EVER ONWARD

STRIKING NEW LOGO FOR
18TH ASIAN GAMES 2018

5th Asian Beach Games Special
OCA General Assembly
OCA Rowing Youth Camp
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Front cover:
The colourful new logo for the OCA’s 18th Asian Games in Jakarta-Palembang, Indonesia, in 2018. See Page 34 for details.
The Olympic Council of Asia was very proud to sign the host city contract with Aichi-Nagoya for the 20th Asian Games in 2026 during our 35th General Assembly in Danang, Vietnam, on September 25, 2016.

We now have the next three Asian Games in place, with Jakarta-Palembang, Indonesia, in 2018 followed by Hangzhou, China, in 2022 and now Nagoya in Japan four years later.

In the current climate of hosting austerity and uncertainty around the world, this is a remarkable achievement for the OCA and demonstrates the vibrant sports scene in Asia.

In addition to these three major events, of course, Asia will also be hosting the next three Winter/Summer/Winter Olympic Games: PyeongChang 2018, Tokyo 2020 and Beijing 2022.

With the sports calendar fixed for the next 10 years, our NOCs can now start to plan for both the short-term and the long-term regarding targets for athletes and also in terms of management, organisation and preparation.

It is no wonder that the IOC President, Dr Thomas Bach, told our General Assembly that he was counting on Asia to take care of the Olympic Movement and the Olympic Games in the next few years.

We can assure him that, with our experience and our expertise, our solidarity and unity, the Olympic Games are in safe hands in Asia.

Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahad Al Sabah
President, Olympic Council of Asia
President, Association of National Olympic Committees
Chairman, IOC Olympic Solidarity Commission

The IOC President, Dr Thomas Bach, was happy to promote the OCA’s official magazine, Sporting Asia, during his trip to Vietnam for the OCA General Assembly.

During his address to delegates, President Bach praised Asia’s performance at Rio 2016 and highlighted the NOCs to have won gold for the first time.

He also referred to the cover photo of Sporting Asia featuring Singapore’s Joseph Schooling, who beat his boyhood hero Michael Phelps to win gold in the men’s 100m butterfly.
SINGAPORE’S Ashley Liew received the Pierre de Coubertin World Fair Play Trophy 2015 for an Act of Fair Play from the International Fair Play Committee at an awards night in Budapest, Hungary, on October 15. Ashley, 29, found himself leading the men’s marathon at the 28th SEA Games in Singapore after the leading runners missed a U-turn in the dark. Instead of taking advantage of his sudden 50-metre lead, Ashley slowed down and waited for the others to catch up, thereby compromising his medal chances.

Morinari Watanabe of Japan was elected President of the International Gymnastics Federation at the FIG Congress in Tokyo on October 19. Watanabe, 57, Secretary General of the Japan Gymnastics Association and an FIG Executive Committee member, will take up his new functions on January 1, 2017, succeeding Bruno Grandi (ITA), who has led the FIG for 20 years.

Over 20 companies attended the first Athletes’ Career Exhibition at Olympic House in Causeway Bay on October 16 run by the Hong Kong Athletes Career and Education Programme of the Hong Kong NOC. The exhibition was to provide job market information and job opportunities for retired athletes.

The Bahrain Olympic Committee hosted a special celebration for Fatima Abdulrazaq Safar, who won the gold medal in the shot put (F-53) at the Rio 2016 Paralympics. Fatima is pictured with a proud Bahrain NOC board member Shaikha Hayat bint Abdulaziz Al Khalifa.

Macau NOC President and OCA Media Committee Chairman Charles Lo presents prize money to triathlete Hoi Long at the Bank of China awards night at Macau Tower on October 11. A total of 1,140,000 Macau Patacas (USD150,000) was presented to eight sports associations on behalf of 145 elite athletes.
The Philippines’ IOC member, Mikee Cojuangco-Jaworski, used her popular Facebook account to report on the progress of community rebuilding in Leyte province which was devastated by Typhoon Yolanda/Haiyan in November 2013. Mikee praises the contributions of the OCA, IOC Olympic Solidarity and the Philippine Olympic Committee in helping the communities get back on their feet following the super typhoon, which claimed the lives of at least 6,300 people.

The Jordan Olympic Committee, the leading organisation for sport in Jordan, has appointed Nasser Majali as its new Secretary General.

Nasser, 36, has extensive business and management experience through education and practice over the last 15 years. He has worked across multiple sectors including IT, Trading, Financial Services and NGOs.

Maria Leonor Estampador (Philippines) received the award for Asia in the annual IOC Women and Sport Trophy. Maria (pictured second from right) is the first female national fencing coach in the Philippines, a sports official and leader. For more details, see: www.olympic.org.
IOC President Thomas Bach was the special guest at the 35th OCA General Assembly held in the Royal Lotus Convention Centre in Danang, Vietnam, on Sunday, September 25, 2016.

In his keynote speech, President Bach said: “The Asian Olympic Movement is today stronger than ever before in the worldwide Olympic Movement. “At Rio 2016 you demonstrated the great power of sport in Asia and, considering the next three consecutive Olympic Games will be organised in Asia, this is an unprecedented achievement. “We thank you and congratulate you on this great contribution to the worldwide Olympic Movement.”

The OCA President, HE Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahad Al Sabah, updated the General Assembly on the situation of the OCA HQ in Kuwait and said the OCA had decided to establish a regional sub-office in each of the five zones, as well as in the Olympic capital of Lausanne, Switzerland, and the next Asian Games host city of Jakarta, Indonesia.

The five sub-offices will be at:
- Kuwait (West Asia)
- Almaty, Kazakhstan (Central Asia)
- New Delhi, India (South Asia)
- Bangkok, Thailand (South East Asia)
- Nansha, China (East Asia)

Sheikh Ahmad thanked the General Assembly for the trust and confidence placed in the OCA Executive Board to deal with any sudden major developments in the case.

In other news from the General Assembly:
- The OCA agreed that a maximum of two athletes from each NOC will be allowed to enter individual events at the Asian Games, in a bid to reduce the number of participants.
- The OCA Merit Award was presented to Mr Kwon Kyungsang, former Secretary General of the 2014 Incheon Asian Games Organising Committee; to LTG Mohammad Zahir Aghbar, President of Afghanistan NOC; and to Mr Narayana Ramachandran, President of the Indian Olympic Association and World Squash Federation.

IOC President praises OCA’s ‘great contribution’
The OCA secured the next host city of its premier event, the Asian Games, at the 35th OCA General Assembly.

With Jakarta-Palembang already preparing for the 18th Asian Games in 2018, and Hangzhou in China signed up for the 19th edition in 2022, the central Japanese city of Nagoya in Aichi Prefecture will stage the landmark 20th Asiad in 2026.

It will be the third time for Japan to host Asia’s Summer Olympics, following Tokyo in 1958 and Hiroshima in 1994, and will add to Nagoya’s rich sports culture and world-class venues.

The enthusiasm for hosting the Asian Games was demonstrated by the Mayor of Nagoya City, Takashi Kawamura, who surprised and delighted the General Assembly with his modified version of the Elvis Presley classic, “Can’t Help Falling in Love”.

Expecting a formal address, the audience was serenaded by the words, “Wise men say only fools rush in, but I can’t help falling in love with Asian people and Asian Games in Nagoya and Aichi!”

Sheikh Ahmad was so impressed that he asked: “Are we voting for the city or the song?”

The Asian Games will feel at home in Nagoya, which is a sporting stronghold in Japan and the home of popular teams in the country’s two biggest sports: Chunichi Dragons (baseball) and Nagoya Grampus Eight (football).

Leading Japanese athletes to come from this region include Olympic men’s hammer champion Koji Murofushi, multiple Olympic wrestling gold medal-winners Saori Yoshida and Kaori Icho and figure skaters Mao Asada, Kanako Murakami and Shoma Uno.

The Governor of Aichi Prefecture, Hideaki Ohmura, concluded the bid: “I am confident that, if the Asian Games are held in Aichi-Nagoya, our robust economy and the outstanding hospitality of the local population will unite the region and ensure a highly successful Asian Games.”

**AICHI-NAGOYA ‘FALLING IN LOVE’ WITH ASIAN GAMES**

**20TH ASIAN GAMES 2026**

- **Host City:** Nagoya
- **Population:** 7.5 million
- **Host Prefecture:** Aichi
- **Proposed Dates:** September 18-October 3
- **Sports:** 36
- **Motto:** “Heart” of Japan – Technology and Tradition
- **Opening and Closing Ceremony:** Mizuho Athletic Stadium
- **Capacity:** 35,000
- **Host Budget:** US$833 million, includes:
  - **Operating Costs:** US$431 million
  - **Venues:** US$108 million
  - **Athletes’ Village:** US$294 million
- **Asian Games in Japan:**
  - 3rd Asian Games, Tokyo 1958
  - 12th Asian Games, Hiroshima 1994
  - 20th Asian Games, Aichi-Nagoya 2026

GAMES UPDATE

- The 18th Asian Games in 2018 will add four of the five new Olympic sports for Tokyo 2020: Baseball/softball, karate, skateboard and sport climbing. Surfing misses out due to a lack of suitable venue in Jakarta or co-host city Palembang. Mechanical sports (paragliding/jetski) and bridge have been added as non-Olympic sports. Olympic sports: 32. Non-Olympic sports: 8

- The 3rd Asian Youth Games planned for Jakarta in November 2017 have been postponed and will be replaced by a series of Asian Sports Championships for around 10 NOCs each time. Surabaya, Indonesia, will host the AYG in 2021, and Sheikh Ahmad has opened the door for late bidders for the 2017 AYG.

- Athletes from Oceania NOCs will be able to take part in the 8th Asian Winter Games in Sapporo, Japan, in February 2017 as guest athletes in individual events and will not be eligible to win medals.

The OCA Women and Sports Committee held its first meeting of 2016 on Monday, November 14, on the sidelines of the 21st ANOC General Assembly in Doha, Qatar.

Chaired by Ms. Natalya Sipovich from Kazakhstan, the committee welcomed the new members and reviewed the development of female sports leadership in each of the five OCA zones. Members also shared initiatives and new projects to promote women’s sporting activities and physical fitness programmes.

After a thorough discussion, the committee affirmed its dedication to monitor women and sports developments within all NOCs and passed a series of resolutions as recommendations to the OCA Executive Board.

They included:

- To conduct an across-the-board survey on the status of women in sports throughout all Asian NOCs in order to draft a 2016-2019 women and sports action plan.
- To have a dedicated page for the Women and Sports Committee on the OCA website to provide information on the women in sports movement across the continent.
- The committee requests the authority to nominate one female sports personality for the OCA Merit Award.

The meeting heard updates on media operations and logistics from the organising committees of the 5th Asian Beach Games Danang 2016, 8th Asian Winter Games Sapporo 2017 and 18th Asian Games Jakarta-Palembang 2018.
Inside the OCA

Advisory Committee:

The Chairman, Ng Ser Miang of Singapore, reviewed the Rio Olympics and pointed out that Asia had two new members on the IOC. However, the committee still felt that Asia was under-represented with 18 members among 98. “I think this is something we should work on,” said Mr Ng. He expressed his satisfaction that Asia was producing young and dynamic sports leaders.

Education Committee:

Representing the Chairman, HRH Prince Abdulhakim bin Saud, a presentation on E-learning (On-line education) was given by the International Relations Director of the Saudi Arabian Olympic Committee, Khalid bin Bandar bin Musaid bin Abdulaziz. The Chairman will collect comments and concerns from members before establishing a working group to finalise a proposal to the OCA.

International Relations Committee:

HRH Prince Jigyel Ugyen Wangchuck of Bhutan welcomed the members and said he was honoured to be appointed Chairman by the OCA. The members recommended that the committee should encourage as many games and events as possible among countries, even at a smaller scale, to foster relations between all sports bodies in Asia.

Sport and Environment Committee:

Chairman Yu Kyung-Sun of Korea outlined a plan to hold an OCA Environment Forum on sustainability every two years to bring together representatives and partners of the OCA and other relevant organisations. The forum would conclude with the presentation of the OCA Award for Sport and Environment to recognise outstanding projects, said Mr Yu.
SSANGYONG TO BUILD AGIS FOR 18TH ASIAN GAMES

The Olympic Council of Asia signed a three-party Master Service Agreement with the Indonesian Asian Games Organising Committee (INASGOC) and Ssangyong Information and Communications Corp. (SICC) in Jakarta on Thursday, November 17.

The agreement is for Korean IT sports specialists Ssangyong to build the Asian Games Information System (AGIS) for the OCA’s 18th Asian Games in Jakarta-Palembang in August 2018.

The integrated information service will include the competition schedule, venues, results, new records, athlete profiles, transportation and other important data which is vital for the smooth operation of a major international multi-sport event.

SICC was established on July 1, 1981 as the first system integration company in South Korea.

The OCA’s Director of International and NOC Relations, Vinod Tiwari, welcomed the partnership between the experts from Ssangyong and INASGOC.

“OCA is very enthusiastic about this cooperation. Ssangyong has been a good partner of OCA for many years and we believe that Ssangyong, OCA and INASGOC can provide an excellent information system for all aspects of the 2018 Asian Games,” he said.

Guangdong ZZTY Lighting Technology Co. Ltd signed a four-year sponsorship agreement with the OCA on November 14 on the sidelines of the 21st ANOC General Assembly in Doha, Qatar. The contract was signed by the OCA Director General, Husain Al Musallam, and by Chen Rubing, Founder and CEO of ZZTY Lighting Technology, which is based in Foshan, Guangdong province.
DANANG DELIVERS ON PROMISE OF COMPACT, FUN-FILLED ABG5

If the purpose of the Asian Beach Games was to stage a fun-filled family event and to promote tourism in the host city, then Danang 2016 passed every test with flying colours.

From September 24 to October 3, the sea front of this central coastal city was transformed into an Olympic park where the Danang locals gathered to watch a wide variety of sports and share in this multi-cultural celebration.

The Vietnamese organisers promised a compact games at four venue clusters along a 7km stretch of the sweeping bay and more than delivered on this promise, as three of the venue clusters were just a short walk from the official hotels.

With the athletes staying in hotels nearest their competition venue, there was simply no need for a complex transportation system as almost everything was within walking distance – and what a pleasant walk it was, in glorious sunshine and along the promenade.

Thanks to the compact nature of the games, and the close proximity to the beach, sea, the city centre just over the Han River and to tourist attractions, Danang 2016 provided a true glimpse of Vietnam and made for a memorable stay for visitors from all five zones of the OCA and beyond.

Just as the OCA guests enjoyed Danang, the local people enjoyed the OCA being in town as they flocked to the venues at all times of day.

The bodybuilding show proved to be raucous entertainment for the spectators, as did the fiery Muay and other martial arts, while the team sports such as beach soccer, beach handball, beach volleyball, basketball 3x3, beach sepaktakraw and beach kabaddi drew packed galleries in the temporary stands.

Thanks to the decision of the organising committee to allow free entry to all spectators, the OCA’s 5th Asian Beach Games brought athletes, officials and the whole community together – completely fulfilling the concept and purpose of the event.

Vietnam was the winner in and out of the competition arena, as their athletes showed the progress they have made in a number of sports as they try to take the next step from South East Asian regional power to continental power.

With 52 gold medals and 139 total medals from 172 events in 22 disciplines of 14 sports, Vietnam topped the medal table on both counts. Thailand kept up with their great regional rivals most of the way and finished second with 36 gold medals and 90 in total.

For the record, 35 teams won at least one medal, of which 27 claimed gold.
5th Asian Beach Games
Danang 2016

Opening Ceremony: Saturday, September 24
Opened by: Prime Minister
Nguyen Xuan Phuc

Closing Ceremony: Monday, October 3
Closed by: OCA Vice President
Timothy Fok

Ceremony Venue: Bien Dong Park Square
Games Slogan: Shining Sea, Bright Future
Sports: 14
Disciplines: 22
Events: 172
Athletes: 2,197
NOCs: 41
Volunteers: 1,600
Media: 400

Flags fly in totally tropical Vietnam.
KAZAKHSTAN COMPLETE WATER POLO CLEAN SWEEP

Warming up for the Russian Championships and Asian Championships, Kazakhstan proved much too strong for their five rivals in the round-robin competition. They beat silver medallists Indonesia, bronze medal-winners China, Hong Kong, Thailand and Afghanistan by a combined score of 77-14.

Head coach Alexander Shvedov said the event had been good preparation, with his seven-strong squad comprising three experienced players and four youngsters. “This is an interesting game, I like this format,” he said. “Next time in the Asian Beach Games we will come with all young players because it is good for them to get international experience.”

KHUDYAKOV SWIMS TO MARATHON GOLDEN DOUBLE

Kazakhstan’s Vitaliy Khudyakov recorded a golden double in marathon swimming to claim the unofficial title of “Iron-man” of Danang 2016. Khudyakov, 22, won the 10km race on September 23 and defended his 5km title from Phuket 2014 two days later to complete a remarkable feat.

Syria’s Saleh Mohammad won a bronze in the 10km and silver in the 5km – his seventh and eighth medals in four ABG appearances comprised of three gold, two silver and three bronze. In the women’s races, Thailand’s Benjaporn Sriphannomthorn won the 5km and China’s London 2012 and Rio 2016 double Olympian Xin Xin swam to gold in the 10km.

Sport by Sport:
Aquatics – Marathon Swimming and Beach Water Polo
PAKISTAN TAMES INDIA IN KABADDI CRACKER
Pakistan pulled off a major surprise in the men’s final by beating kabaddi kings India 30-28 in front of a packed gallery on the beach at Bien Dong Park. Pakistan’s coach, Nabeel Ahmed Rana, said: “I’m very proud of this team. We’ve worked so hard to win this gold medal and we’ve shown that Pakistan is the best and we can beat anyone at any tournament. This performance was a gift to our nation.”

Earlier, in the women’s final, India held off Thailand 41-31, prompting India’s team manager, Soniya Kumari, to comment: “India is very strong. All our players are very fit and we have good technique. Mentally we are very powerful, but we also have flexibility, agility and coordination.”

JAPAN FIND THAT BIT EXTRA IN SOCCER FINAL
Japan scored twice in extra time to beat Oman 4-3 in the men’s beach soccer final on “Super Sunday” – the last day of ABG competition before the closing ceremony on October 3. Takaaki Oba and Ozu Moreira both scored twice for Japan, while Khalid Khamis Mohammed Al-Oraimi (2) and Nooh Salim Abdullah Al Zadjali replied for Oman.

Japan never trailed in the hard-fought final, twice building two-goal leads at 2-0 and 4-2 but having to hold off a spirited Omani challenge. Lebanon took the bronze medal with a 9-5 victory over Afghanistan.
Beach Volleyball and Beach Handball

**QATAR, THAILAND WIN BEACH VOLLEYBALL GOLD**


The Thai players were winning their second gold medal in ABG history, having been crowned champions in Haiyang, China, in 2012, and taking silver at Phuket, Thailand, two years later.

**HANDBALL FINALS SETTLED IN SHOOTOUTS**

Vietnam’s women’s handball team delighted a partisan home crowd by beating China 2-1 in the final at My Khe Beach. The hosts won the first period 20-13 but China hit back in the second 17-16 to make it 1-1 and take the match into a shootout. After China had missed their first two attempts, Vietnam’s Huyen Dam Thi Thanh scored the deciding goal to win the shootout 7-6 and with it the gold medal.

Thailand defeated Chinese Taipei 2-0 in the play-off for bronze. The men’s final also went to a shootout as defending champions Qatar beat Oman 2-1 (23-22, 22-24, 6-2). Pakistan beat Vietnam 10-8 in a shootout to claim bronze.
THAIS DOMINATE SEPAKTAKRAW
Thailand won four of the six gold medals available at the My Khe Beach venue with victories for the men and women in both the regu and team events.

Myanmar and Vietnam picked up the other two titles, in the men’s trio and women’s trio respectively.

Thailand (4-0-0) finished on top of the sepaktakraw medals table, followed by Vietnam (1-3-0), Myanmar (1-2-1) and Laos (0-1-3), who all won four medals.

QATAR DEFEND MEN’S BASKETBALL 3X3 TITLE FROM PHUKET 2014
Qatar withstood a late scoring blitz to beat Mongolia 15-12 in a thrilling men’s final and retain the 3x3 title they won at Phuket in 2014. Iraq took home the bronze medals after an incredible 16-15 buzzer-beating victory over Thailand.

China won the women’s gold medal for the first time at the Asian Beach Games, easing past Thailand 15-9 thanks to a game-high six points from Jin Weina. Chinese Taipei, gold medallists in Phuket two years ago, saw off Turkmenistan 21-9 in the bronze medal match.
Photo Special

Souvenir photos for China.

Cheerleaders take a breather in the shade of the stand.

Pakistani athletes visit Bien Dong Park Square.

Cheerleaders take a breather in the shade of the stand.
The Thai athletes were cheered all the way, here at petanque.

A rainy afternoon for the Team Welcome Ceremony.

Now which one’s mine?

The cross-country was run in energy-sapping conditions - on the sand under a burning sun.

Picture Postcard Danang.
BEACH WRESTLING A BIG HIT

The small ring and compact venue contributed to a fast and furious - and thoroughly entertaining - wrestling tournament on the beach at Bien Dong Park. Vietnam won two of the four gold medals in women’s wrestling through Nguyen Thi Xuan (under 50kg) and Tran Thi Huong (over 70kg), while Iran dominated the men’s competition with gold medals for Mohammad Naderi (under 70kg) and Omid Hassan Tabar Jelodar (under 80kg).

China and Korea picked up the other two gold medals in the women’s events, and Pakistan and Mongolia earned a place at the top of the podium in the other two men’s categories.

MONGOLIA WIN FOUR GOLD MEDALS IN SAMBO

Mongolia’s performance in Sambo wrestling earned them four of the eight gold medals on offer, leaving their rivals in their wake. Host country Vietnam and the Central Asian trio of Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan all claimed one gold apiece.

Mongolia’s champions were Unurjargal Boldpurev (men’s +90kg), Davaasuren Munkhbat (-64kg) and Battsetseg Tsog-Ochir (-72kg).
VIETNAM GO 4 FOR 5 IN WOMEN’S KURASH

Vietnam (4-4-5) claimed 13 medals over the 10 events – seven more than their nearest challenger Turkmenistan with six (1-2-3). The host country’s four gold medals all came in the women’s events, through Hoang Thi Tinh (-48kg), Nguyen Thi Thanh Thuy (-52kg), Nguyen Thi Huong (-63kg) and Nguyen Thi Lan (-70kg). The Vietnamese women were denied a clean sweep by Chinese Taipei’s Lee Wan-ting (-57kg).

In the men’s competition, Iran and Uzbekistan both won two gold medals and Turkmenistan claimed the other. Iran’s gold medal-winners were Hossein Sheikholeslami (-60kg) and Elias Aliakbari (-81kg), while Mirjon Tukhtaev (-66kg) and Suhrob Hudoyberdiev (-73kg) won gold for Uzbekistan. Turkmenistan’s lone gold medallist was Yhlas Setdarov in the heaviest division, -90kg.

JORDAN’S JU-JITSU SISTERS POCKET 3 GOLD MEDALS

World champion Lama Qubbaj and elder sister Rana won three gold medals and a bronze between them to lift Jordan to the top of the medal table in the 18-event ju-jitsu tournament. Lama won the +70kg and Open titles in the women’s ne-waza (ground technique), while Rana added the -70kg gold and bronze in the Open. Jordan’s fourth gold medal came from Haidar Al Rasheed in the men’s -85kg category.

UAE’s Yahya Al-Hammadi (+94kg and Open), Faisal Al-Ketbi (-94kg) and Talib Al-Kirbi (-69kg) all won gold in the men’s ne-waza. Jordan (4-3-5) edged out UAE (4-2-3) for top spot in the ju-jitsu rankings. Thailand won three gold medals, Mongolia and Philippines two apiece and there was one each for Vietnam, Iraq and Bahrain.
SEA REGION CLEANS UP IN PENCAK SILAT

Four countries from the OCA’s South East Asia zone claimed all 18 gold medals on offer in the five-day Pencak Silat competition, with 12 of the titles decided on the last day of a medal bonanza. Vietnam won nine gold medals, Thailand four, Malaysia three and Singapore two as the SEA region held off all-comers in tough conditions on the beach at Bien Dong Park.

It was a particularly productive discipline for the host country, who added four silver and two bronze in a 15-medal haul, while Singapore also made hay while the sun shined on Danang with two gold, two silver and six bronze for 10 medals in total.

RAKSMY DAZZLES JUDGES IN VOVINAM VICTORY

Cambodia showed that Vovinam experts Vietnam would not have things all their own way as fireball Pal Chhor Raksmy won gold in the women’s weapon self-defence on the first morning of action with 273 points for her all-action display.

Raksmy, a former taekwondo player, said this artistic form of Vovinam was useful for fitness and flexibility but also in real-life situations as a means of protecting yourself against weapon-wielding attackers.

In the end, Vietnam won only three of the nine gold medals. Myanmar and Cambodia took home two apiece and there was one gold medal each for Laos and Indonesia.
MUAY MANIA IMPRESSES IOC PRESIDENT
The rich traditions and pageantry of Muay came to Danang with 16 events in the explosive martial art, impressing one particular VIP guest: IOC President Thomas Bach. All 16 finals took place on September 26 - 10 men’s events and six for the women providing a feast of fists and furious action for the spectators.

The proud Thais defended their Muay heritage by winning eight of the 16 titles, five by the men and three by the women. Vietnam finished second in the table with four gold medals, while Iran and China also put up a good fight by winning two gold medals apiece in the heavier men’s categories.

IRAN, INDIA JOIN VIETNAMESE PARTY
As expected, Vietnam picked up the most medals in Traditional Martial Art with five of the 11 titles, while regional rivals Laos (2) and Cambodia (1) also took home gold. But two countries from very different zones also celebrated champions by beating Vietnamese opponents in their respective finals.

Iran won two gold medals - Yaser Pormehr (men’s under 50kg) and Seyed Mohsen Gholami Seyed Kolaei (men’s open) - while India’s Shweta Ramdas More won the women’s 48-52kg title.
HOSTS PROVIDE PERFECT SHUTTLE SERVICE

The shuttlecock competition made a major contribution to Vietnam’s overall dominance of ABG5 as the hosts collected seven out of seven gold medals.

The singles crowns were won by Dinh van Duc (men) and Nguyen Thi Anh Nguyet (women), with Vietnam adding the men’s and women’s doubles titles, mixed doubles and men’s and women’s team events. Vietnam beat China in four of the seven finals and Thailand in the other three, while Macau collected five bronze medals.

COOL THAIS TAKE SINGLE CROWNS

On a sweltering afternoon under a burning sun, Thailand’s two players in the men’s and women’s petanque single finals kept their cool to bring home the gold – Wanchaloem Srimueang in the men’s final, quickly followed by Kattika Aramchote in the women’s event. Kattika was in floods of tears after completing the title double as she was hugged by teammates, interviewed by TV and congratulated by her proud mother on a mobile phone call back home.

Thailand won four of the nine petanque titles, including the men’s and women’s double, while Cambodia picked up three gold medals in men’s and women’s triple and men’s shooting. Vietnam (mixed double) and China (women’s shooting) won the two other gold medals.
BODYBUILDING PROVIDES TOP-CLASS FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

The men’s bodybuilding competition proved to be a massive draw for the Danang public in a temporary arena at the main Bien Dong Park. Spectators of all ages flocked to the venue and gave the athletes their support and encouragement – and the contestants responded by not only showing off their muscles but also their showmanship.

While Vietnam won four of the seven gold medals and China two, Bahrain also hit the heights with victory for Ali Abdul Rasool Al Qassab in the height division up to and including 162cm.

KOREANS JOIN WOODBALL FAMILY

The woodball competition had a new team this year, Korea, taking the total number of entries to nine for the 11 events. Although the sport originated in Taiwan, long gone are the days of Chinese Taipei dominance as Thailand collected six gold medals and Vietnam three. Chinese Taipei and Indonesia took home one gold apiece.

The men’s individual strokeplay champion was Ahris Sumariyanto of Indonesia, while Vietnam’s Phung Thi Thuong won the women’s strokeplay on the last day of competition.
EXCITING FORMAT MAKES ROWING A WINNER

The exciting format involved competitors running on the sand to their boats, navigating a series of buoys in the sea, returning to the shore and sprinting to a flag. Needless to say it proved to be a huge hit with competitors and spectators alike at Bien Dong Park. Thailand’s Sangpromcharree Nuttapong won gold in the men’s solo after beating Hong Kong’s Law Hiu Fung by less than a second in a thrilling finish while Indonesia’s Chelsea Corputty won the women’s solo gold ahead of Thailand’s Pitukpaothai Tippaporn.

Of the six gold medals on offer, Thailand claimed three (men’s solo, women’s double sculls and men’s coxed quadruple sculls), China won two (men’s double sculls and women’s coxed quadruple sculls) and Indonesia the one gold from Corputty in women’s solo.

YOUSEF LEADS QATAR TO DOUBLE GOLD

Qatar raced to two gold medals in the gruelling men’s 6km cross country to end the beach athletics competition on a high note. Moussa Idriss Yousef won the individual gold in 19 minutes, 6.45 seconds and led a Qatari 1-3-5 finish to clinch the three-man team gold ahead of Vietnam (2-4-6).

Pham Thi Hue achieved the same feat for Vietnam with individual and team cross country gold – two of the six gold medals won by Vietnam from 14 events. The remaining eight gold medals went to Thailand (2), China (2), Qatar (2), Iran and Oman.
HALF A BILLION REASONS FOR NOCS TO THANK OS

The IOC Executive Board has approved a budget of over 500 million USD for the Olympic Solidarity Quadrennial Plan for 2017-2020.

The IOC announced the figure on November 10, and Olympic Solidarity (OS) relayed the good news to the world’s NOCs during the 21st ANOC General Assembly in Doha on November 16.

“This increase shows that the athletes remain at the heart of all our activity. The huge worldwide success of the Olympic Games Rio 2016 also means that the Olympic Movement continues to enjoy a sound financial situation.”

Pere Miró, Director of Olympic Solidarity.

The total of 509,285,000 USD represents an increase of 16 per cent on the 2013-2016 quadrennial (439,870,000 USD) and corresponds to the share of the broadcast rights from Rio 2016 and PyeongChang 2018 which will be distributed to the NOCs.

The OS development and assistance budget will be available through three main channels: World Programme, Continental Programme and IOC subsidies for Olympic Games participation.

The biggest share of the 509 million will go to the continental associations – 222 million, or 44 per cent of the total – while the World Programme, which offers 21 initiatives through the OS HQ in Lausanne, will be funded by 210 million, or 41 per cent.

A further 50 million USD will be available through direct subsidies to assist NOCs to take part in the Olympics.

The 205 NOCs were informed in Doha that they would receive a minimum of 580,000 USD over the four years, comprised of an annual subsidy of 45,000 USD for administration and 100,000 USD every year for activities.

Two new programmes are: Refugee Athlete Support and Athletes’ Career Transition.

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The OCA’s annual youth training camp is always one of the most popular projects under the Olympic Solidarity Continental Programme. The youth camp for 2016 focused on rowing and took place at Pattaya, Thailand, in October.

OLYMPIC SOLIDARITY IN 2013 – 2016

- 815 Olympic scholarship holders representing 171 NOCs and 22 sports participated at Rio 2016, winning a total of 101 medals - 33 gold, 26 silver and 42 bronze.
- 20 teams were supported through the Team Support Grant programme and won eight medals (4 gold, 2 silver and 2 bronze).
- Coaches from 172 NOCs benefited from 988 technical courses run by experts appointed by the International Federations.

- 641 coaches received individual scholarships to further their coaching skills and education.
- NOCs organised 429 courses for sports administrators.
- 230 NOC officials and managers received a scholarship to pursue a masters in sports management.
- OS reached 94 per cent of the NOCs by funding 715 Olympic Values projects.
- Olympic Day celebrations were subsidised for around 135 NOCs each year.
Doha proved to be a world-class host for a record-breaking 21st ANOC General Assembly at the iconic Sheraton Convention Centre on November 15-16.

The 1,200 delegates from 205 NOCs, International Federations, the IOC, Olympic Games organising committees, 2024 Olympic Games candidate cities and other stakeholders were treated like royalty – quite appropriate considering the royal family of Qatar gave their generous support to the event.

The programme ran like clockwork, starting with the Qatar Olympic Committee reception on November 14 at the magnificent Al Shaqab equestrian centre, where delegates were given a true taste of exotic Arabian and Qatari culture and could witness Arabian horses galloping in the indoor paddock.

The reception was graced by the presence of the Emir, His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, IOC President Thomas Bach, Qatar Olympic Committee President HE Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad Al Thani and by the ANOC and OCA President, HE Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahad Al Sabah.

The General Assembly the following morning was opened by the Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, HE Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani, who said the meeting was a true reflection of the diversity and unity within the Olympic Movement.

The first day heard the keynote speech of the IOC President focusing on the success of the Rio Olympics, reports from the five continental associations and presentations from the three candidate cities for the 2024 Olympics – Los Angeles, Budapest and Paris. Day one concluded with the ANOC Awards 2016 at the Qatar National Convention Centre.

The second day included reports from the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), ANOC’s commissions and working groups, Olympic Games organising committees, Olympic Solidarity and the list of resolutions.

🌟 The 22nd ANOC General Assembly will be held in Prague, Czech Republic, from October 30 to November 3, 2017. Tokyo will host the 2018 edition.

**SHEIKH AHMAD PROUD OF DOHA ‘FULL HOUSE’**

The ANOC President, HE Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahad Al Sabah, took a great deal of pride in the “full house” of 205 NOCs for the 21st ANOC General Assembly and the series of resolutions produced during the Doha debates.

“With the participation of all the NOCs and the other stakeholders, this has been like a summit,” said Sheikh Ahmad, as he formally closed the two-day gathering.

“We are showing our solidarity and cooperation as a main partner in the Olympic Movement. A full house in our General Assembly shows the progress and cooperation that exists between the NOCs around the world.”

IOC President Thomas Bach praised the “great leadership” of Sheikh Ahmad and thanked the NOC delegates for their strong support of ANOC and the IOC.

“The General Assembly has shown the energy of the NOCs, the determination to work together and the great solidarity of all the stakeholders in the Olympic Movement,” said President Bach.

“All the ideas will be taken into consideration and will be addressed.”
ASIAN NOCS HONOURED FOR RIO BREAKTHROUGH

Five Asian countries were recognised in the Breakthrough NOC category at the ANOC Awards 2016 on November 15 in Doha.

Bahrain, Jordan, Singapore, Tajikistan and Vietnam all won their first gold medals at Rio 2016 – and for Jordan it was their first medal of any colour in Olympic history.

Jordan’s hero, taekwondo champion Ahmad Abu Ghaush, was on hand to receive the trophy, along with Jordan Olympic Committee Secretary General Nasser Majali.

“It is an honour to accept the ANOC award for Breakthrough NOC and a privilege to have taken part in such a wonderful evening,” said Abu Ghaush, 20.

“Becoming Jordan’s first Olympic champion meant so much to me, but it also meant the world to everyone back in my country. I never dreamt that my success would have such a significant effect on people.”

The Emir of Qatar, His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, was honoured in the Contribution to the Olympic Movement section. The Qatar Olympic Committee President, HE Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad Al Thani, collected the award on the Emir’s behalf.

Sheikh Ahmad receives ISSF memento

The OCA and ANOC President, HE Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahad Al Sabah, received a special award on the first morning of the ANOC General Assembly for his services to the sport of shooting.

Sheikh Ahmad, a keen shooter, received the award from the President of the International Shooting Sport Federation, Olegario Vazquez Rana (Mexico), who was joined by Vice President Vladimir Lisin (Russia) and ISSF Secretary General Franz Schreiber (Germany).

The ISSF General Assembly 2016 in Moscow decided to make the award to Sheikh Ahmad – a commemorative medal 120 years old from the first modern Olympic Games in Athens in 1896 – in recognition of his services to shooting.

Sheikh Nasser wins ANOC Merit Award

The President of the Bahrain Olympic Committee, HH Sheikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, was one of four recipients of the ANOC Merit Award in Doha on November 15.

Sheikh Nasser received the award from the ANOC President in recognition of his efforts to modernise and promote the Olympic Movement throughout the kingdom. Sheikh Nasser is a world-class endurance rider in equestrian and also a keen triathlete.
The OCA Rowing Youth Camp marked the start of the sport in a handful of Asian countries, while developing the skills and technique of the more experienced athletes.

The camp was held in Pattaya, Thailand, from October 14-23 and attracted 38 athletes and 21 coaches from 21 National Olympic Committees.

The sprawling resort of the Ambassador City Hotel was used as the base camp, and a fleet of buses transported the athletes, coaches and leaders to the Thai Navy Rowing Sports Centre at Bang Pai Reservoir for morning and afternoon sessions on the water – a journey of some 40 minutes.

The camp’s head coach, Chris Perry of Hong Kong, led a small team of international experts and was delighted with the progress of the rowers and the atmosphere among the participants.

“We have basically formed three groups,” said Chris.

“The first group is for the rowers already at a reasonable level and who are looking to race, to fine-tune their boats, their race plan, tactics and strategy.

“The middle group has been about refining their technique and bringing them up to date

“The third group is for the novices, those who have never rowed before or very little. It is about learning how to row so that they can continue when they get back.”
on the latest rigging and training and pushing them in the direction of the first group.

“The third group is for the novices, those who have never rowed before or very little. It is about learning how to row so that they can continue when they get back.”

Nepal was the prime example, with head coach Som Raj Paneru selecting five athletes based on their basketball skills to attend the OCA camp and also the Asian Rowing Federation junior training camp running alongside the OCA event.

Nepal’s schoolteacher/coach could not hide his pride at the focus and determination of his five young athletes, who were heading out alone on to the vast reservoir after only two or three days’ training.

“The progress has been amazing,” said Chris.

“As well as that, we have had representatives from all five zones of Asia and that is quite unusual. The mix of cultures is tremendous; it is a melting pot, and the kids are interacting with each other and sharing things on their Facebook pages.

“The Thai organisers have made life so easy and so high praise to them.”
A detailed review of Asia’s performance at the Rio Olympic Games was presented to the OCA Executive Board and General Assembly in Vietnam by the Chairman of the OCA Information and Statistics Committee, Zagdsuren Demchigjav.

The report was welcomed by the OCA and earned a round of applause from the EB members and General Assembly delegates for its thoroughness and analysis, sport by sport, continent by continent, zone by zone.

“We are very happy with the detailed technical report from the Information and Statistics Committee,” said the OCA’s Director General, Husain Al Musallam.

“It shows the good points and the negative points of all Asian athletes at the Rio Olympics. It is a very interesting and useful review of Asia’s overall performance and points the way forward for more success at future Olympic Games.”

In his introduction, Mr Demchigjav, who is President of the Mongolian National Olympic Committee, said the report focused on the following main items:

- Medal standings and general information
- Medal comparisons over the past 10 Olympic Games going back to 1980
- Sport by sport analysis, review and achievements
- Key milestones and facts.

“We believe the findings from this report will give more insight and more information about the OCA’s performance at the Rio Games and contribute to the further advancement of our common objectives within the framework of the Olympic Movement in the days to come,” said Mr Demchigjav.

Badminton was one of Asia’s strongest sports at Rio 2016. Here are Indonesia’s mixed doubles gold medal-winners Tontowi Ahmad and Liliyana Natsir.

Daniyar Yeleussinov won Olympic boxing gold for Kazakhstan.
Iran’s Hassan Yazdani is greeted by well-wishers after winning wrestling gold.

Gold and silver for Thailand in women’s weightlifting 58kg: Srisurat Sukanya (right, with her gold medal) and Sinkaew Pimsiri.
The new logo and mascots for the OCA’s 18th Asian Games in Jakarta-Palembang, Indonesia, in 2018 have been approved and will now play a prominent role in the promotion and marketing of Asia’s showpiece multi-sport event.

The logo follows the design of the iconic Gelora Bung Karno Main Stadium in Senayan, Jakarta, while the three mascots represent different qualities of an athlete: strategy, speed and power.

The new logo and mascots were approved personally by the head of state, President Joko Widodo, before being forwarded to the OCA by the President of the Indonesian Olympic Committee, Mr Erick Thohir. They were selected from a nationwide competition.

The striking logo is based on the Gelora Bung Karno Main Stadium, which was built for the 4th Asian Games in 1962 under the direction of Indonesia’s founding father, President Soekarno. It features eight paths that lead to the stadium, with the OCA’s emblem, the sun, in the middle.

The three mascots are:

- **Bhin Bhin**, a badminton-playing bird representing strategy
- **Atung**, a football-playing deer representing speed
- **Ika**, a weightlifting rhinoceros representing power.

The names of the three mascots come from the vision of the founding fathers for a united nation under the “Bhinneka Tunggal Ika” philosophy – the official national motto of Indonesia meaning “Unity in Diversity” in Old Javanese.

**18TH ASIAN GAMES 2018**

**Host Cities:** Jakarta and Palembang

**Opening Ceremony:** August 18

**Closing Ceremony:** September 2

- **Athletes:** 10,000
- **Team Officials:** 5,200
- **Judges/Referees:** 2,000
- **VIPs:** 1,000
- **Media:** 10,000
- **Volunteers:** 30,000
- **Workforce:** 2,000
- **Sponsors:** 3,000

**Total Participants:** 63,200

The colourful 18th Asian Games batik.
**BRUNO CHEN, CHINESE TAIPEI NOC**

The Chinese Taipei Olympic Committee was shocked and saddened by the death of a popular member and friend of the Olympic Movement, Mr Bruno Yun-Ming Chen.

The former Deputy Secretary General of the CTOC passed away on June 15 in Taipei.

Born in 1949, Bruno had a distinguished career as a sports administrator and a pioneering ski athlete, representing Chinese Taipei in the Olympic Winter Games of 1972 and 1976.

During his career as an athlete and administrator he participated in 12 editions of the Summer Olympic Games and seven Winter Olympics.

Bruno joined the CTOC as a volunteer in 1974 and stayed there until his retirement as Deputy Secretary General in 2014, devoting 40 years of his life to the NOC and the Olympic Movement in Taipei and beyond.

He was also a member of the OCA Athletes’ Committee from 2003-2015 and President of the Chinese Taipei Ski Association from 2010-2016.

Bruno passed away peacefully in hospital due to complications from hepatitis, causing a stroke. He was surrounded by friends and family.

**BAHMAN GOLBARNEZHAD, IRANIAN PARA-CYCLIST**

Iranian para-cyclist Bahman Golbarnezhad, 48, died after sustaining injuries in a crash in the C4-5 road race at the Rio Paralympics in September.

A statement by the Iranian Paralympic Committee read: “He was an exemplary Paralympic sportsman who, with love and energy, tried his best to promote the name of Iran and to make all of us proud. At the end he gave his life for this.

“All members of the Iranian cultural and sports camp express condolences to his family and the Iranian nation. The name of Bahman Golbarnezhad will be inscribed in the proud history of Iranian Paralympics.”

Sir Philip Craven, International Paralympic Committee President, said: “This is truly heart-breaking news and the thoughts and condolences of the whole Paralympic Movement are with Bahman’s family, friends and teammates as well as the whole of the National Paralympic Committee of Iran.

“The Paralympic Family is united in grief at this horrendous tragedy which casts a shadow over what have been great Paralympic Games here in Rio.”

**AMAN ULLAH KARIM, HOCKEY OLYMPIAN**

The Olympic Council of Malaysia announced the passing of OCM Hall of Famer Aman Ullah Karim on Sunday, October 9. He was 85 years old.

Aman represented Malaya in hockey at the Olympic Games in Melbourne in 1956. Playing at left-inside, he was the top scorer of the Malaya team with eight goals.

He was the first Malaysian to represent the Australian Combined Universities in hockey in 1952 and was an all-round sportsman, also playing cricket, golf and tennis.

He was inducted into the OCM Hall of Fame in 2013.
### 2016

- **Windsor, Canada:** December 3  
  4th FINA World Aquatics Convention
- **Lausanne, Switzerland:** December 6  
  IOC Executive Board
- **Geneva, Switzerland:** December 7  
  International Sports Convention 2016
- **Al Musannah, Oman:** December 27  
  46th Youth Sailing World Championships

### 2017

- **Almaty, Kazakhstan:** January 29 – February 8  
  28th Winter Universiade
- **PyeongChang, Korea:** February 1 – 3  
  Chef de Mission Seminar for PyeongChang 2018 Winter Olympics
- **Tokyo, Japan:** February 5 – 7  
  First Open Day for NOCs for Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, Tokyo, Japan
- **Sapporo, Japan:** February 19 – 26  
  8th OCA Asian Winter Games
- **PyeongChang, Korea:** March 13  
  8th IOC Coordination Commission
- **Ashgabat, Turkmenistan:** March 17 – 19  
  OCA Chef de Mission Seminar for 5th Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games 2017
- **Seoul, Korea:** June 1  
  IOC World Conference on Prevention of Injury and Illness in Sport
- **PyeongChang, Korea:** June 21  
  8th IOC Project Review
- **Wroclaw, Poland:** July 20 – 30  
  10th World Games
- **Taipei City, Taiwan:** August 19 – 30  
  29th Summer Universiade
- **Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia:** August 19 – 31  
  29th South East Asian (SEA) Games
- **Ashgabat, Turkmenistan:** September 17 – 27  
  5th OCA Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games
- **Prague, Czech Republic:** October 30 – November 3  
  22nd ANOC General Assembly
- **Jakarta, Indonesia:** November 19 – 26  
  Asian Sport Championship Series 2017 (10 NOCs per event)

### 2018

- **PyeongChang, Korea:** February 9 – 25  
  Olympic Winter Games
- **PyeongChang, Korea:** March 9 – 18  
  Paralympic Winter Games
- **Jakarta-Palembang, Indonesia:** August 18 – September 2  
  18th OCA Asian Games
- **Buenos Aires, Argentina:** October 1 – 12  
  Youth Olympic Games