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COMMITTEE

Story script and Shot log

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STORY HEADLINE: International Olympic Committee respects and accepts Japanese decision on overseas spectators

LOCATION: Olympic House, Lausanne, Switzerland & Tokyo, Japan

DATE: 20 March 2021

LANGUAGE: English

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

STORY SCRIPT:

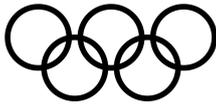
The International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) were today informed by the Japanese parties in the five-parties meeting about their conclusion, regarding overseas spectators at the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020 this summer. For the reason of the safety of every Games participant and the Japanese people, their conclusion is fully respected and accepted by the IOC and the IPC.

During the meeting, the IOC and the IPC were informed about the conclusion of the Japanese parties not to allow entry into Japan for overseas spectators for the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020 due to the prevailing worldwide COVID-19 pandemic. Olympic and Paralympic tickets purchased by overseas residents from the Tokyo 2020 Organising Committee will be refunded.

IOC President Thomas Bach said: “We share the disappointment of all enthusiastic Olympic fans from around the world and of course the families and friends of the athletes, who were planning to come to the Games. For this I am truly sorry. We know this is a great sacrifice for everybody. We have said from the very beginning of this pandemic that it will require sacrifices.

“We also said that the first principle is safety. Every decision has to respect the principle of safety first. I know that our Japanese partners and friends did not reach this conclusion lightly. Together with them, the IOC’s top priority was, is and remains to organise safe Olympic and Paralympic Games for everyone: all the participants and, of course, our gracious hosts, the Japanese people. We stand shoulder-to-shoulder at the side of our Japanese partners and friends, without any kind of reservation, to make the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020 a great success.

“Together with our Rights-Holding Broadcasters we will make every effort that the fans from around the world will be able to experience the Olympic spirit. In this way the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020 will be the light at the end of the tunnel and a safe



manifestation of peace, solidarity and the resilience of humankind in overcoming the pandemic.”

The Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 will take place from July 23 to August 8 2021 and the Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020 from August 24 to September 5 2021.

SHOTLIST:

00:02 Aerial shot of Olympic House, Lausanne, Switzerland

00:07 Close-up of Olympic Rings

00:11 IOC President and delegates joining 5-parties meeting from Olympic House

00:14 Governor Koike, Minister Marukawa and Tokyo 2020 Organising Committee

President Hashimoto joining 5-parties meeting from Tokyo, Japan

00:25 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language)

Question: How has the IOC received the conclusion on overseas spectators, which you were informed about by the three Japanese parties?

“The IOC together with IPC fully respect and accept this decision, having been taken by the Japanese parties not to allow overseas spectators to the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020, because we accept it as a necessary decision in the interest of the safety of all the participants. We also have noted with satisfaction that the tickets, having been purchased by overseas residents will be refunded by the Organising Committee. And it's just another expression of respecting the principles the IOC has established from the very beginning for the organisation of these postponed Games and that means there is safety first. It's not a decision, we have taken or accepted lightly, but again it's a necessary move, unfortunately.”

01:35 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language)

Question: What is your message to the fans and the athletes who had hoped to have their families with them in Tokyo?

“We share the disappointment of the many enthusiastic fans around the world, and offer the families and friends of Olympic athletes about this decision and we are feeling with them. I really feel sorry for this situation, but it is a necessary decision, because we have to respect the safety of all the participants. And we have said from the very beginning that organising these postponed Olympic Games in this situation of a still ongoing pandemic, will require sacrifices from everybody, so I hope we can count on their understanding, and we will make all the efforts to share with them the Olympic spirit by means of broadcasting and digital platforms, so that they can enjoy the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.”

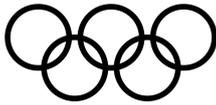
02:52 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language)

Question: How do you see the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020 now?

“We will continue in close and seamless cooperation with our Japanese partners and friends to prepare for safe Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo, 2020, starting on 23rd of July, with the Opening Ceremony of the Olympic Games. All these discussions here have demonstrated that we are putting safety first, and that we are setting the right priorities in this and we do so in close co-operation. We will at the same time, work with our rights-holding broadcasters across the globe about how we can share the Olympic spirit with all the billions of fans of the Olympic Games around the world and there, I think, we can expect some new and innovative ideas to be presented to all of them. At the end, we are very confident that these Olympic Games will indeed be the light at the end of the dark tunnel that we are all still in, and that these Games will send a strong message of peace, solidarity and resilience from Tokyo, from Japan to the entire world.”

04:22 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language) - FROM OPENING REMARKS OF 5 PARTIES MEETING

“Our first priority was, is, and remains the safety of all participants of the Olympic Games and, of course, the Japanese people, to whom we owe so much respect already now for



driving the organisation of these Games forward after the historic postponement of the Games. Setting priorities like safety also means that then you have to respect these priorities and there we have to ask for the understanding of everybody for these difficult decisions, respecting this priority of the safety of the Olympic Games.”

05:29 SOUNDBITE: Andrew Parsons, IPC President (English Language) - FROM OPENING REMARKS OF FIVE-PARTIES MEETING

“So we know that to be able to deliver these Games we need to make some difficult decisions because we also want to focus on the safety and the health, but we want to make these Games successful as well. It’s a difficult combination but the success of these games lies exactly in how we can remain focused on protecting athletes, protecting Japanese population, protecting everyone who is attending these Games and at the same time deliver what we need to deliver to athletes, to National Paralympic Committees, National Olympic Committees, and so on and so forth.”

06:09 SOUNDBITE: Yuriko Koike, Tokyo Governor (English audio translation) - FROM OPENING REMARKS OF 5 PARTIES MEETING

“This is the Games overcoming the pandemic. This is not like in the past Games. For the people, the Games has to be the light of hope going forward. I would like to have close coordination with all parties so that we can have a successful Games. I solicit your continued cooperation. Thank you very much.”

06:33 SOUNDBITE: Tamayo Marukawa, Minister for the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games (English audio translation) FROM OPENING REMARKS OF 5 PARTIES MEETING

“The success of the Tokyo Games will demonstrate the unity of the world. We will also deliver courage and hope throughout the world, in order to deliver a safe and secure Games. We will make careful preparations against Covid-19, such as response to the variants, and will continue to make close coordination with all the people including Governor Koike and President Bach.”

06:59 SOUNDBITE: Hashimoto Seiko, President of the Tokyo 2020 Organising Committee. (English audio translation) FROM OPENING REMARKS OF 5 PARTIES MEETING

“Regarding the entry measures at the time of July, we could wait until the very last moment to decide. But for the spectators for Tokyo 2020 Games, they have to secure accommodation and flight reservations and so forth. So we have to decide early, otherwise we will cause a lot of inconvenience for them. From inside Japan, there was a request for early judgment and that’s why we decided at this time. I know that this is a very tough issue but upon having a friendly exchange of opinions, we would like to decide resolutely.”

07:42 Japanese tourists standing in front of the giant Olympic Rings outside of the Olympic Stadium in Tokyo.

07:47 Wide shot, exterior of the Olympic Stadium in Tokyo

07:51 Tokyo 2020 mascots Miraitowa and Someity

07:56 Athletes’ Olympic village pan up

08:05 Athletes’ Olympic village inside, walk through to view of Tokyo Bay

08:17 Olympic Rings at Tokyo Bay

08:21 Olympic Rings wide at Tokyo Bay

08:24 Olympic Swimming Pool inside the Tokyo Aquatics Centre

08:29 Olympic Climbing Wall, Aomi Urban Sports Park

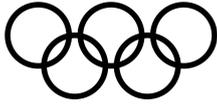
08:33 Horse jumps at Equestrian Park

08:36 BMX track, Ariake Urban Sports Park

08:41 Yumenoshima Park Archery Field

08:44 Wide shot, Sea Forest Waterway

08:49 Wide shot, Olympic Rings, Tokyo Bay at night



08:54 Close-up Olympic Rings, Tokyo Bay at night

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