

**Bodybuilding association chairman charged for alleged bribery and subvention fraud****19.08.09**

The chairman of a bodybuilding association was today (Wednesday) charged by the ICAC for his alleged roles in a bribery scam to assist a suspended athlete in competing in the 2006 Doha Asian Games as well as a government subvention fraud.

Chan Siu-man, 39, chairman of Hong Kong China Bodybuilding and Fitness Association (HKCBBA), faces one count of conspiracy for an agent to accept an advantage, contrary to Section 9(1)(a) of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance and Section 159A of the Crimes Ordinance, and one of fraud.

The defendant will appear in Eastern Magistracy at 9:30 am on Friday (August 21) for transfer to the District Court.

The conspiracy charge alleges that between May 2006 and February 2007, the defendant conspired together with the secretary general of the Asian Bodybuilding and Fitness Federation (ABBF) and a bodybuilding athlete for the secretary general of ABBF to accept US\$10,000 (about HK\$78,000) from the athlete.

In return, the secretary general of ABBF was said to have shortened or lifted the period of suspension of participating in any bodybuilding competition imposed on the athlete, and enabled the athlete to participate in the 2006 Doha Asian Games.

ICAC enquiries revealed that the aforesaid athlete was banned from any bodybuilding competition for two years as he had failed a doping test in October 2005 after competing in a bodybuilding championship held in South Korea.

The fraud charge alleges that between the end of 2007 and May 15, 2008, the defendant falsely represented in the annual return of HKCBBA for the financial year ended March 31, 2007 that the statement of programmes subvented by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) was true and correct and the amounts of actual expenses stated therein were genuine.

The defendant, with intent to defraud, allegedly induced LCSD to accept the annual return submitted as genuine and not to demand a return of subvention from HKCBBA to LCSD.

As a result of the above suspected false representation, the defendant allegedly deceived subvention totalling over HK\$250,000 from LCSD.

The defendant has been released on ICAC bail, pending his court appearance on Friday.