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Story Script and Shot log

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STORY HEADLINE: Swiss President Sommaruga hails sustainability of Lausanne 2020 ahead of first day of competition at Winter Youth Olympic Games

LOCATION: Lausanne, Switzerland

DATE: January 9th, 2020

LANGUAGE: French, Swiss-German, English

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

STORY SCRIPT: Swiss President Simonetta Sommaruga has hailed the sustainability of Lausanne 2020 as the city prepares for the first day of competition in the Winter Youth Olympic Games (YOG).

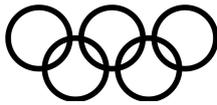
President Sommaruga toured the Youth Olympic Village, known as The Vortex, and met members of the Swiss team ahead of the opening ceremony. The Swiss team is the largest at the Games, with 112 athletes. Russia is the next biggest team with 107.

Six months after Lausanne 2020, the building will be handed over to the city's university and used as student accommodation, in accordance with the Olympic legacy ideal.

In line with Lausanne 2020's commitment to sustainability, several events in St Moritz – speed skating, bobsleigh, skeleton and luge – will make Youth Olympic history by taking place on natural ice for the first time. Speed skaters will compete outside on a natural frozen lake, while the other ice events will be held on the only natural – and the oldest – bobsleigh track in the world, the historic Olympic Bob Run.

To further reduce the environmental footprint of the YOG, the Organising Committee has committed to reducing the use of plastic for food and drink at all the official sites. Organisers have also held a series of citywide clean-up “plogging” events – following a Swedish concept that combines jogging and picking up litter.

For the first time at an Olympic tournament, athletes will use public transport to get to their events, helping to reduce the carbon emissions associated with the YOG. Fans are also being encouraged to use local trains and buses to reach the venues, with a purpose-built transport app to guide them.



President Sommaruga is delighted the people of Lausanne, and Switzerland as a whole, will be able to benefit from the facilities built for the Games. She said: "Lausanne can show as well that you can make the Olympic Games sustainable. They (athletes) will use public transport, they will use infrastructures that existed already. They have apartments that will be used afterwards by Swiss students, so I think that sustainability and Olympic values go together and Lausanne will show that it is possible to do it like that."

Lausanne 2020 is the third edition of the Winter Youth Olympic Games (YOG), bringing together the world's best young athletes between the ages of 15 and 18. For the first time in Winter Olympic history the Games will have gender equality, with equal numbers of male and female competitors in the 81 medal events.

1,872 athletes from 79 National Olympic Committees (NOCs) will be in action in Lausanne, 12 of those NOCs for the first time at a Youth Olympic Games - Albania, Azerbaijan, Ecuador, Haiti, Hong Kong (China), Kosovo, Pakistan, Qatar, Singapore, Thailand, Turkmenistan and Trinidad & Tobago..

Lausanne 2020 features FIVE new events, Women's Nordic Combined, Individual Normal Hill/4km, Women's Doubles Luge, Ice Hockey Mixed NOC 3x3 Tournament, Freeski Big Air, Snowboard Big Air. One new sport has also been added to the programme, Ski Mountaineering that includes five events: Women's and Men's Individual, Women's and Men's Sprint and Mixed NOC Relay.

The first Winter Youth Olympic Games took place in Innsbruck in 2012. The second edition was held in the Norwegian city of Lillehammer in 2016.

SHOTLIST:

00:05 Aerial shots of the Youth Olympic Village known as The Vortex (LIBRARY)

00:12 Flag of Switzerland on balcony

00:15 President of Switzerland, Simonetta Sommaruga, shakes hands and talks to Swiss team members

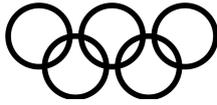
00:29 SOUNDBITE: Simonetta Sommaruga, President of Switzerland (French Language).

"I think it's really important. Switzerland can introduce itself as a country organising the Olympic Games. It's not gigantic but the giants are the athletes. We will use only public transport, we will use infrastructure that already existed and we've created apartments for the athletes which will be used by students afterwards; I think it's amazing. Our country sees itself as a country that respects nature and shows what it's capable of."

01:02 President of Switzerland, Simonetta Sommaruga, talks to Swiss team members

01:13 SOUNDBITE: Simonetta Sommaruga, President of Switzerland (Swiss-German Language).

"In the life of an athlete, it is a great privilege to take part in the Games, that's a first big highlight but of course, it is for other young people, an example. It is exciting to see and to follow this and see that it's possible. And the fact that the Games take place here in our own country is surely very motivating. I have seen all the young people here, the boys and girls, and I think sport has something that unites people. And the fact that the Youth



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Olympic Games take place across borders -there's a part that takes place in France-, shows that sport can reach across frontiers. This is important especially now."

02:04 President of Switzerland, Simonetta Sommaruga, talks to Swiss team members

02:22 SOUNDBITE: Simonetta Sommaruga, President of Switzerland (English Language).

"I think that the Olympic values are extremely important. Excellence, Respect, Friendship. And I think here in Lausanne we have prepared so that the young athletes can live these kind of values. I think we need them and at the same time Lausanne can show as well that you can make Olympic Games sustainable. They (athletes) will use public transport, they will use infrastructures that existed already. They have apartments that will be used afterwards by Swiss students, so I think that sustainability and Olympic values go together and Lausanne will show that it is possible to do it like that."

03:06 President of Switzerland, Simonetta Sommaruga, talks to Swiss team members

03:11 Wide shot of the Youth Olympic Village known as The Vortex

03:16 Aerial shot of the athletes' village (LIBRARY)

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