



# The International Taekwon-Do Federation

International Olympic Committee  
Chateau de Vidy,  
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I noticed in the Olympic Review, Number 154 of August 1980, that the World Taekwon-Do Federation was granted IOC recognition. This distresses me very much.

As a word of introduction, my name is General Choi Hong Hi. I invented the art of Taekwon-Do in 1946 and since that time I have always been the legitimate leader of the art of Taekwon-Do. I voluntarily left South Korea in 1971 because I felt that the government of Korea was attempting to use the sport for their own political ends. I relocated the headquarters of the International Taekwon-Do Federation in Toronto, Canada. The International Taekwon-Do Federation (ITF) now has over ten million members in 57 countries; including several Eastern European countries. This makes the ITF a true international sport.

The Korean government founded a rival organization, the World Taekwon-Do Federation, in 1973. This federation is completely funded by the South Korean government and all officers of the federation are South Korean government officials. Unlike the ITF, it is a national rather than an international sport.

In fairness to the nearly ten million ITF students, I do not think the IOC can grant the WTF sole representation in the IOC. I am anxious to hear from you regarding this matter.

Yours truly,

  
General Choi Hong Hi  
President