

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

OCA builds for a bright future

OCA Youth Camp 2013 - Taekwondo

OCA Youth Reporter Project

2nd Asian Youth Games update



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SPORTING ASIA

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Front cover:

Taekwondo will be the focus of the OCA's Asian Youth Camp in 2013.

CELEBRATING THE OLYMPIC VALUES IN 2013



The Olympic Council of Asia - and the Olympic Movement in general - is about much more than sport. It is about bringing people together; it is about tolerance and respect; and it is about cooperation and striving to build a better, more harmonious world through our young athletes, sports leaders and volunteers.

This is why the coming year will be of great significance to everyone connected with the Olympic Council of Asia, as it offers two major OCA multi-sport games plus a host of other meetings and events throughout our five zones.

The 4th Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games in Incheon, Korea, from June 29 to July 6 will serve as a high-profile test event for the 17th Asian Games the following year. The Asian sports family will need to work together at Incheon 2013 to ensure a smooth and successful Asian Games in 2014 and provide the best conditions for the athletes and officials.

In August we will hold our second Asian Youth Games in the beautiful and historical city of Nanjing, China. Just like our inaugural AYG in Singapore in 2009, the Nanjing AYG will set the scene for the IOC's Youth Olympic Games the following year.

These two youth festivals in Nanjing will provide a wonderful opportunity for the local people to learn more about Asia and the world – and for the visitors to learn more about Nanjing and China.

This experience will leave behind a long-lasting social legacy for the people of Nanjing and contribute to the Olympic Values of Excellence, Friendship and Respect.

As I said at the beginning of my message, the Olympic Movement is about much more than sport – and we can demonstrate and celebrate this through our events in 2013 and beyond.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahad Al Sabah.

Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahad Al Sabah

President, Olympic Council of Asia

President, Association of National Olympic Committees

SHEIKH AHMAD VOTED NO. 2 IN ATR'S GOLDEN 25 FOR 2013

The rise and rise of His Excellency Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahad Al Sabah in the global Olympic sports movement has been reflected in his second-place ranking in the Golden 25 conducted by Around The Rings.

In the annual, end-of-year report, ATR picks out the most influential sports leaders for the coming year - and Sheikh Ahmad was voted second behind the IOC President, Jacques Rogge.

The citation reads:

"A powerful behind-the-scenes figure representing the world's National Olympic Committees, Sheikh Ahmad Al Sabah has risen in influence by becoming President of the Association of

National Olympic Committees in April.

"The nearly effortless takeover of ANOC was made possible in part due to the resignation of predecessor Mario Vazquez Rana, who opted out of a power struggle.

"On the other hand, the Sheikh, also President of the Olympic Council of Asia, does enjoy widespread support among the NOC rank-and-file.

"Sheikh Ahmad wants to expand the role and influence of ANOC, as well as the participation of the 204 members of the organisation. In June he will preside over what is planned as the start of annual general assemblies for ANOC; previously, they have been held every two years."

IOC WELCOMES BACK KUWAIT NOC

The National Olympic Committee of Kuwait was officially welcomed back into the Olympic Movement on December 4, 2012, when the International Olympic Committee's Executive Board lifted permanently the suspension that had been in place since January 2010.

The suspension had been imposed for government interference threatening the autonomy of the NOC, but was eased temporarily on July 14, 2012, based on guarantees from the highest authorities in the country to pass new sports legislation that would be in harmony with the Olympic Charter.

This temporary lifting of the sanction allowed Kuwait to compete in the London Olympic Games under their own flag and anthem, winning one bronze medal in shooting. The deadline for implementing the new sports law was set for November 22, 2012.

Speaking after the IOC Executive Board decision to end the suspension, Kuwait NOC President Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahad Al Sabah thanked His Highness the Amir, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah, for issuing the relevant Decree 26.

"I would like to express my gratitude to HH the Amir for all the measures he has undertaken to end the international suspension and ensure the participation of

Kuwait and its athletes in all regional, continental and international tournaments under the slogan of the State," he said.

Sheikh Ahmad reiterated the allegiance of everyone within the Olympic Movement in Kuwait, especially the athletes, to HH the Amir, and vowed to give their best efforts in raising the Kuwaiti flag to the top of the podium.

The IOC confirmed that the Kuwait NOC and national sports federations are now able to operate in full compliance with the Olympic Charter and the rules of the International Federations.



Kuwait NOC at the London Olympics team welcome ceremony.

IOC RUNS OUT OF PATIENCE WITH INDIAN OLYMPIC ASSOCIATION



The International Olympic Committee's Executive Board decided to suspend the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) on December 4, 2012, and gave three reasons for its actions:

- ☼ Failure to comply with the Olympic Charter and its statutes;
- ☼ Failure to inform the IOC in a timely matter and maintain close cooperation;
- ☼ As a protective measure against government interference in the IOA's election process.

With this decision, the IOA is no longer entitled to exercise any activity or right, including financial support, conferred upon it by

the Olympic Charter or the IOC until the suspension is lifted by the IOC Executive Board.

In particular, the Executive Board confirms that the IOA is not entitled to hold any elections until all pending issues are resolved and the EB decides to lift the suspension.

On November 23, the IOC wrote to the IOA informing it that a proposal to suspend the IOA would be presented to the IOC Executive Board in Lausanne on December 4-5 unless the current situation was rectified.

"For more than two years, the IOC has expressed severe concerns about government interference in the IOA's upcoming election process," the IOC said in a statement.

ASIAN NOCS PRESENT IOC TROPHY FOR 2012



The head of state (right) receives the IOC Trophy in Mongolia.

The theme of the IOC Trophy for 2012 was "Sport and Sustainable Development" and several Asian National Olympic Committees have been busy presenting and promoting the award.

There could be no higher recipient in Mongolia than the President of the country, Tsakhia Elbegdorj, who was awarded the IOC Trophy for his tremendous contribution to the development of sport and the Olympic Movement throughout the country.

Mongolia NOC pointed out specifically the President's initiative in establishing a life-time Olympic stipend for medallists and also the bold ambition to bid for continental and Olympic Games.

The IOC Trophy was presented to the Head of State by Shagdarjav Magvan, IOC honorary member, accompanied by Dr Demchigjav Zagdsuren, NOC President, at a ceremony in the Presi-

dential Palace at Ulaanbaatar. In **Malaysia**, the IOC Trophy was awarded to the Olympic Council of Malaysia headquarters building, or Wisma OCM, in Kuala Lumpur.



Malaysia NOC said the development and management of Wisma OCM was an excellent model of sport and sustainable development, possible only through careful and clear strategy, planning, implementation and management.

NOC President and IOC member HRH Tunku Imran presented the IOC Trophy to NOC Deputy President Datuk A. Sani Karim at the NOC's 20th annual dinner.



In **Yemen**, sports personality Khaled Saleh Hussein was awarded the IOC Trophy at a ceremony attended by numerous dignitaries from the world of politics and sport, including the Minister of Youth and

Sport, Moammer Al-Iryani, and the President of the Yemeni NOC, Abdul-Rahman Al-Akwa'a.

Khaled Hussein received the award for his contribution to sport and his important role in the development of sports and physical education, as well as his support for people with a disability.



In **Hong Kong**, the IOC Trophy was presented to Mr A de O "Sonny" Sales, Honorary Life President of the Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China and Chairman of the Hong Kong Olympic Academy, in recognition of his remarkable six decades of service to the development of local and international sport.

Mr Sales has dedicated himself to sports development for over half a century, and his efforts have been recognised by governments and sports organisations for many years.

HAIYANG WINS AWARD IN CHINA

The Chinese Olympic Committee presented the 2012 IOC Trophy to the city of Haiyang in Shandong province for the successful hosting of the 3rd Asian Beach Games in June 2012.

COC President Liu Peng made the presentation to Deputy Mayor Gao Jingtao, who had earlier received the OCA Merit Award from OCA President Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahad Al Sabah at the 31st OCA General Assembly in Macau on November 8.



CANDIDATE CITIES DELIVER 2020 BID FILES TO IOC

Marking a key milestone in the run-up to the election of the 2020 Olympic Games host city this September, representatives from the three Candidate Cities – Istanbul, Tokyo and Madrid – delivered their Candidature Files to the IOC in Lausanne on January 7.

Olympic Games Executive Director Gilbert Felli and Head of Bid City Relations Jacqueline Barrett received the files from the three delegations.



The next step will be the visit of the IOC Evaluation Commission, chaired by IOC Vice President Sir Craig Reedie, to each of the bid cities in March.

The Commission will then prepare a detailed risk analysis and technical report that will be published to coincide with the 2020 Candidate Briefing for IOC members in Lausanne on July 3-4.

The Japanese delegation was led by Masato Mizuno, Tokyo 2020 CEO and Japanese Olympic Committee Vice President, and included Bid Ambassadors Homare Sawa, the women's football star, and Paralympic swimmer Takayuki Suzuki.

Tsunekazu Takeda, IOC Member and President of both the JOC and Tokyo 2020, said: "With the tremendous support of the people of Tokyo and across Japan, we have celebrated a memorable milestone with the submission of our Candidature File.

"Based on lessons from our bid for the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games, we have retained the best of that bid plan while adding important new strengths.

"Now that our Candidature File is complete, Tokyo is one step closer to implementing an innovative and inspiring Games plan. The Games in 2020 in Tokyo will offer athletes, spectators and Olympic and Paralympic Family members a true, once-in-a-lifetime experience."

Each Candidate City will deliver a final 45-minute presentation to the 125th IOC Session ahead of the vote on September 7, 2013, in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

IOC INSPECTION TOUR DATES

Tokyo:
March 4 – 7

Madrid:
March 18 – 21

Istanbul:
March 24 – 27



The Tokyo 2020 delegation invites the sports world to "Discover Tomorrow".

NOCS WORK TOGETHER TO STRENGTHEN OLYMPIC TIES

At the invitation of the Chinese Taipei Olympic Committee President, Thomas W. Tsai, China's Deputy Sports Minister and Vice President of the Chinese Olympic Committee, Yang Shu'an, led a delegation to Taipei for the annual Cross Strait NOC Forum on January 7.

The Forum has been held 16 consecutive years since 1997 in a spirit of trust and respect, setting a platform for the exchange of dialogue to strengthen mutual understanding.

The agenda for this year's Forum included reviewing Cross Strait exchange activities in 2012 and signing the memorandum for programmes in 2013.

During the one-week visit, the COC delegation also met with local sports leaders and visited the treasured National Palace

Museum, as well as some scenic spots in the eastern part of the country including Taroko in Hualien and Sansiantai in Taitung.



Hands across the Strait – Thomas W Tsai (left) and Yang Shu'an.

BAHRAIN: 'IRAQ NOC IN SAFE HANDS'

On the sidelines of the 21st Gulf Cup football tournament in Bahrain in January, the Bahrain Olympic Committee welcomed the President of the Iraq Olympic Committee, Raad Hamoudi, to BOC HQ and praised him for his positive contribution to the Olympic Movement and Arab sport.

Represented by Chief Executive Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, Secretary General Shaikh Ahmed bin Hamad Al Khalifa and other senior officials, the BOC noted the Iraqi NOC President's excellent relations with other sports leaders as well as his vision to boost the sports movement in Iraq.

The two parties discussed ways of cooperation and coordination between the Bahraini and Iraqi NOCs and how to improve sport in both countries. Hamoudi, a former national team goalkeeper and captain, was briefed on the new strategic plan of the BOC for the next four years and expressed his admiration for the projects.

The meeting was also attended by the BOC's Executive Director of Sports Affairs, Noaman Al Hassan, BOC adviser Jalil Assad and the Director of Information and Archive, Mohammed Lori.



Raad Hamoudi visits the Bahrain Olympic Committee.

SAUDI ARABIA-HUNGARY SIGN SPORTS DEAL

Prince Nawaf bin Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdulaziz, President General of the Youth Welfare of Saudi Arabia, and Hungary's Minister of Human Resources, Zoltan Balog, signed a joint statement in Budapest on December 15 to activate youth and sports cooperation between the two ministries.

After the signing ceremony, Prince Nawaf said both sides had discussed sports policies and ways of enhancing friendship and relations between the two countries.

Prince Nawaf said the statement included an agreement regarding developing direct relations between the sports federations and other sports and youth organisations as well as the National Olympic Committees of the two countries.



Prince Nawaf signs the joint statement in Budapest.

KUWAIT HOSTS ASIAN JUDO EX-CO MEETING

The Judo Union of Asia held a two-day Executive Committee meeting, chaired by JUA President Obaid Al Anzi, at the Kuwait Crowne Plaza Hotel on January 5-6.

The President of the International Judo Federation, Marius Vizer, attended the meeting and praised the "discipline, good education and respect" that exists within Asian judo. He believes Asia will be more successful in judo in the future due to its rising economic influence.

"Judo development in Asia has grown significantly in the past, and the IJF will strongly cooperate with the JUA as Asia is one of the most important federations regarding judo development," he said.

"Asia today has a lot more economic power than other regions. I think this is the foundation for judo development.

"I have no doubt that Asia will be more successful in the future because the Asian judo family has the discipline for positive leadership, good education and respect. These are the criteria for success."

The meeting awarded the hosting rights of five major competitions to the following cities or countries:

- ✱ 2013 Asian Judo Championships to Thailand
- ✱ 7th Asian Youth & 14th Asian Junior Judo Championships 2013 to China
- ✱ 2013 Asian Kata Championships to Singapore
- ✱ 8th Asian Youth & 15th Asian Junior Judo Championships 2014 to Hong Kong, China
- ✱ 2015 Asian Senior Judo Championships to Kuwait.



Obaid Al Anzi talks to the media.

OUT AND ABOUT IN THE WORLD OF SPORT



Aquatics: The International Swimming Federation (FINA) has named its female and male Athletes of The Year in its five aquatic disciplines. The winners include China's Wu Minxia in women's diving.

Rugby: The United Arab Emirates Rugby Federation has become a full member of the International Rugby Board, taking the number of member federations to 118.

Basketball: The Philippines is to host the International Basketball Federation's Asia Championship for the first time in 40 years, starting August 1, after the event was moved from Lebanon due to uncertainty over the current political situation in the region and the ongoing civil war in nearby Syria.

Curling: The World Curling Federation has announced that Beijing will host the 2014 World Men's Curling Championship from March 29 to April 6.

Football: The Uzbekistan Football Federation won the FIFA Fair Play award for 2012 at the FIFA Gala in Zurich.



Shooting: Mr E. Munkh-Ochir, Mongolia NOC Vice President and President of the Mongolian Shooting Sports Federation, and Sheikh Salman Al Sabah, President of the Asian Shooting Confederation, met in Kuwait during the ASC Executive Committee meeting on January 18 to discuss bilateral cooperation.

Sheikh Salman confirmed the financial support of the Kuwait Government for the construction of a modern shooting range in Ulaanbaatar.

Triathlon: The International Triathlon Union has partnered with Chain Reaction Cycles for the eight-leg 2013 ITU World Triathlon Series, which includes a stop in Yokohama, Japan.

Weightlifting: The International Weightlifting Federation, Asian Weightlifting Federation, Ministry of Youth and Sports and Iran Anti-Doping Organisation are among the patrons of the International Symposium on Anti-Doping and Sports Supplements in Weightlifting at Kish Island, Iran, on March 6-7. See: www.iads2013.ir



IOC President Jacques Rogge in Nanjing.

IOC PRESIDENT VISITS OLYMPIC HOST CITIES IN ASIA

IOC President Jacques Rogge visited East Asia from January 28-February 1 to check on preparations for the 2nd Youth Olympic Games in Nanjing, China, in 2014, and the Winter Olympics in PyeongChang, Korea, in 2018.

In Nanjing, a tour was arranged to the Youth Olympic Village, where more than 4,000 athletes and team officials will stay during the YOG. The IOC President commented: "Thanks to the tremendous efforts of the talented NYOGOC team, impressive progress has been made."

"I am in absolutely no doubt that the Nanjing 2014 Youth Olympic Games will be a great success and inspire young people from the city, nation and around the world to become more active in sport."

The IOC delegation moved from Nanjing to Seoul, Korea, where the IOC and PyeongChang 2018 Organising Committee signed the Marketing Plan Agreement which allows POCOG to start its marketing activities in earnest and, in particular, the recruitment of national partners.

Next on the agenda was a visit to the Korean Olympic Committee's new state-of-the-art National Training Centre in Jincheon, where the IOC delegation heard from KOC President Park Yong Sung about how the centre was helping to train the nation's top athletes.

President Rogge concluded his visit to Korea by awarding the Olympic Order in gold to the President of the Republic of Korea, Lee Myung-Bak. The ceremony followed the presentation of the Order of Sport Merit by President Lee to Rogge.

The IOC team also met with President-elect Park Geun-Hye before visiting the Blue House.

Speaking at the end of his visit, Rogge said: "Sport in Korea is clearly a national priority. The support from the highest levels of government is clear; the National Olympic Committee is investing heavily in the future of its athletes, and the PyeongChang 2018 Organising Committee is progressing well in its preparations for the Games."



IOC President Jacques Rogge visits PyeongChang.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETS IN BALI

The third meeting of the OCA International Relations Committee was held in Bali, Indonesia, on Sunday, December 9, 2012. The meeting was presided over by Mrs Rita Subowo, Chair of the International Relations Committee and President of the Indonesian Olympic Committee.

The committee discussed various issues concerning the Olympic Movement in Asia; committee members also conveyed their congratulations to the NOC of Kuwait for the lifting of the sanctions by the IOC and welcomed them back into the Olympic family.

The committee decided that the OCA International Relations Committee should work in close collaboration with the IOC's International Relations Commission to create young sports leaders. The committee also appreciated the efforts of OCA in starting the Youth Reporter Project, which was hosted by six Asian NOCs in 2012.

The committee strongly recommended that Asia should work as a team to ensure that

Asian sports are not excluded from the Sports Programme of the 2020 Olympic Games.

Finally, the committee congratulated Mr Syed Shahid Reza on being elected Secretary General of the Bangladesh Olympic Association.



The OCA International Relations Committee gathers in Bali.

SRI LANKA, CAMBODIA TO HOST OS/OCA FORUMS

The National Olympic Committees of Sri Lanka and Cambodia have been chosen to host the two Olympic Solidarity/OCA Regional Forums for 2013.

The NOCs from Central Asia, South Asia and West Asia will gather in the Sri Lankan capital Colombo for their Regional Forum on Friday and Saturday, March 22-23.

The OS/OCA roadshow will then move on to Cambodia, where the Regional Forum for NOCs from East Asia and South East Asia will take place at



Siem Reap Angkor on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 26-27.

The two Regional Forums will be of particular significance in 2013 as it is the first year of the new Olympic cycle (2013-2016) under the new Chairman of the IOC's Olympic Solidarity Commission, Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahad Al Sabah.

The main topics for the Regional Forums 2013 will be the presentation of the Olympic Solidarity Quadrennial Plan for 2013-2016 and progress reports from the organising committees of the 4th Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games Incheon 2013 and the 2nd Asian Youth Games Nanjing 2013.



ASIA IN WADA

OCA Executive Board member Dr M Jegathesan of Malaysia is one of 10 Asian representatives named to the four standing committees of the World Anti-Doping Agency for 2013. The full list is:

Athlete: Daichi Suzuki (Japan), Yang Yang (China).

Education: Fatima Al-Maiki (Qatar), Bader Al Saeed (Saudi Arabia), Yuan Hong (China), Gobinathan Nair (Singapore).
Observer: Park Joo Hee (Korea).

Finance and Administration: No Asian member.

Health, Medical and Research: Kamal Hadidi (Jordan), M. Jegathesan (Malaysia), Hidenori Suzuki (Japan).

OCA PICKS TAEKWONDO FOR 2013 YOUTH CAMP

The popular OCA Youth Camp is back at the start of a new Olympic cycle, with the fiery Korean martial art of Taekwondo the sport of choice for 2013.

The two-week residential youth camp will be held at the regular venue, the Sports Authority of Thailand (SAT) in Bangkok, and run from July 9-23.

The OCA invites all Asian NOCs to send two athletes (one male, one female) between the ages of 15 and 17, as well as one coach, to the camp, which will be conducted by international experts.

Participants will stay at a nearby hotel, just 15 minutes' walk from the SAT complex, and learn techniques and drills from some of the best in the business in order to prepare for international competition.



Taekwondo at the London Olympics.

OCA YOUTH REPORTERS TO ATTEND 2013 GAMES

As part of the Fun Run + Learn series in 2012, the OCA conducted the Youth Reporter Project with six National Olympic Committees: Mongolia, Oman, Malaysia, Uzbekistan, Sri Lanka and Macau.

Accompanied by a parent or guardian, the young students will report on the events for the OCA website (www.ocasia.org) and for Sporting Asia, as well as contribute articles to their own NOC media operations.



The six winners have been invited to attend one of the OCA's two main events in 2013: the 4th Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games in Incheon, Korea, or the 2nd Asian Youth Games in Nanjing, China.

With some sightseeing and behind-the-scenes activities as part of the itinerary, the OCA aims to provide an enjoyable and rewarding experience for the young reporters, and give them an insight into the work ahead at the 17th Asian Games in Incheon in 2014.

For a list of Fun Run + Learn dates for 2013, please refer to the OCA Diary on Page 32.



OCA Executive Board member Charles Lo Keng Chio (right) has received a decoration from the Macau Government for his outstanding contribution to sport. Mr Lo, who is President of the Sports and Olympic Committee of Macau, China, and Chairman of the OCA Media Committee, received the Medal of Merit – Sport at a special presentation on Friday, December 14. The OCA and Olympic Family in Asia congratulates Mr Lo on his well-deserved decoration.



AFGHANISTAN

The second Afghanistan NOC General Assembly and elections for the term 2012-2016 was held on Saturday, December 15, 2012, at the Hotel Serena in Kabul.

Of the 28 General Assembly members, 27 of them attended; only the cricket federation was absent.

Afghanistan NOC President Lt. Mohammad Zahir Aghbar opened the meeting and presented a brief report on the activities of the Afghanistan Olympic Committee during the past three years.

He said the Afghan NOC enjoyed excellent relations with international sporting bodies such as the IOC and OCA, resulting in the successful participation of Afghan athletes in the London Olympics and Asian Beach Games.

The General Assembly welcomed a further 27 new full members with voting rights, including sports federations and ministries, taking the total to 55 members, of which 28 are sports federations on the Olympic Games programme and 20 are non-Olympic sports federations.



In the three-way election for President, Lt. Mohammad Zahir Aghbar received 52 of the 54 votes to earn a clear mandate for four more years.

In the five-candidate election for NOC Secretary General, Mr. Jan Halam Hussaini (athletics federation) received 41 of the 54 votes.

There were two candidates for Treasurer, and Ms. Samir Asghari (basketball federation) prevailed with 28 of the 54 votes, three more than Mr. Abul Aziz Azizi (basketball federation).



BANGLADESH

The election of the Executive Committee of the Bangladesh Olympic Association was held on November 29, 2012, in Dhaka, reports the BOA Director General, Col. (Retd) M. Wali Ullah.

General Iqbal Karim Bhuiyan, psc was elected to the post of President of the BOA. The composition of the newly-elected office bearers of the Executive Committee is: President, General Iqbal Karim Bhuiyan, psc; Secretary General, Mr Syed Shahed Reza; Treasurer, Mr Kazi Rajib Uddin Ahmed Chapol. The NOC President is pictured (left) during Raja Randhir Singh's visit to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina.



UZBEKISTAN

The 15th General Assembly of NOC Uzbekistan was held in Tashkent on December 29, 2012. Reports on the NOC activities for the period 2009-2012, as well as the main tasks for the new Olympic cycle, were presented during the meeting.

Within the General Assembly, elections of NOC President and Secretary General took place. Mr Mirabror Usmanov was elected NOC President and Mr Oybek Kasimov was elected NOC Secretary General.





UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum was unanimously re-elected President of the UAE NOC for the term 2012–2016 at the 33rd General Assembly in Dubai on Wednesday, December 19, 2012.

Yousef Al Serkal also remained as Chairman of the Executive Office and Advisor Mohammad Kamali as Secretary-General.

HH Sheikh Ahmed expressed his satisfaction with the achievements of UAE sport in the past four years and thanked all the athletes who represented the UAE in the international arena.

“Reaching the podium and raising the calibre of our athletes requires determination, strong will and double the effort,” His Highness said.

“We will do our level best to continue supporting our sport and



athletes and will provide them with the appropriate conditions to bring more achievements to the UAE.”

For the full list of the Board of Directors, please see: www.uaenoc.net



MONGOLIA

The Mongolia NOC Elective Congress was held on December 19, 2012, in Ulaanbaatar.

The Congress was attended by 108 delegates from National Sports Federations, Olympic Branch Councils and Olympic medallists. The following office bearers and EB members were elected by democratic voting for the term 2012-2016:

President, Demchigjav Zagdsuren; First Vice President, Dambii Dorligjav; Vice Presidents (3), Tsend Damdin, Jambal Khatanbaatar, Enebish Munkh-Ochir; Members (6), Badmaanyambu Bat-Erdene, Tserenpil Davaasuren, Luvsan Khaltar, Shagdarjav Magvan, Dulam Sugar, Choiygavaa Zorigbaatar; Secretary-General, Jugder Otgontsagaan.



PHILIPPINES

The election of the Philippine Olympic Committee officials for 2013-2016 took place on November 30, 2012, at Alabang Country Club. The list of officials is:

Chairman, Tomas Carrasco (Triathlon); President, Jose Cojuangco Jr. (Equestrian); First Vice President, Jose Romasanta (Karate-do); Second Vice President, Antonio Tamayo (Soft Tennis); Treasurer, Julian Camacho (Wushu); Auditor, Prospero Pichay (Chess).

Board Members: Cynthia Carrion (Gymnastics), Jonne Go (Canoe Kayak), David Carter (Judo), Ernesto Echaz (Sailing).



AYG 'IMPORTANT FOR GROWTH' OF OLYMPIC MOVEMENT



The Chefs de Mission Seminar for the 2nd Asian Youth Games in Nanjing, China, this August was held on January 16-18 at the Hilton Wanda Hotel.

While the first day was taken up with protocol matters for the NOC delegates, the second day began with a venue tour, stopping off at the Athletes' Village at Nanjing University of Technology and the impressive Nanjing Olympic Sports Centre.

The rest of the Seminar was devoted to detailed presentations by various departments of organising committee NAYGOC, followed by question and answer sessions, summaries and a final analysis of the work ahead.

Speaking on behalf of the Chinese Olympic Committee, Vice President Yang Shu'an thanked the delegates for their support and cooperation.

"The Chinese Olympic Committee and Organising Committee are committed to doing our best to offer a high level and magnificent Asian Youth Games," said Yang, who is also China's Deputy Sports Minister.

"We need your help and we need your support. I believe through our joint efforts we will reach our target."

In his address at the Seminar Opening Ceremony, Yang said the

Asian Youth Games had quickly established itself as one of the most important and significant events on the OCA calendar.

"The Asian Youth Games are very important in promoting the Olympic Games as well as the activities of the Asian youth. It is very important for the growth of the Olympic Movement in Asia."



Sita Ram Maskey, Vice President of Nepal NOC, at the Athletes' Village.

Chefs de Mission Semina

第二届亚洲青年运动会代表团团长大会



The Opening Ceremony of the CDM Seminar in Nanjing.

WEI JIZHONG: ASIA'S MASTER CHEF (DE MISSION)

When Wei Jizhong speaks, people listen. He does not waste words. He speaks for all parties. And when he is satisfied an issue has been resolved he asks: "Agreed?" followed politely by "Thank you!" Here are some words of wisdom – Wei-isms, perhaps? – from the OCA Honorary Life Vice President's master class as CDM Seminar Chairman in Nanjing.

Wei on anti-doping:

Anti-doping education is very important because most of these athletes are not under the control of the national federations. The NOCs are responsible for providing some education in anti-doping to these young athletes to avoid any unnecessary case.

Wei on technical matters:

We will ask all the Asian sports federations to send their best technical officials because to conduct this kind of competition is, perhaps, more difficult than a high-level competition because the athlete has no experience. We have to teach them instead of punish them.

Wei on life experience:

All NOCs should try their best to bring more talented youth to these Games. Give them the chance to see the world and open new horizons. This will be very healthy and very helpful for their formation.

Wei on protecting the athletes:

The OCA, Organising Committee and NOCs have the responsibility to protect and guide the young athletes. Can they go out of the Athletes' Village? What should they wear when they go out? NOCs should take first responsibility to avoid any accident or incident during the Games.

Wei on victory ceremonies:

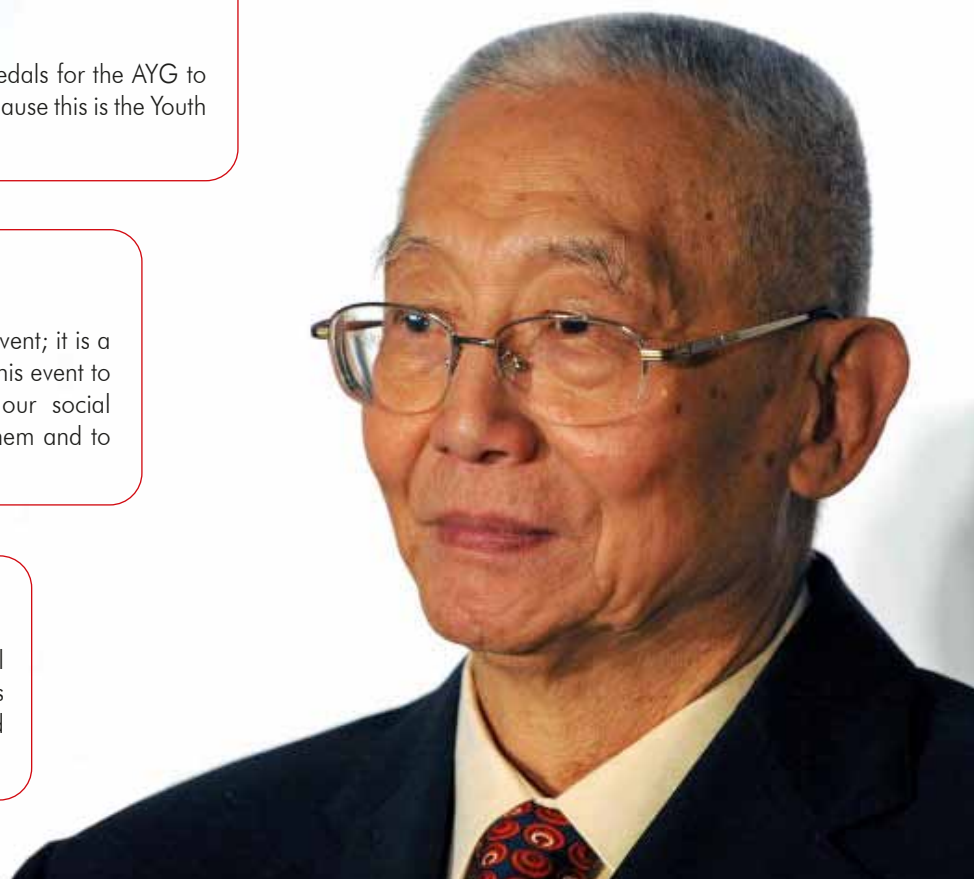
Teachers of the schools should present medals for the AYG to raise the social position of the teachers because this is the Youth Games.

Wei on the social benefits:

The AYG is not a commercialised sports event; it is a social welfare event. The NOCs can use this event to prepare their future generations. It is our social responsibility to form them, to motivate them and to educate them.

Wei on family matters:

All NOCs should guide their delegates well and give the families of the athletes confidence in us. We are their parents and we have to take care of them.



POSTCARDS FROM NANJING



Historical Nanjing.



Time for a snack for these youngsters.



Nice to meat you.



Nanjing - a cradle of learning.



Confucius Temple on the Qinhuai River.

NG - SEE YOU IN AUGUST!



A mobile flower market - on the back of a bicycle.



The scenic Qinhuai River.



A Nanjing resident reads all about the OCA.



Nanjing residents allow their cage birds to sing in the sunshine.



Raise the Red Lantern.

NANJING NOTICE BOARD

Dates

Opening Ceremony: Friday,
August 16 (8pm, 100 minutes)
Closing Ceremony: Saturday,
August 24 (8pm, 60 minutes)
Venue: Nanjing Olympic Sports
Centre Gymnasium

Participants

Athletes: 2,300 from 45 NOCs
Officials: 1,200 from 45 NOCs
Total: 3,500 (approx)

Age Limits

From 14-17
Born between:
January 1, 1996, and
December 31, 1999
See: Sports Entries Guide



Sports Entries

By Sport: October 8, 2012
By Number: April 15, 2013
By Name: June 25, 2013

Doping Control

Period of operation: August 12-24
Doping Control Stations: 11

Venues

Competition and training: 17
Training only: 7
Total: 24
All renovation, construction work to be
finished by April. All venues within
30-minute drive of Athletes' Village

Accreditation

Opens: February 1
Closes: April 30
Accreditation Centres: 14
AD Card Entry Visa applies:
July 16-September 24, 2013

Sports and Events

Aquatics - Diving: 4
Aquatics - Swimming: 30
Athletics: 34
Badminton: 3
Basketball (3x3): 2
Fencing: 6
Football: 1
Golf: 2
Handball: 2
Judo: 6
Rugby Sevens: 2
Shooting: 8
Squash: 4
Table Tennis: 2
Tennis: 3
Weightlifting: 9

Total: 118 gold medals

Team Welcome Ceremony

From: August 12-15, 9am-6pm
At: Flag Mall, Athletes' Village



Athlete Biographies

Send to NAYGOC by: June 25

Medical Services

From: August 8-26
Over 700 volunteers
Designated hospitals: 25

Athletes' Village

Pukou Campus,
Nanjing University of Technology
12km from Olympic Sports Centre
Accommodates: 3,500
In: 22 new apartment blocks
Pre-opens: August 8
Officially opens: August 12
Closes: August 26
Finished by: April 2013

LOCAL PRIDE BRINGS XU JUN HOME TO NANJING

When Nanjing native Xu Jun heard that the Youth Olympic Games were coming to her hometown in 2014, she decided to end her overseas adventure and follow her heart back to China.

Miss Xu, who now works for organising committee NAYGOC, was born and raised in Nanjing before spending eight years studying and working in Europe and Canada.

"But I always missed my lovely hometown and wanted to contribute something to Nanjing," she says.

"In February 2010, Nanjing was announced as the winner to host the 2nd Summer Youth Olympic Games in 2014, and I witnessed this moment in Vancouver. Nanjing is also the host city for the 2nd Asian Youth Games in 2013.

"I am so excited about the Games and dreamed about working for the NAYGOC. So I decided to come back to my hometown Nanjing."

In 2012, NAYGOC launched a recruitment programme for assistant directors, and Miss Xu was hired to work in the International Relations Department.

"My dream came true and I really enjoy working in

NAYGOC," she adds. "After travelling around the world for so long, finally I have a chance to contribute to my hometown, for the 2nd Asian Youth Games, Nanjing 2013."



Xu Jun with Nanjing AYG mascot Yuanyuan.

CEP GOES HAND IN HAND WITH AYG

The rise of the Olympic youth movement has been accompanied all the way by the innovative CEP – Culture and Education Programme.

The 2nd AYG in Nanjing this August plans to build on the success of the inaugural event in Singapore in 2009 and offer a wide range of CEP activities for athletes, officials and guests alike.

At the heart of the CEP will be the Asian Culture Village in the Athletes' Village at Nanjing University of Technology.

As part of the cultural exchange initiative associated with the AYG, one school in each of the OCA's 45 countries and regions has been twinned with a school in Nanjing, and the young Chinese students will have the responsibility of decorating a booth representing their adopted country or region.

Games, handicrafts, art and cultural performances will create an inter-active environment for visitors to the booth, and a chance for young Asian athletes to learn more about the diverse culture from all corners of the continent.

As part of the education programme, there will be exhibits focusing on anti-doping and clean sport, the threat of illegal betting and the importance of fair play.

Another aspect of the CEP will be the "Touch Nanjing" project with the emphasis on the environment and eco-friendly agriculture, to be held at the Xing Zhi Learning Base in Nanjing.



So much to see in Nanjing.



ALL ABOUT AIMAG

Dates: June 29-July 6, 2013 (8 days)
Location: Incheon Metropolitan City, Korea

Athletes: 1,700
Officials: 700
Guests: 1,000
Media: 1,000

Accreditation

Opened: November 2, 2012
Closed: February 15, 2013
AD Card Multi Entry Visa Validity: May 30-July 21, 2013 (53 days)

Sports (9) and Events (100):

- 1: Billiard Sports - 10
- 2: Bowling - 6
- 3: Chess - 4, Baduk (Go) - 4, E-Sports - 6
- 4: Dance Sport - 10
- 5: Futsal - 2
- 6: Indoor Kabaddi - 2
- 7: Kickboxing - 9 and Muay - 9
- 8: Kurash - 8
- 9: Short-course (25m) Swimming - 30

Competition Venues: 9

Training Venues: 6

Entry By Sport: October 31, 2012

Entry By Number: March 15, 2013

Entry By Name: May 15, 2013

Medical Service

From June 24-July 8

Medical Stations: 18

Hospitals: 10

Doping Control

From June 24-July 6

DC Stations: 10

Workforce: 136

AIMAG OPENS NEW ERA FOR OCA



When the Olympic Council of Asia decided six major multi-sports events was just too much, something had to go. Or did it?

The solution was to combine the Asian Indoor Games with the Asian Martial Arts Games and come up with a formula to protect and promote the best of both events.

Welcome to the new-look Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games, where the likes of Chess and Dance Sport share the same exotic bill as Kickboxing and Muay.

"As this is the first event which merges the pre-existing Asian

Indoor Games with the Asian Martial Arts Games, it is very meaningful to host the 4th Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games in Incheon," Kim Young Soo, President of organising committee IAGOC, told delegates at the Chefs de Mission Seminar on November 23, 2012.

"The 4th Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games will provide important momentum for Incheon as it plays the role as a pre-event for the 17th Asian Games in 2014. Under the slogan of 'Diversity Shines Here', IAGOC has made its utmost efforts to host the Games in the spirit of peace and harmony."

So while the 4th AIMAG opens a new era for the OCA, it also builds on the legacy of the previous three Asian Indoor Games (Bangkok 2005, Macau 2007 and Hanoi 2009) and the solitary Asian Martial Arts Games (Bangkok 2009).



AIMAG Chefs de Mission delegates enjoy their Incheon venue tour.

VENUE TOUR FOCUSES ON ATHLETES

The most important people of any multi-sport games – the athletes – were the primary focus of the afternoon venue tour.

The first stop was the Incheon Samsan World Gymnasium, venue for the opening ceremony on June 29 and closing ceremony on July 6, as well as the dance sport and electronic-sports events.

Built in 2006 and home to a professional basketball team, the gymnasium has a seating capacity of 7,400, although this will be reduced to 4,800 for the two ceremonies to allow more floor space for the performers and the athletes' parade.

From there the delegates were transported to the Songdo International Business District - location of the Athletes' Village consisting of two university dormitories and a central area, the POSCO Research and Development Centre, for the International Zone.

Residential Zone A, Yonsei University International Campus, will accommodate 1,400 people in 700 rooms, while Residential Zone B, Global University Campus, will accommodate 1,100 people in single rooms.

Each Residential Zone has its own dining hall and other facilities, including coffee shop, fitness centre and internet room.

Ahmed Marzooq, Secretary General of the Maldives Olympic Committee, was very impressed with the tour.

"I think the organisers are doing a great job," he said. "The Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games is on a smaller scale than the Asian Games, so it is good to see them using stadiums and accommodation that already exist."

"The gymnasium for the opening and closing ceremony is very compact so I am sure it will produce a good atmosphere, and the university campuses were very clean, bright and homely, more like a hotel, and close together. I am sure they will provide a nice environment for the athletes."



Bahram Afsharzadeh tests the fitness centre at the Athletes' Village.

THAI'S TIES THAT BIND

The ties between Maj. Gen. Charouck Arirachakaran, Vice President and Secretary General of NOC Thailand, and Korea go back much further than the OCA's 10th Asian Games in Seoul in 1986 and the 1988 Olympics.

During his speech at the gala dinner on November 23, the OCA Vice President told guests that his first visit to Seoul had been in 1950-51, at the start of the Korean War (1950-1953).

"This is my life in Korea, and now, after many more visits, I can say I have made some good friends here," said Gen. Charouck. "Our Korean friends have so much knowledge of how to organise the Games."



Maj. Gen. Charouck Arirachakaran (left) with Thana Chaiprasit of NOC Thailand.

HOME SWEET HOME FOR ASIAN NOCS

Delegates at the Chefs de Mission Seminar for the 4th Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games in Incheon must have felt right at home during a visit to a sports, leisure and tourism fair on Friday, November 23.

There to greet the guests from overseas on the opening morning of the fair was a series of booths and exhibition stands promoting the various countries and regions of Asia.

With publicity materials and other hand-outs available, the displays not only brought a touch of pride to the visitors but also provided a gateway into the culture and attractions of the destinations to local residents.

Organisers of the 4th AIMAG and 17th Asian Games in 2014 naturally took full advantage of the occasion to promote their two events to all-comers.

The three seal mascots were popular targets for souvenir photo shoots, as were stamps, postcards, stickers and Asian Games transfers, which looked particularly eye-catching when decorating the back of a hand.

Visitors could also try their hand in a wide range of sports, and celebrity athletes from billiards and baseball were due to make a guest appearance later in the three-day fair to further boost interest in the two OCA events.

The fair was held at the Songdo Convensia, location for the Main Media Centre at Games time.



An Asian Games supporter shows off her handy work.



Tay Lida (NOC Cambodia) and her envoy meet the mascots.



These schoolgirls give their stamp of approval to the Asian Games.



Malaysia NOC delegates feel at home in Korea.

IAGOC ADDS SOME PUNCH TO AMBASSADOR PROGRAMME

The 2014 Incheon Asian Games Organising Committee (IAGOC) appointed actress and boxer Lee Si Young as a goodwill ambassador for the 17th Asian Games 2014 during a ceremony on January 2.

In a statement, IAGOC said: "Ms. Lee has been chosen as the seventh goodwill ambassador for the 17th Asian Games in 2014 because she is not only a well-known actress but also a rising boxing star in Korea." At the ceremony, Lee promised she would do her best to promote the city of Incheon and the Asian Games.

She added: "If I have the chance I hope to compete in Incheon 2014 representing Korea."

Lee would need to gain some weight, however, if she hopes to make the Korean team for the 17th Asian Games, as the lightest women's boxing category at Incheon 2014 is under 51kg compared to her current fighting weight of under 48kg.

The 17th Asian Games will run from September 19 to October 4, 2014, and feature 437 events in 36 sports.



Lee Si Young with IAGOC President Kim Young Soo.

IAGOC PRESIDENT GREETES SINGAPORE AMBASSADOR

The President of the 2014 Incheon Asian Games Organising Committee (IAGOC), Kim Young Soo, received a courtesy call from the Singapore Ambassador, Peter Tan Hai Chuan, on Thursday, January 24.

During his conversation with Ambassador Tan, President Kim expressed his gratitude for the cooperation and support of the Singapore National Olympic Council, including the visit of many technical delegates to IAGOC last year.

IAGOC President Kim also promised full support for the Singapore national team to achieve their best performance ever in the 2013 Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games and 2014 Incheon Asian Games.

Ambassador Tan pledged his support and cooperation in promoting both the Games to the people of Singapore so that many tourists will visit Incheon during the Games period.



IAGOC President Kim Young Soo with Singapore Ambassador Peter Tan Hai Chuan.

BAHRAIN TO HOST 3RD GCC WOMEN'S GAMES

The women's sports movement in the Gulf region continues to flourish thanks to the efforts and initiatives of NOCs around the region.

The next step is the 3rd Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Women's Sport Games, which will be held in Bahrain from March 3-13 and feature nine sports: football, volleyball, basketball, bowling, athletics, disabled athletics, table tennis, shooting and taekwondo.

The General Secretary of the Bahrain Olympic Committee, Shaikh Ahmed bin Hamad Al Khalifa, says the Kingdom is proud to organise the event and that no effort will be spared in making the Games a big success.



The Executive Committee is led by Shaikha Hayat bint Abdulaziz Al Khalifa, a member of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports and Bahrain Olympic Committee women's committee chairwoman.

Shaikha Hayat is confident the Games will add another feather in the cap for Bahrain as a top-class host of regional and international sporting events.



In the build-up to the Games, Shaikha Hayat attended a two-day Doping Control Officers Training Workshop on February 2-3, which was supervised by the GCC and Yemen Regional Anti-Doping Organisation (RADO) and attended by 25 female participants.



The Doping Control Officers Training Workshop in Manama.

IOC PRESIDENT'S TROPHY BRINGS PRIDE TO UAE

The IOC President's Trophy has been awarded to Her Highness Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak, Mother of United Arab Emirates Nation, reports the IOC website (www.olympic.org).

IOC President Dr Jacques Rogge said the Trophy was awarded to Her Highness for outstanding merit in the development of sport, notably her dedication to the advancement of women in sport.

Her Highness serves as Chairwoman of the Board of Directors of the Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak Ladies Sports Academy and has inspired the launch of an annual international award for female athletes in her name as part of a series of initiatives to promote and develop the cause of women in sport.

INDONESIA NOC PROMOTES WOMEN IN SPORT

The Indonesian Olympic Committee conducted an IOC Sports Administration Course in its offices in Jakarta from December 3-7, 2012.

This was the third sports administration course of the year and the first exclusively for female sports administrators as part of the Women in Sport programme.

The course was opened by NOC President and OCA Executive Board member Mrs Rita Subowo, who also presented a lecture on Youth and Olympism.



Course participants in Jakarta.



Afghanistan

The Khorasan rugby team left Kabul to attend a 15-day training camp in Delhi before playing a series of friendly matches against Indian teams. According to a report by the National Olympic Committee to Bakhtar News Agency, 20 players and a coach were in the tour party representing Afghanistan.



Bahrain



Bahrain Olympic Committee Chief Executive Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa welcomed the former England and Everton footballer Trevor Steven to his office in Manama in late January. Steven, who now works as an analyst for RTÉ Sport in Ireland, was on a visit to the kingdom. They discussed sports development in Bahrain, particularly in relation to football.



Bangladesh

The handover ceremony of the IOC-donated minivan was held at the Olympic Bhaban, Dhaka, on January 23. Raja Randhir Singh, IOC Member and OCA Secretary General, graced the occasion as Chief Guest and handed over the minivan to General Iqbal Karim Bhuiyan, psc, President of Bangladesh Olympic Association.

BOA Secretary General Syed Shahed Reza, former BOA President General (Retd) Md Abdul Mubeen, BOA Executive Committee members and presidents and general secretaries of various national federations also attended. Later, Raja Randhir met with H.E. Sheikh Hasina, the Prime Minister of Bangladesh.

(www.nocban.com)



Bhutan

The eagerly-awaited artificial turf football pitch was officially inaugurated on December 15 by HRH Prince Jigyel Ugyen Wangchuck, President of the Bhutan Olympic Committee, in a traditional "marchang" ceremony attended by FIFA delegates and government officials. NOC staff then joined in a friendly match to celebrate the occasion.

(www.bhutanolympiccommittee.org)



Brunei Darussalam

The Bruneian trio participating in the PyeongChang 2018 Dream Programme in January returned home with one gold and one silver medal from an Alpine Skiing beginners' competition. Runner Md Shahriffuddin Salleh (gold), golfer Md Qazzri Fakhri Hj Aslimon (silver) and swimmer Florence Sea Wern Lyn participated in the Winter Olympics youth festival, which featured over 150 athletes from 40 countries.

(www.bruneiolympic.org)



Cambodia

The NOC of Cambodia held a seminar on sports reporting on January 14-15. Many members of the sports media attended and heard presentations from baseball and golf officials. Ken Gadaffi, Adviser to the NOC, explained that all members of the sports media needed to have a good relationship with the NOC and the National Sport Federations.

(www.noccamboia.org)



China

China's Sports Minister and NOC President, Liu Peng, met with Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahad Al Sabah, President of ANOC and OCA, in Beijing on February 5.



Liu Peng thanked Sheikh Ahmad for the OCA's long and loyal support of the Chinese Olympic Committee and Chinese sport in general. He briefed the visitors about China's preparations for the 2nd Asian Youth Games in Nanjing from August 16-24, 2013.

The OCA President spoke highly of China's tremendous contributions to the Olympic Movement in Asia, and believed the Nanjing AYG 2013 will be crowned with success.

(www.olympic.cn)

News and Sport from 45 NOCs



DPR Korea



The Korean Central News Agency reports that the best athletes of 2012 in the DPRK include weightlifters Kim Un Guk and Rim Jong Sim and judoka An Kum Ae. All three won gold medals at the London Olympics.

(www.kcna.kp)



Hong Kong, China



The NOC launched the Panasonic Sports Scholarship Programme on January 29, organised jointly with the Shun Hing Group. The aim of the programme is to assist athletes to prepare for the Incheon Asian Games in 2014. Ten athletes will be selected and each athlete will receive a total of HK\$150,000 (US\$20,000) over 18 months from May 2013 to October 2014. The awardees list will be announced in April.

(www.hkolympic.org)



India

Despite the IOC suspension of the Indian Olympic Association, the OCA has confirmed that Indian athletes will still be allowed to compete in OCA events this year, but under the IOC flag and Olympic hymn.



Indonesia

The Indonesian Olympic Committee hosted a Sports Science Seminar entitled "Making Good Athletes Great", presented by Dr David Martin, a senior sports physiologist from the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra. The seminar on November 29 was attended by 140 sports coaches and managers.



The following day, Dr Martin participated in a workshop with 30 senior coaches and managers of the Indonesian High Performance Programme (PRIMA). This seminar was chaired by Mr Aslizar Tanjung, Head of the Sport Development Commission of the Indonesian Olympic Committee.

(www.olympic.or.id)



Iran

Iran's four-time heavyweight world champion Hossein Rezazadeh was honored during the closing ceremony of the International Weightlifting Federation meeting in Baku, Azerbaijan Republic in December. A plaque of honour was awarded to the Iranian champion, who won several gold medals in various international events, including the Sydney and Athens Olympics.

(www.olympic.ir)



Iraq

The southern city of Basra will host the 22nd Gulf Cup football tournament in 2015 after the 2013 edition was switched to Bahrain, the GCC Football Organising Committee announced on the sidelines of the 21st Gulf Cup from January 5-18 in Manama.



Japan

New Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, a former archer from his university days and current Chairman of the All Japan Archery Federation, took over as Tokyo 2020 Supreme Advisor on January 8.

The appointment came during a visit by a Tokyo 2020 delegation led by Tsunekazu Takeda, IOC Member and President of the Japanese Olympic Committee and Tokyo 2020.

(www.joc.or.jp)



Jordan

The Jordan Olympic Committee held its board meeting under the presidency of HRH Prince Feisal Al Hussein. The board commissioned two reports.

The first will study the impact that the introduction of health insurance has had on the national teams during 2012. The second will measure the popularity of Jujitsu as a sport in Jordan as it moves towards trying to establish a permanent federation.

Meanwhile, the Government has approved a 10,400,000JD budget for the JOC in 2013, a reduction from 2012 which will result in a 10% cut in funding across the board this year for all sports federations.

(www.joc.jo)



Kazakhstan

Almaty will host the Asian International Taekwon-Do Federation (ITF) Official International Instructors' Course from April 26-28 conducted by ITF Grand Master Hector Marano (9th Dan) from Argentina and Grand Master Ung Kim Lan (9th Dan) from Germany.



Korea

Putting behind an illustrious weightlifting career, Jang Mi-ran says that her next goal is to be an elected member of the International Olympic Committee, reports Yonhap News Agency. "I will try to be an IOC member," Jang said at her retirement ceremony at Goyang City Hall, west of Seoul. "I'd like to serve the community from a better platform."

Jang will be remembered as one of the most decorated weightlifters in the sport's history, having won an Olympic gold medal and four world championships in the heaviest division for female lifters, over-75 kilograms.

She has also won an Asian Games gold and an Asian championship title.



Kuwait

The late Sheikh Fahad Al-Salem Al-Sabah Gulf Women's Shooting Tournament came to a close on Saturday, January 12, under the patronage of Sheikha Latifa Al-Fahad, reports the Kuwait Times. Over 100 Gulf shooters participated in the Skeet, Trap, 10m Air Pistol and Rifle events. The results were promising and showed that female Gulf shooters have a bright future ahead of them.



Kyrgyzstan

Rulon Gardner (United States), an Olympic champion in Greco-Roman wrestling, held a master class for students of children's sports schools of Bishkek, the press service of the Bishkek Mayor's Office reports. The event was organised by the Bishkek City Committee for Physical Culture and Sports and the Ministry of Youth and Employment. Gardner won a gold medal at the Sydney Olympics in 2000. (www.kabar.kg)



Laos

Laos will be one of nine countries attending the fifth ASEAN School Games in Hanoi, Vietnam, from June 22-30, reports Xinhua News. The event is expected to attract 1,500 athletes and coaches from Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Students will compete in track and field, sepak-takraw, swimming, badminton, basketball, gymnastics, table tennis, volleyball and pencak silat.



Lebanon

Sports and Youth Minister Faysal Karami received at his office a delegation from the Lebanese Ghanaian Friendship Association, reports the National News Agency. The delegation informed the minister of the association's preparations for a sports festival that will be held by the association from March 8-12, and thanked him for his support.



Macau, China

To acknowledge the outstanding achievements of athletes who participated in international competitions in 2012, the Macau Sport Development Board hosted the "Award Ceremony of Bonuses and Certificates of Merit in Sports to Outstanding Athletes and Coaches for 2012" on January 11 at the banquet hall of the Fisherman's Wharf Conference and Exhibition Centre.

(www.sport.gov.mo)



Malaysia

The Olympic Council of Malaysia wishes to congratulate former national badminton star Rosalind Singa Ang, who was awarded the Darjah Setia DiRaja Kedah (DSDK) - which carries the title Dato' - by DYMM Sultan Kedah on the occasion of the 85th birthday of DYMM Sultan Kedah on January 20. Rosalind represented Malaysia from 1964 to 1975 and won an array of medals at regional, Asian and Commonwealth levels.

News and Sport from 45 NOCs



Maldives



The Maldives Olympic Committee, in conjunction with Olympic Solidarity, conducted a High Level Seminar on Sport Coaching from January 7-10. Top-level local coaches from all the National Sports Associations and clubs took part in the seminar. The HLSSC contained a series of eight coach education workshops. The NOC thanks all the participants and Professor Robyn Jones for their commitment in making this seminar a huge success.

(www.nocmaldives.org)



Mongolia

The NOC Executive Board has appointed the following Chefs de Mission for upcoming Games: Mr. Ts. Damdin (4th Asian Indoor & Martial Arts Games in Incheon), Mr. Ch. Zorigtbaatar (2nd Asian Youth Games in Nanjing); Mr. E. Munkh-Ochir (6th East Asian Games in Tianjin, China); and Mr. D. Dorligjav, NOC First Vice President, for the Rio 2016 Summer Olympics.



Myanmar

The Myanmar Olympic Committee hosted the second round of meetings of the SEA Games Federation ahead of the 27th SEA Games in Nay Pyi Taw this December. The meetings took place on January 28-29, including the SEA Games Federation Council on the second day. The SEA Games are due to open on 11-12-13 - December 11, 2013.



Nepal

Sita Ram Maskey, Vice President of Nepal Olympic Committee, attended the Chefs de Mission Seminar for the 2nd Asian Youth Games in Nanjing, China, in January. He was also Chef de Mission for the Nepal delegation at the Beijing Olympics in 2008.

(www.nocnepal.org.np)



Oman

By holding its first Oman Sports Exhibition and Conference from February 4-6, the Ministry of Sports Affairs (MoSA) aims to make the Sultanate a global sporting destination, according to Fahad Al Raisi, Director of Sports Development and Welfare, reports the Times of Oman.



Pakistan

Khan Research Laboratory won the 9th Pakistan Premier Football League title with 70 points from 30 matches. Karachi Electric Supply Company and Muslim FC Chaman finished second and third, each with 62 points. (www.nocpakistan.org)



Palestine



His Excellency Sheikh Saoud Bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, Secretary General of Qatar Olympic Committee, welcomed Major-General Jibril Rajoub, President of Palestine Olympic Committee, to the QOC HQ on Monday, January 21. Maj. Gen. Rajoub, who was on an official visit to Qatar, applauded the country's comprehensive sports development and ambitious strategy. (www.qatarolympics.org)



Philippines

For the new First Vice President of the Philippine Olympic Committee, Joey Romasanta, the top priority should be the 27th SEA Games in Myanmar in December 2013. "How can you win a medal in the Olympics or even contend against the top countries in the Asian Games if you can't even beat the best in the SEA Games," he said.

Over 140 priority athletes selected by the Philippine Sports Commission began training in January for the SEA Games. The government agency is targeting between 60 and 70 gold medals in Myanmar, reports the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

(www.olympic.ph)



Qatar

The Qatar Olympic Committee held a workshop for its leading cadres entitled "Key Performance Indicators" at the Saint Regis Hotel in Doha on January 23. The training workshop was designed to maximise the potential of the staff and boost their skills and creativity within the framework of the QOC team.

His Excellency Sheikh Saoud bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, QOC Secretary General, the Assistants-Secretary General, directors of departments and heads of sections and units attended the workshop.

(www.qatarolympics.org)



Saudi Arabia

Prince Nawaf bin Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdulaziz, General President of Youth Welfare, attended a ceremony in Dammam organised by the National Honouring Committee in the Eastern Region at Al-Nahdha Sports Stadium in honour of sportsmen on the occasion of the Prince's visit to the region, reports the Saudi Press Agency.

Addressing the ceremony, the Prince commended the Government of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and the Crown Prince for its great support for the sports and youth sectors in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

(www.saudiolympic.org.sa)



Singapore

The Singapore National Olympic Council, in partnership with Canon, Samsung and SingTel, presented a training and development grant to seven promising athletes: Geraldine Lee (canoeing), Lim Heem Wei (gymnastics), Joseph Schooling (swimming), Jasmine Ser (shooting), Tao Li (swimming), Derek Wong (badminton) and Gary Yeo (athletics).



Ng Ser Miang, Vice President of the IOC, Vice President of the Singapore NOC and Singapore NOC Marketing Committee Chairman, thanked the sponsors for collaborating with the NOC to support Singapore's athletes in their pursuit of excellence.

(www.snoc.org.sg)



Sri Lanka



Sri Lanka was invited to participate in the PyeongChang 2018 Dream Programme for the first time this year and the NOC selected three athletes to attend the international training camp: Rakhil Chandiram (12), Jai Mutthumani (12) and Sarini Wijekoon (14). The youngsters had a unique opportunity to try their hand at snowboarding at the Alpensia Resort, home of the 2018 Winter Olympics in Gangwon Province.

(www.srilankaolympic.org)



Syria

The Syrian national chess team won five medals - two gold, two silver and one bronze - in the Mediterranean Championships which concluded on Sunday, January 27 in Beirut, Lebanon. The gold medals were won by Juan Bakr and Bashir Aiti, the silver medals by Bashir Aiti and Rita Yaghi and the bronze by Fatima al-Jaldeh.

Syria, Tunisia, Libya, Palestine, Greece, Malta and Lebanon participated in the championship, reports the Syrian Arab News Agency.



Chinese Taipei



The Chinese Taipei Olympic Committee organised a ceremony at the CTOC General Assembly on January 24 to award London Olympic medalist pins to Ms. Shu-Ching Hsu (weightlifting, silver) and Ms. Li-Cheng Tseng (taekwondo, bronze). Mr. Thomas Tsai, President of Chinese Taipei NOC, and Dr. Jow-Fei Ho, Director General of Sports Administration, Ministry of Education, presented the pins.

(www.tpenoc.net)



Tajikistan

The Asia-Plus Media Group of Tajikistan reports that the Committee for Youth, Sports and Tourism Affairs told a press conference in Dushanbe on January 7 that in 2012 Tajik athletes participated in 77 international competitions and won a total of 406 medals: 106 gold, 117 silver and 183 bronze.

News and Sport from 45 NOCs



Thailand

Three Thai athletes who won medals in London - Kaeo Pongprayoon (boxing), Pimsiri Sirikaew (women's weightlifting) and Chanatip Sonkham (women's taekwondo) - received their Olympic Games lapel pins at a ceremony attended by the NOC President, Vice Presidents, Secretary General and members of the Executive Board as well as presidents of national sports federations, Olympians and media representatives.

(www.olympicthai.or.th)



Timor Leste

Young athletes from Timor Leste took part in the Dream Programme of PyeongChang 2018 for the first time in January. The international youth camp, which was established in 2004, is for youngsters from countries and regions that have no snow and little opportunity to join winter sports.



Turkmenistan

Turkmen kickboxers won three medals at the Asian Championships in Pune, India, including a gold for Hudayguly Komekov in full contact, 51kg class. The Turkmen kickboxers face serious challenges in the international arena this year, including the 4th Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games in Incheon starting June 29. Turkmenistan will host the 5th AIMAG in 2017 in the capital Ashgabat.



United Arab Emirates



His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of Dubai Sports Council, patron of the Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Creative Sports Award, received FIFA President Sepp Blatter in the presence of HH Sheikh Ahmed bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Chairman of the Award and NOC President, and HE Yousef Al Serkal, NOC Deputy Chairman, on the occasion of the fourth edition of the awards in Dubai.

(www.uaenoc.net)



Uzbekistan



The International Judo Federation, in conjunction with the Asian Judo Union, Ministry of Culture and Sports and Judo Federation of Uzbekistan, organised an international seminar attended by 80 referees and coaches from more than 20 countries of Asia and Oceania. Referees and trainers were introduced to a number of changes and additions made to the assessment of competitions in judo, weight measurement and calculation of rating points, reports the Uzbekistan National News Agency.



Vietnam



Gymnast Phan Thi Ha Thanh, 21, has been named Vietnam's Athlete of the Year for the second straight year. She earned the award from The Thao Vietnam (Vietnam Sports) newspaper - the award's organisers - under the direction of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, the General Department of Physical Training and Sports, the Vietnam Olympics Committee and the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union Central Committee, reports VnnNews.net.



Yemen

Yemen found the opposition too strong in the 21st Gulf Cup football tournament in Bahrain, losing all three group matches to Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Iraq by the identical 0-2 score. UAE went on to beat Iraq in the final of the tournament, which was held from January 5-18.

OCA MOURNS LOSS OF LOYAL STAFF MEMBER 'NAJUM'

The Olympic Council of Asia was deeply saddened to announce that one of its most senior staff members, Anjum Raza Shah, passed away at the age of 54 on December 16.

Najum, as he was affectionately known, started working for the OCA in 1995 in the public relations department and was a member of the organising team for each Asian Games since then.

During his 18 years with the OCA he distinguished himself with his pleasant, enthusiastic manner and his continuous high-quality performance.

OCA President Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahad Al Sabah expressed his condolences to Najum's family and friends.

"We have lost a friend and colleague who always worked towards the goal of becoming better in everything he did for the Olympic Council of Asia and for Asian sport," said Sheikh Ahmad.

"His enthusiasm was and remains a guide for us to continue working for our Olympic Movement in Asia."

Najum, who was the founder of cricket in Kuwait in the 1990s, was the father of three daughters and two sons.



Maurice Herzog

IOC honorary member Maurice Herzog has died at the age of 93. He became an IOC member in 1970 and served as IOC Head of Protocol from 1975 to 1978 as well as on several commissions. He was made an honorary member in 1995.

He also served as French Secretary of State for Youth and Sport from 1958 to 1965.



Tun Lim Keng Yaik

Malaysia NOC reports the passing of Tun Lim Keng Yaik, who died peacefully on December 22. He was 73.

Tun Lim was the First Vice President of the International Wushu Federation from 1990 to 2012. He was President of the Wushu Federation of Malaysia from 1988 to 1994, and served as Honorary Life President since then.

Tun Lim is survived by his wife, Toh Puan Wong Yoon Chuan, and three children.

Mongolia NOC has announced the passing of two Olympians.

Soli Magsar

69, was a world-respected wrestling coach in the 1960s and 1970s. Under his coaching the Mongolian national freestyle wrestling team won its first-ever gold, silver and bronze medals in World Championships and Olympic Games. He was a former international referee and Secretary-General of Mongolia NOC from 1990 to 1993.

Mendbayar Jantsankhorloo

71, was a four-time Olympic rifle shooter and a former world record holder. He was formerly head coach of the national team and Secretary-General of the Mongolian Shooting Sports Federation, NOC member and international referee.



Mohammad Abu Awad

Jordan NOC paid tribute to the former football player and national coach Mohammad Abu Awad, who passed away aged 72.

"Jordan's Sporting Family has lost one of its popular sons. The JOC would like to extend its sympathies to the family of Mohammad Abu Awad at this sad time and thank him for the lasting mark he has left on football. He left a legacy that will be remembered by Jordanians forever."

Mohammad Abu Awad played for Al Jazeera and Al Faisaly from 1954 till 1972 and represented Jordan from 1960-1972.



The popular OCA Fun Run + Learn series resumed in Male, Maldives, on February 9-10. Read all about it in the next edition of Sporting Asia, June 2012.

2013



Taipei, Chinese Taipei: March 9
OCA Advisory Committee



Colombo, Sri Lanka: March 22 - 23
OS/OCA Forum for Central, South and West Asia



Siem Reap Angkor, Cambodia: March 26 - 27
OS/OCA Forum for South East Asia and East Asia



Dushanbe, Tajikistan: April 6 - 7
Asian Games Fun Run + Learn & Youth Reporter



Kabul, Afghanistan: May 10 - 11
Asian Games Fun Run + Learn & Youth Reporter



Phnom Penh, Cambodia: June 7 - 8
Asian Games Fun Run + Learn & Youth Reporter



Lausanne: June 15 - 16
ANOC Extraordinary General Assembly



Incheon, Korea: June 29 - July 6
4th Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games



Bangkok, Thailand: July 9 - 23
Asian Youth Camp



Hanoi, Vietnam: July 13 - 14
Asian Games Fun Run + Learn & Youth Reporter



Nanjing, China: August 16 - 24
2nd Asian Youth Games



Tianjin, China: October 6 - 15
6th East Asian Games



Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar: December 11 - 22
27th South East Asian Games



Boracay, Philippines: December
Asian Games Centennial Festival



Boracay, Philippines: December
32nd OCA General Assembly

2014



Incheon, Korea: September 19- October 4
17th Asian Games



Phuket, Thailand: November 14 - 21
4th Asian Beach Games

2016



Nha Trang, Vietnam (dates to be confirmed)
5th Asian Beach Games

2017



Sapporo, Japan (dates to be confirmed)
8th Asian Winter Games



Ashgabat, Turkmenistan (dates to be confirmed)
5th Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games



Hambantota, Sri Lanka (dates to be confirmed)
3rd Asian Youth Games

Diary of Events

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