



## IOC Session 17 July 2020

### KEY AREAS OF PROGRESS MADE SINCE Milano Cortina ELECTION in July 2019

#### 1. The transition period, from July to December 2019

The day after the assignment of the 2026 Winter Games, we started a Transition Committee, made up of the same people involved in the candidature phase, and we started working with the IOC.

During 3 meetings (in July, September, and November), we discussed mainly these topics:

- the 2026 key priorities, based on the Evaluation Commission report
- milestones and activities
- the expectations of the OCOG participants
- the masterplan
- the organization model of the Games
- the Milan and Cortina transition from candidate cities to OCOG
- the legacy and sustainability programs

Subsequently, the first Orientation Seminar took place in Milan on December 10 and 11 involving Sari Essayah, President of the Coordination Commission, the Italian territorial institutions, the media and other stakeholders. It was a very successful event, which drew the attention of the media giving visibility to the atmosphere of collaboration between all the main players of the project.

We went like Observer in Lausanne 2020 WYOG and in Anterselva for World Championship of Biathlon

#### 2. The formation of the OCOG and its governance.

On 9 December 2019 the "Milano Cortina 2026 Foundation" was established, becoming the body responsible for planning and delivering the Olympic and Paralympic Games Milan Cortina 2026 in compliance with the Olympic Charter and the Principles and Operational Requirements of the Host City Contract.

The founding members of the Foundation, acting as the OCOG, are the Municipality of Milan, the Municipality of Cortina, the Veneto Region, and the Lombardy Region, together with the Italian National Olympic Committee (CONI) and the Italian Paralympic Committee (CIP).

The Foundation is a non-profit organization and operates as a private law entity. This is a key feature because it directly impacts the operational effectiveness of the OCOG, especially in a hyper-regulated economic and administrative context such as the Italian one. The protection of the autonomy and operational effectiveness, hand in hand with the transparency of its work, will be a constant point of reference of OCOG's activities.



According to its Statute, the OCOG will carry out the management, organization, promotion and communication activities of sporting and institutional events relating to the Winter Games, together with the preparation of the structures for welcoming the Olympic and Paralympic delegations, in compliance with the commitments taken with the HCC and in the Candidature dossier.

the OCOG **Board of Directors** (BoD), appointed pursuant to article 35 of the Olympic Charter and art. 3.2 of the HCC, is made of 22 members: the President the representative of the Italian Government, ten representatives of local authorities and ten of the sporting world. The president of the BoD and of the Foundation is IOC member Giovanni Malago<sup>1</sup>.

The **Management Committee**, made up of a limited number of members, is responsible for coordinating OCOG's activities, guaranteeing the implementation of the guidelines established by the BoD and the CEO is Vincenzo Novari, chosen by the Minister of Sport and the signatory bodies.

The presence of athletes, both Olympic and Paralympic, is now within the BoD and the Management Committee, respectively in the measure of 20% and 30%.

A third body was also established by statute, the **Board of Auditors**.

A Code of Ethics, modeled on the Olympic Code, has been approved and will constitute the reference model for the Foundation Bodies, staff, and suppliers.

### **3. The first months of OCOG operation.**

OCOG's activities officially began in early March, after the official appointment by the **Prefecture of Milan**. In fact, the start of the operations overlapped with the start of the lockdown, the measure adopted by the Italian government in response to the emergency national health care caused by the Covid 19 pandemic. Between March and mid-June, the Foundation's activities were entirely carried out in smart working.

Since mid-June, however, the activities have been partially resumed in the offices of the Foundation, always in compliance with the legislation on the containment of the pandemic.

For the time being, within the current strategic elaboration phase, with 80 months to go, OCOG staff is made up of 40 people with the forecast of reaching **70 by the end of 2020**.

The main activities conducted by the OCOG so far are listed below:

design and implementation of some of the basic processes of the OCOG **start-up phase** (procurement, budgeting, software equipment);

**subscription** of the HCC by the Foundation;

definition of the Memorandum of Understanding with CONI as a platform for the **Joint Marketing Program Agreements** signature, considering the postponement of Tokyo and in preparation for the MPA;

definition of the draft of the **Paralympic Marketing Program Agreement** PJMPA with the Italian Paralympic Committee;

in-depth analysis of the issues related to the **Hospitality Working Group** involving IOC, Paris 2024 and La28;

updating of the Milan Cortina 2026 **website**, which covers the activation of online recruitment through the collection of CVs in digital format;



start of the Foundation's activities on **social media**, including those relating to the Olympic Day and the first anniversary of Milano Cortina 2026 election.

At the same time, the meetings scheduled with IOC, such as the **4th Venues Masterplan Working Group** and the first **Delivery Partner Meeting**, continued and were conducted online. Meetings with IPC were managed at the same way.

Knowledge transfer is achieved through weekly dedicated meetings in cooperation with the Olympic Games Department, whilst the access to the **Olympic Knowledge Platform** has been issued to the OCOG.

With the support of the Sports Department, relations with the International Federations have been reactivated and the first meetings with the FIS, IBSF and WCF have already been carried out.

Constant relations are maintained with the **National Federations** and the **National Athletes Commission**, while from mid-June visits to the territories that will host the competition venues have started (those in Bormio and Livigno have already been made).

#### 4. Olympic Law.

On 13 May 2020, the Olympic Law entered into force, after publication in the Official Gazette. Defining the Governance of the Games, the O.L. established:

- a) the Milan Cortina 2026 **Joint Olympic Council**, consisting of fifteen members, representing the following organizations: IOC, IPC, CONI, CIP, Fondazione Milano Cortina, Infrastructure Agency, Sustainability and Legacy Forum, Office for Sport of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Lombardy region, Veneto region, province of Trento, province of Bolzano, municipality of Milan and municipality of Cortina d'Ampezzo.

The Joint Olympic Council carries out a high-level supervision on the implementation of the Games, ensuring a dialogue on the main issues among the participating organizations;

- b) **Infrastrutture Milano Cortina 2026 S.p.A.** has the statutory purpose of executing the works identified by decree, acting as a central purchasing body and contracting station, also by entering into agreements with other contracting authorities. To this end, the Company operates in accordance with the indications of the Organizing Committee)
- c) the **Forum for the Sustainability of the Olympic and Paralympic heritage** is in charge of safeguarding the Olympic and Paralympic legacy and promoting effective initiatives to evaluate the long-term usage of the infrastructures created for the Games, as well as the durability of social, economic and environmental benefits for the territories involved.

Also, with reference to the needs of people with an impairment, the elimination of architectural barriers and sport and physical exercise advancement and in accordance with the provisions of the Olympic Charter.

Lastly, the Olympic Law encompasses rules pertaining the guarantees undertaken by the Italian Government in favor of the IOC for **specific matters**, besides regulations designed for taxation and the ownership and protection of the Olympic and Paralympic intellectual properties.



## 5. Update on the development of projects relating to the Olympic venues.

OCOG is actively participating in the detailed analysis carried out by the **Venues Working Group** set up by IOC and based on the written comments of the Candidature Evaluation Commission's and the subsequent discussions.

From the end of May till the end of September the venues working group will work together to provide some feedbacks regarding the points underlined during the Evaluation commission and later.

In the first meeting, scheduled for 28-30 September 2020, the Recommendations Report will be presented to the Co. Com.

With regard to the **Olympic Village of Milan**, the project scope was shared with the IOC and, subsequently, with the owners of the property who are preparing the tender, while the memorandum of understanding was signed with the Municipality of Milan.

Regarding the Pala Italia Santa Giulia (**hockey arena**), OCOG participates in meetings with the Municipality of Milan and the Lombardy Region to oversee the permits process accordingly to the Gant management chart. In this regard, a joint document of requests for derogations to speed up the works implementation was sent to the competent Ministry.

As for the Accommodation topics, the related data base was secured, as well as the first requirements of the **Accommodation Management** platform were drafted.

## 6. Next months milestones.

In the next months, the OCOG will work closely with both the IOC and the IPC to achieve some crucial goals as the preparation of the 1<sup>st</sup> Co Com meeting scheduled for the end of September.

This will be the right stage to present a more in-depth analysis of the **Olympic and Paralympic Games vision and event delivery strategy** focusing on the venue masterplan and accessibility gap, after discussing with the relevant IFs.

The Games wide governance framework and PEM strategy are also been studied in order to define their policies and structures within the next weeks.

The OCOG is also finalizing **the MPA** and analysing the **Paralympic marketing scenario** in order to share a brand awareness approach with the stakeholders.

## 7. The impact of COVID-19 and specific actions taken in relation to engagement and communication to stakeholders.

COVID 19 is having a profound impact on the country from an **economic point of view** (the OECD foresees an 11% loss of GDP on an annual basis), as well as from a political-social point of view.

The investigations on the local and national administrations' responsibilities could have **significant repercussions**, influencing future elections, while the measures to stimulate the economic recovery have not yet been clearly defined.

An element of concern is determined by the weak response of the banking system to the financing needs of large, small, and medium-sized businesses. The general context has not failed to impact on the OCOG short-term financing



activities, which are still encountering several hurdles in securing the economic resources needed for the first years of operation.

As far as the engagement activities of the stakeholders, the OCOG is developing projects aimed at creating **engagement** in the whole country and not only in the Olympic territories, both before and after the Games time.

This is to create the “total audience” that can guarantee the **economic sustainability of the Olympic events**, and a **legacy** from an infrastructural and cultural point of view, promoting sports, inclusion, and ecologically sustainable lifestyles.

**Strategic partnerships** that can be activated by OCOG to involve in the Games delivery universities, research centers and institutions are also being studied

More generally, the economic situation also suggests, together with the pre-existing need for OCOG of an absolute focus on cost control, as implied by **Agenda 2020 and by the New Norm**, the need to compensate for the pressure on revenue created by the pandemic. Both are challenges that the OCOG is ready to take on, aware of its commitment to strengthen the mission of Olympism in the post-Covid world and lead the way to a **new Italian Renaissance**.