



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

Story Script and Shot log

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STORY HEADLINE: IOC President welcomes kids from Fukushima to the Winter Youth Olympic Games, Lausanne 2020

LOCATION: Lausanne, Switzerland

DATE: January 9th, 10th, 2020

LANGUAGE: English and Japanese

Broadcast quality footage available at the IOC Newsroom: <http://iocnewsroom.com>

++ UPDATED WITH NEW SHOTS ++

STORY SCRIPT:

International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Thomas Bach welcomed a group of students who survived Japan's 2011 catastrophic earthquake and tsunami as guests of honour to the Winter Youth Olympic Games (YOG), Lausanne 2020.

They were welcomed at Olympic House in Lausanne by the IOC President before taking their places at the opening ceremony on Thursday evening (January 9th 2020).

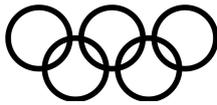
They are the second group of students to visit the Olympic capital from Fukushima. It follows President Bach's visit to the Japanese region in November 2018, accompanied by the Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

More than 15,000 people were killed in the tsunami, a 15 metre high tidal wave rampaging ashore, in March 2011. More than 500,000 people were displaced from their homes. The disaster was triggered by a major earthquake off northern Japan's Pacific coast.

This year's summer Olympic Games, Tokyo 2020, will see baseball and softball competitions hosted in Fukushima's Azuma Stadium, with football played at nearby Miyagi Stadium, also in the stricken region.

The decision to stage events there was taken by the IOC in consultation with Japanese government and was aimed at supporting the recovery in the region.

Along with their visit to Lausanne for the Winter Youth Olympic Games, the inspirational Japanese students from Japan have been invited to attend at least one game of baseball or softball at this summer's Olympic Games.



Story script and Shot log

IOC President Bach commented, "We wanted to show our appreciation for their human strength and for the motivation they are giving to so many young people in Japan and beyond. This is a little bit in line with the invitation we had for Buenos Aires, with the Thai children, the football team, which was caught in the cave for so many days. Because what these young people are showing are Olympic values.

"This is persistence, this is believing in yourself, this is about encouraging your teammates and your mates. So, with this invitation, we wanted to give encouragement to them, but also to show them to these young athletes as role models, to show to them that they have this impressive young fellow people, who are showing and demonstrating these Olympic values in much more difficult circumstances than they, as athletes, have to do."

These young people are part of the "Support Our Kids" programme in which the Swiss Embassy in Japan is involved, and supports children affected by the 2011 tsunami.

Many cities in the region affected by the 2011 earthquake will be a point of international sports exchanges as a "Host Town". They will welcome teams from different countries and regions ahead of and during the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

In another symbolic gesture, Fukushima will also stage the first leg of the Olympic Torch Relay in the run-up to the Olympic Games next July.

SHOTLIST:

00:05 Wide shot of children from Fukushima waiting for IOC President, Thomas Bach
00:10 IOC President, Thomas Bach, shakes hands with children
00:15 IOC President, Thomas Bach, receives T-shirt as a present
00:20 IOC President, Thomas Bach, trying on T-shirt
00:27 IOC President, Thomas Bach, and children posing for picture
00:30 Children sing and IOC President, Thomas Bach, listens

00:46 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language).

"What these young people are showing are Olympic Values, this is persistence, this is believing in yourself, this is about encouraging your team mates and your mates, so with this invitation we wanted to give encouragement to them but also to show them to these young athletes as role models."

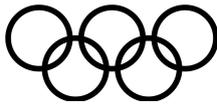
01:31 IOC President, Thomas Bach, talks to the children

01:37 SOUNDBITE: SHUTO KUMAGAI, BOY FROM FUKUSHIMA (Japanese Language).

"I am very excited to see the games by all these players who are of similar age with me, high school students."

01:45 Children from Fukushima in Olympic Museum

01:50 SOUNDBITE: SHUTO KUMAGAI, BOY FROM FUKUSHIMA (Japanese Language).



"Well, the Olympic Games only happens once every 4 years, but the Tokyo Olympics might happen only once in a lifetime, so I am very excited and honoured to be a torch-bearer."

02:05 Children from Fukushima in Olympic Museum

02:09 SOUNDBITE: SHUTO KUMAGAI, BOY FROM FUKUSHIMA (Japanese Language).

"Yes, in this Olympic museum, my most favourite part was the display of the medals. Olympic Games have a long history. And I could feel the history displayed in these medals. I was very impressed again and again just by looking at all the medals people earned throughout history."

02:22 Children from Fukushima observe exhibition in Olympic Museum

02:28 SOUNDBITE: YUZUHA YOSHIDA, GIRL FROM FUKUSHIMA (Japanese Language).

"I can feel the Olympic atmosphere more and more by being here in Lausanne."

02:37 Children from Fukushima leave the Olympic Museum

02:40 SOUNDBITE: YUZUHA YOSHIDA, GIRL FROM FUKUSHIMA (Japanese Language).

"I was very impressed with the display of the history of the Olympics all the way from Ancient Greece."

02:47 Children from Fukushima stand next to the Olympic cauldron outside the Olympic Museum

02:53 SOUNDBITE: YUZUHA YOSHIDA, GIRL FROM FUKUSHIMA (Japanese Language).

"People in Lausanne are very excited about the Youth Olympic Games. And I am very happy being a part of this and enjoying it together."

January 10th

03:01 Shots of boy skiing at ski simulator

03:07 Children entering the Skating arena

03:14 Shots of children watching competition at Skating arena

03:22 Girls give thumbs-up

03:26 Children wear virtual reality glasses

03:31 Children pose for camera on street

03:37 Girl gives high-five to Yodli, Lausanne 2020 mascot

03:42 Children wave to camera



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