ACC ANNUAL REPORT
April 2005 - March 2006

The Asian Cricket Council:
Taking Cricket Forward in Asia
2005 - 06
Annual Report & Accounts

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It has been a singular honour to be the President of the Asian Cricket Council this past year.

Coming into the position on my accession to the Presidency of the Indian Board, I was uncertain what to expect. Almost all of the Executive Board members were new to me, as I was to them. Yet the warmth of the welcome I received from the Executive Board was most heartening.

From the onset I could appreciate that all of the Asian Test-playing countries and all associated with the Asian Cricket Council have a joint responsibility to develop cricket in the non-Test playing countries with all the vast experience and resources we have at our disposal.

The ACC Chief Executive and his colleagues have demonstrated a tireless commitment to the cause of raising the standards of cricket throughout Asia. It has been a modus operandi established by my predecessor as President and his immense contribution to the Asian Cricket Council must be noted.

Cricket Development has been a theme close to my heart for many years in Maharashtra and I have learnt at first hand just how much effort, planning and expenditure is required to achieve worthy things. My canvas of operation became broader and wider still when I took on the responsibility of heading not just Indian cricket, but Asian cricket too.

Cricket is not just the national passion of India, it is a passion for the whole subcontinent.

The work of the Asian Cricket Council in helping to spread the game beyond its traditional boundaries is one which has the subcontinent at its hub. All the more reason to applaud the efforts of new member countries who come to cricket out of a fascination with the game and its merits.

At the Test-playing countries’ level, working with the ICC we have established a schedule for competition between our countries and moreover, have set a date for the resumption of the Asia Cup in 2008.
Our partnership with Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka to host the 2011 World Cup is a union of which I am very proud. It would give me great pleasure to see more of our junior member from Asia taking part in that event. It will be a true measure of their development.

We have set up a Committee for the Evaluation of Cricket in China and taken steps to ensure that the work of the Asian Cricket Council’s Development Officers leads them directly into schools and the hearts and minds of the next generation.

There are already a billion from the subcontinent who love cricket. It is a great game. I look forward to welcoming the next billion into our fold.

Sharad Pawar
Pakistan’s captain Sarfaraz Ahmed leads his team round Premadasa Stadium in Colombo after winning the U-19 World Cup, February 19 2005.
It has been a splendid 12 months for cricket around the world and the popularity of the sport in Asia has continued to flourish.

In the last year cricket lovers in Asia and around the world have been treated to another gripping series between India and Pakistan. The last three series between these sides have been a driving force for fostering better relations between these cricketing superpowers. There is no greater rivalry or passion in Asian sport than Indo-Pak cricket but it is important that the frequency of these encounters is controlled to maintain their prestige.

It was a great year for Bangladesh cricket. Their junior cricketers continue to make significant strides and their senior side achieved its biggest success to date in beating Australia in a memorable One-Day International at Cardiff.

Sri Lanka demonstrated its tremendous passion for cricket and resilience as a nation by hosting a highly successful ICC U-19 Cricket World Cup less than 18 months after the devastating tsunami.

The non-Test playing nations have also had a successful year. The United Arab Emirates reached the semi-finals of the ICC Intercontinental Cup for the second straight year and only narrowly missed out on qualification for the ICC Cricket World Cup at the ICC Trophy in Ireland, an event at which Oman also made its global debut. Kuwait and Thailand both had their ICC membership upgraded to Associate status. Most impressive was Nepal whose junior side defeated South Africa and New Zealand on their way to the Plate Championship at the ICC U-19 Cricket World Cup.

This has also been the year in which the ICC has moved its headquarters to the Middle East. Dubai has proved to be a highly beneficial new home for cricket’s international governing body. Its geographical location has brought us closer to many of our members, including those in Asia. The facilities we will develop over the coming years – especially the ICC Global Cricket Academy – will bring new opportunities to players, officials and administrators.
Cricket in 2006 is a strong sport. It is the responsibility of bodies such as the ACC and the ICC to work in partnership to make it even stronger.

The next 12 months will include the ICC Champions Trophy India 2006 - the biggest event to have been hosted in Asia since the ICC Cricket World Cup in 1996 – and the ICC CWC 2007 in the West Indies.

Over the coming years Asia will host a significant number of ICC events. Pakistan will host the ICC Champions Trophy in 2008. The ICC Cricket World Cup 2011 will be hosted jointly by India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. In 2012 and 2014 Sri Lanka and Bangladesh will respectively host the ICC Champions Trophy or a Twenty20 event. Malaysia (U-19 CWC 2008), UAE (ICC Trophy 2009 and U-19 CWC 2014) and India (Women’s World Cup – 2013) have also earned the right to host events.

As hard work is undertaken on and off the field of play to prepare for these great events may the spirit of cricket be our inspiration and guide.

Ehsan Mani
During the period of my presidency of the Asian Cricket Council I was greatly heartened to witness at first hand the work that goes on under the charter of globalisation and development.

It remains a steadfast belief of mine that top-level cricket can not be simply the game of a few countries in such a vast world. In the past, there were many reasons for the game remaining within its traditional boundaries – not least of which was the lack of mobility of the world's citizens, their cultures, and their passions. Not only are cricket's missionaries more mobile now and at the forefront of change, the game through television has reached into the homes of people in countries where cricket was totally unknown.

It is one thing to show. It is another to tell. No one method can be completely effective without communicating just how great a game cricket really is. In India we are exposed to many sports and Indians are successful in many, but cricket has captured the hearts and minds of the subcontinent because it is, first and foremost, the most challenging, the most rewarding and most accessible game there is.

My honoured successor as President of the Asian Cricket Council, Mr. Sharad Pawar, is also committed to carry forward the banner of cricket across India and by extension, Asia.

Cricket's challenges are constant, its rewards more than financial, its appeal enduring; but no one, no matter where they are, can play the game properly if they do not have access to good wickets, good grounds, good equipment and good coaching. That is what the Asian Cricket Council has always sought to provide with its manifold development activities.

The benefits take time to be seen, foundations must be as deep as a building is high. Already in just a few short years since the ACC’s inception progress has been made. Playing surfaces have been increased, standards have been raised. Children across Asia are coming forward to play in a manner they could not have imagined no more than a few years ago.

I trust that the work of the Asian Cricket Council, as it carries the game into the 21st century, will continue to be successful.

Jagmohan Dalmiya
Chief Executive’s Review
Syed Ashraful Huq

It has been an eventful year for the Asian Cricket Council: a shaking up of the status quo in many ways and an assertion of core principles, which is no bad thing.

The Asia Cup plays a large part in generating the revenues for our developmental activity across the board for the Test-nations and the rest of our members as well as offering a chance for the best non-Test playing countries to compete with their exalted brethren. Its cycle of play had to be interrupted this year but we are delighted that it will be resumed from 2008 onwards.

We have all been made aware of just what a vital part the Asia Cup plays in fostering the idea and identity of an Asian cricket mass.

The Test-playing nations of Asia have reasserted their unity in bidding for a World Cup and the award of the 2011 event, and subsequent events every twelve years thereafter, demonstrates that Asia is an established hub for cricket.

2006 is also the year in which the direct funding link from Champions Trophy to ICC Development Program ends and we will have to adjust according to a new funding reality. We are all confident that the future for the ACC Development Program is going to be secure.

Our Asia Cup, our Afro-Asia Cup and our tranche of future ICC Development funding is all in place to allow us to continue our work but gone must be the days when we ourselves are reliant on just one or two sources of funding. Our targets, markets and ambitions are large, so must be our fund-raising. If we are to expand cricket’s reach we must expand our appeal.

We have the numbers of course, 1.5 billion people in the Test-playing countries and another 1.5 billion people in our members from Afghanistan across to China.

Resources

But numbers do not tell the whole story. Nor does the mere toting of by-words such as ‘cricket is passion’ and ‘cricket is a religion’ in this part of the world. Undoubtedly they are true, but the ICC and cricket exist in more than Asia and cricket, when it is loved, is loved fervently by its devotees no matter where they are.

Asia’s resources run deep and wide but its true potential remains to be developed. As missionaries of the game, we must do more than preach to the converted.

Cricket is bigger than ever before, television audiences are bigger, sponsors are contributing more, players are marketed better. Yet in the headlong race to secure more revenues, it would be unwise to overlook resources.
Ask every great Asian–player today and they will say that their cricket was learned under the guidance of selfless mentors who did a noble job with great dignity. Cream rises to the top but surely there has to be a rich pool of talent in the first place, doesn’t there?

My concern, as I travel Asia witnessing developments in all our member-countries, is that if we concentrate only on how much is being ploughed into the game, we will not be sensitive to the changing conditions under which cricket, let alone any sport, is played.

Society has changed in Asia mightily from the time Asia won its first World Cup in 1983. Coaching has become an industry, as has so much associated with the game. Children have different motivations now, as do coaches. If a child were to come into the game solely because of money, human nature ultimately dictates that his play will be compromised.

Because revenue streams can be diverted. They can dry up. Let’s not kid ourselves. Our funding at the start of 2006 was at risk. Misfounded fears maybe, in light of the rationality and the ideals of those who lead cricket, but nevertheless we were under pressure for a while. Receiving funding is always a cause for gratitude but the responsibility for acquiring it, let alone managing it, needs to rest with more than the ACC Secretariat. We and our members must be more pro-active in raising funds.

**Rising Members**

Our members as a whole are responsible for all the advances that cricket enjoys in Asia. Their passion, devotion and enthusiasm is unparalleled anywhere else. They are cricket’s true missionaries, spreading the gospel of cricket across our continent. A large part of their job is to
dispel the notion that cricket is not as accessible as football or any other local sport in our member countries.

What they have discovered is that there is nothing a man, woman or child won’t sacrifice if they feel they are genuinely benefiting from an association with cricket. China is a remarkable instance of this. Their uptake of a game branded as ‘imperialist poison’ for much of the past century is refreshingly pure and in them we see an appreciation of cricket solely for cricket’s sake.

Kuwait and Thailand have become ICC Associate members since last year and their elevation is credit to all those who are involved in cricket in their countries.

More than an elevation, we trust that this will be a springboard to sustained development in these countries.

Myanmar has joined us and currently are on the brink of ICC Affiliate Membership. Their speed out of the gate is impressive and for all their isolation from the rest of the world, they have stayed remarkably true to the ideals of cricket. We should all wish them well.

Indonesia, Laos, Lebanon, Uzbekistan, Vietnam and Yemen all feature on the horizon across the continent, opens all kinds of opportunities: economic, social, political and educational. Cricket is not diluted or devalued by new members, it is only enriched.
The Spirit of Cricket

It’s often been asked, ‘What do they know who only cricket know?’, suggesting that cricket does not communicate all that is necessary to function in the world. I would countermand this and state quite categorically that those who truly know cricket know all that is necessary. It is that kind of game.

Of course it has to be the right kind of cricket, free of fear or favour, politicking, mendacity, greed and patronage. Free of colonial baggage, commercial exploitation and celebrity-craving. Free to be what it is in the hearts and minds of every child who middles a ball for the first time, takes a catch and throws down a wicket. Free to be what it was in the hearts of all our contemporary champions when they first took up the game.

The increasing presence of women’s cricket in our midst is to be welcomed and encouraged.

Alliances

Beyond our traditional borders we have been fortunate to strike up an association with UNICEF and its Fair Play for Girls campaign. This was initiated in 2004 and is set to continue into 2008 at least. For all those who have gained through cricket’s and society’s advances in recent years it should not be overlooked that many ‘have nots’ still remain: the ones with opportunity and the ones without. UNICEF’s Fair Play for Girls and UNAIDs programs go some way in redressing life’s inequities and they have our unequivocal support.

Afro-Asian Cricket Co-operation extended our sphere of interest in the development of the game and it was heartening to see that many of the cricketers who took part in the U-19 Afro-Asia Cup won by India last November, went on to play in the U-19 World Cup. It encapsulated just why the hand of co-operation was extended, as greater opportunities for top-class development were presented. Moreover, 10% of the net revenues from the Standard Chartered Afro-Asia Cup - a donation in excess of $210,000 - was made to Sightsavers International in order to continue their invaluable work in helping the blind and visually impaired.

The whole ethos of Afro-Asian Co-operation was to emphasise the principle that ‘singly we are strong, together we are stronger’ and it may yet stand as a shining example of what can be achieved in cricket between regional development bodies. If Africa and Asia can stand together, why not all the countries of Asia?

You may say I’m a dreamer. But I’m not the only one. I am heartened and emboldened in my, admittedly close to evangelical, claims for the merits of cricket because I have seen in all our ACC member countries the actions of local players, coaches, curators, umpires and administrators, of children, parents and mentors. They do so much for cricket. They keep the game alive and flourishing in environments and cultures unlike those of the subcontinent. They fight to make cricket thrive.
Chief Executive’s Review

The strength of their desire to grow and improve emboldens us, their servants, and gives us the strength and desire to serve them more.

The Test-playing nations inspire us in their own way too. Their dynamism, ambition, administrative care and concern, their infrastructure and of course, the boundless skill of their cricketers represent all that every other ACC member aspires to be near and to be a part of.

Asia’s riches are manifold and it is the example that our leaders set which makes us all want to follow them. Many members express to me their desire to one day compete against the senior nations, and one day that will be possible. Not because the Test-playing nations will in any way slow the pace of their own development but because the standards they set are so incredibly attractive.

The DNA of the ACC

The year has seen us complete 7 ACC-initiated tournaments, along with scores of coaching, umpiring and curatorship programs. We have funded a significant number of ancillary tours amongst our members. I’ll leave the Development Manager to elaborate on these programs but suffice to say that slowly but surely, each ball struck and each aspect of the game analysed, will lead Asia’s cricketing nations forward.

We have no qualifying teams in the World Cup of 2007 and that is a blow but that’s the competitive world we live in. Pakistan successfully defending the U-19 World Cup and Nepal winning that tournament’s Plate Event is some consolation. If we, as a development body, learn from our mistakes and start competing even harder through proper processes then results will follow.

The DNA of the ACC? Dynamic National Attitudes. With them, Asia as a whole will truly champion cricket.

No other game asks so much of its players in terms of mental and physical ability, no other game allows individuality to flourish with such a team-dependent ethic, no other game is as fervently followed, incident by incident, during the course of a match, be it short or long.

Cricket is a great game.
I truly think in this time of expansion, we should do more than expand the ‘bubble’ because like all commercial expansion, when it is fuelled by anything other than substance, this bubble can burst.

Asia currently has a great product, great players, and a great momentum for change. Yet the only guarantee that cricket will continue to grow is if the sources of that greatness are constantly renewed.

My time in cricket education has taught me this - if you encourage positive change for just one person, you’ll change the whole world for them. It is our privilege at the Asian Cricket Council to work with both the Test-playing nations and our other members to change the world through cricket.

All the Presidents I have served under have made immense contributions to the game and I have learnt much from them. I am grateful that the Executive Board members are such strong supporters of our development charter and that we enjoy such a healthy relationship with the International Cricket Council. Their outgoing President, Mr. Ehsan Mani, has been an exemplar of good sense during his time in office and the welfare of cricket has been greatly enhanced by his leadership and wisdom. I trust that we will all continue to benefit from his legacy in the years ahead.

Syed Ashraful Huq
The Formation of the ACC

As we welcome new members into our fold, we thought it would be enlightening for them to know how the ACC started.

The ACC was formed in New Delhi on the 19th of September 1983, as the Asian Cricket Conference. The aims and objectives as stated in the original constitution were “organising, developing and promoting the game of Cricket in Asia” Aims to which it has adhered ever since.

The first Office Bearers of the ACC were:
- President – N.K. P. Salve MP
- Vice President – Gamini Dissanayake MP
- Hon. Secretary – A.W. Kanmadikar
- Hon. Joint Secretary – Syed Ashraful Huq
- Hon. Treasurer – M. A. Chidambaram

The founding members of the ACC were Bangladesh India, Malaysia, Pakistan, Singapore and Sri Lanka. Membership subsequently increased first with Hong Kong, then the UAE, followed by Nepal in 1990. China is the most recent member, joining the ACC in 2004.

In 1993 the Asian Cricket Conference became the Asian Cricket Council. There are two categories of membership at the ACC - Full and Associate – with the Test-playing countries and ICC Associate countries (Hong Kong, Malaysia, Nepal, Singapore, UAE) being accorded Full Member Status with the rest of the member countries ranked as ACC Associates.

It has been a steadfast policy of the ACC to expand the game and to take it boldly into new territories and thus truly globalise the game. Development activities go hand in hand with tournament activities in order to carry forward the original aims of the ACC.

Fiji, Japan and Papua New Guinea have all been members of the ACC and have competed in ACC Trophies. However, following the ICC’s formation of the East Asia-Pacific Region for development activity in that region, these countries ceded membership of the ACC.

Until December 1999 all administrative positions of the ACC were honorary. Since 1999 the Secretary and Treasurer have been drawing remuneration. Up to 2003 the headquarters of the ACC were shifted every two years with the biennial rotation of the President's and Secretary’s home country. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia was chosen to be the permanent headquarters of the Asian Cricket Council from the latter part of 2003.
### MEMBER COUNTRIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member Countries</th>
<th>ACC Member</th>
<th>ICC Member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>1983</td>
<td>2000 (Full)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>1983</td>
<td>1926 (Full)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>1983</td>
<td>1953 (Full)</td>
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<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>1983</td>
<td>1981 (Full)</td>
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<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>2001 (Affiliate)</td>
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<td>Bahrain</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>2001 (Affiliate)</td>
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<td>Bhutan</td>
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<td>2001 (Affiliate)</td>
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<td>Brunei</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>2002 (Affiliate)</td>
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<td>China</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>2004 (Affiliate)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>1983</td>
<td>1969 (Associate)</td>
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<td>Iran</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>2003 (Affiliate)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kuwait</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>2005 (Associate)</td>
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<td>Malaysia</td>
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<td>1967 (Associate)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maldives</td>
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<td>1998 (Affiliate)</td>
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<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>2005</td>
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<td>Nepal</td>
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<td>Oman</td>
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<td>2000 (Affiliate)</td>
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<td>Singapore</td>
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<td>1974 (Associate)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>2005 (Associate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UAE</td>
<td>1984</td>
<td>1990 (Associate)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The ACC was originally formed as the Asian Cricket Conference in 1983, changing its name to the Asian Cricket Council in 1993.

The ICC was originally formed as the Imperial Cricket Conference, changing its name to the International Cricket Conference in 1965 and then to the International Cricket Council in 1989.

Myanmar is the newest member of the ACC. Two of the ACC’s members became Associates of the ICC in 2005.
Executive Board Members
ACC Development Committee

ACC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Sharad Pawar MP  
President, ACC

Jai Kumar Nath Shah  
Vice-President, ACC

K. H. Imran  
Deputy President, Singapore Cricket Association

Shaharyar M. Khan  
Chairman, Pakistan Cricket Board

Ravi Sehgal  
President, Cricket Association of Thailand

Jayantha Dharmadasa  
Chairman, Interim Committee, Sri Lanka Cricket

Syed Ashraful Huq  
Chief Executive, ACC

Mohammad Ali Asghar MP  
President, Bangladesh Cricket Board

Y.A.M. Tunku Tan Sri Imran Ibni Tuanku Ja'afar  
President, Malaysian Cricket Association

Niranjan Shah  
Secretary, Board of Control for Cricket in India

ACC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Mohammad Ali Asghar MP  
Chairman

Sharad Pawar MP  
Ex Officio

Anil Kalaver, Singapore  
Member

Mazhar Khan, UAE  
Member

John Cribbin, Hong Kong  
Member

Haider Farman, Kuwait  
Member

Syed Ashraful Huq  
Ex Officio

Sultan Rana  
ACC Development Manager
ACC FINANCE & MARKETING COMMITTEE

Shaharyar M. Khan
Chairman

Sharad Pawar MP
Ex Officio

N. Srinivasan, India
Sujeewa Rajapakse, Sri Lanka

P. Krishnasamy, Malaysia
Syed Ashraful Huq
Ex Officio

Thusith Perera
ACC Finance Manager

ACC DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Sultan Rana
Development Manager

Roger Binny
Development Officer

Rumesh Ratnayake
Development Officer

Iqbal Sikander
Development Officer

Keith McAuliffe
Consultant
Grounds and Pitch Development

Dr. Vece Paes
Consultant
Sports Medicine and Physical Fitness

Mahboob Shah
Resource Person (Umpire)

Khizar Hayat
Resource Person (Umpire)

Sri K. Parthasaradhy
Resource Person (Umpire)

Peter Manuel
Resource Person (Umpire)

K.T. Francis
Resource Person (Umpire)

CRICKET AUSTRALIA
Ross Turner
International Development Program Manager

ACC SECRETARIAT STAFF

Syed Ashraful Huq
Chief Executive

Sultan Rana
Development Manager

Ganesan Sundarammoorthy
Development Program Coordinator

Susan Moorthy
Development Program Assistant

Thusith Perera
Finance Manager

Philip Lee
Finance Executive

Noor Faizah Dolah
Finance Assistant

Anna Lalitha
PA to the Chief Executive

K.K. Haridas
Events Assistant

Shahriar Khan
Media Officer

Niren Mukherjee
Media Assistant

Rina Erlin
Receptionist

Mohamed Suhaili
Office Assistant/Driver
We started with six member countries in 1983, now we have 22, scores of socio-economic groups and many, many micro-cultures. Asia, as administered by the ACC, presents a huge challenge.

The developmental activity of the ACC really took off at the turn of the millennium with the enhancement of our development role. Champions Trophy revenues became available and we like all the other regions could start getting ambitious. Dovetailing with the globalization ethos of the ICC, as administrators we have both seen a tremendously encouraging systemization of development activity.

We are blessed at the ACC to have such a phenomenal wealth of talent amongst our Development Officers and Resource Persons: two World Cup winners in Roger Binny and Iqbal Sikander, a Sri Lankan legend in Rumesh Ratnayake, a true eminence in Dr. Vece Paes as our Sports Medicine Consultant and such umpiring authorities as K.T. Francis, Khizar Hayat, Peter Manuel, Sri K. Parthasaratady along with Mahboob Shah. Their guidance, learning and application are invaluable and we are building on the foundations laid by my predecessor, Zakir Hussain Syed.
A month–wise implementation report of the ACC development program from April 1st 2005 to 31st March 2006 is enclosed for information and review.

Month wise details of Implemented development program attached:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Events:</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level I Coaching Courses in collaboration with Cricket Australia</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level II Coaching Course in collaboration with Cricket Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level -1 Tutor's Course (Coach Educator Course)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACC Administration &amp; Management Course</td>
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<td>ACC Specialist Curators Courses</td>
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<td>NZSTI Country Visits</td>
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<td>Central Sports Medicine Courses</td>
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<td>Central Umpiring Courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level II Umpiring Course</td>
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<td>Umpires Training visits</td>
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<td>3-Day Tournaments - Fast Track</td>
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<td>ACC Age Group Tournaments (U-15, U-17, U-19)</td>
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<td>ACC Emerging Teams Tournaments</td>
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<td>ACC High Performance Specialist Skills Course</td>
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<td>China-specific coaching and umpiring courses</td>
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<td>New Territories Orientation visits (Laos and Myanmar)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roger Binny Country Assignments</td>
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<td>Dr. Vece Paes Country Assignments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rumesh Ratnayake Country Asignments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iqbal Sikander Country Assignments</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We have been rebuilding the physical and human infrastructure of our Associate and Affiliate Members’ Associations through a network of coaching, curatorship and umpiring programs conducted by our own resource staff as well as Cricket Australia. Tournaments, age-group and senior, are a large part of our calendar.

We are laying the foundations for greater cricket participation at a higher standard. But we want to - and can - do more. We are investing another 9 million dollars in the upcoming two years to 2007-08. That means that in the five years up to 2008, we will have invested - including ICC funding - more than 20 million dollars across Asia. No regional body has ever done more.

There has to be a reason for all this expenditure. There has to be a purpose. And we would like there to be results.

Overall we at the ACC just want people to play cricket. Winning ICC tournaments is a bonus! However, a major goal now undoubtedly has to be to have four teams from our region join the Test-playing nations in the 2011 World Cup. In order to do that they must perform at the ICC Trophy in 2009.
A youth policy is helpful in that respect. Last year at the ACC we held three age-group tournaments: U-15, U-17 and U-19, and I was impressed by the performances of a number of countries. Malaysia and Kuwait have done well, Thailand look to be shaping up into a good side and their rise is all the more worthy because it is fed by the increasingly large participation of the native Thai community. But of all the teams at youth level who have impressed me, it is Nepal who are at the top.

They play with a discipline and finesse rare at this level and that is why they win so many matches. They have been successful at senior three-day cricket, U-15 and U-19 level. Had smog not led to the abandonment of our U-17 tournament in Kuala Lumpur at the semi-final stage, Nepal could well have won that too.

As it is, they beat two Test-playing nations at the U-19 World Cup and are poised to reach even greater heights.

There is a hunger to play winning cricket there that is most encouraging. Their success has created a platform and infrastructure for institutional success and I sincerely hope that Nepal’s administrators maximise all the opportunities that their team presents them.

The best thing that’s happened to Nepal has been the appointment of Roy Dias as National Coach. He is a superb example of what can be done by the application of a keen and skilful mind to a keen and skilful audience. In a way, it should be the template for all our coaches’ activities, but as will emphasise, every country is unique and one model doesn’t necessarily fit all.

We are thrilled that women’s cricket is coming to the fore in our region and it certainly allows opportunities for an establishment of a new kind of world order. All countries will be grouped much closer together in this environment and I foresee that some countries such as Hong Kong and China could really make a huge impact.
Development Manager’s Report

Processes

A key plank of our development strategy is to reinvigorate cricket at school level. I’ve been talking about it for a while, let’s see how far we can push it through. It’s about awakening a new generation to the pleasures and thrills of cricket. A rough straw poll by us at the ACC has revealed that about 1.5 per cent of Asia’s schools play competitive cricket and we want that figure to be nearer five percent within five years. Cricket is only healthy when the base is broad, the structure pure and the goals are high. If we get those two areas of the game right, then we are going to be successful.

A strategic plan has been formulated, for example, in China so we already have some building blocks in place. It’s a plan which will see a quantum leap in playing numbers. We are seeing the first green shoots. Clearly, it won't happen all in one year, but we do have a carefully co-ordinated plan for the next three to five years. China's adoption into the global cricketing family and their adoption of cricket into the curriculum of some primary schools has just accelerated this plan.

A lot of talent is definitely lost by not having cricket available at school level. Asia like all the other regions is fighting against non-sporting activities, academic pressures and increasingly sedentary lifestyles. To be fair, some schools haven’t got the funds to play a sport like cricket, but there is also a lack of promotion and education of the schools themselves which is an issue we hope to address.

We want to position cricket so that it is seen by parents and children as a highly attractive sport, one that develops you physically, mentally and socially.
Development Manager’s Report

There’s also been some thought given to an ACC Academy for the top players of the region, plans are on the back-burner at present but as and when it happens, we would like each player attending, from U-15 level through to the senior side, given an individual programme, based on a detailed profiling of their game. We want the Academy to be the Number 1 cricket resource in Asia and hope it will eventually be a resource for all of Asia’s cricketers, coaches, curators and umpires to use at any stage of their careers.

Given the climate of many of our members, indoor facilities are needed by many. Given the fact that cricket is a new developing sport in many of our member nations, sometimes more basic infrastructure is needed. Given the fact that many national players of our members work for a living, proper floodlights for evening practices would go a long way. Given the fact that cricket in some countries is not part of the sporting curriculum, serious lobbying needs to be done by our member associations in order to develop the sport on a broader basis.

All of these needs come to light through a dialogue between the member country, the Development Officer and us at the ACC Secretariat. On the question of ‘targetting needs’, yes we need to target, prioritise and allocate resources accordingly. Just pumping in development funds isn’t enough, just thinking ‘if you build it they will come’ isn’t enough. We’re really addressing the core of the issue here, which is that without dedicated administrators inside our member countries who have the vision, energy and financial savvy to make the most of their budgeted resources, then the ideal scenario for development cannot occur.

Achievements

929 participants have gone through our various programs and scores of new accredited coaches, umpires and curators have been created in this past year alone. We have held over a hundred matches under our competitive banner.

A highly significant Age Verification program was introduced during our U-15 Cup in the UAE last year and we have seen the benefits already in the way that all competing nations truly get a chance to compete on a level playing field.
The ICC Development Program which had a 2001-2005 Strategic Plan for an “Increase in the number of active participants in Associate and Affiliate Members by 30% by July 2005” has had all its targets exceeded by Asia in every category, as it has for all the regions.

In our case, I would now like to focus a little bit more on quality along with quantity. It was interesting to see during all our tournaments the coaches and umpires in action and the more events we stage, the better all the people involved with the game will become.

Our ideals as ever are to create the best possible playing and learning environment for the region’s cricketers. The foundation of this ambition must be to make cricket as fun and rewarding as possible.

Challenges

We aim to provide effective solutions in diverse areas. We don’t make a song and dance about it. But maybe we should. Certainly, much of our work across Asia, from Afghanistan to China is, for all its significance, often unheralded. Without someone banging the drum for us we are vulnerable to the hostile slings and arrows of ignorance and apathy and that should not be the case.

The countries themselves know we are working hard for them, our Executive Board, Development and Finance Committees as well as the International Cricket Council Development Program are constantly monitoring and evolving our practises for maximum efficacy but, and it is a big but, when you are as ambitious as we in Asia are for success, we cannot ever rest on what we have done or are about to do. We have to look at what our efforts today will achieve tomorrow and the day after.

None of our non-Test playing members qualified for the 2007 World Cup. We will do our utmost to ensure that our members qualify in 2011. Particularly as the event is to be held in Asia. Having no Asian qualifiers in our ‘home’ event doesn’t bear thinking about.

ASIA’S WAY TO THE 2011 WORLD CUP

The 2007 World Cup looms large already in the minds of the cricket world – it’s why India have Greg Chappell, Pakistan have Bob Woolmer, Sri Lanka have Tom Moody (a World Cup winner as a player) and Bangladesh have Dav Whatmore (a World Cup winner as a coach) as conduits to release the best possible play from their cricketers.

Everything is focussed on that one career-defining moment in the life of a player, coach and country. But for the rest of Asia the 2007 World Cup is already over. No Asian Associates or Affiliates will be present. Success has a proud lineage, defeat has many fathers – legitimate or illegitimate. We at the ACC have taken this absence from the forthcoming World Cup, of our Associate and Affiliate teams, to heart.

Asia, with three World Cup winning nations in its midst, is reckoned to have the richest resources of support, talent and finance in the world. All ACC Associates and Affiliate countries have a chance to join the Full Members at the world’s top tournament.

We can talk, they can talk. We can plan. They can plan. We can do. They can do. And when we say “they” we mean “we”. We are all in the quest to secure participation for the 2011 World Cup.

For the associations that truly commit themselves to play in the 2011 World Cup, that truly wish to convert their dreams into reality - the ACC will support you in your endeavours.

Truly believe in yourselves, focus on the goal: World Cup participation and all the benefits that brings is possible.
**ASIA’S WAY TO THE 2011 WORLD CUP**

In a radical and innovative qualifying format, the ICC have made it possible for any one of Asia’s 11 Affiliates and 7 Associates to join the ten Full Member nations at the 2011 World Cup.

The high-stakes system has been set up to allow teams to focus on peaking at the right times for what will be the biggest cricket matches of their lives in the years leading up to 2011.

6 of the ICC’s 86 global Affiliates and Associates will make it through. 4 of them can be from the ACC’s 18 member countries.

The ambition to succeed already exists. The platform has been provided. The campaign to qualify must start now.

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*As UAE and Oman have pre-qualified for World Cricket League Division 2 through their participation in the 2005 ICC Trophy, the slot available as Asia’s qualifier for World Cricket League Division 3 becomes available to the third-placed team should the UAE and Oman be finalists in the 2006 ACC Trophy. Should only one of UAE and Oman be in the final, then their opponents will be Asia’s qualifiers for World Cricket League Division 3.*
Development Manager’s Report

Looking back

Not having any of our Associates qualifying for the 2007 World Cup is probably the best thing that could have happened to us. It has made us look long and hard at our development programs and the way they are applied.

The critical issue for us and the ICC has to be ‘what value and relevance do the local Associations place on our non-financial input?’ The money’s all well and good and is of great benefit but it is not the only thing a Development body can provide. How do we get these Associations to see that our giving is not just about getting money to pay the bills, but the first step in building up the Associations so that they can stand with greater independence? Establish their own unique strengths as a cricketing nation? In effect, to truly develop?

How can we improve our communication with all our members so as to build cross-national networks for all of them? If we define ourselves as a relevant development body, committed to excellence, then we really open the door to more opportunity for our cricket community beyond their own country’s borders.

Fundamentally, I have come to realise that when it comes to a development program, one size never fits all. One size fits one. Period. From now on, therefore, we will be tailoring our Development Officers’ work so that they deliver the most suitable and best-fitting development procedures to our members. Institutional inertia and some local handicaps mean that fundamental change is in many instances a little way off, but there is no denying the motivational appeal for any nation in feeling that they are being fitted with the cricket development program that is best suited to their needs and ambitions.

Those countries that ask for programs to be tailor-made for them will develop and outgrow their original (in)vestments. Constant feedback and monitoring is critical. Sustained development is the key. Words are easy. Actions are harder. Anyone can say they believe in development but putting in the hard work, thinking of consequences and results, thinking outside the box, truly believing in the future of the game – that is the process of development.

Looking ahead

The year has revealed many pockets of growth amongst our members. In the Middle East all the countries have made significant strides and Afghanistan has quickly become an international favourite, as the romance and flamboyance of their game wins international attention. In South East Asia, the countries are in the midst of a rebuilding program as they take stock of the new realities of increased competition and rising costs. I am confident they are on the right track. China looms large on the horizon. I have been there and what is most phenomenal about the Chinese sporting community as communicated up and down the national sporting ladder is that they are not afraid to succeed. Not afraid to be the best they can be. Therein, lies a lesson for us all.
Later in our Report we will have a more detailed feature about the attempt to grow the game in China. They believe in targets. Without them, without targeted goals, development programs can seem well intentioned but vapid. We’re a benign development body and heads will not roll if targets are not met, but if we do not set targets in the first place and have measurable accountability, we are just talking heads, signifying nothing and doing even less.

The role of the women’s game in our sport has been formally recognized and their presence adds a great deal to the cricket world. An Asia Cup was held last year amongst three of the Test-playing nations and further World Cup qualifiers are scheduled in which Associate members’ teams are likely to figure prominently.

Our Development Officers and Resource Personnel have fulfilled their duties admirably. We are truly fortunate to have the calibre of such eminences on our side. The work of Cricket Australia in developing the next generation of coaches and umpires and refining their talents has been at the core of our program. Cricket Australia have delivered marvelously. It is now up to all those who attended their courses to carry forward the message. The proficiency of the New Zealand Sports Turf Institute in working under so many different climactic conditions to guide our region’s curators in the methods of creating quality playing surfaces, is quite remarkable.

As the number of quality playing surfaces expands and as access to these surfaces increases, I am confident that the level of proficiency of our cricketers will grow.

**Best Practise**

If you’re organizing, you have to organize for everything that will benefit the people, not just what you feel is necessary. Cricket development is not yet a science where correlations for progress can be made between numbers of coaches in a country and performance levels. Speaking as a former professional cricketer, I am well aware that many factors go into performance; whether a player’s fitness levels can be translated into tangible runs and wickets, whether a player’s coaching regime can be related to his averages - there are no formulae. None at all. There are so many variables. Yet in a world of increasing costs and shrinking resources, we need to make educated decisions as to what works best and what we want to achieve.

Progress should contain some form of action plan that moves us from present to future. The eyes of the future are looking back at us and they are praying for us to see beyond our own time. We need to formulate a guide, a roadmap, provide assurance that a successful future can be reached.

If it is an immigrants’ game in Asia outside the Test-playing countries, then we need to help the cricket community find their authentic selves, their core values and set their goals and agenda for the next year, the next five years, ten years. Whatever time frame they set, in which to reach their goals. Certainly, some countries are more ambitious than others. But a core element of our program is competition, life is competitive, cricket is a competitive game. No team or country likes to lose and nor should they feel they have failed if they have set goals and achieved them, irrespective of tournament victories and the like.

However, as blunt as it is, we do have a measurement of development. It is World Cup qualification.

Not having any teams which are directly funded by our Development Program qualify for the 2007 World Cup is a blow which I am taking personally. The danger, of which I am keenly aware, is that even supporters of the Asian Cricket Council outside Asia will see the current situation as evidence that the millions poured into Asia by the ACC prove that the Asian way cannot deliver and that, by extension we don’t deserve such a
significant part of the ICC Development Program funding. As a development body we too are competing on a macro-economic level with the other four regions. So the political stakes could hardly be higher, because if we fail to make the improvements and the reforms we set out to make in our development program then our raison d’être and future funding will be called into question. Honesty, therefore, a willingness to truly address the issues that determine success must be made. And now a commitment to play to our imaginative limits has to be total.

Looking at the way that the other regions work (particularly Europe, which has three qualifiers) and duplicating their methods is not possible. I’m all for the exchange of best practices (and I think more inter-regional communication would be invaluable) but as mentioned earlier, one way does not work for all. We have to come up with our own ways and means.

The economics of on-field success and general development are extremely complex. It's great to be optimistic but that optimism needs to acknowledge economic realities and the need for substantial structural change.

We'll never level the playing field until the fibre of our philosophy changes. Financial gain is the catalyst today, just as it has always been, but today the price of failure is so much greater than ever before, just as the rewards are greater. Just spending money isn't the answer. Rigorous, vigorous analysis of every aspect of development must be made.

Knowledge is power, and once we see how every single dollar of development money is spent and make a cost-benefit analysis maybe we, the ICC and all our members will be able to act well enough to raise cricket to even higher levels. It's up to the brothers and sisters in our cricket community, and every other region, to take it from there.

Too many countries still rely on individual flair and short-termism in order to get by.

Progress must contain some form of action plan that moves us from present to future. We are still a young body, less than ten years old but the time has come to construct an action plan to move us from point A to B. One that is simple, precise and engaging. After B comes C. And all the other letters of the alphabet. Yes, there are fine examples of what people are doing in cricket communities across Asia, but there is no effort, incentive or understanding of the benefits of taking these examples and nationalizing them, or internationalizing them.

What's going to capture hearts and minds? What's going to deepen and broaden a nation's skill base and administrative aptitude?

We try, we have our meetings, our programs, our courses, our tournaments, our officers, our staff, our website, our newsletter….Cricket will always be a media-friendly item but how on earth can a nation, let alone a game, develop if ideas aren't allowed to migrate? I shouldn't really have to quote an American from over two-hundred years ago, but Thomas Jefferson did say it best: “A Nation's best defense is an educated citizenry.” And, by analogy, a game’s best attack is an educated team. The sooner we start thinking, the sooner we start winning.

We’re really addressing the core of the issue here, which is that without dedicated administrators inside our member countries who have the vision, energy and financial savvy to make the most of their budgeted resources, then the ideal scenario for development cannot occur.
Development Manager’s Report

We are clear that sporting development bodies such as ours should not replace the powerful role of government or the public sector. But we also believe that the dynamism, flexibility and commitment of individuals to create change should also be taken seriously. Empowerment is implicit in Development. Let us therefore give voice to all the questions and concerns that any of us in the ACC may have as we strive to make cricket more popular, more established, more of an option for every young child who wishes to take part in a sport.

The pride of Asia

The process of training and learning to compete competently is a much more valuable lifetime lesson than simply the accomplishment of having won something on a given day. Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka have been remarkably forward-thinking in their recent cricket practices. Though success is a moving target, in their efforts to achieve it, they show the rest of us just how great cricket can be when it is played by the best-trained and most capable athletes.

Most significantly they have shown how the nucleus of a strong side gets built and then as a result of a strong back-up system, (the A tours and the Under-19s), newer all-round players emerge. It's a model which our Associate members can only hope to emulate in the years ahead.

Of all of them, Nepal has emerged as the strongest competitors at Associate level. Although the UAE just missed out on World Cup qualification they remain a potent force. Afghanistan, Bahrain, Kuwait and Malaysia all promise good things but really, any one of a dozen countries in our region could emerge as a force in time for the 2011 World Cup. And that is how it should be.

Asian cricket must continue its forward march. We must all continue to give more than we take. Otherwise the success of the moment will pass. Progress cannot be sated by the achievement of one goal. Our challenges are many; so must be our ambitions. We have to maximise our current opportunities to become a truly broad-based, top-class, multi-cultural international game. It is not an easy challenge, but it is nothing less than the challenge faced by the entire world.

I trust we will continue seek to maximize every opportunity to develop the game together.

God bless you all.

Sultan Rana
Asian Cricket Council Champions

**Asia Cup**
- **1984**, Sharjah: Champions **India**, runners-up Pakistan
- **1986**, Sri Lanka: Champions **Sri Lanka**, runners-up Pakistan (India absent)
- **1988**, Bangladesh: Champions **India**, runners-up Sri Lanka
- **1991**, India: Champions **India**, runners-up Sri Lanka (Pakistan absent)
- **1995**, Sharjah: Champions **India**, runners-up Sri Lanka
- **1997**, Sri Lanka: Champions **Sri Lanka**, runners-up India
- **2000**, Bangladesh: Champions **Pakistan**, runners-up Sri Lanka
- **2004**, Sri Lanka: Champions **Sri Lanka**, runners-up India

**Afro-Asia Cup**
- **2005**, South Africa: The three-match series between Africa and Asia was tied

**ACC Trophy**
- **1996**, Malaysia: Champions **Bangladesh**, runners-up UAE
- **1998**, Nepal: Champions **Bangladesh**, runners-up Malaysia
- **2000**, UAE: Champions **UAE**, runners-up Hong Kong
- **2002**, Singapore: Champions **UAE**, runners-up Nepal
- **2004**, Malaysia: Champions **UAE**, runners-up Oman

**Fast Track Countries Tournament**
- **2004-2005**, Champions **UAE**, runners-up Hong Kong
- **2005-2006**, Champions **Nepal**, runners-up UAE

**Emerging Nations Tournament**
- **2004**, Kuwait: Champions **Oman**, runners-up Bahrain
- **2005**, Thailand: Champions **Maldives**, runners-up Thailand
- **2006**, Kuwait: Champions **Bahrain**, runners-up Afghanistan
- **2006**, Thailand: Champions **Maldives**, runners-up Thailand
ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL CHAMPIONS

U-19 Afro-Asia Cup
2005, India: Champions India, runners-up Sri Lanka

U-19 Asia Cup
1997, Hong Kong: Champions Bangladesh, runners-up Papua New Guinea
1999, Singapore: Champions Bangladesh, runners-up Nepal
2001, Nepal: Champions Nepal, runners-up Malaysia
2003, Pakistan: Champions Nepal, runners-up Malaysia

ACC U-19 Cup
2005, Nepal: Champions Nepal, runners-up Malaysia

U-17 Asia Cup
2000, Pakistan: Champions Sri Lanka, runners-up Pakistan
2001, Bangladesh: Champions India, runners-up Bangladesh
2004, India: Champions Pakistan, runners-up India

ACC U-17 Cup
2005, Malaysia: Abandoned at semi-final stage due to inclement weather

U-15 Asia Cup
2000, Malaysia: Champions India, runners-up Pakistan
2002, UAE: Champions Pakistan, runners-up Sri Lanka

ACC U-15 Cup
2005, UAE: Champions Nepal, runners-up Afghanistan
Great cause – cricket development. Great concept – the best from two continents head to head. Great contest – the best really did their best.

Coming as it did at the end of the southern hemisphere off-season, the Africa team in particular had a lot to prove. Emerging players such as AB de Villiers, Ashwell Prince, Justin Kemp and Dale Steyn would all have been hoping to impress South Africa’s selectors, and their new coach Mickey Arthur, against top-class opposition. As for the Asia team, only the Sri Lankans really had any pedigree match practice in the weeks before the tournament, but even they had a number of players who were looking to further their claims for national selection.

Fans and selectors’ minds can be fickle and the likes of Zaheer Khan, Ashish Nehra, Anil Kumble and Shoaib Akhtar were hoping to use this tournament to make a mark. In fact all the players who had something to prove, came out of the tournament well.

The ‘winner take all’ prize-money for each match certainly helped to focus the players’ minds, yet it was evident how very focussed the players on both sides were on winning for the fact that they had their own reputations to secure, their careers to advance, their pride to be buttressed and their team-mates to be not let down.
The Asia dressing-room, towards the end of the first match in Centurion, as the game swung one way and then another, was a seething cauldron of competitive fire. Every run was applauded greatly, every setback absorbed sullenly. Asia’s players were extremely disappointed to lose by just two runs.

Any doubts any one may have had about the competitive nature of these matches – and doubts there were many before the first match got under way – would have been resolved by witnessing the on-field celebrations of the Africa team when Dale Steyn’s inswinger castled Ashish Nehra to win the match for Africa. Arms pumping, voice screaming, embraced by all his team-mates, Steyn, moments after having been hit into the stands by Shoaib Akhtar, had pulled the match out of the fire for Africa.

Africa were absolutely thrilled to win. This had become a super serious contest.

Stung, Asia had to bounce back in the Durban double header and they did. The addition of Mahela Jayawardene undoubtedly boosted Asia as, in sublime form, he held the middle order together during the first Kingsmead match. And his slip-catching was pretty good too. Around him his team-mates all blossomed. One stroke in particular, by Yousuf Youhana lingers in the memory still. A drive backward of point to the boundary off Heath Streak, played with maximum authority and bisecting two boundary fielders, was absolutely imperious. Asia, with the sun on their back, were enjoying themselves and in scoring 267 put on a great show for the crowd.

Africa were always going to be struggling chasing that score but they were getting pretty close when Steve Tikolo and Shaun Pollock were together. It took some smart thinking by Kumar Sangakarra in conjunction with Muralitharan to force Tikolo’s run-out and then Asia had the match in the bag.

The deciding match in Durban was all set to be a terrific contest – Asia did marvellously well to bowl out Africa for 106. Under the cloudy conditions Graeme Smith’s decision to bat after winning the toss was rather strange but no doubt, Zaheer Khan and Shoaib Akhtar made full use of the conditions.
Asia lost two early wickets, Sehwag to a superb leg-cutter from Steyn, and at 8 for 2 after three overs would have been fully aware that victory for them wasn’t assured. But then the rain which had fallen intermittently, returned with force and the match had to be abandoned.

Broadcast figures coming in from India showed that the tournament had been pretty well-supported. Certainly the cricket, between two well-matched teams was of a high intensity and competitiveness.

The Man of the Series was Zaheer Khan.

The Standard Chartered Afro-Asia Cup will resume in 2007.
Fast Track Countries Tournament
April to December 2005
Hong Kong, Malaysia, Nepal, Singapore, UAE
6 venues, 10 matches

Emirates Return
April to December 2005
Hong Kong, Malaysia, Nepal, Singapore, UAE
6 venues, 10 matches

The UAE were challenged strongly by Nepal in this, the second year of the Asian Cricket Council’s three-day tournament. Nevertheless, the UAE demonstrated their greater strength in depth and tactical acumen by holding off their rivals.

Nepal did beat the UAE by 172 runs when they met in May 2005 but it was a bitter-sweet victory as the UAE had done just enough to secure qualification in the place of Nepal for the ICC Intercontinental Cup later in the year.

The margin between Nepal's success and despair: 0.5 points, the equivalent of just 2 runs.

Had the UAE’s last-wicket pair of Zahid Shah and Rizwan Latif not made any more than 6 runs in their stand, Nepal would have gone through. Zahid Shah’s six over mid-wicket, to take the UAE past the magical 75 run mark and the extra 0.5 point, was an astonishing shot in the circumstances.

Malaysia re-emerged as a competitive force, beating Singapore and more significantly Hong in a barn-storming run chase when the teams met in September at the Selangor Turf Club. Malaysia’s win saw them leap temporarily to the top in the 2005 Fast Track table.

Malaysia have been distinguished this year by a better attitude than in years gone by and the players have become fighters. Singapore and Hong Kong are undergoing a rebuilding process as youngsters are introduced into their sides.

The ACC Fast Track Countries Tournament has been re-named the ACC Premier League from 2006-2007 onwards, with the same countries competing.
## ACC Tournaments

### Fast Track Countries Tournament 2005

#### Leading Run-Scorers

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Player</th>
<th>Runs</th>
<th>High Score</th>
<th>Average</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paresh Lohani</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>101*</td>
<td>47.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arshad Ali</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>81*</td>
<td>38.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahaboob Alam</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>34.67</td>
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#### Leading Wicket-Takers

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<th>Player</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Best</th>
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<tr>
<td>Binod Kumar Das</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>8.67</td>
<td>6-29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ali Asad</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10.50</td>
<td>4-27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arun Vijayan</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11.30</td>
<td>3-13</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Emerging Nations Trophy: ACC Middle East Cup

Kuwait, February 17 to 24 2006
Kuwait, Afghanistan, Bahrain, Iran, Saudi Arabia
2 venues, 11 matches

Bajwa Rains on Afghanistan’s parade

Bahrain won the 2006 ACC Middle East Cup thanks to a stunning individual performance from Man of the Tournament Asgher Bajwa who led his team to an exciting three-wicket victory over Afghanistan.

The crowd estimated at 10,000 Afghans along with Bahraini supporters and Kuwaiti neutrals, had been gathering since dawn at the KOC grounds and though ultimately disappointed by the result, they cheered on their team to the very end in the most convivial manner.

Batting first, Afghanistan were never quite able to break free of the Bahrain attack but their captain Raees Ahmazdal’s battling innings of 36 in partnership with Abdul Nassar (49) gave them a score of 194 to defend in 50 overs.

Bajwa took a blinder of a catch at mid-on to dismiss Nassar and chipped in with three wickets. Playing spin effectively remains a problem for all but the best Afghan batsmen and once that handicap is removed – ideally through more practice on turf wickets and more discipline – Afghanistan will truly be a formidable force.

Unusually though, in this Middle East Cup final, Afghanistan’s bowlers proved to be a lesser force than their batsmen and though having Bahrain lost three quick wickets early on in their innings, Man of the Match Asgher Bajwa (63, 1 six and 7 fours) and Ashraf Baig (48) rebuilt the innings.

Close shaves there were aplenty but Afghanistan were never quite able to break through and a tiring attack could only watch as Bahrain scampered home with 29 balls to spare.

It had been an epic occasion and Bahrain, after coming so close in the 2004 Middle East Cup, finally had their hands on the coveted trophy.

The competition as a whole had seen some quality cricket. Rain, yes rain, affected some matches and may have played a part in Kuwait’s non-appearance in the Final which, as an ICC Associate they would have been expected to reach. Yet there can be no doubting their abilities as hosts and a tournament such as this served as a useful pointer to the overall playing strength and appeal of cricket outside the UAE.
Emerging Nations Trophy: South East Asia Emerging Teams
Maldives First Among Equals

Thailand, February 12 to 16 2006
Thailand, Bhutan, Maldives
1 venue, 4 matches

The Maldives retained their crown as South East Asian Emerging Nations Champions with a dominating display in the Final at the Royal Polo Grounds in Bangkok. They beat Thailand by 7 wickets.

Moosa Kaleem was again the outstanding player of the tournament and his undefeated 65 brought his team home in the Final. His performances with bat and ball are all the more remarkable as he is playing with a back injury serious enough to warrant his medical advisers to warn him off the game.

Thailand’s young side again showed some enterprising spirit, particularly as the fruits of the Cricket Association of Thailand’s efforts to take the game into the native community are starting to bear fruit.

Bhutan’s performances reflected the fact that the tournament took place in the depths of winter for them and thus training and practice prior to arrival in Thailand had barely been possible. Their attitude remains unparalleled however.

Last year, on their return back home, having won the islands’ first ever international sporting trophy, the Maldivian celebrations were fervent and raucous as a national holiday was declared. This year the islands’ celebrations were almost as spectacular as the general population are coming to a greater awareness and appreciation of cricket.
U-19 Afro-Asia Cup

India, November 19 to 27 2005
Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Zimbabwe
3 venues, 16 matches

India Mature First

India beat Sri Lanka by eight wickets at the ACA-VDCA stadium to claim the first U-19 Afro-Asia Cup competition. India were unbeaten throughout the six-nation tournament.

During the eight-day event, India beat all opposition: Bangladesh, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe by large margins with players such as opener Gaurav Dhiman, first-drop Cheteswar Pujara, leg-spinning all-rounder Piyush Chawla being prominent throughout. Gaurav Dhiman was the tournament's top-scorer with three hundreds and a fifty. All of the above are future stars in the making, with Chawla actually making his Test debut against England four months later.

India’s coach, ex-international Venkatesh Prasad, said: “We have set extremely high standards for ourselves in the preparation for the World Cup. And we are sticking to them in terms of performance. Sure, it’s huge pressure sometimes for setting such high standards. But that’s the way for us to go.”

Adroitly captained by Ravikant Shukla, no slouch with the bat and ball himself, India sent out a message to all opponents prior to the U-19 World Cup in February that they were the team to beat. “We have already beaten Australia 4-1 in a series this year and are full of confidence. Our coach has said that we just need to focus on our strengths and not worry about anybody else and we will do fine,” said Shukla.

Overall, assessed as an exercise in the development of youth cricket, the tournament was an unqualified success.

South African Coach Ray Jennings said his boys would learn a lot from their Indian trip. “They have not toured outside South Africa much. This is going to be a new and rich experience for them.” Pakistan coach Mansoor Rana said he had brought in a relatively new team and was trying out some new talent. “This is a sort of preparation tour for us. We are trying to build the best team to defend our World Cup title in Sri Lanka next year”, he explained.

The Asian teams all beat the African teams in their seven encounters in this tournament.

The U-19 Afro-Asia Cup featured players who are highly likely to go on to make an impact in senior cricket. Bangladesh’s side had two full-internationals, Mehrab Hossain and Mushfiqur Rahim but Mehdi Hasan and Showdhi Shuvo cannot be too far behind. There were a number of players who showed immense promise (Karunaratne and Pathiratne of Sri Lanka, Mufambisi and Williams of Zimbabwe, Asad and Faheem of Pakistan, Daniel and van der Schyff of South Africa) and the Afro-Asia Cup certainly advanced the cricketing prospects of all who took part.
“Vizagapatnam hosted a super tournament. Everyone benefited from the exercise. You have only to think of the amount of learning the players would have missed out on had the tournament not taken place. The African youths have an experience of Indian conditions now, and the Asian players likewise will learn how to cope in Africa when we repeat the tournament there next year. All these tournaments strengthen the root and branch of the senior set-up and in years to come once some of these players, coaches and administrators across Africa and Asia go on to other events they will have been thankful for this experience,” said Syed Ashraful Huq, the ACC Chief Executive. “We are responsible for the future of tens of thousands of young cricketers and everyone of these matches is helpful to the cause of development. The more of them there are the more they will inspire and encourage young cricketers to perform at their best.”

FINAL
India v Sri Lanka at ACA-VDCA Stadium
INDIA WON BY 8 WICKETS
Sri Lanka: 212 off 49.1 overs (S. Soysa 47, D. Karunaratne 35; P. Chawla 5-24)
India: 216 for 2 off 32.3 overs (G. Dhiman 105, C. Pujara 65*)

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ACC Tournaments

ACC U-19 Cup

Nepal, November 8 to 19 2005
Nepal, Afghanistan, Bahrain, Brunei, Hong Kong, Iran, Kuwait, Malaysia, Maldives, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Thailand, UAE
4 venues, 28 matches

Nepal: Top of the World

In front of a roaring 15,000 crowd at the sylvan Tribhuvan University Ground in Kathmandu, Nepal won their third ACC U-19 Cup in a row. They beat Malaysia in the Final by seven wickets in a thoroughly deserved victory.

Roy Dias, Nepal’s coach, said: “There was quite a lot of pressure on Nepal but the team showed once again why they are the best in Asia at this level.”

There were teams that struggled at this level and yet persevered manfully against their more seasoned and better-conditioned opponents. At the top end of the competition, Nepal were never really troubled by any of their opponents, as they played with dash and panache to win all of their matches by wide margins. Behind them however, Malaysia, Kuwait and Qatar all performed well and if these teams find a way to raise their game just a little bit higher, the gap between them and Nepal will be significantly narrowed.

Certainly, the fact that cricket has acquired a major following in Nepal, with the players all being public figures and with increasing amounts of commercial backing, has reinforced the desire to succeed. Nepal truly has immense potential.

Nepal moved forward to the World Cup in Sri Lanka in February carrying the hopes of a nation with them. 15,000 were at the ground. Another 1.5 million were watching on television as the Final, along with Nepal’s semi-final against Kuwait, was broadcast live, ball-by-ball in yet another demonstration of cricket’s newfound appeal in the country.

Top Batsmen

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<th>Player</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sharad Vesawkar</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>68 v Singapore</td>
<td>152.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gayan de Silva</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>200* v Brunei</td>
<td>114.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Habibullah Iftikhar</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>153 v Iran</td>
<td>91.67</td>
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Top Bowlers

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<th>Player</th>
<th>W</th>
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<tr>
<td>Darwin Muralitharan</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2.75</td>
<td>5-5 v Maldives</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tamoor Sajjad</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6.42</td>
<td>4-6 v Bahrain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salman Sattar</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6.88</td>
<td>8-15 v Brunei</td>
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FINAL

Nepal v Malaysia at Tribhuvan
NEPAL WON BY SEVEN WICKETS
Malaysia: 83 off 25.5 overs (B. Bataju 5-29)
Nepal: 87 for 3 off 25.3 overs
Man of the Match: Bantu Bataju (Nepal)
**ACC U-17 Cup**

Malaysia, August 5 to 13 2005  
Malaysia, Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bhutan, Brunei, Hong Kong, Kuwait, Maldives, Nepal, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Thailand, UAE  
6 venues, 25 matches

**Bad Air Stopped Play**

Penang and Johor Bahru joined Kuala Lumpur as venues for the group matches and demonstrated the remarkable wealth of facilities that Malaysia has to offer cricketers. In August, however, Malaysia can be susceptible to the smoky haze caused by bush-fires in neighbouring Sumatra and for a few days the whole of the country was smothered in a blanket of particle-laden haze. As a result the ACC U-17 Cup Tournament Technical Committee took the prudent step of abandoning all matches and suspending play in the tournament at the semi-final stage.

The four teams: Bahrain, Kuwait, Nepal (after a gripping quarter-final with Malaysia which they won by nine runs) and Singapore, who had just started their semi-finals, had to be content with ‘not losing’ when any one of them could have gone all the way.

There were solid performances all round, as teams found themselves evenly matched in most contests.

**Top Run-Scorers**

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>David Mathias</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>43.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ibrahim Zahoor</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>31.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vivek Venkatram</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>80</td>
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**Top Bowlers**

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<th>Name</th>
<th>W</th>
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<tr>
<td>Izatullah Khan</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>5-26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mayank Dalakoti</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6.33</td>
<td>6-11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angad Singh</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9.78</td>
<td>3-9</td>
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ACC U-15 Cup

UAE, April 11 to 22 2005
UAE, Afghanistan, Bahrain, Hong Kong, Kuwait, Malaysia, Maldives, Nepal, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Thailand

4 venues, 22 matches

Nepal Hit The Heights

A disciplined Nepal, strong in all aspects of the game, overcame a talented Afghan side in the finals of the ACC U-15 Cup. In the phenomenal Sheikh Zayed Stadium in Abu Dhabi, one of the most impressive cricket stadiums in the world, both teams put on a display worthy of the setting.

Cruising at 134 for 4 in the 33rd over, a score of 180 in sight, Afghanistan self-destructed in their quest for big shots against the slow bowlers. Some exceptional catching by Angel Acharya at long-on helped too, but Afghanistan largely had their tactical naiveté and aggressive mindset to blame. The Afghan batsmen literally played into the hands of Nepal.

A total of 147 was going to be testing, but unlikely to be enough.

Attacking as they are with the bat, the Afghanis are attacking with the ball too. Knowing that the only way they could win would be by claiming all ten Nepali wickets, their bowlers all bowled their hearts out.

It was absorbing, high-class cricket. With Nepal at 30 for 2 in the ninth over, the door was open for Afghanistan. That it started to close was due to the greater match-savvy of Nepal.

Anil Mandal and Antim Thapar kept out the yorkers, flirted with hardly anything outside off stump and, once Afghanistan’s dangerous pacemen were seen off, concentrated on attacking the lesser bowlers. Mandal (Batsman of the Tournament) and Thapar shared a century–stand, taking Nepal to the brink of victory. One cover-drive by Mandal off Sajid Khan lingers in the memory still and his 79 was an exceptional innings.

In the end, Nepal’s greater experience and better understanding of what it takes to win overcame Afghanistan. Nepal played smart. Afghanistan didn’t. But once they do, they will start winning some trophies.

Malaysia had pushed Afghanistan very close in the semi-final and had the game in their grasp only to see it slip away. The Gulf countries generally did well and a number of competitors in this tournament were able to make the leap to U-17 level a few months later during the ACC U-17 Cup.
A Select squad of fifteen boys were chosen from this tournament, on the basis of performance and availability, to represent the ACC on a tour of Pakistan in May.

FINAL

**Afghanistan v Nepal** at Abu Dhabi

NEPAL WON BY 6 WICKETS

Afghanistan: 147 off 37.3 overs (J. Ahmadi 58; A. Thapar 4-19, S.Kesari 3-29)

Nepal: 148 for 4 in 35 overs (A. Mandal 79, A. Thapar 37*)

Man of the Match: Antim Thapar (Nepal)

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<td>Hashmatullah Rabani</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>268</td>
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<td>67.00</td>
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<td>Gyanandra Malla</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>73*</td>
<td>50.50</td>
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<td>Irfan Ahmed</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>105</td>
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**Top Bowlers:**

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<tr>
<td>Shashi Kesari</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>70</td>
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<td>5.83</td>
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<td>Haroon Zahid</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6.58</td>
<td>3-16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sanaullah Muhib</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>7.97</td>
<td>5-17</td>
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**ACC U-15 Cup**
Cricket Initiatives

Afro-Asian Cricket Co-operation

In May of 2005, the Asian Cricket Council and African Cricket Association came together in a venture to promote and develop cricket across Asia and Africa.

Mr. Peter Chingoka, President of the ACA affirmed: "We are confident that this agreement between the ACA and ACC will further strengthen existing ties between us. In a time of increasing global division, the body we have formed, Afro-Asian Cricket Co-operation, will be a substantial symbol of international unity."

Under the agreement plans were made to stage three ODI series between an Africa team and Asia team over the coming years, alternating between the continents. 10% of the net revenues from the staging of these ODIs will be donated to a charity working on both continents. The remaining 90% (70% for the host body, 20% for the visitors) will be targeted towards development programs across Africa and Asia.

Syed Ashraful Huq, Chief Executive of the ACC declared: "The ODIs will showcase the best cricket that Asia and Africa have to offer but we are also joining in this landmark association in order to promote cricket at all levels. There will be representative age-group matches between the two continents in tournaments organised by us. For development of cricket there will be the exchange of administrative personnel, curators, coaches and umpires. We have much to offer each other and we will emerge as stronger cricketing forces as a result of this co-operation."

In due course, the showcase ODIs between Africa and Asia were staged in South Africa in August 2005. Massively symbolic, in this increasingly cynical day and age when so many matches become a blur and flurry of runs and faces, hits and chases, these matches stood out as competitive events and won over even the most brazenly cynical. ("You have just convinced me of the value of the Afro-Asia Cup" wrote Martin Williamson, Managing Editor to the ACC.)

The matches were the first time that the continents of Africa and Asia - so rich in history yet so young in the modern world, so rich in resources yet so vulnerable to natural forces, so full of heroes yet so needy of them at the same time - have come together on the sporting level to create a body which, in the words of the then President of the ACC, Jagmohan Dalmiya, is "dedicated to developing the game of cricket at all levels throughout the two continents. It is time we maximised our strengths and overcame our weaknesses. We are strong at the top level, but from school-age upwards it is our responsibility and opportunity to develop the game."

The Afro-Asian Cup ODIs, of which there will be more next year and the year after that, are at the apex of the movement that seeks to focus attention on the needs of the young and emerging cricketers of Africa and Asia.
Kuwait and Thailand Become ICC Associates

Kuwait Cricket Association and the Cricket Association of Thailand were awarded ICC Associate Status in June 2005. Their elevation comes "as a result of the excellent progress that is being made by cricket within these countries", said Ehsan Mani the ICC President. They join Botswana, Japan and Belgium as new Associates.

Asad Baig of the KCA and Ravi Sehgal of the CAT, representing their countries at the ICC meetings in London were delighted to receive the news. "This is thanks to the hard work of many people in Kuwait and we will do our very best to be worthy of this honour", said Asad Baig. "This kind of recognition will help us to develop the game even further across Thailand," said Ravi Sehgal.

Myanmar Joins the ACC

Proposed by Malaysia and seconded by Thailand, the Myanmar Cricket Federation were unanimously voted in to the ACC at the Annual General Meeting on June 26th 2005.

Grace Swe Zin Htaik, General Secretary of the Myanmar Cricket Federation reports of how "When the news came through about our acceptance to be a family member of the ACC, there was a great elation among our cricket lovers, young and old. Lots of congratulations, lots of back clapping, lots of cheers all around. It was as if a life-long dream had suddenly come true. U Khee Myint, the old bed-ridden cricketer was so overwhelmed, he almost got up from his bed and walked. For all this happiness and understanding, we most sincerely thank our ACC."

Development Officer Roger Binny made an Inspection visit to the country in May 2005 and reported back favourably on the cricket set-up there. "They have three grounds, along with a turf wicket and while I was in Yangon, the Minister for Sport promised to grant land for a new cricket ground. The people behind the game there are very enthusiastic and Myanmar does fulfill all the criteria required."

Inaugural ACC Annual Report Published


“The Asia Cup was the fulcrum of last year, financially and symbolically, but we held four other tournaments, two major seminars and twenty-nine coaching courses with close to a thousand participants. We are busier and in the public eye more than ever before and it is fitting that we record all our activity in a Report.”
Coaches Climb The Ladder

Sultan Rana, ACC Development Manager and Peter Hanlon, Education and Training Manager of Cricket Australia took the opportunity at the ACC Development Staff Coordination Committee Meeting in Kuala Lumpur in August 2005 to formally appraise all the participants of the ACC Coaching Courses over the past 12-18 months.

57 Level 2 Coaches and 36 Level 1 Coach Educators were adjudged to have satisfied all requirements prior to being assessed by a recognised Cricket Australia/Asian Cricket Council representative. Another further 51 candidates who have taken part in Level 1 courses are awaiting the results of their examinations. These numbers represent a 15% - 25% rise in the number of qualified coaches in the Asia region. "Cricket Australia will work with the ACC to ensure that such an assessment can be carried out in the near future so that they can gain their formal accreditation," said Messrs. Rana and Hanlon.

Cricket Crosses the Great Wall

Following the conclusion in September 2005 of the Asian Cricket Council's inaugural Cricket Skills and Coaching Course for China in Beijing, the Chinese Cricket Association hosted a high-level media conference at which local and international coaches were asked to contribute.

Zhang Xioaning, Director of the Multi-ball Games Administration Centre, said, “There are 96 sports in the State Sports Commission but what makes cricket special is that it is a game of the physique, it is a game of the heart, and it is a game of the mind. It is a game for the individual within the team. It is truly a noble game that is perfectly suited to the Chinese people. It is being introduced in China at the best time.”

Over 30 coaches and PE teachers attended from institutions such as Tsing Hua University, Peking University, Renmin University, Fudan University, Shanghai Jiaotong University, Beijing Sports University and the Shanghai Sports Institute. These institutions have all been responsible for creating Olympic and world champions for China.

During the six-day course participants were coached by representatives from the Asian Cricket Council and Cricket Australia. “We were very excited to learn about this great game and we have enjoyed the experience immensely”, said Liu Jingmin of Peking University. “Cricket is a very enjoyable sport for boys and girls, young and old alike.”

The Asian Cricket Council's Chief Executive, Syed Ashraful Huq, firmly believes that “China will be playing in World Cups within fifteen years. All the talent and determination is here already and with the hard work and support of the State, I am sure that cricket will be one more sport with which the Chinese people can bring honour to their country.”

 Cricket Australia’s Ross Turner, General Manager, Game Development, said, “All the coaches here in the playground and classroom are now my colleagues in the world of cricket. Having seen them work, I too firmly believe that China will one day, sooner rather than later, have a team that will play Australia in a World Cup.”
Cui Weihong, the Secretary General of the Chinese Cricket Association said, “Cricket is the most popular sport in south Asia and is followed by two billion people around the world and has been played for over two hundred years. It has finally started now in China and it is a game in which China has all the potential for success. This Skills and Coaching Course has been a historic occasion and I look forward to the day when we can say that China are the World Champions.

Age-Verification Program

In a move guaranteed to establish in the fairest and most clinically precise way possible the integrity of age-group competition, the ACC has started a thorough Age Determination Programme. Its debut was at the 2005 U-15 ACC Cup.

Competitors from all competing nations were screened according to physiology, bone density and dental age in order to determine the most accurate classification of a player's age. "It is believed that age manipulation leads to undue performance for the older players and injury risk for the younger players. Just by visual observation it is apparent that an Afghan boy has a different build to a Thai boy of the same age - that is an inherent genetic characteristic", says Dr. Vece Paes, the ACC Sports Medicine Consultant who conducted the tests. "Yet it is imperative that we take the lead in establishing protocols which will allow for better and more practical determinants of age than just paper documentation." With the best will in the world, it is fair to say that in some areas of Asia what with wars and rural isolation, record-keeping has been very hard to maintain in years gone by.

The Age Determination Protocol is to be used by the ACC for all future U-19, U-17 and U-15 tournaments under its administration. Syed Ashraful Huq, the ACC Chief Executive emphatically affirms: "On a basic level, it is my paramount concern that a young cricketer plays in an environment of utmost integrity and that no team or competitor gains an unfair advantage over the other. We at the ACC will be doing our utmost to ensure that our youth have every opportunity to advance their skills and performance levels. This cannot be done where you have boys of advanced years competing against younger ones."

Portable Pitches

The ACC has commissioned the New Zealand Sports Turf Institute to further advance the concept of the portable pitch in Asia. The objective is to design turf systems which can enable quality cricket to be played on established football grounds or in major multi-use stadia without interference to other user groups.

Both synthetic and natural turf portable pitch systems are being investigated. The intention is to identify individuals or companies in Asia who have structural engineering expertise and the resources to construct any prototype systems at a modest price.
Cricket Initiatives

Select U-15 Fifteen Tour of Pakistan

Following the completion of the ACC U-15 Cup in May 2005, an ACC Select Asia U-15 squad for a tour of Pakistan was selected and featured some of the most promising young cricketers of the region.

The Select Asia U-15s played three two-day games in Karachi during their tour, which ran from the 14th to 24th of May.

"Having sought the opinions of the match referees, umpires and coaches present through the ACC U-15 Cup event, we felt the squad to be truly representative of the best U-15 cricketers in the non-Test playing countries. I expect the high-class opposition in Pakistan to be seriously challenged," said Iqbal Sikander, the team’s Coach, at the time. The Karachi teams duly were.

During the first match of the tour, the teams were honoured by a visit from the Pakistan Cricket Board Chairman, Shaharyar Khan, who commented most favourably on the standard of play and the ethos behind the initiative.

Laos Is More

Thanks to some ground-work by the Cricket Association of Thailand, ACC Development Officer Roger Binny has made an introductory visit to Laos to assess their cricketing facilities and ambitions.

A cordial meeting with the National Sports Committee’s Director-General of International Relations Cooperation took place, in which Roger Binny found that though Laotians perceived cricket as "a very foreign game out here", nevertheless they "were keen to know more about cricket and introduce the game in the country."

Affiliate status for Laos is still a year or two away but as Thailand’s cricket activity in Chiang Mai expands, Laotians will come into closer contact with the game. Cross-border coaching by CAT is already planned.
Asia’s Triple Triumph

Asia scooped three of the nine 2005 ICC Development Program Awards with the Chinese Cricket Association, Phuket Cricket Union and Dr. Harjit Singh of Johor, Malaysia being recognised.

Photo of the Year
Chinese Cricket Association
Taken at Badaling, the Great Wall of China on September 23rd, 2005

Best Spirit of Cricket Initiative
Asian Cricket Sixes Tour – Phuket Thailand

Lifetime Service Award
Dr. Harjit Singh, Malaysia

“I am honoured to have this award bestowed upon me... this will be a terrific help in drawing more attention to the cause of developing cricket in Malaysia.”

The global winners were selected by Ehsan Mani (ICC President), Malcolm Gray (past ICC President), Dr Ali Bacher (ICC Cricket World Cup 2003 Executive Director) and Roger Knight (MCC Chief Executive and Secretary).

“This whole process has once again shown the outstanding work being done in the development of cricket around the world,” said Ehsan Mani. “It was immensely difficult to select the winners but those lucky enough to have been chosen reflect the contributions they have made to our wonderful worldwide sport. Everyone involved, winners and those not chosen, deserve immense credit for their efforts,” he added.
Development Topics

The ACC is often asked to contribute its views on various subjects at regional and international meetings as well as to the global print and electronic media. Here is a selection from our contributions in the past year.

ICC Development Committee Presentation – CRICKET DEVELOPMENT IN CHINA

Presented by Sultan Rana, ACC Development Manager

It’s probably a good place to start by quoting the words of Ehsan Mani, “Cricket cannot truly call itself a global game if one fifth of the world's population have no awareness of it.” Cricket has made a highly impactful breakthrough into China this past year, it is now up to us to carry cricket forward.

The potential benefits are immense, the ACC Chief Executive has been widely quoted in the world’s media in his belief that the “global revenues of cricket will increase by 30%-40%” once China is established as a cricketing force and that may well be true. But in order to get there we need to do two things. First get China to understand cricket and second, get us to understand China.

On the first aspect, China’s understanding of cricket, we face an immense task. Until our inaugural Basic Skills and Coaching Course in September there was absolutely no understanding of cricket in mainland China by the indigenous population. None whatsoever. Building the necessary knowledge and culture of cricket in traditional terms will obviously take time, decades even.

But China is a unique case. Its capacity to change, its capacity to absorb new influences while still remaining fundamentally ‘Chinese' has been astonishing the world in recent years. And cricket with its ability to develop someone physically, mentally and socially in a way that other sports cannot, very much ties into the Chinese mindset. Undoubtedly they want to succeed at a game which is so passionately followed and so much talked and thought about by the rest of the world.

To that end, all the reports we have received from ACC staff who have been to China, along with the reports of Cricket Australia and the Chinese Cricket Association suggest that China is applying itself with great purpose to the cause.

We have undoubtedly started well. The benefits of Cricket Australia insisting, before they started the inaugural ACC coaching course in September that only the most competent ‘small-ball' school and university-level coaches attend the course, have already become apparent. The CCA delivered top-flight personnel whose abilities mightily impressed all of us observing them.

The same personnel and others, close to 50 in total, were then exposed to an Umpiring Program last month in Beijing which continued their education and deepened their enthusiasm. These coaches are the catalysts for the game. They work in the country’s most prominent and prestigious institutions and their sphere of influence is huge.
The infrastructure for development is being put into place. Already, within two months, of the ACC physically being involved in the development of the game, of China's 111 Universities, 15 have already started to offer cricket as part of their student programs. They are the highest profile institutions too, including Tsing Hua and Fudan Universities, China's Oxford and Cambridge. These universities have 'feeder schools' channelling students to them and those schools are amongst the thirteen which already have cricket as part of their PE curriculum. All this through officially sanctioned channels. Within weeks, if not days, of initial exposure to cricket. Once the game is further publicised and popularised more and more schools, and there are millions in China, will take on the game.

It is easy in the first flush of enthusiasm to take on something new. The ball is rolling, yes but the real test will come when a child at school, or an adult with an eye to take up a new sport asks, 'where can I play? With whom and with what?'. How much support will they get from schools, clubs and local social associations?

On one hand we have to grow organically, on the other we have to hothouse the process. Neither we nor the CCA have a hundred years to grow the game, we probably don't even have ten to be honest. The Chinese state is impatient for development. There are 96 sports in the remit of the Sports Ministry. Medal sports, which showcase Chinese endeavour on the world stage, naturally receive the most attention. In fact, only they receive state funding in terms of capital grants or personnel provision. So the development of cricket, in terms of providing all the necessary equipment, coaching and facilities is solely dependent on outside forces.

Once China makes an impact in world competition, we are assured that the State will start to support it financially but until then cricket officially exists in only China thanks to the efforts of us here. What we have on our side is a top-notch sporting administration in China who have shown themselves to be extremely receptive to our ideas to develop the game.

They and we recognize that the way forward to the ideal of a 'Team China' is to have the game played in schools, colleges and universities, and clubs or what they call 'Party organized associations'.
So we need to get the schools and clubs playing against each other. We need to define just what is a cricket school and we would suggest this be one that offers youngsters an opportunity to play at least eight organised games of cricket a year.

These games do not have to be on cricket fields just yet, they can be indoors, in gymnasiums or playgrounds. Sixes, eights, eleven a side it doesn’t matter. The important thing is to develop a skills base and a sense of competition. Recreational cricket, community cricket, social cricket – it doesn’t matter what kind of cricket is played - in clubs and educational establishments, the cricket culture will develop. When the culture develops more and more clubs and schools will offer cricket.

Funding is a major issue. In spite of the ACC’s and ICC’s willingness to provide support and assistance to develop cricket, the CCA is not structured appropriately to develop these opportunities, and frankly neither are we. Yet.

China is a unique case in as much as getting ten new schools to play cricket in a year as we have done, good as it is, is not enough. In the scale of Beijing, Guangzhou and Shanghai with 50 million people between them, fifty schools over five years is a drop in the ocean. But that is all that one Development Officer, one Association, one Coaching Course a year can do. We have seen that to be true in all our other countries and it’s a hugely meritorious achievement for a country like Thailand or Bahrain or the Maldives. It pretty much means major sporting status. In China it’s nothing. $100,000 dollars which would go proportionately so far in other countries hardly counts for anything in China. It’s a developing country with developed world costs.

Organic growth as funded now will take a long time. More than our lifetimes. And it may well be that in the rush to be winners on the global stage, China with its Olympics, Grand Prix, football tennis, golf, badminton, table tennis and snooker prominence in the world’s consciousness will let cricket stay as a quaint anachronism as it has already done for so long.

Like these other sports we need to find four or five major corporate sponsors to push cricket into the public consciousness and make it a game which people want to play and people want to see.

So should we bother? Should we push cricket as hard as we and the CCA want us to? Of course. It’s why we’re here, isn’t it? If we’re doing our jobs properly, we’re not just custodians of the game we’re cultivators of it too.
Circumstances have given us a tremendous opportunity to be at the birth of the game in the world’s most populous country, the world’s most dynamic country, the country that is set to be a world leader in so many areas.

Cricket’s ambitions must be equally high. It must take this chance to become a truly international and multi-cultural game. It is not an easy combination, but it is nothing less than the challenge faced by every sport. Cricket’s introduction into the China has created news all around the world already – we are keen to build on the promise and the promises we have made to the Chinese.

We said at the start that for the Chinese to understand cricket we must also understand China. Nothing but nothing happens in China without State approval. We know that the State is looking very closely at us in relation to cricket. Are we really a powerful global force and a strong administrative body? Is cricket really just a minority interest? Sport is central to the Chinese way of life as the State feels a good sports policy is also a good education policy, a good health policy, a good community-cohesion policy and a good anti-drugs and anti-crime policy.

The core values of cricket have already been seized upon by the State Sports Ministry as being central to their promotion of the game. Indeed, in the State Run media they have already started calling cricket 'The Noble Game'. Another reason why China is so significant to the development of cricket as a whole is that it comes to cricket with a pure appreciation of its values. They see cricket as a game of character. Which of course it is. If China plays cricket it is a shot in the arm for the game as a whole.

The delivery of the reality will count for everything. We must now raise the money to finance its long-term future and ensure that cricket enriches the lives of the thousands of Chinese who wish to play it.

The Chinese Cricket Association have submitted a far-reaching development plan which calls for $12.5 million to be raised over the next five years, and spent over a decade. It identifies "hub" clubs and their subsequent linking with willing schools, both primary (in fact, most importantly primary) and secondary. Thirdly, an inventory of facilities, including those at independent schools, the better to be able to share them, has been proposed. All of this in order to create leagues and competitions, inside Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou prior to there being national competitions throughout the length and breadth of China.
“China will emerge as an engaged and strategic partner of the global cricket movement, and cricket will become a prominent team sport played and supported by our people.”

That is their aim. They have come to us for help and guidance.

Cricket Australia are working for us in this cause and if we quote from a report submitted by Cricket Australia’s Game Development GM, you’ll understand what we face in a nutshell: “Global and regional cricket authorities should be under no illusion about the scope and complexity of this project. Other than a few expatriate cricketing outposts in Shanghai and Beijing there is no presence of cricket in China.”

Their initial course has been very positively received. Peter Manuel’s Umpiring Course took things further. In the past twelve months we’ve spent $90,000 on equipment and these courses and we will spend and do more in the future.

But we do need more resources. Perhaps a special China team. China’s presence boosts cricket’s profile immeasurably. We may well be standing on the brink of a revolution that could see cricket firmly established as the world’s most popular sport.

Sultan Rana
ICC Development Committee Discussion Topic: **CRICKET DEVELOPMENT IN NEPAL**

Delivered by the ACC Vice-President Jai Kumar Nath Shah, President of the Cricket Association of Nepal

Cricket first came to Nepal thanks to the ruling Ranas of the last century who, having studied in England and India and seen and played the game there, brought it back to Nepal where they staged matches at the palaces and big grounds here in Kathmandu.

Our Cricket Association was formed in 1946 with the objective of promoting cricket in Nepal. Tournaments were organised in Kathmandu amongst local teams and with the rise in popularity a national team was formed soon after which took part in overseas competitions and friendlies.

Various teams also visited Nepal from Australia, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, New Zealand, Thailand and this month’s ACC U-19 Cup was the second tournament they’ve hosted this century, this time with a record fifteen teams participating.

Rich as the history is in Nepal, it is the future growth and promotion of cricket on which the Cricket Association of Nepal are concentrating.

Their present platform is quite secure in as much as their team is performing well in all the ACC tournaments. In 2005 Nepal has won the ACC U-15 Cup, reached the semi-finals of the ACC U-17 Cup before the tournament had to be abandoned due to the weather in Malaysia and won just last week the ACC U-19 Cup, their third in a row and thus qualified for the World Cup in Sri Lanka. Also, in the longer version of the game the senior side is at the top of the three-day ACC Fast Track table with just one match left to play.
The game’s popularity in Nepal has never been higher. Conservative estimates reckon 15,000 came to watch the final of the U-19 Cup here in Kathmandu last week, there was extensive coverage in the media and both the semi-final and final featuring Nepal was broadcast live on national television. Sponsors there were aplenty and the royal family, government and military extended every support. Everybody wishes to be associated with the team’s success!

For the development of cricket 6 development regions have been formed.

Our headquarters are in Biratnagar (Development Region 1), Birganj (Development Region 2), Kathmandu (Development Region 3), Bhairawaha (Development Region 4), Bhaktapur (Development Region 5) and Nepalganj (Development Region 6).

The places outside Kathmandu may be unfamiliar to most but cricket has recently made its presence felt in those regions and all participate in our district and regional age-group and senior level national tournaments.

There are 43 grounds hosting cricket in Nepal. Five in Kathmandu have turf wickets, with four more around the country. The rest are almost all matting wickets.

As the ICC survey figures will confirm, there are currently over 500 registered cricketers in Nepal with at least 9,000 people playing active regular cricket in the country. The massive national interest generated by the ACC U-19 Cup can only boost these numbers. Already our website receives hits from 50,000 unique users, the vast majority of them from within Nepal.
Standing as we are on this current plateau of performance, we very much wish to climb higher. Nepal genuinely feels that it can be an ODI nation within 10 years. Some of the current leading national players could well still be active then but it is on the performance of the players coming into the side as well as the ones pressing to follow behind them on which Nepal will be judged as a cricketing nation. Development is critical.

Their performance is the tip of the iceberg. But this iceberg could all too easily melt without proper protection. Players are a country’s assets and everything possible must be done to ensure that the best cricketers get the most opportunities to play at their best.

Undoubtedly Nepal are stronger at home than away but a team needs to be competitive in all conditions. So a vital part of their development at national level will be greater competitive exposure. Nepal are fortunate that two Test-playing nations are very close, with two more not much further away. There are a cluster of Associates in South-East Asia and the Middle East who could provide our players with playing conditions much different to what they are used to. Skills on both sides would be enhanced.

Nepal may be a few years away from setting up a fully professional structure for the elite players. Sponsor interest is there undoubtedly, and the players are already national heroes. The adoption of professionalism would undoubtedly be a quantum boost to our cricket.

The CAN Secretary, Mr. Laxman Bastola reported back from a recent ACC Management Course these words, “a country is only as strong on the field as it is off the field.” It is a view we endorse and we believe that from this point forward, Nepalese cricket needs the following to ensure measurable development:

• Professional Excellence
• Viable administrative machine
• Effective management
• Procedures and processes
• People involvement
• Motivation
• Job accountability, role description, and evaluation
• Democratic culture – stakeholder representation, coordination, feedback, effective meetings, involvement
• Time-bound initiatives/strategic business plan

There isn’t any language or cultural barrier among those involved in the development, regulation and promotion of cricket in Nepal. There may, however, be barriers in communication, coordination, and age. Such problems will be solved by involving people, welcoming feedback on decisions, motivating them, delegating specific duties, and timely checking their progress. The working hierarchy needs to be managed effectively, and a thoroughly professional mindset introduced. There is immense desire on the part of the media, public sector, CAN officials, players, and the government to see Nepalese cricket reach its highest potential. This desire has to be managed professionally by involving people and having them identify their own goals with those of the organization.

Nepal is definitely climbing the mountain towards ODI status. And to ensure that this journey moves forward in the best possible way we at the Cricket Association of Nepal have come up with a Strategic Development Plan.
CAN STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Mission: Nepal to be an ODI nation by 2015

Objectives:

1) Develop quality facilities in Nepal
2) Support Nepal's cricketers to allow them to perform at their best
3) Attract and keep people in the game
4) Increase cricket activity at each and every level
5) Develop a sound financial base and management system

Priorities:

1) Establish an administration and management system to provide effective leadership.
2) Develop infrastructure and facilities
3) Create a schools and club structure to properly develop players
4) Enhance off-field technical support – coaches, umpires, curators
5) Boost cricket activity and participation
6) Motivate local sponsors and the nation to support cricket

Execution:

- Define the role of the CAN Board and profile staff in order to deliver the performance necessary to advance the cause of Nepali cricket. Recruit the best-qualified personnel and establish a clear line of communication.
- Develop two grounds in each region with proper facilities
- Develop regular training programs for players, coaches, umpires, curators, administrators
- Identify the cricket-playing schools and clubs and establish a process to integrate their activity into a competitive structure
- Increase the number of competitions at each level
- Expose the players and coaches to higher levels of competition – international and domestic
- Develop a talent-scouting system
- Educate the general public about cricket – potential players, parents, sponsors
- Attract media-interest and foster cricket's roots in the national psyche
- Create a professional playing structure

Our work will focus on the following areas:

- Raising Competitive Standards
- Competitive National Tournaments – 3 to 5 major ‘National Tournaments' should be conducted every year by CAN
- Support for at least one yearly tournament in school, club, college level in all 6 cricket development regions to keep cricket active in the grassroots.
- International Tournaments with A divisional teams from Test playing Asian Countries.
- Progress and evaluation of technical expertise in Nepalese cricket – umpires, coaches, scorers, administrators, curators, etc.
- Umpires, scorers, administrators, curators, coaches training and courses in each region every year.
Development Topics

- Media relations
- Cricket Documentaries
- 1 Media v CAN cricket match every year
- Broadcasting Matches
- CAN Newsletter
- Informative and dynamic website
- Cost-effective promotions

- Effective Governance Structure in all 6 regions
- Half-yearly overall cricket development report should reach CAN from each region, comprising of:
  - Accounting of players in districts, schools, clubs, and clubs
  - Tabulation of such districts, schools, clubs, colleges that play cricket
  - Infrastructure report
  - Recommendations and proposals
  - Local support
  - Sponsorship
  - Relations with the media and local businesses
- The same will be periodically printed in the Newsletter mentioned above. The above information will also allow CAN to execute development programs much more effectively with progress monitored by an overall half-yearly report.

Nepal’s next generation of fast-bowlers
Nepal’s next generation of spinners

- Infrastructure Development
- At least 3 grounds in each region to be built within 10 years, plus training net facilities in each district.
- Half-yearly overall cricket development report will help utilize resources for maximum benefit and viability (saving costs). An effective database will help us understand the complete picture of cricketing infrastructure in Nepal.
- Newsletters mentioned above will go to embassies in Nepal, foreign missions, business enterprises, media, educational institutions, government, and all regions. The more the corporate sector, government, and foreign missions know about planned national and international events and development initiatives, the more chances there are of CAN receiving sponsorship and financial support to develop infrastructure.
- Government allocation of grounds, facilities, etc.
- 5-year or 10-year contracts with local or multinational companies – one such contract already exists.
- Fund raising – corporate cups, high-profile matches, ground ticketing revenue, ground leasing for matches conducted by a third party.

You will recognise many of these measures; we are not re-inventing the wheel here in Nepal. But what gives momentum to their climb and makes them rather unique at Associate level is the comprehensive public support that cricket has in the country. Their cricketers are Nepali through and through and carry forward all that is best about our country. Everyone likes being associated with a winner. Nepal has a winning team in Asia. We now aim to make an impact on the rest of the world.

Jai Kumar Nath Shah
Corporate Governance embodies the principles of transparency, disclosure and accountability. The primary responsibility for Corporate Governance at the ACC lies with the members of the Executive Board. As a team all of us at the ACC are committed towards following sound and ethical financial practices towards cultivating good governance while driving the Council towards achieving its primary goal of developing and promoting the game of cricket in the Asian region.

**Executive Board**

The Executive Board has the ultimate authority and responsibility for the financial and operational activities of the ACC.

In the context of Corporate Governance, the responsibilities of the Executive Board include;

- approving the annual budget and monitoring performance.
- ensuring that appropriate accounting policies are adopted in the preparation of the financial statements circulated among members.
- ascertaining that applicable laws and regulations have been complied with

During the year 2005/2006 the Executive Board met three times and the decisions made at such meetings were properly documented. No remuneration was paid to the Board Members.

**Sub-Committees**

**Finance and Marketing Committee**

The main tasks of this committee are reviewing, advising and/or providing recommendations to the Executive Committee on financial performance, financial risk management, budgeting, internal controls, operation of bank accounts, annual financial statements and marketing related activities.

During the year 2005/06 the ACC Finance and Marketing Committee met twice and decisions made at these meetings were properly documented. No remuneration was paid to the Committee Members.

**Development Committee**

This committee provides recommendations to the Executive Committee on the activities relating to cricket development in the Asian Region and reviews and approves the annual development calendar and the development budget of the ACC.

During the year 2005/06, the ACC Development Committee met once and decisions made at the meeting were properly documented. No remuneration was paid to the Committee Members.

**Accountability and Compliance**

The financial statements of the ACC are prepared according to the Accounting Standards laid by the Malaysian Accounting Standards Board, based on the established International Accounting Standards. The ACC’s financial statements therefore comply with the International Accounting Standards in all material aspects.

Furthermore, the Council recently introduced a Finance & Accounting Manual. Compliance to this manual is to be made mandatory in the near future and once this is effective; the auditors will have to confirm compliance to the manual at the end of each year’s statutory audit.

The recent step taken by the ACC towards the practice of good governance within the organization is a drafting of Administrative and Personnel Policies Manual. Once fully implemented, this manual will assist to eliminate any confusion in human resources management and administration of the ACC and enhance clarity, transparency, accountability and good governance within the organization.

Syed Ashraful Huq
Chief Executive
Thusith Perera

This is the Asian Cricket Council’s second Annual Report, and we are pleased to present it to the members. Although the year 2005/06 brought in less revenue for the Council, primarily as a result of the postponement of the 2006 Asia Cup, the results were better than that of the previous year in some areas. During the year under review, a wide variety of tournaments and development activities were carried out within the approved budget and notably, the ACC was able to successfully complete the first edition of the Afro-Asia Series in South Africa.

ACC Accumulated Fund

The total revenue for the financial year amounted to USD 718,162 and 63% of the revenue was earned from the 2005 Afro-Asia Cup played in South Africa. No other tournament was organized under the ACC banner and as a result, the income remained exceptionally low compared to 2004/05, the year in which the 2004 Asia Cup was played.

The interest income from bank deposits increased from USD 103,566 in 2004/05 to USD265,193 in 2005/06 largely due to higher interest rates and efficient cash management.

The surplus for the period under review was USD 25,935 and as a result, the balance in the Accumulated Fund increased from USD 6,834,444 in 2005 to USD 6,860,379 in 2006. This surplus was arrived at after deducting operating expenses of USD 700,777, and taxes amounting to USD 802.
Furthermore, an amount of USD 308,427 was given as coach assistance to Member Associations during the year concerned.

**Overview**

Although the year under review was not as exciting as the preceding period, as there were no major tournaments played, it could still be described as a significant year. Irrespective of the low income received, ACC still managed to record a surplus, as result of the extra care taken to minimize wastages and our optimal usage of resources.

The Member Associations are now more familiar with the new systems and formats introduced in the previous periods. As such, their submission of information and documents on timely manner has improved radically. With the implementation of the Finance & Accounting Manual and Administration & Personnel Policies Manual, we anticipate that the finance function of the Council will improve significantly in the future. At all times we appreciate the support of the Member Associations and hope to further strengthen our relationship them in the coming year.

Thusith Perera
ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL  
Company No: LL 03608  
(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2006

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Company No: LL 03608

ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL
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STATEMENT BY EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

We, Sharad Pawar and Syed Ashraful Huq, two of the Executive Board Members of Asian Cricket Council, state that, in the opinion of the Board, the financial statements set out on pages 3 to 18 are drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Council as at 31 March 2006 and of the results and cash flows of the Council for the financial year ended on that date in accordance with the MASB approved accounting standards in Malaysia.

Signed on behalf of the Executive Board in accordance with their resolution dated 21 May 2006.

SHARAD PAWAR
PRESIDENT

SYED ASHRAFUL HUQ
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

STATEMENT BY OFFICER PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF THE COUNCIL

I, Thusith Perera, being the person primarily responsible for the financial management of the Asian Cricket Council, hereby state that the financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2006 set out on pages 3 to 18 are, in my opinion, correct.

THUSITH PERERA
FINANCE MANAGER

21 May 2006
REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL
(Incorporated in Labuan, Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited
by Guarantee)
(Company No. LL 03608)

We have audited the financial statements set out on pages 3 to 18. These financial statements are the
responsibility of the Council's Executive Board Members. It is our responsibility to form an independent
opinion, based on our audit, on these financial statements and to report our opinion to you, as a body,
in accordance with Section 117 of the Offshore Companies Act, 1990 and for no other purpose. We do
not assume responsibility to any other person for the content of this report.

We conducted our audit in accordance with approved auditing standards in Malaysia. Those standards
require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial
statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence
supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing
the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the Executive Board Members, as
well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a
reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the MASB approved
accounting standards in Malaysia so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Council as
at 31 March 2006 and of its results and cash flows for the financial year ended on that date.

PRICIEWSATERHOUSECOOPERS
(No. AAL-0017)
Chartered Accountants

Labuan
21 May 2006

DATO' AHMAD JOHAN BIN MOHAMMAD RASLAN
(No. 1867/09/06 (J))
Partner of the firm
Asian Cricket Council
(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

Income and Expenditure Account
For the financial year ended 31 March 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>2006 USD</th>
<th>2005 USD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>718,162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td>(700,777)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other operating income</td>
<td></td>
<td>9,352</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surplus before taxation</td>
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<td>26,737</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taxation</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>(802)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surplus for the financial year</td>
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<td>25,935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated fund as at 1 April</td>
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<td>6,834,444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated fund as at 31 March</td>
<td></td>
<td>6,860,379</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.
Company No: LL 03608

ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL
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BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>2006 USD</th>
<th>2005 USD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>USD</td>
<td>USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Furniture, fixtures and equipment</td>
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<td>90,787</td>
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<tr>
<td>CURRENT ASSETS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Receivables, deposits and prepayments</td>
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<td>437,608</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash and bank balances</td>
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<td>16,731,689</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>17,169,297</td>
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<tr>
<td>LESS: CURRENT LIABILITIES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payables</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4,604,587</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advance received for Asia Cup 2006</td>
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<td>Provision for staff gratuity</td>
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<td>Current tax liability</td>
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<td>Funds from test playing nations</td>
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<td>100,000</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>6,469,053</td>
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<td>NET CURRENT ASSETS</td>
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<td>NET ASSETS</td>
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<td>REPRESENTED BY:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accumulated fund</td>
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<td>6,860,379</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development fund</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,930,652</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10,791,031</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.
Company No: LL 03608

ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL
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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUNDS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>Accumulated fund USD</th>
<th>Development fund USD</th>
<th>Total fund USD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At 1 April 2005</td>
<td>6,834,444</td>
<td>8,647,101</td>
<td>15,481,545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus for the financial year</td>
<td>25,935</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>25,935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net outflows</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(4,716,449)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At 31 March 2006</td>
<td>6,860,379</td>
<td>3,930,652</td>
<td>10,791,031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At 1 April 2004</td>
<td>237,215</td>
<td>6,133,931</td>
<td>6,371,146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus for the financial year</td>
<td>6,597,229</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6,597,229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net inflows</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,513,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At 31 March 2005</td>
<td>6,834,444</td>
<td>8,647,101</td>
<td>15,481,545</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.
Company No: LL 03608

ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL
(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>2006 USD</th>
<th>2006 USD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surplus for the financial year</td>
<td>25,935</td>
<td>6,597,229</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adjustments for:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2006 USD</th>
<th>2006 USD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Furniture, fixtures and equipment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Depreciation</td>
<td>17,672</td>
<td>8,206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Loss on disposal</td>
<td>3,498</td>
<td>2,183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Written off</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4,571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gratuity</td>
<td>113,664</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest income</td>
<td>(265,193)</td>
<td>(103,566)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net loss on foreign exchange</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxation</td>
<td>802</td>
<td>5,305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>(Deficit)/surplus before working capital changes</strong></td>
<td>(103,319)</td>
<td>6,514,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease/(increase) in receivables</td>
<td>288,641</td>
<td>(130,263)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in advance received for Asia Cup 2006</td>
<td>1,650,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in payables</td>
<td>783,058</td>
<td>3,396,134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Increase)/decrease in development fund</td>
<td>(4,713,354)</td>
<td>2,513,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cash flows from operations</strong></td>
<td>(2,094,974)</td>
<td>12,293,536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax paid</td>
<td>(5,305)</td>
<td>(5,305)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net cash flows from operating activities</strong></td>
<td>(2,100,279)</td>
<td>12,288,231</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2006 USD</th>
<th>2006 USD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interest received</td>
<td>199,440</td>
<td>54,435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of furniture, fixtures and equipment</td>
<td>(81,339)</td>
<td>(17,156)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proceeds from disposal of furniture, fixtures and equipment</td>
<td>8,886</td>
<td>712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net cash flows from investing activities</strong></td>
<td>126,987</td>
<td>37,991</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2006 USD</th>
<th>2006 USD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Settlement of loans</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(300,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET (DECREASE)/INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</strong></td>
<td>(1,973,292)</td>
<td>12,026,222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR</td>
<td>18,704,981</td>
<td>6,678,759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR</strong></td>
<td>16,731,689</td>
<td>18,704,981</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.
Company No: LL 03608

ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL
(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2006

1 PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND GENERAL INFORMATION

The principal activities of the Council consist of developing, coordinating, regulating and promoting the game of cricket in the Asian region.

The Council is a company limited by guarantee which was incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, on 31 January 2003.

The address of the registered office of the Council is as follows:

Brumby House, 1st Floor
Jalan Bahasa
P.O.Box 80148
87011 Labuan F.T.

The address of the secretariat of the Council is as follows:

8th Floor, Wisma Antah
Off Jalan Semantan
Damansara Heights
50490 Kuala Lumpur

The Executive Board Members of the Council as at 31 March 2006 are as follows:

Mr. Sharad Pawar, President
Mr. Jai Kumar Nath Shah, Vice President
Mr. Shaharyar Khan, Executive Board Member
Mr. Jayantha Dharmadasa, Executive Board Member
Mr. Mohammad Ali Asghar, Executive Board Member
Mr. Niranjan Shah, Executive Board Member
HRH Tunku Tan Sri Imran Ibni Tuanku Ja’afar, Executive Board Member
Mr. K.H. Imran, Executive Board Member
Mr. Ravi Sehgal, Executive Board Member
Mr. Syed Ashrafil Huq, Chief Executive

2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been used consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the financial statements.

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the Council have been prepared under the historical cost convention and comply with MASB approved accounting standards in Malaysia in all material respects.
2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(a) Basis of preparation (continued)

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with MASB approved accounting standards in Malaysia requires the Executive Board Members to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reported financial year. Although the estimates are based on the Executive Board Members' best knowledge of current events and actions, actual results could differ from those estimates.

(b) Furniture, fixtures and equipment

Furniture, fixtures and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation of furniture, fixtures and equipment is charged under the straight line method to write off the cost of the assets, net of estimated residual value, over their estimated useful lives. A full year's depreciation is charged on assets acquired in the first six months of the financial year, while assets acquired during the last six months of the financial year are depreciated for half of the year. No depreciation is charged in the year of disposal. The annual depreciation rates used are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and fixtures</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office equipment</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor vehicles</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computers</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At each balance sheet date, an assessment is made for any indication of impairment. If such indications exist, an analysis is performed to assess whether the carrying amount of the asset is fully recoverable. A write down is made if the carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount. See accounting policy Note 2(g) on impairment of assets.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount and are included in the income and expenditure account.

Repairs and maintenance are charged to the income and expenditure account during the period in which they are incurred.

(c) Revenue recognition

The Council’s revenue consists of sponsorship and advertising income, sale of commercial rights, sales of tickets and interest income, which are recognised on the accrual basis.
ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL
(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2006 (CONTINUED)

2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(d) Cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of the cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks and short term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

(e) Employee benefits

(i) Short term benefits

Salaries and other staff related expenses are accrued in the financial year in which the associated services are rendered by employees of the Council.

(ii) Defined contribution retirement plan

The Council’s contributions to the Employees’ Provident Fund are recognised as an expense in the income and expenditure account as and when incurred. Once the contributions have been paid, the Council has no further payment obligations.

(iii) Staff gratuity

Gratuity is due to an employee, whose employment has been discharged or who has resigned or died after a minimum of one year’s continuous service. A provision for gratuity is made to match the rendering of the services by the employees.

(f) Foreign currencies

The financial statements of the Council are stated in United States Dollar ("USD").

Foreign currency transactions are accounted for at exchange rates prevailing at the transaction dates. Foreign currency monetary assets and liabilities are translated at exchange rates prevailing at the balance sheet date. Exchange differences arising from the settlement of foreign currency transactions and from the translation of foreign currency monetary assets and liabilities are included in the income and expenditure account.

The principal closing rates used in the translation of foreign currency amounts are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foreign currency</th>
<th>Rate for USD1.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ringgit Malaysia (RM)</td>
<td>3.69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL  
(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2006 (CONTINUED)

2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(g) Impairment of assets

Furniture, fixtures and equipment are reviewed for impairment losses whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. Impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the carrying amount of the asset exceeds its recoverable amount.

The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset’s net selling price and value in use. For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest level for which there is separately identifiable cash flows.

The impairment loss is charged to the income and expenditure account and any subsequent increase is recognised in the income and expenditure account.

(h) Income taxes

Current tax expense is determined according to the tax laws of the jurisdiction in which the Council operates and includes all taxes based upon the taxable profits.

(i) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Council has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, when it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation and when a reliable estimate of the amount can be made.

(j) Financial instruments

Description

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to both a financial asset of one enterprise and a financial liability or equity instrument of another enterprise.

A financial asset is any asset that is cash, a contractual right to receive cash or another financial asset from another enterprise, a contractual right to exchange financial instruments with another enterprise under conditions that are potentially favorable, or an equity instrument of another enterprise.

A financial liability is any liability that is a contractual obligation to deliver cash or another financial asset to another enterprise, or to exchange financial instruments with another enterprise under conditions that are potentially unfavorable.

Recognition method

The particular recognition method adopted for financial instruments recognised on the balance sheet is disclosed in the individual accounting policy note associated with each item.
ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL
(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2006 (CONTINUED)

2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(j) Financial instruments (continued)

Fair values

The face values of financial assets (less any estimated credit adjustments) and financial liabilities with a maturity period of less than one year are assumed to approximate their fair values.

3 REVENUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>USD</td>
<td>USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income from Afro-Asia Tournament 2005</td>
<td>452,969</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsorship Income - Asia Cup 2004</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>19,051,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile phone rights - Asia Cup 2004</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest income</td>
<td>265,193</td>
<td>103,566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertisement income- Asia Cup 2004</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>15,428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tender fees</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>718,162</td>
<td>19,576,992</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4 SURPLUS BEFORE TAXATION

The following items have been charged/(credited) in arriving at surplus before taxation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>USD</td>
<td>USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tournament expenses</td>
<td>132,727</td>
<td>12,515,012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture, fixtures and equipment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Depreciation</td>
<td>14,579</td>
<td>8,206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Loss on disposal</td>
<td>3,498</td>
<td>2,183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Written off</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4,671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rentals</td>
<td>12,128</td>
<td>11,060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditors' remuneration (Note 5)</td>
<td>3,143</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff costs (Note 6)</td>
<td>274,209</td>
<td>190,134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net foreign exchange loss – realised</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain on disposal of motor vehicle under operating lease</td>
<td>(7,000)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5 AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

PricewaterhouseCoopers Malaysian firm:

Statutory audit          | 3,143  | 2,000      |
ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL
(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2006 (CONTINUED)

6 STAFF COSTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>USD</td>
<td>USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>225,971</td>
<td>185,725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff gratuity</td>
<td>43,792</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defined contribution retirement plan</td>
<td>2,487</td>
<td>3,065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other staff related expenses</td>
<td>1,959</td>
<td>1,344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>274,209</strong></td>
<td><strong>190,134</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Included in salaries is an amount of USD 79,134 paid to an Executive Board Member (i.e. Chief Executive) during the financial year. None of other Executive Board Members received any remuneration.

7 TAXATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>USD</td>
<td>USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current taxation</td>
<td>802</td>
<td>5,305</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As the principal activity of the Council is that of an offshore trading activity under the Labuan F.T. Offshore Business Activity Tax Act, 1990, the tax charge for the financial year is based on 3% of surplus before taxation.

8 FURNITURE, FIXTURES AND EQUIPMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Furniture and fixtures</th>
<th>Office equipment</th>
<th>Motor vehicles</th>
<th>Computers</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>USD</td>
<td>USD</td>
<td>USD</td>
<td>USD</td>
<td>USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At 1 April 2005</td>
<td>18,524</td>
<td>2,567</td>
<td>20,641</td>
<td>15,746</td>
<td>57,478</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additions</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>848</td>
<td>75,819</td>
<td>4,672</td>
<td>81,339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(20,641)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(20,641)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At 31 March 2006</td>
<td>18,524</td>
<td>3,415</td>
<td>75,819</td>
<td>20,418</td>
<td>118,176</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Accumulated depreciation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>USD</th>
<th>USD</th>
<th>USD</th>
<th>USD</th>
<th>USD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At 1 April 2005</td>
<td>(2,335)</td>
<td>(546)</td>
<td>(7,431)</td>
<td>(7,661)</td>
<td>(17,973)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charge for the year</td>
<td>(2,004)</td>
<td>(745)</td>
<td>(8,407)</td>
<td>(6,516)</td>
<td>(17,672)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposal</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8,256</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8,256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At 31 March 2006</td>
<td>(4,339)</td>
<td>(1,291)</td>
<td>(7,582)</td>
<td>(14,177)</td>
<td>(27,389)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL  
(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2006 (CONTINUED)

8  FURNITURE, FIXTURES AND EQUIPMENT  (CONTINUED)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Furniture and fixtures</th>
<th>Office equipment</th>
<th>Motor vehicles</th>
<th>Computers</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>USD</td>
<td>USD</td>
<td>USD</td>
<td>USD</td>
<td>USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net book value</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At 31 March 2006</td>
<td>14,185</td>
<td>2,124</td>
<td>68,237</td>
<td>6,241</td>
<td>90,787</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At 31 March 2005</td>
<td>16,189</td>
<td>2,021</td>
<td>13,210</td>
<td>8,085</td>
<td>39,505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation charge</td>
<td>1,204</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>3,303</td>
<td>3,468</td>
<td>8,206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for the financial</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>year ended 2005</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9  RECEIVABLES, DEPOSITS AND PREPAYMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>USD</td>
<td>USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade receivables</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>40,912</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Advances to cricket boards and associations
- Afghanistan Cricket Federation 14,842 895
- Bahrain Cricket Association 3,598 74
- Bangladesh Cricket Board - 24,721
- Board of Control for Cricket in Bhutan 15,513 1,746
- Brunei Darussalam Cricket Association 10,457 21,904
- Chinese Cricket Association 4,230 -
- Cricket Association of Thailand - 22,087
- Emirates Cricket Board - 18,901
- Hong Kong Cricket Association 18,644 10,835
- Kuwait Cricket Association - 154
- Malaysian Cricket Association 17,884 -
- Pakistan Cricket Board - 11,747
- Qatar Cricket Association 15,421 3,064
- Singapore Cricket Association - 18,726

100,589 175,766

Special Project - ICC/ACC Assistance to
Bangladesh Cricket Board - 246,224
Asia Cup 2004 – Sri Lanka Cricket 148,119 148,119
Asia Cup 2006 2,313 -
Other advances and receivables 178,823 84,689
Deposits and prepayments 7,764 9,095

437,608 663,893
CASH AND BANK BALANCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fixed deposits held with HSBC Bank</td>
<td>15,987,206</td>
<td>17,392,233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank balances:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- HSBC Bank (A/C No. 201-254562-101)</td>
<td>107,847</td>
<td>5,943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- HSBC Bank (A/C No. 201-254562-725)</td>
<td>99,591</td>
<td>386,106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- HSBC Bank (A/C No. 201-254562-102)</td>
<td>96,483</td>
<td>35,649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- HSBC Bank (A/C No. 201-254562-726)</td>
<td>406,540</td>
<td>879,445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- HSBC Bank (A/C No. 201-254562-710)</td>
<td>32,220</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total cash and cash equivalents</strong></td>
<td>16,729,887</td>
<td>18,699,376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash in hand</td>
<td>1,802</td>
<td>5,605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total cash and cash equivalents</strong></td>
<td>16,731,689</td>
<td>18,704,981</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The weighted average rate of fixed deposits effective during the financial year was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fixed deposits with a licensed bank</td>
<td>3.89</td>
<td>2.01</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fixed deposits with a licensed bank have an average maturity period of up to 56 days (2005: 74 days).

**PAYABLES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount due to cricket boards and associations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Bangladesh Cricket Board</td>
<td>3,645</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Cricket Association of Nepal</td>
<td>106,869</td>
<td>2,884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Cricket Association of Thailand</td>
<td>2,983</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Cricket Australia</td>
<td>170,371</td>
<td>75,319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Cricket Control Board of Maldives</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>23,728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Emirates Cricket Board</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Kuwait Cricket Association</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Malaysian Cricket Association</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8,004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- NZ Turf Institute</td>
<td>7,050</td>
<td>50,718</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Oman Cricket Board</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Saudi Cricket Centre</td>
<td>22,776</td>
<td>2,107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Singapore Cricket Association</td>
<td>2,157</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Sri Lanka Cricket</td>
<td>72,925</td>
<td>72,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- The Board of Control for Cricket in India</td>
<td>21,036</td>
<td>1,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total payables</strong></td>
<td>420,482</td>
<td>239,901</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
11 PAYABLES (CONTINUED)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Payable to ICC</td>
<td>17,600</td>
<td>250,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision for other expenses of Asia Cup 2004</td>
<td>87,000</td>
<td>87,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prize money payable Asia Cup 2004</td>
<td>3,010,000</td>
<td>3,150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds to ACC members from Asia Cup 2004</td>
<td>510,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds received for ICC Championship Trophy 2004</td>
<td>306,212</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tsunami aid fund</td>
<td>45,000</td>
<td>45,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest payable</td>
<td>93,129</td>
<td>6,458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued expenses</td>
<td>115,164</td>
<td>24,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4,604,587</td>
<td>3,821,529</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12 FUNDS FROM TEST PLAYING NATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nation</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka Cricket</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13 ACC DEVELOPMENT FUND STATEMENT

INFLows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions from ICC</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest income</td>
<td>187,355</td>
<td>31,693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign exchange gain</td>
<td>2,270</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>274,665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>189,625</td>
<td>6,806,358</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OUTFLOWS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>288,133</td>
<td>242,831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision for gratuity</td>
<td>69,872</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel subsistence</td>
<td>76,196</td>
<td>61,437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development officers’ travelling expenses</td>
<td>70,588</td>
<td>64,413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development manager’s travelling expenses</td>
<td>13,403</td>
<td>17,725</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL  
(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2006 (CONTINUED)

13 ACC DEVELOPMENT FUND STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Development program</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tournaments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- ACC Trophy U15</td>
<td>378,604</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- ACC Trophy U17</td>
<td>320,999</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- ACC Trophy U19</td>
<td>495,018</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Fast Track Countries 3 Days Tournament</td>
<td>198,282</td>
<td>247,564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Six Nations Trophy UAE</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>34,378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- ICC - Under 19 World cup</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>37,411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Emerging teams tournaments</td>
<td>165,067</td>
<td>212,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Gulf Cup</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Intercontinental Cup</td>
<td>4,808</td>
<td>98,784</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- ACC Trophy 2004</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>411,523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach assistance</td>
<td>308,427</td>
<td>401,758</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotional expenses</td>
<td>16,596</td>
<td>22,414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultancy fees – Cricket Australia</td>
<td>126,728</td>
<td>187,879</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New territories</td>
<td>44,211</td>
<td>43,596</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration &amp; cricket management course</td>
<td>91,622</td>
<td>79,432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cricket academy</td>
<td>5,769</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curators courses &amp; visits</td>
<td>133,305</td>
<td>100,283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Performance Tours</td>
<td>153,684</td>
<td>35,606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level I Coaches Courses</td>
<td>292,817</td>
<td>132,220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level II Coaching Courses</td>
<td>169,775</td>
<td>116,936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level I Coach Educator Course</td>
<td>67,562</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports Medicine and Fitness Seminar</td>
<td>77,251</td>
<td>54,285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Umpires workshops and seminars</td>
<td>329,555</td>
<td>213,876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Umpiring Course</td>
<td>69,279</td>
<td>120,530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2 Umpiring Course</td>
<td>138,918</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High performance courses</td>
<td>58,196</td>
<td>106,133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Performance ICC</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>143,706</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fast track countries tours</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>126,261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development seminar</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>202,891</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development Committee meeting expenses</td>
<td>7,718</td>
<td>11,142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development capital expenditure:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Fitness equipment</td>
<td>3,351</td>
<td>52,482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Cricket equipment</td>
<td>250,335</td>
<td>213,663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Ground equipment</td>
<td>201,322</td>
<td>157,018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Ground development</td>
<td>172,771</td>
<td>220,214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office expenses</td>
<td>102,265</td>
<td>115,005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditors’ remuneration</td>
<td>3,647</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total outflows</td>
<td>4,906,074</td>
<td>4,293,188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net (outflows)/inflows</td>
<td>(4,716,449)</td>
<td>2,513,170</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Company No: LL 03608

ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL
(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2006 (CONTINUED)

14 GUARANTEE BY MEMBERS

Under Clause 9 of the Memorandum of Association, every member undertakes to contribute (if found necessary upon the winding up of the Council) a sum of not more than USD3.00 in the case of every Full Member and USD1.00 in the case of every Associate Member.

15 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Fair values

The carrying amounts of financial assets and liabilities of the Council at the balance sheet date approximated their fair values.

16 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

Foreign currency exchange risk

The Council is not significantly exposed to foreign exchange risk as a significant portion of its assets and liabilities are maintained in the same currency.

Interest rate risk

The Council’s income and operating cash flows are substantially independent of changes in market interest rates.

Credit risk

The Council has no significant concentrations of credit risk.

Liquidity and cash flow risk

Prudent liquidity risk management implies maintaining sufficient cash to meet the operating needs and obligations of the Council.

17 APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements have been approved for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Executive Board on 21 May 2006.
ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL  
(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)  

DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT  
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2006  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>USD</td>
<td>USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest on bank deposits</td>
<td>265,193</td>
<td>103,566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income from Afro-Asia Tournament 2005</td>
<td>452,969</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsorship income - Asia Cup 2004</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>19,051,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertisement income - Asia Cup 2004</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>15,426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales of mobile phone rights - Asia Cup 2004</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tender fees</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign exchange gain</td>
<td>2,352</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain on disposal of motor vehicle operating lease</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>727,514</strong></td>
<td><strong>19,576,992</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENDITURE</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tours and tournaments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Asia Cup 2004</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12,515,012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- U-19 Afro-Asia Cup</td>
<td>132,727</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff costs</td>
<td>230,417</td>
<td>190,134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision for gratuity</td>
<td>43,792</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication expenses</td>
<td>10,062</td>
<td>10,245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance expenses</td>
<td>4,155</td>
<td>3,895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newspapers and periodicals</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office maintenance</td>
<td>3,649</td>
<td>4,179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official accommodation</td>
<td>16,285</td>
<td>19,449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official travel subsistence</td>
<td>12,710</td>
<td>14,387</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official travelling expenses</td>
<td>40,624</td>
<td>58,206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visa fees</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing and stationery</td>
<td>3,359</td>
<td>2,988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rents and rates</td>
<td>14,240</td>
<td>12,299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle rent and fuel expenses</td>
<td>6,084</td>
<td>7,939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting expenses</td>
<td>134,899</td>
<td>55,545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal and professional charges</td>
<td>6,750</td>
<td>33,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditors’ remuneration</td>
<td>3,143</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank charges</td>
<td>2,377</td>
<td>2,058</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hire-purchase remuneration</td>
<td>3,988</td>
<td>7,171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchange loss</td>
<td>2,655</td>
<td>467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other expenses</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed assets write off</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4,571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>14,579</td>
<td>8,206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courier and postage</td>
<td>1,654</td>
<td>6,111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entertainment</td>
<td>6,099</td>
<td>5,720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conveyance</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>756</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotional Expenses</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website Maintenance</td>
<td>2,122</td>
<td>2,483</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss from disposal of fixed assets</td>
<td>3,498</td>
<td>2,183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tsunami aid match</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenditure</strong></td>
<td><strong>700,777</strong></td>
<td><strong>12,974,458</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Surplus before taxation | 26,737 | 6,602,534 |
| Taxation | (802) | (5,305) |
| Net surplus for the financial year | 25,935 | 6,597,229 |