

at **PARIS** 2024 The Games Newsletter



NEWSLETTER ON AFRICA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE OLYMPIC GAMES

**ANOCA PRESIDENT'S
SPECIAL MESSAGE**

**AFRICA WILL RISE
TO THE CHALLENGE
IN PARIS**



From 26 July to 11 August 2024 Paris, the dream city, will be hosting the world's biggest multisport event, the Summer Olympic Games, during which all the continents will come together to share some memorable moments in the Olympic spirit. This offers an excellent platform for Africa to showcase to the world a unified image of its sport, its competitors and the structures and institutions that support it.

Athletes are already geared up for the kickoff to this exciting gathering, which will hold the French capital and global audiences spellbound for its entire duration. Paris, the historic city, is eagerly looking forward to welcoming the world's sporting youth, with thousands of Africans among the visitors and competitors. These will include athletes, technical and administrative officials and fans.

The French capital will be hosting the event for the second time, after it first hosted in 1924. That year, Africa was represented by just South Africa and Egypt, and bagged three medals (1 Gold, 1 Silver and 1 Bronze). For the 2024 edition, the Continent will indeed be at the epicentre of the event, given that all our NOCs will be participating this time, and our Olympic dream is to win more than the 37 medals won in Tokyo 2020 during the Games of the 32nd Olympiad. I believe strongly in this wonderful dream, which I hope to share with you.

For all the participants, the Olympic Games are a great gathering and represent much more than a race for medals. It is also about celebrating Olympism, by highlighting the values of ethics, fair play, respect for the opponent, a healthy lifestyle and modesty. Hence, I am hereby appealing to all Africans to participate in a way befitting of our continent, both on and off the tracks and pitches.

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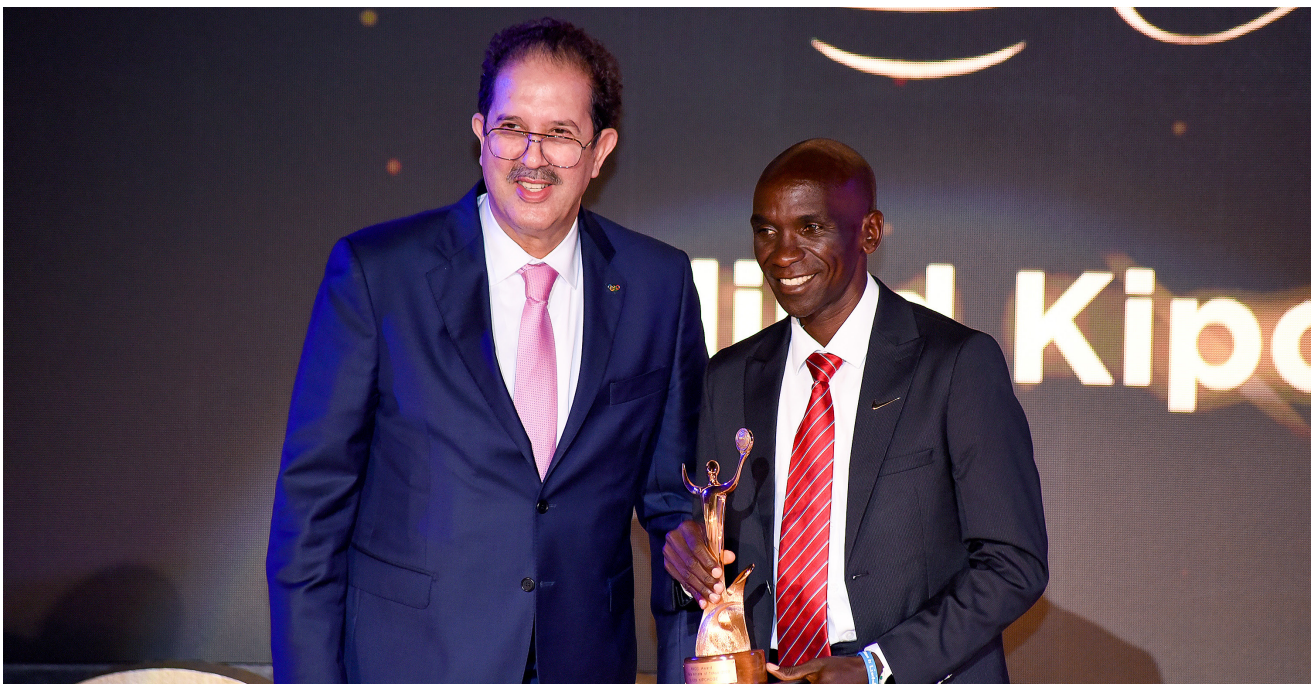
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To create the best conditions for the Continent's participation in Paris 2024, our association took a number of steps, including setting up a special commission to provide financial support to athletes based on predefined criteria, to help them prepare for qualifiers and also participate in the Games. Besides, with its strategic partners, including Olympic Solidarity, ANOCA supported the Continent's NOCs and their athletes through a number of projects and programmes for optimal preparation at various levels.

The Olympic Games Paris 2024 are Africa's Games. The French capital will engage the global sports movement, and this will be highlighted by Africa's impressive presence and participation. Our continent will once again be rubbing shoulders with others in a healthy competition that spotlights Olympic values.





We will arrive in Paris in an excellent frame of mind. **We are ready!**

From an organisational perspective, all African NOCs have closed ranks to ensure the well-being of their athletes. The continental sports federations have given their backing and the governments of African nations have reassured

us of their commitment to supporting all our athletes and providing them with an enabling working environment. This is a reality and a fact buttressed by IOC Olympic Solidarity.

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We say THANK YOU to all these players, the linchpins of ANOCA, which itself promotes effective, results-based governance of sport.

It is this unity, this solidarity, that makes us strong and powerful. I urge you to stand with our athletes for the entire duration of the competition so that we can provide the best possible professional support.

To our athletes: I see the flame aglow in you, that dream of every sportsman and woman, the dream of one day competing in the Olympics and coming into the spotlight. This, therefore, is a great opportunity for you. In Paris, the eyes of the entire African continent will be riveted on you, to support you, and it will be a success for everyone: the opportunity to live a unique experience, to take part in an event that brings together all nations of the world in peace and friendship, where men and women of goodwill are time and again exposed to Olympic values. You are the torchbearers of a winning Olympic Africa. While many of you are talented, experienced and competent, you all have the natural and professional resources to mount all the podiums in the disciplines for which you will be competing at the Paris 2024 Games. The medal haul will undoubtedly be abundant.

We will be relying on you in Paris! We will be putting all our faith in you because your preparation has been effective, and no stone has been left unturned to ensure that your conditions are the best, nothing has been left to chance. However, your spirit of fair play must shine through, and your patience and drive must set an example for others to emulate, because you are role models.

Paris 2024 must be an opportunity to mobilise all of our 54 NOCs, all our governments, all African youth, all African families - in a nutshell, our entire beloved and beautiful continent, mother AFRICA. It is thanks to this unity based on love and solidarity, that we will go from success to success and that our athletes will continue to herald Olympic and sports victories for Africa.

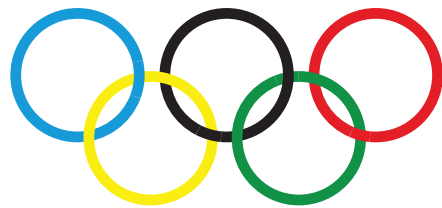
All the best to the AFRICA OLYMPIC TEAM!

Honorable Mustapha Berraf

IOC member
ANOCA President
Holder of the African Olympic Order
Holder of the ANOC Olympic Order
Holder of the IOC Olympic Order.



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