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Story script

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) OFFERS THE FOLLOWING VIDEO NEWS RELEASE TO ALL NEWS AGENCIES, BROADCASTERS AND ALL ONLINE PLATFORMS FREE OF CHARGE

Story headline: IOC President Thomas Bach arrives in the Republic of Korea ahead of the Olympic Winter Games, PyeongChang 2018.

Location: PyeongChang, Republic of Korea.

Date: 30th January 2018

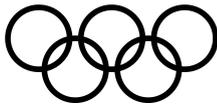
STORY SCRIPT

IOC President Thomas Bach has arrived in the Republic of Korea ahead of the Olympic Winter Games, PyeongChang 2018.

President Bach said, “the world is looking at Korea” as he stepped off a newly built KTX high-speed railway train at Jinbu station in PyeongChang.

One hundred and two gold medals will be up for grabs over 17 days of winter sport between February 9-25th 2018.

PyeongChang 2018 will also continue the IOC’s commitment to bridge gender divides in sport. For the first time in PyeongChang, a mixed doubles event in curling will appear alongside the traditional men’s and women’s team events. Alpine skiing, traditionally an individual sport, will also have its own mixed team event for the first time. And finally, the speed skating programme in



PyeongChang will be rounded off with men's and women's 'mass start' events.

On January 20th President Bach announced that a delegation from the National Olympic Committee (NOC) of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) would participate at the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018.

The International Olympic Committee Executive Board also approved the unification of the two Korean delegations to create one Korean women's ice hockey team. For the first time in their Olympic history, the two Korean NOCs will unite to compete under the Korean Unification Flag as one team in an Olympic Winter sport event.

On arrival the IOC President said, "It's not only about the ice hockey team I think it's about the message the joint march of the team will send and this has been hugely enthusiastically welcomed by the world. The two national Olympic Committees came to this agreement with the International Olympic Committee to send this great message."

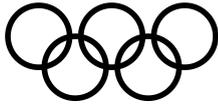


President Bach was met at Incheon International Airport in Seoul by Lee Hee-Beom, President of the PyeongChang 2018 organising committee (POCOG).

To get a feeling for the atmosphere building ahead of the Games, President Bach made his first visit to the athletes of Team Korea, who were training in a gym in PyeongChang. Taking selfies and encouraging them to strive for their goals, he told them: "Keep working hard, but don't forget it is also fun."

From Team Korea, Thomas Bach went to visit "team" POCOG. At the headquarters of the Organising Committee, he addressed the staff in the main operations centre: "Seeing how well prepared you are and how structures are established, we can look forward to the Olympic Winter Games with great confidence. You are part of a great team to which everybody belongs. The volunteers who I met earlier at the train station are doing a fantastic job, just like you. When I see their and your smiles I know that the Games are in very good hands".

Tickets for the Winter Olympic Games PyeongChang 2018 are now available to Olympic fans worldwide through various channels depending on their



country of residence. To find out how you can apply for Olympic Games tickets, please visit the PyeongChang 2018 Organising Committee's website.

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