



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

IOC Sustainability Progress Update

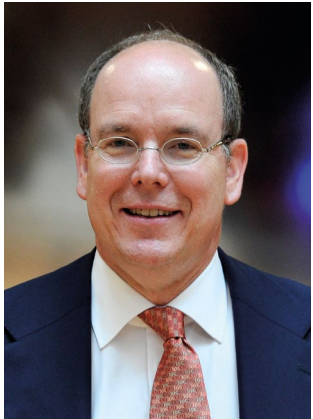
A review of our 2020 objectives

NOVEMBER 2019





Foreword by the Chair of the IOC Sustainability and Legacy Commission



One year on from the publication of the IOC's first Sustainability Progress Report, we are pleased to share an update on our efforts to reach our 2020 sustainability objectives.

We are proud of the significant progress we have made over

the past 12 months as an organisation, as owner of the Olympic Games and as the leader of the Olympic Movement.

A notable highlight was the completion and inauguration, in June 2019, of the IOC's new headquarters, Olympic House. The building was awarded three prestigious certifications for its sustainable construction and design. These include LEED Platinum – the highest level of the prestigious international LEED green building certification. We are delighted to say that this makes Olympic House one of the most sustainable buildings in the world.

As we prepare for Tokyo 2020, the successful collaboration with our Olympic Partners Toyota, P&G and Coca-Cola has been instrumental in helping us meet our sustainability objectives. Our Partners have put in place a wide range of innovative sustainability initiatives for Tokyo 2020, showing that the Olympic Games can be a catalyst for sustainable development.

Echoing the global mobilisation to address the climate emergency, we have placed climate change at the very heart of our sustainability efforts. In December 2018, we launched – in partnership with UN Climate Change – the Sports for Climate Action Framework. This allowed us to set the course for the global sports community to respond to climate change in a systematic and comprehensive manner.

We are proud of the immense impact that the Sports for Climate Action Framework has had so far. Almost 100 sports organisations – from within and beyond the Olympic Movement – have joined the Framework since its launch and have already put in place the foundations for its implementation. The IOC looks forward to continuing its leadership role in this process.

Today, we are witnessing a time of unprecedented momentum in the sustainability movement. Global awareness and action across generations and sectors are reaching new heights.

Sport is no exception. The IOC will continue to lead the Olympic Movement and the wider sports world in taking effective action on sustainability. In 2020 and beyond, we will continue to harness the immense power of sport to build a better, fairer and more sustainable world.

HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco
Chair, IOC Sustainability and Legacy Commission



The IOC will continue to lead the Olympic Movement and the wider sports world in taking effective action on sustainability.”

Highlights

Since publishing our first Sustainability Report in October 2018, we have made substantial progress towards achieving our 2020 objectives. Here are some key achievements:



IOC AS AN ORGANISATION

- Olympic House, our new headquarters in Lausanne, became one of the most sustainable buildings in the world. It was [awarded three prestigious sustainable construction awards](#): LEED v4 Platinum, SNBS Platinum and Minergie-P.



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- Worldwide Olympic Partners [P&G](#), Coca-Cola and [Toyota](#) have launched a variety of initiatives to showcase [sustainability at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020](#).
- We created the “[Carbon Footprint Methodology for the Olympic Games](#)” to help Organising Committees of the Olympic Games (OCOGs) understand, measure and reduce their carbon impact. We also published the “[Olympic Games Guide on Sustainable Sourcing](#)” to help OCOGs meet the IOC’s sustainable sourcing requirements.



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- Working with UN Climate Change, we co-launched the [Sports for Climate Action Framework](#) to help the sports community address climate change. Almost [100 sports organisations](#) have joined the Framework so far.
- We supported Olympic Champion Hannah Mills with the launch of the [Big Plastic Pledge](#) – a global campaign uniting athletes and fans against plastic pollution.
- We teamed up with our official [Carbon Partner Dow](#) to reward International Sports Federations for tangible climate action.



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to view our Highlights video



We have provided a simple colour-coded rating to give a visual sense of our progress:

- Substantial progress and on track
- Some progress but work still required

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1	Design and construction of Olympic House (the new IOC headquarters building) to be certified according to nationally and internationally recognised sustainability standards	<p>On track to achieve the three targeted certifications: Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), Minergie-P and the Swiss Sustainable Construction Standard (SNBS).</p>
2	Increase energy efficiency of our buildings	<p>In June 2019, Olympic House achieved the three targeted certifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The highest (Platinum) level of the LEED v4 standard, the most widely used green building programme worldwide. To date, Olympic House is the highest scoring LEED v4-certified new building, thanks to the wide range of sustainability aspects addressed. The highest (Platinum) level of the Swiss Sustainable Construction Standard (SNBS). Olympic House is the first international headquarters – and the second building overall – to obtain the SNBS Platinum label. The Minergie-P label, which guarantees that the building uses less energy per square metre than the Swiss average. <p>This objective is now complete.</p>
	<p>Madrid, Spain: Energy saving works conducted, ISO 50001 certification for Energy Management Systems obtained, LEED Operation & Maintenance certification achieved (Gold level).</p> <p>Lausanne, Switzerland: An energy efficiency action plan for The Olympic Museum is being developed.</p>	<p>Madrid, Spain: Measures to continually improve energy efficiency are being implemented, in compliance with the ISO 50001 standard.</p> <p>Lausanne, Switzerland: Olympic House is expected to use 35% less energy than a conventional new building, thanks to various energy saving features; this will be verified through accurate monitoring from 2019 onwards. At The Olympic Museum, a 10-year energy efficiency action plan was defined for the period 2018-2027, with a target of 3% energy savings per year.</p>



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<p>3</p>	<p>Integrate sustainability in the sourcing of goods and services, including those from TOP Partners and official licensees</p>	<p>Conventional suppliers: Sustainability principles were formally integrated in new IOC procurement processes and key documents in the first half of 2018. We have started to engage with key suppliers to introduce our new sustainability requirements.</p> <p>TOP Partners and official licensees: We have met with many of our TOP Partners to understand how sustainability is integrated in their operations and to identify potential areas of collaboration. The integration of sustainability principles into sourcing started in 2017 but is progressing more slowly than initially planned.</p>	<p>Conventional suppliers: In Lausanne, implementation of the new IOC sustainable sourcing approach has focused primarily on goods and services for Olympic House (furniture, catering, cleaning services, stationery products, office consumables, etc.). In Madrid, implementation has focused on packaging materials (e.g. preference given to recycled plastic), uniforms (produced using recycled plastic from PET bottles) and various office consumables. Further training and awareness-raising of internal buyers is required in order to ensure that sustainability criteria are systematically applied where relevant.</p> <p>TOP Partners and official licensees: We have continued to engage with TOP Partners and official licensees on the sustainability of their products and services. Sustainability clauses have been integrated in the contract with the official supplier of IOC uniforms.</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Achieve a measurable reduction in waste quantities</p>	<p>Initial actions implemented to improve monitoring of waste streams and to reduce waste or increase its reuse/recycling, targeting our five main waste streams: plastic, food, electronic waste, waste from events/exhibitions and paper/publications.</p> <p>Beyond the improvement of reuse and recycling practices, achieving an overall reduction of waste produced across our different activities is proving challenging as it involves significant changes in daily practices and internal standards. The move to the new IOC headquarters building in 2019 is expected to help foster waste reduction actions.</p>	<p>Examples of actions implemented in 2019: Elimination of further single-use items in Olympic House, at the Olympic Museum's TOM café restaurant, in OBS-OCS offices and during IOC corporate events (plastic bottles, plastic bags, various catering items, disposable boxes, etc.); the Olympic Museum's TOM café restaurant is involved in the "Too Good To Go" initiative since April 2019, with food leftovers sold at discounted prices; contract with specialised company for the reuse and recycling of IT equipment.</p> <p>In Lausanne, the amount of non-recycled office waste per Full Time Equivalent (FTE) has remained relatively stable over the last few years: 98 kg/FTE in 2016; 93 kg/FTE in 2017; 95 kg/FTE in 2018. During the first few months of operations at Olympic House a significant reduction of office waste quantities has been observed; this trend will have to be confirmed when analysing data in early 2020.</p>



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<p>5</p>	<p>Reduce the IOC's travel impact (business travel for IOC staff, Members and guests; vehicle fleet; staff commuting; freight)</p>	<p>Policy changes and awareness-raising actions were implemented in 2017-2018 for business travel, vehicle fleet, staff commuting and freight.</p> <p>Further incentives were introduced to encourage more sustainable commuting practices; as a result, today more than half of IOC staff use sustainable transportation modes for their daily commutes.</p> <p>For business travel and freight, the environmental impact is dependent on the locations of Olympic Games, Youth Olympic Games and IOC corporate events. Achieving a significant reduction of this impact over a full Olympiad is therefore challenging. During 2017-2018, video, audio and web conferencing facilities were provided to IOC employees to facilitate remote communications.</p>	<p>Staff commuting: A new mobility plan was implemented in 2019 in Lausanne following the move to Olympic House, offering further incentives for sustainable commuting. As a result, today approximately 60% of IOC staff use sustainable transportation modes for their daily commutes, e.g. public transport, walking, bike-riding.</p> <p>IOC fleet: Total fuel consumption has steadily decreased since 2016 in Lausanne (29,300 litres in 2016 vs 21,700 litres in 2018). The carbon intensity of the IOC fleet of vehicles is being reduced progressively; for example in 2019, four petrol cars were replaced with hydrogen cars.</p> <p>Business travel: Metrics to monitor the use of videoconferencing have been defined. Individual travel statistics (annual number of round trips and associated carbon footprint) have been compiled as an awareness-raising measure. In 2018, the average carbon footprint associated with air travel was 15 t CO₂e/FTE and the average number of round trips was 3.2/FTE (for Lausanne-based staff).</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Further increase staff diversity, in particular with regard to gender and geographical diversity</p>	<p>The overall composition of our staff reflects diversity in terms of gender balance (55 per cent of staff are female) and nationalities (54 different nationalities in Lausanne, 60 in Madrid; due to the location of IOC offices, there is a higher representation of European nationalities).</p> <p>The proportion of women in IOC Commissions has continued to increase in 2016-2018 – 33 per cent of positions held by women in 2016 vs 43 per cent in 2018. Between 2016 and 2017, the proportion of women on the IOC Board of Directors increased from 19 per cent to 25 per cent, while the proportion of women in senior management roles in Lausanne increased from 36 per cent to 38 per cent.</p>	<p>Updated figures as of October 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall proportion of women in IOC staff: 52 per cent in Lausanne, 36 per cent in Madrid • Women in senior management roles: 39 per cent in Lausanne, 29 per cent in Madrid • Women in IOC Board of Directors: 25 per cent • Women in IOC Commissions: 45 per cent • Number of different nationalities: 58 in Lausanne, 42 in Madrid <p>Several staff awareness-raising activities around gender-based bias were organised in 2019.</p>



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<p>7</p>	<p>As part of IOC@work2020, further develop a wellness programme to promote healthy and active lifestyles at the IOC</p>	<p>The IOC provides numerous incentives to its staff to encourage healthy and active lifestyles, such as the offer of sports activities, subsidies for sport-related expenses, healthy food options, nutritional advice, and subsidies for active and sustainable commuting practices. In 2017-2018, the main activities have focused on the integration of employee well-being and active lifestyle concepts in the design of Olympic House.</p>	<p>With the move to Olympic House, IOC employees now benefit from a wider range of measures aiming to enhance well-being at work and active lifestyles. Examples of well-being measures that have been integrated into Olympic House encompass ergonomic workstations, high indoor air quality, maximisation of natural light, access to outdoor spaces and a state-of-the-art gym. A flexwork policy was also implemented in 2019 to contribute to a better work-life balance.</p> <p>Initial feedback from employees is very positive. A survey will be conducted throughout 2020 to assess employees' views on how the quality of the working environment has evolved since the move.</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>Achieve carbon neutrality by reducing direct and indirect greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and by compensating emissions as a last resort</p>	<p>We have estimated our carbon footprint annually since 2014, including direct and indirect emission sources associated with the various IOC entities. Our carbon footprint is largely dominated by travel activities, which represent between 60 and 80 per cent of our footprint depending on whether or not it is an Olympic Games year.</p> <p>The actions listed in 1-5 above have contributed to reducing several sources of the IOC's carbon emissions. However, the main emission source (flights) is very dependent on the locations of Olympic Games, Youth Olympic Games and IOC corporate events.</p> <p>A first project was implemented as part of the IOC-Dow global carbon mitigation programme, delivering sufficient carbon savings to cover the IOC's estimated carbon emissions for 2017-2020.</p>	<p>In 2018, our carbon footprint reached approximately 80,000 t CO2e (to be compared with approximately 46,100 t CO2e in 2017 and 54,100 t CO2e in 2016); the value for 2018 was particularly high due to the trips to the Olympic Winter Games in PyeongChang, to the Summer Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires and to the Olympism in Action Forum in Buenos Aires, and the construction of Olympic House.</p> <p>The actions listed in 1-5 above have contributed to reducing several sources of the IOC's carbon emissions.</p> <p>A dozen projects have been implemented or are under development as part of the IOC-Dow global carbon mitigation programme. The quantity of carbon savings generated to date by the programme is sufficient to cover the IOC's estimated carbon emissions for 2017-2020.</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>Include sustainability in corporate events</p>	<p>Processes are being developed to ensure that our sustainability approach to event management across all our corporate events is as consistent as possible. This is being done in the form of an Event Sustainability Management System created in accordance with the international standard ISO 20121. The Olympism in Action Forum in Buenos Aires, Argentina in October 2018 was a pilot event for the implementation of this new approach.</p>	<p>Sustainability action plans were successfully implemented during the Olympism in Action Forum in Buenos Aires in October 2018 and the June 2019 IOC Session in Lausanne. We are continuing to develop the ISO 20121 management system and the certification is planned by the end of 2020.</p>



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<p>10</p>	<p>Ensure sustainability is addressed as a strategic topic with cities as early as the Invitation Phase/Dialogue Stage and throughout all phases of the Candidature Process</p>	<p>Sustainability has been integrated into key IOC documentation shared with Interested Cities through the Candidature Process for the Olympic Winter Games 2026, including Olympic Agenda 2020 – The New Norm, a set of 118 reforms that reimagines how the Olympic Games are delivered. This was supported by dedicated sustainability and legacy visits conducted with Interested Cities and expertise provided by our partners.</p> <p>The IOC Candidature Questionnaire for the Olympic Winter Games 2026 has been updated to fully reflect the IOC Sustainability Strategy.</p>	<p>In September 2019 the IOC met with the Australian delegation interested in potentially bidding for southeast Queensland to host the 2032 Olympic Games. Sustainability was one of the key focus areas on the agenda with a dedicated discussion on the topic taking place.</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>Reinforce sustainability commitments in the Host City Contract so that bidding for and hosting an Olympic Games can act as a catalyst for sustainable development within the host city and region</p>	<p>The IOC's Host City Contract – Operational Requirements were updated in June 2018 to fully reflect the IOC Sustainability Strategy.</p>	<p>The IOC's Host City Contract – Operational Requirements were updated in June 2018 to fully reflect the IOC Sustainability Strategy.</p> <p>As indicated in our Sustainability Progress Report (published in October 2018), as we do not envisage updating the Host City Contract before end 2020, this objective is now complete and will continue to be monitored in the future.</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>Strengthen support and monitoring of the implementation by Organising Committees for the Olympic Games (OCOGs) of sustainability-related bid commitments, Host City Contract requirements and IOC recommendations, including through the provision of common methodologies and independent third-party assessments where appropriate</p>	<p>This is a continual process, and support and monitoring levels are advancing well to meet this objective. Technical guidelines on carbon footprinting and sustainable sourcing are nearing completion. However, we need to intensify efforts through increased sustainability education and support so that both IOC and OCOG staff understand the increasingly critical importance of this theme.</p>	<p>In December 2018 we published a “Carbon Footprint Methodology for the Olympic Games” and in April 2019 our “Olympic Games Guide on Sustainable Sourcing” was published. Both guides were shared with all current OCOGs and are available on www.olympic.org/sustainability. Paris 2024 has used the carbon footprint methodology throughout 2019 to help them define their carbon management plan. In collaboration with the International Labour Organisation (ILO), we are compiling a guide that will assist OCOGs to develop and nurture the skills of their young professional staff. The guide will be published early 2020.</p>



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13 Facilitate exchanges between Olympic Games stakeholders (e.g. OCOGs, national partners, host city authorities, TOP Partners) and build strategic partnerships with relevant expert organisations to develop innovative sustainable solutions for planning and staging of the Olympic Games

A number of meetings between the Tokyo 2020 Organising Committee (TOCOG) and Olympic Games stakeholders have been facilitated. Partnerships with international organisations such as the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), UN Climate Change and the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group have been developed to support this objective. IOC TOP Partner Dow became our official Carbon Partner in 2017 to support our approach to climate change mitigation, including the provision of innovative solutions for the Olympic Games.

Over the past 12 months we have developed collaboration agreements with the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), the Urban Land Institute (ULI) and with Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) to facilitate knowledge-sharing and provide expertise to Host Cities, Interested and Candidate Cities across the areas of climate, sustainable standards in built infrastructure, land use and technological applications.

In June 2019, IOC TOP Partner P&G and Tokyo 2020 announced that they would be creating the the first-ever medal podiums made entirely of recycled plastic for the upcoming Olympic Games. In July this year it was announced that the uniforms of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic torchbearers will be produced in part from recycled plastic bottles collected by IOC TOP Partner Coca-Cola, and that IOC TOP Partner Toyota would be providing a wide range of zero-emission vehicles, including fuel cell electric vehicles, in line with Japan's carbon reduction goals.

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14 Provide mechanisms to ensure exchange of information and best practices between Olympic Movement stakeholders

Workshops on three key topics were provided to the Olympic Movement in 2017 (water quality, sourcing and resource management, carbon).

Nineteen case studies on sustainability projects conducted by International Federations (IFs) were researched, developed and shared in 2017, adding to the 20 case studies completed in 2016.

We initiated development of "Sustainability Essentials", a series of simple, practical guides on sustainability topics for the Olympic Movement.

Event water quality guidelines were established and agreed between the IOC and five relevant IFs.

Workshops on three key topics were provided to the Olympic Movement in 2019 i.e. water quality, climate change and carbon management, and plastic management.

We researched, produced and published 19 case studies highlighting various sustainability projects implemented by International Federations (IFs) during the late 2018–2019 period. We now have a total of 78 case studies (produced between 2016–2019) that provide a focus on the sustainability initiatives of the IFs. All case studies are available on www.olympic.org/sustainability.

Under the banner of our "Sustainability Essentials" guides – a series of simple, practical guides on sustainability topics for the Olympic Movement – we produced two guides in 2019, the first entitled "Sports for Climate Action" and the second "Sustainable Sourcing in Sport". We are currently developing a guide on managing plastic that will be published in 2020.



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15 Facilitate access to relevant expert organisations to develop guidelines and innovative solutions

We have continued efforts to build upon existing partnerships and create new ones in order to provide a stronger base of expertise with which to support and guide the Olympic Movement. Key examples include the launch of the Clean Seas programme with UN Environment, our partnership with UN Climate Change and C40 on climate change issues, and our ongoing work with IUCN on biodiversity matters.

The launch of the Clean Seas programme in collaboration with UN Environment was further strengthened in 2019 and now 10 IFs, one NOC and three of our commercial partners have joined us in this global action.

The UNFCCC “Sports for Climate Action Framework” was launched in December 2018 with the IOC taking a leadership role in the development, and ongoing management, of the framework. By September 2019, over 80 sports organisations had committed to the framework, and the signatories attended a kick-off meeting in Lausanne hosted by the IOC and UNFCCC in September 2019.

The relationship with IUCN continues to be successful, with the development of a suite of guides addressing “Sport and Biodiversity”.

16 Leverage Olympic Solidarity to assist NOCs in implementing sustainability initiatives

A strategic Sustainability Implementation Plan was created through stakeholder consultation for the National Olympic Committees (NOCs), which resulted in technical meetings and working groups being established. Carrying out the Plan will be challenging due to the wide geographical scope – it encompasses 206 countries.

The European NOC Working Group (created in 2017 and comprising 10 NOCs) has continued to be successful with the group currently working collaboratively to create a NOC Sustainability Strategy template that can be used by all NOCs around the world.

The creation of the European NOC Sustainability Working Group in 2017 provided insight into the range of initiatives required for successful implementation. Similar working groups are to be established in other regions.

Together with Olympic Solidarity, the NOCs applying for IOC funding for targeted projects now have the dedicated technical support from the IOC Sustainability team to advise them in the implementation of their projects. This collaboration has been very successful.

Work started in early 2019 to create an NOC Sustainability Working Group (with 6 NOCs) in Oceania, however it is evident from the experience of working with the European Working Group that working with the members remotely will hamper progress. We are currently looking at options on how this could be addressed.



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<p>17</p>	<p>Set up an ambassador programme including athletes in order to raise awareness on sustainability in sport</p>	<p>This programme is currently still in the research and development phase and has not yet been activated.</p>	<p>The ambassador programme is still under review internally, however collaboration with some athletes has been undertaken during the past twelve months. Namely Hannah Mills, an Olympic Champion (sailing), who with the support of the IOC launched the “Big Plastic Pledge” (a pledge for athletes around the use of single-use plastic); and Chris Mazdzer, an Olympic silver medallist (luge), who is championing our climate work. Other projects being studied are focused around clean air, biodiversity and gender equality.</p>
<p>18</p>	<p>Profile the role of the Olympic Movement in sustainability through aggregation of information and collective reporting</p>	<p>Collective reporting has not advanced as initially planned due to the lack of a dedicated Communications person to provide guidance, develop networks and identify communication opportunities. This will be addressed with the arrival of the Sustainability and Legacy Communications Manager in October 2018.</p>	<p>A Sustainability and Legacy Communications Manager joined the IOC in October 2018 and has since ensured a steady flow of communications around the Olympic Movement’s sustainability work. This encompasses the publication of articles, videos and other content to mark key milestones, such as the launch of the IOC Sustainability Progress Report in October 2018, the 2018 IF Forum Sustainability Session, the launch of the UNFCCC Sports for Climate Action Framework at COP24 in December 2018, the IOC’s participation in the UN Environment Assembly, World Environment Day marking the 1st anniversary of the IOC’s participation in UN Environment’s Clean Seas initiative, the launch of Olympic Champion Hannah Mills’ Big Plastic Pledge and her participation at the UN Youth Climate Summit, the first meeting of the signatories of the UNFCCC Sports for Climate Action Framework, and the launch of our Sustainability Essentials guides on Sustainable Sourcing in Sport and Sports for Climate Action. The Olympic Movement’s work has been widely promoted, targeting specialised sustainability media and the global network of sustainability professionals.</p>

Feedback and continuous dialogue

Sustainability is a continually evolving and changing process. Our sustainability work is only possible through the active collaboration and participation of numerous stakeholders. We intend to continue in this spirit of open dialogue and cooperation, and therefore we welcome feedback, comments and suggestions for further improvements as we go forward. To do so, please contact us either in English or French at sustainability@olympic.org



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