

Speech by SCST at opening ceremony of 2023 III BFA Women's Baseball Asian Cup (English only)

Following is the speech by the Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism, Mr Kevin Yeung, at the opening ceremony of the 2023 III BFA Women's Baseball Asian Cup today (May 26):

Mr Lin (Secretary General of Baseball Federation of Asia, Mr Lin Hua-wei), Mr Fan (President of the Baseball Association of Hong Kong, China, Mr Andrew Fan), Mr Ho (Chairman of the Baseball Association of Hong Kong, China, Mr Dave Ho), distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

Good afternoon. I am delighted to join you all here at the opening ceremony of the 2023 III BFA Women's Baseball Asian Cup. Let me start by extending a warm welcome to all players and guests from home and abroad.

Incepted in 2017, the BFA Women's Baseball Asian Cup was the first-ever Asian Cup of women's baseball. Hong Kong, as Asia's sports events capital, is proud to play host this year. Joining this Asian qualifier for the Women's Baseball World Cup are twelve strong teams which will certainly do their utmost to vie for the top four rankings for promotion to the World Cup. I am sure that their dedication and passion in realising their dreams will impress each and every one of us. Our enthusiastic spectators are all ready to cheer on the players throughout these intense competitions, and the field here will be buzzing with excitement and applause in the coming two weeks.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude for the Baseball Association of Hong Kong, China for its remarkable efforts in promoting the development of baseball in Hong Kong over the past decades through cultivating baseball players and hosting local and international tournaments. The Government will continue to provide full support to the Association to organise more prominent events and promote the sport in the community.

Lastly, may I wish the BFA Women's Baseball Asian Cup a great success and everyone an enjoyable time. Thank you.