



# ANOCA NEWSLETTER

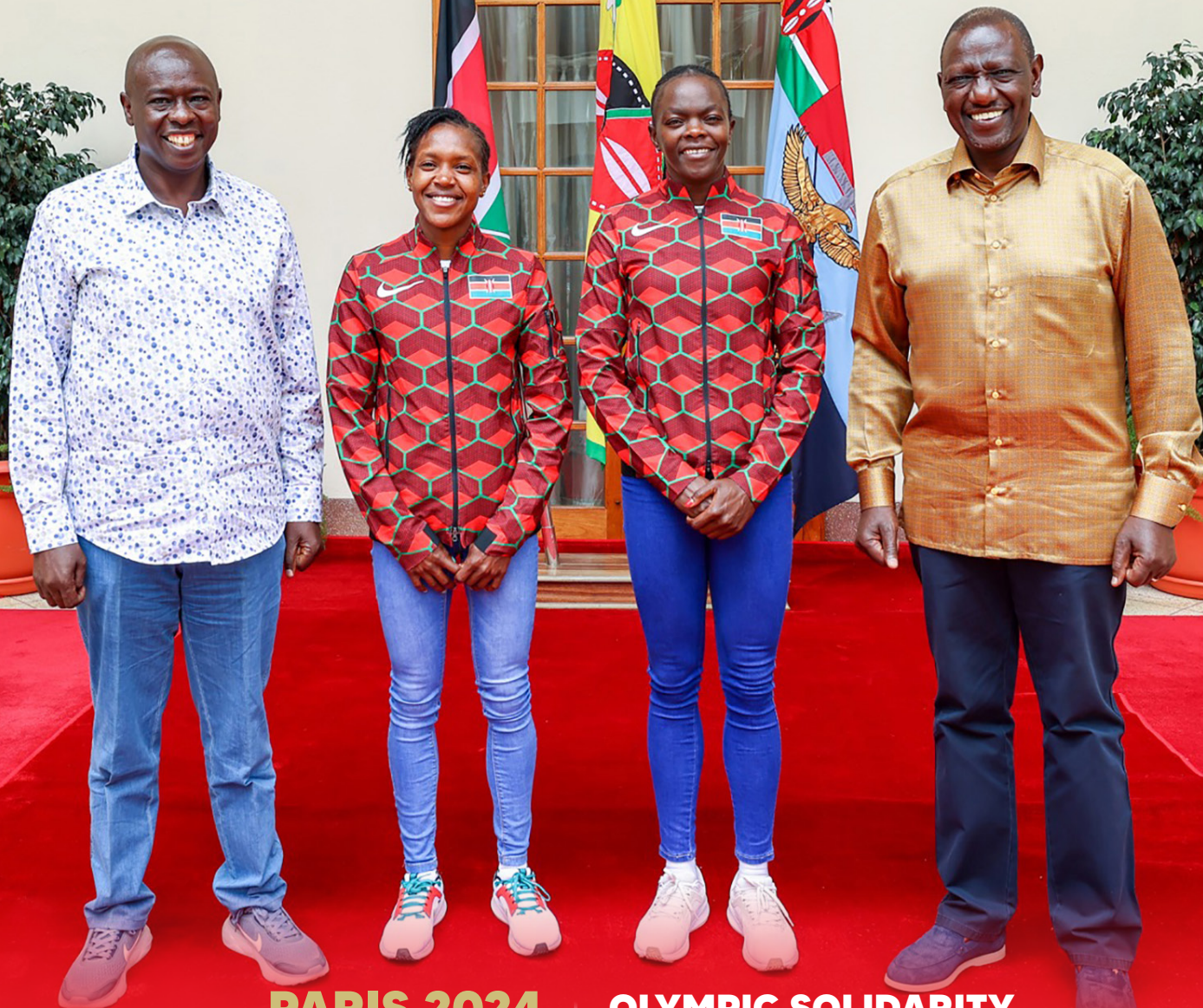


INTERNATIONAL  
OLYMPIC  
COMMITTEE

Sept. 2023

MONTHLY REVIEW OF AFRICAN OLYMPISM

## BUDAPEST FAVOURS AFRICAN ATHLETES



**PARIS 2024**  
TEAMING UP FOR A  
SUCCESSFUL PARTICIPATION

**OLYMPIC SOLIDARITY**  
FUNDS AFRICAN ATHLETES'  
PREPARATION





“ The focus is on the athletes who are the driving force of Africa’s performance and success at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. ”

## **PARIS 2024 TEAMING UP FOR A SUCCESSFUL PARTICIPATION**

**T**his should be the guiding principle of our common goal. We need to step up our preparations on all fronts. Nothing must be left to chance. The focus is on the athletes who are the driving force of Africa’s performance and success at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. We must provide them with the necessary resources, which are not only material but above all mental and spiritual.

This is why we must primarily preach a unifying and rallying message, so as to dispel any doubts in the minds of sportsmen and women and their coaches.

We should, in our minds, be prepared to embrace the Olympic values of solidarity, courage, self-sacrifice, fair play and peace.

It is only through this moral rectitude that we will make Paris 2024 our success.

We are committed to providing our athletes with more resources through Olympic scholarships. These resources will boost their preparations.

The qualifiers are underway and all stakeholders of the African Olympic and Sports Movement are already very much on board, highlighting the major achievements of athletes in the run-up to Paris 2024.

Thanks to the excellent preparations by the Paris 2024 Organising Committee, we can look forward to a new era of Olympic Games built on the Olympic Agenda from start to finish.

These Games will attract more young people, be more inclusive, urban, sustainable, and will respect gender parity, as announced by the IOC.

I commend the commitment and professionalism of all NOCs in supporting athletes and fostering Olympic values.

I also thank Olympic Solidarity for standing with the African Olympic and Sports Movement. Special thanks to my friend and brother, IOC President Dr Thomas Bach, who has always backed African sport.

With the success of the African Athletes' Forum, the success of the second African Beach Games and the sure success of the Gender Equality Forum in the coming days, this pre-Olympic year has been quite eventful and is conducive to an efficient and effective preparation that will help Africa stage an excellent performance at the 2024 Olympic Games.

Paris 2024 will undoubtedly afford a wonderful opportunity for Africa's Olympic voice to be heard at the world's biggest sports event.

Paris 2024 will be our success!

**Mustapha BERRAF**

IOC Member, ANOCA President



# **ATHLETES' COMMISSION HOSTS SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL WORKSHOP, CELEBRATES FIRST QUALIFIER FOR PARIS 2024 OLYMPIC GAMES**





**Athletes’ Commission Chairperson Richard Mulenga has described this workshop as a success and looks forward to more interactions with athletes at various levels.**



platform, and Mental Health in Sports Session delivered by Aers Global.

Thereafter, the Commission received reports from the athletes’ representatives from the national federations present before a ‘town hall’ format discussion was held to discuss various issues and concerns raised by the athletes.

NOCZ Secretary General Boniface Kambikambi and Board Member Rodrick Ndhlovu, who is also the Chef De Mission for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, were present at the Athletes’ Workshop.

It is also worth noting that a round of applause was observed for Boxer Patrick Chinyemba, who became Zambia’s first athlete to qualify for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games the night before the workshop after his gold medal-winning performance at the Road To Paris Boxing qualifying tournament in Dakar, Senegal.

Athletes’ Commission Chairperson Richard Mulenga has described this workshop as a success and looks forward to more interactions with athletes at various levels.

**The Athletes’ Commission of the National Olympic Committee of Zambia recently hosted its annual athletes’ workshop.**

**T**he workshop, attended by 40 participants from various affiliate national federations, witnessed a new workshop delivery format that included interactive presentations on the Olympic Values Education Programme, Athlete365



# PRESIDENT RUTO UNVEILS TEAM KENYA'S MAJOR PLANS FOR THE PARIS 2024 OLYMPIC GAMES

He explained how Kenya intends to conquer the world at next year's Olympic Games in order to restore its status as an athletics powerhouse.

**H**e pledged to ensure that his country regains its position as an athletics powerhouse by funding a three-month residential camp for Team Kenya ahead of the Paris 2024 Olympics. Kenya has always relied





**Winning medals starts with meticulous, intense, quality preparations.**



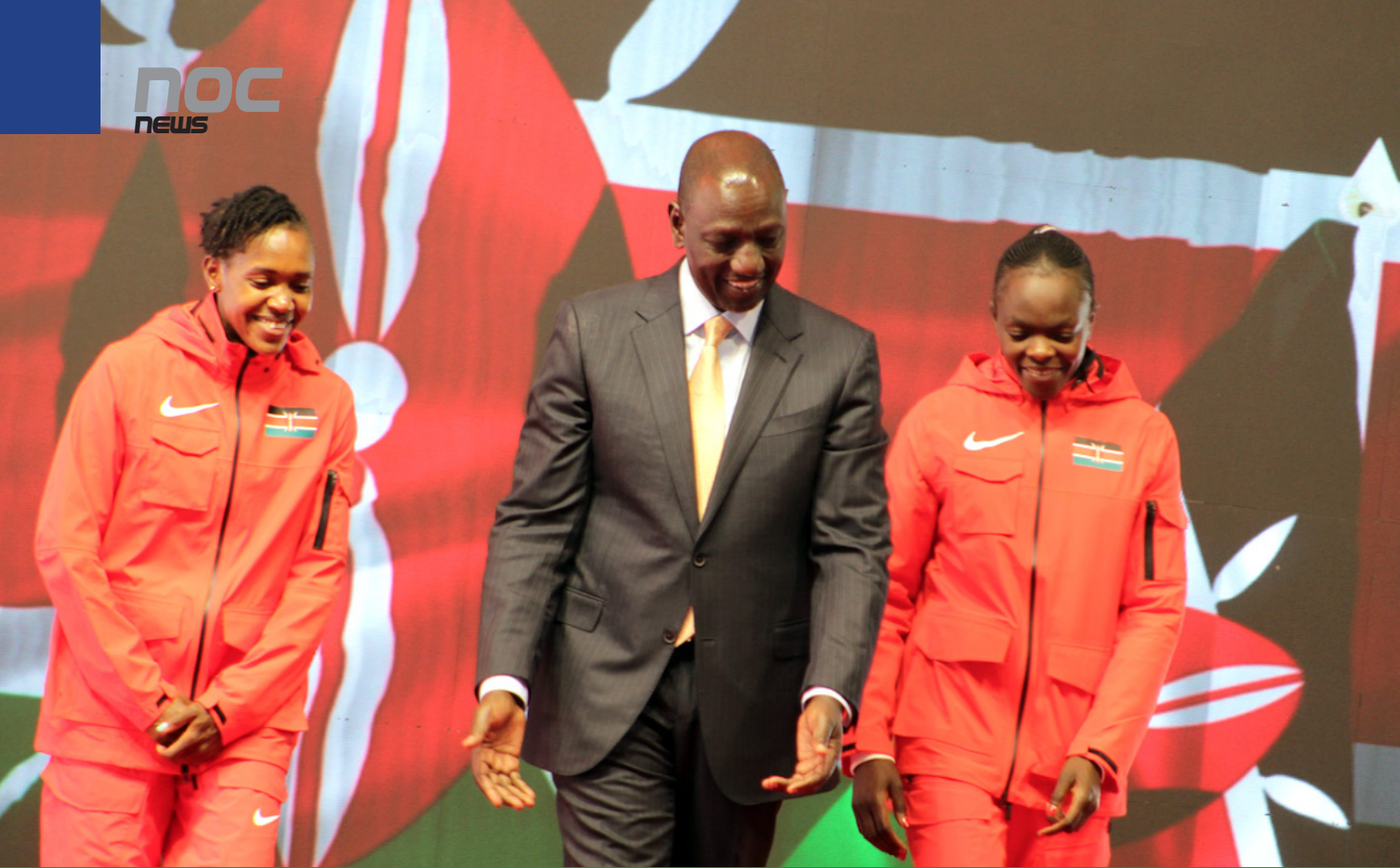
primarily on athletics for medals at the Olympics, with boxing being the only other sport where the country has won a medal since its first participation in the 1964 Games.

However, that happened last in 1988 through then men's middleweight bronze medallist Chris Sande and the government is keen to correct this going by President Ruto's sentiments. «*Winning medals starts with meticulous, intense, quality*

*preparations. For the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris, France, we will support a three-month residential training camp for the Kenyan team. This will restore our position as an athletics powerhouse in the world»*, the Head of State said via a social media post, after welcoming the 2023 World Athletics Championships gold medallists, Faith Kipyegon and Mary Moraa, at the State House in Nairobi.

The President is perhaps cognizant of the fact that the country seems to be losing its grip as an athletics powerhouse following what has been described as less-than-impressive outings recently. Kenya could only manage three gold medals at the recently-concluded World Athletics Championships in Budapest, Hungary with Kipyegon winning two (1,500m and 5,000m), while Moraa bagged the other (800m). The medal count could have been more than the three gold, as many silver and four bronze in Budapest, but Team Kenya lost both steeplechase races, failed to win a medal in the marathons, which is the country's bread and butter, as well as in the men's 1,500 m. It means the country will have to go back to the drawing board to right these wrongs before heading to Paris.

NOC-K has already secured state-of-the-art facilities in Miramas city in France, where Kenyan athletes will set up a pre-Olympic boot camp in the run-up to the Paris Games. Kenya won 10 medals (four gold, as many silver and two bronze) at the delayed 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games, which were postponed to 2021, and will be seeking to better that tally in the French capital.



# KENYA WIN AFRICA MEN'S SEVENS TO EARN PARIS 2024 RUGBY PLACE

**Kenya earned their place at the Paris 2024 Olympics by winning the Rugby Africa Men's Sevens 2023 at the Zimbabwean capital of Harare.**

**A** 17-12 win over pre-tournament favourites South Africa enabled Kenya to become the ninth men's team to confirm its participation in next year's Games.

They will now join France, New Zealand, Argentina, Fiji, Australia, Uruguay, Ireland and the United States as confirmed Olympic attendees.

The final three places will be decided via the Oceania and Asia qualification tournaments and the Olympic repechage tournament.

Kenya's coach Kevin Wambua told World Rugby he was always confident his team could make it to a third Olympic Games



after participating at the Rio 2016 and Tokyo 2020 editions.

Day one victories over Zambia, Namibia, and Nigeria enabled Kenya to top Pool B and reach the quarter-finals, where they beat Burkina Faso 26-0.

A 35-10 semi-final win over the hosts sent them through to meet a South African team that had shown ominous form by scoring 120 points and only conceding 14 en route to the final.

Helped by four tries from former Springbok winger Rosko Specman on his return to the international arena, South Africa defeated their opening opponents Ivory Coast and soon added further victories over Tunisia and Madagascar.

The Blitzboks easily accounted for Nigeria in the quarter-finals, winning 27-0, but they were made to work by Uganda for their place in the final before sealing a 26-14 win.

Kenya took an early lead in the final through Patrick Odongo but trailed 12-7 at the break after conceding tries from Selvyn Davids and Christie Grobbelaar.

Odongo scored again in the second half to level the scores before John Okoth scored the try that sent Kenya to the Olympics.

It was a huge fillip for them following the disappointment of missing out on SVNS qualification after being beaten by Canada in the final of the World Rugby Sevens Series 2024 play-off at Twickenham in May.

For South Africa and Uganda, who finished third after a 24-12 win over Zimbabwe in the bronze medal match, the dream of competing at the Olympics is not over as both have qualified for the Olympic repechage tournament.







**PARIS 2024**

# **SOUTH AFRICA SELECTS TRAINING BASES FOR ITS ATHLETES**

The South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee (SASCOC) has signed agreements to secure three training bases in the south cities of France: Montpellier, Sète and Millau. Training bases have therefore been made available to SASCOC.



**T**hese agreements will boost preparations by allowing athletes to access high-quality facilities for intensive training in the run-up to Paris 2024.

SASCOC President Barry Hendricks revealed that these three cities had provided his athletes with an «incredible opportunity.» He further stated that: *«This marks the first step towards establishing a positive, meaningful and long-lasting relationship with France. We are always open to signing agreements that will benefit our federations and athletes.*

*Agreements of this nature greatly contribute to preparing the athletes and support staff of Team SA for the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games and beyond.»*

These three cities boast facilities to train athletes in 23 Olympic and 7 Paralympic sports. SASCOC had signed similar agreements in preparation for previous Olympics.

SASCOC Chief Executive Nozipho Jafta stated that: *«We are extremely excited about this opportunity, with just over a year remaining until the Opening Ceremony of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, these agreements are vital to the success of our teams.»*



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## **BRACING FOR THE PARIS 2024 OGS**

# **SOUTH SUDAN QUALIFIES FOR PARIS 2024**

South Sudan, the youngest nation in the world, has booked its ticket for the Paris 2024 Men's Olympic Basketball Tournament.

**T**he country's national team won its qualification during the World Cup that took place in Indonesia, Japan and the Philippines by clinching the sole qualifying spot for Africa this 2023.





South Sudan secured their place at the Paris 2024 Games by beating 11-time African champions, Angola, 101-78.

Ranked 62nd in the world by FIBA, South Sudan is, according to FIBA statistics, the lowest-ranked team to qualify for a men's Olympic tournament since the 2004 Games in Athens.

As a reminder, South Sudan, which has been independent since 2011, made its debut at the London 2012 Olympic Games with its first athlete. However, it competed under the Olympic flag.

In 2016 in Rio, its delegation included three athletes, competing for the first time under the national colours and flag. Two other athletes took part at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

Luol Deng, President of the South Sudan Basketball Federation, is a former NBA player who featured for the Chicago Bulls, Miami Heat and Los Angeles Lakers. Expressing his satisfaction at South Sudan's historic qualification, he said that they will go to Paris with the conviction that they will do Africa proud.





# NOC SENEGAL AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS TO 18 ATHLETES

In view of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, CNOSS is awarding preparation scholarships to the best athletes under an agreement signed with ten sports federations.

**A** sum of CFA F 387 million 277,000 thousand has been earmarked for 18 athletes shortlisted for the period running from January 2023 to June 2024.

Beneficiaries of preparation scholarships will be hosted in major training centres around the world.

CNOSS President Diagna Ndiaye, has set himself the goal of helping athletes meet the expectations of the Sports Movement through their performances and to embody excellence at the Olympic Games.







CFA F 28 million was allocated for the first year and CFA F 129 million for the second. Of the 18 athletes, CNOSS has made the extra effort of adding €600 to the 8 scholarship holders already receiving the \$1,000 Olympic Solidarity grant for the 2021-2024 Olympiad. The remaining 10 who do not have Olympic scholarships will receive €1,000 per month.

The 18 athletes include François Mendy, the first Senegalese athlete to qualify for Paris 2024, Oumy Diop in swimming, Yacine Diaw in taekwondo, Mbagnick Ndiaye in judo, Steven Kilian Aimable in swimming, Ababacar Sadikh Soumaré in taekwondo, Abderahmane Diao in judo and Jean Thomas Saldou in skateboarding.





# Road to Paris Boxing Qualifiers

Eight quota places for the Paris 2024 Games were up for grabs in Dakar, Senegal, where Algeria held sway, obtaining 7 quota places out of the possible 18.





**Quota places for Paris 2024 awarded on 15 September 2023  
at the Road to Paris Qualifiers**

**Weight Category**

**Athletes**

- Women's <b>54 kg</b>	Widad Bertal ( <b>MAR</b> )
- Women's <b>54 kg</b>	Yomna Ayyad ( <b>EGY</b> )
- Women's <b>60 kg</b>	Hadjila Khelif ( <b>ALG</b> )
- Women's <b>60 kg</b>	Cynthia Ogunsemilore ( <b>NGR</b> )
- Women's <b>50 kg</b>	Roumaysa Boualam ( <b>ALG</b> )
- Women's <b>50 kg</b>	Yasmine Mouttaki ( <b>MAR</b> )
- Women's <b>57 kg</b>	Khouloud Hlimi Ep Moulahi ( <b>TUN</b> )
- Women's <b>57 kg</b>	Marcelat Sakobi Matshu ( <b>COD</b> )
- Women's <b>66 kg</b>	Imane Khelif ( <b>ALG</b> )
- Women's <b>66 kg</b>	Alcinda Lucas Dos Santos ( <b>MOZ</b> )
- Women's <b>75 kg</b>	Khadija Mardi ( <b>MAR</b> )
- Men's <b>57 kg</b>	Joshua Omole ( <b>NGR</b> )
- Men's <b>71 kg</b>	Elawad Elawady ( <b>EGY</b> )
- Men's <b>92 kg</b>	Adam Olaore ( <b>NGR</b> )
- Men's <b>51 kg</b>	Patrick Chinyemba ( <b>ZAM</b> )
- Men's <b>63.5 kg</b>	Jugurtha Ait Bekka ( <b>ALG</b> )
- Men's <b>80 kg</b>	Orabi Abdelgawwad ( <b>EGY</b> )
Men's <b>92 kg</b>	Mourad Kadi ( <b>ALG</b> )



## BUDAPEST FAVOURS AFRICAN ATHLETES

**Africa bagged 26 medals (9 Gold, 8 Silver and 9 Bronze) at the World Athletics Championships that took place from 19 to 27 August 2023 in Budapest, Hungary.**

**O**n the final day, Africa made a show in the men's marathon and the women's 800 metres, following the success of Uganda's Victor Kiplangat and 23-year-old Mary Moraa (Kenya), who clinched her first world title in the 800 metres.

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After Joshua Cheptegei’s triumph in the 10,000m, Uganda cheered yet another world hero to victory, Kiplangat, who broke away from his main rivals with 3km to go to take home the supreme title in 2h8min53 sec. Israeli Maru Teferi won silver and Ethiopia’s Leul Gebresilase won the bronze.

Africa was highly awaited in the men’s 5,000 m finals, but it was Norway’s Jakob Ingebrigtsen who won gold in 13:11.30, thus taking his revenge after he was beaten in the 1,500m finals by Kenya’s Jacob Krop, who won bronze in 13:12.28.

It was a disappointing performance in the women’s 3,000 m steeplechase for Africa, which actually had high. Kenyan-born Winfred Mutile Yavi of Bahrain stole the

show. She won the title in 8:54.29, the fifth-fastest time in history.

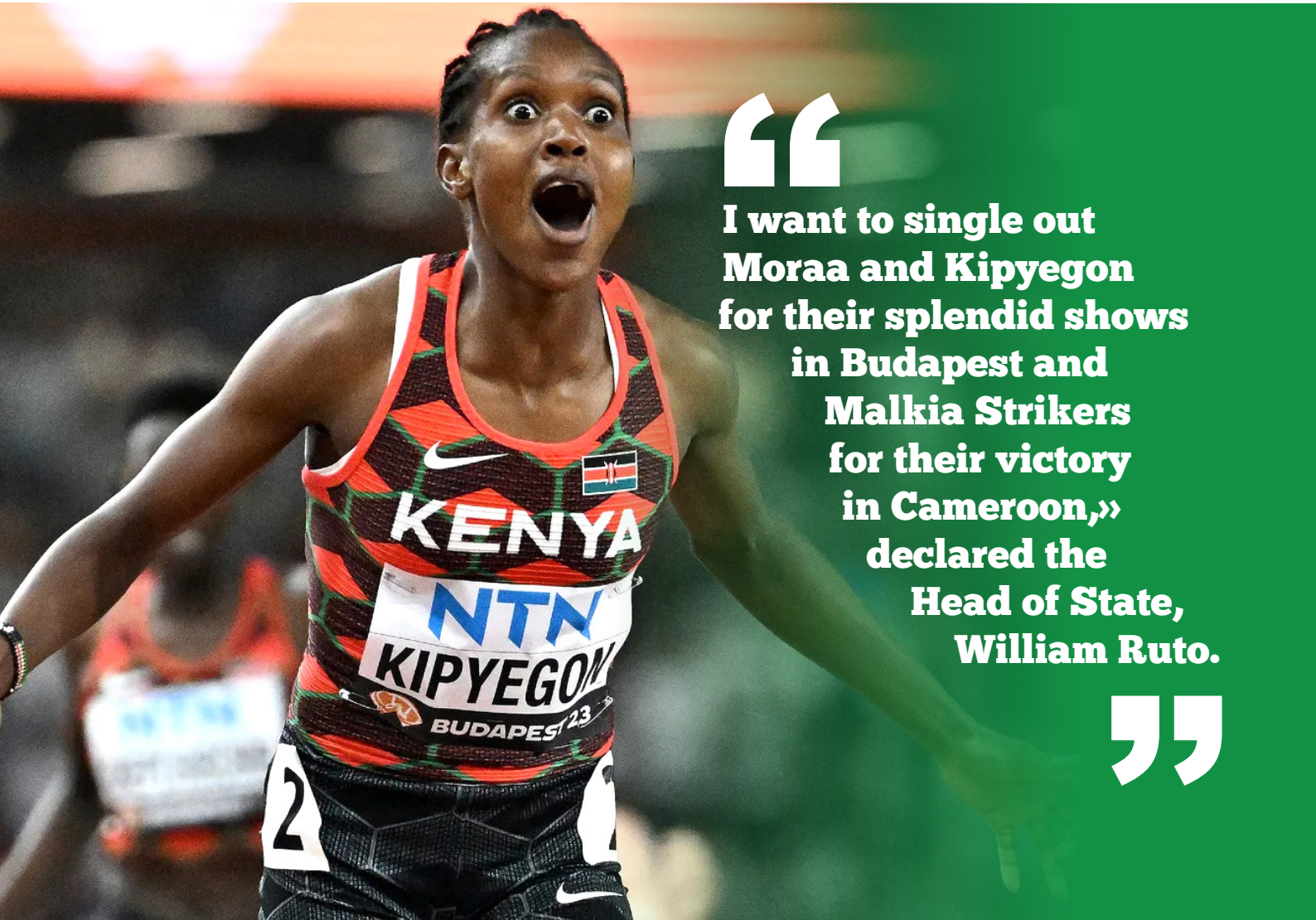
The United States largely stood atop the overall medal rankings at the World Athletics Championships with 12 gold medals, ahead of Canada with 4 gold medals. Africa came out shoulders high in the rankings, with Kenya and Ethiopia occupying the 5th and 6th places respectively. Four other African countries feature on the rankings: Uganda (2 Gold), Morocco (1 Gold), Burkina Faso (1 Gold) and Botswana (1 Silver).

## **KENYA**

# **Sh32 MILLION FOR STAR ATHLETES**

**F**riday, 1 September 2023 was a special day for Kenya's global stars. They were honoured at a ceremony that celebrated their outstanding performance

in their respective disciplines during international competitions, receiving a whopping sum of Sh32 million from the State. The main event was the inauguration of the 16-storey Talanta



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**I want to single out Moraa and Kipyegon for their splendid shows in Budapest and Malkia Strikers for their victory in Cameroon,»**

**declared the Head of State, William Ruto.**

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Plaza building, a ceremony presided at by the President of the Republic, William Ruto himself, who also deemed it necessary to reward the athletes on the occasion.

In return, world champions Faith Kipyegon and Mary Moraa thanked and commended the government for introducing this new cash reward scheme saying it will be an incentive for sportsmen and women as well as all team sports athletes to perform even better.

They also hailed *«the work done by the government in supervising the construction of Talanta Plaza until its completion, so that the country's sportsmen and women will finally have a home to call their own.»*

The «Talanta Plaza» building will officially house the Ministry of Sports, Culture and the Arts, the Sports Fund, and the NOC-K Headquarters.

The Sh32.34 million cash reward scheme introduced by President William Ruto is gifted to Kenyan teams and individual athletes who excelled in international competitions.

Moved by the gesture, one of the beneficiaries, the athlete Kipyegon declared: *«It's such a humbling gesture and a real motivation for myself and my colleague to work hard since there will be a reward awaiting us,»* said Kipyegon, who won both the 1,500m and 5,000m titles at the World Athletics Championships in Budapest, Hungary.

*«I am really grateful to the President,»* said Moraa, who upgraded her 800m bronze medal from Oregon, United States, to gold at the Budapest Championships.

Kenya won 10 medals in Budapest (three gold, three silver and four bronze). The African Women's Volleyball Champions, the Kenyan team that took part in the African Beach Games, and the team that competed in the Commonwealth Youth Games were all rewarded.

*«I want to single out Moraa and Kipyegon for their splendid shows in Budapest and Malkia Strikers for their victory in Cameroon,»* declared the Head of State, William Ruto.

All the medallists from various international competitions were honoured.

Several officials accompanied the President of the Republic, notably the Minister of Sports, Ababu Namwamba, the Council of Governors deputy chairman, Ahmed Abdullahi, who is also the Governor of Wajir, the Vice President of World Athletics, Jack Tuwei, who is also the Sports Fund chairman and the Kenya Athletics Federation president. President Ruto also honoured Tuwei for his election as a World Athletics Vice President and Aldrin Kibet, who was voted the most valuable football player during the just concluded secondary school games.

## AFRICA'S MEDAL HAUL IN BUDAPEST LIST OF MEDALS WON BY AFRICA IN BUDAPEST

### KENYA: 3 GOLD, 3 SILVER, 4 BRONZE

ATHLETE	SEX	DISCIPLINE	MEDAL
Mary MORAA	F	800 Metres	<b>GOLD</b>
Faith KIPYEGON	F	1,500 Metres	<b>GOLD</b>
Faith KIPYEGON	F	5,000 Metres	<b>GOLD</b>
Emmanuel WANYONYI	M	800 Metres	<b>SILVER</b>
Daniel Simiu EBENYO	M	10,000 Metres	<b>SILVER</b>
Beatrice CHEPKOECH	F	3,000 Metres Steeplechase	<b>SILVER</b>
Jacob KROP	M	5,000 Metres	<b>BRONZE</b>
Abraham KIBIWOT	M	3,000 Metres Steeplechase	<b>BRONZE</b>
Beatrice CHEBET	F	5,000 Metres	<b>BRONZE</b>
Faith CHEROTICH	F	3,000 Metres Steeplechase	<b>BRONZE</b>

### ETHIOPIA: 2 GOLD, 4 SILVER, 3 BRONZE

ATHLETE	SEX	DISCIPLINE	MEDAL
Gudaf TSEGAY	F	10,000 Metres	<b>GOLD</b>
Amane Beriso SHANKULE	F	Marathon	<b>GOLD</b>
Lamecha GIRMA	M	3000 Metres Steeplechase	<b>SILVER</b>
Diribe WELTEJI	F	1500 Metres	<b>SILVER</b>
Letesenbet GIDEY	F	10,000 Metres	<b>SILVER</b>
Gotytom GEBRESLASE	F	Marathon	<b>SILVER</b>
Selemon BAREGA	M	10,000 Metres	<b>BRONZE</b>
Leul GEBRESILASE	M	Marathon	<b>BRONZE</b>
Ejgayehu TAYE	F	10,000 Metres	<b>BRONZE</b>

### UGANDA: 2 GOLD

ATHLETE	SEX	DISCIPLINE	MEDAL
Joshua CHEPTEGEI	M	10,000 Metres	<b>GOLD</b>
Victor KIPLANGAT	M	Marathon	<b>GOLD</b>



**MOROCCO: 1 GOLD, 1 BRONZE**

ATHLETE	SEX	DISCIPLINE	MEDAL
Soufiane EL BAKKALI	M	3,000 Metres Steeplechase	<b>GOLD</b>
Fatima Ezzahra GARDADI	F	Marathon	<b>BRONZE</b>

**BURKINA FASO: 1 GOLD**

ATHLETE	SEX	DISCIPLINE	MEDAL
Hugues Fabrice ZANGO	M	Triple Jump	<b>GOLD</b>

**BOTSWANA: 1 SILVER, 1 BRONZE**

ATHLETE	SEX	DISCIPLINE	MEDAL
Letsile TEBOGO	M	100 Metres	<b>SILVER</b>
Letsile TEBOGO	M	200 Metres	<b>BRONZE</b>







# NOC CENTRAL AFRICA SUCCESSFULLY CELEBRATES OLYMPIC DAY 2023

**NOC CAR (CNOSCA) celebrated Olympic day from 19 to 24 June in partnership with the French Embassy in Bangui.**

**T**he event culminated in a 10km race for the general public on Saturday 24 June 2023, which ended at the Omnisport Stadium. At the

same time, other participants organised a lively walk accompanied by a brass band up to the Omnisport stadium. The walk was open to the sporting and non-sporting public and no registration was required. Emphasis was placed on inclusion and community spirit. All participants, both those who took part in the race and in the walk, received a commemorative T-shirt as well as a certificate of participation, attesting to their commitment and





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**The organisers encouraged athletes to sustain their efforts and proudly represent the Central African Republic at the forthcoming Paris 2024 Olympic Games.**

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contribution to this event. Upon arrival at the stadium, participants were treated to basketball demonstration matches organised by the Central African Basketball Federation. Professional athletes took an active part in the race, giving the event an elite-level competitive dimension. The Cycling Federation also organised a race up to the Stadium, showcasing the diversity of sports disciplines and the spirit of competition. The organisers encouraged athletes to sustain their efforts and proudly represent the Central African Republic at the forthcoming Paris 2024 Olympic Games. NOC Central Africa thanked the French Embassy for supporting its various initiatives. This has helped to consolidate ties between the two countries.



# THIES CELEBRATES OLYMPIC DAY

The commemoration was massively attended by youths who converged on the Maniang Soumare stadium in Thies on Saturday 23 June 2023.





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**Some 1,000 youths were targeted to take part in this edition of the Olympic Day.**  
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Some 1,000 youths were targeted to take part in this edition of the Olympic Day.

Ibrahima Wade, General Coordinator of the 2026 Youth Olympic Games Organising Committee (YOGOC), welcomed the large-scale mobilisation as well as youths, administrative and sports authorities, education stakeholders and artists, noting that: «*This mobilisation, which is beyond our expectations, shows that Thies is ready to play its part in the preparation, organisation and hosting of the 2026 Youth Olympic Games in Senegal.*» The celebration of Olympic Day in Thies is part of a series of sports activities ahead of the 2026 YOG.

After Medina Yoro Foulah, Pata, Adeane, Ziguinchor and Tambacounda, Thies and other divisions will be hosting these events.

**T**he event was marked by a hike through the city on the theme: “*Let’s move*”. Induction workshops and sports demonstrations were organised in 15 disciplines, as well as education workshops on the Olympic values of excellence, friendship and respect.

## **GENDER AND SAFEGUARDING IN SPORT**

# **NOC ZAMBIA AND NOWSPAR ORGANISE A WORKSHOP**

The Sports Development Centre, Zambia, hosted a capacity building workshop on gender and protection in sport on 28 and 29 July 2023.



# **ZAMBIA**



**A**n initiative of NOC Zambia (NOCZ) in collaboration with the National Organisation for Women in Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation (NOWSPAR). The workshop brought together various affiliated national federations and sports NGOs, all united to promote a more inclusive and peaceful sports environment.

According to Boniface Kambikambi, NOCZ Secretary General: *“The workshop*

*aimed to raise awareness by emphasizing the importance of safeguarding and promoting gender equality within the Zambian Sports Fraternity. Participants were equipped with essential knowledge to implement safeguarding and gender equality policies effectively. They are now expected to be better prepared to proactively address issues and uphold the highest standards of safety and inclusivity,”* he underscored.

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**The IOC’s «Believe In Sport» ambassador, Nchimunya Mweetwa, graced the deliberations, delivering «inspiring and motivating talks.**

**”**

The IOC’s «Believe In Sport» ambassador, Nchimunya Mweetwa, graced the deliberations, delivering «inspiring and motivating talks». NOCZ is committed to ensuring that sports associations and NGOs well-equipped to prevent and address issues of abuse, harassment and discrimination.



# AN OLYMPIC DAY AT THE OLYMPAFRICA CENTRE IN BENIN

**The Benin National Olympic and Sports Committee (CNOSB) organised a series of activities on 7 and 8 July 2023, in Dangbo, to commemorate Olympic Day 2023.**

**C**NOSB President Julien Minavao, and Mayor Maoudo Djossou, visited the second Benin Olympafrica Centre construction site

at Akpame in the Hoin Sub-division of the Dangbo municipality to monitor the progress of construction work.

A progress report was presented to the audience by the project manager, Migan Paul, who indicated that the multi-purpose hall has already been constructed. The building is intended to house the administrative staff, host meetings and even combat sports. The cultural hall, toilets, equipment room and the store have already been built.

Similarly, construction of sports facilities, including the football pitch and the

multi-purpose handball, basketball and volleyball courts, is well underway. Also the construction of the playground, which has become a clay tennis court where Badminton can be played, is also very much in progress. President Julien Minavao, said he was proud of the work that had been done so far, and appealed to all the sons and daughters of the locality to make the Centre a common asset to be used and maintained in accordance with laid down rules. He said: «*This centre*

*is a global reference and will play a vital role in yielding benefits for physical and sports activities, not forgetting the philosophy and education of Olympism.»*

A huge sport walk that brought together the entire population of Dangbo, led by Mayor Maoudo Djossou and CNOSB President Julien Minavao, was also organised.

All participants in this walk received a certificate of participation signed by the CNOSB and IOC Presidents. The last day featured several other events, including football, traditional dances, pétanque, Belotte, Ludo, Teqball and Break dance.





**WORLD ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS BUDAPEST 23**

## **OLYMPIC SOLIDARITY FUNDS AFRICAN ATHLETES' PREPARATION**

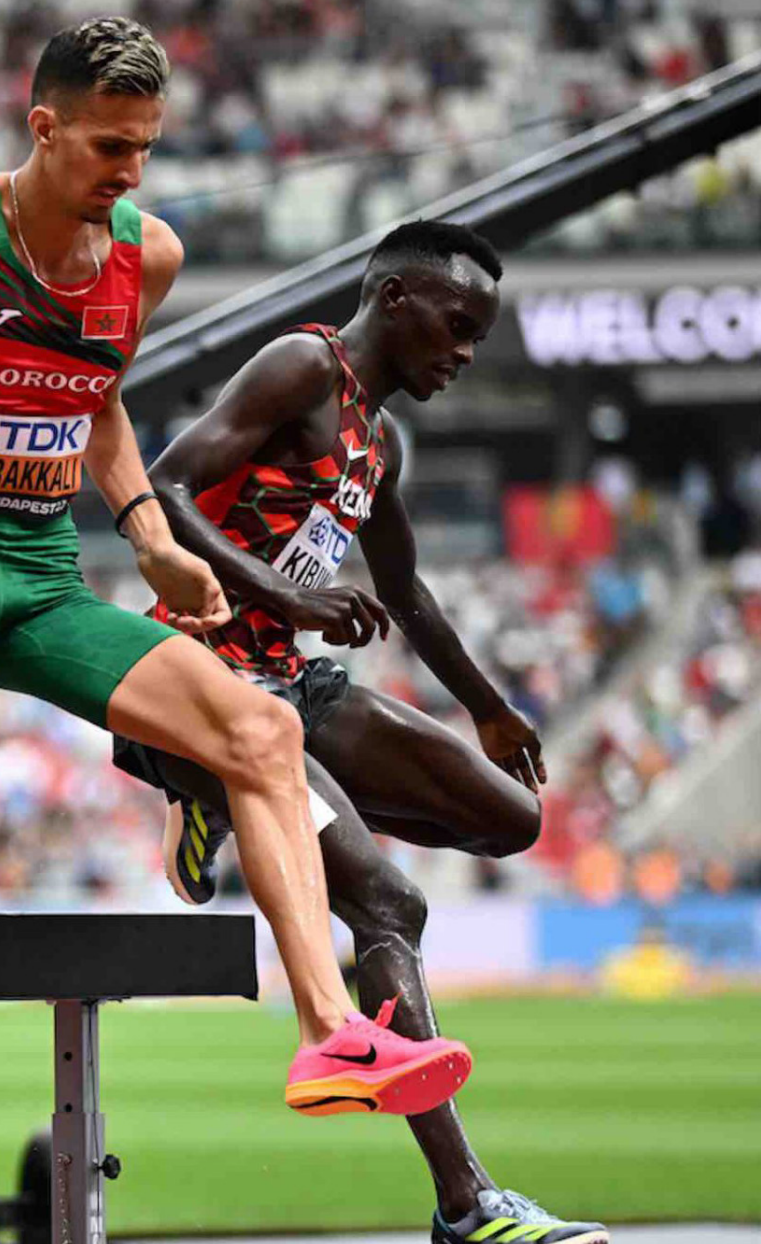
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boxers, swimmers, sprinters and judokas, all scholarship holders from Niger, Congo, the CAR, Guinea Conakry and Guinea Bissau are preparing in France, in the hope of qualifying

for the Paris Games where they will be representing their respective home countries.

Preparations are based on a unique scheme run by France at the Youth and Sports Centre (CRJS) in the town of Petit-Couronne, Normandy Region.





**Preparation expenses are borne entirely by the IOC. Athletes also receive the social support that could help them find their bearings.**



Moussa, a beneficiary from Niger, said: *«I run 400m. I came here to prepare and to qualify for the Olympic Games. What do I have here that I lack in my country? Training facilities...»*

The Guinean athletics competitor Aissata Deen Conté, 21, specialist in the 60m, 100m and 200m races, praised these facilities: *«We do not have an athletics track back home, we run on bare ground. This is not the case here, as we have all we need to improve: a club, equipment and trainers.»*

African scholarship holders are given a resident permit, referred to as a *«talent passport»*, a vital pass that will enable them to shuttle between competition venues in Africa and in France.

Olympic Solidarity is an IOC programme that lends support to athletes preparing for Olympic Games, with about 200 centres across the world used to this end.

In France, however, only one centre, the CRJS, is used. On athlete care, CRJS Director Christophe Cornilleau, said: *«We accommodate, feed, train, clothe and treat them...all our services are put at their disposal.»*

Preparation expenses are borne entirely by the IOC. Athletes also receive the social support that could help them find their bearings. African scholarship holders like



## DAKAR 2026 UNVEILS PLANS FOR THE SECOND EDITION OF DAKAR EN JEUX FESTIVAL

The second edition of the Dakar en Jeux Festival will take place between 31 October and 4 November 2023, the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games Organising Committee (YOGOC) announced today. The event will include sports initiations and demonstrations, concerts and various cultural programmes.

The second edition of the festival will take place over five days, and is expected to attract 30,000 spectators, 2,000 athletes to take part and 200 volunteers to help make the festivities happen.

Kirsty Coventry the Chair of the IOC Coordination Commission for Dakar 2026, said: «After the amazing success of the inaugural edition in 2022, Dakar



*is gearing up for another incredible celebration and lots of excitement, as we look forward to the Youth Olympic Games in 2026. The festival isn't just about showcasing sports; it's also about embracing the values of the Youth Olympic Games and building bridges between communities. People will have the opportunity to witness incredible talents, experience the thrill of competition, and connect with like-minded individuals who share their passion for sports and cultural enrichment.»*

Dakar en Jeux is set to kick off with an opening ceremony held at the iconic Renaissance Monument in Dakar. In addition to concerts and performances, all 14 regions of Senegal will come together, showcasing their unique dances and traditional clothing. An urban sports day will also take place, offering a wide range of opportunities to discover sports like rollerblading, skateboarding, BMX and many more.

Schools across Senegal, in Tambacounda, Kolda and Ziguinchor, will welcome the «*Brevet Olympique Civique et Sportif*», a project aiming to promote sports and Olympic values to 2,000 children.

The city of Diamniadio will also be celebrating as it will transform into a bustling hub of athletic and futsal events where skilled athletes will demonstrate their talents on the playing field. The city will pulse with youthful energy, as young artists captivate the audience with their creativity and passion during a series of concerts.



## **Dakar en Jeux is set to kick off with an opening ceremony held at the iconic Renaissance Monument in Dakar.**



In the meantime, Saly will draw attention to a range of beach sports, including wrestling and beach volleyball, as well as other sports at Obama Beach. The city will conclude celebrations with a closing ceremony, combining music and dance performances.

In 2022, more than 1,500 athletes took part in 26 sports initiations and demonstrations over eight days. Alongside sporting elements, around thirty artists performed at numerous concerts and cultural activities. In total, tens of thousands of people attended the festivities in Dakar, Diamniadio and Saly, kicking off a series that will take place every year until the YOG in 2026.

The festival, organised for, by and with young people, is delivered by the Dakar 2026 YOGOC in partnership with the CNOSS, the City of Dakar, the cities of Saly and Diamniadio, the Government of Senegal and the IOC.



# 2<sup>ND</sup> ANOCA GENDER EQUALITY FORUM



02 OCT.  
03 2023

SAL ISLAND  
*Cape Verde*



## SPORT, WOMEN AND GENDER EQUALITY.



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