Dear friends,
Dear young Olympic athletes,

Four years have slipped by and we are again on the threshold of the next Winter Youth Olympic Games. On 12 February, the flame, symbolizing the willingness of young people to live together in peace and to be engaged in sports united in their differences, will be lit in Lillehammer.

This is the second edition of the Winter Youth Olympics, a project which quickly gathered momentum and successfully entered in the programme of the future sports stars. The International Olympic Committee and the National Olympic Committees invest a lot in such forums dedicated to the younger generation, because the future belongs to them.

Four years ago, 70 countries inaugurated the First Winter Youth Olympic Games in Innsbruck. Bulgaria was among them with 11 athletes. This time 12 Bulgarian athletes will compete in 6 disciplines included in the Lillehammer sports programme of the Winter Youth Olympic Games.

Let us wish them success. May they wear their national sports uniform with pride and do their utmost to perform in the best way in the former Olympic capital. The mere presence in Lillehammer is already a success for each of them, but it can be even greater and more complete, if supplemented by good results and achievement of maximum potential. And may good fortune be also with them!

Good luck and success, young Bulgarian Olympic athletes!
Good luck, Lillehammer 2016!

Stefka KOSTADINOVA
President
Bulgarian Olympic Committee
TO
THE BULGARIAN ATHLETES AND COACHES
PARTICIPATING AT THE WINTER YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES
IN LILLEHAMMER

DEAR YOUNG ATHLETES AND COACHES,

It is a pleasure for me to congratulate you on the occasion of your participation at the II Winter Youth Olympic Games!

For an athlete to perform at the Olympics it is not only a dream come true and the most thrilling moment, but it is also a big challenge, as an athlete competes with the best ones on the planet. I believe that the sports spirit and will for victory will enable you to show us your best and will make Bulgaria proud of you!

We, the Bulgarians, are nation with great sports history, full of Olympic glory and international prestige. We have our glorious athletes that have proved the power of Bulgarian spirit many times. Today all of you have a chance to become part of this history and I believe that you will put every effort to realize your full potential and to reward your hard work with a praiseworthy performance in Lillehammer.

I am convinced that the II Winter Youth Olympic Games will become celebration of sports competition and friendship! Your participation will contribute to the recognition of social significance of sport for achieving solidarity and understanding between nations.

I believe in you, because you are talented and hardworking athletes. Let your dreams come true in Lillehammer and let you achieve your goals!

Please accept my wishes for good health, victories and sports achievements celebrating the Bulgarian sport traditions and the Olympic idea!

Krassen Kralev
Minister of Youth and Sports

February 2016
Georgi OKOLSKI
Sport: Alpine Skiing
Born: 22.03.1998
Place of birth: Samokov
Club: Ski club Borovets
Coach: Bostjan Bozic
Sporting hero: Ted Ligety
Career start: 2010
Hobby: all kind of sports

ACHIEVEMENTS: 6th place in Slalom Topolino 2013

Lorita STOIMENOVA
Sport: Alpine Skiing
Born: 23.07.1998
Place of birth: Sofia
Club: Ski club Ulen
Coach: Stefan Georgiev
Sporting hero: Lindsey Vonn, Aksel Lund Svindal
Career start: 2007
Hobby: singing and dancing

ACHIEVEMENTS: National champion in 2012, Vitosha (BUL);
2nd place in Giant Slalom, Kopaonik (SRB) FIS 2015
It’s all about speed with contactless cards from Fibank!
Kristiyan STOYANOV

Sport: Biathlon  
Born: 22.12.1998  
Place of birth: Berkovitsa  
Club: Kom-Berkovitsa  
Coach: Pavlina Filipova  
Sporting hero: E.H.Svendsen  
Career start: 2009  
Hobby: Football, Gaming  

ACHIEVEMENTS: Winter EYOF 2015 Vorarlberg/Lichtenstein, 26th place, sprint 7.5 km

Petar VELCHEV

Sport: Biathlon  
Born: 08.07.1998  
Place of birth: Bobov Dol  
Club: Sapareva Banya  
Coach: Ilian Penev  
Sporting hero: Petter Northug Jr.  
Career start: 2008  
Hobby: Football, Gaming  

ACHIEVEMENTS: Winter EYOF 2015 Vorarlberg/Lichtenstein, 50th place, sprint 7.5 km
Milena TODOROVA

Sport: Biathlon
Born: 18.01.1998
Place of birth: Troyan
Club: Ayaks
Coach: Tsvetan Tsochev
Sporting hero: Vladimir Iliev
Career start: 2007
Hobby: Going out with friends

ACHIEVEMENTS: Winter EYOF 2015 Vorarlberg/Lichtenstein, 28th place, sprint 6 km

Maria ZDRAVKOVA

Sport: Biathlon
Born: 30.07.1998
Place of birth: Berkovitsa
Club: Kom-Berkovitsa
Coach: Pavlina Filipova
Sporting hero: Martin Fourcade
Career start: 2009
Hobby: Going out with friends

ACHIEVEMENTS: Junior World Championships Minsk 2015 (BLR), 65th place, sprint 6 km
Cross Country

BG Team

Kostadin MITKOV
Coach
**Nikolay VIYACHEV**

Sport: Cross Country  
Born: 08.08.1998  
Place of birth: Dupnitsa  
Club: Ski club Panichishte 2009  
Coach: Raiko Penev  
Sporting hero: Alexey Petukhov  
Career start: 2006  
Hobby: Football, Volleyball

ACHIEVEMENTS: National champion

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**Nansi OKORO**

Sport: Cross Country  
Born: 12.07.1999  
Place of birth: Dupnitsa  
Club: ASK Aleksandr Logistiks  
Coach: Plamen Nedyalkov  
Sporting hero: Justyna Kowalczyk  
Career start: 2008  
Hobby: Music

ACHIEVEMENTS: National champion
BG Team

Ivan PAPUKCHIEV
Coach

Luge
Ayduan RIZOV

Sport: Luge
Born: 27.01.2000
Place of birth: Sofia
Club: Sofia
Coach: Georgi Vergov
Career start: 2010
Hobby: Music

ACHIEVEMENTS: National champion

Emili YORDANOVA

Sport: Luge
Born: 19.07.2001
Place of birth: Sofia
Club: Sofia
Coach: Ivan Papukchiev
Career start: 2012
Hobby: Cycling

ACHIEVEMENTS: National champion
Snowboard

Sotir MARKOV
Coach

GO ANYWHERE, ANYTIME.
BMW xDRIVE, THE INTELLIGENT ALL-WHEEL-DRIVE SYSTEM.
Valentin MILADINOV

Sport: Snowboard
Born: 23.01.1999
Place of birth: Samokov
Club: Boroboard
Coach: Sotir Markov
Career start: 2009
Hobby: Football

ACHIEVEMENTS: Junior World Championships, Yabuli 2015 (CHN), 30th place snowboard cross
Short Track

Assen PANDOV
Coach

Katrin MANOILOVA

Sport: Short Track
Born: Sofia
Place of birth: 11.06.1998
Club: Slavia
Coach: Assen Pandov
Sporting hero: Charles Hamelin
Career start: 2007
Hobby: Philosophy

ACHIEVEMENTS: National champion; ISU World Junior Championships 2015, Osaka (JPN), 7th place Ladies 1000 m; 11th place Ladies 1500 m
Officials

Stefka KOSTADINOVA
President
Bulgarian Olympic Committee

Krassen KRALEV
Minister of Youth and Sport

Hristiyan YANKOV
NOC administration

Aleksandra POPOVA
Young Ambassador

Belcho GORANOV
Secretary General
Bulgarian Olympic Committee

Rumiana DINEVA
Head Olympic Family Relations

Radina ZHEKOVA
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Ivan BOYANOV
Young Reporter

Liliya PANDUROVA
Chef de Mission

Pepa MIZEVA
Team Leader Ski disciplines
#Lillehammer2016