

Thomas Bach, President Olympic Committee

Maison Olympique (Olympic House) 1007 Lausanne (Switzerland)

Brussels 2 July 2024

To the attention of Thomas Bach, President of the International Olympic Committee.

Dear Mr Bach

We write to you on behalf of the Gender Council of the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ), the world largest organisation of journalists representing more than 600,000 journalists from over 140 countries around the world.

On the eve of the Paris Olympic Games, the Gender Council and our Federation as a whole would like to remind you of the need to respect gender equality and promote diversity by preventing all forms of harassment or violence against women, both journalists and athletes, and the need to adopt protocols to intervene, should it be necessary, to facilitate reporting and resolution.

We believe that an international competition of the magnitude of the Olympic Games requires the commitment of everyone to try to ensure that the behaviour of all participants is respectful and promotes an environment in which sporting values prevail. We therefore call on the Committee to ensure that sexism is avoided using all means at its disposal and that, in the event of threats, harassment or inappropriate behaviour, swift action is taken.

We are concerned about the safety of both female journalists and sportswomen and therefore reiterate our request not only for these Games, but also for those that may be held in the future and we offer you our cooperation in whatever way might be useful to you to implement effective preventive measures.

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Yours respectfully



Anthony Bellanger
IFJ General Secretary



Maria Angeles Samperio
Chair of the IFJ Gender Council