

## **Suzhou Declaration**

Developing Global Active City Program is important for sustainable urban development and residents' health and well-being. It is also an essential part of the global urbanization process.

We, sports workers, health workers, and city managers from China and abroad, are here in Suzhou to exchange ideas under the theme of "Promoting the Development of Global Active Cities through Mass Sports", trying to inject more momentum into the Global Active City Program.

We believe that mass sports play an important role in promoting city development in the following senses.

- Mass sports are conducive to physical health, and critical to changing lifestyle and improving the quality of life.
- Mass sports influence people's mental well-being, social interactions, and morality, by encouraging urban residents' to participate social activities, thus improving their mental health and keeping their spirits high.
- Mass sports help improve the vitality, safety, environmental protection, and wisdom of a city and promote its sustainable development. They are fresh blood for the urban growth.
- They also facilitate cultural exchanges, mutual respect and understanding among people all over the world. They play an indispensable role in building a community with a shared future for mankind.

We hereby solemnly pledge that every urban resident should be entitled to a positive and active life:

- We will provide opportunities for everyone to participate in sports and other physical activities in a safe and clean environment.

- We will ensure everyone has the equal right to use sports facilities and participate in sports activities.
- We will take special measures to ensure that the disabled, children, the elderly, low-income earners, and all other vulnerable groups have equal access to sports.
- We will strengthen publicity and education to help urban residents understand a healthy and civilized lifestyle through accessible channels.

These rights are not subject to any kind of discrimination, including race, skin color, sex, language, religion, or politics.

We call on global governments, cities, and NGOs to join the efforts to promote the building of "Global Active Cities". Guided by the goal of living an active life, we will set up our own standards—that are suitable for the Asia-Pacific region based on American and European ones, in a bid to promote the building of active cities in this region and encourage a healthy and civilized lifestyle here.

We are fully aware that we are facing many challenges in promoting the development of active cities in the Asia-Pacific region given its vast territory, huge population, cultural diversity, political complexity, and different sports values. We, however, are fully confident about the cultures and wisdom of the Asia-Pacific region as well as the future of sports here. We also have confidence in solidarity and cooperation among Asia-Pacific cities. We will see more and more active cities as long as stakeholders in Asia-Pacific countries and cities act together.

Let's work together for the development of global active cities and contribute to a community with a shared future for mankind with the power of sports.