



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

Communications Department

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Kuala Lumpur, 29 July 2015

Letter to IOC RE: Olympic Winter Games 2022

Dear all,


Thank you for your recent letter to the International Olympic Committee (IOC), its Members and President.

The IOC is an organisation firmly opposed to all forms of discrimination in sport. This is why, as part of the Olympic Agenda 2020 reforms, the IOC has reviewed Principle 6 of the Olympic Charter within the context of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 2, and the European Convention of Human Rights, Article 14.

A clause on non-discrimination relating to the Olympic Games and its participants based on Fundamental Principle 6 of the Olympic Charter was also added last year in the Host City Contract for the 2022 Olympic Winter Games.

During the evaluation process of the Candidate Cities for the 2022 Olympic Winter Games, the Evaluation Commission considered statements and opinions in independent third-party reports with regard to environmental protection, the treatment of detainees, media freedom, Internet access, the right to demonstrate, and the integrity of the judicial and electoral systems. The Commission raised these issues with both Almaty and Beijing as well as the relevant government authorities. The IOC asked for and received assurances from both parties that the Host City Contract and the Olympic Charter would be respected for all participants of the Olympic Games and in Olympic-related matters.

With regards to Beijing 2022, assurances were provided concerning the following matters: human rights, the right to demonstrate, media freedom to report on the Games with no restrictions on the Internet, labour rights, displacement and environmental protection.

More information in this respect can be found in the Commission's report, which is available on our website [here](#). 

Taking these into consideration, as well as the open nature of the discussions with Beijing 2022 and government authorities as well as China's experience from organising the 2008 Olympic Games and the 2014 Youth Olympic Games, the IOC is confident that the Government of China would take all necessary measures to ensure the Olympic Charter and Host City Contract would be respected should they be elected as the Host City for 2022.

As a sporting organisation, we are not in a position to dictate the wider laws of any sovereign nation. We are not a world government. Our role is to ensure that the Olympic Charter is fully respected during the Games, and that when it comes to evaluating Candidate Cities and electing Host Cities, we have the necessary guarantees that there is no discrimination of any kind.

We hope you find this information helpful and thank you for taking the time to write to us.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Adams', with a horizontal line underneath it.

Mark Adams
IOC Communications Director