The Olympic Games Rio 2016 were a true success story. This was underlined today in the meeting of the IOC Executive Board (EB) when facts and figures were presented. Rio 2016 were the most consumed Olympic Games in history. Here we take a close look at the facts behind the success of the Olympic Games Rio 2016.

The Olympic Games Rio 2016 were iconic in so many respects. Over the course of 16 glorious days we witnessed new records, personal bests, great emotions and inspiring sportsmanship that only the magic of the Olympic Games can create. Off the field of play too, Rio 2016 was a great success. Rio 2016 set new records for global visibility and awareness; it also set new standards for legacy planning.
IOC president Thomas Bach said:

“The Olympic Games Rio 2016 were a huge success beyond all our expectations in many respects. First of all it was the most consumed Olympic Games ever with half of the world population following the Games with seven billion views on social media. Secondly these Olympic Games sent a great message of unity in diversity to the world with all the 206 National Olympic Committees participating and embracing the first ever Refugee Olympic Team, which was highly welcomed by the world”.

**Highlights**

- The Olympic Games Rio 2016 were the most consumed Olympic Games ever
- Half the world’s population watched coverage of the Games
- Over seven billion video views of official content on social media
platforms

• Olympic Games increasingly associated with terms including “excellence”, “friendship”, “respect”, as well as “diversity”, “inspirational”, “unity”, “universal” and “youthful”

• Rio 2016 has left behind a great legacy for the city of Rio de Janeiro

• Access to high-quality public transport for citizens has increased from 18% in 2009 to 63% at the end of 2016

• Athletes from 206 NOCs plus the first-ever Refugee Olympic Team participated

• Over 11,000 athletes of whom more than 45% were women, the highest number ever

• Women competed in every sport at the Games for the second time running

• 10 refugee athletes competed as part of the first-ever Refugee Olympic Team

• Two NOCs—Kosovo and South Sudan—participated in the Olympic Games for the first time
• Nine NOCs won their first-ever gold medals (Bahrain, Fiji, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Kosovo, Puerto Rico, Singapore, Tajikistan and Vietnam)

Rio’s Mayor Eduardo da Costa Paes was full of praise:

“Brazil has gone through a terrible political and economic crisis, the poor people are suffering and in the city of Rio, if you look at the rise of the wages of the poorer people, they were the ones who got the most benefit from the Games. If you look at transportation, it’s like 18% of the population used to have access to high capacity transportation, now we are more than 60%. If you look at the old downtown area of the port it is completely renovated, and a bunch of things that happened in the city were inspired by the Games”.

For more information, please see the factsheet attached.

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