

Progress Report on the HKSAR's Participation in the 10th National Games

Introduction

This paper aims to report on the progress of work relating to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR)'s participation in the 10th National Games of the People's Republic of China (the Games).

Progress

Establishment of the Organising Committee

2. After the acceptance by the Chief Executive's Office of the invitation from the State Sport General Administration of China last year, the HKSAR immediately went ahead to establish the Organising Committee of the HKSAR Delegation to the 10th National Games (the Organising Committee) to handle matters related to the HKSAR's participation in the Games. Two sub-committees, namely the Administration, Selection and Technical Sub-Committee and the Publicity, Sponsorship and Public Relations Sub-Committee were also formed. Please refer to **Annex 1** for the respective member lists.

Selection of Athletes

3. The Organising Committee had assessed National Sports Associations' nominations on athletes and decided that the HKSAR Delegation would send 178 athletes and 71 officials to participate in a total of 23 events in the Games. For eight of these events, our athletes can enter the finals through participation in the qualifying competitions. These eight events include archery, badminton, baseball, men's handball, men's hockey, table tennis, tennis and beach volleyball. For the remaining 15 events, namely swimming (including water polo), athletics, canoeing, cycling, equestrian, fencing, gymnastics, judo, rowing, windsurfing, shooting, triathlon, weightlifting, figure skating and wushu (taolu), the State Sport General Administration of China has approved our athletes' direct entry into the finals. A statistical table on the numbers of athletes and officials participating in the Games is attached at **Annex 2** and a programme schedule of the competition dates and venues of the finals is attached at **Annex 3** for information.

Support Given to Participating Athletes

4. The Hong Kong Sports Institute has been invited to carry out fitness tests for the athletes, and arrange for physicians, sport psychologists, physiotherapists and technicians to accompany the Delegation to provide timely and appropriate medical services and psychological counseling to athletes.

Publicity

5. To encourage the public to support the HKSAR Delegation's participation in the Games, the Organising Committee is going to stage the following major publicity functions:

(a) The HKSAR Delegation Flag Presentation Ceremony cum Torch Relay

It will be held at the Golden Bauhinia Square on 18 September 2005. The Chief Executive will officiate at the ceremony and members from the 18 District Councils will be invited to attend the function. It will showcase the support from both the Government and the whole community for our athletes, encouraging them to do their best and achieve successful results in the Games.

(b) Welcoming Ceremony for the HKSAR Delegation

It will be held at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre on 24 October 2005. Welcoming the HKSAR Delegation back from the Games, the ceremony also seeks to commend athletes for their determination to excel and congratulate our winners on their fruitful results in the Games.

6. A press conference was held on 12 August 2005 at the Hong Kong International Airport right after the Organising Committee Chairman's return with the torch of the Games from Beijing to arouse public's interest in the Games. Support from the general public will continue be solicited by means of posters, banners and the relevant website, etc.

Budget

7. The budget for the HKSAR Delegation is in the region of \$4M (details at **Annex 4**). To enlist support from all sectors in the community, the Chairman of the Organising Committee and the Chairman of the Publicity, Sponsorship and Public Relations Sub-committee had issued letters to various parties and commercial organisations, inviting sponsorship in cash or in kind. Up till now, the HKSAR Delegation has secured sponsorship of about \$880,000 in cash and about \$550,000 in kind. The sponsorship will not only alleviate the overall financial burden of the HKSAR Delegation but also reflect the support for the Delegation by all sectors in the community.

Presentation

8. Members are invited to note the content of this situation report.

Secretariat of the Organising Committee of
the HKSAR Delegation to the
10th National Games of the People's Republic of China
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