

## **General report of the Asian Kickboxing Confederation (WAKO ASIA) Concerned period: Year 2024 during the General Assembly of 11 October 2024**

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### **Introduction:**

The present report is described many actions, which have been undertaken by the Asian Kickboxing Confederation for the benefit of national Federation/Associations and athletes in particular in Asia.

This report is not exhaustive and contains some of the activities for the year 2024.

The Present report distributed for the purpose of the General Assembly of 11 October 2024 provides a succinct introduction to the report detailing the activities undertaken during the year 2023 and up to September 2024. Copies of this report were made available to the members prior to the meeting to the members.

President also delivers an oral report on the activities conducted in 2023 and particularly those up to September 2024. These activities include the organization of the Kickboxing competition during the 32nd SEA Games in Cambodia, various seminars, and the participation of the Asian Confederation leadership in different events such as the Asian Games, which took place in September/October 2023 in Hangzhou, China.

The Chairman addressed the members regarding the rationale for holding the General Assembly every two years. He explained, the Assembly was convened every four years as it was provided by Asian Confederation applicable rules. However, following a proposal from the President during the 2016 General Assembly in Korea, the statutes were amended to allow the Assembly to be held biennially.

Subsequently, during the 2021 revision of the statutes, there was a request to reduce the frequency to an annual basis in order to align with WAKO statutes. This change was adopted and is subject to the decision of the Board of Directors and based on the President's proposal, provided that such adjustments did not conflict with the civil laws of the Kyrgyz Republic or the relevant rules set by the national sports authorities.

Our last General Assembly took place on 12 October 2022 in Thailand. Due to logistical constraints, the Assembly could not be organized in the interim. He

noted that, by practice, the General Assembly is usually held in conjunction with the Asian Championships to optimize resources and reduce costs for both the Asian Confederation and its members attending the Assembly.

Accordingly, pursuant to deliberations held during the most recent meeting of the Board of Directors, it was resolved that the next General Assembly may be scheduled for 2026, to be held in conjunction with the Seniors Asian Championships. He further noted that, should any urgent or essential matters arise prior to that date, the General Assembly may be convened through written resolutions, in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Statutes of the Asian Kickboxing Confederation.

The President's activity report was approved unanimously by the General Assembly on 11 October 2024, reflecting the members' confidence in the Confederation's direction and leadership.

## **Overview of Key Activities Undertaken During period covering the report**

The period spanning 2023 through September 2024 was marked by significant progress in the development, promotion, and governance of kickboxing across Asia. The Asian Kickboxing Confederation undertook a wide range of initiatives aimed at strengthening its organizational capacity, supporting national federations, and enhancing competitive opportunities for athletes throughout the continent. While not exhaustive, the following highlights represent the most impactful activities carried out during this timeframe:

The following section provides an overview of several major activities carried out by the Asian Kickboxing Confederation throughout 2024. While not exhaustive, these highlights reflect the Confederation's ongoing commitment to developing sport, supporting national federations, and strengthening continental cooperation.

### **Kickboxing Competition at the 32nd SEA Games (Cambodia, 2023)**

The AKC successfully organized and supervised the kickboxing competition at the 32nd Southeast Asian Games in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, ensuring high technical standards and strong regional participation. This event strengthened AKC's cooperation with Southeast Asian National Olympic Committees and reinforced the sport's visibility in the region.

### **Participation in the 19th Asian Games (Hangzhou, China, 2023)**

AKC leadership participated in the Asian Games held in September/October 2023 in Hangzhou, contributing to the promotion of kickboxing within the broader Asian sports movement and engaging with continental sports authorities to advance the sport's development.



## Seminars, Courses, and Technical Development

Throughout 2023 and 2024, AKC supported and organized several seminars aimed at improving coaching, refereeing, and athlete development. These initiatives were conducted in cooperation with national federations and WAKO development programs.

## Major Activities of 2024

### Asian Kickboxing Championships 2024 – Phnom Penh, Cambodia

The flagship event of the year was the Asian Kickboxing Championships 2024, held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

- **Dates:** 3–13 October 2024
- **Venue:** Olympic Stadium (Indoor Hall), Phnom Penh
- **Disciplines:**
- **Ring Sports:** Full Contact, Low Kick, K-1
- **Tatami Sports:** Point Fighting, Light Contact, Kick Light, Musical Forms
- **Qualification Role:** Results in **K-1** and **Point Fighting** served as qualification for the **2025 World Combat Games in Chengdu, China**.
- **Participation:** Over **20 countries** from five Asian regions and more than **400 athletes** were expected to participate.

The Secretary General emphasized that Phnom Penh was selected following the successful kickboxing competition at the 32nd SEA Games in 2023, and highlighted the Confederation's confidence in Cambodia's organizational capacity.

### Asian Kickboxing Confederation Event Calendar – 2024

In addition to the continental championships, AKC supported and recognized several regional competitions, including:

**PON XXI Kickboxing (Indonesia)** – 15–19 September 2024, included in the AKC event calendar and featuring multiple categories and national participation.

These events contributed to athlete development and increased competitive opportunities across Asia.

### Asian Indoor & Martial Arts Games (AIMAG) 2024 – Preparations and cancelation by Olympic Council of Asia

The Olympic Council of Asia confirmed the rescheduled dates for the **6th Asian Indoor & Martial Arts Games**, to be held in **Bangkok and Chonburi**,



**Thailand, from 21–30 November 2024.** Kickboxing remains an official sport, and AKC worked closely with organizers to prepare for the participation of more than **25 Asian National Olympic Committees.**

However, because of internal reason to the host (Thailand), The Olympic Council of Asia has cancelled the 6th Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games Bangkok-Chonburi 2021 as the AIMAG Organizing Committee was unable to satisfy the criteria requested in the Host City Contract by the latest deadline of Monday, August 19, 2024, 17:00 Bangkok time.

The AIMAG Organizing Committee presented a progress report to the 43rd OCA General Assembly in Bangkok last May in which it was promised that all Games requirements as per the Host City contract would be ready by July 2024.

At an emergency meeting held on Thursday, August 15, 2024, the OCA Executive Board unanimously agreed to cancel the Games unless the AIMAG Organizing Committee satisfied nine conditions needed to guarantee the hosting of the Games by Monday, August 19, 2024, 17:00 Bangkok time. With those conditions not met by the deadline, the OCA had no choice but to cancel the Games.

The OCA expresses its sincere sympathies to the athletes who were due to compete at the AIMAG and recognizes the significant impact this decision will have on them. Despite numerous attempts made by the OCA to ensure the Games could go ahead, it was clear that it would not be possible and the OCA cancelled the event in the best interests of the athletes and all stakeholders. The OCA will follow up with the respective National Olympic Committees (NOCs) to ensure the athletes receive the support they require.

The OCA Executive Board also unanimously agreed that if Thailand wishes to host the AIMAG after the next edition, in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia in 2026, it can apply as per normal procedure to the OCA.

The 6th AIMAG was scheduled to take place on November 21-30, 2024, after it was postponed several times due to the Covid pandemic and then a change of government in Thailand.

## **Administrative and Strategic Actions**

### **Strengthening Continental Coordination**

AKC continued to coordinate with WAKO headquarters and other continental divisions to ensure harmonization of rules, competition standards, and qualification pathways for global events.

### **Support to National Federations**

Throughout 2024, AKC provided guidance to member federations on:

- Updating national statutes to align with applicable requirements



- Implementing athlete safety protocols
- Enhancing national-level competition structures
- Preparing athletes for continental and global qualification events

## Digital and Communication Improvements

AKC expanded its communication through official channels, including updates on the WAKO Asia website and social media, ensuring timely dissemination of event information, invitations, and technical documents.

## Conclusion

The year 2024 marked a period of consolidation and growth for the Asian Kickboxing Confederation. The successful organization of the Asian Championships in Cambodia, and other activities, and continued support for national federations all contributed to strengthening the sport across the continent.

The present not exhaustive report is published without prejudice and may be revised and supplemented should an omission or error is brought to our attention.

I would like on behalf of the Board of Directors to thank all members for their active participation in our activities in 2024.

I would also like to thank the various committees of the Asian Kickboxing Confederation (WAKO ASIA) and their members for their efforts and contributions who continue to work as volunteers in difficult conditions and bring us their skills for a better organization and promotion of our sport.

This report is prepared on 14 February 2025.

Nasser Nassiri

President  
Asia Kickboxing Confederation (WAKO ASIA)  
*By electronic signature*

