



**Media Release
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AUSTRALIA TO BID FOR 2018 COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Today the Australian Commonwealth Games Association (ACGA) announced that Australia would bid to host the 2018 Commonwealth Games at the Gold Coast, Queensland.

ACGA President, Sam Coffa, joined Queensland Premier, Anna Bligh, and Gold Coast Lord Mayor, Ron Clarke, to make the announcement in Brisbane. All three parties signed the formal bid lodgement paper which has been forwarded to the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) in London.

“We are very excited about putting forward this bid to our fellow Commonwealth Games Associations (CGAs) from 70 Commonwealth nations,” said Mr. Coffa.

He went on to say, “the bid provides that athletes and sports will be the top priority and as such a Gold Coast Commonwealth Games will be a very attractive option”.

The ACGA has endorsed a plan from the Queensland Government in partnership with the Gold Coast City Council which will provide for a “regional city” sized games model.

The previous Games from 1998 through 2014 have been, or will be, held in large cities with large populations (1998 Kuala Lumpur; 2002 Manchester; 2006 Melbourne; 2010 Delhi; 2014 Glasgow).

In closing Mr. Coffa said that he could not think of a more beautiful and secure location to host a Commonwealth Games. “We know that CGAs will not only be impressed with plans for the Games but also will be warmly welcomed by the friendly Gold Coast people,” said Mr. Coffa.

Notes:

- The 2018 Games location will be decided in November 2011;
- At this time the only other declared 2018 Games candidate is Nigeria proposing that the 2018 Games be held in its Federal capital, Abuja;
- The 2010 Delhi Games will be held from 3-14 October;
- Australia has hosted the Commonwealth Games four times – Sydney 1938, Perth 1962, Brisbane 1982, and Melbourne 2006.

For further media information, or to arrange interviews, please contact:

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Visit the Gold Coast Bid website at <http://www.goldcoast2018bid.com>