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For Immediate Release: 12th September 2016
Gymnastics Australia and
The Malaysian Gymnastics Federation
Building Leadership Capacity of Women in Sport

The Malaysian Gymnastics Federation will host a “Building Leadership Capacity of Women in Sport Conference” in Kuala Lumpur from 15th – 18th September. The conference will be facilitated by Gymnastics Australia in collaboration with The Malaysian Gymnastics Federation (MGF) and South East Asian Gymnastics Zone (SEAGzone). The project is supported by the Australian Government through the Australia-ASEAN Council (AAC) of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Other SEAGzone Federations participating in the project are Singapore and Thailand. Singapore Gymnastics were hosts of the inaugural Leadership Capacity Building Conference with over 50 people participating in June this year, and close to 60 attended the Thailand conference in Bangkok earlier this month.

MGF Secretary General N. Shanmugarajah has been instrumental in planning and collaboration for this project. Shanmugarajah was recognized earlier this year by the International Gymnastics Federation with a Silver Medal of Distinction for his contribution to gymnastics. He has been ably assisted by a team of volunteers including MGF Vice President Petrina Low, Women’s Artistic Gymnastics Judge Sukhdev Hans and Rhythmic Gymnastics stalwart Kok Mong Lin or ‘Mama Kok.’ MGF Deputy President Mr. Kau Git Kaur representing the South East Asian Gymnastics Zone has also been actively involved in the project since its’ inception. Kaur is proud to say that he won the first Gymnastics Men’s Gold medal for Malaysia in the 1991 SEA Games.

The Malaysian Conference is co-sponsored by Nestle and the National Sports Council of Malaysia, with participants undertaking Leadership, Governance, Coach and Judge training. They will be matched with mentors from Australia, Malaysia and South East Asia and the project will be evaluated by Victoria University.

Experts from Australia will work with participants from a range of experience levels with the goal to empower women as leaders in sport. Keynote speakers, panellists and presenters include Gymnastics Australia staff, representatives from The Australian High Commission, International Judges, and female leaders of Malaysia. Training will also be provided to Malaysian Gymnastics Federation staff and volunteers to build the capacity of the workforce to deliver quality coach and judge education.

To find out more or to get involved contact bkneebush@gymnastics.org.au or lowlilypetrina@gmail.com