



Speech by

Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Thursday, 30 November 2006

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

World Championships in Athletics

Hon. PD BEATTIE (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier and Minister for Trade) (9.46 am): I am pleased to advise the House that later today I will officially launch Brisbane's bid to host the 2011 World Championships in Athletics. This launch follows my recent visit to Monaco, where I had the opportunity to express this government's support for the bid personally in a meeting with International Association of Athletics Federation officials including Mr Lamine Diack, President of the IAAF, His Serene Highness Prince Albert II and IAAF delegates. I also took the opportunity to invite Prince Albert to formally visit Queensland. I include this by way of report on my trip. I seek leave to incorporate details in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

The bid will now be reviewed by the IAAF Council Members and, as a candidate city, an evaluation team will visit Brisbane in early 2007 to assess the city's infrastructure, the Queensland Sport and Athletics Centre—where the event would be held, and the support of the public.

Mr Speaker, Queensland Events and Athletics Australia have put forward an excellent bid that will position Brisbane strongly against other bidding countries including Spain, South Korea, Morocco, Russia, Sweden, The United Arab Emirates, and the United States of America.

I encourage all Queenslanders to get behind the bid and show support for bringing the world's third largest sporting event to our great State.