

IOC Boxing Task Force Statement on Pneumonia Outbreak in Wuhan (CHN)

No changes to standard travel health advice

Lausanne, 13 January 2020

The IOC Boxing Task Force (BTF) wants to provide an update on the pneumonia outbreak in the Chinese city of Wuhan – where the Asian / Oceanian boxing qualifying event for Tokyo 2020 is due to take place from 3-14 February 2020.

Chinese authorities have made a preliminary determination of a novel (or new) coronavirus that can cause severe illness in some patients but does not transmit readily between people. They have also confirmed that SARS and MERS Coronaviruses have been ruled out.

In its latest statement on the issue - dated 9 January 2020 - the World Health Organisation (the WHO) outlined that China has strong public health capacities and resources to respond and manage respiratory disease outbreaks, and that they do not recommend any specific measures for travelers (see the WHO statement here: <https://www.who.int/china/news/detail/09-01-2020-who-statement-regarding-cluster-of-pneumonia-cases-in-wuhan-china>).

The WHO and Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) agree that no travel restrictions or extra measures are needed. Both advise standard respiratory hygiene precautions (cough and sneeze into a hankie or sleeve, not your hand; wash hands regularly; self-isolate if you feel unwell) and to avoid live-animal markets. For the latest information from the CDC refer to: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/novel-coronavirus-2019.html> and <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/watch/novel-coronavirus-china>.

Therefore, no specific actions or changes to standard travel health advice have been decided by the IOC Boxing Task Force, at this stage. We will continue to monitor the situation closely through the WHO, CDC and Chinese authorities, with the support of the IOC medical experts, and we will readily inform NOCs, NFs and their athletes should the situation change.

Please do not hesitate to contact us at info@olympicboxing.sport.