

Kennedy congratulates Special Olympian from Swords following tremendous achievements by the whole team

Michael Kennedy, Fianna Fáil TD for Dublin North, this evening (Friday, 12th October) congratulated the athletes and coaches of TEAM Ireland, and especially Swords Silver medallist Linda Mooney, following their memorable achievements in the 2007 Special Olympics World Games in Shanghai.

Deputy Kennedy said; *"I am delighted to welcome home our returning Special Olympians and would like to congratulate and thank all the athletes, coaches, families, supporters and volunteers. They have done the country proud with their courage, skill, and superb sportsmanship.*

"Naturally I want to say a special well done to Linda Mooney from Swords and her partner Carol O'Rourke from Finglas who are returning home with one silver medal and a fourth place in Bocce. This is a brilliant achievement and we are very proud to have our region to be represented by such talented sportswomen.

It must be acknowledged that a final tally of 119 medals and 69 ribbons in 11 sports is an outstanding achievement by athletes from a country the size of Ireland. It is clear that each and every one of our athletes have given their best and in doing so have held firmly to that most important and inspiring core principal of the Special Olympics movement; "Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt", Deputy Kennedy concluded.