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: International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach visits Tokyo 2020 Olympic Stadium and Athletes’ Village.

LOCATION: Tokyo, Japan
DATE: 17 November 2020
LANGUAGE: English

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

STORY SCRIPT: The International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Thomas Bach has visited the new Olympic Stadium and Athletes’ Village ahead of next summer’s postponed Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

At the stadium, which has been built on the site of the arena that hosted the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games, President Bach reflected on how the stadium will look and feel nine months from now at the Opening Ceremony. He also discussed the latest developments in the global fight against Covid-19 with the assembled media.

With vaccine trials around the world continuing, President Bach said: “We have always said that if available, then we would encourage the athletes and not only the athletes, but all the participants in the Games, particularly those who would live in the Olympic Village, to get vaccinated.”

The 68,000 capacity stadium will host the opening and closing ceremonies at the Olympic and Paralympic Games, Olympic and Paralympic athletics events and some Olympic football matches, including the Women’s Gold Medal match.

The stadium was designed by leading Japanese architect Kengo Kuma and has sustainability and energy efficiency at its heart.

At the Athletes’ Village, President Bach was welcomed by triathlete Ai Ueda, who is aiming for her fourth straight Olympic Games appearance next summer, and Sarina Satomi, the winner of the para-badminton World Championships last year in the WH1 class.

The mayor of the village, former Japan Football Association President Saburo Kawabuchi, showed President Bach around the residential units in the Harumi waterfront district where some 10,000 athletes and coaches will be housed during the Games next summer.

The postponed Tokyo 2020 Olympics will now take place July 23-Aug 8 2021.
SHOTLIST:
00:00 External view of the new Olympic Stadium shot pans down to the Olympic rings.
00:07 Daytime, wide of the exterior of the new Olympic Stadium.
00:11 Interior Olympic Stadium, IOC President arrives with delegates.
00:17 Wide shot of IOC President entering the Stadium with delegates at Gate 4.
00:21 Close up, Delegates point, showing Thomas Bach the stadium.
00:27 Evening, Interior Olympic Stadium with floodlights, pan L-R.
00:39 Thomas Bach walks along the track in the new Olympic stadium.
00:42 Thomas Bach walking the track enters shot L-R.
00:49 Media inside the stadium, floodlights and the three-tiered spectator stands, pan L-R.
00:56 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language)
“This is why we have always said that if available then we would encourage the athletes and not only the athletes, but all the participants in the Games, in particular those who would live in the Olympic Village to get vaccinated.”
01:18 Cutaway of media inside the Olympic Stadium.
01:21 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language)
“In this kind of uncertainty, it’s only human that you also feel uncertain about such a big event like the Olympic Games in nine months from now. This we have to understand and to keep explaining that in nine months from now, the world will look different and for what reasons it will look different. We see that even under the very difficult conditions now, we see that big sports events are being organised and are being safely organised and are being successfully organised.”
02:12 Cutaway of media camera operators.
02:17 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language)
“The crucial thing is that the athletes and the participants have confidence in the Covid countermeasures and their rapid testing is very much important”.
02:26 Close up of the Olympic flame, housed in a safety lantern.
02:30 IOC President Thomas Bach picks up the Olympic flame.
02:34 IOC President stands with delegates holding the Olympic flame.
02:37 President Bach addresses athletes.
02:45 Olympic Torch Relay display, and delegates with IOC President holding the Olympic flame.
02:46 Exterior Athletes’ Village from the water of Tokyo Bay.
02:50 Vehicles enter the Athletes’ Village on Harumi Pier.
02:54 Views of the Tokyo 2020 Athletes’ Village.
02:58 IOC President Thomas Bach arriving at the Tokyo 2020 Athletes’ Village.
03:09 Thomas Bach exiting vehicle at the Tokyo 2020 Athletes’ Village.
03:14 Thomas Bach showing a symbol of Olympic peace to athletes.
03:19 Moving shot, entering the Athletes’ accommodation passing a seating area.
03:32 Entering the dorm room, shot pans around to the bed.
03:38 Inside a sunny dorm room with two beds.
03:42 IOC President Thomas Bach enters the Athletes’ accommodation dorm room.
03:44 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language)
“Looks like good stuff here, so I guess you will sleep very well, here in the Olympic village in Tokyo.”
03:55 Thomas Bach leaves the athletes’ accommodation.
03:57 View from the room's balcony across Tokyo Bay.
04:04 Thomas Bach on the balcony with a delegate.
04:20 Pan down the apartment block as the group exits the accommodation building.
04:26 President Thomas Bach approaches the waiting media outside the Athletes’ Village.
04:31 President Bach addresses the waiting media.

04:35 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language)
“There is good space and there will be good opportunities there also for social distancing. The Organising Committee will take all the necessary precautionary measures so that the athletes can relax and can feel safe here in the Village.”

05:02 President Bach driven away from the Tokyo 2020 Athletes’ Village.

-- ENDS --

© Copyright International Olympic Committee 2020. This content is the exclusive property of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). IOC-VNRs are for bona fide news reporting purposes only and all rights required for their production have been cleared. Terms and Conditions of the IOC Newsroom and Olympic.org apply.

For more information, please contact the IOC Media Relations Team: Tel: +41 21 621 6000, email: pressoffice@olympic.org, or visit our web site at www.olympic.org.