

PREFACE

Beijing, with its ancient past, dynamic present and exciting future, has the honour to present its second bid to host the Olympic Games.

The city and its people are inspired by the Olympic spirit, confident of their ability to accept the responsibility for this great event and determined to commit their energy, passion and resources to the task.

“New Beijing, Great Olympics” is our motto. “Green Olympics, High-tech Olympics and People’s Olympics” are our themes.

Our message is that a fast-growing and vigorous Beijing is now poised to speed up its modernisation and integration into the international community, to make new friends, and to expand the scope of its co-operation with other countries.

The new century will see the values of the Olympic Movement spread more extensively and innovatively, especially in China, the biggest developing country in the world today. The Beijing Olympic Games will set an example for how the Olympic Agenda for the 21st Century can be implemented. The Games will give full play to human talents, ambition and achievement, enhance cultural exchanges and harmony between peoples, strengthen awareness of the environment, and promote co-operation in the application and development of new technologies.

The Chinese people love sports. A large proportion of the 1.25 billion people of China participate in sports activities. Chinese athletes have a proud record of Olympic effort and achievement and competed with honour and distinction at Sydney in 2000.

Celebrating the Games in Beijing in 2008 will afford a unique opportunity to inspire and educate a new generation of Chinese youth with Olympic values, and to promote the Olympic spirit and the cause of sport in China and the developing world.

Beijing is a city on the move. Its dynamic growth reflects that of China as a whole. Its economy is characterised by impressive growth rates, the rapid development and application of leading edge technologies, such as IT, a strong emphasis on education and training the younger generation, and support for open markets signaled by forthcoming membership of the WTO.

Beijing and China recognise that a far-reaching, creative and comprehensive response to challenges posed by the environment is an essential yardstick of progress for a modern society at the beginning of the 21st century.

The Beijing 2008 Olympic Games will symbolise and spur on the city's commitment to technological advancement and environmental protection for the future benefit of the Chinese people.

It is over 3,000 years since Beijing was first founded, and over 800 years since it became the capital of China. The age-old history of Beijing has endowed the city with very rich cultural heritage. Contemporary Beijing is culturally creative and innovative, and embracing of other cultures and traditions.

The Olympic Games in Beijing will be a bridge of harmony between cultures and embody the Olympism's unique integration of sport and culture.

Beijing's second bid again has the full support of the Chinese Government and the Beijing Municipal Government and is enthusiastically backed by Chinese people everywhere.

The commitment, capability and confidence of the people of China and Beijing will deliver to the world's athletes and people a truly memorable Olympic Games in 2008.