



General Dahlan Al Hamad  
AAA President's Office

Doha ,26 January 2020

Dear President / General Secretary  
Asian Athletic Member Federations

**Subject: 9<sup>th</sup> Asian Indoor Athletics Championship in Hangzhou, China from 12-13 February 2020**

We are all aware that we have planned to host the 9<sup>th</sup> Asian Indoor Athletics Championship in Hangzhou, China from 12-13 February 2020. However, we have great concern and the accelerating pace of the epidemic virus issues that appears to have originated in China, spreading rapidly and even crossing borders.

The whole world is gravely anguished about this crisis that has claimed many lives and has triggered an emergency amidst a backdrop of caution and stark measures seeking to contain this virus. We are saddened by this and sympathize with our colleagues in China and pray that the Government of China will avert this tragedy at the earliest. On behalf of the Asian Athletics family, we convey our condolences to the government, the Chinese Athletics Association and the people of China for the significant suffering and losses.

As we are approaching the dateline for this Championship, I had requested our Medical Commission to diagnose the issues at hand and recommend their best resolution. After much consideration and from the advice of our Medical Commission and our Asian Council Members, **we have decided to cancel the Championship this time. The safety of our athletes and officials are our priority.** Hence, we aim to limit the possibility of transmission of the deadly virus and to protect our Asian Athletics family and friends.

By this decision, I sincerely believe it will ease the burden of our Chinese counterparts in Organising such a big event amidst the epidemic setbacks and give them ample time to focus on the problems at hand.

Dear colleagues

Let us pray to almighty to bring peace and protect China and the rest of the world from this epidemic, and rest assured that the Asian Athletics Association and all members of the athletic fraternity are with China in this time of despair.

Yours Sincerely ,

Dahlan Al Hamad  
President