



International Olympic Committee  
F.a.o. Thomas Bach, President  
P.O. Box 356  
1001 LAUSANNE  
SWITZERLAND

Arnhem, March 22, 2020

**Reference**  
DIR\_022

**Subject**  
Olympic Games Tokyo 2020

Dear President Bach,

The Olympic and Paralympic Committees and national Sports Confederation of the Netherlands (NOC\*NSF & NPC) have received the communique from the International Olympic Committee regarding the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020, shared on the 17th of March, with much interest. We much appreciate the opportunity given by the IOC to contribute to the continuous dialogue on this matter.

Everyone at the Dutch NOC and the Dutch sports federations recognise the unprecedented times we are currently facing. Our primary concern is for those in our society dealing with the impact of COVID-19, especially anyone affected directly by the virus, and the countless individuals and organisations that are working tirelessly to protect our communities. On the 15th of March, the Dutch government introduced several additional substantial measures with regards to COVID-19. We are fully backing the governmental measures to safeguard the health and safety of the Dutch population.

The Dutch government has closed all sports venues, including all training accommodations. Also, a stringent ban on organized sports activities has been introduced by the government. That means for many Dutch athletes, as well as their peers across the world, preparation and/or qualification processes are now being affected very strongly. It is imperative to preserve competitive integrity for athletes, but it is clearly only wise for athletes to continue to prepare for the Games where it is safe and appropriate to do so, within relevant government and public health guidelines.

The NOC\*NSF follows the development and planning of the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo closely and constantly. We are aware and fully respect that the current situation is very complicated for the Japanese authorities, the organising committee, and the IOC. We trust that

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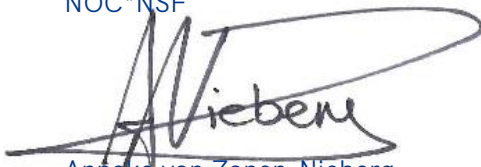
the advice from the Tokyo 2020 Task Force are of the highest medical standard, coordinated with WHO and has the safety of the athletes as the overall priority.

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.

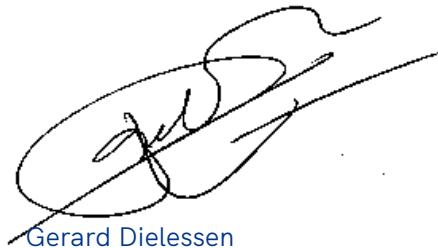
We are in constant dialogue with and have full support from our national summer Olympic and Paralympic federations and the NOC\*NSF athletes committee..

We remain at your disposal for any questions or comments on our recommendation.

With kind regards,  
NOC\*NSF

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anneke van Zanen-Nieberg', written over a large, light-colored oval shape.

Anneke van Zanen-Nieberg  
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gerard Dielessen', written over a large, light-colored oval shape.

Gerard Dielessen  
Secretary General