



**CIPRA**  
**LIVING IN**  
**THE ALPS**

To:  
Mr. Thomas Bach,  
President, International Olympic Committee  
Via email: [cabinet\\_president@olympic.org](mailto:cabinet_president@olympic.org)

Cc:  
Mr. Giovanni Malagò,  
President, CONI and Milano Cortina 2026 Foundation  
Via email: [president@milanocortina2026.org](mailto:president@milanocortina2026.org)

Registered Mail to:  
International Olympic Committee IOC  
President Thomas Bach  
Maison Olympique  
1007 Lausanne  
Switzerland

Schaan, 23 January 2024

**Re: Milano-Cortina 2026 – sustainability and the bob run**

Dear President Thomas Bach,

CIPRA, the International Commission for the Protection of the Alps, firmly requests that the IOC maintain its position regarding the unsustainability of the bobsleigh run in Cortina, even in its most recent *light* version published for tender 29 December 2023 and closed on 18 January 2024. As the decision on the award of this contract is expected in a few days, we request that the IOC not grant any extension to the certification procedure and continue to insist that sustainability and legacy remain at the core of the Games. In so doing, CIPRA joins several other entities that have repeatedly drawn attention to the shortcomings of these Games and have expressed very deep concern.

CIPRA already approached you in early 2022 and again in 2023 to express our serious worries on the lack of sustainability and meaningful participation of the Milano Cortina Olympic Games, in particular the bobsleigh track project. We now turn to you again to reiterate our support to any firm position you will take to demand that Italy stand by the contents of the application dossier and to the IOC Agenda 2020, especially Recommendations 1, 2 and 4 on the use of existing facilities and temporary/demountable venues, as well as the organization of competitions and entire disciplines outside the host city or host country.

CIPRA has always believed and officially stated that major sporting events must use existing sporting facilities and welcomed the IOC recent stance that existing sliding centres are globally sufficient for the current number of athletes and competitions. In the Alps, not far from the venues that will host the Milan Cortina 2026 Games, there are functioning bobsleigh facilities in Igls/A and St. Moritz/CH.



The bobsleigh run foreseen in this latest tender by the Società Infrastrutture Milano Cortina not only undermines safety by rushing construction and test events, but it also escapes once again the environmental impact assessment we deem utterly necessary for environmental and social safeguards.

We trust in your unwavering attention to this matter.

Best regards,

 Serena Arduino President, CIPRA International	 Stephan Tischler President, CIPRA Austria
 Gilles Chappaz President, CIPRA France	 Axel Doering President, CIPRA Germany
 Vanda Bonardo President, CIPRA Italy	 Wolfgang Nutt President, CIPRA Liechtenstein
 Matej Ogrin President, CIPRA Slovenia	 Josef Oberhofer President, CIPRA South Tyrol
 Patrik Schönenberger President, CIPRA Switzerland	