



INTERNATIONAL  
OLYMPIC  
COMMITTEE

Sports Department

Ref. No. 2020/KML/cshb  
By e-mail only

Lausanne, 28 February 2020

Dear Secretaries General,

As you are all aware, the coronavirus COVID-19 has caused significant challenges to international travel for several countries and has highlighted the need to meet all requirements of the relevant health regulations in all countries hosting sports events. In this environment, and further to our previous contact with you all on this subject, we understand there are resulting impacts on a number of sports events, including Olympic qualification events for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

#### **Health authority advice**

The IOC continues to be in close communication with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the IOC Medical and Scientific Commission Games Group public health experts in order to closely monitor the development of this outbreak and advised countermeasures. We would urge you to refer to the following links for the latest information, which may evolve in response to COVID-19 developments:

- Coronavirus 2019 – [WHO](#)
- Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) situation reports – [WHO](#)
- Travel restrictions, flight operations and screening – [SOS International](#)
- Destination List - [Centers for Disease control and presentation \(CDC\)](#)

Please also do not hesitate to let us know if you would like to arrange any direct discussions between yourself or your medical officials and the IOC Medical and Scientific Director Richard Budgett and the IOC's external experts in order to discuss any latest situations or particular questions.

We also believe it is very important to provide the latest medical advice to athletes and have loaded the following information onto the IOC's Athlete365 platform:

- [Coronavirus Outbreak Advice for Athletes](#)
- [IOC Medical and Scientific Director, Dr Richard Budgett, advises on the Coronavirus](#)

## **Information concerning the coronavirus and the preparations for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020**

The preparations for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 are continuing as planned. Countermeasures against infectious diseases constitute an important part of Tokyo 2020's plans to host safe and secure Games.

Tokyo 2020 will continue to collaborate with all the relevant organisations that are carefully monitoring any incidence of infectious diseases and will review any countermeasures that may be necessary with all the organisations concerned.

In addition, the IOC is in contact with the World Health Organization as well as its own medical experts. We have full confidence that the relevant authorities, in particular in Japan and China, will take all the necessary measures to address the situation.

Tokyo 2020 is working in cooperation with the National and International Federations ahead of test events and is following guidance from the Japanese authorities.

### **Event and Olympic qualifier event information**

We urge each International Federation to explore all possibilities to conduct the qualification events, always respecting the health regulations of the hosting territory of the event. This may include the need to review the dates of the event and in special circumstances to also look at the impact on the allocation and reallocation of the respective quota places for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

To assist us in our ongoing monitoring of the situation and maximise our assistance to you, we would greatly appreciate you continue to provide us with the following information as it relates to your events:

1. Upcoming event calendar, with event name, location and dates.
2. Notification of current and/or foreseen risks in relation to the conduct of any events (related to Tokyo 2020 qualification or not).
3. Identification of any risks in relation to any participation of any athletes in your upcoming events

In any circumstances which may impact on the participation of any athletes in Olympic qualification events, please bring these to our attention and we will of course work with you to find appropriate solutions. Please inform your respective sport operations manager, copying in the Associate Director, Winter Sports and Recognised Federations, Irina Gladkikh ([Irina.gladkikh@olympic.org](mailto:Irina.gladkikh@olympic.org)) who will coordinate the overall COVID-19 project on the IOC sport side.

Please note that the IOC is also in close dialogue with the NOCs to ensure the issues are solved from all possible angles whenever they are raised with us.

## Communications

Please find below the latest IOC communications message:

*The preparations for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 continue as planned. Countermeasures against infectious diseases constitute an important part of Tokyo 2020's plans to host a safe and secure Games. Tokyo 2020 will continue to collaborate with all relevant organisations which carefully monitor any incidence of infectious diseases and will review any countermeasures that may be necessary with all relevant organisations. In addition, the IOC is in contact with the World Health Organization, as well as its own medical experts. We have full confidence that the relevant authorities, in particular in Japan and China, will take all the necessary measures to address the situation.*

We remain available for any questions you may have regarding communications and messaging.

You will find attached for your reference a Question & Answers document from the IOC President with Japanese media on the current state of preparations for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

We remain available to address any questions you may have and look forward to continuing to liaise closely with you on this current situation.

Many thanks and very best regards,



**Kit McConnell**  
Sports Director



**David Luckes**  
Associate Director, Summer Sports  
and IFs Relations

cc. Andrew Ryan, ASOIF Executive Director

Encl. 2020-02-27 – IOC President's interview on the current state of preparation of Tokyo