



REGIONAL REPORT TO IASI GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE PERIOD 1997-2001 ASIA

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Zhao Yaping
Asian Regional Vice President

I. MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS/ACTIVITIES 1997-2001

1. Preparatory Committee for Asian Sports Information Association

In 31 March 1998 during the IASI meeting in Hong Kong, 17 delegates from seven Asian countries and regions agreed in a special Asian Group meeting that a preparatory committee should be formed for the future establishment of an Asian Sports Information Association (A.S.I.A.).

Professor Zhao Yaping was elected Convener of the Committee.

The Hong Kong Sports Development Board, represented by Mr Li Tak Nang, was appointed Secretariat of the Committee.

The Secretariat should coordinate necessary foundation work for the establishment of an Asian Sports Information Association, hopefully during the next IASI Congress in 2001.

A publication should be produced as a means of enhancing communications and understanding among the potential regional sports information community.

The following people have been invited to be the coordinator of different regions:

Regional Coordinator - East Asia

Professor Masaru Ikeda (Sasakawa Sports Foundation, Japan)

Mr Takayuki Hata (Nagasaki University, Japan)

Regional Coordinator - West Asia

Mr Abdelmalik I. Elismail (General Presidency For Youth Welfare, Saudi Arabia)

Regional Coordinator - South-east & South Asia

Ms Selina Khoo Phaik Lin (University of Malaya, Malaysia)

After wide spread of information through the ASIA Bulletin, about ten new Asian institutions have given their response. They are:

Malaysia - University Teknologi Mara, Dr Sabree Salleh, Associate Professor Dato'

Philippines - Philippine Sports Commission, Carmencita R. Velasco, Chief of Supporting Services Division

China - Beijing University of Physical Education, Ms Liu Caixia (head Librarian)

Singapore - National Olympic Council, Mr Lau Teng Chuan

Saudi Arabia - Olympic Committee, Mr Soliman Aljabhan

DPR Korea - Sports Information Center of DPR Korea, Mr Choe Yung Rae, Director of Sports Information Center

Indonesia - Indonesian Schools Sports Council, Mr Suryono

Sri Lanka - National Institute of Sports Science, T.D. Thilakasiri
Iraq - College of Sport Education for Women, Dr Sadik Farag Thiab

The past three years have seen a positive move of this provisional-regional body of ASIA in the area of sports information. It is planned that the establishment of ASIA will be seriously discussed at the Asian Regional meeting in Lausanne.

2. Hong Kong China Holding the 1998 IASI Meetings

With the theme "Developing Sports Information in Asia", the Hong Kong Sports Institute successfully organized the 1998 IASI annual meetings after full preparation. This is the second time IASI had its meeting held in Asia, which has greatly promoted the development of sports information in Asian area, spread new information technology, make IASI more widely known in Asia and encourage more people to start working with sports information.

3. Sports Information Academic Seminar Held

During the 1998 IASI meetings in Hong Kong, a pre-meeting academic seminar for sports information was held. Excellent and inspiring presentations were given by IASI experts and two workshops were also held which has aroused great interests of the participants and popularized sports information and IASI in this area.

4. New technique and Internet fast developed in Asia

New techniques especially Internet was fast developed and widely used by sports information people in Asia in the past years. Now you can visit many sport home pages in Arabian, Chinese, Japanese, Korean etc. on the Internet. Some valuable sport scientific journals have been placed on the Internet in a more searchable format.

5. Publication of ASIA Bulletin

In order to provide a vehicle which will facilitate the exchange of sport information and promote cooperation among people of sport information, the ASIA Bulletin has been published twice a year by the Preparatory Committee. The Bulletin has played the function as a good place for sports information specialists to exchange views and experiences. The Bulletin will also serve as a channel to join sports people around Asia and all over the world. Since 1998 till now, with the endorsement and funding support of IASI and the efforts of the Hong Kong Sports Information Center, 5 issues have been published which has aroused the interests of Asian sports information people and helped to promote information exchange in Asian area.

6. Development of the Chinese sport documents database

The Chinese sport documents database is well developed during the period 1997-2001. It has 100,000 records now and more institutes around the country have come to subscribe and use it.

There is a good cooperation between CSII and SIRC. About 700-1000 documents from the most valuable Chinese sport scientific journals have been contributed to Sport/IASI database every year, and the contribution is still going on.

7. Development in Different Countries and Regions

DPR Korea: Since its admission to IASI in 1991, the DPR Korea Sports Information Association did its activity more actively to develop the sports information in the country. The Association has the DPR Korea Sports Information Centre with its many branches in the local areas, forming a sports information network throughout the country.

The Sports Information Centre with its about 100 personnel collects sports information from many international sports organizations and foreign countries through several means such as publications, computers and satellite communications. To make its work more swift and reliable, the Sports Information Centre established the computer network throughout the country and manages the Sports Library of 100,000 books.

Japan: After some years of construction, the Japan Sports Information Center (JSIC) of Japan Institute of Sport Science (JISS) will start to work from June 2001. It is expected to become the most comprehensive sport database in Japan.

As one of the four departments of JISS, the center has the work of broadly collecting and distributing sports information from and to both national and international fields, special attention is given to information of Olympic and competitive sports. It is supported by very new and advanced information facilities.

Saudi Arabia: The Saudi Arabian sport information center has moved its sport application systems and databases from the current main-frame environment to an open system architecture, and the SASIC is developing its internet web-site.

India: There are sport libraries in the National Institute of Sports in Patiala and Bangalore, but they are exclusively for the use of students and trainees. The general public does not have access to these centers of sports information.

Chinese Taipei, In March 1999, the Sports Information and Communication Association (SICA) with a membership of about 60 was founded aiming at gathering and disseminating information concerning physical education, training, research, competition and recreation.

The Lao: In Lao PDR with the assistance of the Australia Asia Sport Linkages program, a National Sport Information Center (NSIC) is being established at the National Stadium in Vientiane. The primary objective of the NSIC is to enable Lao coaches to access information and also to support the work of the Sports Committee, Olympic Committee and Sports Federations. Although facing the problem of lack of facilities, personnel, and advanced technology, the initial work of collecting different information resources has began, including books, journals and videos. Internet is also considered.

Similar projects are also planned for Vietnam and Cambodia.

China: A new database, the "China Joint Sport Books Catalogue", has been created in 2000. Sixteen physical education colleges and 30 sports research institutes have participated in the project. Physical education and sport collections in each college and institute were collected,

checked and catalogued with records of 14,876 books. The completion of the catalogue has laid a foundation for sharing a common sport information resource in China.

The Chinese edition of DICTIONARY OF SPORT SCIENCE, which has about 2000 entries covering some 20 different sport scientific disciplines has been compiled and published. The dictionary will be widely used by Chinese speaking professionals around the world.

II. SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE REGIONAL ACTIVITIES/PROJECTS 2001-2005

1. Proposal as Hosting Candidate for the 2005 IASI Congress

During the Canberra Presidium meeting, suggestions was put forward to seek a candidate for the 2005 Congress. When Beijing got this news, China Sport Information Institute gave a quick response. The Beijing University of Physical Education was thought a proper place for this Congress because there is proper academic circumstances and good lodging and boarding conditions there (the scientific congress of the 2001 World Universiade Games will be held in BUPE this summer). Ma Tie talked this idea with people in charge in BUPE and an active answer was got. After a further consideration of IASI's guidelines for holding the Congress sent by the IASI President, and after approval by the China State Sport General Administration, now the proposal to be the candidate hosting the 2005 Congress from BUPE is put on the table of the Executive Committee for discussion.

We do understand, just as the President mentioned in her letter to Prof. Zhao Yaping, Vice-president for Asia, that consideration should be given to seeking a Congress venue outside of Europe for the 2005 Congress particularly as IASI in the last 10 years has become a much more international organization.

"Asia would be a significant milestone in the internationalization of IASI and the Presidium believes that China would be an ideal location because it is the seat of the Asian IASI Vice President, which has for the last 15 years shown a total commitment to the activities of IASI, and because it has the high level of organizational skills demonstrated by the hosting of the successful 1991 Annual IASI Meetings.

2. Regional meetings will be held to exchange ideas and activity information every year.

3. Programs to promote sports information exchange among members of ASIA will be initiated.

To further enhance communications among information providers and consumers around the region, development of an Internet homepage supplemented with printed products should be considered.

4. ASIA Bulletin will continually be published. The ASIA homepage will become richer in content.

5. A local workshop on the new technology of sports information will be held during the 2005 IASI Congress in Beijing.