

For discussion on
26 November 2007

Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs

2011 International Olympic Committee Session

Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to set out the supplementary information regarding the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Sessions enquired by Members to facilitate Members' consideration if in-principle support should be given to the Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China (SF&OC) to express to IOC its interest in hosting the 2011 IOC Session by 29 November 2007.

Background

2. At the Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs (HA Panel) meeting held on 9 November 2007, Members discussed whether in-principle support should be given for SF&OC to express to IOC its interest to bid for the hosting right of the 2011 IOC Session. Before coming to a view, Members asked for supplementary information regarding the IOC Session, specifically (A) the costs and benefits from hosting the event to the host cities of the past IOC Sessions; (B) financial contributions from IOC and SF&OC towards the organisation and hosting of the event; and (C) the projected expenditure for hosting the 2011 IOC Session. Based on the input gathered so far, the supplementary information is set out in the ensuing paragraphs.

Supplementary Information

(A) Past IOC Sessions

3. In response to Members' enquiry at the HA Panel meeting held on 9 November 2007 and to comply with the protocol of the Olympic Family, SF&OC (as the National Olympic Committee (NOC) of Hong Kong) took action and wrote to the Korean Olympic Committee (host NOC of the 1999 IOC Session) and the Singapore

National Olympic Council (SNOC) (host NOC of the 2005 IOC Session) on 10 November 2007 and to the National Olympic Committee of Guatemala (host NOC of the 2007 IOC Session) on 16 November 2007 for information regarding the organisation of the IOC Sessions, specifically the financial planning and expenditure pattern in organising an IOC Session. For Members' reference, a list of the host cities of the IOC Sessions held from 1999 to 2014 is at **Annex A**.

4. As at 22 November 2007, only SNOC replied SF&OC that it would take a bit longer time to provide the information. As such, no reference information on the costs and benefits to the host NOCs (and host cities) of the past IOC Sessions is available from the relevant NOCs for the time being. Nevertheless, SF&OC has, based on past experience, advised that the format of an IOC Session would resemble the ministerial conferences of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), though of a smaller scale and the requirements of hosting the IOC Session have been on the rise over the years. Besides, through web search, SF&OC has gathered some information regarding the proceedings of the 2005 IOC Session and an article from a non-official source on the event which commented that the Singapore Government had made a profit of SG\$40 million (i.e. about HK\$214.0 million) from holding the 2005 IOC Session [Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/117th_IOC_Session].

5. With the assistance of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Singapore, HAB has also obtained some information regarding the 2005 IOC Session held in Singapore (at **Annex B**). However, no information on the overall budget is available as well.

(B) Financial Contributions from IOC and SF&OC

6. Since no reference information on the financial planning and expenditure pattern regarding the organisation of an IOC Session could be obtained from the host NOCs of the past IOC Sessions, SF&OC is unable to ascertain the financial commitment of IOC in holding the 2011 IOC Session. On the other hand, based on the technical manual issued by IOC in the past for the organisation of IOC Sessions, SF&OC has advised that the financial obligations to be borne by IOC and participants of the IOC Sessions would broadly include the following items:

- (a) travel and accommodation of participants;
- (b) travel, accommodation, and fees of interpreters;
- (c) food and beverage;

- (d) the host broadcasting operations within the international broadcasting centre of the IOC Session, including satellite uplinks and other technical equipment; and
- (e) media agencies' separate offices.

7. SF&OC has confirmed again that with limited resources, it is unable to financially contribute towards the organisation of the 2011 IOC Session.

(C) Rough Estimate of the Projected Expenditure

8. Since only limited information regarding the organisation of the past IOC Sessions has been obtained so far and IOC would not indicate the requirements regarding the organisation of a future IOC Session such as reception, transportation and hospitality etc. to individual NOCs until SF&OC has expressed interest in hosting a specific IOC Session, reference can only be made to the organisation of the Sixth Ministerial Conference (MC6) of WTO and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) TELECOM WORLD 2006. SF&OC also considers that the respective expenditure budget of HK\$256 million and HK\$93 million for the organisation of MC6 and ITU TELECOM WORLD 2006 stated in the previous HA Panel paper are of significant reference value for estimation of the budget for the 2011 IOC Session. Besides, SF&OC has advised that the format of an IOC Session would resemble the ministerial conferences of WTO while IOC and participants of the IOC Sessions would take up the costs of some expenditure items as stated in paragraph 6 above. It is therefore estimated that the expenditure for hosting the 2011 IOC Session would be a bit less than the budget for hosting MC6, i.e. probably not more than HK\$200 million.

9. As stated in the previous paper, hosting of the 2011 IOC Session will involve the following key expenditure items:

- (a) rental of the conference venue, meeting rooms, central information centre, etc.;
- (b) staff cost of a temporary secretariat to be set up in late 2008 to liaise with IOC, plan and organise the 2011 IOC Session;
- (c) establishment and administrative costs of the temporary secretariat;
- (d) costs of setting up a central press centre;
- (e) spending on conferences services support;

- (f) spending on security and related support services for IOC members, VIPs and guests to the 2011 IOC Session; and
- (g) spending on hospitality.

(D) *Other Relevant Information*

10. Based on past experience, SF&OC expects that about 1,000 guests including IOC members, presidents of the international sports federations for about 50 sports, IOC The Olympic Partner Programme partners, representatives of the IOC affiliated NOCs and delegations of the candidate host cities of future Olympic Games would be invited to attend an IOC Session. If their retinues are included, the participants of an IOC Session will be as many as 6,000 to 10,000. Most of them will visit the host city at their own expenses.

11. Having regarded to the very tight rules on sponsorship set by IOC, it is estimated that the income from sponsorship would be minimal.

Key Steps with the Bidding Process

12. In-principle support of HA Panel is the pre-requisite for SF&OC (and Hong Kong) to bid for the hosting right of the 2011 IOC Session. To facilitate Members' consideration of SF&OC's proposal and the associated effort, the key steps of the bidding process as presented in the previous HA Panel paper are summarised below:

<u>Key Steps</u>	<u>Date</u>
(i) SF&OC to tender written expression of interest to IOC	by 29 Nov 2007
(ii) If pre-selected by IOC (probably in mid/late December 2007), SF&OC will, joining hands with the Administration, set up a bidding committee to plan and prepare a bid document	late Dec 2007 – Feb 2008
(iii) Administration to seek Finance Committee (FC)'s approval in principle of the estimated financial implications to support SF&OC (and Hong Kong) in hosting the event	in due course (late Dec 2007 – Feb 2008)

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| (iv) | SF&OC (and Hong Kong) to submit a bid document to IOC | by 28 Feb 2008 |
| (v) | SF&OC (and Hong Kong) to plan and carry out lobbying work | Feb 2008 –
Aug 2008 |
| (vi) | IOC to elect and announce the NOC (and host city) of the 2011 IOC Session | Aug 2008 |
| (vii) | If the bidding is successful, SF&OC will, joining hands with the Administration, set up an organising committee to plan and prepare for the hosting of the 2011 IOC Session | in due course |
| (viii) | Administration to consult HA Panel and submit a more detailed budget to FC for approval of funding to support SF&OC (and Hong Kong) in hosting the 2011 IOC Session | in due course |
| (ix) | SF&OC will, joining hands with the Administration, set up a temporary secretariat to liaise with IOC, plan and organise the 2011 IOC Session | in due course |
| (x) | SF&OC to enter into a bilateral contractual agreement with IOC | by Aug 2009 |

Advice Sought

13. Members are invited to note the supplementary information regarding the IOC Sessions provided in this paper and give in-principle support for SF&OC to express to IOC its interest in hosting the 2011 IOC Session.

Home Affairs Bureau
November 2007

Host Cities of IOC Sessions from 1999 to 2014

Year	Host City
1999	Seoul
2000	Sydney (host city of Olympic Summer Games)
2001	Moscow
2002	Salt Lake City (host city of Olympic Winter Games)
2003	Prague
2004	Athens (host city of Olympic Summer Games)
2005	Singapore
2006	Turin (host city of Olympic Winter Games)
2007	Guatemala
2008	Beijing (host city of 2008 Olympic Summer Games)
2009	Copenhagen
2010	Vancouver (host city of Olympic Winter Games)
2011	Open for bidding now
2012	London (host city of Olympic Summer Games)
2013	Not yet open for bidding
2014	Sochi (host city of Olympic Winter Games)

**Singapore Experience in Bidding and Hosting
the 2005 International Olympic Committee Session**

Timing

- The 2005 International Olympic Committee (IOC) Session was held from 2 to 9 July 2005.
- Singapore started the bid preparation in late 2001, i.e. four years before the event date.

Duration

- 4 days of official sessions spreading over a period of 8 days.

Income and expenditure

- Sponsorship was minimal given the very tight rules on sponsorship set by IOC. Singapore Government had to foot the final bill.
- Experience is that the requirements of hosting the IOC Session have been on the rise over the years.

Human Resources

- Assistance from various departments and agencies of Singapore Government was also required from time to time.
- Some 100 staff from the Singapore Sports Council were working full time on the event, plus some 200 volunteers.
[Note : A dedicated team is essential to work on the project directly as well as to mobilise the volunteers.]

Security

- Strict security screening was provided by the Singapore at the event venue. IOC at the time however preferred the venue to be relatively hassle-free allowing free movement of people within the event venue.

- Individual embassies had stepped up their own security measures for their own IOC members (e.g. royalties/high officials).
- Weapons brought in for security protection were allowed but required prior approval.

Entry Arrangements at Airport

- Normal visa requirements were in place without exemptions.
- Special IOC lane was provided at the airport, together with VIP facilities for all IOC members/staff though not required by IOC at the time.

Observations of Singapore Sports Council

- The 2005 IOC Session was well received both by IOC and the people of Singapore.
- Disruption to daily life was both minimal and localized.
- Singapore was not put in any difficult position as all politically sensitive issues were handled by IOC.
- Requirement for broadcasting facilities had mirrored major events such as the ministerial conferences of the World Trade Organisation etc., albeit at a smaller scale. Host country had provided equipment for uploading of feeds while broadcasting companies paid for the use of them.

Conclusion by Singapore Sports Council

- Singapore Government was of the view that the IOC Session was well worth the effort and expenses, in terms of the publicity generated around the globe, and bringing in as many as 10,000 visitors.

[Source : Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Singapore)]