"M" Mark status awarded to FIE Foil World Cup — Hong Kong, China

The following is issued on behalf of the Major Sports Events Committee:

The FIE Foil World Cup — Hong Kong, China will be staged in Hong Kong for the first time from May 1 to 4 at the AsiaWorld-Expo. The Major Sports Events Committee (MSEC) has awarded "M" Mark status to this tournament.

The Chairman of the MSEC, Mr Wilfred Ng, said today (April 26) that like all other "M" Mark events, this event will not only promote sports development and showcase Hong Kong's capability to host world-class sports events, but also add colour and vibrancy to Hong Kong, bring in more visitors from abroad and enhance Hong Kong's position as a centre for major international sports events.

"Hong Kong's successful bid to become the host city of the World Cup marks a significant milestone for the development of fencing in Hong Kong. This event attracts top fencers from around the world to compete in Hong Kong, providing an excellent opportunity for the Hong Kong, China team to compete with world-class fencers on their home ground and gain valuable international competition experience. Futhermore, such an event helps strengthen exchanges and co-operation between Hong Kong and other countries and regions, thereby enhancing the overall standard of fencing in Hong Kong," Mr Ng said.

The "M" Mark System aims to encourage and help local "national sports associations" and private and non-government organisations to organise more major international sports events and nurture them into sustainable undertakings. Sports events meeting the assessment criteria will be granted "M" Mark status by the MSEC. Funding support will also be provided to some events.

For details of "M" Mark events, please visit www.mevents.org.hk.