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INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE



YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES DAKAR 2026

AFRICA WELCOMES, DAKAR CELEBRATES!



ANOCA President's Message

YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES DAKAR 2026

THE MOST STUNNING IN HISTORY

We are overjoyed, proud indeed!

This year, our continent will host the Youth Olympic Games – historic milestone for the Olympic Movement, under the theme: "***Africa welcomes, Dakar celebrates!***"

Dakar, capital city of Senegal, will showcase its legendary hospitality. The country has invested heavily in sports facilities, transport, tourism and training, thus boosting economic growth. The Government of Senegal and the YOG Organising Committee have fully fulfilled their missions.

Educational and awareness-raising programmes are in place to promote Olympic values. We hail this transformative momentum, which Africa and world at large will have the opportunity to witness during these Games, and which will surely be the most stunning in history.

Hosting an event of such magnitude gives us much pride, as it speaks to the trust that the Olympic Movement has placed in Africa. It is thus a golden opportunity for Africa's sporting youth, and





for all of Africa, which will showcase African solidarity through sport and all the values that it embodies.

We are delighted to display to the world Africa's ability to host global sports events. Dakar 2026 inspires young people in Senegal, across Africa and the world at large. A multi-sport competition open to young athletes aged 15 to 18 from across the globe, the YOG seek to promote the Olympic ideal, namely combining sport with culture and education to build a better and more peaceful world, founded on the joy of effort, the educational value of good example and respect for universal ethical principles. This entails encouraging sharing and discussion.

Both on and off the tracks and pitches, athletes will interact with young people from the host country in a festive atmosphere. This will afford young athletes a unique opportunity to discover other cultures, improve their training strategies and performance through experience-sharing, and become worthy ambassadors for their sport.

ANOCA welcomes the decision to host the YOG



in Africa and wishes to express its deep gratitude to the IOC. We would like to thank the global Olympic and Sports Movement for this trust. We also wish to THANK the 54 African NOCs and all the Governments of our continent for their exceptional commitment to sport, Olympism and youths. Thanks to your concerted efforts, African youths will shine at Dakar 2026.

Proud to play our part in building a better Africa through sport and Olympism, we will bring our positive energy to this celebration of mutual exchange. At Dakar 2026, youths will open a new chapter in the history of Africa and the World.

Long live African youths!

Long live youths of the world!

Long live the Olympic and Sports Movement!

Mustapha Berraf

ANOCA President
IOC Member
ANOC Vice President



YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES

A “MOMENT OF GLORY FOR SENEGAL AND AFRICA”



The State of Senegal has confirmed its commitment and dedication to ensuring the success of the 2026 Games. Addressing the nation on 4 April 2026, the President of the Republic of Senegal, H.E. Bassirou Diomaye Diakhar FAYE, stated:

"***The Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026 will be a moment of glory for Senegal and for Africa. But beyond that, these Games will leave a lasting legacy in terms of infrastructure, facilities, organisation, skills and collective confidence.***

With six months to go until their opening, our country is counting not only on its defence and security forces, but also on the mobilisation of its youths, the arts and culture sector, and our international partners to rise to this national challenge and continental endeavour."

The Senegalese President also made an inspection tour of several Dakar 2026 venues. Accompanied by several members of the government and Organising Committee officials, the Head of State noted the progress of the work, particularly of sports facilities and accommodation sites. He spoke with engineers and project managers to assess progress.

"***I remain committed to ensuring strict adherence to deadlines, as well as infrastructure quality and sustainability,***" said he.

The Senegalese capital will host the fourth edition of the Summer Youth Olympic Games from 31 October to 13 November 2026. It will be the first time an Olympic competition is held in Africa. Senegal





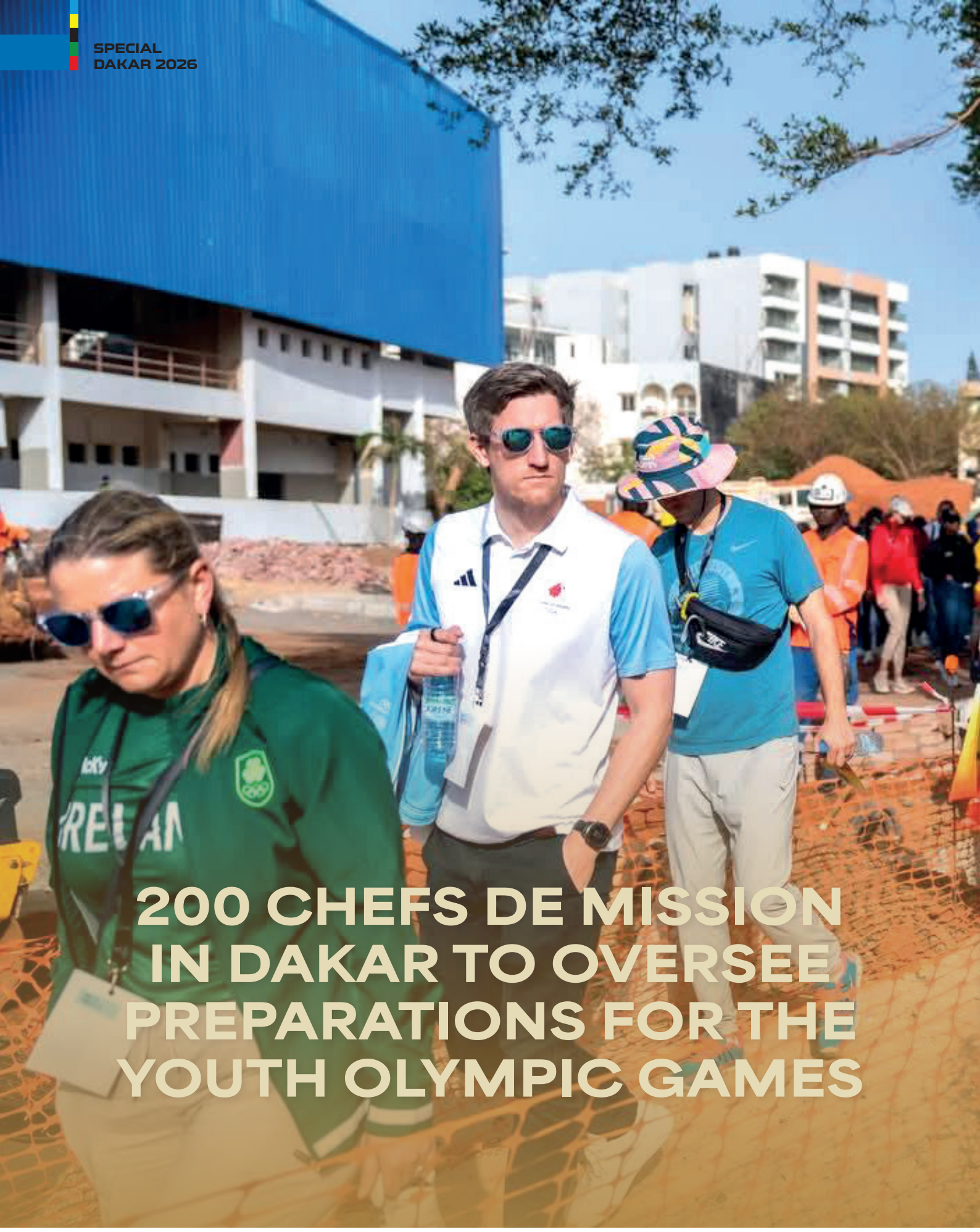
is championing this transformation process.

"***In addition to the competition facilities currently being completed, other projects are underway in several local councils as part of our five-year programme for local sports facilities. Sport contributes to the well-being of the population, to strengthening national unity and giving our country international exposure***," added Bassirou Diomaye Diakhar FAYE.

This is a truly enriching experience for the IOC, Senegal, and future Olympic host nations.

Against this backdrop, the Head of State emphasised the need for a national effort around this major international event." That is why he promised: "***They will be treated with hospitality and humanity, in the true tradition of Senegal***."

During the National Youth Week celebrations at the Stade Lat-Dior in Thiès, the Senegalese President described these Games as "***an opportunity for young people to participate and make their mark.***"



200 CHEFS DE MISSION IN DAKAR TO OVERSEE PREPARATIONS FOR THE YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES



The Chefs de Mission of the delegations due to take part in the 2026 Summer Youth Olympic Games were once again in Senegal for a meeting that featured several highlights: a presentation on the progress of the Games, a briefing on the organisation during the competition period, inspection tours to competition venues and the Olympic Village, and meetings with the Dakar 2026 teams.

This was part of a Chefs de Mission seminar, a key milestone ahead of Dakar 2026.

Combining strategy, coordination and commitment, the Chefs de Mission are the cornerstones of their delegations, playing a key role in athletes' experience and the success of the Games.

Coming from all five continents, the Chefs de Mission participated in practical discussions to better plan ahead, make final arrangements and ensure the best possible conditions for athletes.



IOC SATISFIED



The IOC made several inspection tours to assess work progress at competition venues. In 2025, for instance, the new IOC President, Kirsty COVENTRY, inspected sites in Dakar.

From Diamniadio to the small coastal town of Saly, IOC members visited the Diamniadio Equestrian Centre, the Me Abdoulaye Wade Stadium, the Dakar Arena Sports Centre, the Tour de l'Œuf Olympic Swimming Pool and the Iba Mar Diop Complex.

Speaking at a press conference, Christophe DUBI, the IOC Olympic Games Executive Director, said:

"***This is my twentieth visit to Dakar. It is extremely rare anywhere in the world to preserve sites as you have done here in Dakar, right in the city centre. With 219 days to go, we return with a sparkle in our eyes, fully confident in the quality of the work you have done, but most importantly, in our enthusiasm today. We are totally satisfied with what we have seen following our site inspection tour***."

Christophe RUBI was accompanied by the Chair of the IOC Coordination Commission, Mr Humphrey KAYANGE.

For the Local Organising Committee Chair, Mamadou Diagna NDIAYE, "***The completion rate of the works stands at 96-97%. You will have the opportunity to tour and confirm the beauty***."

Ibrahima WADE, General Coordinator of YOG Organising Committee (YOGOC), affirmed that:

"***Our sole role and responsibility as YOGOC 2026 is to provide the best possible conditions for the 2,700 athletes from around the world, ensuring that those arriving in this country enjoy the best possible conditions in terms of safety, accommodation and competition... to want to come back.***"

Now, we just have to do the final touches at the Olympic Village and the Equestrian Centre in Diamniadio. "***Apart from that, everything else will be completed by the end of April. Today, Dakar is ready in terms of infrastructure and everything else***," said Ibrahima WADE.

And Christophe DUBI concluded: "***Nothing is missing***!"



DAKAR 2026

TELLING STATISTICS







2,700 young athletes aged at most 18 will be based across the hubs in Dakar, Diamniadio and Saly, which will host competitions from 31 October to 13 November 2026.

On 10 September 2026, the Olympic flame will be lit in Athens, before arriving in Dakar on 12 September on a special flight and travelling across 14 regions of Senegal, carried by 2,000 torchbearers from Greece.

206 NOCs will participate in YOG. 8,000 volunteers have been mobilised. There are 35 sports on schedule, notably 25 competitive and 10 participatory disciplines, with a 50/50 gender parity.

Volunteers who will celebrate YOG medallists will wear unique designs created to accompany the most emotional moments of the Games and will showcase the richness of Senegalese craftsmanship.



YOG DAKAR 2026

ATHLETES PREPARE IN SENEGAL AND COTE D'IVOIRE



While NOC Senegal (CNOSS) awarded grants to athletes from various sports federations as part of preparations for YOG Dakar 2026, NOC Côte d'Ivoire (CNO-CIV) and the Ministry of Sports officially launched a training camp on Tuesday 7 April 2026, bringing together 150 athletes from 14 sports disciplines at the National Institute of Youth and Sports (INJS) in Marcory.

The initiative is the fourth in a series, following those held in February 2023, April 2024 and 2025. It is a key step in the talent identification and selection process for athletes who will represent Côte d'Ivoire at Dakar 2026.

Activities were organised in several venues, namely INJS, the Alassane Ouattara Olympic Stadium in Ebimbé and the Treichville Sports Park. The event concluded on 11 April 2026.


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DAKAR • 8 Nov. 2024
SALY • 9 Nov. 2024
DIAMNIADIO • 10 Nov.
DAKAR 2026
Festival DAKAR EN JEUX
DAKAR 2026
Festival DAKAR EN JEUX


DAKAR 2026
Festival DAKAR EN JEUX
7 au 10 Novembre 2024
DAKAR • SALY • DIAMNIADIO
NIGERIAN BASKETBALL
NIGERIAN BASKETBALL
NIGERIAN BASKETBALL
NIGERIAN BASKETBALL
SENEGAL 6
SENEGAL 9
SENEGAL 10
SENEGAL 22


ALGERIA
7
GAMBIA
4


JAKO
Journée Olympique
GUINEE


Academy
SENEGAL
JAMISON
33
SENEGAL
Festival
DAKAR
EN JEUX




SENEGAL
SENEGAL
SENEGAL
Festival
DAKAR
EN JEUX
3ème EDITION
1er PRIX
DAKAR
2026


NIGERIAN
BASKETBALL
NIGERIAN
BASKETBALL


Festival
DAKAR
EN JEUX


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