



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

Medical and Scientific Department

Lausanne, 19th February 2020

Dear Participants,

In light of the current situation with the Novel Coronavirus 2019, we would like to update you on the IOC's position.

The IOC is collaborating with the WHO and carefully monitoring the development of this outbreak and advised countermeasures.

An increasing number of countries have instituted screening and quarantine measures for travelers arriving to their territories. Travelers with no symptoms or infection from countries with cases of 2019nCoV infection do not normally require any quarantine measures or restrictions under WHO guidelines. However, restrictions may be imposed by local government and health authorities.

The IOC have advised those travelling anywhere in the world to follow the WHO advice listed below:

WHO advice:

It is recommended following the measures to reduce the general risk of transmission of acute respiratory infections:

- Avoid close contact with people suffering from acute respiratory infections.
- Wash your hands frequently, especially after direct contact with ill people or their environment.
- Avoid unprotected contact with farm or wild animals.
- People with symptoms of acute respiratory infection should practice cough etiquette (maintain distance, cover coughs and sneezes with disposable tissues or clothing, and wash their hands).

WHO does not recommend any specific health measures such as isolation unless travelers experience any symptoms suggestive of acute respiratory illness either during or after travelling, in which case they are encouraged to seek medical attention and share their travel history with their healthcare provider.

An increasing number of countries are refusing entry to travelers from mainland China or having been to China in the last 14 days. Thus all travelers should check the quarantine requirements at their destination and original location.

Please find below the link to WHO advice

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>

We remain at your disposal for any clarifications that you may require and will provide updates of the IOC's position as necessary.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Budgett'.

Dr Richard Budgett
IOC Medical and Scientific Director