



Baja California to host U-18 and U-19 World Championships next year



MEXICALI, Baja California, June 5, 2006.- The 2007 Youth Volleyball World Championships, in both genders, will be held in Baja California, Mexico.

The announcement was made by Mr. Cristobal Marte, president of the NORCECA Confederation, during the opening ceremony of the First Men's Pan American Cup.

The good news was received with enthusiasm both by the crowd and the local authorities led by the governor of the State of Baja California, Mr. Eugenio Elorduy Walther.

"On behalf of Doctor Ruben Acosta Hernandez, president of the FIVB, I am honoured to announce the decision to grant Baja California the rights to host those events is a tribute of recognition to the excellence of Baja California, and its authorities, as sports events organizers," said Marte.

"Thirty two teams from the five continents will be here next year to compete in the U-18 and U-19 World Championships," Marte added. "You have demonstrated with your hard work the capability to stage those great championships."

Marte stated that the Women's Pan American Cup is the biggest volleyball continental event and was born in Baja



California.

"Here we are starting this men's cup that will be held in Baja California for its three first editions and I am sure it is going to follow the steps of the women's cup," said Marte.

The Governor of Baja California, Mr. Eugenio Elorduy Walther, pronounced the event formally inaugurated in the presence of Mr. Samuel Ramos, Municipal President of BC, Professor Alejandro Salinas, president of the Mexican Volleyball Federation, and Mr. Saul Castro Verdugo, president of the Organizing Committee.

The Opening Ceremony included the parade of the teams, national anthem of Mexico, oath of athletes and referees taken by Mexicans Ivan Contreras and Fernando Nava respectively and a performance by a girls group of gymnastics.

