



## Organisers keep up the pace as Games preparations pass the halfway mark

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The Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) today concludes its third Coordination Commission (CoCom) meeting on the Gold Coast, Australia, after a week offering expert support and monitoring progress to the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.

With less than three years to go to the Opening Ceremony, the CoCom focused on progress and integrated planning in a number of areas key to the success of the Games, such as legacy, transport and security. It was also the first opportunity for organisers and Games Partners to present the structures, benefits and enhanced governance arrangements of the new Cabinet Committee for Tourism and the Commonwealth Games, recently announced by Queensland Government.

The CoCom took place at the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games Organising Corporation (GOLDOC) new Headquarters in Ashmore.

Commenting on the progress towards the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games, CGF Coordination Commission Chair, and CGF Executive Board Vice President, Bruce Robertson (Canada), said:

“We have now passed the halfway mark from when the Games were awarded to the Gold Coast back in 2011 to the moment when 6500 athletes and officials from 71 nations and territories competing in 17 sports gather on the Gold Coast for one of the world’s finest and friendliest sporting extravaganzas.”

“We are excited about the opportunity which Gold Coast 2018 presents - excited for the city of the Gold Coast and the citizens and communities across Queensland and Australia. The positive impacts and legacies will define this event.”

“The Health and Knowledge Precinct is maturing into an exciting prospect which will enhance local employment, well-being and provide relevant housing opportunities.”

“The improvements to transport to and within the Gold Coast will be a major long-term benefit for the local community, visitors and investors as the Gold Coast continues to grow and remaps its transport plan.”

“At the broader state and national level we have been impressed by the plans emerging from state and national government to leverage these Games and change the lives of Australians for the better.”

“We are encouraged to see and hear of, GOLDOC’s maturing plans and some of its achievements already.”

“The pursuit of ISO:20121 Sustainability certification, one of the first major events in Australia to do so, is a real indicator of the sophistication of the planning and delivery effort as well as the commitment to sustainability principles which will enhance the Games impacts.”

“Congratulations to GOLDOC and the Games delivery partners for their commitment to the development of the first ever Reconciliation Action Plan for an event in Australia. This commitment to indigenous people aligns with the values and ambitions of the CGF.”

“This week we have seen the evidence of a well forged partnership across the national, state and local city governments. This partnership is a major enabling factor for GOLDOC.”

“We met with the newly appointed Minister for the Commonwealth Games, Kate Jones and the Mayor of Gold Coast Tom Tate and there is no doubt as to their mutual commitment and dedication to these Games. We congratulate the new Queensland Government on the foresight to establish a cabinet sub-committee under Minister Kate Jones to facilitate Games governance. This has already had a positive impact.”

“GOLDOC itself is on track to deliver a great Games and now is the time to ensure that every milestone is achieved. “

As with any long distance race, however, the strategy and game plan adopted at these midpoint moments is key to success at the finishing line. A large number of key procurements and campaigns are just around the corner, major decisions that will ensure these Games continue to track on time, on budget and continue to win the hearts and minds of the Gold Coast, Queensland and Australian athletes, citizens and communities who will welcome the world in less than three years time.”

The CGF Coordination Commission (CoCom) oversees and ensures compliance with the commitments and undertakings the Games Partners made when they bid for the Games, as featured in the Host City Contract. CoCom members offer extensive technical and previous Games expertise to ensure the requirements of the athletes and teams are being met and to ensure the Games Time experience and lasting legacy for the people of Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia and the Commonwealth are successfully planned and delivered.

The members of the Gold Coast 2018 Coordination Commission, chaired by Bruce Robertson, are: George Black CBE, formerly Chief Executive of Glasgow City Council; Beng Choo Low\*, Vice President of the Commonwealth Games Association of Malaysia; David Grevemberg, Chief Executive of the Commonwealth Games Federation; Andrew Ryan, Executive Director of ASOIF (Association of Summer

Olympic International Federations) and Jake Wilkins, New Zealand Olympic Committee Team Services Director.

The next Coordination Commission Meeting will be held in November 2015.

\* Please note that due to her role with the South East Asian Games, Beng Choo Low did not travel to Gold Coast for this CoCom.

ENDS

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