

# CONFERENCE NEWS

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## **WELCOME TO MANILA**

WELCOME TO THE SIXTH ANNUAL FIA SPORT CONFERENCE BEING HELD IN MANILA, THE CAPITAL CITY OF THE PHILIPPINES AND, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE EVENT'S HISTORY, TO THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION.



Located on the island of Luzon, and on the eastern shore of Manila Bay, Manila sets the rhythm of life in this archipelago and is a pulsating hub that blends the Oriental with the Occidental, the quaint with the modern, the mundane with the extraordinary.

Manila was born out of the ashes of a once flourishing Malay settlement by the banks of the Pasig River. In 1571, Miguel Lopez de Legazpi established the Ever Loyal City of Manila which, until 1898, was the seat of Spanish colonial rule in Asia. He built the city within walls and called it Intramuros.

Manila is one of 17 cities and municipalities which form the greater metropolitan area of Metro Manila which is home to more than 13.5 million people. In Manila itself there live about 1.65 million people (2010) and almost all residents are Filipinos. It is the centre of politics, economics as well as the cultural centre and a hub for universities, theatres and museums.

The city welcomes more than one million tourists per year, all of whom enjoy a range of sightseeing, historical attractions, one of Asia's prime shopping destinations, and numerous surrounding islands and resorts.

The FIA Sport Conference presents an opportunity to bring the motor sport world to the Philippines, and to act as a focal point for the sport's stakeholders in the region to further progress its growth and acceptance as a major sport.

Over the three days, there will be a number of plenary sessions and interactive workshops aiming to benefit delegates from around the world as they plan the sport's future in their country, while the FIA MotorEx gives the chance to meet 29 exhibitors and suppliers from across the industry including vehicle manufacturers, circuit designers, insurance experts, timing suppliers and many more.

The FIA Sport Conference represents a key thought leadership event with a view to providing honest insight and discussion on the state of motor sport around the world and, most importantly, equips ASNs and Clubs with the tools and knowledge to help the sport grow into the future.

There is no better place to focus on "Empowering the Future: Unlocking Motor Sport's Potential" than in a country and a region with such a promising outlook for the sport.





### DAY 1 AT THE SPORT CONFERENCE

THE OPENING DAY OF THE SIXTH ANNUAL FIA SPORT CONFERENCE WILL FOCUS ON MOTOR SPORT "CULTURE" AND WHY IT IS SO IMPORTANT TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF **MOTOR SPORT.** 

Immediately following the commencement, Plenary Session 1 will begin and focuses on "Creating a Motor Sport Culture". It will feature insight and discussion from:



**Chase CAREY** CEO Formula One Group



Alex YOONG Former F1 Driver and Fox Sports Asia Commentator



Marlon **STÖCKINGER** Filipino Racing Driver



Davide DE GOBBI Promoter, Formula 3 Asia Championship



Kenneth NG President, Hong Kong Automobile Association



Jose Armando L. EDUQUE Chairman, Motorsports Committee, AAP



at 16:30. MotorEx presents delegates the chance to meet with industry stakeholders and suppliers, and to evaluate potential opportunities for Clubs to improve their motor sport offering.





#### MAHUBAY WELCOME COCKTAIL

This evening, the Welcome Cocktail function will take place at Barbara's Heritage Restaurant – bus transfers will depart the Conrad Hotel at 18:30.





# FIA SPORT REGIONAL CONGRESS ASIA-PACIFIC CONCLUDES IN MANILA

MORE THAN 70 PARTICIPANTS REPRESENTING 20 ASNS ATTEND THE FOURTH EDITION OF THE CONGRESS, AHEAD OF THE FIA SPORT CONFERENCE IN THE PHILIPPINES' CAPITAL.



Boosting grassroots motor sport and defining an ambitious development plan for the ASNs of the region; these were the main outcomes from the Congress held this week in Manila.

The Congress, hosted by the Automobile Association Philippines under its President, Augusto Lagman, welcomed the FIA President Jean Todt.

"The fourth edition of the FIA Sport Regional Congress Asia-Pacific has been a great success and a thought-provoking prelude to the FIA Sport Conference 2018 taking place this week in Manila," said President Todt.

"I would like to thank Augusto Lagman, President of the AAP, for kindly hosting this Congress and for the warm hospitality extended to the ASN delegations."

The Congress examined new initiatives for developing affordable and sustainable motor sport in the Asia-Pacific region and increasing grass roots participation. Opportunities for event promotion and commercialisation were also highlighted.

Todt continued: "Asia Pacific is an exciting region for motor sport. Some 123 events are scheduled in the FIA International sporting calendar this year. Among them, 4 Formula One Grand Prix in Australia, China, Singapore and Japan,

1 Formula E E-Prix in Hong Kong, 2 World Endurance Championship races in Japan and China, and 1 World Rally Championship in Australia."

"We must strive to continue the encouraging pace of development in the region and harness the many potential opportunities open to us," said Todt. "We have showcased the role that the exciting new disciplines of Gymkhana and Cross Car can play, as a laboratory for development and an education tool for improving road safety."

Delegates were also encouraged to build on the many success stories made possible by the FIA Sport Grant Programme, for which 2019 applications will open at next week's FIA Sport Conference.

In closing, President Todt said: "Much has been achieved, but there is more to come. I look forward to working with the member clubs to keep driving motor sport forward in the region and to examining the opportunities available in the more global context that will be provided by this sixth edition of the FIA Sport Conference over the coming days."



# FOCUS ON AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION PHILIPPINES

THE AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION PHILIPPINES (AAP) IS THE HOST CLUB FOR THE SIXTH FIA SPORT CONFERENCE – IT IS ONE OF THE REGION'S OLDEST AUTO CLUBS, AND THE LARGEST AND OLDEST IN THE PHILIPPINES.



The organisation was founded in 1931 as the Philippine Motor Association (PMA), a non-stock, not-for-profit entity focused on the general welfare of motorists in the Philippines.

The PMA was run by prominent motoring enthusiasts such as Jorge B. Vargas, the country's first Executive Secretary, Carlos P. Romulo, the fourth and only Filipino President of the United Nations General Assembly, Albino Z. Sycip, the "Dean of Philippine Banking," as well as a number of American expats, among others.

In 1952 it became affiliated with the Federation Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA), the world's largest auto club federation and the global governing body for four-wheel motor sport.

Today, the AAP is one of many FIA members that works across both of the Federation's pillars – Sport and Mobility – which is reflected in the club's stated mission, "to promote road safety, motor sport, green mobility and to champion the interests of our members".

While not a country famous for its motor sport pedigree, the Philippines boasts a growing number of passionate enthusiasts that, with the support and commitment of the AAP, are helping to further establish the sport's profile locally, with the aim of advancing the country's profile in international motor sport in the process.





















RICHARD MILLE







