

PRESS RELEASE

HOST CITIES 2015 ADDS MORE NAMES TO EXPERT LINE-UP

03 November 2015 – Host Cities 2015 has announced more high-profile speakers for this month's summit in Dubai, with senior representatives from Tokyo 2020, Facebook, Barclays, the Los Angeles Sports Council and International Olympic Committee (IOC) among those joining the expert line-up.

Already confirmed for the 4th edition of Host Cities, presented by Emirates Airline, were Lord Sebastian Coe, double Olympic Gold Medalist and former LOCOG & London 2012 Bid Chair, now President of the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) and Chairman of the British Olympic Association, and Her Excellency Reem Al Hashimy, UAE Minister of State, Board Representative of Expo 2020 Dubai Higher Committee and Director General, Bureau Expo 2020 Dubai.

They will be joined from 18-19 November at Fairmont the Palm by:

- Rt Hon Sir Hugh Robertson KCMG DL, former Olympic Minister, London 2012
- Boutros Boutros, Divisional Senior Vice President, Corporate Communications, Marketing and Brand at Emirates Airline
- David Simon, President, Los Angeles Sports Council
- Masanori Takaya, Communications Director, Tokyo 2020
- Terry Kane, Head of Travel and Auto for the MENA region, Facebook
- Debbie Jevans, former CEO of England Rugby 2015 and Director of Sport at London 2012
- David McLaren, Director, PGA European Tour
- Nathan Homer, Head of Global Sponsorship and Partnership, Barclays
- Susanne Schödel, Secretary General, Fédération Aéronautique Internationale
- Poul-Erik Høyer, President, Badminton World Federation and IOC member
- Charmaine Crooks, C.M. Member of the Order of Canada, five-time Olympian, Silver Medalist, former IOC Member, IOC Ethics Commission & Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport
- Brian Murgatroyd, writer, broadcaster and media manager for the Australian Cricket Board, former head of media and communications for the International Cricket Council
- Iain Edmondson, Head of Major Events, London & Partners.

The international line-up also features sportsmen and women including:

- Darren Clarke OBE, 2016 Ryder Cup Captain
- Kelly Smith, Captain of Arsenal Ladies
- Alex Hua Tian, Chinese Olympic Equestrian
- Emma Carbrera-Bello, Ladies European Tour golfer.

Prominent local figures speaking at Host Cities 2015 include:

- His Excellency Saeed Hareb, Secretary General, Dubai Sports Council
- Issam Abdul Rahim Kazim, CEO, Dubai's Department of Tourism and Commerce
- Yvette Judge, Assistant Director, Emirates Airline Festival of Literature
- Salah Tahlak, Senior Vice President-Corporate Communications at Dubai Duty Free and Tournament Director, DubaiDuty Free Tennis Championships

- Rawan Kashkoush, Creative Director of Abwab, Dubai Design Week 2015
- Jasper Hope, Chief Executive, Dubai Opera.

Host Cities 2015 runs under the theme 'Embracing Future Events'. The forward-thinking agenda promises to identify trends in strategies for bids, engagement, sponsorship and funding that can be applied to different event types, budgets, cultures and geographies.

To register and for information about Host Cities 2015 visit www.host-cities.com

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