

SUMMARY

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As stated in the Introduction to this Report, the Commission has been asked to conduct a technical evaluation of three cities declared by the IOC Executive Board as Candidate Cities. In this context, the Commission has assessed each city in a number of areas critical to the successful organisation of Olympic Winter Games. The Commission's evaluation also includes a risk assessment factor, to identify any risks that could occur in the period up to and including the Olympic Winter Games in 2010.

The Evaluation Commission is of the opinion that the three Candidate Cities could all organise very good Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games and has not ranked the cities.

The following summaries outline the main strengths and weaknesses of each Candidate City. The cities are listed in alphabetical order.

PYEONGCHANG

The bid was well prepared by key officials from the provincial government, who form the main body of the Bid Committee staff, the NOC and athletes. The quality of the presentations was high. The bid successfully drew on Korea's past experience of hosting international multi-sports events, such as the 1988 Olympic Games and the FIFA World Cup and the Asian Games in 2002.

The bid is driven by the Province of Gangwon, and it has excellent support from the national and local governments, as well as from private investors. The bid is an initiative which looks

towards developing winter sports and tourism in Korea, as well as working towards peace and reconciliation on the Korean Peninsula.

Substantial guarantees are given by both the regional and national authorities to support the construction of the necessary sports and other infrastructure needed for the Games. Furthermore, the government takes responsibility for providing all health care and security and the province guarantees to underwrite the Games OCOG budget and provide cash flow to the OCOG.

There is very strong public support for the Olympic Games, which is demonstrated through polls in the province and in Korea.

PyeongChang, situated two-and-a-half hours from Seoul, is the centre of the concept and will be the Host City and site for curling, Nordic skiing, biathlon, technical alpine skiing events and the IBC/MPC, with Wonju 98km to the west for ice hockey, Gangneung 38 km to the east for skating and three other venues between these two cities.

To best meet the needs of the athletes, three Olympic Villages are planned in existing high standard condominiums with 72% of the athletes staying close to their respective training and competition venues. However, the exceptions are for bobsleigh, skeleton, luge and snowboarding (40 minutes away); freestyle skiing (26 minutes away); and alpine skiing speed events (35 minutes away). If requested, accommodation can be provided at the venues for the athletes concerned.

Eight out of the 13 venues needed for the Games will have to be built: four ice sports arenas, the

SUMMARY

Summary

56

bobsleigh, luge and skeleton track, the ski jumping stadium, which is also the site for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, and a yet-to-be-developed ski resort in Jungbong for alpine skiing speed events. The Commission is of the opinion that, although feasible, the construction of the latter, a new venue development, will represent a risk. All the new venues will leave a good legacy for ice sports in Korea and skiing in Asia. The IBC/MPC will be a temporary facility.

As regards transport, the Olympic area is currently well-served by a four-lane highway and several national roadways and, by 2010, there will also be a railway. The thorough planning demonstrated to the Commission and the non-OCOG budget provisions identified for large-scale transport development, that will take place irrespective of the Games, leave the Commission feeling confident that transport needs can be satisfactorily addressed.

A good plan has been presented for the environmental programme, with substantial financial support for each project and solid guarantees provided by the government authorities.

As for accommodation, the Commission sees a challenge here, as there are currently not enough hotel rooms to cover Olympic and spectator needs. Guarantees have been provided for the development of new accommodation in the area, and Seoul – between one-and-a-half and two-and-a-half hours away – could provide an alternative. The Bid Committee has provided reservation guarantees for a number of rooms, mainly in condominiums, that could match Olympic needs,

including three media villages, with one adjacent to the MPC/IBC. The price fixed for the Olympic Family is excellent and based on a 20% discount on the regular price. The formula proposed to fix the room price for other constituent groups for 2010 is fair, and there is price control in Korea.

Although the budget appears to be on the low side and costs for temporary facilities (overlay) and operations have not been fully integrated, the Commission is confident about the financial outcome as the government is greatly involved in the project and the province has provided a shortfall guarantee.

The Korean Government guarantees to cover all security costs. The present situation in the peninsula may be a concern. Recent sports events have shown that there are no significant security risks anticipated.

The Opening and Closing Ceremonies will be held in the ski jumping stadium in PyeongChang, close to the Olympic Village, and the medal presentations will take place in a dedicated plaza in the centre of the city.

The Paralympic Games have been well planned and are fully integrated. There will be one Paralympic Village, based in PyeongChang, which is near to the venues, except for the ice sledge hockey and alpine speed events (35 minutes away). The Ministry of Health will cover 50% of the USD 57.4 million budget.

Through comprehensive studies and planning, PyeongChang demonstrates very good potential. The Games will leave a great legacy for winter

sports in Korea and in Asia and could contribute to reconciliation on the Korean peninsula. This legacy is further strengthened by the strides that could be made in the areas of the environment and sustainable development.

SALZBURG

Presentations were made by the Bid Committee, technical experts, government officials and NOC representatives. The bid draws on Austria's extensive experience in organising international winter sports events, including two Olympic Winter Games in 1964 and 1976.

Driven by the Austrian NOC and the City of Salzburg, the bid also enjoys strong support from federal, regional and municipal governments. The bid's motto, "The Sound of Winter Sports", aims to share Austria's passion for winter sports and culture with the rest of the world.

Regional and federal governments have guaranteed substantial funds to build the necessary sports venues and for the transport improvements required for the Games, as well as to cover the costs of health care and security services. Instead of a government commitment to underwrite the financial result of the OCOG, the responsible government entities have opted to take a shared ownership position against any potential shortfall of the OCOG.

Polls within the Olympic region and Austria show very strong public support for the Games.

Out of the 15 venues, five need to be constructed, four of which will be ice venues. As a world-renowned ski region, Salzburg offers a wide choice of high standard skiing venues. The bid's concept is based on making use of the best and most attractive among them. As a consequence, many different sites are proposed. During the Commission's visit, it became evident that this would have an impact on Games management and increase costs. To address this issue, the Bid Committee has already decided to move the cross-country sprint event from Salzburg to the site for cross-country skiing in the Amadé region.

The plan is to have three venue clusters: Salzburg for ice hockey, all skating disciplines, bobsleigh, luge and skeleton and the IBC and the MPC; Kitzbühel (80 minutes from Salzburg) for curling, freestyle and men's alpine skiing; and the Amadé region (40-60 minutes from Salzburg) for all other sports and disciplines.

To best accommodate the athletes, three Olympic Villages have been planned, with 76% of athletes having less than 15 minutes to travel to their training and competition venues. The exceptions are for bobsleigh, luge and skeleton, Nordic combined and ski jumping (35 minutes) and snowboarding (25 minutes).

The Olympic area is served by a well-developed bus and rail public transport system. Multiple access routes exist for the majority of venues. With the proposed OCOG management structure, planned airport expansion, Games-time public transit fleets and the outlined Olympic transport strategy, the Commission is confident that Olympic transport requirements can be met.

SUMMARY

Summary

58

As the bobsleigh, luge and skeleton track and almost all snow sport venues already exist, the environmental impact will be limited. Furthermore, Austria is renowned for its high environmental standards.

Salzburg and the surrounding Olympic region have a large amount of high standard accommodation. For this reason, no media village is planned. At the time of the Evaluation Commission's visit, only approximately 50% of the number of rooms required by the IOC had been reserved. The Commission also expresses concern about the potential for high accommodation rates.

The budget is reasonable and achievable. Although costs are likely to fluctuate as planning detail is developed, they can be managed within the overall revenue scenario.

No significant security risks are anticipated. The Austrian and Bavarian governments have both guaranteed to cover security costs.

Salzburg will provide an excellent stage for culture. The plan is to hold Opening, Closing and medal ceremonies in a temporary stadium, built over the river Salzach and facing the Hohensalzburg Fortress, which will be very attractive.

There will be one Paralympic Village in Salzburg, close to the ice venues. The alpine venue is 45 minutes away and the Nordic venue is 50 minutes away. The Commission feels the budget of USD 20 million may be underestimated. Current Paralympic Winter Games planning appears to lack detail.

Salzburg offers the athletes a high number of excellent sports venues and a depth of organisational experience in winter sports. The amount of existing infrastructure will ensure that there is little impact on the environment. As a region of cultural excellence, the bid will provide a strong link between sport and culture.

VANCOUVER

The preparation of the bid and presentations made by the Bid Committee were of a very high quality with the active participation of key government officials and organisations that will be involved in staging the Games, as well as athletes, the NOC and First Nations (aboriginal) representatives.

Vancouver builds on the past experience of multi-sports events organised in Canada such as the 1988 Olympic Winter Games, the 1994 Commonwealth Games and the 1999 Pan-American Games.

The bid enjoys strong support from the private sector, as well as the national, regional and local authorities. The aim of the bid is to ensure sustainable legacies, both for sports and for local communities, through hosting the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

Substantial funding is guaranteed by the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada for the construction of sports venues and the upgrade of the Sea to Sky Highway linking

Vancouver and Whistler. This funding also covers health care and security. In addition, the Province of British Columbia guarantees to underwrite the Organising Committee's budget.

There is good public support for the Olympic Winter Games, which is demonstrated through a plebiscite in the City of Vancouver and a public opinion poll in Canada.

The bid is based on a two-site concept: the City of Vancouver and nearby Cypress Mountain for the curling, ice hockey, all skating events, snowboarding and freestyle skiing, as well as the IBC and MPC; and the mountain resort of Whistler (125 km and two hours from Vancouver) for all other sports and disciplines.

The proposed venues are well thought-out, with two existing world-class ice stadiums and plans for new venues for curling and speed skating in Vancouver. Existing venues in Whistler will be used for alpine skiing, and a track will be constructed for bobsleigh, luge and skeleton. In addition, a site to be developed in the Callaghan Valley will provide new venues for biathlon and Nordic skiing.

Six out of 13 venues are to be built, and this new infrastructure will provide centres of excellence for the development of sport in Canada. In addition, the Canadian Government provides a guaranteed legacy fund for three of these venues.

All athletes will be accommodated in one of two Olympic Villages. 83% of athletes will be accommodated in close proximity to their training and competition venues. Freestyle skiing and

snowboarding athletes will compete 37 minutes away from the Vancouver village and speed skating athletes 35 minutes from the Vancouver village.

The Commission feels that the Olympic village and venue concepts have been well thought-out and provide excellent conditions for the athletes. Taking into account the proposed management structure, planned infrastructure improvements to the Sea to Sky Highway and expansions to the public transport fleets committed to in the bid, and the outlined Olympic transport strategy, the Commission is confident that Olympic transport requirements can be met.

With the aim of sustainability, the proposed environment plans are professional and ambitious. They include considerable involvement of the First Nations with regard to post-Games legacy.

No significant security risks are anticipated. The Federal Government guarantees to take responsibility for security.

There is sufficient high standard accommodation both in Vancouver and Whistler to meet Olympic needs; thus no media village was planned. Guarantees have been provided for 23,000 rooms. During the Commission's visit, it became apparent that the number of rooms required for the media in Whistler may have been underestimated. To overcome this, the Bid Committee has provided a guarantee for the construction of a temporary media village in Whistler with 1,500 rooms.

The 2010 prices guaranteed for the Olympic Family are reasonable. The formula presented to

SUMMARY

Summary

60

guarantee accommodation costs for the other constituent groups is clear and prices will be audited by an external expert.

The OCOG budget is fundamentally sound. The bid has provided a very detailed analysis of every critical item of income and expenditure. The Commission is confident as regards the financial viability of the Games budget. The public sector guarantees to cover all costs for the construction of sports venues and the upgrade of the Sea to Sky Highway. The Province of British Columbia provides a guarantee for any OGOG shortfall.

For the first time in the history of the Olympic Winter Games, the bid proposes holding the Opening and Closing Ceremonies in an indoor stadium seating 55,000. Medal awards for events taking place in Vancouver will also take place in this stadium. Other medals may be awarded in Whistler.

The Organising Committee will also be responsible for the organisation of the Paralympic Games. The plans for the Paralympic Games are very well thought-out and the concept proposed is very compact, with one Paralympic Village in Whistler. The governments of Canada and British Columbia will together contribute USD 25.8 million to the USD 27.5 million Paralympic budget. Canada is one of the leading countries in the development of sports for the disabled.

The Vancouver Bid Committee has carried out thorough and detailed planning based on risk minimisation. The project demonstrates a clear vision, both for the organisation of the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games and for post-Games legacy.

The concept will provide very good conditions for the athletes. It will allow all athletes to live in an Olympic Village, with limited travel time to excellent sports venues.