## <u>"M" Mark status awarded to Hong Kong-</u> <u>Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HK Section) Half</u> <u>Marathon, FIBA 3×3 World Tour Hong</u> <u>Kong Masters and Hong Kong Squash Open</u>

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

The Major Sports Events Committee (MSEC) has awarded "M" Mark status to three major international sports events to be held in late November this year, namely the Bank of China (Hong Kong) Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HK Section) Half Marathon 2023 (November 19), the FIBA 3×3 World Tour Hong Kong Masters 2023 (November 25 and 26) and the TTI Milwaukee Hong Kong Squash Open 2023 (November 27 to December 3).

The Chairman of the MSEC, Mr Wilfred Ng, said today (November 16) that like all other "M" Mark events, the three events as mentioned above will add colour and vibrancy to Hong Kong and thereby bring in more visitors from abroad.

"With the first half marathon taking place on the Hong Kong Section of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, the 3×3 basketball advancing from the streets to the world stage as well as the Hong Kong Squash Open being staged at the Cultural Plaza, Xiqu Centre, West Kowloon, for the first time, these events not only showcase Hong Kong's capability to host world-class events, but also enhance Hong Kong's position as a centre for major international sports events," Mr Ng said.

The "M" Mark System aims to encourage and help local national sports associations, 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 <u>www.mevents.org.hk</u>.