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Story: IOC President on the participation of Russian athletes at the Olympic Games Rio 2016

Date: 19 July 2016

Location: IOC Headquarters, Lausanne, Switzerland

SHOT LOG & transcripts of soundbites:

SOUNDBITE: IOC President Thomas Bach
00:02 Q. What is your reaction to the McLaren report?
00:05 “The findings of this report show a really shocking and unprecedented attack on the integrity of sport and the Olympic Games. Therefore the IOC does not hesitate to take all the measures and the toughest sanctions against this behaviour”. (English Language).

SOUNDBITE: IOC President Thomas Bach
00:27 Q. Is there still work to be done by Professor McLaren?
00:29 “We really appreciate the work being done by Professor McLaren and we evaluate it, we will work on it, and we hope and fully support his request to continue his work so he can evaluate all the documents, all the evidence he has or he still may find”. (English language).

SOUNDBITE: IOC President Thomas Bach
00:56 Q. Will you ban all Russian athletes from the Olympic Games Rio 2016?
00:58 “We will have to study the report in detail and we will have to take a very difficult decision, also in legal terms. This is on the one hand
between a collective ban for all Russian athletes, and on the other hand the natural right to individual justice for every clean athlete in the world. In this respect we are entering a new field. And this is why we are expecting now the decision of the Court of Arbitration of Sport, the highest judicial authority in sport, on the 21st of July concerning the IAAF rules for participation in the Olympic Games and then we will have to take this next to the findings of the McLaren report and all the other circumstances into consideration, and we'll then take a final decision about this participation". (English language).

SOUNDBITE: IOC President Thomas Bach
02:12 Q. What immediate actions have the IOC Executive Board decided to take?
02:14 “The IOC has today started disciplinary action against all persons and organisations being implicated in the McLaren report. The IOC will not grant any kind of accreditation to any of the persons involved and implicated in the report, in particular with regards to the Ministry of Sport in Russia. The IOC will retest and reanalyse all the tests, all the samples of Russian athletes with regard to the Olympic Winter Games 2014, and then take the necessary actions that means disqualifying these athletes, sanctioning them, reallocating the medals. (English language).

SOUNDBITE: IOC President Thomas Bach
03:10 Q. What other actions are you considering?
03:12 “Because these allegations against the Olympic Winter Games are so serious, we have at the same asked the International Winter Sports Federations to freeze all their preparations for their major events like World Championships or World Cups in Russia for this winter as a provisional measure, and to look already now for alternative organisers,
and these provisional measures apply first until the 31st of December and will then be reviewed by the IOC Executive Board in light of the results of the disciplinary commission we have created today”. (English language).

End

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