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STORY HEADLINE: International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach invites world’s athletes to Beijing 2022 as countdown to Olympic Winter Games reaches one year to go.

LOCATION: Olympic House, Lausanne, Switzerland & Beijing, China.
DATE: 4 Feb 2021
LANGUAGE: English

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

STORY SCRIPT:
To mark one year to go until the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) has put athletes at the heart of this milestone by featuring their preparation and commitment to getting to the Games during these unprecedented times.

Athletes narrate and feature in self-filmed content in a #StrongerTogether film released on this landmark date. They will also hold live chats and take over the @Olympics social handles between 4 and 20 February the period during which next year’s Games will take place.

Today, from Olympic House in Lausanne, IOC President Thomas Bach formally invited the National Olympic Committees of the world and their winter sports athletes to participate in next year’s Games, saying: “One year from now, Beijing will write history as the first city ever to host both the summer and winter editions of the Olympic Games. These Games will connect the Chinese people with the world.”

He continued: “Having seen how China is overcoming the coronavirus crisis, we are very confident that our Chinese hosts will ensure safe and secure Olympic Games in full cooperation with the IOC. We can say already now with great confidence: China is ready.”

In China a One Year to Go celebration show was broadcast on national television. In addition to celebrating this special milestone with a cultural spectacular, the Beijing 2022 Organising Committee also unveiled the official Beijing 2022 torch design.

The Beijing 2022 Games will be transformative for both China and the global winter sports scene, with the aim of getting 300 million people engaged in winter sports and having received around one million applications for volunteer positions.

The Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022 will have a strong emphasis on sustainability. All venues will be powered by 100 per cent renewable energy, while natural, low-carbon-emission CO2
refrigeration systems will be used at most of the Beijing 2022 ice venues – the first time this low climate impact technology will be used in China and at the Winter Olympic Games. 7 of 12 competition and non-competition venues within the Beijing 2022 competition zone will be legacy venues from Beijing 2008.

Beijing will host the XXIV Olympic Winter Games from 4 to 20 February 2022.

SHOTLIST:
00:03 Aerial view of Beijing Olympic Park at night as countdown clock sounds one year to go before the start of the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022.
00:09 Action from the Beijing 2022 one year to go ceremony
00:21 Beijing 2022 Olympic torch unveiling.
00:35 Beijing 2022 Olympic torch presented to guests.
00:41 Aerial view of Olympic House, Lausanne, Switzerland
00:46 Camera pan outside Olympic House, Lausanne, Switzerland

00:51 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language)
“Today it is my great pleasure to invite the National Olympic Committees of the world, and their athletes to these Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022. I will sign these invitations right here in the Olympic House in Lausanne, Switzerland, at the desk of Pierre de Coubertin, founder of the Olympic Movement.”

01:20 Thomas Bach, IOC President signs invitations to National Olympic Committee to attend Beijing 2022.

01:39 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language)
“Dear athletes and friends from all National Olympic Committees, we look forward to seeing you in Beijing in exactly one year from now, for the opening ceremony of the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022.”

01:56 Online Mosaic of National Olympic Committee Presidents “See you in Beijing 2022.”
02:00 Beijing 2022 #StrongerTogether film

03:49 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language)
Q. How are preparations going for the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022?
“Now the preparations are coming into the operational phase. The first test events are taking place even under different conditions, but it's now very much about operational planning. There we are in the excellent position that this operational planning can be done with completed venues, and this is greatly facilitating all of the tasks.”

04:28 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language)
Q. What kind of legacy will Beijing 2022 create?
“So there, from this Olympic Winter Games and from this vision, not only the Chinese people will greatly benefit, also the global winter sports will greatly benefit. So there and in the history of winter sport, these Games will be a landmark. There will be a winter sport before these Olympic Games and a truly global winter sport after these Olympic Winter Games, with 300 million people more engaged with winter sport.”

05:16 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language)
Q. Beijing will be the first city to host both summer and winter Olympic Games editions, how significant is that?
“First of all, Beijing will write history, as you said, because it will be the first city ever to host both editions of the Games - the winter and summer. This is already an achievement in itself, but there
is also, again, the legacy. Beijing does this in a way greatly benefiting from the legacy of the Summer Games, by turning a number of these venues into venues for the Winter Games. I think this will make some people look at it with really great eyes, when they see that the Water Cube is being turned into the curling venue, for instance, and when they see other venues being turned into winter venues. This is a great example and in general, these Olympic Winter Games will be fit for the post-coronavirus world, because there will be a great emphasis on sustainable development.”

06:53 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language)
Q. Will the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022 be environmentally friendly?
“First of all, the Organising Committee is committed to delivering a carbon neutral Olympic Winter Games. Secondly, we see all the venues being powered by environmentally friendly energy. There will be a lot of solar and wind energy being used, for instance, for powering the venues. We will see very innovative and environmentally friendly methods of refrigeration in the ice venues. All this is a great contribution to sustainable development and to the sustainability of winter sports.”

07:49 IOC President Thomas Bach opens an envelope and announces Beijing as the city to host the Olympic Winter Games 2022. July 2015 at IOC Session in Kuala Lumpur.
08:04 Animation of Beijing 2022 Olympic torch
08:21 Aerial view of Beijing 2022 Organising Committee buildings, Beijing, China.
08:30 Aerial view of the Great Wall of China at night.
08:36 Animated video of Beijing 2022 mascot Bing Dwen Dwen and Paralympic mascot Shuey Rhon Rhon.
08:57 Aerial view of Big Air Stadium.
09:03 Aerial view of the construction of the Athletes’ Olympic Village in Beijing.
09:10 Timelapse of water being drained from the Olympic pool at the National Aquatics Center and the Curling field of play constructed.
09:20 Timelapse of Wukesong Sports Center Basketball court converted into Ice Hockey venue.
09:28 Action of Hockey being played on the new ice.
09:32 Aerial wide shot of National Speed Skating Oval.
09:39 Aerial view of the course at Yanqing National Alpine Skiing Center.
09:45 Aerial fly up the Yanqing National Alpine Skiing Center course.
09:50 Aerial flyover of Zhangjiakou Olympic Village.

Action from the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018.
09:57 PyeongChang 2018, Snowboard, Big air
10:05 PyeongChang 2018, Women’s individual Figure Skating
10:12 PyeongChang 2018, Curling
10:19 PyeongChang 2018, Men’s Downhill Skiing
10:29 PyeongChang 2018, Snowboard cross
10:40 Winter Olympic Games PyeongChang 2018 Closing Ceremony. The Olympic flag handed from IOC President Thomas Bach to Jining Chen, Mayor of Beijing.

Opening Ceremony of the Olympic Games Beijing 2008. Beijing will become the first city to host summer and winter Olympic Games
11:00 Opening Ceremony China athletes march into stadium, Olympic Games Beijing 2008
11:06 Beijing 2008, Opening Ceremony crowd
11:09 Beijing 2008, section of Opening Ceremony
11:25 Beijing 2008, Olympic cauldron ignition
11:35 Beijing 2008, close up of Olympic flame
11:38 Beijing 2008, aerial wide view of The Bird’s Nest, Beijing National Stadium

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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.