



Geneva, February 2007

**Message by Mr. Adolf Ogi**

**Special Adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General  
on Sport for Development and Peace**

**Under-Secretary-General**

The Kilimanjaro Initiative clearly exemplifies the positive effects of sport on individuals and society. This unique initiative was founded by Mr. Tim Challen, who has not only used sport for his personal rehabilitation but also as a way of bringing people together and as a powerful instrument to address development issues within communities in Kenya and Tanzania.

Climbing Mount Kilimanjaro is no easy feat. Its summit lies at 5890 meters, where low oxygen levels and steep slopes make it a treacherous environment. Good preparation and a high level of determination are essential in reaching the peak. Through respect for one another and by working together as a team, the courageous participants in the Kilimanjaro Initiative can be sure to reach their goal.

Sport has the potential to provide discipline to our lives, helping the mind to focus and find solutions. Sport, as a universal language, has the power to bring people together, from all social spheres and backgrounds, uniting them for a cause that can benefit society as a whole.

I congratulate the participants of the Kilimanjaro Initiative of 2006 for their participation in such a noble endeavour and for successfully reaching the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro. I trust that the Initiative will continue its' positive constructive impact on the local community and wish all participants a victorious climb in 2007.

**Adolf Ogi**  
Former President of Switzerland



SPECIAL ADVISER  
TO THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL  
ON SPORT FOR  
DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE