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ACC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE APPROVES MAJOR INITIATIVES TO SHAPE THE FUTURE OF CYCLING IN ASIA

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia - The Asian Cycling Confederation (ACC) Management Committee convened on 6th August 2026 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where members unanimously approved a series of landmark decisions aimed at strengthening athlete development, expanding competitive opportunities, and enhancing the governance of cycling across Asia.

Presided over by ACC President Dato' Amarjit Singh Gill, the meeting endorsed several strategic initiatives that will take effect from 2027 onwards.

ACC Grand Fondo Asian Championships Established

One of the key decisions of the Management Committee was the establishment of the **ACC Grand Fondo Asian Championships**, which will be introduced from 2027 as a standalone continental championship.

As part of this restructuring, the **Masters category will be removed from the Asian Road Championships** and incorporated into the new Grand Fondo Championships. The event will cater to age-group riders, beginning with the Open category and continuing through five-year age classifications for both men and women.

The Management Committee agreed that the Asian Road Championships should remain Asia's premier elite championship, focusing on riders on the Olympic pathway, while the ACC Grand Fondo Asian Championships will provide a dedicated continental platform for Masters and recreational cyclists.

New Asian Youth Plus Track Championships Approved

In another significant move to strengthen youth development, the Management Committee approved the creation of the **Asian Youth Plus Track Championships**.

The new championship will focus primarily on **Boys and Girls categories**, providing young riders with valuable international competition opportunities at an early stage of their development. The "Plus" concept will also invite participation from selected countries outside Asia, enabling young Asian cyclists to compete against a broader international field and further raising the standard of competition. The inaugural Asian Youth Plus Track Championships 2027 has been awarded to the **Philippine Cycling Federation** and will be held in Tagaytay, Philippines.

Thailand Retains Hosting Rights for Asian Balance Bike Challenge

Following the outstanding success of the inaugural Asian Balance Bike Challenge in 2026, the Management Committee unanimously agreed to once again award the hosting rights for the **2027 Asian Balance Bike Challenge** to the **Thai Cycling Association**.

The Management Committee congratulated the Thai Cycling Association for successfully organising Asia's first continental Balance Bike Challenge, which attracted encouraging participation from National Federations across the continent and demonstrated the growing popularity of cycling among young children. The ACC expressed its confidence that Thailand will continue to build on the success of the inaugural edition and further strengthen grassroots cycling development by inspiring more children to take up the sport from an early age.

Boys & Girls Categories Added to Asian Road Championships

To further strengthen the pathway for young cyclists, the Management Committee also approved the introduction of **Boys and Girls categories** at the **Asian Road Championships** beginning in **2027**.

The initiative is intended to provide greater international racing opportunities for young athletes and support their long-term development towards participation in the **Asian Youth Games** and the **Youth Olympic Games**, in line with the vision of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) and the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

2027 ACC Congress and Management Committee Meeting

The Management Committee confirmed that the **2027 ACC Management Committee Meeting** will be held on **11 June 2027**, followed by the **ACC Congress** on **12 June 2027** in Ordos, Inner Mongolia, China, alongside the 2027 Asian Road Championships. Holding the governance meetings in conjunction with the continental championships will provide National Federations with the opportunity to participate in both the Congress and Asia's premier road cycling event.

Special Congress to Elect UCI Voting Delegates from Asia

The Management Committee also approved the convening of a **Special ACC Congress** on **2 February 2027** in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia during the sidelines of 2027 Asian Track Championships. The Special Congress will be dedicated solely to the election of **Asia's UCI Voting Delegates**, ensuring the elections are completed well in advance of the UCI Congress, scheduled to take place on 23 August 2027 in Haute-Savoie, France.

The early election will facilitate the timely nomination and confirmation of Asia's voting delegates in accordance with the UCI timetable.

Continued Support for Developing National Federations

Reaffirming its commitment to developing cycling throughout Asia, the Management Committee agreed to further expand the ACC's equipment assistance programme for developing National Federations. The decision follows the successful support recently provided to the National Federations of Nepal and Kyrgyzstan, which received mountain bikes through the ACC Solidarity Programme.

The ACC will continue identifying opportunities to provide essential cycling equipment to emerging cycling nations, helping strengthen grassroots development and create greater opportunities for young athletes across the continent.

ACC Celebrates Royal Honour Bestowed on Former President

The ACC Management Committee expressed its pride and congratulations to Tan Sri Darshan Singh Gill, former President of the Asian Cycling Confederation, on being conferred **The Most Admirable Order of the Direkgunabhorn**, a prestigious Royal Decoration bestowed by **His Majesty The King of Thailand**.

The decoration was presented at a special ceremony held in Kuala Lumpur on 6 August 2026 by General Decha Hemkasri, President of the Thai Cycling Association and ACC Senior Vice President, on behalf of His Majesty the King, in the presence of the ACC Management Committee members. The Management Committee recorded its appreciation to the Kingdom of Thailand for the distinguished honour in recognition of Tan Sri Darshan's outstanding contributions to the development of cycling in Asia.

Building a Stronger Future for Asian Cycling

Speaking after the meeting, Dato' Amarjit Singh Gill, the ACC President and UCI Vice President said:

"The decisions taken today represent another important milestone in the ACC's commitment to developing cycling at every level across Asia. From introducing the ACC Grand Fondo Asian Championships and the Asian Youth Plus Track Championships to expanding opportunities for Boys and Girls and continuing our support for developing National Federations, we are building a stronger and more inclusive future for cycling across our continent."

He added:

"Youth development remains at the heart of our vision. Together with initiatives such as the Asian Balance Bike Challenge, we are creating a complete pathway that begins with our youngest riders and continues through to elite competition. These programmes, coupled with strong governance and continued support for our member federations, will ensure Asian cycling continues to grow and thrive for many years to come."

The Management Committee reaffirmed its commitment to delivering innovative programmes and strategic initiatives that will elevate the standard of cycling throughout Asia while creating greater opportunities for athletes, coaches and National Federations across the continent.

About ACC

The Asian Cycling Confederation (ACC) is the governing body of cycling in Asia, representing 45 member federations. Its mission is to promote, develop, and grow the sport of cycling across all disciplines in the continent, working closely with the UCI to ensure global standards and opportunities for athletes, officials, and organizers.

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