



ACNOA NEWSLETTER



INTERNATIONAL
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COMMITTEE

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MONTHLY REVIEW OF AFRICAN OLYMPISM



BOTSWANA NOC ORGANISES GENDER EQUALITY CONFERENCE

▶ **ANOCA ZONE VI
ATHLETES FORUM
HERALDS NEW DAWN**

▶ **YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES
DAKAR REVIEWS
PREPARATIONS**



NOC TOGO ORGANISES CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR JOURNALISTS



NOC Togo (CNO-Togo), with the support of Olympic Solidarity, organised a training workshop for journalists on 18 and 19 April 2024 in Lome, to discuss ways of ensuring professional media coverage of Olympic events in Togo.

Over two days, some 50 journalists received training on Olympism and its values a few weeks to the Olympic

Games Paris 2024. While opening the deliberations, the President of CNO-Togo, Deladem Akpaki, stated:

The media professionals reviewed Olympic requirements and rules while upskilling their knowledge to better cover the Paris 2024 OG.

They were also drilled on the new CNO-Togo instruments approved by the IOC.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA ORGANISES FIRST-EVER ATHLETES' FORUM





At the initiative of the National Athletes' Commission of Equatorial Guinea, the first-ever Athletes' Forum took place on 4 May 2024 in Malabo, the country's capital city.

It brought together some 90 athletes from various Olympic and non-Olympic sports federations and associations recognised by NOC Equatorial Guinea (COGE) and the Ministry of Education, Sciences and Sports, at the Spor Club.

It was attended by COGE President, Alejandro Martin Owono Evuna Andeme, COGE Secretary General, Maria Obono Edu Andeme, and staff of the Ministry of Sports, led by the Inspector General of Sports.

The Forum was also graced by great athletes such Juanmicha Obiang (football), Eric Musambani Molomgua (swimming), and Genoveva Ayongman (football), who shared their personal experiences of active sport with athletes.

At the end of the Forum, the COGE President encouraged “all sports and Olympic and non-Olympic athletes to continue to leave their imprint. I pledge to do my utmost, together with my Olympic Committee team and the National Athletes Commission, to support sport and its athletes.”





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BOTSWANA NOC ORGANISES GENDER EQUALITY CONFERENCE



The conference took place on 10 and 11 May 2024 in Gaborone on the theme, "From Boardroom to Playing Field - Embracing a Gender Equality and Inclusion Mindset."



The official opening ceremony was presided at by the Minister of Youth, Gender, Sport and Culture, Honourable Tumiso Rakgare, and also featured a welcome address delivered by the President of NOC Botswana (BNOC), Col. Botsang Tshenyego and a message from Honourable Mustapha Berraf, ANOCA President and IOC member.

The conference targeted the following objectives:

- Drawing focus on adopted ANOCA Gender Equality Plan and highlighting the achievements of Botswana women in various sectors: leadership, technical and participation;
- Evaluating how far Botswana is from realising the goal of the IOC of the first 50/50 Games;
- Ensuring alignment of all Gender Equality Plans with IOC GE objectives;
- Emphasising the importance of achieving IOC's minimum target of 30% representation of women on boards and at all decision-making tables in the lead up to the many NF/ NOC elections;
- Create understanding around gender equality being a topic that men and women need to work on together, for the benefit of both genders;
- Zooming in on the portrayal of sportsmen and women;



ality,
Diversity.



Gender Equality,
Inclusion & Diversity.





Emphasising the importance of achieving IOC's minimum target of 30% representation of women on boards and at all decision-making tables in the lead up to the many NF/NOC elections.

- Raising awareness of safeguarding in sport for increased participation of women and young girls.

Per the terms of reference of the conference, BNOA is responsible for promoting the development of elite sport and upholding both Olympic and Commonwealth ideals in Botswana by providing administrative and technical support to NFs and teams. In furtherance of this mandate, BNOA established a Gender Equality, Inclusion and Diversity Commission as a subcommittee of the Board, to provide expert insight and advice on matters relating to gender equality, inclusivity and diversity in sport. One of the primary goals of the Commission is to educate and share knowledge through a variety of forums, such as gender equality conferences.

The maiden BNOC Gender Equality Conference sought to bring together key decision-makers within Botswana sport to discuss how to guide sports leaders, federations and media on a more gender balanced and inclusive approach in all scopes of their work.





The Conference highlighted the importance of gender equal representation in sports participation, leadership, portrayal resource allocation, and how men and women should be working together to drive the envisaged change and for increased participation to ensure safeguarding in all sports.



ANOCA ZONE VI ATHLETES FORUM HERALDS NEW DAWN





The ANOCA Zone VI Athletes' Forum that held in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, on 12 and 13 April 2024 brought together representatives of 10 countries of Southern Africa and 20 Athletes' Commission Chairs and Vice Chairs.

While opening the event, Alfred Foloko, ANOCA Zone VI President:

“Expressed the hope that the Forum will serve as a catalyst for positive change, fostering an environment where athletes can flourish, where their voices can be heard, and where their rights and welfare are safeguarded. According to him, it is only together, that the region will forge a brighter future towards sport, and become one that celebrates excellence, promotes inclusion and inspires future generations”.

The focus was on several key themes: ensuring minimum compliance of Athletes' Commissions, implementing athletes' declarations and highlighting the importance of communication, relationship building and strategic planning in sports governance.

Speakers addressed the need for robust compliance mechanisms within Athletes' Commissions to safeguard athletes' rights and interests.

A prominent attendee was Honourable Kirsty Coventry, Zimbabwe's Minister of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture, who delivered the keynote address on the first day of the Forum. For President Alfred Foloko:







“It is but fitting to have the first ANOCA Zone VI Athletes’ Forum in Zimbabwe, home to the most decorated African Olympian. Our esteemed guest of honour, Honourable Kirsty Coventry, has participated in five Olympic Games, a two-time Olympic champion. Her remarkable achievements and her previous role as Chairperson of the International Olympic Committee’s Athletes’ Commission speak volumes about her understanding of the

challenges and aspirations of athletes of our region.”

Discussions also centred on the effective implementation of athletes’ declarations to promote integrity and fairness in sport.

Furthermore, the significance of fostering open communication channels and building strong relationships between stakeholders was emphasised as



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Commission at the forum organised and funded by Olympic Solidarity, ANOCA, and the Zimbabwe Olympic Committee. Asimenye is the Vice Chair of the Malawi Athletes' Commission.

essential for driving positive change in the sports community.

The forum was moderated by the ANOCA Athletes' Commission Chair, Gaby Ahrens, and the ANOCA ZONE VI athletes' representative and member of the ANOCA Athletes' Commission, Khotso Mokoena from South Africa.

Short-distance runner Asimenye Simwaka represented the Malawi Athletes'



ANOCA PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

“WE MUST AVOID THE DANGERS OF AN IMBALANCE BETWEEN THE QUEST FOR EXCELLENCE AND PREPARING A PROFESSIONAL CAREER FOR OUR ATHLETES WHO ARE ALSO EXPOSED TO THE DANGERS OF DOPING AND TALENT DRAIN.”

Address by the ANOCA President, Honourable Mustapha BERRAF at the opening ceremony of the Zone VI Athletes' Forum.

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I welcome you most heartily to Victoria Falls.

I wish to thank the authorities of Zimbabwe at the highest level, the President of the Republic, His Excellency Emmerson MNANGAGWA, for the wonderful welcome and the exceptional fraternal hospitality extended to all the delegations of athletes and officials.

I also wish to thank the people of Zimbabwe who, with love and cordiality, are welcoming the entire family of the Olympic and sports movement from Zone 6 in particular, Africa and the rest of the world in general.

I would also like to congratulate and thank the Minister of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture, our very own Kirsty Coventry, whose career as a former athlete and champion will help irradiate this forum in two key areas: bringing experience in sports governance and sharing experiences with athletes.

I am deeply honoured to be in your midst, and above all, to be witnessing these defining moments in the run up to the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, which are barely a few months away.

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to congratulate all the NOCs of Zone 6 on your willingness to build a better world of sport for our athletes.

We thus recognise your role. NOC Athletes' Commissions are the ideal bridge with the athletes, and their work is in line with Olympic agenda 2020. As you have stated, the athlete's voice is at the heart of Olympic Movement decisions. The Athletes' Commissions will need to be bolstered with the sort of infrastructure that can help them respond to the many needs and challenges that hamper athletes' development.

Athlete365, for instance, is a wonderful opportunity that needs to be seized and embraced effectively.

The roles and responsibilities of the Athletes' Commission are to improve, promote and further develop sport in Africa, especially athlete development and support. ANOCA believes that these deliberations will give more meaning to what has been done to date.

Once more, we wish to point out that this agenda is part of the ANOCA 2020-2024 strategic plan, which puts the athlete at the centre of everything we do. Our strategic plan works for sport and Olympism. We need to provide athletes with all it takes to reach the pinnacle of elite sport.

We thus need to reflect on the management of athletes' careers, their post-career and socio-professional lives. We need to organise and devise with them strategies that are specific to their needs and requirements.

We must avoid the dangers of an imbalance between the quest for excellence and preparing a professional

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career for our athletes who are also exposed to the dangers of doping and talent drain.

Africa has gained fame through the exceptional performances of her athletes, while at the same time displaying the intrinsic African values of dignity. That

is why our deliberations will also lay particular emphasis on promoting African ethics in the minds of sports leaders and above all the athletes, who are the main targets, and who shape our Olympic and sports movement on a daily basis.

The aim is to plan better care for athletes on the continent by developing a suitable framework for monitoring and implementing support measures for African athletes, especially those in Zone 6.

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to congratulate the IOC's Olympic Solidarity, which is stepping up support for African athletes with Olympic scholarships that are a real breath of fresh air for athletes, combined with specific training.

We would like to thank the IOC mission, which is doing exceptional and historic work in Zone 6.

ANOCA is delighted and proud of this support, which strengthens the continental mechanism set up by the African Olympic and Sports Movement.

I would like to thank the IOC President, my friend Dr Thomas BACH, for his commitment to supporting African athletes, and I urge him to keep up with this action, which smacks of dignity, peace and solidarity.

This forum establishes a strong link between the IOC Athletes' Commission and the Athletes' Commissions of Zone 6 associations.

**Distinguished guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Our athletes will in the coming days be taking part in the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. They will have to perform well and demonstrate Africa's level of progress.

ANOCA and Olympic Solidarity scholarships granted to our athletes help build their capacities and offer them opportunities to prepare in optimal conditions.

This Forum aims to thread a common fine line for all training and coaching activities for African athletes and, above all, mobilise resources for athletes who are called upon to take part in major African and world sports competitions, so that they can keep the African Olympic flame burning the world over. It also seeks to preserve the integrity of the athlete.

By sharing our experiences, we can work together to create a better future for African athletes.

The recommendations and resolutions that will ensue from our discussions during this Forum should guide us all on an even better path.

Long live Olympism! Long live the athletes! Long live the youth of Africa! Long live African Olympism!

I wish you success in your deliberations, thank you.

Mustapha BERRAF
IOC Member
President of ANOCA

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CAMEROON ORGANISES FIRST-EVER NATIONAL ATHLETES' FORUM





The event took place on 21 and 22 February 2023, two days during which 75 athletes' representatives from various national sports federations shared and discussed their day-to-day problems.

At the end of it all, the athletes adopted a statement on their rights and obligations, proposed solutions for talents drain and guidelines for the Status of Elite Athletes.

These bore the voice of athletes and will be forwarded to the relevant authorities.

Athletes voiced satisfaction with the conduct of activities, while expressing the wish that such events be held more frequently so that they can better develop and express themselves.

The organisation was overseen by the President of the Cameroon National Olympic and Sports Committee (CNOSC), Colonel Hamad Kalkaba Malboum.







FENCING • AFRICA ZONE OLYMPIC QUALIFIERS

FULL RESULTS WITH LIST OF QUOTAS OBTAINED

Six individual quotas for fencing at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games were up for grabs in Algiers on Saturday, 27 April 2024.



The Algerian capital hosted the African Zone Olympic Qualifiers, the last opportunity for African fencers to obtain a quota for the next Olympic Games. Only the winner in each of the fencing disciplines stood a chance of seeing the Grand Palais. After many intense duels, six athletes finished at the top of the podium.

While women, Ndeye Binta Diongue (SENEGAL), Youssra Zakarani (MOROCCO) and Yasmine Daghfous (TUNISIA), have each had the privilege of winning an Olympic quota in the past, it was a first for winners of the men's event: Harry Saner (SOUTH AFRICA), Jeremy Fafa Keryhuel (CÔTE D'IVOIRE) and Evann Jean Abba Girault (NIGER). For the latter two, it was an historic performance. Never before has a male athlete representing Côte d'Ivoire or Niger taken part in fencing at the Olympic Games. It was also unprecedented (both men and women) for fencing in Niger.

Given that it behoves the NOCs to determine who will represent their country at the Olympic Games, each athlete's participation in the Paris 2024 Games will be decided by NOCs. They will thus be the ones to select their respective national delegations for the upcoming Games.

Following is the complete list of quotas obtained in each discipline at the Africa Zone Olympic Qualifiers.

Women's epee: **Ndeye Binta Diongue (SENEGAL)**

Men's epee: **Harry Saner (REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA)**

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Women's foil: **Youssra Zakarani (MOROCCO)**

Men's foil: **Jeremy Fafa Keryhuel (CÔTE D'IVOIRE)**

Sabre women: **Yasmine Daghfous (TUNISIA)**

Sabre men: **Evann Jean Abba Girault (NIGER).**



NOC ZAMBIA HONOURS TWO FORMER PRESIDENTS

NOC ZAMBIA (NOCZ) has decided to confer honorary life membership on its former Presidents, Patrick Chamunda, posthumously, and Miriam Moyo, for their contributions to the Zambian sports landscape, particularly the Olympic and Commonwealth Sports Movements.

The announcement was made during the 2023 Annual General Assembly meeting held on Saturday 20 April 2024 at the

OYDC Zambia - Sports Development Centre in Lusaka.

Citing Article 10 (10.2.3) of the NOCZ Constitution, NOCZ President, Alfred Foloko said stated that “...*Honorary membership (non-voting) membership may be conferred on individuals by the General Assembly upon recommendation of the Executive Board, provided that: Not more than two Honorary Members shall be conferred in one year. With the given notice to the General Assembly*

“
Welcomed the recommendation and proposed that it should be supported by all members of the NOC.

Meeting, in 14 days' time, we will proceed with conferring life member on Mr Patrick Chamunda (posthumously) and Mrs Mirriam Moyo.”

In reaction to this, the President of the Zambia Taekwondo Federation, Likando Nangonde, welcomed the recommendation and proposed that it should be supported by all members of the NOC, highlighting the influence that someone like late Chamunda had on the introduction of taekwondo in Zambia.

Taking the cue, Zambia Athletics President, Elias Mpondela added that the contributions of late Chamunda and former NOCZ President, Moyo to the Zambian sports landscape and its development were to be applauded and

that the recommendation to confer NOCZ life membership on them was welcome.

Late Patrick Chamunda served NOCZ for 28 years in various capacities on the Executive Board, first as Treasurer (1977-1981), then as Vice President (1981-1992) and President (1992-2005).

In 2012, the Zambian government awarded him the Grand Order of Distinguished Service for his services to sport. In 2015, the IOC decorated him with the Olympic Order for his contribution to sport and the Olympic Movement, particularly in recognition of his efforts in establishing the Olympic Youth Development Centre, now known as the OYDC Zambia - Sport Development Centre in Lusaka, Zambia.

Chamunda served the Olympic Movement as an IOC member between 2002 and 2015. He was subsequently elected IOC honorary member from 2016 until his demise in 2022.

For her part, Miriam Moyo, who was recently awarded Honorary Life Membership by the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) at the CGF General Assembly in Singapore in 2023, served the NOC in various capacities as member, Treasurer, Secretary General and Vice President before being elected President in 2005, a position she held until 2017.

From 2014 to 2023, Mrs Moyo was CGF Regional Vice President for Africa until her retirement. Her involvement with the CGF dates back to 2008, when she was co-opted onto the Sports Committee.



CÔTE D'IVOIRE BRACES FOR THE YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES DAKAR 2026

The 2nd training camp for Ivorian athletes ended on 6 April 2024 at the National Institute of Youth and Sports (INJS) in Marcory.

The event, which was organised by NOC Côte d'Ivoire (CNO-CIV) began on 27 March. 74 athletes and 24 coaches from 12 federations participated in training sessions.

The closing ceremony was attended by Business Lawyer Barrister Georges N'goan, CNO-CIV President, Habib Sanogo, INJS Director General, and Adama Doumbia, Technical Adviser to the Minister Delegate to the Prime



Minister, Minister for Sport and the Living Environment.

Speaking on the occasion, Barrister Georges N'goan, CNO-CIV President, pointed out that:

“To prepare athletes for a competition, you need financial resources. We’re delighted that the Minister’s representative is here. We have prepared a project for the Ministry because the various children’s competitions need to be financed until 2026, which will enable them to qualify and compete in the Games. Because we really don’t only want our athletes to be invited, we want them to qualify. This is the first concern we wanted to share with you. And as far as the National Olympic Committee and the federations are concerned, we are striving to ensure that our athletes qualify for the Olympic Games in Dakar. Because the Dakar Games will be the first time the Olympics are held on African soil. What’s more, it’s not far from our country. There’s no reason for us to go with only 4 or 5 athletes. We need to see Dakar swarming with Ivorian athletes.”

Côte d’Ivoire seeks to participate in at least 25 disciplines in Dakar with a large number of athletes. The first camp, a training seminar for coaches, ran from 11 to 19 February 2023. This second, also involved a coach training seminar with 4 sessions, medical tests and training sessions with evaluation tests. According to CNO-CIV, the next stage will include physical preparation to enable young athletes participate in continental and international competitions and qualify for these Games.

This second camp focused on athletics, badminton, boxing, fencing, golf, gymnastics, judo, taekwondo, tennis and table tennis.



YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES

DAKAR REVIEWS PREPARATIONS

With barely over 30 months to the competition, the country is taking stock of the strategic sectors and the sports infrastructure and facilities that will host the Games. This will be the very first Olympic event ever organised in Africa. On 2 February

2024, the symbolic milestone of D-1000 was celebrated by the host city of the 4th Youth Olympic Games, Dakar.

The Youth Olympic Games Organising Committee (YOGOC) has outlined a number of areas for improved Games organisation, including communication,



which is one of the many challenges faced. The city of Dakar still has a lot of work to do, despite its major construction projects. The Dakar 2026 YOGOC is entering the last lap in finalising the playing grounds, which will host 3,306 young athletes and 250 events in over 40 disciplines.

Abdou DIAW, YOGOC Director of Operations, points out that:

“Since the bid phase, Senegal has chosen not to build large-scale new infrastructure, but to focus on moderation, realism and, above all, efficiency. The emphasis has been on using existing, unconventional infrastructure. We couldn’t miss this

opportunity to renovate a number of sports facilities.”

Two popular sports facilities have been renovated. The Iba Mar Diop Stadium in the Medina district and the Olympic swimming pool opposite the Cheikh-Anta-Diop University.

Abdou DIAW explains these choices:

“After a long process, the Iba Mar Diop Stadium was chosen because of its location, its multi-disciplinary nature and, above all, the large population that benefits from this facility. The Iba Mar Diop Stadium, like the Olympic swimming pool, will undergo major renovation and even extension.”

The 18-month renovation project for the Iba Mar Diop Stadium will have an impact on the surrounding population, as well as a number of craftsmen working in the vicinity of the stadium. This aspect has been taken into account by the organisers, who have paid compensation for the relocation of craftsmen, including cobblers and female hair dressers, who will all be relocated to appropriate areas. According to YOGOC, the Olympic swimming pool will be delivered in June 2025. This will give at least a year to test all the equipment, which must be in the best possible condition to host athletes who will come from all over the world.

Mr DIAW added that:

“For all the developments that are going to take place at these sites, we are adopting a legacy approach. We didn’t want to build infrastructure for the Olympic Games.

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The Dakar 2026 YOG are in consonance with the vision that places youth and sport at the heart of all actions. To achieve this, according to the Government of Senegal, co-creation between Dakar 2026 and the IOC must remain in effect.

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We wanted to build infrastructure that would meet the needs of the people and adapt to the specific needs of the YOG.”

Local infrastructure will be built in other neighbourhoods of Dakar, like Diamniadio and Saly.

The opening ceremony of the YOG Dakar 2026 is officially scheduled for 31 October 2026. Various IOC bodies have appreciated the work done and acknowledged the important milestones that have been achieved, in particular updating of the Editing Plan, fine-tuning



of the Sports Programme, construction or renovation works on sites and infrastructure intended to host the Games and conveyance activities by local youth.

The Dakar 2026 YOG are in consonance with the vision that places youth and sport at the heart of all actions. To achieve this, according to the Government of Senegal, co-creation between Dakar 2026 and the IOC must remain in effect.

With the Federations’ strategic planning of talent identification and preparation, overseen by NOC Senegal, Senegal aspires to feature prominently in the medal rankings.



In the first phase of preparations, CNOSS has been creating a working environment with human resources to manage athletes' preparation, and in the second, it has been providing direct support to the athletes who are due to take part in these games.

In keeping with this dual approach, since March 2019, technical directors have been brought together and encouraged to draw up a strategic plan with the YOG in mind. Several sessions have been organised to help Federations put their strategic plans in place. Indeed, several Federations are already hard at work.

Furthermore, the NOC also decided to provide support to certain Federations by stepping up athlete manager training through partnership agreements with INSEP Paris from 2020 to 2023. Technicians from all disciplines have been trained in talent identification and performance modelling.

Sports regulations will be drawn up to determine how to qualify and the number of athletes required.

Athletes have been identified in Dakar and in regions where a regional league has been set up to deal mainly with students.



MO FARAH REKINDLES MIGRANTS' HOPE THROUGH SPORT

During his visit to Kenya, from 21 to 23 April 2024, in his capacity as Global Goodwill Ambassador of the International Organization of Migrations, IOM, Mo FARAH, the legend of British athletics participated in a migrant football tournament, which

brought together migrants from Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Nigeria and the DRC. The tournament was organised in a community centre on the outskirts of Nairobi.

Sharing his experience, Mo Farah noted the importance for people like him to



show others what is possible. He declared that he came to the United Kingdom as a young boy, with no clue of what he wanted to become, adding that sport has helped him become the man he is today, the one who has won so many titles. To him, each opportunity must be seized with both hands.

Mo Farah played football with the Somali team. Expressing his joy in playing alongside Mo, Mohamed Abdifatah Ali, a 22 year old Somali, stated:

“It is a dream come true. Where we come from, we never see him. But here, during the match, he spoke to us in Somali language. His career is inspiring, I am

proud each time he wins a medal, it’s like we won it together.”

The tournament bodes well for young migrants nurturing the hope of becoming professional footballers.

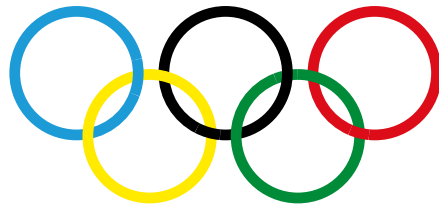
Daniel Duaung, now a student, who ran away from Sudan as a child, noted:

“It helped me meet new people. This tournament brought together migrants, it is a reminder that, although we are migrants, others have us at heart and that there are opportunities that go far beyond having the status of a migrant.”

Mo Farah is a four-time Olympic gold medallist who was trafficked to London at the age of 8 under a false name.



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