

Najib Opens 128th Session Of The International Olympic Committee
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KUALA LUMPUR, July 30 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak opened the 128th Session of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC) here Thursday night.

Also present were the Prime Minister's wife Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, IOC president Dr Thomas Bach and Olympic Council of Malaysia (OCM) president Tunku Tan Sri Imran Tuanku Ja'afar.

Najib when launching the IOC said hosting such a prestigious and important event proves Malaysia's seriousness in promoting sports in the country and globally.

"We have a proud history of hosting international events such as the KL 98 Commonwealth Games - the first time it was held in Asia, and with a record number of countries taking part, including Malaysia winning fourth place in the overall medal tally.

"Perhaps we can do even better when we host the 2017 SEA Games," he said.

He said Malaysia was looking forward to hosting other sporting events here so that athletes and visitors from around the world can enjoy the world class facilities here, such as the diverse culture and delicious cuisines.

Najib said sports promotes the spirit of teamwork and togetherness when differences of ethnicity and faith melt away once athletes unite in pursuit of a common goal.

Malaysia is hosting the IOC Executive Board Meeting from July 28 to 30 and the 128th IOC Session from today to Aug 3.

The IOC Executive Board meeting will set the stage for tomorrow's voting session to decide the host city of the 2022 Winter Olympic Games.

At the meeting, which will be followed by the IOC 128th Session which starts tomorrow, the delegates would cast their votes to choose between Beijing (China) and Almaty (Kazakhstan).

In the 128th Session, the IOC will also consider eight sports to be added to the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan.

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