

Piccirillo signs invitation to 7th Military World Games

By Helen Pan

Col. Herve Piccirillo, president of the International Military Sports Council, signed a symbolic letter in Wuhan on June 29 inviting the council's 138 member states to participate in the 7th Military World Games to be held in the city.



Col. Herve Piccirillo

Piccirillo said that interested countries will confirm their intentions in October of this year. The number of participants will be revealed in January 2019 and the final list of attending athletes will come out in July 2019. Piccirillo predicts that next year's event will attract over 10,000 athletes from over 100 countries, making Wuhan the "Capital of Peace."

In addition, he said that the council will give full support by sharing logistical and organizational advice from previous games and by

promoting the upcoming event through its members states' and its own media platforms.

The 7th Military World Games will be held in Wuhan from Oct. 8 to 27 next year. It will be one of the biggest and most influential high-level comprehensive international athletic competitions to be held in China after the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. Most of the venues for the games have already been completed. Piccirillo said that Wuhan's preparation for the games was excellent. He was particularly impressed by the

athletes' village, which can accommodate more than 10,000 athletes.

Piccirillo was elected president of the International Military Sports Council at the council's 73rd assembly on April 21, 2018. This visit was his first time in Wuhan. As a French citizen, he said that he had known of Wuhan because of its cooperation with France in the past. He described Wuhan as a mixture of history and modernity, and he is looking forward to gaining a deeper understanding of the city.

QR codes replace boarding cards at Tianhe Airport

By Zhang Quanlu

Tianhe International Airport has launched a new protocol for passing the security check and boarding the plane, all done through QR codes. This has saved time by eliminating the need to wait in lines to print boarding passes since June 26. By showing ID cards and QR codes produced after purchasing their tickets, passengers can smoothly pass the security check and board their planes.

Currently, this convenience can only be enjoyed by passengers taking domestic flights departing from Wuhan with no checked luggage. Special passengers, such as infants, children and disabled passengers with special care requirements during the flight cannot claim the electronic boarding passes in advance. They will still need to check in at the airport counter in person.

French Consulate General holds forum on smart and sustainable transportation

By Helen Pan & Intern Tab Liu

A forum focusing on intelligent and sustainable transportation was held at the Wuhan Economic and Technological Development Zone on June 26. More than 50 French and 30 Chinese enterprises, as well as university staff and students studying in related areas, attended the forum.

Distinguished speakers included professor Arnaud de la Fortelle from the Paris School of Mines, Monsieur Bruno Jamet, "Future Automobile" project director, and Professor Lu Chihua from Wuhan University of Technology. They shared their observations on issues such as intelligent vehicles, automatic drive, and new energy vehicles.

Co-organized by the Administrative Committee of the Wuhan Economic and Technological Development Zone, Wuhan Science and Technology Bureau, and the Consulate General of France in Wuhan, the forum aimed at providing a communication platform between French and Chinese enterprises in the fields of intelligent transportation and new energy.

Boao Forum member companies bring 29 projects to Wuhan

By Ma Zhenhua & Huang Ying

Boao Forum for Asia members attended a cooperation symposium in Wuhan on June 29. A total of 29 projects worth RMB 231.31 billion were signed at the symposium, making it the largest investment with the highest total number of contracts this year.

The projects fall into four main areas: national storage, aerospace, network security talents and innovation, and new energy and intelligent network cars. It covers various fields like optoelectronics information, automobiles and

parts, high-end equipment manufacturing, artificial intelligence, energy conservation and environmental protection.

These projects will involve a number of high-tech and innovative leading enterprises investing in Wuhan, such as a regional headquarters and R&D center of CRRC Changjiang Transportation Equipment Group with a total investment of RMB 5 billion, and a headquarters of Guangzhou Hanoi Investment Co., Ltd. Mini Smart branch with a total investment of RMB 6 billion.

The corporate representatives inspected the Wuhan Optics Valley Exhibition Center, Wuhan National Aerospace Industrial Base and Wuhan Urban Construction Key Projects. They also went on a night tour of the East Lake Greenway.

After the symposium, Li Baodong, secretary general of the Boao Forum for Asia, said that Wuhan is enjoying its best period of development. Wuhan has its own unique advantages in location, ecology, and scientific and educational personnel.