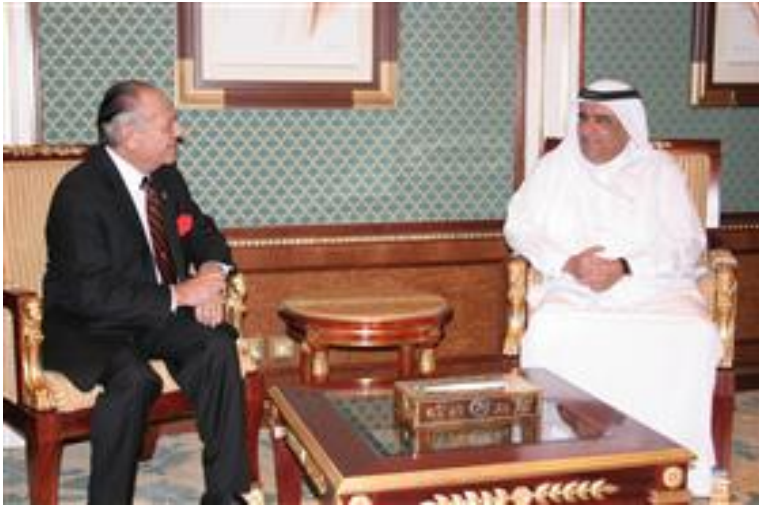




NORCECA anticipates active participation in next FIVB World Congress



SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic, October 5, 2007.- The NORCECA Confederation has started all the necessary coordination in order to ensure the participation of all its 35 National Federations in the next FIVB World Congress to be held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates in June 2008.

Mr. Cristobal Marte Hoffiz, President of the continental institution, said that as same as occurred in the 2006 Congress held in Tokyo, NORCECA will be present in Dubai with a 100 percent of attendance.

"I personally, with the assistance of our Executive Vice President Alejandro Salinas, have initiated the contacts with the leaders of the different National Federations in order to repeat the achievement of the last congress when NORCECA was present with all its 35 country members," he stated.

Mr. Marte Hoffiz informed Mr. Edgar Alvarado, Vice President for Central America, and Mr. Mushtaque Muhammed, Vice President for the Caribbean, about the participation in the event of Dubai.

"The enthusiasm within the NORCECA Confederation is a good signal for an expected success both in terms of attendance and active participation of our members," he

added. "Today, more than ever, in our Confederation we have a great unity and common goals."

Recently, the FIVB announced that the World Congress 2008 will be organized in the Grand Hyatt Dubai Hotel.

The President of FIVB Dr. Ruben Acosta Hernandez was warmly welcomed by the highest authorities of the United Arab Emirates and of the UAE Volleyball Association.

During his visit to Dubai, the FIVB President personally met Sheikh Mohamed Al Maktoum, Prime Minister of UAE, as well as the different ministers of the country.

Dr. Acosta also was received by Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Minister of Finance and Industry, who officially announced his patronage of the World Congress and offered his full support for the event to be the best ever.

The 31st FIVB World Congress, which will be organised in the Grand Hyatt Dubai Hotel on 16th and 17th June 2008 for which the FIVB expects more than 400 participants representing more than 200 National Federations affiliated to the FIVB.

"The World Congress in Dubai will represent the starting of a new era and the fourth huge step in the history of the FIVB" stated Dr. Acosta. "The first stage led our sport from the origins to its first Olympic Games in 1964. The second stage saw the FIVB's growth under the leadership of Paul Libaud. In 1984 a revolutionary third stage started a visionary chapter of world success for Volleyball, with Beach Volleyball being included as an Olympic discipline and with the upcoming opening of the new outstanding FIVB premises in Lausanne. I'm sure that the 2008 FIVB World Congress will be a milestone in our history."

