



# NEWS RELEASE



# XXIX OLYMPIC GAMES BEIJING 2008

The Vanuatu National Olympic Committee was established in March 1987, a year later we participated in our first Olympic Games in Seoul, South Korea. The main sport representing the country at this level since 1988 has been athletics; initially our competitors were 'wildcards' permitted by the International Athletics Federation. In 2000, Vanuatu qualified an athlete on merit for the first-time at the Sydney Games in the sport of Archery. This year's Olympic Games in Beijing will see Vanuatu participating in athletics and for the first-time in table-tennis. The participating athletes for the 2008 Team Vanuatu to this year's Games are Priscilla Tommy (Table-Tennis), Moses Kamut and Arnold Sorina (Athletics).



As a member of the International Olympic Committee, the values of the Vanuatu Association of Sports And National Olympic Committee (VASANOC) are enshrined in the *Principles of Olympism* from the Olympic Charter.

The 2008 Summer Olympics officially known as the Games of the XXIX Olympiad will be celebrated from 08 – 24 August where athletes will compete in 302 events in 28

sports. The Olympic Games were awarded to Beijing, People's Republic of China after an exhaustive ballot of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) on 13 July, 2001. The official logo of the Games, titled "Dancing Beijing" features a stylised calligraphic character *jīng* (meaning capital), referencing the host city. The mascots of Beijing 2008 are the five Fuwa, each representing one colour of the Olympic Rings. The Olympic slogan, *One World, One Dream*, calls upon the world to unite in the Olympic spirit. The center piece of the 2008 Summer Olympics will be the Beijing National Stadium, nicknamed the "Bird Nest" because of its nest-like skeletal structure. Construction of the venue began in late 2003.



## Collectors' Notes

Designer: IGPC Art Department, New York, USA  
Printer: Beijing Security Printers, Beijing, PR China  
Process: Offset Litho.  
Stamp Size: 4 vertical stamps, 40mm x 30mm in mini sheet only.  
Mini Sheet Size: 150mm x 94mm horizontal  
Perforation Gauge: TBA  
Denominations: Stamps 10, 40, 60 and 90 vatu. Mini sheet 200 vatu  
Period of Sale: 8 June 2008 for a period of 2 years.

## For more information please contact:

The Manager,  
Philatelic Bureau,  
Vanuatu Post, Port Vila,  
Vanuatu.  
Tel. + 678 22000,  
Fax + 678 23900  
E mail: [philatelic@vanuatupost.vu](mailto:philatelic@vanuatupost.vu)  
Web Site: [www.vanuatupost.vu](http://www.vanuatupost.vu)