

Summary Report on Vice-President Fawcett's Visit to China
May 11-19, 2017

At the invitation of the China Volkssport Association, Vice-President Fawcett attended the '2nd Grand Beauty Qiandongnan International Citizen Hiking Convention' in Qiandongnan, followed by other meetings and activities in several locations across China in the days after.

As invited guest speaker, he gave an Introductory Speech in which he spoke of the success of the morning's walk in a UNESCO World Heritage Natural Site. He emphasized the benefits of walking for individuals, and the economic possibilities for municipal governments. Secondly, he gave a report on the current status of the IVV and its future outlook. Finally, he made concrete suggestions on how the CVA can focus its future development program, emphasizing various degrees of nature, culture and adventure in its organization. Some 300 people attended the Conference and 300,000 participated in the organized walks in Qiandongnan itself and 16 other surrounding cities.

Cities large and small across China are looking for significant international events to promote their own infrastructure and tourism development.

Following the Conference in Qiandongnan, he travelled to Hangzhou and Ulanqab, Inner Mongolia where he made similar formal presentations to Governors, Mayors, Deputy-Mayors and Heads of Sport Bureaux. In each case, he gave a detailed description of the IVV, its structure and programs. He also described the IML/IVV Cup program. There is high interest in the IVV and what we offer, as our goals and theirs harmonize well.

The CVA has done an excellent job of promoting our organization and activities in all parts of the country. They will continue to focus their efforts in the areas of tourism and infrastructure (trails) development.