

Beat: Sports

## **OLYMPIC GAMES IOC SAID PARIS 2024 IS ON SCHEDULE, 415 DAYS AHEAD OF KICK OFF**

**PRESS CONF, 7 JUNE 2023, AT ST DENIS H.Q**

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**USPA NEWS** - Paris 2024 hold a French/English hybride press conference (in person & by videoconference) that brought the 6th Coordination Commission (CoCom) for the Paris 2024 Games to a close on Wednesday 7 June at 2.30pm at Pulse, the Paris 2024 headquarters. At 415 days from the opening of the Olympic Games, Pierre-Olivier Beckers, the chairman of the commission, sent his "congratulations" and those of the IOC to Tony Estanguet and his team. He referred to the Paris 2024 Games as an edition "of a new era, an inflection point for the modern Games, a new model of the Games, inclusive, sustainable and united". He said he was convinced, and the Olympic body with him, that there would be a "before and after Paris 2024".

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The Press Conference, is the closing of the visit of the 'CoCom' which took place from 5 to 7 June 2023; During the three days of exchanges, working meetings and site visits, the Olympic Committee members were informed of the latest advances in the Paris 2024 project in terms of work, legacy, partnerships, celebration, budget and engagement.

Eventually, the outcome of the press conference, revealed a positive result, and that Tony Estanguet and his team, « passed the exam », as far as the CoCom's control showed, "Paris 2024, is on schedule, four hundred (415) and fifteen days ahead of the begging of the Olympic and Paralympic games" (The Paris 2024 Olympic Games will take place from July 26 to August 11 and will be followed by the Paralympic Games, which will take place from August 28 to September 8.)

"We would like to congratulate the Organizing Committee for the tremendous progress they have made in moving from the planning phase to the delivery phase. Now we have to bring these ideas to life through a series of litmus tests and show that the city of Paris is ready to welcome the world in 2024." said Pierre Olivier Beckers-Vieujant.

"We would like to thank the IOC Coordination Commission for three days of fruitful meetings, careful consideration and, above all, advice. We now have 14 months to finalize our preparations. With the help of all those who are committed and mobilized in favor of our project, we have full confidence in France's ability to give the best of itself and to keep its promises on the world stage in 2024." Tony Estanguet acknowledged.

**TONY ESTANGUET SHOWS CONFIDENCE IN THE SUCCESS OF THE OLYMPIC S& PARALYMPICS GAMES,**

Tony Estanguet, President of Paris 2024, said: "With just over 400 days to go before the Paris 2024 Games kick off, we are eager to share with the rest of the world our ambitious concept 'Let's open the doors wide. Games!'"

"We are now entering the home stretch of preparations and so far we are definitely on track to achieve our vision of making these Games a unique and spectacular celebration of sport," he added before to conclude : "We would like to thank the IOC Coordination Commission for three days of fruitful meetings, careful consideration and, above all, advice. We now have 14 months to finalize our preparations. With the help of all those who are committed and mobilized in favor of our project, we have full confidence in France's ability to give the best of itself and to keep its promises on the world stage in 2024." From a more strategic point of view, the organizing

committee has reaffirmed its ambition, while remaining determined to keep its budget balanced. Collaborative efforts between Paris 2024, the IOC, the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) and Games stakeholders continue to optimize Games delivery.

#### TONY ESTANGUET HIGHLIGHTS THE ENTHUSIASM AND COMMITMENT OF THE FRENCH AND THE STATE WITH 4 M MEMBERS OF CLUB PARIS 2024

Tony Estanguet, CEO of Paris 2024 also underlined the continued support given by the public to the Games. The organizing committee received more than 300,000 applications from more than 190 countries for its volunteer program, which testifies to the general enthusiasm generated by the participation in the event. In addition, the number of Club Paris 2024 members has exceeded four million, proof of the support of sports enthusiasts who want to be part of the Olympic adventure. Recent opinion polls, which show that nearly 70% of French people are in favor of the organization of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, once again attest to the high level of support from public opinion. All this is indicative of the success of the Paris 2024 project so far.

#### MORE THAN 7 M TICKETS SOLD INCLUDING 100,000 FOR UNDER-PRIVILEGED PEOPLE

This mobilization also materialized on the commercial level. Paris 2024 reported successful ticket sales, with almost seven million tickets sold to date. In this context, Paris 2024 has reiterated its commitment to accessibility, with approximately 60% of tickets sold to the general public at a price less than or equal to 100 euros. Added to this is the financing of 100,000 tickets by Paris 2024 for disadvantaged people who cannot usually attend the Games. Paris 2024 has also confirmed that it has entered into 15 additional national partnerships since the start of 2023.

#### PARIS 2024 AIMS TO BE INCLUSIVE SUSTAINABLE AND VALUING HERITAGE

Sustainability and legacy were among the other key topics discussed at this week's meeting. Paris 2024's efforts in these two areas are already making a positive contribution to French society ahead of the Games. For example, more than one million children took part in the Olympic and Paralympic Week organized this year in France. The promotion of sports practice, in particular through the initiative to offer 30 minutes of daily physical activity in all French schools, was also presented, underlining the ambition of Paris 2024 to leave a legacy for the next generation. The Paris team also explained that the "Impact 2024" endowment fund, which harnesses the power of sport to have a social impact, has supported more than 1,000 projects so far, benefiting more than 3.1 millions of people. The positive effects on local authorities are reflected in the significant proportion of contracts awarded by the organizing committee to small and medium-sized enterprises, ie 75%. As far as sustainability is concerned, Paris 2024 gave some examples of long-term carbon reduction, including ensuring access to the electricity grid for all sites and moving away from traditional diesel-based power generation, commonly used in stadiums. This is another example of the power of the Games to change practices and align the efforts of the Organizing Committee, local stakeholders, sponsors and broadcasters.

#### **Article online:**

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