The 74th Session of the United Nations General Assembly today approved a resolution for the observance of the Olympic Truce for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 next summer. The resolution was “Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic Ideal”.

Speaking to the General Assembly in New York following the adoption of the resolution, International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Thomas Bach reiterated the importance of the values of peace, solidarity and respect:

“In our fragile world, we see our shared values and principles challenged in many ways, not only in the international community but also in sport” said the IOC President. “The IOC is fully committed to preserve and strengthen these values and principles of respect for the rule of law, solidarity and political neutrality”.

The resolution calls for the Olympic Truce to be respected from seven days before the start of the Olympic Games in July 2020 until seven days after the Paralympic Games, and to use this opportunity to harness sport to foster and encourage concrete action that promotes dialogue and reconciliation during the Games and beyond.

The resolution was formally submitted to the General Assembly by the President of the Tokyo 2020 Organising Committee Yoshiro Mori on behalf of the government of Japan and the Olympic Movement.

President Mori said: “The Olympic Truce Resolution is the embodiment of the shared hope of people across the world that we can realize a world with no conflicts at least during the Olympic and Paralympic Games and that we can live together by fostering mutual understanding and respect with ‘unity in diversity’”.

The tradition of the Olympic Truce "Ekecheira" has been to ensure a halt of all hostilities, allowing the safe passage and participation of athletes and spectators taking part in the Olympic Games. The resolution reaffirms that the Olympic values of peace, solidarity and
The Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 will take place from 24 July to 9 August 2020 and will be followed by the Paralympic Games from 25 August to 6 September 2020.

SHOTLIST:

00:06 Aerial shots, United Nations building, New York
00:14 Wide of building
00:17 United Nations flag outside building
00:22 IOC President Thomas Bach and colleagues exit car, enter UN building
00:29 Thomas Bach enters UN General Assembly Hall
00:31 Wide on General Assembly hall
00:35 Wide of Thomas Bach preparing to address UN General Assembly
00:40 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language)
“This resolution is a powerful reminder of the shared values on which both the United Nations and the IOC are built”.
00:51 Cutaway of sign reading ‘International Olympic Committee’
00:55 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language)
“With the adoption of the Olympic Truce Resolution today you are supporting the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 as this true symbol of peace in our world. Today is therefore a welcome opportunity to reaffirm the commitment of the IOC to our shared values of peace, solidarity and respect”.
01:24 Wide of UN General Assembly Hall
01:29 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language)
“In this Olympic spirit of universality, solidarity and peace, I invite you all to join hands and celebrate our unity in all our diversity at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 and beyond”.
01:50 Pan on UN General Assembly Hall
01:56 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language)
“Our commitment to sustainability is reflected in our comprehensive Olympic agenda 2020 reforms. In fact we have made sustainability a central element to all our activities”.
02:14 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language)
“The Truce is the expression that it is possible to live peacefully together in this world and that the Olympic Games at this moment in time are maybe the most powerful symbol of this unity in all our diversity of humankind and in the potential of competing with each other but living peacefully with each other at the same time”.
02:41 Wide, UN HQ
02:46 Aerial, UN HQ
02:50 February 2018 Winter Games, athletes from North and South Korea enter PyeongChang Olympic stadium marching under one flag
02:54 Athletes Chung Guam Hwang of North Korea and Yunjong Won of South Korea, joint flag bearers
02:58 Aerial of same
03:01 Tokyo 2020 announcement, wide of stage
03:04 Close up of medals
03:09 Tokyo 2020 mascots Miraitowa, official mascot of 2020 Summer Olympics, and Someity, official mascot of 2020 Summer Paralympics
03:14 Brazil Olympics 2016 Opening ceremony, Brazilian team enter Maracana stadium
03:18 Close up of same with flag waving
03:20 IOC President Thomas Bach and UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon applaud
03:25 Refugee Olympic Team with flag bearer Rose Lokonyen enter stadium
03:31 Torch bearer Vanderlei de Lima climbs stairs
03:34 De Lima lights Olympic flame
03:40 Flame is lit, applause
03:43 Aerial of stadium firework display
03:48 Aerial of stadium with Christ the Redeemer statue
03:51 Aerial of Olympic House (new IOC HQ in Lausanne) with Olympic rings
03:57 Aerial of same
04:01 Close up Olympic rings

Video 2
00:01 H.E. Mr. Yoshiro Mori, President of the Tokyo Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games shaking hands with António Guterres, the UN Secretary-General.
00:10 Yoshiro Mori and António Guterres, sitting together.
00:27 SOUNDITE: H.E. Mr. Yoshiro Mori, President of the Tokyo Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (Japanese Language)

"I would like to introduce the UN General Assembly resolution, which was submitted by the Japanese government, through the Sport & Olympic philosophy in order to build the world with peace and a better environment. First of all, I would like to thank António Guterres, the UN Secretary-General and Muhammad, the President of the United Nations General Assembly and also everyone who works for the UN, for giving me this opportunity. It was only two weeks ago, Pope Francisco visited Hiroshima and Nagasaki in our country and he has mentioned that it is possible and necessary to have a world without nuclear weapons. This speech has attracted a lot of sympathy around Japanese people. It made me surprised that there are so many rugby fans existing in Japan – so many people have gathered. As I mentioned before this is the result of the great communication and collaboration between local cities and (rugby) players. We could take advantage of this experience of (rugby) world cup success for the Tokyo 2020 competition. The splendor of sports and the preciousness of challenging difficulties make impossible things possible. I've become 82-years old this year and I think this will be my last time to make a speech at the UN General Assembly. As a politician, my life has been supported by the spirits that I've learned from sports. To make impossible things to be possible - the dream of not having any war in this whole world someday could be achieved sometime in the future, not only during the Olympic period but forever. Also, even if it's difficult to make one person speak to the other person honestly, it could be the way to find a solution. The current international situation is getting more complicated, small countries would always be a sacrifice of bigger countries' decisions, I can't overlook these vulnerable people. Therefore, I would like to wish again for world peace and prosperity. Sports have the power to change the world and the future, I would like to believe in the vision for Tokyo 2020 competition. I've heard that more than 180 countries have already approved this resolution that Japan has submitted today. I would like to thank again for the UN General Assembly, and would like to ask your approval for this resolution, and then conclude my speech with many thanks."

-- ENDS --

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