Mr. Zaia's speech

- Dear Members of the International Olympic Committee, I am Luca Zaia, President of Region Veneto and I am very happy and proud for this important opportunity, we are given, to provide some more details, on the Olympic and Paralympic project of Milano-Cortina 2026.
- This is a dream, that we want to make come true, 70 years after the memorable edition of Cortina 1956, the first Olympic Games ever hosted in Italy.
- The majestic scenario of the Alps, and in particular of the Dolomites, UNESCO Heritage site, with the cultural richness of Milan, will be the power for the 2026 Games.
- Cortina, the "Queen of the Dolomites", is the *only Italian place*, *included in the "Best of the Alps"*, the 12 most beautiful mountain resorts, of the Alps.
- Along with Milano, we candidate the *Dolomites*, which hold one of the biggest and most famous ski hubs of the world, in a perfect balance between environment and development.
- This candidature comes from the people. In front of You, there is the whole Community, which loves and wants the Winter Olympic Games.
- Cortina and Milano will make an innovative concept of Games, fully in line with the recommendations of International Olympic Committee, your Agenda 2020, Mr. President Bach, come true.
- To implement our candidature, we started from the remarks and recommendations of the International Olympic Committee:

projects on a human scale, no monumental works, no concrete flow, no money and energy waste, no white elephants which will not be used after the Games end.

- In relation to these goals, it's important to remember to you, that 5 years before the Olympic games, Cortina will house the 2021 World Ski Championships.
- Important new works of ski runs, equipments and facilities for 242 million Euros are already underway.
- These Winter Games are not a problem for us but a big opportunity, and we are very proud to house them.
- We are ready to prove, that the Winter Olympic games will be a great, useful and respectful promotion of the Sport and the Community, that will house it.
- We look forward to receiving your decision.
- Dear Mr. President Bach, Dear Members of the International Committee, thanks again for this opportunity *in which we strongly believe*.