



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

The President

To:
Presidents of National Olympic
Committees

Presidents of Olympic International
Federations

Lausanne, 17 July 2020

Dear Presidents and friends,

As you will have seen, the 136th IOC Session confirmed today the decision to postpone the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2022 to 2026. The proposal to postpone these Summer Youth Olympic Games was made by our Senegalese partners and friends and welcomed by the IOC.

It allows all of us, the IOC, the National Olympic Committees and the International Federations to better balance our activities. We have been strongly affected by the postponement of the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 and by the subsequent rescheduling of a number of major international sports events, resulting in a very crowded international sports calendar between 2022 and 2024.

One of the consequences of the postponement of the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 was that we would have had to organise and support 5 Games in 3 years with all the financial, organisational and logistical challenges. On the other hand, Senegal can now carry on the excellent preparations for the YOG under the great leadership of our colleague and friend Mr Mamadou Ndiaye.

We understand that this news will be disappointing for many young athletes who were preparing for the YOG. With this in mind, the IOC will continue to offer all IFs and NOC Continental Associations the full content of the educational programmes of the YOG.

This will allow us to maintain the objectives of this very important and much appreciated component of the Youth Olympic Games, through the many events organised until 2026, in particular during the Continental Youth Games and IF youth-level championships, a number of which would have been used as qualification events for Dakar 2022. In addition, it goes without saying that the NOCs will continue to receive support towards their youth development programmes through Olympic Solidarity.

At this stage it is planned that the sports programme of Dakar 2022 will remain in place for Dakar 2026, however this and other key planning elements will be confirmed as the arrangements for the new dates are addressed.

Thanking you for your understanding and looking forward to working in partnership towards the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026 and equally in support of youth sport around the world, I remain,

Your sincerely

Thomas Bach