

To:  
The International Olympic Committee  
Att: President Thomas Bach

Oslo, 20th March 2020

## **Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 and COVID-19**

Dear President Thomas Bach,

Reference is made to the communique from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) regarding the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020, presented on the 17<sup>th</sup> of March. The Norwegian Olympic and Paralympic Committee and Confederation of Sports (Norwegian NOC) thanks the IOC for the opportunity to contribute into the ongoing extensive consultation processes on this matter.

The Norwegian NOC is concerned about the COVID 19-pandemic and the public health situation both nationally and internationally. The situation in many parts of the world is complex, challenging and dangerous.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> of March, the Norwegian Government introduced a number of containment measures with regards to the COVID-19 virus. The Norwegian NOC fully supports all the governmental measures to secure the safety of the Norwegian population. This is an unprecedented situation in our country, as it is globally.

One of the measures taken, on the basis of national diseases prevention legislation, is a ban on organized sports activities. This is indeed a very challenging time for the sports movement in Norway, but we are determined to prevail.

The Norwegian NOC monitors the planning of the Olympic Games 2020 in Tokyo on a day to day basis. We understand and respect that the situation is indeed very complicated for the Japanese health authorities, the OCOG and the IOC. We trust that the advices from the Tokyo 2020 Task Force are of the highest medical standard and has the safety of the athletes as the overall priority.

With respect to the Olympic Games 2020 in Tokyo, we, like the IOC, are all concerned about the health and safety of athletes.

In the light of the challenging situation we all face, we would appreciate if the IOC could give us insight on the central milestones in the process leading up to the final decision on Tokyo 2020. Our clear recommendation is that the Olympic Games in Tokyo shall not take place before the COVID-19 situation is under firm control on a global scale.

This matter has been discussed with the Norwegian national summer Olympic federations.

We remain at your disposal to discuss our recommendation in further detail.

Best regards,



Berit Kjøl  
President



Karen Kvalevåg  
Secretary General