



**MOMENTOUS MEETING BETWEEN
THE IOC AND ANOCA, WITH CASOL
IN ATTENDANCE, WITH A VIEW TO
STRENGTHENING THE POSITION OF
AFRICAN SPORT GLOBALLY**





IOC President, Dr Thomas Bach, on 7 January 2025, met with the ANOCA President in Lausanne, Switzerland.

The Honourable Mustapha Berraf, who is also an IOC member, was accompanied by Hamad Kalkaba Malboum, President of NOC Cameroon, President of the Confederation of African Athletics (CAA) and President of the Association of African Olympic Sports Confederations (CASOL).



The meeting was followed by an hour-and-a-half-long working session in the IOC President's office, in the presence of both the Sports Director and Olympic Solidarity Director. Discussions focused on strengthening the position of African sport on the international stage, especially the issue of the African Games becoming a key qualifying event for the Olympic Games.

At the end of the meeting, Dr Thomas Bach expressed his ***“unconditional support for CASOL and his commitment to making this objective a reality at the Olympic Games Los Angeles 2028.”***

This decision is part of a global vision to promote Continental Games, not only in Africa, but also on other continents, notably Europe, Asia, the Americas and Oceania.

To implement this forward-looking project, a series of consultations will begin in February 2025. It will involve all the key stakeholders in order to put in place clear and effective mechanisms to achieve this goal.

The Lausanne meeting is a landmark moment, which demonstrates the commitment of the leaders of the African Olympic Movement to work with the IOC in making a reality of the aspirations of African athletes and helping them to participate more actively on the global Olympic stage.



Speaking after the meeting, the ANOCA President said:

“On behalf of the African Olympic and Sports Movement, I wish congratulate and express our sincere thanks to our great President, Dr Thomas Bach, for his vision, foresight and assistance. I wish to once again underscore that he has always worked for Peace and the welfare of our continent, and has been at the forefront of its progress for the general good. He has stood with us every step of the way and has never shied away from any opportunity to express his support and act in solidarity with the African continent. Once again, this aligns with that noble vision. Here in Lausanne we have, together, opened another historic chapter in our collaboration. The future looks promising for Africa’s youth. As leaders, we have the responsibility to do everything we can to lead the African Olympic and Sports Movement to the heights of performance on the world stage.”

This meeting marks a turning point for African sport, embodying a shared vision between the African continent and the global Olympic movement to promote sport as a development tool that brings people together.






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