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Story Script

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**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 GIVES A MID TERM OVERVIEW ON WHAT THE IOC HAS ACHIEVED AND OUTLINES PLANS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF OLYMPIC PROGRAMMES THAT REFLECT GENDER EQUALITY, YOUTH CULTURE AND NEW TECHNOLOGY.**

**Location:** Lausanne, Switzerland

**Date:** August 22, 2018

### **STORY SCRIPT**

IOC President looks forward to the future with overview of Olympic Games in Tokyo in 2020, a look at the candidature process for 2026 with interested cities /regions from 5 countries still in the race (Canada, Italy, Japan, Sweden, Turkey) – looks at the plan to have the Youth Olympic Games in Africa in 2022 with Botswana, Nigeria, Senegal and Tunisia bidding.

He also takes a look at how the fundamental reform programme for the Olympic Movement is taking shape and already delivering on gender equality and reaching out and bringing sport to youth with an eye on Esports.

President Bach says he is looking forward to taking sport closer to the people - starting in Tokyo 2020, where the programme will reflect the recommendations of the Olympic Agenda 2020 to embrace the ever-changing landscape and keep the Games relevant to a new generation of Olympic sports fans.

Bach said: "The Olympic programme and Tokyo 2020 promises to be more urban, more female and much younger than the programmes before. This is indeed great progress by having an urban centre, sport goes where the people are. We do not any longer retreat to a stadium and then wait for people to come, we go into the centres of the city we go where people would usually move around, making sport and the Olympic competition a part of their daily experience."



President Bach took office in 2013 and has presided over three Olympic Games, the Olympic Winter Games in Sochi 2014, the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018 earlier this year and the Summer Games in Rio 2016.

The first five years of his term has seen President Bach oversee the introduction and implementation of Olympic Agenda 2020, the strategic roadmap for the future of the Olympic Movement. It has included the launch of the Olympic Channel, an online broadcast platform available 24 hours a day globally, providing a new way to engage the younger generation of Olympic fans and new audiences.

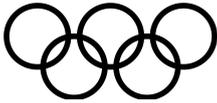
The 'New Norm' is part of Olympic Agenda 2020. It is a programme designed to ensure less work and lower costs for a host city. For example, a joint coordination process between national and regional government, the IOC and Tokyo 2020 has already assisted in reducing Tokyo's revised venue budget by 2.2 billion US dollars.

Legacy is another key part of Olympic Agenda 2020. After the two Koreas marched together at the Opening Ceremony in PyeongChang 2018, paving the way for the peace process to begin, the IOC has been working to ensure the city of Fukushima, devastated by the 2011 Tōhoku earthquake and the resulting Tsunami and nuclear power plant disaster, will be part of the Tokyo 2020 programme.

E-sports are also under consideration for future Games. President Bach said "There are some questions still open. In the Olympic Movement not everyone agrees yet that E-sports on a competitive level is really sport, there, there is still some work to be done. But then on the other hand everybody in the Olympic Movement agrees that we have a red line when it comes to Olympic Values that we cannot allow any glorification of killing of people or of discrimination for instance in any activity that would be related to the Olympic Games. So there is some work to do but I think we have had a good start and we will continue to work on it in a positive and optimistic way."

With the Youth Olympic Games (YOG) just weeks away from getting underway in Buenos Aires in October, President Bach also confirmed that plans remain on course for the 2022 YOG to take place in Africa.

He said: "We have taken, at the IOC, this decision. We have said that it is time for Africa, it is time for Africa to arrange a major Olympic event and the



Youth Olympic are the greatest gift we can make to Africa because it reflects Africa almost perfectly. Africa is a continent of young people, therefore, youth Olympic games are very appropriate and Africa is a continent that has presented to the world many outstanding athletes so it is time we give these young athletes, these young Olympic hopefuls also the opportunity to compete at home, to compete on their continent and in this way showing to the world and demonstrating that it is time for Africa in sport but not only in sport.”

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