



The 47th FIDE CHESS OLYMPIAD 2028
The 4th FIDE CHESS OLYMPIAD FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES 2028
The 99th FIDE CONGRESS 2028

Bid Inspection Visit
6th – 7th December 2023
Abu Dhabi, UAE

Participants of the inspection visit:

FIDE

Victor Bologan – FIDE Executive Director
 Lukasz Turlej – FIDE Secretary General
 Maria Balashova – FIDE Events Manager

Abu Dhabi Sports Council (ADSC)

H.E. Aref Hamad Al Awani – General Secretary of
 Abu Dhabi Sports Council
 AbdulRaheem AlSayed Al Hashmi – Events Study
 Section Head

On the 6th of December:

Arkady Dvorkovich – FIDE President
 Konstantin Kiselev – Assistant to FIDE
 President

Asian Chess Federation

H.E. Sheikh Sultan Bin Khalifa Al Nehyan –
 President

UAE Chess Federation

H.E. Tarim Matar Muhammad Tarim – President
 Abdulkareem Almarzuki – General Secretary

Abu Dhabi Chess Club

Hussein Abdullah Al-Khoury – Chairman of Board
 of Directors

Sohail Abdul Raheim Mohamedrasool Alawadhi –
 Head of Development and professionalism
 Department

Zuhair Ahmad – Technical Director

1. General provisions

- 1.1 Abu Dhabi Sports Council along with the UAE Chess Federation are bidding for the right to become hosts of the FIDE Chess Olympiad 2028, FIDE Chess Olympiad for People with



Disabilities 2028 (hereinafter – Events, Olympiads), and FIDE Congress 2028 (hereinafter – Congress).

- 1.2 The Bidding proposal was submitted to FIDE on the 5th of November 2023.
- 1.3 The proposed dates of the FIDE Chess Olympiad 2028 are the 28th of October – the 11th of November 2028. It is planned to organize FIDE Chess Olympiad for People with Disabilities 2028 during the Olympiad dates. The proposed dates for FIDE Congress are the 31st of October – the 7th of November 2028.
- 1.4 FIDE inspection visit took place in Abu Dhabi on the 6th and 7th of December 2023.
- 1.5 The aims of the inspection visit were the following:
 - To inspect and evaluate the proposed facilities: playing and Congress venues, ceremonies halls, and accommodation facilities;
 - To assess the bidders' commitment to host a flagship event;
 - To evaluate authorities' involvement and support of the event;
 - To assess the city's infrastructure for hosting a major international event.
- 1.6 Venues and facilities inspected shall be described on the next pages of the present document.

2. About the city

- 2.1 Abu Dhabi City is the capital of the United Arab Emirates and the capital of the Abu Dhabi emirate. The population of the city is 1,5 million inhabitants. It is one of the biggest financial, business, and tourism hubs in the region. Besides, the city has a reputation as one of the safest cities in the world and is home to more than 200 nationalities.
- 2.2 Abu Dhabi has experience in organizing international sports events, for example, the Special Olympics World Games Abu Dhabi 2019 with 7500 athletes (was held in the same venue as suggested for both Olympiads), the annual Abu Dhabi Formula 1 Grand Prix, FIFA Club World Cup in 2022, World Tennis Championship in 2022 and others. The biggest recent chess tournament held in the city was the Abu Dhabi International Chess Festival held in August 2023 with 2500 participants.

3. Government relations and organization of the events

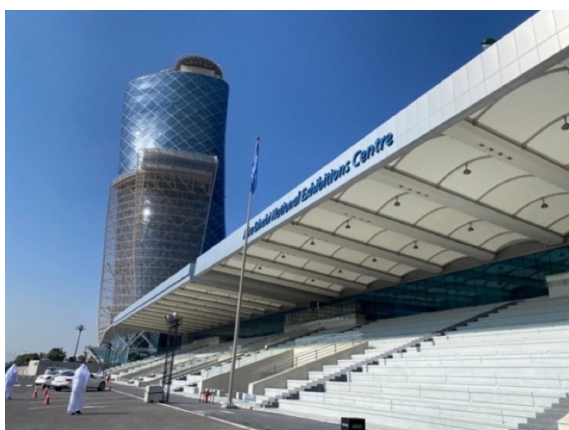
- 3.1 During the inspection visit Abu Dhabi Sports Council, UAE Chess Federation, and Abu Dhabi Chess Club showed full engagement to become hosts of the Olympiads and Congress. The bidders are fully committed to fulfilling all requirements in accordance with the Regulations of the Main Competition 2028 and to the amount of budget stated in the Bidding proposal (15 million euros). Moreover, ADSC expressed their ambition to organize a top-level event with the largest countries representativity and to break some records, as it was done during the previous Olympiad organized in the UAE in 1986.



- 3.2 During the inspection visit FIDE participated in official meetings with His Excellency Aref Al Awani, the General Secretary of Abu Dhabi Sports Council, with Sheikh Sultan bin Khalifa Al Nahyan, the President of the Asian Chess Federation, with H.E. Tarim Matar Muhammad Tarim, the President of UAE Chess Federation, and Hussein Abdullah Al-Khoury, the President of Abu Dhabi Chess Club.
- 3.3 The organization chart is presented in the Bidding proposal. Abu Dhabi Sports Council will be the governing body in the Olympiads' and Congress preparation and delivery processes. ADSC also plans to involve an official partner to deliver services to the participants (accommodation, transportation, venue management and other services).
- 3.4 The bidders assured FIDE that comprehensive visa assistance will be provided to all participants of the Events.

4. Playing venue facility

- 4.1 The suggested playing venue for both the Olympiads and the Congress is **Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ADNEC)** – the largest venue of this kind in the Middle East (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/BGBxKyeR7JPnFtK9>).

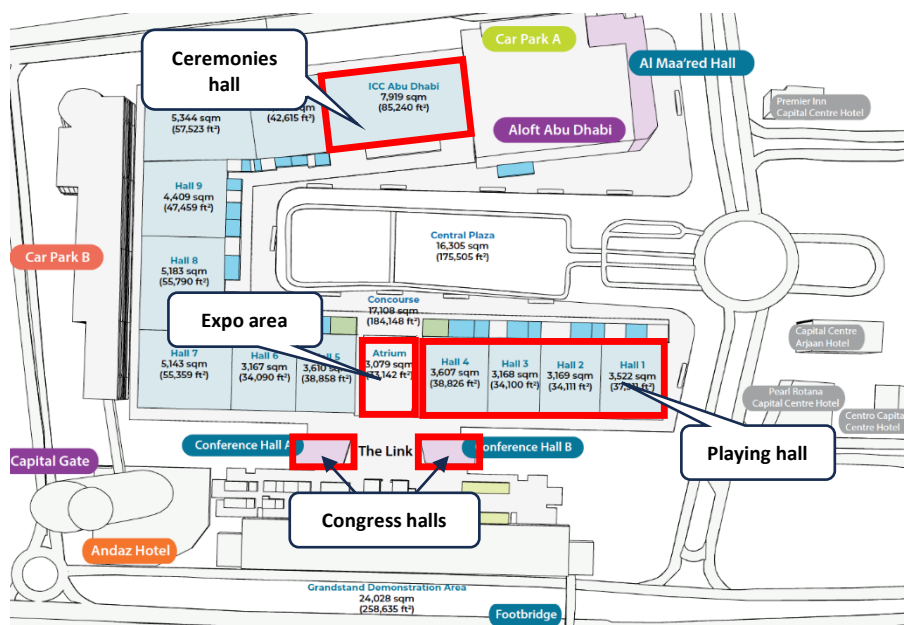


Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre exterior from the highway side (photo taken by FIDE)

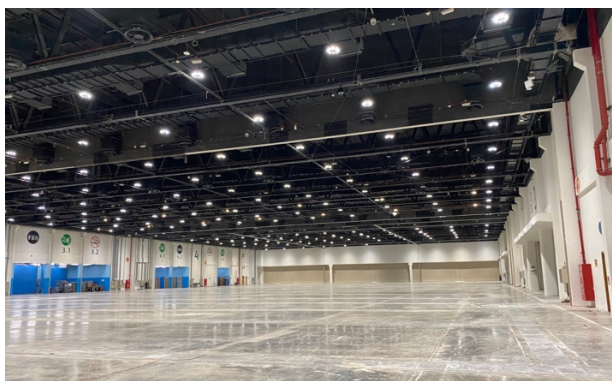


Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre exterior from the Central Plaza side (photo taken from the Internet)

- 4.2 ADNEC is located 15 minutes away from Abu Dhabi International Airport and 20 minutes from the city downtown.
- 4.3 The total area of the playing venue is 90,000 m² of indoor area and 64,000 m² of outdoor area. The building represents a spacious area, that is mostly used for exhibitions, conferences, and another type of events.
- 4.4 The general plan of the venue can be seen below. The building will not be taken on exclusive basis for the Olympiads and Congress; however, FIDE was assured that having other events at the same time in that building will not be disturbing for the participants and visitors of the Olympiads and Congress.



- 4.5 Preliminarily it is considered to merge Halls 1-3 and to use them as the playing venue for the Olympiad, Hall 4 is suggested as the venue for the Olympiad for people with disabilities, Atrium is planned to be used as an Expo area, Conference Hall A – as General Assembly Hall of the Congress, ICC Abu Dhabi – as ceremonies hall and several meeting rooms on the upper level (not shown on the plan below) – as a media centre, offices and meeting rooms for the Congress.
- 4.6 The suggested playing hall for the FIDE Chess Olympiad is merged Halls 1-3. The area comprises 9,859 m², which corresponds to FIDE's requirement about 5 m² per player. Considering the big size of the area, it will be possible to segregate some space inside for other purposes: players' lounges/refreshment areas and spectators' zones.



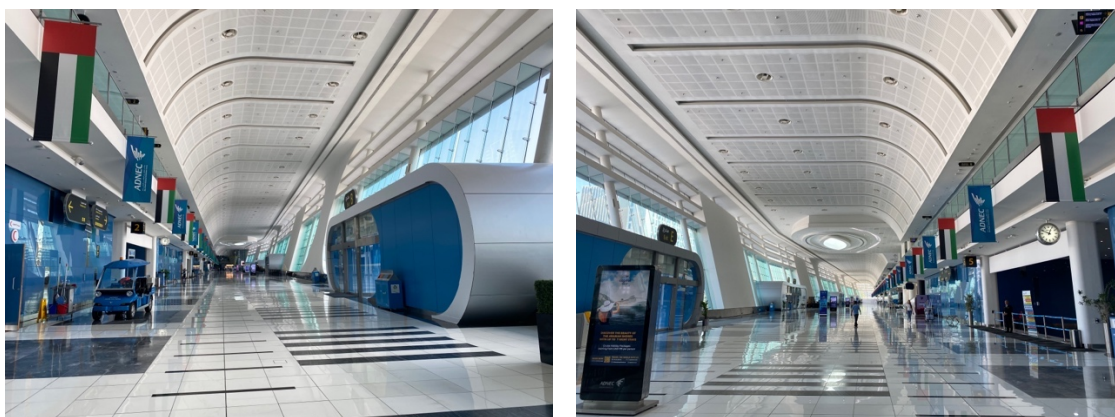
*Suggested playing hall (one half of it) without build-up
(photo taken by FIDE)*



*Suggested playing hall with build-up (photo taken
from www.adnec.ae)*

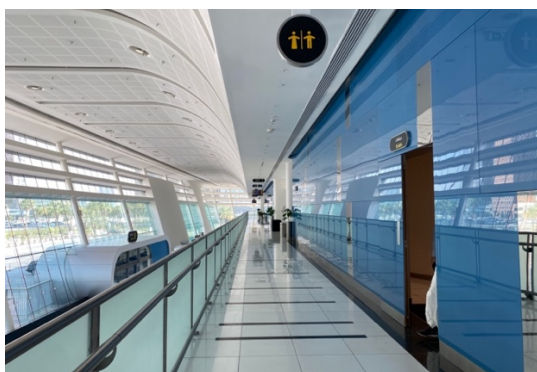


- 4.7 The suggested playing hall for FIDE Chess Olympiad for people with disabilities Olympiad is Hall 4. The area comprises 3,607 m², which corresponds to FIDE's requirement about 8-10 m² per player.
- 4.8 The playing hall is accessible both from the Atrium side and from the Central Plaza side. The availability of different entrances will allow to segregate different flows of people: players, spectators, VIPs, media representatives, etc.



Foyer from where access to the playing hall would be (photos by FIDE)

- 4.9 The level of lights can be assessed as insufficient; however, it was confirmed by ADNEC representatives that it is possible to hang frames with additional lights on the ceiling anchors to reach the needed level of lights.
- 4.10 The ceiling height is 10 meters.
- 4.11 As can be seen in the photos, the floor in the playing hall is made of concrete, but it is planned to be covered with carpet (50 colours are available for choice to fit the Events' official design).
- 4.12 It was confirmed by ADNEC representatives, that the air conditioning system is available and works properly and silently. Special sensors allow to maintain temperature on the same level regardless of the number of people present in the space.
- 4.13 Toilets: there are in total 64 women's and 64 men's toilets in Halls 1-4.
- 4.14 Each of the four halls has an adjacent organizer office and elevator leading to the upper floor where 10 meeting rooms are available. The rooms' sizes vary between 110 and 230 m². They can be used for different purposes – VIP lounge, offices, arbiters' rooms, and others. There are 21 rooms on that level in total, additional rooms can be rented as well in case needed. All rooms are fully equipped from a technical point of view, and furniture and additional equipment can be sourced by the venue operator.



Upper floor where meeting rooms are (photo taken by FIDE)



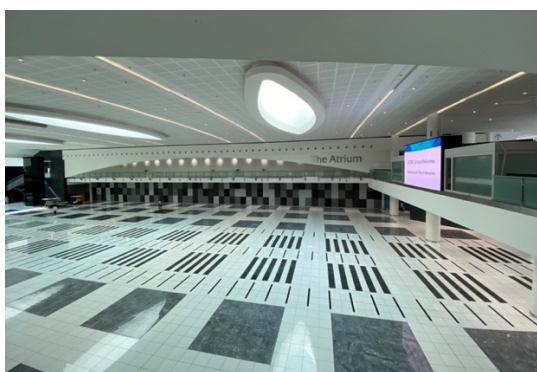
One of the meeting rooms (photo taken from www.adnec.ae)

- 4.15 Press center: there is a space dedicated specially for the work of media and that already has the necessary setup for comfortable work of media.



Press center (photos taken by FIDE)

- 4.16 Expo area: it is suggested to use Atrium area as Expo space, the area that comprises more than 3,000 m², which corresponds to FIDE requirements and is more than enough for commercial display area, sponsors' area, and FIDE pavilions. The space is located between the suggested playing hall and Congress halls. Besides, the bidders suggest having participating countries' booths in that area.



Atrium without build-up (photo taken by FIDE)



Atrium with build-up (photo from the Internet)

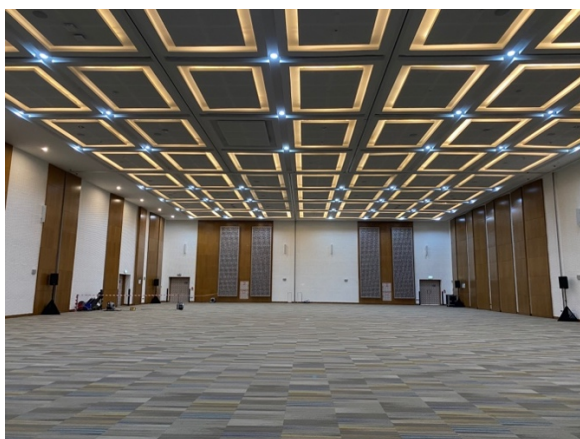


- 4.17 Since the venue is designed for different kinds of events, it allows full flexibility in terms of additional build-ups, for example, stages, partition walls, any solid frame structures, pavilions, etc. Practically all surfaces can be branded. Besides, the venue has an in-house printing facility.
- 4.18 The venue's different sorts of furniture and equipment available in stock and shall be provided in accordance with technical requirements presented by FIDE.
- 4.19 All requirements on the Internet capacity with a possibility of creating several public or closed networks are covered in the venue.
- 4.20 There are 6000 parking lots around ADNEC buildings available for the participants and visitors of the Events. A traffic plan would be elaborated for the Olympiads and Congress.
- 4.21 Spectators' areas: considering the spaciousness of the area, it will also be possible to build a standing area. The spacious expo area will also offer many options for spectators' activities.
- 4.22 Accessibility for people with disabilities: ADNEC was used as the venue for the Special Olympics World Games held in 2019 and it corresponds to standards of venue for people with disabilities. The venue has a barrier-free environment and can provide full service to people with disabilities.

FIDE conclusion: the playing venue corresponds to the Regulations of FIDE Chess Olympiad 2028 in terms of facilities and location and has a long history of hosting different kinds of events, including for people with disabilities. The above-described allocation of spaces is preliminary, as the venue has a lot of facilities, which provides flexibility in usage of the venue.

5. Congress venue

- 5.1 The suggested venue for the FIDE Congress is ADNEC. The General Assembly might be carried out in Conference Hall A, while Zonal and Commissions' meetings can be organized in Conference Hall B and meeting rooms, which are available on the upper floor.
- 5.2 Conference Hall A, which is suggested as the hall for the General Assembly, has an area of 1,125 m² and a capacity of 522 pax classroom style. The hall can be divided into four smaller halls.
- 5.3 Conference Hall B can be considered as the meeting space for the Zonal and Commissions' meetings or as an alternative option for the General Assembly. The area of the hall is 741 m², and its capacity is 330 pax classroom style. Similar to Conference Hall A, Hall B can be divided into 4 smaller rooms.



Conference hall A (photo taken by FIDE)



Conference hall B (photo taken by FIDE)

- 5.4 All halls are fully equipped from a technical point of view, except translation booths that can though be provided by the venue.
- 5.5 Coffee breaks can be organized in the foyer between two halls or in one of parts of the Hall A or B (if it is decided to divide the halls).

FIDE conclusion: Conference Halls A and B correspond to FIDE's requirements for Congress venue and provide several options for hosting the General Assembly, Council, Zonal, and Commissions' meetings. Location of the Congress venue next to the playing hall is also considered as an advantage.

6. Ceremonies venue

- 6.1 The suggested ceremonies hall is the ICC Abu Dhabi Hall located in the same exhibition centre and very close to adjacent Aloft hotel.



ICC Abu Dhabi hall without build-up (photo taken by FIDE)



ICC Abu Dhabi hall with build-up (photo from the Internet)

- 6.2 The total area of the ICC Abu Dhabi Hall comprises 7,919 m².

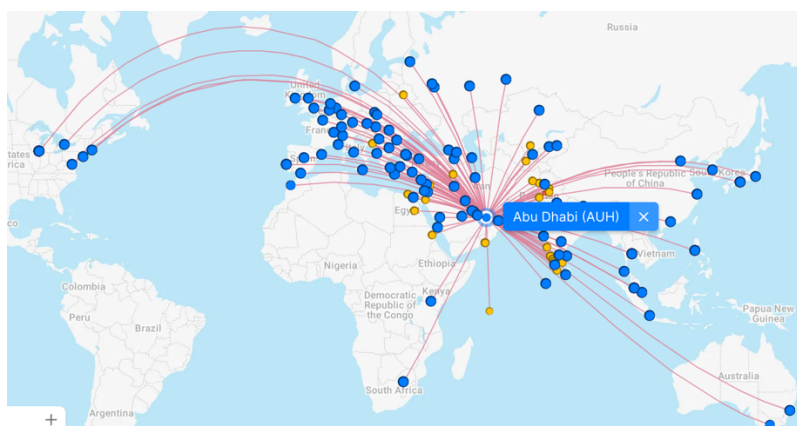


- 6.3 The hall's seating capacity is 6,000 pax theatre style, out of which 2 671 are tiered seating (seats are placed in rows, rising in a series of levels) and the other 3 329 seats are flat floor seating.
- 6.4 The ceiling height is 13 meters.
- 6.5 All kinds of mantling constructions are possible.
- 6.6 There are toilets, organizers' offices, and changing rooms adjacent to the space, besides, there is a balcony, that might be used for VIPs/VVIPs.

FIDE conclusion: ICC Abu Dhabi Hall fully corresponds to the requirements to the ceremonies' venues. Besides, it is conveniently located in the same venue.

7. Arrivals and departures

- 7.1 Abu Dhabi airport (AUH) has more than 100 destinations and is used by more than 50 airlines. It is the second busiest airport in the UAE after Dubai (DXB). The airport is located within a 20-minute drive from the venue and the majority of the hotels, offered for the participants.



Map of destinations of Abu Dhabi airport (picture taken at www.flightconnections.com)

- 7.2 ADSC confirmed that they would provide transportation for the participants not only from Abu Dhabi airport, but from any airport in the UAE free of charge. This will be especially convenient with Dubai airport, located in 90-minute drive, as there are more than 260 destinations covered by 140 airlines.
- 7.3 It was mentioned by the potential organizers that there is a plan to involve national carriers as the partner of the event and to agree on charter flights from some large airports in other countries to Abu Dhabi.
- 7.4 It is planned that upon arrival the participants shall be taken to the VIP lounges, from where they will be transported to the relevant hotels.



FIDE conclusion: Abu Dhabi is well connected with many destinations, and the bidders are eager to provide high-level service. Besides, the bidders confirmed their readiness to provide transportation services from Dubai airport and other UAE airports. FIDE sees no risk in Arrivals & Departure procedures.

8. Local transportation

- 8.1 Abu Dhabi has a developed road infrastructure. All transportation services during the Events shall be provided by ADSC partner, who has already covered many international events organized by ADSC, including competitions for people with disabilities with special vehicles.
- 8.2 As the majority of the hotels are located within walking distance to the playing venue and Congress and ceremonies halls, the organizers do not expect a big load in terms of providing transportation services.
- 8.3 Free shuttle buses between ADNEC cluster and the city downtown shall be available for the participants.
- 8.4 Taxi applications (Uber, Careem, Abu Dhabi Taxi) are available in Abu Dhabi. As for public transportation, there is a developed bus network, however, there is no metro in the city.

FIDE conclusion: FIDE sees no risk in transportation services provided in the bidding city, since the hotels are located in proximity to the playing and Congress venue.

9. Accommodation

- 9.1 FIDE inspected four hotels during the visit: Aloft (4*, 408 rooms), Andaz (5*, 188 rooms), Rotana (4*, 315 rooms), and Fairmont (5*, 364 rooms). All hotels correspond to international standards. All of them have rooms for people with disabilities.
- 9.2 In total there are 5 hotels within a 5-minute walk from the playing venue. It was mentioned by the bidders that they plan to use the hotels exclusively for the Events. Two more hotels are now under construction and shall be fully operational by 2028.





- 9.3 The total room inventory offered to the participants is 1,800 rooms in hotels of 4-5 stars within 300 meters walking distance and 4,200 rooms within 2 to 5 km walking distance.
- 9.4 The hotels located next to ADNEC (from clause 9.1 all the hotels except Fairmont, which is located in a 15-minute drive from the venue) have the same owner as the venue.
- 9.5 Aloft hotel is adjacent to the playing venue and there is no need to even go outside – this might be useful for people with disabilities. Besides, this hotel has already accommodated athletes of the previously mentioned Special Olympics World Games.
- 9.6 In general, Abu Dhabi City may provide different kinds of accommodation for any needs and preferences. There is no risk that the room inventory would not be enough.

FIDE conclusion: the offered hotels correspond to high standards. The room inventory is enough to host the Events.

10. Catering

- 10.1 All catering in the playing/Congress venue and the hotels, located next to ADNEC is provided by one company, which is the biggest catering company in Abu Dhabi (that also caters meals for Etihad Airlines). Its kitchen is located in the same complex, which ensures the freshness of food.
- 10.2 Buffet meal shall be served in all hotels. The potential organizers assured that the meals will be of a wide variety and that the same level of catering shall be maintained in all hotels.

FIDE conclusion: FIDE sees no risk in provision of catering services.

11. Medical services

- 11.1 The Bidding proposal provides information about hospitals that would be used in case needed during the Olympiads. The potential organizers proposed to FIDE inspecting the hospitals, but the preference was given to inspection of the accommodation facilities.
- 11.2 There is a medical room in the playing venue, that would be operational during the Events. Besides, there is a pharmacy in the playing venue complex.

FIDE conclusion: FIDE sees no risk in provision of medical services.

12. Side events and promotion

- 12.1 The potential organizers expressed that they are committed to organizing various side events in order to show engagement of the whole country. While no exact plan was discussed, however, the city and the venue has a lot of facilities for such events and relevant experience of organizing various chess festivals.



12.2 The potential organizers informed the inspectors that there is a plan to run a number of promotional activities for media and VIPs before the Olympiads.

FIDE conclusion: the bidders are motivated to organize different kinds of promotional activities and side events. The city has many facilities to offer for side events organization.

13. Volunteers

13.1 ADSC has a multinational multilingual pool of volunteers who work at sports events around all emirates.

13.2 Preliminarily there is a plan to involve between 100 and 300 volunteers, and their accommodation and meals to be covered by resources outside the budget given in the Bidding proposal.

13.3 There is a plan to organize a training camp one year prior to the event, where foreign volunteers outside of the above-mentioned pool will also get a chance to become a part of the event.

FIDE conclusion: FIDE sees no risk in volunteering programme delivery, as the bidder is experienced in organizing volunteers' deployment and training.

14. Final conclusions from FIDE

Abu Dhabi has submitted a convincing Bidding proposal, backed by what was seen during the inspection visit, which was carried out on the 6th and 7th December 2023. First of all, Abu Dhabi has a strong transportation and accommodation infrastructure. Secondly, the venue corresponds to top international standards. Finally, the bidders are experienced in organizing world class international events not only in chess, but in other kinds of sports and spheres.