



For Immediate Release
Press Release

**6,000 people show their support for Hong Kong by applying
Hong Kong 2009 East Asian Games Volunteer Programme**

(12 September 2008, Hong Kong): The recruitment campaign for the 2009 East Asian Games (EAG) Volunteer Programme has received a positive response from the local public since it was launched on May 24th. The 5th East Asian Games will be held in Hong Kong from 5th – 13th December 2009, and it will be the first time that this major sports event has ever been held in the city.

Around 6,000 people have so far applied to become volunteers. More than 55% of them have volunteer experience, while about 16% of them have previously served as volunteers at large-scale sports events, such as the Olympic Games, Asian Games and Chinese National Games.

A group discussion format will be adopted. The first round of interviews involve, approximately 2,000 applicants, begins this month. From such, we hope to select those who are equipped with skills in volunteer co-ordination and leadership, or who have experience in large-scale volunteer services.

The Honourable Timothy FOK, GBS, JP, the Chairman of the 5th East Asian Games Planning Committee, has expressed his gratitude to the community for supporting the EAG Volunteer Programme. "Hong Kong people have always shown enthusiasm for volunteer work. This was most recently illustrated at the Olympic Equestrian events, where all the participating teams and audiences were impressed by the volunteers' commitment. I hope this enthusiasm will also be demonstrated at the East Asian Games. The first

phase of volunteer recruitment will end on 30th September 2008 and the second phase will run from 1st October 2008 to 15th January 2009. Let's all join hands to contribute to this memorable event!"

The Chairman of the Agency for Volunteer Service, LEE Jark-pui, SBS, OBE, JP, added: "Organisations who have their own staff volunteer teams will be particularly encouraged to join in the second phase recruitment of the EAG Volunteer Programme, where their built network will surely lighten the coordination and liaison work required. Besides such teams, I would like to call upon all those individuals with experience in reception and liaison work, events and ceremonies, medical services and doping control to join and offer their support to Hong Kong by serving as volunteers."

Organised by the 2009 East Asian Games (Hong Kong) Limited and co-organised by the Agency for Volunteer Service, the EAG Volunteer Programme is now recruiting 3,200 volunteers to provide reception and liaison, event and ceremonies, hotline enquiry, security, medical service & doping control, media, ticketing, transportation & logistics support, photography, information technology and catering etc. Applicants will be invited to take part in group discussion interviews, and the most suitable candidates will be selected according to their communication skill, attitude, previous volunteer experience, and related skills and knowledge.

Anyone aged over 18 with Form 5 education, who is proficient in Cantonese, English and/or Putonghua, is welcome to apply for EAG volunteers. Registration can be made via Hong Kong 2009 East Asian Games Volunteer Programme website: www.2009eastasiangames.hk/volunteer. For detailed information, please contact the Programme Office at 2200 5720.

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