<u>Recruitment of youth volunteers in</u> <u>Hong Kong for 15th National Games</u> <u>begins</u>

The recruitment of youth volunteers under the Hong Kong Volunteer Programme of the 15th National Games commenced today (October 2) and will run until November 15.

To encourage youth participation in the 15th National Games (NG), the 12th National Games for Persons with Disabilities (NGD) and the 9th National Special Olympic Games (NSOG), the Volunteer Programme will recruit youths aged between 15 and 17 (as of December 31, 2024) in the second round of recruitment. Youths who are wishing to participate as a volunteer for the NG, NGD and NSOG should submit an application through their schools or youth groups. Individual applications will not be accepted in this round of recruitment. Schools and organisations interested in taking part in the Volunteer Programme can visit the programme's website at www.2025ngvolunteer.hk for details.

The application period for the first round of recruitment under the Volunteer Programme ended on September 20. Then, around 30 000 members of the public applied to volunteer at the Games as individual or group volunteers. Candidates will be invited for an interview before the end of December this year. Eligible candidates who have passed the interview selection will be invited to attend training courses. Candidates who have completed the training courses will be appointed as volunteers for the NG, NGD and NSOG to provide different kinds of services during the test events, games, as well as pregame and postgame activities to be held in Hong Kong, including reception services upon arrival and departure, audience and guest reception, crowd control, transport and logistics, catering management and presentation ceremony support.

The Agency for Volunteer Service and the Hong Kong Volunteers Association have been appointed by the National Games Coordination Office (Hong Kong) (NGCO) under the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau as the assisting organisations of the Volunteer Programme. The two organisations will assist in co-ordinating the recruitment of volunteers, as well as their training, position allocation and management.

A spokesman for the NGCO said, "The response to the first round of volunteer recruitment was overwhelming. We would like to thank members of the public for their enthusiastic participation, showing the spirit of territorywide participation as conveyed by our slogan of the Volunteer Programme, 'Let's Volunteer for the National Games'. The second round of recruitment of youth group volunteers commenced today. Youth volunteers can broaden their horizons, enrich their social networks, and cultivate their social responsibilities through their participation in the Volunteer Programme. Youth volunteers can also strengthen their sense of identity and belonging to our country and hometown by participating in the voluntary services for the NG, NGD and NSOG. We call on all youth groups and organisations to actively participate in the Volunteer Programme and encourage their young members to become one of our volunteers."