



President's Statement



The period from May 2008 to May 2009, was yet another outstanding and successful period for the Olympic Council of Malaysia (OCM). Overall OCM not only achieved excellent results in all its activities, but also managed to increase the number of activities organized during the period under review.

The most important event of 2008 was the Games of the XXIX Olympiad held in Beijing, China from 8th to 24th August 2008. The Malaysian Contingent of 33 athletes, comprising 19 male and 14 female athletes, who participated in 9 sports and one discipline, made it the largest Malaysian Olympic Contingent, since qualifying system was introduced. In addition, there were 33 male and one female team officials and 6 male and 2 female medical officials. After two consecutive Olympic Games without winning any medal, Badminton player YBhg Dato' Lee Chong Wei, won the silver medal in the Badminton Men's Singles events. Overall the Malaysian Contingent did well, as besides the Badminton team, the Archery team and the Track Cycling team performed creditably by qualifying for the quarter-finals in their respective events.

Of less importance, but nevertheless a significant milestone in the history of the OCM was the successful organisation of the 12th World Sport for All Congress, in Genting Highlands, from 3rd to 6th November 2008. A total of 508 participants from 98 countries of all 5 continents attended the 12th World Congress, with the largest number of participants, 280 from Asia and 138 participants from Europe. The invited speakers included Lord Sebastian Coe, Chairman and President of the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games, Sir Philip Craven, President of the International Paralympic Committee and three Malaysians.

The highlight of the 12th World Congress was a specially organised Hash Run at Batang Kali on 4th November 2008, where the international participants of the Congress had the opportunity to join Malaysian Hashers for a fun run through secondary Malaysian forest, a rubber estate and two river crossings. It was truly an amazing and exciting once in a life time sport for all experience for the participants.

Besides participating in the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, Malaysian athletes also participated in the III Commonwealth Youth Games held in Pune, India from 12th to 18th October 2008, the 1st Asian Beach Games held in Bali, Indonesia from 18th to 26th October 2008 and the 5th Australian Youth Olympic Festival in Sydney, Australia from 14th to 18th January 2009.

Based on the advice of the Hon. Minister of Youth and Sports Malaysia, the rating system for National Sports Associations (NSAs) was modified by separating the scores of each of the three areas, Governance, Programmes & Activities and Achievements and reporting them as 3 individual 'report cards'. In addition, a weightage of one was assigned for Governance and for Activities and Programmes whilst a weightage of two was assigned for Achievements. With the above change, new scores were calculated based on last year's returns of the NSAs. The review of the questionnaire and the formation of an 'audit' committee are in progress. Once completed, a new Rating Exercise will be carried out in the second half of 2009.

Due to circumstances beyond the control of OCM and Peninsula Digital Sdn Bhd (PDSB), the joint venture agreement was terminated amicably. Astro has now taken over the project and meetings with representatives of a number of NSAs to discuss the implementation of Astro Arena are ongoing. The Channel is expected to commence operation by the end of the year. Once launched, Astro Arena will bring much benefit in many ways to the National Sports Associations.

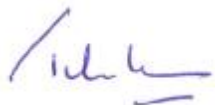
Waz Lian Hotel Management Group has invested over RM5.0 million in the renovations and upgrading of all the rooms, the coffee house, the car parking system and the conference rooms of Hotel Olympic. Upgrading of the front reception lounge and painting of the Hotel will be completed by the end of 2009. With the completion of the renovation and upgrading, Hotel Olympic will attain a standard which OCM will be proud of, and associations should give their full support for Hotel Olympic to be the centre of sports activities.

The financial position of OCM continues to strengthen. At the end of 31st December 2008, OCM had Fixed Assets of RM22.0 million, Current Assets of RM8 million and investments of RM8.6 million. The surplus for the year 2008 was RM1,299,784/= on a total income of RM10,458,426/= for the year as against RM1,739,815/= on a total income of RM9,715,292/= for the year 2007.

The financial stability of OCM is secured through the long term lease of Hotel Olympic to Waz Lian Hotel Management Group. The revenue from the rental of Hotel Olympic is sufficient to meet the annual operating expenses of OCM. Funds from Olympic Solidarity, Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) and sponsors are channeled for sports development programmes. The establishment of the OCM Sport Development Trust Fund will further ensure a sustainable annual income for development and well-being of athletes and affiliates of OCM.

During the period under review, OCM managed to maintain the successes and growth, which were achieved over the past decade. However the years ahead are full of challenges. The introduction of a number of new multi-sports Games such as the Asian Beach Games, Asian Indoor Games, Asian Martial Arts Games, and a number of Youth Games, means more obligations and financial commitments for OCM. The resolution at the 1st OCA Congress 2009, of “One Sport-One Games” and “One Games-One Year”, gives hopes that there will soon be a resolution on the over-crowded international sports calendar.

Finally, I wish to thank the Government of Malaysia, the International Olympic Committee, the Olympic Council of Asia, the Commonwealth Games Federation, sponsors, my colleagues on the Board and the Council as well as the staff and volunteers of OCM for their invaluable support and guidance.



(YAM Tunku Tan Sri Imran ibni Almarhum Tuanku Ja'afar)
President
Olympic Council of Malaysia