Nacional* were founded. These institutions were intended to develop a joint sports policy for Brazil. First, the *Federação Brasileira de Sports* successfully sought recognition from international associations, with the exception of FIFA.<sup>16</sup> The discussions about amateurism in sport, however, dragged on, as both sports organisations were run by purists and conservatives, who didn't accept professionalism. The Brazilian government intervened in 1916 with the foundation of the *Confederação Brasileira de Desportos CBD*, which was placed above and de facto took over the two older associations. The first two paragraphs of the CBD statutes published on 5<sup>th</sup> December 1916 are particularly interesting.

„Art.1º - A Condereração Brasileira de Desportos, fundada em 08 de Junho de 1914, com a denominação de Federação Brasileira de Sports, é constituída por todas as Federações, Ligas e Clubs, que nos Estados dirigem os respectivos desportos.

Parapho 1º - Em cada Estado e no Districto Federal, á proporção do desenvolvimento desportivo, existirão tres instituições, uma de desporto terrestre, outra de desporto aquatico e a terceira de desportos aereos, e só estas serão filiadas á Confederação.

Parapho 2º - Á Confederação poderão ser filiadas sociedades desportivas isoladas, desde que no respectivo Estado não exista outra sociedade do mesmo desporto.

Art.2º - A C.B.D. terá as seguintes attribuições:

1º - Representar os desportos nacionaes junto aos poderes constituídos.

2º - Representar os desportos nacionaes no estrangeiro.

3º - Promover o desenvolvimento e conagraçamento dos desportos.

4º - Servir de tribunal de ultima instancia para derimir as questões que surgirem entre federações ou sociedades desportivas directamente filiadas.

5º - Procurar uniformisar os regulamentos e codigos desportivos.

6º - Fazer convenções, tratados e relações com sociedades desportivas estrangeiras."<sup>17</sup>

In 1917, this new sports organisation was recognised by FIFA with reservations and in 1923 unreservedly. Until 1927, the CBD was the only umbrella sports organisation in Brazil, which co-ordinated the sports in the country reasonably successfully, even though the clash of personal interests of the members and those of the organisations caused problems time and again.<sup>18</sup>

### **The foundation of the *Comité Olympico Nacional* CON in 1914**

The most important result and reaction to Raul do RIO BRANCO's letter (see blog 27th Dec. 2017: 1913: Raul do Rio Branco, first Brazilian IOC member) was the simultaneous founding in 1914 of the National Olympic Committee and the Brazilian Sports Federation, later to be named the *Confederação Brasileira de Desportos*.<sup>19</sup> The foundation took place on June 8<sup>th</sup> 1914 at the headquarters of the Brazilian Federation of Rowing Societies in Rio de Janeiro with the objective,



Commemorative Medal 50 years CBD  
(front side)  
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Commemorative Medal 50 years CBD  
(back side)  
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to take Brazil to the 1916 Olympic Games to Berlin. Álvaro ZAMITH refers to Raul do RIO BRANCO's letter as follows:

„...Todos vós conheceis as expressões entusiasticas da carta-circular de Raul do Rio Branco, o filho do grande Barão, um dos grandes protectores do sport em nossa terra; saibamos aproveitar a sua boa vontade e competencia no assumpto.”<sup>20</sup>

Already a year previously, Raul do RIO BRANCO pointed out that rumours of such a foundation were rife:

„...visto que neste momento mesmo, por informações que elle (*Coubertin*) acabava de receber, estava se iniciando no Brazil, depois da propaganda de sócios da liga Olympca portugueza, a organização de uma Federação brasileira dos sports e de um Comité Olympico Brasileiro...”<sup>21</sup>

Álvaro ZAMITH also made reference to this information:

„...Foi para generalisar que se constituiu em 1913 o Comité Olympico provisorio, iniciativa arrojada, mas por isto mesmo digna de apoio, do Jornal do Brazil. Não foi possível, por motivos diversos, fazer o que se desejava; nem tudo, porém, ficou perdido; a semente foi lançada em bom terreno e quer me parecer que em breve poderemos annunciar *urbe et orbe*, que está constituido o Comité Olympico Nacional...”<sup>22</sup>

Another important motive for the foundation of the National Olympic Committee was the prospect of international exchange, again reflecting the national craving at that time for international recognition.

„As palavras do distincto sportman [Zamith] não representavam apenas o pensamento de quem as pronunciara, mas traduziam com fidelidade a aspiração de um nucleo de desinteressados sportmen que viam nas relações internacionais novos elementos para o sport patricio.”<sup>23</sup>

The *Comité Olympico Nacional CON* was officially founded on 8<sup>th</sup> June 1914 at the headquarters of the Brazilian Federation of Rowing Societies *Federação Brasileira das Sociedades do Remo*. The following associations were represented: *Liga Metropolitana de Sport Athletico* (Metropolitan Athletic Sports League), *Federação Brasileira das Sociedades do Remo* (Brazilian Federation of Rowing Societies), *Automovel Club Brasileiro* (Brazilian Automobile Association), *Comissão Central de Concursos Hípicos* (Central Commission for Equestrian Competitions), *Club Gymnastico Portugez* (Portuguese Gymnastics Club), *Centro Hippico Brasileiro* (Brazilian Equestrian Centre), *Jockey Club Brasileiro* (Brazilian Jockey Club), *Aereo Club Brasileiro* (Brazilian Aviation Club). Furthermore, the *Comité Olympico Nacional CON* was founded by the following luminaries: Drs. Fernando MENDES DE ALMEIDA and Ernani PINTO (Motor Sports), Coronel James ANDREW, Raul de CARVALHO and Leutnant Armando JORGE (Equestrian Sport), Dr. Candido MENEZES DE ALMEIDA (Tourism), Commander Jorge MOLLER and Second Lieutenant Ricardo KIRCK (Aviation), Dr. Alvaro ZAMITH, Dr. Mario POLLO

and G. de ALMEIDA BRITO (Athletic Sports), Commander Raul Oscar de FARIA RAMOS, Captain Ariovisto de ALMEIDA REGO, Dr. Antonio de OLIVEIRA CASTRO and Alberto de MENDOÇA (Swimming and Rowing), Major Bernardo de OLIVEIRA and Dr. Alberto PEREIRA BRAGA (Shooting), J. PINHEIRO BARBOSA and J. Pedro DIAS (Gymnastics, Weightlifting).<sup>24</sup>

A somewhat later entry refers to the subsequent election of a Board of Directors:

„O Comité reuniu-se posteriormente, elegeu a sua diretoria, mas não pode dedicar-se a trabalhos positivos, porque logo depois a guerra, que arruina a Europa, annullou todos os projectos, que tinham sido formulados para os jogos olympicos, que deveriam se realizar em 1916, em Berlim.”<sup>25</sup>

Dr. Fernando MENDES DE ALMEIDA was elected President of the Executive Committee. He was supported by the two Vice Presidents Dr. Álvaro ZAMITH and Captain Ariovisto de ALMEIDA REGO. G. de ALMEIDA BRITO became National Secretary, J. PINHEIRO BARBOSA Secretary of Protocol and Raul de CARVALHO Treasurer.<sup>26</sup>

The National Olympic Committee obviously continued to exist in the interim, however, there is no documentary evidence of its existence again until 1920 and thereafter:

„Tendo conhecimento em 30 de Janeiro de 1920 de que o Comité Olympico Nacional acceitara o convite feito pelo C.O.Internacional para que o Brasil se representasse e resolvera dar a Confederação Brasileira de Desportos a atribuição de indicar e preparar a representação brasileira, effectuou a diretoria em 5 de Fevereiro uma reunião conjuncta com os membros do C.O.Nacional para tomars as primeiras medidas, que foram approvadas em 7 de Fevereiro.”<sup>27</sup>

Despite the existence of a National Olympic Committee, the teams for the Olympic Games were selected by the *Confederação Brasileira de Desportos* CBD. A corresponding competence was attested to the CBD, which could be compared with other countries and was in accordance with international standards.<sup>28</sup> It should be remembered that a distribution of tasks according to today's standards didn't exist in that time, as both organisations were still in a learning phase. Based on a CBD protocol of 1920, which refers to the Olympic Congress in Lausanne and questions about the venue of the 1922 *Jogos Regionais*, this can be explained.

„Em 6 de abril de 1921, recebemos um aviso do Sr.Ministro do Interior, incluindo um convite do 'Comité International Olympique', convidando-nos a participarmos do Congresso Olympico a reunir-se em Lausanne, sob o patrocínio do governo suíço. Por intermedio do Sr.ministro da Relações

Exteriores, conseguimos que o Sr.Raul do Rio Branco, nosso ministro em Berna, aceitasse o encargo de nos representar nesse Congresso. Enviámos ao illustre compatriota as instrucções relativas á nossa representação e tivemos o prazer de constatar a maneira brilhante com que S.Ex. deu desempenho ao mandato de nós recebido.”<sup>29</sup>

Once more it becomes clear that the beginnings of the Olympic Movement in Brazil were tied to independent actions and that a coherent organisation was still unable to function. Therefore, the organisation of a team had to be taken over by the CBD.

Thus, the National Olympic Committee was founded in 1914 and it can be safely said that it survived until 1924, however, it rarely acted and always in conjunction with the CBD. Unfortunately, we do not have any information about any activities of the committee from the years 1925 to 1935, so that it was officially relaunched in 1935 with the format that is still valid today.<sup>30</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The so-called *Lei Áurea*, which abolished slavery in Brazil, came into effect on 13<sup>th</sup> May 1888.

<sup>2</sup> SKIDMORE, Thomas E.: *Uma História do Brasil*. Rio de Janeiro 1998, p. 101.

<sup>3</sup> PINTO, Leila: "A Legitimidade do Moderno Sentido de Esporte: Um olhar sobre a historia do Esporte no Brasil", in: *Coletânea do IV Encontro Nacional de História do Esporte Lazer e Educação Física*, Belo Horizonte 1996, p. 177.

<sup>4</sup> "... vagabonds and never-do-wells, socially and morally disorganised ...". WISSENBACH, Maria Cristina: "Da Escravidão à Liberdade: Dimensões de uma Privacidade Possível", in: SEVCENKO, Nicolau (ED.): *História da Vida Privada no Brasil*, Vol. III, São Paulo 1998, p. 49-130.

<sup>5</sup> SEYFERTH, Giralda: *Imigração e Cultura no Brasil*. Brasília 1990, p. 98.

<sup>6</sup> SKIDMORE: *História do Brasil*, p. 108.

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<sup>7</sup> SEVCENKO, Nicolau: "O Préludio Republicano, Astúcias da Ordem e Ilusões do Progresso, in: SEVCENKO, Nicolau (ED.): *História da Vida Privada no Brasil, Vol. III*, São Paulo 1998, p. 14-15.

<sup>8</sup> MARINS, Paulo César: "Habitação e Vizinhança: Limites da Privacidade no Surgimento das Metrôpoles Brasileiras", in: SEVCENKO, Nicolau (ED.): *História da Vida Privada no Brasil, Vol. III*, São Paulo 1998, p. 143.

<sup>9</sup> "We have to prepare, dear reader, to lick our lips. We have to go to the Olympic Games with two and four-horse chariot races as in Roman and Greek times, mediaeval tournaments, laurel wreaths for the winners, ladies strolling, athletes racing and hunting deer (...) as in a dream, the centuries will be relived in this blend of Greek, Roman, Medieval and modern eras, to form a comprehensive impression of sporting culture". From a quotation by SEVCENKO, Nicolau: "A Capital Irradiante: Técnica, Ritmos e Ritos do Rio", in: SEVCENKO, Nicolau (ED.): *História da Vida Privada no Brasil, Vol. III*, São Paulo 1998, p. 568. All Portuguese quotations are given in original writings of the certain era and are not transferred to modern Portuguese.

<sup>10</sup> JESUS, Gilmar: "Os Esportes e os Espaços Públicos na Belle Époque Carioca", in: *Coletânea do VI Congresso Brasileiro de História do Esporte, Lazer e Educação Física*, Rio de Janeiro 1998.

<sup>11</sup> "Sport has won, and this victory is radically changing habits. Youth education is changing bit by bit and they are losing their emaciated looks, pallor and sluggish movements and are gaining enthusiasm, energy and health. And there was a wonderful intense flourishing of sportsmanship in Brazil in but a few years, which has regained the losses of decades of torpor." TROMPOWSKY Jr., Roberto: "Desportos", in: *Diccionario Historico, Geographico e Ethnographico do Brasil (Commemorativo do primeiro centenário da Independência, Vol. I)*, Rio de Janeiro 1922, p. 413.

<sup>12</sup> MELO, Vitor: "O Esporte no Contexto Cultural do Rio de Janeiro do Final do Século XIV – Um projeto de Pesquisa", in: *Coletânea do IV Encontro Nacional de História do Esporte Lazer e Educação Física*, Belo Horizonte 1996, p. 522.

<sup>13</sup> "Modern sport is no longer simply a preserve of the idle rich, who needed a means of countering boredom; today it is inspired by other ideas, is well developed and has become a great social ideal ... Health, character and education are the three terms that define the objectives of sport ... Develop healthy, morally strong and well-educated individuals and present them to the fatherland, this is sport's highest aspiration." The early CBD protocols are not divided into months, weeks or days but are preserved as a total package in the archives of the *Comitê Brasileiro de Futebol* CBF.

<sup>14</sup> HELAL, Ronaldo & SOARES, Antonio Jorge G. & CARMO SALLES, José Geraldo do: "Futebol" ("Football"), in: DACOSTA, Lamartine (ED.): *Altas do Esporte no Brasil (Atlas of Sport in Brazil)*, Rio de Janeiro 2005, p. 257 to 258.

<sup>15</sup> HELAL et. Al.: "Futebol" ("Football") (2005), p. 257.

<sup>16</sup> HELAL et. Al.: "Futebol" ("Football") (2005), p. 257 to 258.

<sup>17</sup> „Art.1 - The *Condereração Brasileira de Desportos (Brazilian Sports Confederation*, founded on June 8, 1914 under the name of *Federação Brasileira de Sports (Brazilian Sports Federation)*, was established to administer the respective sports for all federations, leagues and clubs. Paragraph. 1 - With regard to sports development, in each state and Federal District, there will be three institutions, one for terrestrial sports, one for aquatic sports and the third for aerial sports, and these will be exclusively affiliated to the Confederation.

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Paragraph. 2 - The Confederation may be affiliated to individual sports clubs, if the state in question has no other entity taking care of it.

Art.2 – The CBD has the following duties:

- 1 – To represent the national sports together with the affiliated powers.
- 2 – To represent the national sports abroad.
- 3 – To promote the development of sports festivals.
- 4 – To serve as a tribunal of last resort to decide issues arising between federations or directly affiliated sports clubs.
- 5 – To find a way to unify sporting regulations and codes.
- 6 – To manage conventions, treaties and relations with foreign sports clubs."

This information can be gathered from the protocols of the *Confederação Brasileira de Desportos CBD* in the *Comitê Olímpico Brasileiro COB*: Pages from 8<sup>th</sup> June 1914 to 5<sup>th</sup> December 1916.

<sup>18</sup> This information can be gathered from the protocols of the *Confederação Brasileira de Desportos (Brazilian Sports Confederation) CBD* in the *Comitê Olímpico Brasileiro (Brazilian Olympic Committee) COB*: Pages from 8<sup>th</sup> June 1914 to 5<sup>th</sup> December 1916.

<sup>19</sup> This information can be gathered from the protocols of the *Confederação Brasileira de Desportos (Brazilian Sports Confederation) CBD* in the *Comitê Olímpico Brasileiro COB*: Pages from 8<sup>th</sup> June 1914 to 5<sup>th</sup> December 1916.

<sup>20</sup> "... You all know the enthusiastic reactions in the circular letter from Raul do RIO BRANCO, the son of the famous Baron, one of the great protagonists of sport in our country; we know how to appreciate his goodwill and competence in this matter." Pages from 8<sup>th</sup> June 1914 to 5<sup>th</sup> December 1916, p. 10.

<sup>21</sup> "... because at this very moment, he [Coubertin] had received the information from the Olympic partners of the Portuguese league, that Brazil should have founded the Brazilian Federation of sports and a Brazilian Olympic Committee ...". The relevant letter can be found in the Sr. Raul do RIO BRANCO file in the *Musée Olympique* in Lausanne.

<sup>22</sup> "... to sum up, in 1913 the Olympic Committee was provisionally inaugurated on the initiative and with the very valuable support of the *Jornal do Brazil*. For various reasons, it was not possible to achieve the objectives; however, all was not in vain; the seed was planted in good soil and it seems to me that we may soon announce *urbe et orbe*, that we have a National Olympic Committee...". Pages from 8<sup>th</sup> June 1914 to 5<sup>th</sup> December 1916, p. 10.

<sup>23</sup> "The words of the distinguished sportsman [Zamith] not only represented the thoughts of the person who uttered them, but faithfully translate the vision of a core of disinterested sportsmen who recognise international relations as a form to be introduced to the national sports." Pages from 8<sup>th</sup> June 1914 to 5<sup>th</sup> December 1916, p. 11.

<sup>24</sup> Pages from 8<sup>th</sup> June 1914 to 5<sup>th</sup> December 1916.

<sup>25</sup> "The Committee met later to elect its board, but could not make a positive contribution, because soon after the war, which laid Europe to waste, it cancelled all projects that had been planned for the Olympic Games and which should have been staged in 1916 in Berlin." Pages from 8<sup>th</sup> June 1914 to 5<sup>th</sup> December 1916, p.12.

<sup>26</sup> Pages from 8<sup>th</sup> June 1914 to 5<sup>th</sup> December 1916.

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<sup>27</sup> "Having been informed on January 30<sup>th</sup> 1920, that the National Olympic Committee accepts the International Olympic Committee's invitation for Brazil to be represented by and decisions made through the Brazilian Sports Confederation to select and prepare the Brazilian delegation. On 5<sup>th</sup> February a meeting with members of the National Olympic Committee will be organised to discuss the first steps, which should be approved on 7<sup>th</sup> February." The protocols of the *Confederação Brasileira de Desportos (Brazilian Sports Confederation) CBD* are kept in the archives of the *Confederação Brasileira de Futebol (Brazilian Football Confederation) CBF*. See p.34.

<sup>28</sup> TROMPOWSKY Jr.: "Desportos", p. 414.

<sup>29</sup> "On April 6, 1921, we received a message from the Minister of the Interior, including an invitation from the 'Comité International Olympique' ('International Olympic Committee') inviting us to participate in the Olympic Congress in Lausanne, under the patronage of the Swiss government. Thanks to the intervention by the Minister of Foreign Affairs we were able to get the consent of Raul do RIO BRANCO, our Ambassador in Berne, to represent us [CBD] at the congress. We sent the instructions to represent us to our illustrious compatriot and we were pleased to see the brilliant way in which His Excellency performed the mandate he received from us." Protocols of the *Confederação Brasileira de Desportos (Brazilian Sports Confederation) (CBD)*, p. 21.

<sup>30</sup> DE FRANCESCHI NETO-WACKER, Marcia: "Brasilien und die Olympische Bewegung 1896 bis 1925" (Brazil and the Olympic Movement 1896 to 1925), in: *Stadion 25*, 1999, p. 131-137.