



Thursday 12 May 2016

Baku, Azerbaijan

Islamic Solidarity Games executives welcomed to Baku

With one year to go until the 4th Islamic Solidarity Games begin in Baku, senior executives from the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation (ISSF) Coordination Commission arrived in Azerbaijan's capital city today to evaluate preparations for the Games.

The Coordination Commission's delegates, chaired by Col. Hamad Kalkaba Malboum, attended a series of presentations delivered by the Azerbaijan Islamic Games Operations Committee (AISGOC). The seminar provided detailed updates on the event venues, sports programme, opening and closing ceremonies, and other organisational developments.

The ISSF delegates will also attend an official gala dinner to mark the One Year to Go milestone and will join the residents of Baku in beginning the countdown to the opening of the Games.

Col. Hamad Kalkaba Malboum, 1st Vice President of ISSF and the Chairman of the Coordination Commission, said:

“Azerbaijan is a country with a strong heritage in the sporting world and we are sure that as host of the 4th Islamic Solidarity Games it will put on a world class event for athletes and spectators. We were delighted to be back in Baku and to hear about the significant and impressive progress made in preparations. We appreciate the team spirit of the Organising Committee and are looking forward to celebrating the one year to go milestone.”

Mr. Azad Rahimov, Minister of Youth and Sports of Republic of Azerbaijan and CEO of AISGOC, said:



“Hosting the Coordination Commission here in Baku once again has given us the opportunity to update them on the significant progress we have made since their last visit and receive their valuable input into our operational plans. Azerbaijan has a reputation of delivering big sporting events successfully and we are confident the Coordination Commission was impressed with our progress. We look forward to hosting the next Islamic Solidarity Games in our capital city in May next year.”

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Notes to editors

The 4th Islamic Solidarity Games is an exciting multi-sport event uniting the Islamic world, which will take place in Baku from 12 – 22 May 2017.

Up to 5,000 athletes from Islamic states around the world will be representing their nations over 12 days of competition across 20 different sports which include 24 disciplines (Athletics and Para Athletics, Aquatics – Diving, Aquatics – Swimming, Aquatics – Water polo, Basketball 3x3, Football, Gymnastics – Artistic, Gymnastics – Rhythmic, Wushu, Table tennis, Handball, Judo and Blind Judo, Wrestling – Greco, Wrestling – Freestyle, Shooting, Tennis, Volleyball, Boxing, Zurkhaneh, Karate, Taekwondo and Weightlifting) in 16 modern competition venues in Baku.

Azerbaijan’s capital city Baku was awarded the Games at the General Assembly of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation (ISSF) in Jeddah in July 2013.

The Organising Committee was set up by the decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, honourable Ilham Aliyev and the leadership of the Organising Committee has been assigned to First Lady of Azerbaijan Mehriban Aliyeva. The Azerbaijan Islamic Solidarity Games Operations Committee (AISGOC) will organize and run the Games in cooperation with the ISSF.