

19 December 2006

## **Progress of HKSI Redevelopment – *Formation of the HKSI Redevelopment Project Steering Committee***

Following the announcement made by the Chief Executive of HKSAR on 11 October 2006 that the Government has earmarked funding to embark on the redevelopment of the Hong Kong Sports Institute (“HKSI”), a Hong Kong Sports Institute Redevelopment Project Steering Committee (“the Committee”) chaired by HKSI Chairman Dr Eric Li Ka-cheung, has been formed under the direction of the Home Affairs Bureau. The Committee is tasked with actualizing the Chief Executive’s vision of providing a modern, world-class training environment for elite athletes in Hong Kong. The redeveloped HKSI will cater specifically for the training needs of athletes with disabilities as well as able-bodied athletes. This initiative is part of the Government’s strategic plan to unite all sectors of the community towards developing Hong Kong as a “Sports City”.

The Committee comprises members of the HKSI Board, HKSI management and the Government including: Prof Frank Fu, Mrs Vivien Fung and Mr Martin Liao of the HKSI Board of Directors; Ms Janet Wong of Home Affairs Bureau, Ms Olivia Chan of Leisure and Cultural Services Department, Mr Chan Wing-tak of Architectural Services Department and Mr Andrew Lai of Shatin District Office; and Dr Chung Pak-kwong, Chief Executive of the HKSI. Coaches, athletes and professionals with building, architectural or surveying expertise will also be invited to assist the Committee in due course.

The Committee, which will oversee the implementation of the redevelopment project of the HKSI, had its first meeting on 22 November 2006 with a view completing the necessary proposal documentation defining the scope of the project and the required footprint of the HKSI, within the first quarter of 2007. The Committee will work in consultation with key stakeholders to detail the necessary design proposals for approval of funding by the Legislative Council within 2007. The construction work is expected to commence in late 2008 after the Olympic / Paralympic equestrian events.

### **Background**

In July 2005, the Secretary for Home Affairs Dr Patrick Ho (“SHA”) set up a Joint Task Force (“JTF”), co-chaired by the Elite Sports Committee and the HKSI to

undertake a review of the provision of facilities at HKSI and elsewhere, and to recommend a Redevelopment Plan for the HKSI. Throughout the six-month period of its operation, the JTF directed and monitored an extensive series of consultative processes with key stakeholders and the appointment of the necessary professional Consultants to draft the HKSI Redevelopment Plan. The results of the process, having successfully passed key stakeholder scrutiny were submitted to the SHA on 28 March 2006. The Project Steering Committee will now take up the next phase of planning and implementation of the work to provide a world-class training environment for local elite athletes, and contributing to Hong Kong's development as a nexus of world-class sports.

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