

## Islam Karimov received AIBA President Ching-Kuo Wu

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**President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov received President of the International Boxing Association (AIBA) Ching-Kuo Wu on 15 July at the Oqsaroy.**

The visit of Ching-Kuo Wu takes place within his participation at the meeting of the AIBA Executive committee in Tashkent. This sports forum is a final stage in the process of preparations of the International Boxing Association (amateurs) to the forthcoming Olympic Games in Brazil.

The Head of our state, warmly greeting the guest, noted the contribution and services of the Association and its president Ching-Kuo Wu in developing boxing and the Olympic movement in general.

Holding the meeting of the Executive Committee of such authoritative international organization in Tashkent is a significant event and attests to the special place of Uzbekistan in the world sports movement.

Ching-Kuo Wu highly assessed the growing authority of Uzbekistan on the world sports arena. The international public is well acknowledged that in Uzbekistan the issues of popularizing physical culture and development of children's sports are elevated to the level of state policy. Thanks to everyday care and targeted efforts of the Head of our state on promoting healthy lifestyle and upbringing the comprehensively developed youth, currently around 60 per cent of children and teenagers aged 6 to 15 trains at sports sections.

An effective system of training professional sportspeople, coaches and referees has been established in Uzbekistan during the years of independence. Today over 80 sports federations function in the country and are provided with all necessary technical and methodological means.

Over 51 thousand sports facilities have been built in the country. Many centres and sections on different sports, sports complexes and halls, on par with the best foreign arenas, operate in our country.

Vivid demonstration of these efforts is the successes of Uzbek sportspeople in the Olympic Games. During a short historical period 21 medal tally, of which 6 gold, 5 silver

and 10 bronze medals, have been won.

Boxing representatives have a particular place in sports of Uzbekistan. Only in 2014-2015 in all age and weight categories Uzbek boxers won 269 medals. Our country regularly hosts prestigious international competitions and boxing tournaments. On 7-14 June 2015 the AIBA Asian junior's championship was held for the first time in Tashkent, in which Uzbek sportspeople won 7 gold and 6 bronze medals and took the first place in team scoring.

During the meeting at the Oqsaroy the parties exchanged views on prospects of developing amateur boxing in Uzbekistan, further strengthening and widening fruitful cooperation of our country with the AIBA.

President of the International Boxing Association expressed gratitude to President Islam Karimov for a warm reception and a huge personal contribution to developing sports, including boxing, in Uzbekistan.

For special services in developing and popularizing sports and the Olympic movement, as well as a symbol of acknowledging loyalty to developing boxing on international and national levels, President of Uzbekistan was handed the high award of the AIBA- the Order of Merit at the meeting.

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