



Asia at Sochi 2014

OCA HQ hosts IOC President

OCA Games Update

OCA Media Committee

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Front cover:

Members of the China dele-
gation enjoy themselves at the
Team Welcome Ceremony in
Sochi Olympic Park.

UNITY AND SOLIDARITY IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN PUNISHMENT IN ASIAN OLYMPIC FAMILY



The Olympic Council of Asia is always supportive of our 45 member National Olympic Committees and always works in their best interests and for the good of the Olympic sports movement as a whole.

This kind of support is required most and offered in times of adversity; such as the withdrawal recently of Hanoi and Vietnam from hosting the 18th Asian Games in 2019.

Far from criticising Hanoi and even contemplating punishing them, the OCA fully understands the situation and remains totally supportive of the NOC, Hanoi city and the Vietnamese government.

In fact we appreciate their honesty and integrity in admitting that they cannot now host the Asian Games because of the economic climate in their country and the obstacles in front of them.

Thanks to this swift and pragmatic decision, which was taken after three visits by the OCA and after thorough consultation with all stakeholders, we still have five years before the 18th Asian Games are due to take place towards the end of 2019.

We also have several options in terms of finding a new host city, and we plan to make the decision at the OCA General Assembly in Incheon, Korea, on September 20. In short, there is no need to panic.

Hanoi's withdrawal is unfortunate but unavoidable, so now is not the time for penalties and recriminations. The unity and solidarity within the OCA gives us our unique strength, and we will emerge stronger through our support of Vietnam in the future.



Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahad Al Sabah

President, Olympic Council of Asia

President, Association of National Olympic Committees

Chairman, IOC Olympic Solidarity Commission

OCA PAYS RESPECTS TO VICTIMS OF KOREAN FERRY TRAGEDY

Tragedy struck Korea on April 16 when the ferry Sewol capsized and many lives were lost.

The ferry was sailing for Jeju Island from Incheon – a journey of 400km and 13.5 hours – and the 476 people on board included many secondary school students from Danwon High School in Ansan city.

The Olympic Council of Asia, with strong links to both Incheon and Ansan because of this year's Asian Games, paid respects to the victims by sending a wreath to the two memorial altars set up in the two cities.

In the name of the OCA President, HE Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah, the wreaths were laid by the President of the Incheon Asian Games Organising Committee, Mr Kim Young-soo.

LAGOC would like to thank the OCA for their sincere condolences and prayers for the bereaved families in Republic of Korea.



The OCA sent wreaths to the memorial altars for ferry victims.

HANOI WITHDRAWS AS 2019 ASIAN GAMES HOST CITY

The Olympic Council of Asia announced on April 18 that Hanoi had withdrawn as the host city of the Asian Games in 2019.

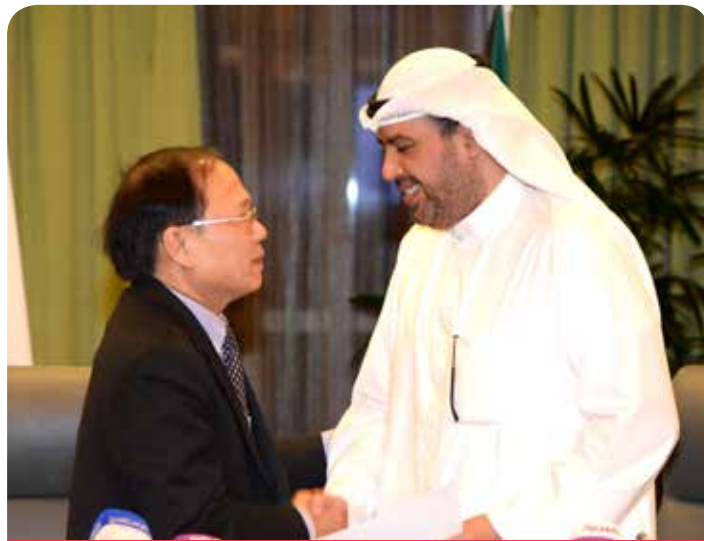
The Vietnamese capital was awarded the 18th edition of the OCA's showpiece event at the OCA General Assembly in Macau, China, in November 2012 after a close race with Surabaya, Indonesia.

But after three inspection visits to Hanoi, the OCA informed the organisers that the requirements and procedures stipulated in the host city contract were not being adhered to.

The final meeting between the OCA and Vietnam NOC took place at the OCA headquarters in Kuwait on March 31, when the OCA insisted that the high standards of the Asian Games must be maintained.

On April 17, the Vietnamese stakeholders decided that they could not host the 2019 Asian Games in the current economic climate and with budget restraints, and formally withdrew.

A high-level delegation, led by the NOC President and Minister of Culture, Sport and Tourism, HE Hoang Tuan Anh, visited the OCA on April 23 to meet with the OCA President, HE Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahad Al Sabah, and hold a press conference.



Mutual respect and understanding.

The OCA remains satisfied with Vietnam's preparations for the 5th Asian Beach Games to be held in Nha Trang in 2016.

The OCA reopened the bidding process for the 2019 Asian Games and will choose a new host city at the General Assembly in Incheon, Korea, on September 20.

KUALA LUMPUR PREPARES TO HOST 128TH IOC SESSION

The President of the Olympic Council of Malaysia, HRH Prince Tunku Imran, presented details of Kuala Lumpur's hosting of the 128th IOC Session in 2015 to IOC members at the 126th IOC Session in Sochi on February 7.

HRH Prince Tunku said the Malaysian government - at federal and city levels - was firmly behind the hosting of the IOC Session and had designated it an event of national importance.

The 128th IOC Session will run from July 30 to August 3, 2015, under the motto "By the Family, For the Family." The Mandarin

Oriental has been appointed as the official IOC hotel, and the Session will be held at the KL Convention Centre.

"Malaysia is a safe country and Kuala Lumpur is a safe city," he told the IOC members. "Kuala Lumpur has a perfect security track record."

HRH Prince Tunku encouraged IOC members to experience the fun, culture and food of Malaysia, with a wide-ranging social and hospitality programme being put in place.

COC YOUTH CAMP

After the success of the Chinese Olympic Committee's inaugural Youth Camp, the COC will organise the second edition from August 18-24 on the sidelines of the Youth Olympic Games in Nanjing.



All NOCs in the East Asia zone of the OCA, together with two NOCs from each of the other four zones, have been invited to send two participants to the second COC Youth Camp.

Mr Song Luzeng, Secretary General of the COC, thanked the OCA for their support of the COC Youth Camp.

OCA OBITUARY

The Olympic Council of Asia was very sad to learn of the passing of Dr Rashed bin Hamad Al-Heraiwel, Chairman of the OCA Education Committee.

Dr Rashed was a former Secretary General of the Saudi Arabian Olympic Committee and, among other duties, was heavily involved in the preparations of the Saudi Arabia team for the London Olympic Games in 2012.

He had also served as a board member and Rules Committee Chairman of the West Asian Games Federation.

CHINA'S YU ZAIQING ELECTED IOC VICE PRESIDENT

China's Yu Zaiqing was elected unopposed as an IOC Vice President at the 126th IOC Session in Sochi, Russia, on Friday, February 7.

Mr Yu, who was the only candidate for the position, joined the IOC in 2000 as a Vice President of the Chinese Olympic Committee. He served on the IOC Executive Board from 2004-2008 and as IOC Vice President from 2008 to 2012.



"I would like to thank you for your support and trust," he

said. "You have given me the opportunity and the responsibility as an IOC Vice President to serve the IOC and work for the movement."

"I would like to make further efforts and devote my time and energy to promote the Olympic movement in China, the Asian continent and the world."

✳ In April, Mr Yu was appointed a member of the Olympic Museum Foundation Board along with his other IOC commitments.

✳ Also in Sochi, HRH Prince Tunku Imran, President of the Olympic Council of Malaysia, was re-elected an IOC member for a further eight years. He joined the IOC in 2006.

OCA RECEIVES AWARD FROM CHILDREN OF ASIA GAMES HOSTS

The President of Sakha Republic in the Russian Federation, HE Egor Borisov, presented the Merit of Civil Valour award to the Director of the OCA's Asian Games Department, Mr Haider Farman.

The award was to recognise the support of the OCA for the Asian NOCs to take part in the 5th Children of Asia Games in Yakutia in 2012, thereby promoting social and economic development in the region.

"I am really honoured and proud that the OCA has been recognised for our role in developing Olympism and the sports movement, not only in Asia but worldwide," Mr Farman said at the award ceremony on April 29.

"I would like to thank the President of Sakha Republic, His Excellency Mr Egor Borisov, for his support in promoting and developing the Olympic ideals and principles in Yakutia, and for building a strong bridge through sport connecting the youth and young athletes in Asia with the youth and athletes in different continents through the Children of Asia Games."



Haider Farman receives the award.

ASIAN SPORTS LEADERS HEAD IOC COMMISSIONS

IOC President Thomas Bach announced the composition of the IOC commissions for 2014 on April 1, with an increase in female members (23 per cent) and a much broader geographical representation.

There will be two more commissions chaired by women and 22 more positions held by women in 2014 than in 2013. Female representation from Africa increased by 50 per cent.

The Chairman/Chair of the commissions include: **Olympic Solidarity**, HE Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah (Kuwait); **Olympic Philately, Numismatic and Memorabilia**, Wu Ching Kuo (Chinese Taipei); **Marketing**, Tsunekazu Takeda (Japan); **Finance**, Ng Ser Miang (Singapore); **Evaluation for the 3rd Winter YOG 2020**, Yang Yang (China).

KUWAIT WELCOMES IOC PRESIDENT FOR ANOC, OS MEETINGS

The OCA HQ in Kuwait City was a hive of Olympic activity for three days from March 29-31, highlighted by the visit of IOC President Thomas Bach.

The business began on Saturday, March 29, when the nine commissions and working groups of the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) met for the first time to formulate their strategic plans.

The following day, ANOC and OCA President Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah and the IOC President held a joint press

conference. The main topic was President Bach's Olympic Agenda 2020 aimed at reforming the Olympic Movement and Olympic Games.

The IOC's Olympic Solidarity Commission, of which Sheikh Ahmad is Chairman, met on the morning of Monday, March 31, and this was followed in the afternoon by the 63rd ANOC Executive Council meeting.

Sheikh Ahmad summed up the three days of business at a closing press conference.



The IOC President sits alongside Sheikh Ahmad.

"These very successful first meetings have provided an excellent roadmap and I was really proud hearing the reports of the commissions and working groups today," he said.

"Our dreams are very big, and we must work very hard to achieve them. But what drives us is our mission to serve the NOCs of the world and their athletes, through leadership, innovation and vision.

"By the time we get to the General Assembly in Bangkok in November we will have laid a stable foundation to build on and achieve our success together."

OLYMPIC SOLIDARITY

IOC President Thomas Bach congratulated the OS Commission on the performances of the two-year scholarship athletes at the Sochi Winter Olympics.

With 244 of 382 scholarship athletes qualifying for Sochi, and yielding four gold medals and 10 medals in total, President Bach said it was a "clear signal" that the work of Olympic Solidarity was "on the right track" in terms of developing and supporting athletes and NOCs around the world.



In addition, 11 larger NOCs received so-called tailor-made grants for use at their own discretion. Japan NOC supported four athletes including figure skating gold medallist Yuzuru Hanyu, who trained in Toronto for two years after the earthquake and tsunami of March 2011 devastated his hometown of Sendai.

ANOC EX-CO

The meeting's agenda highlighted ANOC's ambitions to be, according to Sheikh Ahmad, "one of the best and biggest organisations in the movement".



As well as the presentations from the nine commissions and working groups, the Executive Council also provisionally approved a new logo and corporate look-and-feel, pending sign-off from the IOC and legal procedures.

They addressed in detail the first ANOC Gala Awards ceremony scheduled for November 7, 2014 in Bangkok, and the inaugural World Beach Games set to be officially announced in July this year. Also on the agenda was ANOC's contribution to the IOC's Olympic Agenda 2020, the 2014 General Assembly in Bangkok and the latest updates on ANOC's new HQ in Lausanne.

IOC PRESIDENT MAKES THREE-STOP TOUR OF GULF

The new IOC President, Thomas Bach of Germany, made a four-day, three-stop tour of the Gulf region in late March and early April to discuss the Olympic Movement with sports leaders and heads of state.

KUWAIT: On Sunday, March 30, President Bach met with the Emir of Kuwait, His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.



The two leaders, who were accompanied by the Crown Prince, His Highness Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, discussed a range of sporting issues during their meeting at the Bayan Palace in Kuwait City.

The Emir emphasised the power of sport to “educate and bring people together and to build bridges.”

President Bach, who was accompanied by IOC Vice President Nawal El Moutawakel and IOC member the Grand Duke of Luxembourg, congratulated the Emir and told him that sport in the country “was in good hands.”

QATAR: President Bach’s second stop was Doha, host city of the 2006 Asian Games, where he met with Qatar’s Emir, His Highness Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani, at the Royal Palace on Tuesday, April 1.



Sheikh Al-Thani, an IOC member and President of the Qatar Olympic Committee, highlighted the vital role of sport in society and particularly the Olympic Schools Programme, which has been run successfully in Qatar for the past seven years.

The IOC President held a series of meetings with Qatari sports leaders, including the QOC Secretary General, His Excellency Sheikh Saoud Bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani, the QOC Executive Board and the presidents of National Sports Federations.

SAUDI ARABIA: President Bach concluded his tour on Wednesday, April 2 with an informal visit to Riyadh, where he held talks with IOC member and NOC President His Royal Highness Prince Nawaf Faisal Fahd Bin Abdulaziz.

They discussed a number of issues relating to the future development of sport and presented a strategy for sports development in the Kingdom until the year 2020.



President Bach promised full support for the plan, which also included proposals to increase women’s participation in the Olympic Games and in sport in general. The NOC hopes to increase participation at the Games in Rio by introducing better training, particularly at the university level.



ASIA'S RADO MEETINGS FOCUS ON WADA CODE 2015

The OCA has been very active in supporting and participating in the Regional Anti-Doping Organization (RADO) board meetings and other activities in recent weeks.



International cooperation at the South Asia RADO meeting in Male, Maldives.

With the assistance of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and international experts, the RADO meetings have brought NOCs up to date with the latest industry trends as well as familiarising them with the new WADA Code, which comes into effect on January 1, 2015.

As a result of the new code, the board meetings have been supplemented by a results management training workshop.

The Acting Manager of the OCA Doping Control Department,

Nadiah Ali Al Shamali, said the meetings and training courses had brought all the relevant stakeholders together, thereby producing a fruitful exchange of ideas and a cohesive global strategy in the fight against doping in sport.

✳ The South East Asia (SEA) RADO activities took place in Hanoi, Vietnam, from February 24-27, in cooperation with the Vietnam Sports Administration, Vietnam Olympic Committee and the Vietnam Anti-Doping and Sports Medicine Agency. The agenda included a report from the SEA Games in Myanmar last December.

✳ On April 4, the Kyrgyz State Academy of Physical Education and Sport organised a WADA/RADO/OCA education seminar in the capital Bishkek to promote anti-doping awareness and knowledge. More than 100 teachers, coaches and students from the academy attended the seminar, which was conducted by Venera Abdulla, Manager of the Central Asia RADO.

✳ The West Asia RADO hosted the eighth board meeting and results management training in Dead Sea, Jordan, on April 4-5. It was attended by delegates from Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine and Jordan.

✳ The South Asia RADO, under the patronage of the Ministry of Youth and Sport, Government of Maldives, held its first regional seminar on anti-doping in sport on April 28-29 in Male. It was funded through the UNESCO Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport and attended by NOC and government representatives. The SARADO board meeting took place on April 30 and was attended by Nepal, Maldives, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, and the results management workshop was held on May 1.

IAGOC VISITS WADA TO PLAN ASIAN GAMES STRATEGY

The Incheon Asian Games Organizing Committee (IAGOC) and World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) have established a mutual cooperation programme ahead of the 17th Asian Games in Incheon, Korea, from September 19 to October 4, 2014.

The joint initiative follows a visit by members of the IAGOC anti-doping team to WADA headquarters in Montreal, Canada. The IAGOC team was given a one-on-one training session by WADA on the Anti-Doping Administration and Management System (ADAMS).

The two organisations have also agreed to carry out the Outreach Programme during the Asian Games, aimed at promoting anti-doping awareness and education to athletes.

The doping control team anticipates setting up 49 doping control stations at the Asian Games.



IAGOC and WADA officials meet in Montreal to discuss plans for the 17th Asian Games.



An update from Incheon.



Closing remarks in Bahrain.

GOOD GOVERNANCE DOMINATES OS/OCA FORUMS

The annual Olympic Solidarity/OCA Regional Forums were held in Bahrain and Myanmar, on May 7-8 and May 11-12, respectively.

This year's forums served two main purposes - to focus on good governance of National Olympic Committees and to hold Pre-Delegation Registration Meetings with the organising committees of the OCA's two major events this year: the 17th Asian Games in Incheon, Korea, and the 4th Asian Beach Games in Phuket, Thailand.



Delegates also heard detailed presentations from both organising committees, as well as from the organisers of the

IOC's 2nd Summer Youth Olympic Games, which will be held in Nanjing, China, in August.

The Bahrain forum was for NOCs from West, Central and South Asia, while the Myanmar session – held in the new capital of Nay Pyi Taw after assembling in Yangon – was for South East and East Asian NOCs.

"These regional forums have really established themselves on the Olympic calendar and become part of our tradition," said Olympic Solidarity's Asia Manager, Olivier Niamkey.

"They have become a meeting point for Olympic Solidarity, the OCA and NOCs to work together and discuss ideas and initiatives, as well as sharing experiences and learning from each other."



A warm smile to welcome delegates to Myanmar.



Group photo at the Opening Ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw.

OCA MEDIA COMMITTEE FOCUSES ON INCHEON ASIAN GAMES

The OCA Media Committee held a meeting at the HQ of the Incheon Asian Games Organizing Committee (IAGOC), Meet-You-All Tower in Songdo, on Wednesday, April 9.

Chaired by Mr Charles Lo, President of Macau NOC, the meeting was attended by the OCA's Director of NOC and International Relations, Mr Vinod Tiwari, and OCA Vice President Mr Hemasiri Fernando, President of Sri Lanka NOC, as well as other members, OCA staff, guests and observers.

In his opening address, Mr Lo said the meeting was very important with the 17th Asian Games just five months away as it gave the committee members an opportunity to learn about the media services for Incheon 2014.

The agenda included updates and progress reports on the OCA's official newsletter, Sporting Asia, the OCA website (www.ocasia.org), the new OCA social media guidelines, broadcasting, the OCA Youth Reporter Project and media attendance at the two OCA multi-sport games in 2013.

IAGOC gave a presentation on the media services, facilities and logistics ahead of the 17th Asian Games, which will run from

September 19 to October 4 and involve 7,000 media from the OCA's 45 NOCs and international organisations.

The Asian Games News Service content will be supplied by the Korea Herald, which provided the English newsletter for the 10th Asian Games in Seoul in 1986 and the 14th Asian Games in Busan in 2002. The Korea Herald operation will involve 135 staff, including 90 reporters, and plans to produce an average of 400 news items a day and a total of 10,400 across 26 days.



The OCA Media Committee gathers in Incheon.



OCA Information Technology Auditors Alfonso Sanchez and Manuel Gonzalez have completed the second OCA IT Audit for the 4th Asian Beach Games, which will be held in Phuket, Thailand, from November 14-23, 2014. They are pictured with PABGOC staff and other stakeholders in the IT and Telecommunications field.

REGISTRATION OPENS FOR ASIAN OLYMPIC PARTNER SUMMIT

Registration for the first Asian Olympic Partner Summit in Incheon, Korea, on Sunday, September 21, 2014, is now open.

The Summit will take place on the sidelines of the Incheon Asian Games at the SongdoConvensia and will be hosted by the OCA President, HE Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah.

Each of the OCA's 45 NOCs, together with their sponsors, can register up to a maximum of three delegates for the summit, which is being held to grow interest, viewership and sponsorship of Olympic sports in Asia. Around 300 Olympic sponsors and NOC executives are expected to attend.

NOCs can register at: www.ocasia.org/partnersummit.aspx

Sporting Asia at sochi 2014

Sporting Asia's 12-page special on the Sochi Winter Olympics starts here!

Full Medals Table
India NOC back in the fold
Roll of Honour



SO SUCCESSFUL. SO MEMORABLE. SO



2014 will be remembered as a spectacular triumph for the Olympic Movement.

Threats of terrorist strikes...alleged human rights abuses...the cost of staging the Games, widely reported to be US\$51 billion...all these issues, and more, were waiting to greet the new IOC President Thomas Bach.



Overseeing his first Olympic Games since being elected IOC President in September 2013, the German lawyer was well prepared for the media onslaught and used all his legal skills to make a solid case for the defence of the Local Organising Committee, the host city and of the Russian Federation.

Security was in safe hands, he insisted; the Olympic Charter allowed for no discrimination, he repeated; and the costs of staging the Games involved the transformation of a whole region into a winter sports, tourism and conference hub with 360km of roads, 200km of railway lines, bridges, hotels and new power stations to complement the 15 state-of-the-art sports venues.

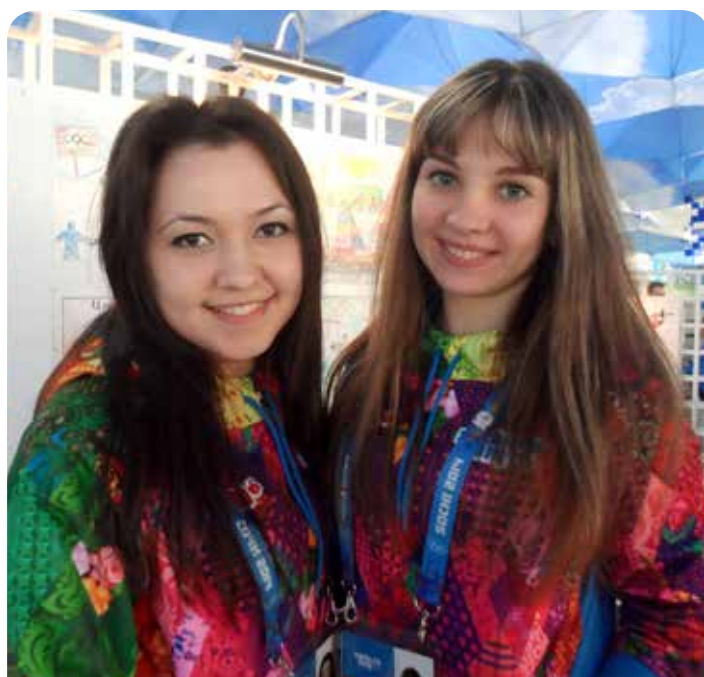
Slowly but surely, the Sochi Games came alive, and the focus switched to the people who mattered most – the athletes.

The public responded, too, generating a London-style buzz in the Olympic Park as bright sunshine, dazzling blue skies and unseasonably warm weather on the Black Sea coast brought everyone together; just as the Olympics are supposed to do.

As one proud and busy IOC sponsor would put it, the athletes were "lovin' it" in their respective villages. Down in the coastal cluster around Olympic Park, they could walk from their apartments to the competition venues in a matter of minutes, be it for curling, short track, speed skating, ice hockey or figure skating, while up in the picturesque mountain resorts the



The Olympic rings in Olympic Park.



Warm smiles from the volunteers.

...SOCHI

transportation and other services were first-class all the way.

The “look” of the Games was fresh and vibrant against the sparkling white backdrops of snow and ice, and the security procedures were by no means intrusive or aggressive inside the Olympic “bubble”.

In his speech at the closing ceremony, the IOC President thanked the athletes from a record 88 National Olympic Committees and stressed how the Games had helped to reinforce the core Olympic values of respect and tolerance.

“By living together under one roof in the Olympic Village you send a powerful message from Sochi to the world: the message of a society of peace, tolerance and respect,” he said.

“I appeal to everybody implicated in confrontation, oppression or violence: Act on this Olympic message of dialogue and peace.”

He concluded: “There is no higher compliment than to say, on behalf of all participants and on behalf of all of my fellow Olympic Athletes: These were the Athletes’ Games!”



Sochi 2014: Facts and Figures

Opening Ceremony: Feb. 7

Closing Ceremony: Feb. 23

Slogan: Hot. Cool. Yours.

Athletes: 2,859

NOCs: 88

Events: 98

Competitions: 212

Tickets Sold: Over 1.1 million

Volunteers: 25,000

Fans attended from: 126 countries and regions

Marketing revenue: US\$1.3 billion

TV Broadcast: 1,300 hours

On: 464 channels

In: 159 countries and regions

Torch Relay: 65,000km



The look of the Sochi Winter Olympics.



The Olympic flame lights up the clear blue skies.

SEVEN GOLD MEDALS FOR ASIAN NOCS AT SOCHI GAMES

END OF AN ERA AS KOREA'S 'QUEEN' YU NA TAKES SILVER AND RETIRES

Asia's "Big Three" of China, Korea and Japan could not quite match their achievements of Vancouver 2010 but still came home from Sochi with seven gold medals between them and 25 medals in total.

Kazakhstan was the fourth Asian NOC to win a medal, as only 26 of the record 88 National Olympic Committees secured a place in the final rankings after 98 events.

CHINA

China ended the Sochi Games as Asia's top-ranked team in 12th place with three gold medals, four silver and two bronze.

Their powerful women's short track team suffered a major blow just three weeks before the Games when medal machine Wang Meng broke her ankle in training and was ruled out for six months. Wang had won four gold medals, including three at Vancouver 2010, as well as one silver and one bronze in her two previous Winter Olympics appearances.

In Wang's absence, Li Jianrou (500m) and Zhou Yang (1500m) both battled to victory on the short track, and China's third Sochi champion was Zhang Hong in the women's 1,000m speed skating.

KOREA

Korea had won six gold medals at Vancouver 2010 but could manage only half that tally this time and finished in 13th place with a 3-3-2 record.

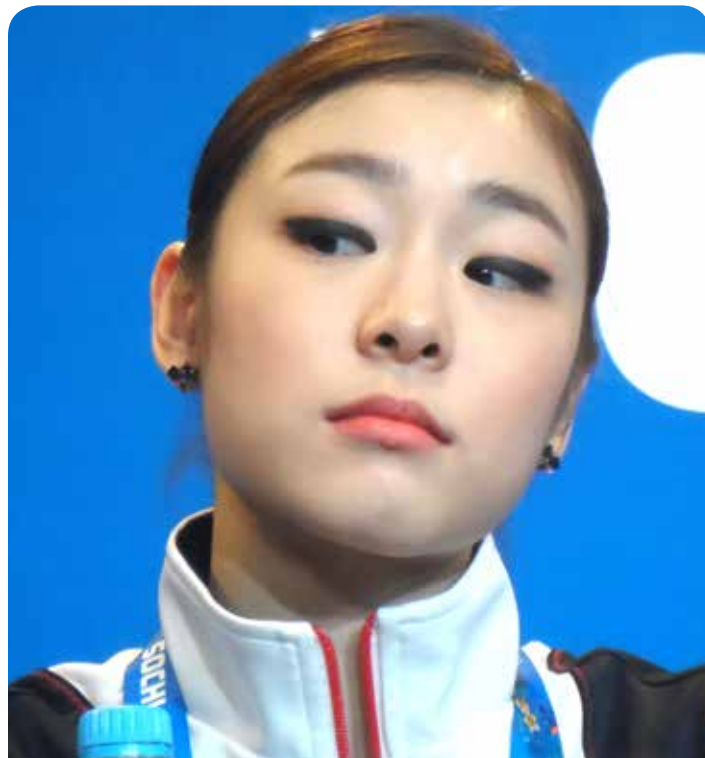
Poster girl Lee Sang Hwa was in Olympic record-breaking mood in gliding to the women's 500m speed skating title, while Park Seung-Hi had a hand in Korea's two short track gold medals, winning the women's 1000m and featuring in the successful 3000m relay team.

At just 17, Shim Suk Hee won a gold, silver and bronze medal on the short track and will be one of the main hopes for the home team at the 2018 Winter Olympics in PyeongChang.

The Sochi Winter Olympics also marked the end of the glittering career of figure skater Kim Yu Na, who captivated the world in winning gold at Vancouver 2010 but had to settle for silver in Sochi – her last competition before retiring.

JAPAN

Figure skating champion Yuzuru Hanyu provided one of the stories of the Games, winning gold just three years after the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami had devastated his home town, Sendai.



Korea's Kim Yu Na is pictured at the press conference after winning the silver medal.

Hanyu, 19, was training in the ice rink when it started to collapse, and ran for his life into the street outside. Thanks to the support of family and friends in the skating world, he decided to continue with his career and eventually relocated to Toronto, Canada – the base from where he built his golden challenge.

Hanyu's victory included a world record score for the short programme and was Japan's only gold of the Games, but they added four silver and three bronze medals for eight in total and a final ranking of 17. Aged 41, ski jumper Noriaki Kasai won a silver medal in individual competition and a team bronze.

KAZAKHSTAN

Denis Ten was already a national hero in Kazakhstan after winning the men's figure skating gold medal at the Asian Winter Games in Astana-Almaty in 2011.

His efforts in taking the bronze medal in Sochi sent his popularity soaring skywards, both at home and in Russia where he had lived and trained for seven years.



FINAL MEDALS TABLE - SOCHI 2014

R	Country	G	S	B	T
1	Russian Fed.	13	11	9	33
2	Norway	11	5	10	26
3	Canada	10	10	5	25
4	United States	9	7	12	28
5	Netherlands	8	7	9	24
6	Germany	8	6	5	19
7	Switzerland	6	3	2	11
8	Belarus	5	0	1	6
9	Austria	4	8	5	17
10	France	4	4	7	15
11	Poland	4	1	1	6
12	China	3	4	2	9
13	Korea	3	3	2	8
14	Sweden	2	7	6	15
15	Czech Republic	2	4	2	8
16	Slovenia	2	2	4	8
17	Japan	1	4	3	8
18	Finland	1	3	1	5
19	Great Britain	1	1	2	4
20	Ukraine	1	0	1	2
21	Slovakia	1	0	0	1
22	Italy	0	2	6	8
23	Latvia	0	2	2	4
24	Australia	0	2	1	3
25	Croatia	0	1	0	1
26	Kazakhstan	0	0	1	1
27	Albania	0	0	0	0
28	Andorra	0	0	0	0
29	Argentina	0	0	0	0
30	Armenia	0	0	0	0
31	Azerbaijan	0	0	0	0
32	Belgium	0	0	0	0
33	Bermuda	0	0	0	0
34	Bosnia and Herzegovina	0	0	0	0
35	Brazil	0	0	0	0
36	Bulgaria	0	0	0	0
37	Cayman Islands	0	0	0	0
38	Chile	0	0	0	0
39	Chinese Taipei	0	0	0	0
40	Cyprus	0	0	0	0
41	Denmark	0	0	0	0
42	Dominica	0	0	0	0
43	Estonia	0	0	0	0
44	Georgia	0	0	0	0
45	Greece	0	0	0	0
46	Hong Kong, CHN	0	0	0	0

R	Country	G	S	B	T
47	Hungary	0	0	0	0
48	Iceland	0	0	0	0
49	Independent Olympic	0	0	0	0
50	India	0	0	0	0
51	IR Iran	0	0	0	0
52	Ireland	0	0	0	0
53	Israel	0	0	0	0
54	Jamaica	0	0	0	0
55	Kyrgyzstan	0	0	0	0
56	Lebanon	0	0	0	0
57	Liechtenstein	0	0	0	0
58	Lithuania	0	0	0	0
59	Luxembourg	0	0	0	0
60	Malta	0	0	0	0
61	Mexico	0	0	0	0
62	Monaco	0	0	0	0
63	Mongolia	0	0	0	0
64	Montenegro	0	0	0	0
65	Morocco	0	0	0	0
66	Nepal	0	0	0	0
67	New Zealand	0	0	0	0
68	Pakistan	0	0	0	0
69	Paraguay	0	0	0	0
70	Peru	0	0	0	0
71	Philippines	0	0	0	0
72	Portugal	0	0	0	0
73	Rep. of Moldova	0	0	0	0
74	Romania	0	0	0	0
75	San Marino	0	0	0	0
76	Serbia	0	0	0	0
77	Spain	0	0	0	0
78	Tajikistan	0	0	0	0
79	Thailand	0	0	0	0
80	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	0	0	0	0
81	Timor-Leste	0	0	0	0
82	Togo	0	0	0	0
83	Tonga	0	0	0	0
84	Turkey	0	0	0	0
85	Uzbekistan	0	0	0	0
86	Venezuela	0	0	0	0
87	Virgin Isl, B	0	0	0	0
88	Virgin Isl, US	0	0	0	0
89	Zimbabwe	0	0	0	0
		99	97	99	295

ROLL OF HONOUR FOR AS



CHINA

Gold (3)

Li Jianrou, Short Track, Ladies' 500 metres

Zhang Hong, Speed Skating, Ladies' 1,000 metres

Zhou Yang, Short Track, Ladies' 1,500 metres

Silver (4)

Han Tianyu, Short Track, Men's 1,500 metres

Xu Mengtao, Freestyle Skiing, Ladies Aerials

Wu Dajing, Short Track, Men's 500 metres

Fan Kexin, Short Track, Ladies' 1000 metres

Bronze (2)

Jia Zongyang, Freestyle Skiing, Men's Aerials

Short Track, Men's 5000 metres Relay: **Chen Dequan**, **Han Tianyu**, **Shi Jingnan**, **Wu Dajing**.



KOREA

Gold (3)

Lee Sang Hwa, Speed Skating, Ladies' 500 metres (OR for 500m – 37.28 seconds; OR for 2x500m – 74.70 seconds)

Short Track, Ladies' 3,000 metres Relay: **Cho Ha-Ri**, **Kim Alang**, **Park Seung-Hi**, **Shim Suk Hee**, **Kong Sangjeong**.

Park Seung-Hi, Short Track, Ladies' 1000m

Silver (3)

Shim Suk Hee, Short Track, Ladies' 1,500 metres.

Kim Yu Na, Ladies' Figure Skating

Speed Skating, Men's Team Pursuit: **Lee Seung Hoon**, **Joo Hyong Jun**, **Kim Cheol Min**

Bronze (2)

Park Seung-Hi, Short Track, Ladies' 500 metres

Shim Suk Hee, Short Track, Ladies' 1000 metres



Zhou Yang of China.



Park Seung-Hi (left) and Shim Suk Hee of Korea.

IAN NOCs AT SOCHI 2014



JAPAN

Gold (1)

Yuzuru Hanyu, Figure Skating, Men
(WR score for short programme, 101.45)

Silver (4)

Ayumu Hirano, Snowboard, Men's Halfpipe

Akito Watabe, Nordic Combined, Individual Gundersen NH/10km

Noriaki Kasai, Ski Jumping, Men's Large Hill Individual

Tomoka Takeuchi, Snowboard, Ladies' Parallel Giant Slalom

Bronze (3)

Taku Hiraoka, Snowboard, Men's Halfpipe.

Ski Jumping, Men's Team: **Reruhi Shimizu**, **Taku Takeuchi**, **Daiki Ito**, **Noriaki Kasai**

Ayana Onozuka, Freestyle Skiing, Ladies' Ski Halfpipe



KAZAKHSTAN

Bronze (1)

Denis Ten, Men's Figure Skating

WR – World Record
OR – Olympic Record



Yuzuru Hanyu of Japan.



Denis Ten of Kazakhstan.

INDIA NOC RETURNS TO OLYMPIC MOVEMENT



Smiles and celebrations for Team India at Sochi 2014.

The Indian flag joined those of 87 other countries and regions flying high at Sochi on February 16 when it was hoisted during a team welcome ceremony for the recently reinstated Indian Olympic Association.

The IOC lifted the suspension of the IOA on February 11, thereby allowing the three Indian athletes in Sochi to represent their NOC and country.

Nadeem Iqbal (cross country), Shiva Keshavan (luge) and Himanshu Thakur (Alpine skiing) began the Games as Independent Olympic Participants and entered the Opening



Ceremony on February 7 behind the IOC flag.

The IOC supported the three athletes directly to ensure their participation at Sochi 2014. Two of the athletes, Keshavan and Thakur, were recipients of Olympic scholarships.

The ceremony in the mountain cluster village was attended by the three Indian athletes, new IOA President Narayna Ramachandran and European Olympic Committees President Patrick Hickey.

IOC-IOA Timeline

December 2012: IOA is suspended by IOC due to its failure to comply with the Olympic Charter and its statutes, relating specifically to good governance.

February 9, 2014: The IOA's General Assembly and elections for a new Board are successfully held and observed by an IOC delegation headed by IOC member Robin Mitchell.

February 11: The IOC Executive Board reinstates the IOA during an ad-hoc meeting in Sochi. The IOC observers reported that the elections were held in full respect of the recently passed NOC constitution, which complies with all IOC requirements, including the clause that no person convicted or charge-framed can run for a position within the organisation.

For the Record

☀ Narayna Ramachandran, President of the World Squash Federation, has been elected as the new IOA President.

☀ Rajeev Mehta and Anil Khanna were chosen as the new Secretary General and Treasurer, respectively.

☀ It is the first time in Olympic history that a suspension of an NOC has been lifted during an Olympic Games.

☀ Athlete Shiva Keshavan said after the team welcome ceremony: "It is amazing. I am sure it is a great moment for all Indians. This decision is very good for sport in India. Such situations should not be allowed to happen again, and the new NOC administration now has the power to do well for sport in the future. That's what we look forward to."

MARTINEZ PUTS PHILIPPINES ON WINTER SPORTS MAP

When Michael Christian Martinez stepped on to the ice in the Iceberg Skating Palace at Sochi, he became the first figure skater from the Philippines to compete at an Olympic Winter Games.

Not bad for someone who learned how to skate in a shopping mall.

"I started skating in 2005 when I was nine years old. We were in a shopping mall and I saw other skaters jumping and spinning.

"I wanted to try it," said the 17-year-old student from Muntinlupa city.

His first contact with the ice was hard, though.



Michael Christian Martinez - a national hero in the Philippines after his performance in the men's figure skating at Sochi.

"When I stepped on the ice I fell right away. But then I got up and started skating around the rink. I loved the sport," he said.

Following a seventh-place finish at the inaugural Winter Youth Olympic Games in Innsbruck, Austria, in 2012, Michael stepped up for the big occasion at Sochi and finished 19th – a fine effort

that won him the respect of the figure skating world and made him a national hero back home.

Looking ahead he said: "In my next Olympics I want to compete for a medal. I feel like I'm catching up, I'm improving. All I want to do is to make my mother proud."

Thailand in the news

One of the most talked-about athletes in Sochi was competing for Thailand – hardly a country associated with winter sports.

There again, Vanessa Vanakorn is hardly associated with alpine skiing, and is much better known as Vanessa-Mae, the violin virtuoso with 10 million album sales worldwide.

Born to a Thai father and Chinese mother in Singapore and raised in the United Kingdom, the 35-year-old British citizen has been a keen skier since childhood. At Sochi she competed in the giant slalom, finishing 67th overall after the two runs but still attracting as much - if not more - publicity as the medal-winners.



Thailand's Vanessa Vanakorn.

Timor-Leste joins Winter Olympics

Several NOCs made their Winter Olympics debut at Sochi, including Timor-Leste from the SEA region of the OCA. Their sole athlete, in alpine skiing, was Yohan Goutt, who was born in France and whose mother is from Timor-Leste.

With strong connections to Australia, where he trains during the southern hemisphere winter, Yohan has always remained proud of his Timorese roots and has ambitions to build sports centres for youngsters in Timor-Leste and to help raise the country's profile.

Asians NOCs at Sochi 2014

China, Hong Kong-China, India, Iran, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Chinese Taipei, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Uzbekistan. **Total: 18**

ASIAN STUDENTS DISPLAY OLYMPIC SPIRIT



Japan House staff member Elina Koderu reads the messages of good luck to the Japanese Olympians from the children of the Tohoku region.

When it comes to promoting the ideals of the Olympic Movement, the imagination and creativity of children can always be relied upon to produce fresh, new ideas.

This was very much in evidence at the Sochi Winter Olympics, where children's art work took pride of place in the Athletes' Village and also at Japan House in Sochi Olympic Park.

Contributions from many countries, including India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Korea and Afghanistan, provided a colourful and modern perspective on the values and goals of the Olympic Movement through the eyes of children as young as 10.

The children's art gallery proved to be a big attraction for the athletes and served as a timely reminder as to what the Olympic Games is all about in terms of peace, friendship and unity as well as gold, silver and bronze.

Over at Japan House, visitors could not fail to be moved by a display of messages to Japanese athletes from survivors of the March 11, 2011 earthquake and tsunami that struck the Tohoku region of north-east Japan, claiming the lives of some 19,000 people.

Day Festa activities were organised to bring athletes and sport back to the devastated communities, and children in towns such as Iwanuma, Ofunato and Shinchi responded with words of encouragement to the winter Olympians heading for Sochi.

Messages such as "Fight Japan", "We never give up" and "You can do it" instilled a sense of pride and determination in the Japanese athletes while, at the same time, revealing the spirit and resolve of the young survivors of this terrible tragedy.



"Peace, Friendship and Olympic in Afghanistan" by Mustafa Ahmadzew, 14, from Afghanistan.



"Friendship and Peace Through Olympiad" by Sushovon Shreesh Seth, 13, from India.

SOCHI VOLUNTEERS – THE PRIDE OF ASIA

The Olympic Winter Games cannot function without an enthusiastic, well-trained army of volunteers – and Sochi took no chances by recruiting 25,000 of them from all over the world.

Meet Ding Yiqing from Tongling, Anhui province in China. The 20-year-old university student was a volunteer behind the main help desk in the Main Press Centre, advising and assisting the world's media on all aspects of life in Sochi.

"There are several reasons for me to come to Sochi 2014," said Yiqing, who lives in West Lafayette in the United States and studies at Purdue University.

"First of all, I enjoy the feeling of helping others. Second, this is Olympics! I love this kind of energetic event because they always make me feel enthusiastic.

"Last but not least, coming to Russia had been my wish for a couple of years, so when I saw this volunteer opportunity at the Winter Olympics I told myself that I had to come. I signed up as soon as they opened the registration."

Law student Lee Chan Mee, 23, is from Seoul and lives in Vladivostok, Russia. She used her Russian language skills as a volunteer interpreter at the Iceberg Skating Palace – venue for two of the most glamorous events of the Games: figure skating and short track.

"I really enjoy my work," she said. "I think like I am dreaming here because I can see the Olympic medallists and I have the opportunity to interpret their comments. I am lucky to be in the Iceberg because many volunteers wanted to work here."



Korean volunteer Lee Chan Mee inside the Iceberg Skating Palace.



Chinese volunteer Ding Yiqing outside the Main Press Centre.



SHIREEN'S SOCHI STUDIES: Among the visitors to PyeongChang House for PyeongChang Day on February 9 was a 27-strong group from the George Washington University in Washington DC, USA, among them Shireen Alhasawi from Kuwait. Shireen, who represented Kuwait at tennis in the 2006 Doha Asian Games, was visiting Sochi as part of her sports business and management studies in the States. "I have loved it here," she said. "It is so interesting to see the management of such a big sports event like this. Everyone has been so welcoming and the venues are beautiful, very clean and well organised."



IOC member Toni B. Khoury from Lebanon enjoys the Korean hospitality.



POCOG President Kim Jin Sun attends a PyeongChang 2018 press conference at the Main Press Centre.

KOREA IS NEXT FOR WINTER OLYMPICS

After a break of 20 years, the Winter Olympics will return to Asia in 2018 when PyeongChang, Korea, hosts the 23rd edition of the Games. The last Asian nation to host the Winter Olympics was Japan in 1998, when they were held at Nagano.



The organising committee for PyeongChang 2018, POCOG, designated Sunday, February 9, as PyeongChang Day in Sochi, and over 350 members of the Olympic Movement called at PyeongChang House in Sochi Olympic Park to celebrate the four-year countdown to the opening ceremony.

The VIP guests included IOC President Thomas Bach, IOC Honorary President Jacques Rogge, IOC Coordination Commission Chair Gunilla Lindberg and Sochi 2014 President and CEO Dmitry Chernyshenko.

The Korean team was represented by POCOG President Kim Jin Sun, Vice President and Secretary General Moon Dong Hoo and Korean Olympic Committee President Kim Jung Haeng.

The IOC President said: "Four years from today, the PyeongChang 2018 Olympic Winter Games will begin and the best winter athletes of their generation will become Olympians.

"The journey of those athletes and of the Korean people towards PyeongChang 2018 is now well underway, and the presence here in Sochi of PyeongChang House shows us all the progress that has been made."

Gunilla Lindberg added: "As we enter the last four years before PyeongChang's Games begin, I am confident that PyeongChang 2018 will be a great success and that the athletes will be very happy with the conditions that await them.

"When the Olympic spotlight turns to PyeongChang in just 14 days' time, at the Closing Ceremony here in Sochi, I believe that the world will be surprised and enchanted by what they discover."

The guests were treated to two styles of Korean dancing - traditional in costumes from the Gangwon Performing Arts Company and then a girls' dance team called "Flashe" performing K-Pop numbers including the global hit "Gangnam Style" by Korean superstar PSY.

PyeongChang 2018

Winter Olympics: February 9-25

NOCs: Over 80

Sports: 7

Disciplines: 15

Mountain Cluster: PyeongChang

Coastal Cluster: Gangneung

Winter Paralympics: March 9-18

NOCs: 50

Sports: 5



The start of the Fun Run in Bishkek, and the prize presentation for the winners.



OCA FUN RUN AND LEARN IS UP AND RUNNING IN 2014

The OCA's popular Fun Run and Learn campaign to promote the 17th Asian Games in Incheon, Korea, this year is back in business in 2014.

On Friday, April 4, Kyrgyzstan NOC hosted the 23rd edition of the Fun Run to celebrate Sportsman's Day. The 1-km run was held in Bishkek Victory Park and attracted more than 500 students aged from 12 to 15 from 21 middle schools in the capital.

The VIP guests included Kyrgyzstan NOC President Murat Saralinov, General Secretary Kanat Amankulov, Bishkek Sports Authority Chairman Sheishenkul Bakirov, OCA Technical Officer Vahid Kardany and IAGOC Sports Headquarters Department Director General Jo Youngha.

President Saralinov commented: "The Kyrgyzstan national team is preparing for the Incheon Asian Games and this Fun Run has brought an Asian Games flavour to the general public in our country."

The first three runners in each of the eight age-group categories

– four for girls and four for boys – received prizes from the OCA and IAGOC including medals, pencils, certificates and tumblers.



The Fun Run action then moved South to Bangladesh for the next event, in Dhaka on Friday, April 25, when more than 500 people from local schools and colleges, athletes and sports organisations took part.

The event also included a colourful and musical 2-km parade in the capital city, starting from the Bangladesh Children's Academy and finishing at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

VIP guests were OCA Technical Officer Vahid Kardany, Ms Meher Afroze Chumki, State Minister of Women and Child Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh; Mr Syed Shahed Reza, Secretary General, Bangladesh Olympic Association; Basir Ahmad, Vice President, BOA, and IAGOC Deputy Secretary General for Games Operations, Su Jung Ghyu.



The Olympic Movement in Bangladesh celebrates the Incheon Asian Games Fun Run in Dhaka on April 25.

IAGOC CELEBRATES PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE IN NEW DELHI



The IAGOC PR roadshow in full swing in New Delhi.

The 2014 Incheon Asian Games Organizing Committee (IAGOC) held a PR roadshow in New Delhi, India, on Tuesday, March 18.

The chief dignitaries at the event held at the Hyatt Regency Delhi were: Kim Young-soo, President, IAGOC; Narayana Ramachandran, President, Indian Olympic Association; Jitendra Singh, Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports; and Raja Randhir Singh, Secretary General, OCA, and IOC

member. Around 100 guests from the government, sports community and media also attended.

At the roadshow, star athletes Sushil Kumar (wrestling) and Deepika Kumari (archery) were appointed as Goodwill Ambassadors in India for the 2014 Incheon Asian Games, which will run from September 19 to October 4.

President Kim also visited the Dhyan Chand National Stadium in New Delhi, where the flame for the torch of the 2014 Asian Games will be lit on August 9. The stadium was the venue of the first Asian Games in 1951 and, from this year, it will be the site of the lighting of the torch flame of all future Asian Games.

President Kim said: "It is very special to hold the 2014 Asian Games PR roadshow in New Delhi, the home of the very first Asian Games. We will do our utmost to make the 2014 Asian Games an occasion for all Asians to come together for peace and harmony in our continent."

☀ IAGOC presented US\$1,500 to both the Pullela Gopichand Badminton Foundation and the Markandeshwar Hockey Center to support these sports in India.

Incheon organisers sign up 67 hospitals for Asian Games

The 2014 Incheon Asian Games Organizing Committee (IAGOC) held a signing ceremony with 67 designated hospitals at Songdo Convensia on Tuesday, March 11.

The ceremony was attended by the heads of the 67 hospitals, comprised of 54 from Incheon and 13 from co-host cities.

Over 200 people from medical institutions and local health centres gathered at the event, showing a great interest in the 17th Asian Games.

IAGOC President Kim Young-soo asked the hospitals to provide swift and specific medical services for Asian Games participants and said he hoped the event would be a stepping stone to promote medical tourism in North East Asia.

Some 670 staff at the designated hospitals will provide free medical services during the 17th Asian Games, which run from September 19 to October 4.

The hospitals will support 104 medical stations at the

Athletes' Village, HQ hotels, Media Village, Main Press Centre and competition venues and also deliver necessary services such as ambulance and medical equipment.



IAGOC President Kim Young-soo at the signing ceremony.

OCA MEDIA COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ADDRESSES WPB

The Incheon Asian Games Organizing Committee (IAGOC) held the World Press Briefing for the 17th Asian Games at the Songdo Convensia in Incheon, Korea, on Thursday, April 10.

Over 170 members of the media representing 19 countries attended the briefing, which involved a morning of presentations by the organising committee and an afternoon venue tour of the Asiad Main Stadium and Media Village.

The Chairman of the OCA Media Committee, Charles Lo, welcomed the media on behalf of the OCA President, HE Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah, and said the media had played a major part in the success of the Asian Games since it was first held in 1951.



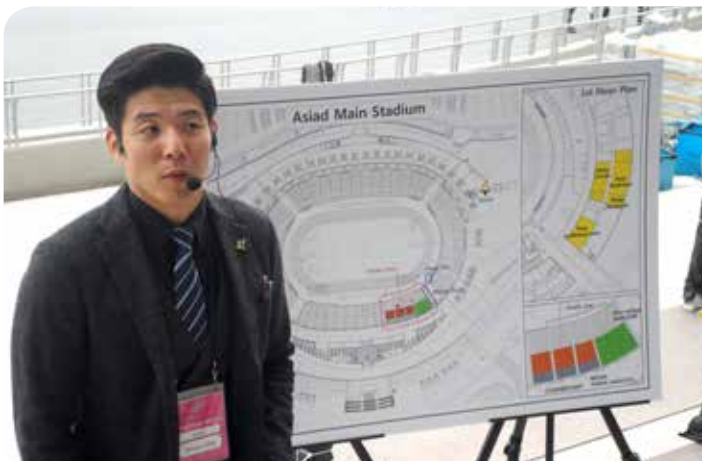
Mr Lo, Macau NOC President, said the Asian Games not only

prepared the athletes for the Olympic Games by providing top-class international competition in world-class venues but also promoted the diverse sporting culture of the five OCA zones and brought together the youth of Asia in a spirit of friendship and mutual understanding.

"This is the magic of the Asian Games," he said. "This is what makes the Asian Games special, and why the whole of Asia can embrace this festival of sport and culture and share in its success."

The President of IAGOC, Kim Young-soo, said the September 19 opening ceremony was 162 days away and that the organisers had been preparing for six years to welcome 23,000 athletes, officials and media from Asia's 45 NOCs.

The briefing included all aspects of media operations, such as accreditation, accommodation, media services and facilities at the Main Media Centre and Sub-Press Centres, transportation and social media guidelines.



A guided tour of the Asiad Main Stadium during the World Press Briefing.



Hard hats if you please at the Media Village.



OCA Media Committee member Hiroshi Takeuchi visits the Asiad Main Stadium during the World Press Briefing in Incheon, Korea.



OCA Media Committee Chairman Charles Lo addresses the World Press Briefing.

PHUKET - THE PERFECT BLEND OF SPORT AND TOURISM

The OCA's Director General and Technical Director, Husain Al-Musallam, believes the 4th Asian Beach Games in Phuket, Thailand, this November will provide an exotic cocktail of tourism and sport.

Speaking at the 200-day countdown celebration on Monday, April 28, Capt. Husain said Thailand's experience in organising multi-sport events would lead to the success of the beach and sea sports festival.

"Thailand is trusted by the world's sports community and has a reputation for the successful hosting of many international multi-sport events in the past few decades," he told the guests and spectators at the Jungceylon Shopping Mall in Patong.



Typically Thai at the 200-day countdown celebration.



"The 4th Asian Beach Games will be games of happiness, fun and modern sports presentation on the famous beaches of Phuket. They will help generate income for Phuket and build a very positive image of sport in Thailand.

"I believe that, with the efforts and experience of the past, Thailand will establish another milestone in Asian sports history in which tourism and sport can perfectly combine."

Capt. Husain added that the OCA's decision to award hosting rights to Phuket proved the trust and support of the Asian sports movement in the local tourism industry following the devastating tsunami that hit the island and region in December 2004.

☀ The 4th Asian Beach Games will run from November 14-23 and feature 168 events in 26 sports at six venue clusters around the island.

☀ The 45 NOCs will send around 6,000 athletes and team officials.

☀ Ju-jitsu, squash and sambo wrestling have been added to the programme.

☀ Squash will be played in temporary Perspex courts constructed at a beach location.

☀ Ju-jitsu is targeting an entry of 120 athletes in 12 events, with a maximum of eight per category. Ju-jitsu will be held at Patong Beach on November 12-13.



The Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort and Spa at Karon Beach - OCA HQ hotel for the 4th Asian Beach Games in November.



Afghanistan

The Afghanistan NOC has unanimously elected Mr Fahim Hashimy as its new President and Chief Executive Officer. The vote was taken during the Extraordinary Session of the General Assembly in Kabul on May 1. The election marks the first step by the NOC in its democratic and newly independent identity. The NOC had previously been under the organisational umbrella of the Afghanistan National Sport Directorate.



Bahrain



Champions of the first edition of the Bahrain Mini Olympics were honoured at the closing ceremony at Khalifa Sports City in Isa Town on April 29. The Mini Olympics was conducted by the Bahrain Olympic Committee in cooperation with the Ministry of Education. It featured four sports - athletics, volleyball, basketball and table tennis – and more than 700 students from government schools across the kingdom.



Bangladesh

The OCA paid tribute to the Bangladesh Olympic Association for the large media presence at the Incheon Asian Games Fun Run in Dhaka on April 25. More than 20 journalists from local newspapers covered the event, as well as 20 TV media, guaranteeing extensive nationwide publicity for the Games and the Olympic Movement.



Bhutan

Recognising the importance of developing a vibrant, values-based sporting culture for the development of organised sports in Bhutan, the Royal University of Bhutan and Bhutan Olympic Committee signed a Memorandum of Agreement for cooperation and partnership pertaining to academic scholarships to support deserving young persons to pursue their higher education.

(www.bhutanolympiccommittee.org)



Brunei

The Brunei Darussalam Anti-Doping Committee is continuing its efforts to promote clean sport in the Sultanate. Some 40 athletes from hockey, athletics, cycling and netball from the Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajah Rashidah Saa'datul Bolkiah Secondary School in Lumut attended a talk on anti-doping conducted by the anti-doping committee's Head of Education and Outreach, Sukardi Kaderi, on May 3.

(www.bruneiolympic.org)



Cambodia

The NOC held a press conference on April 23 for the signing ceremony of the MoU between the NOC and ATTWOOD Co. LTD for NAVY Fresh Water. The ceremony was presided over by Vath Chamroeun, Secretary General of the NOC and Under Secretary of State of the Ministry of Tourism, along with the company's chief of sales and marketing.

(www.noccambodia.org)



China

China's Sports Minister and NOC President, Liu Peng, was among the dignitaries at the flame-lighting ceremony for the 2nd Youth Olympic Games in Nanjing, China, that took place on April 30 in the Panathenaic Stadium in Athens, Greece. The YOG will run from August 16-28. More details at: www.nanjing2014.org.

(www.olympic.org)



DPR Korea

The Korean Central News Agency in Pyongyang reported on May 7 that Supreme leader Kim Jong Un sent synthetic grass for football training grounds to various sports teams and football teams. Seeing the fashionable training grounds which seem to be covered with blue carpet, officials, players and coaches admired the warm loving care of Kim Jong Un, who is sparing nothing for the development of the country's sports.

(www.kcna.co.jp)



Hong Kong, China



Organised by the Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China, supported by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and with Samsung Electronics HK Co Ltd as the title sponsor, the Samsung 57th Festival of Sport Opening Ceremony was held on March 2 at the Queen Elizabeth Stadium. In other news, Timothy Fok Tsun Ting has been re-elected President of the NOC for 2014-2016.

(www.hkolympic.org)

News and Sport from 45 NOCs



India

The World Archery Federation announced that Deepika Kumari has been named Athlete of the Year in her home country India. A gold medallist at the Commonwealth Games, Kumari won a third consecutive silver medal at the World Cup Final. Info at www.worldarchery.org.



Indonesia



The Indonesian Weightlifting Federation held a selection trial for the Youth Olympic Games 2014 on May 3. Indonesia has secured two places for the YOG – one male and one female – and eight male and eight female athletes competed for these positions. The competition was observed by NOC President Mrs Rita Subowo and by Mrs Pusparani Hakim, CDM for the YOG and Head of the NOC Women in Sport Commission.



Iran

President Rouhani has congratulated Iran's disabled weightlifters for their performances at the 2014 IPC Powerlifting World Championships. Iran won a total of 12 medals - five gold and one bronze in the men's junior and one gold and five silver in the men's senior, reports Mehr News Agency in Tehran.



Iraq

On the occasion of the ANOC Executive Council and Olympic Solidarity Commission meetings in Kuwait, the newly re-elected President of Iraq NOC, Raad Hamoudi, was congratulated by IOC President Thomas Bach and OCA/ANOC President Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah and was assured of their long-term support for the Olympic Movement in Iraq.



Japan

JOC President Tsunekazu Takeda has been appointed Vice President of the Organising Committee for the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo. The Executive of the IOC Coordination Commission for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games made its first official visit to the Japanese capital on April 2-4, led by Chairman John Coates.



Jordan

The Jordan Olympic Committee's vision for sport to play a role in the lives of all Jordanians has been boosted by an agreement signed that will see thousands of young people enjoy the Olympic Values and Education Programme. The JOC will work closely with America-Mideast Educational and Training Services (Amideast) to educate youngsters from 42 schools on the values of sport through specially tailored workshops that will form part of the Youth Exchange and Study Programme between Jordan and the USA.



Kazakhstan

Sochi Winter Olympics bronze medal-winning figure skater Denis Ten served as an ambassador for Almaty's bid to host the Winter Olympics in 2022 at a press conference for the international media at the Main Press Centre in Sochi. The 2011 Asian Winter Games co-host city is one of five applicant cities for 2022, along with Krakow (Poland), Oslo (Norway), Lviv (Ukraine) and Beijing (China).



Korea

The Olympic flag has been raised in front of the Gangwon Provincial Government Building in a ceremony to mark 1,400 days to go until the PyeongChang 2018 Olympic Winter Games. The event followed the return to Korea of the Olympic and Paralympic flags from Sochi and was attended by more than 500 athletes, officials and other stakeholders.



Kuwait

Kuwait hosted the 28th meeting of the GCC NOC Presidents as part of an annual summit aimed at boosting ties and cooperation in the Gulf region. The meeting was chaired by Kuwait Olympic Committee President Shaikh Dr Talal Fahad Al-Sabah.



Kyrgyzstan

Kyrgyzstan NOC President Murat Saralinov wants his Asian Games athletes in Incheon to at least equal their five-medal haul from Guangzhou. "We won gold, two silver and two bronze medals in 2010 so this is our minimum target for Incheon," he said. The NOC established a training programme for 600 athletes in 25 sports a year ago and will send around 200 athletes to Korea.



Laos

Over 5,000 trade union members representing various government organisations and international organisations, alongside Vientiane residents, staged a walking rally in the early morning of May 1 to celebrate the 128th anniversary of International Labour Day, reports the Lao News Agency.



Lebanon

The southern town of Nabatiyeh held the closing ceremony of the Spring Sports Festival on May 3 under the patronage of MP Yassine Jabber,

who said that the mental and physical capabilities of Lebanon's youth play a crucial role in the building of society if prepped appropriately, reports the National News Agency.



Macau, China

A delegation from Brazil NOC visited Macau from May 3-7 to check on the sports facilities with a view to holding a training camp in the former Portuguese enclave in August. Macau is now a Special Administrative Region of China and has Observer status with ANOC. Macau and Brazil both compete in the Lusofonia Games for Portuguese-speaking NOCs.



Malaysia

The Olympic Council of Malaysia reports that Mr Panagiotis (Panos) Tzivanidis, Head of IOC Protocol and Events Services, and Ms Sylvia Courtine, Event Manager, were in Kuala Lumpur from April 1-4 for their second visit and inspection of the venues for the 128th IOC Session, to be held in Kuala Lumpur from July 30-August 3, 2015. They were accompanied by Mr David Rodriguez, Project Manager, Technology and Information Department of the IOC, Mr Anthony Edgar, Head of Media Operations, and Ms Jacqueline Barrett, Head of Candidate City Relations.



Maldives

The Maldives Olympic Committee has appointed former national volleyball player Mohamed Anees as Chef de Mission for the Incheon Asian Games. Ismail Razeen (President, Pool-Billiards) will be CDM for the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

(www.nocmaldives.org)



Mongolia

At a ceremony held at Olympic House in Ulaanbaatar, the Mongolian NOC President, Demchigjav Zagdsuren, presented the IOC diploma to Nanjing Youth Olympic Games Young Ambassador G. Tugsbayar. A 19-year-old student, G. Tugsbayar is the first Young Ambassador in the history of Mongolian sport. The NOC President has been appointed Adviser for Sports and the Olympic Games by the President of Mongolia, Ts. Elbegdorj.



News and Sport from 45 NOCs



Myanmar

At the 2nd SEA Games Federation Congress 2014 in Singapore on April 30, Mr Khin Maung Lwin, Joint Secretary General of the Myanmar Olympic Committee, presented a paper on "Review and analysis on the organisation of the ongoing SEA Games and achievements of the participating member countries".



Nepal

The Vice President of the World Taekwondo Federation, Oh Hyun-Duk, met with the President of the Nepal Olympic Committee, Dhruva Bahadur Pradhan, on Friday, May 2, at Nepal Olympic Building Satdobato, Lalitpur.

(www.nocnepal.org.np)



Oman

Oman Olympic Committee has launched its adopted logo entitled "Sport for Development" which is one of the prime objectives of the OOC board for the future. In this context, a workshop was held at Sultan Qaboos Sports Complex on Monday, March 10 where the terms of reference and duties entrusted to the OOC's working committees and nature of their activities and responsibilities were presented to the audience.



Pakistan

The IOC Executive Board announced in April that the NOC of Pakistan would be suspended at the next EB meeting in July if an agreed roadmap was not followed by the government of Pakistan. The IOC, however, has agreed to fresh dialogue with the government to improve the situation. (www.olympic.org)



Palestine

The NOC reports that the second edition of the "Right To Movement" marathon took place in Bethlehem (West Bank) on April 11, attracting thousands of local and international participants. The programme included three races: 10km, 21km and the marathon, which wound its way through several geographical areas and communities. The marathon, whose organisers hope will become a part of the IAAF international calendar, is designed to raise public awareness of the importance of sport in the fields of health, politics and tourism.

(www.olympic.org)



Philippines

The NOC reports that there were two great days of triathlon in Bacolod City for the Typhoon Haiyan- postponed Batang Pinoy 2013, the Philippine National Youth Games. Nicole Eijanantos led from start to finish to win the girls' triathlon and Julius Constantino followed up his win at the Anvaya Cove Triathlon with victory here. This was the biggest BP ever with 33 boys and 21 girls from all over the Philippines participating.

(www.olympic.ph)



Qatar

The President of the Turkish Olympic Committee, Professor Uğur Erdener, and the Secretary General of the Qatar Olympic Committee, HE Sheikh Saoud Bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani, signed a Memorandum of Understanding that will see the two NOCs open up new channels of collaboration and best practice exchange. On April 15, the IAAF announced that three cities – Barcelona, Doha and Eugene – had sent in letters of intent to host competitions for the 2017-2019 IAAF World Athletics Series.



Saudi Arabia

The Saudi Press Agency reports that the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, was due to patronize the opening ceremony of King Abdullah Sports City in Jeddah on May 1. Al-Ahli of Jeddah played host to a historic football match against Al-Shabab of Riyadh that marked the final of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques Cup 2014.



Singapore

Mark Chay, 33, double Olympian, and Cecilia Low, 23, a world champion sailor, have been appointed Chef de Mission and Young Ambassador respectively for the upcoming Nanjing 2014 Youth Olympic Games (YOG). Chay, a former national swimmer who represented Singapore at the 2000 and 2004 Olympic Games, will lead the Singapore contingent as Chef de Mission.





Sri Lanka

The 4th Olympic Solidarity Advanced Sport Management Course conducted by the NOC began on May 2. The course consists of modules covering six topics and will be held over a 12-month period in five sessions each consisting of three days.

(www.srilankaolympic.org)



Syria

The Syrian Arab News Agency reports that the Syrian national triathlon team won a second gold medal in the 2014 Subic Bay ASTC Paratriathlon Asian Championships in the Philippines on April 27. The gold medal was gained by Samir Hijazi raising Syria's share to three medals after the gold of Anas Hajar and silver of Mohammad Shubat.



Chinese Taipei



The Chinese Taipei Olympic Committee says that badminton player Cheng Wen-Hsing - one of 37 Athlete Role Models for the 2014 Nanjing YOG - has been actively participating in a programme to influence local young people involved in crime by teaching them the value of sport. The CTOC has organised six speaking engagements for Cheng at various juvenile correction centres.

(www.tpenoc.net).



Tajikistan

Asia-Plus reports from Dushanbe that Tajik alpine skier Alisher Qudratov failed to reach the finish line in the first round of the men's slalom at the Winter Olympics in Sochi on February 22 and was kept out of further competition. According to the Winter Olympics official website, only 77 of 117 skiers managed to complete the first round.



Thailand

IOC member Nat Indrapana has received an honorary doctorate in sports science from Burapha University, one of Thailand's biggest universities, in recognition of his contribution and commitment to promoting physical education and sport among young people. He was awarded the doctorate by Princess Mahachakri Sirinthorn, who was presiding over the ceremony on behalf of the King of Thailand.

(www.olympic.org)



Timor Leste

Timor Leste was among 11 regional NOCs in attendance at the SEA Games Federation's 2nd Congress and meetings from April 28-30 ahead of the 28th SEA Games in Singapore in June 2015. The first SEAGF Congress was held in Kuala Lumpur in 2000.



Turkmenistan

Azat Muradov, Secretary General of the Turkmenistan NOC, is on the list of keynote speakers for the first Middle East Directors' Club in Dubai, UAE, on May 29. The club - for sports executives and industry experts - is organised by iSportconnect.com and INTERACT (business events specialists), hosted by Rotana Hotels and supported by Dubai Sports Council.



United Arab Emirates

The NOC reports that the executive board of the School Olympics has set May 22 for the launch of the finals of the School Olympics which will last for three days in Dubai. The Dubai Police Officers' Club will host athletics, gymnastics and shooting, while Al Wasl Club will host the finals of fencing, swimming and archery. A total of 777 students competed in the preliminary round.

(www.uaenoc.net)



Uzbekistan

Uzbekistan's athletes have been active in Olympic and Asian Games, world and continental championships, and they are becoming champions and prize winners by representing the nation with dignity in the international sporting arena. This is a result of the enormous attention being paid under the leadership of President Islam Karimov to the promotion of sports, especially among children, the Uzbekistan National News Agency reports.



Vietnam

HE Hoang Tuan Anh, Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism and Vietnam NOC President, says the 5th Asian Beach Games in Nha Trang in 2016 are in safe hands as the hosting costs are not too high and the local authorities are keen to support the event to promote tourism. Vietnam also has experienced technical officials in beach and sea sports, he added, during a press conference at OCA HQ in Kuwait.



Yemen

Volleyball coaches in Yemen received ministerial approval after they completed an FIVB coaching course on May 7. To the surprise of the 30 participants, the Minister of Education, Dr Abdul-Razaq Al-Ashwal, helped FIVB Instructor Johann Huber from Austria hand over the FIVB certificates. The President of the Yemen Volleyball Association, Mr Mohsen Ahmed Saleh, thanked the FIVB for running the course and announced that Yemen was applying to organise the next Arab Youth Volleyball Championships.

(www.fivb.org)


2014


 Incheon, Korea: June 01
OCA Coordination Committee meeting for Incheon 2014


 Kuwait: June 03 – 05
Sport Arbitration Forum for Africa, Asia and Oceania

 Kuwait: June 04
OCA Extraordinary General Assembly

 Brazil: June 12 – July 13
FIFA World Cup

 Helsinki, Finland: June 12 – 15
6th World Conference on Women and Sport


 Thailand: June 25 – 26
Chef de Mission Seminar for Phuket 2014


 PyeongChang, Korea: June 29 – July 02
Debriefing of Sochi Olympic Games

 Sapporo, Japan: July 06
OCA Fun Run and Learn


 Lausanne, Switzerland: July 08 – 09
IOC Executive Board Meeting

 Nanjing, China: August 16 – 28
II Youth Olympic Games

 Nanjing, China: August 18
64th ANOC Executive Council Meeting

 Incheon, Korea: August 21
Draw for Team Sports, 17th Asian Games

 Phuket, Thailand: September 08
Draw for Team Sports, 4th Asian Beach Games

 PyeongChang, Korea: September 16 – 18
IOC Coordination Commission

 Incheon, Korea: September 19 – October 04
17th Asian Games, Incheon 2014

 Incheon, Korea: September 20
33rd OCA General Assembly


 Incheon, Korea: September 21
OCA Olympic Partner Summit, Songdo Convensia

 Bangkok, Thailand: November 07
65th ANOC Executive Council Meeting

 Bangkok, Thailand: November 08
20th ANOC General Assembly

 Phuket, Thailand: November 14 – 23
4th Asian Beach Games, Phuket 2014

2015

 Singapore: June 05 – 16
28th South East Asian Games

 Samoa: September 5 – 12
5th Commonwealth Youth Games

2016


 Lillehammer, Norway: February 26 – March 6
II Winter Youth Olympic Games

 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil: August 5 – 21
XXXI Olympic Summer Games

 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

2018

 PyeongChang, Korea: February 09 – 25
XXIII Olympic Winter Games

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