Media Release: Friday March 14, 2008





## ONEASIA TO BECOME A REALITY





\_\_\_\_\_

Several of the leading golf bodies through the Asia-Pacific region have formally pledged their complete support to the creation of the first truly representative professional golf tour spanning the Asia-Pacific region. The Japan Golf Tour Organisation, the China Golf Association, the Korean Golf Association and the PGA of Australia (collectively "the Founding Parties") have reached agreement to form a new regional tour aimed at providing the best possible platform to grow elite tournament professional golf through the region, and provide a much needed consolidated pathway for the development of the next generation of champion regional golfers.

There is currently no organization which can fully and collectively represent the rights and benefits of national golf bodies and professional golfers in the Asia-Pacific region. In an effort to better promote the game of golf and take the game to a higher level in the Asia-Pacific Region, each of the Founding Tours believe it is necessary to found a single regional organization that can truly represent the common rights and benefits of relevant local golf bodies and their members.

The new Tour, as yet to be named (but referred to as OneAsia), will seek to bring together the best tournaments conducted throughout Asia-Pacific to create an alternative elite career pathway for national organizations and their aspiring professional golfers in the region. Each of the existing Tours will continue, forming a consolidated pathway for professional tournament golf through the region.

The Founding Parties have appointed an interim board to guide the creation and launch of this new tour, consisting of representatives from within each of the Founding Parties. A Chairman from within the Board will be officially appointed shortly.

Discussions continue with several other golf bodies in the region to ascertain their role within OneAsia. It is the intention to launch the new Tour in January 2009.

*For further information please contact:* 

Korean Golf Association Jae Lee Secretary, International Affairs

Ph: +82 2 783 4748

Japan Golf Tour Organisation Andy Yamanaka Executive Director Ph: +813 3585 7381 China Golf Association Pang Zheng Vice Chief Ph: +86 0 87183989

PGA of Australia Ben Sellenger Commissioner Ph: +61 2 9956 0000

## About the PGA of Australia

On 18 December 2007 the PGA Tour of Australasia Ltd merged with the Professional Golfers' Association of Australia Ltd. The newly amalgamated company is known as the Professional Golfers Association of Australia Ltd ("the PGA of Australia"), whose membership comprises all Australian professional golfers ranging from tournament professionals, to club pros, assistant pros, teaching pros, seniors and trainees. The Tour Division of the PGA of Australia is the official sanctioning body for all elite male professional tournament golf in Australasia. The Tour encompasses tournament golf in Australia, New Zealand and into Asia.

